

NORWALK CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES

June 6, 2017
7:30 p.m.

Municipal Court
Norwalk, Ohio

REGULAR SESSION

Council President Steve Euton called the meeting to order. Council member Steve Schumm offered the prayer which was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. The following Council members were present: Steve Euton, Chris Mushett, Kelly Beck, Samantha Wilhelm, Chris Castle, Steve Schumm, and Deb Lucal. Dave Wallace was absent for personal reasons.

Mayor Rob Duncan, Law Director Stu O'Hara, Finance Director Diane Eschen, Safety/Service Director Dan Wendt, and Public Works Director Josh Snyder were also in attendance.

Mrs. Wilhelm moved to excuse Mr. Wallace for personal reasons. Mrs. Lucal seconded. Mr. Mushett, Mrs. Lucal, Mrs. Wilhelm, Mr. Schumm, Mr. Castle, and Mr. Beck voted in favor. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA Mr. Mushett moved to approve the agenda as presented. Mr. Beck seconded. Mr. Mushett, Mrs. Lucal, Mrs. Wilhelm, Mr. Schumm, Mr. Castle, and Mr. Beck voted in favor. Motion carried.

MINUTES Mr. Schumm moved to approve the May 16, 2017 and May 30, 2017 minutes as presented. Mr. Castle seconded. Mr. Mushett, Mrs. Lucal, Mrs. Wilhelm, Mr. Schumm, Mr. Castle, and Mr. Beck voted in favor. Motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS – none

COMMITTEE REPORTS – none

OFFICIAL REPORTS

MAYOR – Mayor Duncan thanked the Jaycees for all the hard work that went into what was a successful Strawberry Festival. He said June 9, 2017 will be the first Imagine Norwalk event of the summer. Next, he said the City received a grant from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Mr. Snyder added that the grant consists of \$300,000 for the Brownfield Assessments which is the first step in the clean-up process.

Mr. Mushett asked if there is a local match required. Mr. Snyder said no, it is 100% EPA funded.

Mayor Duncan announced that the City has been listed by LendEDU as one of the 100 safest cities in Ohio out of almost 900 entities.

Mayor Duncan then introduced Michael Pack who presented himself as a national recovery advocate and volunteer for FI Community Housing of Summit County. He discussed a peer supporter program that he would like to bring to Norwalk. He was accompanied by James Matthews, a fellow national recovery addict. Mr. Matthews spoke about sober living facilities and his personal outreach mission. Denny M. Wilson, Founder, President, and CEO of FI Community Housing, Inc., spoke about the importance of peer-to-peer interaction.

Mr. Schumm requested contact information. Mr. Wilson provided the following information: FI Community Housing, Inc., phone: 888-422-2759, website: www.ficommunityhousing.org, and his direct phone: 330-459-5563.

SERVICE DIRECTOR – Mr. Wendt commended Heather Horowitz for organizing a Planning Commission forum at NEDC. He said there were 8 DUI arrests from May 23-June 6 which were the dates of Bike Week in Sandusky. He said the hiring process for a 24th officer is taking a little longer than anticipated. He added that the City wishes Officer Chris Hipp luck in his retirement. In Fire, he said there were three structure fires in a 6 day period. He said mutual aid for life-threatening EMS calls are down significantly this year. He also commended Captains Hunt and Beers on the successful table-top exercise at EMA. Lastly, he spoke about Sanitation complaints. He reminded Council of safe ways the public can dispose of needles and other sharp objects.

FINANCE DIRECTOR – Mrs. Eschen thanked Council members for their kind remarks in the recent Norwalk Reflector article announcing her retirement.

LAW DIRECTOR – Mr. O’Hara requested an Executive Session following the meeting to discuss the possible sale of real estate and personnel matters with no business afterwards.

ENGINEER – Mr. Snyder said the Sidewalk Program is about 80% done. He said the Old State Road Widening Project Phase 1 is effectively done. Of the Milan Avenue Corridor Project, he said the watermain has been installed and the actual road work is due to begin. Finally, he said that the park is starting to take shape at the Pleasant Street Lift Station Project. He added that the playground and shelter are planned for the next two weeks.

Mr. Schumm asked if a fence is planned for the high wall on the north side. Mr. Snyder said there are no current plans to add additional safeguards.

APPOINTED OR ELECTED OFFICIALS

PERSONS APPEARING BEFORE COUNCIL

NEDC Director Heather Horowitz presented an annual update.

North Central EMS Director Don Ballah presented an annual update.

Matt Raymond, 8 Taylor Avenue was present from the Huron County Veterans Office to discuss The Wall That Heals event scheduled for June 21, 2017. Chief Soisson said he was part of the pinning ceremony at the last event. He said he was the only representative in attendance from the City of Norwalk and encouraged everyone to attend this year.

Scott Summerland, 34 Kreider Lane, Monroeville was present and encouraged Council members to support the FI Community Housing peer support program.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

SECOND READINGS OF ORDINANCES

NEW ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

Item No. 17-051

A RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE HURON COUNTY AUDITOR TO CERTIFY TO THE CITY OF NORWALK THE TOTAL CURRENT TAX VALUATION OF THE CITY AND THE DOLLAR AMOUNT OF REVENUE THAT WOULD BE GENERATED BY A 0.9 MILL RENEWAL LEVY FOR PROVIDING AND MAINTAINING A FIRE DEPARTMENT PURSUANT TO R.C. 5705.19(I)

Mr. Beck moved to pass the resolution. Mr. Castle seconded. Mr. Mushett, Mrs. Lucal, Mrs. Wilhelm, Mr. Schumm, Mr. Castle, and Mr. Beck voted in favor. Resolution No. 2017-026 passed.

Item No. 17-052

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR TO ADVERTISE AND RECEIVE BIDS FOR THE FIRE STATION CONSTRUCTION PROJECT AND AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT AFTER BIDDING

Mr. Mushett moved to pass the resolution. Mrs. Lucal seconded. Mr. Mushett, Mrs. Lucal, Mrs. Wilhelm, Mr. Schumm, Mr. Castle, and Mr. Beck voted in favor. Resolution No. 2017-027 passed.

Item No. 17-053

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 5.2 OF THE PERSONNEL POLICY MANUAL OF THE CITY OF NORWALK AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Mrs. Wilhelm moved that the clerk be instructed to read the legislation. Mrs. Lucal seconded. Mr. Mushett, Mrs. Lucal, Mrs. Wilhelm, Mr. Schumm, Mr. Castle, and Mr. Beck voted in favor. The legislation was read.

Mr. Beck moved to suspend the rules requiring the second reading of an ordinance. Mr. Mushett seconded. Mr. Mushett, Mrs. Lucal, Mrs. Wilhelm, Mr. Schumm, Mr. Castle, and Mr. Beck voted in favor. Motion carried.

Mr. Castle moved to accept the emergency declaration as stated in Section 2. Mr. Beck seconded. Mr. Mushett, Mrs. Lucal, Mrs. Wilhelm, Mr. Schumm, Mr. Castle, and Mr. Beck voted in favor. Motion carried.

Mr. Mushett moved to adopt the ordinance. Mr. Beck seconded. Mr. Mushett, Mrs. Lucal, Mrs. Wilhelm, Mr. Schumm, Mr. Castle, and Mr. Beck voted in favor. Ordinance No. 2017-021 adopted.

Item No. 17-054

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO MAKE APPLICATION FOR THE ALLOCATION AND DISBURSEMENT OF A PORTION OF THE CITY'S PERMISSIVE HIGHWAY TAX FUNDS FOR THE MILAN AVENUE CORRIDOR PROJECT

Mr. Mushett moved to pass the resolution. Mr. Castle seconded. Mr. Mushett, Mrs. Lucal, Mrs. Wilhelm, Mr. Schumm, Mr. Castle, and Mr. Beck voted in favor. Resolution No. 2017-028 passed.

Item No. 17-055

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 7.12 F OF THE PERSONNEL POLICY MANUAL OF THE CITY OF NORWALK PERTAINING TO THE DRUG FREE WORK PLACE POLICY

Mrs. Wilhelm moved that the clerk be instructed to read the legislation. Mrs. Lucal seconded. Mr. Mushett, Mrs. Lucal, Mrs. Wilhelm, Mr. Schumm, Mr. Castle, and Mr. Beck voted in favor. The legislation was read.

Item No. 17-056

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING THE 2017 ANNUAL BUDGET AND APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE NO. 2016-045 AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Mr. Beck moved that the clerk be instructed to read the legislation. Mrs. Lucal seconded. Mr. Mushett, Mrs. Lucal, Mrs. Wilhelm, Mr. Schumm, Mr. Castle, and Mr. Beck voted in favor. The legislation was read.

Mrs. Wilhelm moved to suspend the rules requiring the second reading of an ordinance. Mrs. Lucal seconded. Mr. Mushett, Mrs. Lucal, Mrs. Wilhelm, Mr. Schumm, Mr. Castle, and Mr. Beck voted in favor. Motion carried.


Mr. Mushett moved to accept the emergency declaration as stated in Section 4. Mr. Beck seconded. Mr. Mushett, Mrs. Lucal, Mrs. Wilhelm, Mr. Schumm, Mr. Castle, and Mr. Beck voted in favor. Motion carried.

Mr. Beck moved to adopt the ordinance. Mrs. Lucal seconded. Mr. Mushett, Mrs. Lucal, Mrs. Wilhelm, Mr. Schumm, Mr. Castle, and Mr. Beck voted in favor. Ordinance No. 2017-022 adopted.

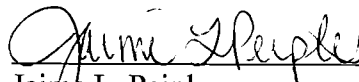
NEW BUSINESS – Mr. Euton said that there will be a Work Session on June 13, 2017.

Mr. Schumm made a motion to move into Executive Session to discuss the possible sale of real estate and personnel matters with no further action afterwards. Mrs. Lucal seconded. Mr. Mushett, Mrs. Lucal, Mrs. Wilhelm, Mr. Schumm, Mr. Castle, and Mr. Beck voted in favor. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned.



Stephen E. Euton
President



Jaime L. Peiples
Clerk