

CIRCLEVILLE CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES 11/5/2024

Circleville City Council convened in Council Chambers Tuesday, November 5, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. Council members present at Roll call: President Barry Keller, At Large Members Katie Logan-Hedges, Sheri Theis, and Tom Klitzka, 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, HR Director Valerie Dilley, and Utilities Operation Manager Brian Frost.

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

Hallinin motioned to approve City Council minutes from October 15, 2024. Brooks seconded. Motion carried.

REPORTS FROM COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Hedges will have a Finance meeting on November 14, 2024, at 5:00 p.m. Hedges stated she had 3 pieces of Legislation on tonight's Agenda.

Theis will have a Strategic Planning meeting on November 12, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. or immediately following the COTW meeting.

Duvall stated he has two Resolutions on tonight's Agenda.

Klitzka thanked the City and those who supported the Safety Levy.

Keller announced on November 12, 2024, he will have a Committee of the Whole to consider a Resolution to appoint a new Council Clerk and to hear from the Consultant Paul Pride on his assessment of the Police Department.

REPORTS FROM CITY OFFICIALS:

Kinney stated for the month of October her office; opened 121 cases; closed 99cases; handled 44 officer communications; issued 83subpoenas; and responded to 83 discovery requests. Her office is drafting training for report writing for all law enforcement agencies in the County. Kinney stated her office received an invitation to attend a response to bomb threats seminar in South Bloomfield. Additional she is implementing Roll Call training in South Bloomfield. Kinney asked if item #10(e) on the agenda passes that Council vote down item #11(1). Kinney stated instead of Amending the Comp Plan in individual pieces, her office revamped the Comp Plan in its entirety under one Ordinance. Kinney stated her office is entering into union negotiations for the Police Department and Fire/EMS contract.

Blanton stated she passed out a flyer to support the youth of the community. Drop boxes will be placed throughout the community to drop items off. There is a QR code people can scan to have items sent directly to the group instead of dropping items off. Blanton stated she received a resignation from Bob Sneed from his position on the Records Commission. She will be looking for a replacement for that position and it will be for an indefinite term. The Records Commission is looking at a City wide plan for records retention. Blanton stated Wingate is doing a grand reopening on December 13, 2024.

NO QUESTIONS OR ANSWERS TO ADMINISTRATION

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: William Haddox stated there is a rumor that the Mayor wants to make Circleville a sanctuary city. Haddox asked what the procedure would look like if the Mayor wanted to do that. Keller encouraged Haddox to meet with the Mayor one on one to discuss further.

Dave Horning shared his experience with records retention. Horning stated if the City has any insurance policies that are current based, the City should retain those policies because they could be honored in the future.

COMMUNICATIONS: None

ORDINANCES FOR FIRST READING:

a. A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE TO APPLY FOR, ACCEPT, AND ENTER INTO A WATER POLLUTION CONTROL LOAN FUND (WPCLF) AGREEMENT ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF CIRCLEVILLE FOR THE PLANNING OF SANITARY SEWER REGIONALIZATION; AND DESIGNATING A DEDICATED REPAYMENT SOURCE FOR THE LOAN.

Discussion: Frost stated this is the preliminary step for the WPCLF. Frost stated this will authorize the City to contract with STRAND for the design of the improvements and designating the source of the repayment for the loan.

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

Theis motioned for adoption of the Resolution. Klitzka seconded. Roll call. (7 Yeas- 0 Nay). The Resolution is adopted and assigned #11.82.2024.

b. A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE TO APPLY FOR, ACCEPT, AND ENTER INTO A WATER SUPPLY REVOLVING LOAN ACCOUNT (WSRLA) PLANNING LOAN AGREEMENT ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF CIRCLEVILLE FOR THE DESIGN OF NEW WATER FACILITIES ON SOUTH COURT STREET; AND DESIGNATING A DEDICATED REPAYMENT SOURCE FOR THE LOAN.

Discussion: Frost stated this is the beginning of the process to remove lead service lines, galvanized pipes, and an inventory of unknown lines as required by the EPA. This Resolution allows the City to contract with STRAND for the design of those improvements and designating a repayment source. Frost stated the City is required to remove any lead from the ground and the City hopes to begin this process next year. Frost stated the water chemistry for Circleville has not changed and the corrosion control protection is protecting the City's water. Frost stated the City's Consumer Confidence Report is rock solid and citizen's shouldn't be concerned. Frost stated the EPA is enforcing this over the next 13 years as a response to the crisis Michigan had where professionals did not do their job properly. Frost stated lead wasn't banned until 1988 and there are pieces out there that the City is will systematically get out.

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

Duvall motioned for adoption of the Resolution. Moats seconded. Roll call. (7 Yeas- 0 Nay). The Resolution is adopted and assigned #11.83.2024.

c. ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION AND DELIVERY BY THE CITY OF APPLICATIONS TO ADD PROPERTY TO THE CIRCLEVILLE NEW COMMUNITY AUTHORITY AND SUPPLEMENTAL DECLARATIONS TO THE DECLARATION OF COVENANTS AND RESTRICTIONS FOR THE CIRCLEVILLE NEW COMMUNITY AUTHORITY UNDER REVISED CODE CHAPTER 349.

Discussion: Hedges stated this is adding property to the current territory for the NCA.

MOTION-ROLL CALL -VOTE

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

MOTION-ROLL CALL -VOTE

Hedges motioned for passage of the Ordinance. Brooks seconded. Roll call. (7 Yeas- 0 Nay). The Ordinance is passed and assigned #11.84.2024.

d) AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE ANNUAL APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE IN THE GENERAL FUND 101 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT .4% INCOME TAX FUND 206 POLICE & FIRE DISABILITY PENSION FUND 217 AND CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND 306 OF THE CITY OF CIRCLEVILLE

Discussion: Hedges state this is the 13th housekeeping Ordinance of the year with most of the funding going towards the purchase of the property just North of Atwater School.

MOTION-ROLL CALL -VOTE

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

MOTION-ROLL CALL -VOTE

Duvall motioned for passage of the Ordinance. Theis seconded. Roll call. (7 Yeas- 0 Nay). The Ordinance is passed and assigned #11.85.2024.

e) AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AND REPEALING CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF ORDINANCE NOS. 02-12-2010, 08-35-2011, 08-57-2012, 09-65-2015, 11-73-2018, 05-18-2020, 05-17-2021, 06-29-2021, 12-65-2021, 10-76-2022 AND 02-11-2024 AND IMPLEMENTING A UNIFORM COMPENSATION SYSTEM FOR THE NON-BARGAINING UNIT POSITIONS OF THE CITY OF CIRCLEVILLE AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Discussion: Hedges stated this Ordinance was reviewed in two separate Finance meetings and essentially is cleaning up, correcting, and bringing current the Comp Plan. Theis asked for clarification on the rates listed on Schedule A. Bidwell stated that is the baseline to try and get everyone back in their ranges not raises. Theis asked if cost of living increase will be given in June or January. Kinney stated going forward the City will use calendar year instead of fiscal years. Bidwell stated if the increase is approved the cost for the City for 2024, is approximately \$7,487.79. In 2025, the approximate cost for the City is approximately \$56,000 if employees receive the 4% cost of living raise.

MOTION-ROLL CALL -VOTE

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

MOTION-ROLL CALL -VOTE

Hallinin motioned for passage of the Ordinance. Moats seconded. Roll call. (7 Yeas- 0 Nay). The Ordinance is passed and assigned #11.86.2024.

NEW BUSINESS: Composition of Public Utilities

MOTION-ROLL CALL -VOTE

Duvall motioned to add the Ordinance for the Composition of the City of Circleville Department of Public Utilities to Council's Agenda. Theis seconded. (7 Yeas- 0 Nay). The Ordinance is added to Council's Agenda.

1) 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: Kinney urged Council to deny passage because it is already encompassed in the Comp plan that was just passed.

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

Hallinin motioned for passage of the Ordinance. Theis seconded. Roll call. (0 Yeas- 7 Nay). The Ordinance is denied.

2) Motion to go into Executive Session:

Hedges Motioned to go into executive session for two purposes. The first purpose is to consider confidential information related to negotiations with another political subdivision respecting our request for economic development assistance pursuant to O.R.C. §§5709.40 to 5709.43. This session would include all Council members including the president, Auditor, Law Director, Mayor, and P3 Director.

The second purpose is to consider the employment of a public employee or official, pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 121.22(G)(1). This session would include all Council members including the president, Auditor, Law Director, Mayor, and the Safety Director.

MOTION-ROLL CALL -VOTE

Hedges Motioned to go into executive session for the two purposes listed above. Hallinin seconded. Roll call. (7 Yeas- 0 Nay). Council is adjourned into Executive Session.

MOTION-ROLL CALL -VOTE

Moats Motioned to adjourn executive session. Hallinin seconded. Roll call. (7 Yeas- 0 Nay).

Hallinin motion to adjourn the City Council meeting. Moats seconded. Council is adjourned at 8:22 p.m.

Minutes prepared by: Melissa Burns, Clerk.