

NORWALK CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES

February 20, 2018
7:30 p.m.

Municipal Court
Norwalk, Ohio

REGULAR SESSION

Council President Stephen Euton called the meeting to order. Council member Dave Wallace offered the prayer which was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. The following Council members were present: Stephen Euton, Samantha Wilhelm, Chris Castle, Deb Lucal, Steve Schumm, Jordy Horowitz, Bryan Lamb, and Dave Wallace.

Mayor Rob Duncan, Finance Director Michelle Reeder, Law Director Stu O'Hara, Park & Recreation Superintendent Joe Lindenberger, Safety/Service Director Dan Wendt, and Public Works Director Josh Snyder were also in attendance.

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

MINUTES Mr. Wallace moved to approve the February 6, 2018 and February 13, 2018 minutes as presented. Mrs. Lucal seconded. Mr. Wallace seconded. Mr. Schumm, Mr. Wallace, Mrs. Lucal, Mr. Lamb, Mr. Horowitz, Mr. Castle, and Mrs. Wilhelm voted in favor. Motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS – The Clerk stated that the Planning Commission met on February 14, 2018 and unanimously recommended approval of *Item No. 18-010* and *Item No. 18-012*.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

OFFICIAL REPORTS

MAYOR – Mayor Duncan said that the Ashley Group attended the recent Department Head meeting and presented possible solutions for the insurance policy.

Mr. Wallace asked what the Ashley Group concluded was the problem. Mayor Duncan said years of high claims. Mr. Wallace asked where the City stands currently. Mrs. Reeder replied that the City is nearly \$1 million in the hole.

Joe Lindenberger presented the Park & Recreation 2017 Year End Report.

Mr. Wallace asked about the attendance. Mr. Lindenberger explained how they track annual attendance.

Mr. Wallace asked if primitive camping at the Reservoir is still being considered. Mr. Lindenberger said the topic has been researched and it has been determined that camping is not recommended due to a majority of the Reservoir being a watershed among other factors. He added that it may be a possibility at another location.

Mr. Schumm praised the Park & Recreation Department for the recreational activities they offer to kids on snow days.

Mr. Lamb expressed his support of the Friday Fun Night program. He asked if they still offer Family Nights. Mr. Lindenberger said that Family Open Gym falls on Saturday night and Sunday afternoon.

Mr. Horowitz inquired about the backpacking adventure that was mentioned in the presentation. Mr. Lindenberger said that program is for kids ages 11-14 and there is an application process.

Mr. Wallace applauded the Department for the number of programs that are offered to both kids and adults.

Mr. Schumm asked if volunteers are needed. Mr. Lindenberger said they always need volunteers and a background check is required.

SERVICE DIRECTOR –Mr. Wendt began by discussing the upcoming 2018 special collection dates for the Sanitation Department. In the Police Department, Mr. Wendt said that Chief Dave Light retired and Mike Conney has been appointed Interim Police Chief. He said a written annual report is to be expected. Next, he said Officer Michael Biller has been promoted to Sergeant. To wrap up the Police Department update, he commended the Special Response Team in their professionalism on the Cline Street meth lab bust. Last, he said the Fire Department has been practicing cold water rescue at the Reservoir and he discussed the upcoming evaluation of the department by the Insurance Service Office (ISO).

FINANCE DIRECTOR – no report

LAW DIRECTOR – Mr. O'Hara requested an Executive Session to discuss the possible acquisition of real estate at the end of the meeting with no business to follow.

ENGINEER – Mr. Snyder discussed the bid opening for the Old State Road Phase 2 project and the Sidewalk re-bid. He reminded Council members to encourage residents to report potholes.

APPOINTED OR ELECTED OFFICIALS - none

PERSONS APPEARING BEFORE COUNCIL – George Austin from the VFW Post 2743 Auxillary Club was present to request letters from City Administration in support of placing the Ohio state motto on Sheriff cars.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS - none

SECOND READINGS OF ORDINANCES

Mr. Euton set a Public Hearing for March 27th, 2018 for *Item No. 18-010* and *Item No. 18-012*.

NEW ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

Item No. 18-024

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND THE PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR TO SUBMIT AN APPLICATION FOR A NORTHEAST OHIO PUBLIC ENERGY COUNCIL ENERGIZED COMMUNITY GRANT AND TO TAKE ALL STEPS NECESSARY TO ACCEPT SAID GRANT

Mr. Horowitz asked how much the LED lights and fans are expected to cost. Mr. Snyder said he is still awaiting a proposal on the City Hall lighting. Mr. Wendt estimated the fans to cost \$17,000 each and come with a 15 year, 100% warranty upon installation. He added that it will take seven years for return on investment.

Mrs. Wilhelm moved to pass the resolution. Mr. Wallace seconded. Mr. Schumm, Mr. Wallace, Mrs. Lucal, Mr. Lamb, Mr. Horowitz, Mr. Castle, and Mrs. Wilhelm voted in favor. Resolution No. 2018-011 passed.

Item No. 18-025

A RESOLUTION THANKING CHRISTOPHER MUSHETT FOR HIS DEDICATED SERVICE TO THE CITY OF NORWALK

Several members of Council expressed their appreciation and respect for Mr. Mushett.

Mrs. Wilhelm moved to pass the resolution. Mrs. Lucal seconded. Mr. Schumm, Mr. Wallace, Mrs. Lucal, Mr. Lamb, Mr. Horowitz, Mr. Castle, and Mrs. Wilhelm voted in favor. Resolution No. 2018-012 passed.

Item No. 18-026

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING THE 2018 ANNUAL BUDGET AND APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE NO. 2017-047 AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

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

Mr. Wallace moved to suspend the rules requiring two readings of an ordinance. Mr. Castle seconded. Mr. Schumm, Mr. Wallace, Mrs. Lucal, Mr. Lamb, Mr. Horowitz, Mr. Castle, and Mrs. Wilhelm voted in favor. Motion carried.

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

Mrs. Wilhelm moved to adopt the ordinance. Mrs. Lucal seconded. Mr. Schumm, Mr. Wallace, Mrs. Lucal, Mr. Lamb, Mr. Horowitz, Mr. Castle, and Mrs. Wilhelm voted in favor. Ordinance No. 2018-009 adopted.

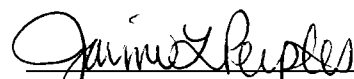
NEW BUSINESS – Mr. Euton said the next meeting will be a Work Session on February 27, 2018.

Mr. Wallace made a motion to move into Executive Session to discuss the possible acquisition of real estate with no business to follow. Mr. Castle seconded. Mr. Schumm, Mr. Wallace, Mrs. Lucal, Mr. Lamb, Mr. Horowitz, Mr. Castle, and Mrs. Wilhelm voted in favor. Motion carried.

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



Stephen E. Euton
Council President



Jaime L. Peiples
Council Clerk