

CIRCLEVILLE CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES 7/16/2024

Circleville City Council convened in Council Chambers Tuesday, July 16, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. Council members present at Roll call: President Pro Tempore Sheri Theis, At Large Member Tom Klitzka, First Ward Jeff Hallinin, Second Ward John Moats, Third Ward Zack Brooks, Fourth Ward Tom Duvall, and Clerk Linda Chancey. Absent Members: President Barry Keller and At Large Member Katie Logan Hedges. Invited guests Mayor Michelle Blanton, Law Director Kendra Kinney, and City Auditor Mark Bidwell.

President Pro Tempore Sheri Theis called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited, and invocation was given by all.

Klitzka motioned to approve City Council minutes from July 2, 2024. Moats seconded. Motion carried.

REPORTS FROM COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Hallinin stated he had a Safety meeting earlier that day and that Ordinance will need to be adjusted before moving forward to Council. Hallinin stated he also had an Ordinance for Hedges he will speak too.

Moats stated he had a meeting with Jim Stanley and Hannah Wynne to talk about things happening in the community and City. He also met with Klitzka to discuss things that are upcoming.

Duvall announced he will have a Service Meeting on July 30, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. He plans to discuss the SS4A Ordinance.

Theis announced Council will be hosting an Ice-Cream Social for the City's volunteers on July 25, 2024, at 7:00 p.m.

REPORTS FROM CITY OFFICIALS:

Law Director Kendra Kinney spoke that she has the NUEO Ordinance on tonight's Agenda and hopefully will have the final Comp Plan ready for the next Finance Meeting.

Mayor Michelle Blanton announced there has been a traffic change in the alley between R & M Tires and US Bank. The alley is now only a one-way heading towards Watt Street. The Mayor stated her office has held two meet and greets with the Service Department employees to get to know them. The Mayor stated this week there are three community meetings to discuss the potential of a community center. There are two new businesses she has visited, Strawser's and Kirk's Farm Market. The Mayor also participated in a needs assessment with PICCA to represent the City.

Mayor Blanton recognized Sebastian Nelson with a proclamation. Sebastian shared a dream he had with the Housing Director of Ohio Heights for a playground. Sebastian was then asked to share that vision with PICCA. That vision was presented to the staff at PICCA, who started working on funding for the playground equipment. On July 3rd, Sebastian participated in a ribbon cutting ceremony for the new playground. The Mayor declared a proclamation that July 16th, be known as Sebastian Nelson Day.

NO QUESTIONS OR ANSWERS TO ADMINISTRATION

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

William Haddox, 531 East Union St. expressed concerns over illegal immigrants being dumped in the City. Haddox asked if there was a plan in place if that happened. The Mayor stated she would be happy to discuss that subject further with him.

Acting Police Chief Kenny Fisher announced that on August 6, 2024, the Circleville Police Department will be hosting an event called National Night Out. This event is for law enforcement to bring the community together.

Kimberly Pack, Franklin St. Ms. Pack would like to limit the use of fireworks in the city.

Terry Giffin, Main St Bar. He parks on Canal St. and was informed by the Mill that the street was being sold and he can no longer park there, or his cars would be towed. The Law Director and Mayor confirmed there has been no talks or legislation regarding this. They will investigate this further.

COMMUNICATIONS:

Letter from Blaine Keckley on July 4, 2024, who is in support of the restriping of North Court Street.

Email from Sonya Kneece on July 16, 2024, she is against the restriping on North Court Street.

MOTION-ROLL CALL -VOTE

Brooks motioned to accept the correspondence and place it on file. Duvall seconded. Motion carried.

ORDINANCES FOR SECOND READING:

a) An Ordinance Replacing The One-Half Percent (.50%) Income Tax Rate Increase Allocated For The Purpose Of Operating And Maintaining The Safety Forces In The City Of Circleville, To Be Expended For The Safety Forces Prior To The Use Of The Funds Allocated To The General Fund, With A 0.40% Per Annum Income Tax For A Five Year Period, Effective From January 1, 2025 And Expiring December 31, 2029, Directing The Pickaway County Board Of Elections To Submit This Ordinance To The Electors Of The City Pursuant To Ohio Revised Code, Section 718.04 And Declaring An Emergency.

Discussion: This Ordinance is for Safety Forces Levy. Duvall stated there is no change in the language from the last ballot and will reduce the income tax rate from .5% to .4%.

MOTION-ROLL CALL -VOTE

Hallinin motioned to suspend the rules. Brooks seconded. Roll call. (6 Yeas- 0 Nay). Rules are Suspended.

MOTION-ROLL CALL -VOTE

Duvall motioned for passage. Brooks seconded. Roll call. (6 Yeas- 0 Nay). Motion carried. Ordinance passes and assigned #07-44-2024.

b) A Resolution To Submit To The Electors At A General Election To Be Held On November 5, 2024, An Ordinance To Replace The One Half Percent (.50%) Income Tax Rate Increase Allocated For The Purpose Of Operating And Maintaining The Safety Forces In The City Of Circleville, To Be Expended For The Safety Forces Prior To The Funds Allocated To The General Fund, With A 0.40% Per Annum Income Tax For A Five-Year Period To Commence January 1, 2025 And Expiring December 31, 2029, Directing The Pickaway County Board Of Elections To Submit The Tax Ordinance To The Electors Of The City Pursuant To Ohio Revised Code, Section 718.04 And Declaring An Emergency.

Discussion: This is a companion Resolution to the prior Ordinance that allows the Ordinance to be placed on the ballot.

MOTION-ROLL CALL -VOTE

Hallinin motioned to suspend the rules. Brooks seconded. Roll call. (6 Yeas- 0 Nay). Rules are suspended.

MOTION-ROLL CALL -VOTE

Duvall motioned for adoption. Brooks seconded. Roll call. (6 Yeas- 0 Nay). Motion carried. Resolution is adopted and assigned #07-45-2024.

c) An Ordinance To Authorize And Implement The Labor Agreement Between The Non-Uniformed Employees Organization And The City Of Circleville.

Discussion: The ordinance is an agreement between the City and non-uniform employees.

MOTION-ROLL CALL -VOTE

Brooks motioned to suspend the rules. Hallinin seconded. Roll call. (6 Yeas- 0 Nay). Rules are suspended.

MOTION-ROLL CALL -VOTE

Hallinin motioned for passage. Brooks seconded. Roll call. (6 Yeas- 0 Nay). Motion carried. Ordinance is passed and assigned #07-46-2024.

d) An Ordinance Amending The Annual Appropriation Ordinance In The General Fund 101, Legal Research & Computer Maintenance Fund 209, Specialized Docket Subsidy Grant Fund 266 And Capital Improvement Fund 306 Of The City Of Circleville.

Discussion: This is a standard housekeeping ordinance. Addresses payroll for the Probation Department, funds for the High Street Cemetery, plow and lights for a new service vehicle, and a quarterly maintenance fee.

MOTION-ROLL CALL -VOTE

Hallinin motioned to suspend the rules. Brooks seconded. Roll call. (6 Yeas- 0 Nay). Rules are suspended.

MOTION-ROLL CALL -VOTE

Hallinin motioned for passage. Brooks seconded. Roll call. (6 Yeas- 0 Nay). Motion carried. Ordinance is passed and assigned #07-47-2024.

e) An Ordinance Waiving The Requirement That The Chief Of Police Become A Resident Of The City Within Ninety Days Of Appointment To The Position Of Chief Of Police, Under Certain Conditions And Repealing Ordinance #43-89.

Discussion: This Ordinance is waving the requirements for the Police Chief to become a resident of the City.

MOTION-ROLL CALL -VOTE

Klitzka motioned to suspend the rules. Duvall seconded. Roll call. (6 Yeas- 0 Nay). Rules are suspended.

MOTION-ROLL CALL -VOTE

Klitzka motioned for passage. Brooks seconded. Roll call. (6 Yeas- 0 Nay). Motion carried. Ordinance is passed and assigned #07-48-2024.

ORDINANCES FOR FIRST READING:

a) A Resolution authorizing the City of Circleville to apply for, accept, and enter into a water pollution control loan fund (WPCLF) agreement to fund the utility improvements for Montclair Avenue project construction; to award the utility improvements for Montclair Avenue, Contract 1-2024 to the successful bidder Fillmore Construction LLC; and designating a dedicated repayment source for the loan.

Discussion: Duvall stated this is the third piece of legislation to pass through Council. The first was to approve the concept; the second was confirming Council would fund it; and the current Resolution is to announce the successful bidder Fillmore Construction LLC.

MOTION-ROLL CALL -VOTE

Hallinin motioned to suspend the rules. Brooks seconded. Roll call. (6 Yeas- 0 Nay). Rules are Suspended.

MOTION-ROLL CALL -VOTE

Duvall motioned for adoption. Klitzka seconded. Roll call. (6 Yeas- 0 Nay). Motion carried. Resolution is adopted and assigned #07-49-2024.

NEW BUSINESS:

Theis announced an opening on the Downtown Redevelopment District Board. (DRD) Applications will be accepted through July 30th.

Theis announced there were three applications for the opening on the Historical Review Board (HRB):

1. HRB Chair Verito stated that Mr. Strawser had an emergency at his store and would be unable to make it to tonight's meeting. He will be invited to the August 6th meeting to interview with Council.

2. Mr. Moorehead stated he has been a resident of Circleville his whole life. He is retired from the City Fire Department. He volunteers his time at the Historic Museum. He enjoys the history of Circleville and would like to be a part of the process. He is a member of the Pickaway County Historic Committee, and he owns a historic property. Theis asked if he would be able to view properties ahead of a HRB meeting to make a better-informed decision. Mr. Moorehead responded he is retired so his schedule is flexible. Theis asked if Mr. Moorehead would be able to put aside his own personal beliefs and preferences to choose what's best for the aesthetic of the downtown even if the applicant is a friend. Mr. Moorehead said yes. Mr. Moorehead stated his favorite historic buildings in Circleville are the old library, the Courthouse, and City Hall.

3. The Third applicant has withdrawn her application.

Hallinin motioned to excuse Katie Logan Hedges from tonight's Council meeting. Brooks seconded. All Yeas.

Hallinin motioned to adjourn the City Council Meeting at 7:48 p.m. Moats seconded. All Yeas.

Minutes prepared by: Melissa Burns, Clerk