CIRCLEVILLE CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES 8/6/2024

Circleville City Council convened in Council Chambers Tuesday, August 6, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. Council members present at Roll call: President Barry Keller, At Large Members Tom Klitzka, Sheri Theis, and Katie Logan Hedges, First Ward Jeff Hallinin, Second Ward John Moats, Third Ward Zack Brooks, Fourth Ward Tom Duvall, and Clerk Melissa Burns. Invited guests present: Mayor Michelle Blanton, Law Director Kendra Kinney and Planner Hannah Wynne.

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

Theis motioned to Amend the minutes to clarify the minutes that were approved at the meeting July 16, 2024, were in fact for July 2,2024 and not June 18, 2024. Brooks seconded. Motion carried.

Klitzka motioned to approve City Council minutes with that amendment from July 16, 2024. Moats seconded. Motion carried.

REPORTS FROM COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Hedges announced that she will have one Ordinance on the Agenda from her Finance meeting July 30th. Hedges also stated they had a meeting earlier that night and that legislation will go to Council at a later date.

Hallinin stated he had a Safety meeting, and he will have one Ordinance on the Agenda.

Duvall announced he will have a Service meeting on August 20, 2024, at 6:30 p.m. Duvall stated he has three separate Ordinances on the Agenda.

Klitzka announced he will have two Ordinances and two Resolutions on the Agenda.

Theis announced she will have a Strategic Planning meeting on August 13, 2024, at 7:00 p.m., to discuss three Ordinances.

REPORTS FROM CITY OFFICIALS:

Law Director Kendra Kinney announced her office for July 2024 has opened up 159 cases, closed 137 cases, handled 56 officer notifications, issued 97 subpoenas, and 98 discovery demands. Kinney announced she has been working on training with local law enforcement agencies. Kinney stated she created new pre-trial statements and OVI checklist as well as aiding them in the process of their criminal complaints to assure compliance with the law. Kinney's office started Roll Call Training with the CPD and are now beginning phases with the OHSP for OVI training. Her office hired Keith Brewster as the Assistant Law Director. Mr. Brewster has previous experience in Highland County and the Pickaway County Prosecutor's Office. Kinney also recognized Ryan Mays of the CPD for his work for the National Night Out. Kinney respectfully asked that Council consider tabling subsection G on the Agenda, while her office is still working on the Comp Plan.

Mayor Blanton announced she has been working to build relationships with other officials not only in the City but the County. Her office met with the Mayors of South Bloomfield, Ashville, Williamsport and Commercial Point. The Mayor has attended several events around the City. Her office has started preparations for this upcoming Pumpkin Show. The Mayor stated she released a statement announcing the hiring of a new Safety Director. The Mayor stated this coming Saturday there will be an assessment for the candidates for the Chief of Police. After that assessment there will be a panel interview of the selected candidates, and then someone will be appointed to the Chief of Police position. Blanton stated she hopes to have someone appointed by the end of the month or middle of next month.

NO QUESTIONS OR ANSWERS TO ADMINISTRATION

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

Susan Metzger, address 770 North Court St., spoke on behalf of Pickaway Addiction Action Coalition. Mrs. Metzger stated she is in support of the Moratorium and allowing a dispensary could degrade the community. She doesn't believe allowing a dispensary would benefit the youth or adults of the community.

Jeff Colmen, address 1480 Kingston Pike, spoke against the restriping of Court Street. He urged Council to table the Ordinance until the study by Strand is complete. He doesn't believe the parking issues at Everts is a City problem. Coleman would also like the City to consider a three lane option with bike paths.

Aaron Barthelmas, address 435 Holiday Lane, spoke against the restriping of Court Street. He asked the City to wait for the study by Strand to be completed as well.

Tracy Stewart, address 361 E. Main Street, stated she doesn't believe Main Street is safer than Court Street. Stewart stated she has had multiple vehicles hit on Main Street. She also would like the City to consider bike paths.

Riche Verito, address 206 S. Court Street, stated he has videos and pictures of the accidents Mrs. Stewart is referring too. He asked the city to consider how going down to one lane may affect businesses downtown.

Erica Morgan, address 521 N. Court Street, she doesn't see a need for this change.

Jeff Coleman, address 1480 Kingston Pike, spoke again regarding Rock 4 Tots and Kidsapalooza. He said this is the 5th year he has hosted the Kidspalooza event. They are a non-profit and all proceeds will go to Pickaway County Community Action Toys for Tots. Coleman stated this year they are asking for the event to include Watt Street, so they do not have to turn anyone away.

Kevin Clifton, address 5817 Tarlton Road, stated he is in charge of Kidspalooza and Rock 4 tots. He explained his reasoning for wanting Watt St. to be included this year is for safety concerns. He is worried about kids running in front of cars. Clifton also explained he couldn't do the event at Pumkin Show Park because they are partnered with Tootle's. The event will use both Tootle's indoor stage and his outdoor stage. Clifton stated if the street is shut down, it will make the lines on the sidewalk safer for pedestrians who are trying to watch the shows. He is expecting a large crowd, and all proceeds will go to PICCA.

COMMUNICATIONS:

David Crawford emailed over the Berger Hospital Lease oversight report for the first 6 months of the calendar year. Crawford stated Berger Hospital's income tax withholding has approximately doubled since inception, and they are exceeding expectations. The Board will meet again October 7.

Mark Bidwell emailed over the results from the 2023 Audit. There was only one finding relating to purchasing controls. City Management agreed with the recommendations and has already implemented monitoring controls.

MOTION-ROLL CALL -VOTE

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

ORDINANCES FOR FIRST READING:

a) AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE TO REMOVE THE EXISTING FOUR LANE STREET MARKINGS ON NORTH AND SOUTH COURT STREET FROM PLEASANT STREET TO THE CONNECTOR ROAD ON THE SOUTH END AND REPLACE WITH TWO THRU LANES AND A CENTER TURN LANE.
Discussion: Duvall stated the Service Committee was under the impression that Strand had concluded its study. Strand presented in front of the Service Committee on July 30, 2024, and they will not have that final report until 2025.
MOTION-ROLL CALL -VOTE
Duvall motioned for Council to table the Ordinance until Strands final report has been received in March of 2025. Hedges seconded. Roll call. (7 Yeas- 0 Nay). Ordinance is tabled.

b) A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING TAKE BACK THE STRIP TO USE CITY STREETS FOR THEIR ANNUAL KIDSPALOOZA FOR 2024 AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.
Discussion: Duvall stated he appreciates the community involvement this event brings to the City.
MOTION-ROLL CALL -VOTE
Theis motioned to suspend the rules. Brooks seconded. Roll call. (7 Yeas- 0 Nay). Rules are Suspended.
MOTION-ROLL CALL -VOTE
Hedges motioned for adoption. Brooks seconded. Roll call. (7 Yeas- 0 Nay). Motion carried. Resolution is adopted and assigned #08-50-2024.

c) RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING TAKE BACK THE STRIP TO USE CITY STREETS FOR ROCK 4 TOTS FOR 2024 AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.
Discussion: Duvall expressed his gratitude to those hosting the event. He believes the event will be fun and exciting.
MOTION-ROLL CALL -VOTE
Duvall motioned to suspend the rules. Brooks seconded. Roll call. (7 Yeas- 0 Nay). Rules are Suspended.
MOTION-ROLL CALL -VOTE
Hallinin motioned for adoption. Moats seconded. Roll call. (7 Yeas- 0 Nay). Motion carried. Resolution is adopted and assigned #08-51-2024.

d) AN ORDINANCE TO ACCEPT THE PLAT OF HERITAGE PONDS, SECTION FIVE, CONSISTING OF SIXTY-NINE LOTS.
Discussion: Planner Hannah Wynne stated this is the final plan. This Ordinance comes out of Planning and Zoning Commission with a recommendation for passage. Keller asked if this would be part of the NCA, Wynne confirmed it would be. Hedges asked for clarification on the total number of lots. Wynne stated it is 68 total.
MOTION-ROLL CALL -VOTE
Klitzka motioned to amend the Title of the Ordinance to state Sixty-Eight Lots, not Sixty-Nine. Theis seconded. Roll call. (7 Yeas- 0 Nay). Ordinance title is Amended.
MOTION-ROLL CALL -VOTE
Theis motioned to suspend the rules. Hallinin seconded. Roll call. (7 Yeas- 0 Nay). Rules are Suspended.
MOTION-ROLL CALL -VOTE
Hedges motioned for passage. Klitzka seconded. Roll call. (7 Yeas- 0 Nay). Motion carried. Ordinance is passed and assigned #08-52-2024

e) RESOLUTION APPOINTING MEMBERS TO THE JOINT PLANNING AND ZONING BOARD CREATED PURSUANT TO A 2006 ANNEXATION AGREEMENT WITH CIRCLEVILLE TOWNSHIP.

Discussion: Wynne stated this is coming out of an Annexation from Circleville Township that was signed in 2006. They've recently received an Annexation application, and the Board needs put in place. The Board will be comprised of two appointees for the City, two from the Township, and one from the County. The City would like to appoint Michael Tipton and Richard Verito as representatives of the City.

MOTION-ROLL CALL -VOTE

Klitzka motioned to suspend the rules. Theis seconded. Roll call. (7 Yeas- 0 Nay). Rules are Suspended.

MOTION-ROLL CALL -VOTE

Klitzka motioned for passage. Theis seconded. Roll call. (7 Yeas- 0 Nay). Motion carried. Resolution is adopted and assigned #08-53-2024

f) A RESOLUTION IMPOSING A TWELVE-MONTH MORATORIUM ON THE RETAIL CULTIVATION, PROCESSING, AND DISPENSING OF ADULT-USE ANDMEDICAL MARIJUANA IN THE CITY OF CIRCLEVILLE

Discussion: Klitzka stated the City needs more time to review the State's findings and any issues that are arising with dispensaries. Brooks asked what additional questions Council has, and he could provide additional information. Klitzka stated at this time there is not enough information and Council needs more time to study dispensaries. Klitzka stated this has not been discussed and Council needs to hear from the Community before making any decisions. The Law Director stated the Resolution is just to put a temporary hold on dispensaries and Council can lift or pass legislation at any time. Brooks stated he would like to see the moratorium for maybe 30-90 days because he feels the City would lose a substantial amount of money on. Hedges stated the City could lose money but they don't know that to be a fact. Hedges also stated the City has received quite a bit of funds to support drug rehabilitation and education. Hedges believes the moratorium is aligned with the decisions Council has already made. Theis stated the moratorium would give the City time to consider all aspects of dispensaries and how the City wants to move forward.

MOTION-ROLL CALL -VOTE

Hallinin motioned to suspend the rules. Klitzka seconded. Roll call. (7 Yeas- 0 Nay). Rules are Suspended.

MOTION-ROLL CALL -VOTE

Klitzka motioned for passage. Hedges seconded. Roll call. (6 Yeas- 1 Nay). Motion carried. Resolution is adopted and assigned #08-54-2024

g) AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 139.02 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF CIRCLEVILLE ESTABLISHING THE COMPOSITION OF THE CITY OF CIRCLEVILLE DEPARTMENT OF UTILITIES AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Discussion:

MOTION-ROLL CALL -VOTE

Hallinin motioned to table the Ordinance. Brooks seconded. Roll call. (7 Yeas- 0 Nay). Ordinance is tabled.

h) AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE ANNUAL APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE IN THE GENERAL FUND 101 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT .4% INCOME TAX FUND 206 SAFETY FORCES .5% IMCOME TAX FUND 227 JUSTICE REINVESTMENT & INCENTIVE GRANT FUND 260 WATERWORKS OPERATING FUND 808 AND SANITARY SEWER OPERATING FUND 909 OF THE CITY OF CIRCLEVILLE

Discussion: Hedges stated this is the 10th housekeeping ordinance of the year and just over one million dollars. The majority of the funds in the Ordinance are allocating funds for the potential purchase of ODOT property.

Mayor Blanton stated there is a typo in the Ordinance and it should be income not imcome. The Clerk stated the typo is on the Agenda and the Ordinance appears okay.

MOTION-ROLL CALL -VOTE

Hedges motioned to suspend the rules. Theis seconded. Roll call. (7 Yeas- 0 Nay). Rules are Suspended.

MOTION-ROLL CALL -VOTE

Hallinin motioned for passage. Brooks seconded. Roll call. (7 Yeas- 0 Nay). Motion carried. Ordinance is passed and assigned #08-55-2024. Clerk stated 54 on the record but it the Ordinance was assigned #08-55-2024.

i) AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SAFETY OF THE CITY OF CIRCLEVILLE TO SOLICIT BIDS AND TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH THE LOWEST AND BEST BIDDER AFTER ADVERTISEMENT FOR THE TRAPPING AND DISPOSAL OF NUISANCE ANIMALS WITHIN THE CITY AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Discussion: Hallinin stated the Ordinance is ready to move forward and he also received information on grants available to help with the feral cat population. Hallinin stated the less citizens feed animals the less feral animals the City will have.

MOTION-ROLL CALL -VOTE

Hallinin motioned to suspend the rules. Klitzka seconded. Roll call. (7 Yeas- 0 Nay). Rules are Suspended.

MOTION-ROLL CALL -VOTE

Brooks motioned for passage. Hallinin seconded. Roll call. (7 Yeas- 0 Nay). Motion carried. Ordinance is passed and assigned #08-56-2024. Clerk stated 55 on the record but the Ordinance was assigned #08-56-2024.

NEW BUSINESS:

Theis announced they had two applicants for the HRB vacancy. The first applicant was interviewed at the last Council meeting on July 16, 2024, and the second applicant, Mike Strawser, will be interviewed tonight. Mr. Strawser has a business in Circleville. He tries to get involved wherever he has businesses to give back to the community. He is currently on the Heart of Grove City Board. Theis asked if he had any training or any experience in this area that would make him an asset to the committee. Mr. Strawser said he used to work in the old Chase Bank building. Theis asked if he was appointed to the Board, would he have time before the meeting to go look at the building in person. Mr. Strawser said yes, he spends a lot of time in town. Theis asked the applicant if he would be willing to set aside his personal opinion and preferences if an application does not meet the criteria, even if the applicant was a friend or family member. Mr. Strawser answered yes. Mr. Strawser said his favorite historic property would be the Chase building and the building his candy store is in now.

MOTION-ROLL CALL -VOTE

Theis motioned to go into Executive Session to consider the appointment of members to the HRB pursuant to O.R.C. 121.22(G)(1). Hallinin seconded. Roll call. (7 Yeas- 0 Nay). Motion carried.

MOTION-ROLL CALL -VOTE

Theis motioned to come back into Regular Session from Executive Session. Hallinin seconded. Roll call. (7 Yeas- 0 Nay). Motion carried.

MOTION-ROLL CALL -VOTE

Theis motioned to nominate Jeff Moorehead to fill the vacancy on the HRB. Duvall seconded.
Hallinin motioned to nominate Mike Strawser to fill the vacancy on the HRB. Brooks seconded.
Strawser received 2 votes and Jeff Moorehead received 5 votes. Jeff Moorehead will serve as the new member of the HRB.

Motion to adjourn by Hallinin. Theis seconded. Council is adjourned at 8:11p.m.

Minutes prepared by: Melissa Burns, Clerk