

CIRCLEVILLE CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES 4/1/2025

Circleville City Council convened in Council Chambers Tuesday, April 1, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. Council members present at Roll call: President Barry Keller, At Large Members Katie Logan-Hedges and Tom Klitzka, Second Ward John Moats, Third Ward Audrey Lukasak, Fourth Ward Tom Duvall and Clerk Melissa Burns. Excused absent member: At Large Member Sheri Theis and First Ward Jeff Hallinin. Invited guests present: Mayor Michelle Blanton, Law Director Kendra Kinney, and Auditor Mark Bidwell.

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

Moats motioned to approve City Council minutes from March 18, 2025. Lukasak seconded. Motion carried.

REPORTS FROM COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Hedges stated she had a Finance Committee meeting and will have four pieces of legislation on the Agenda.

Klitzka announced his next Judicial meeting will be held on April 7, 2025, and the Wesley Commons PUD legislation will be on his Agenda.

Lukasak announced Strategic Planning will have a meeting at 6:15 p.m. on April 7, 2025. Lukasak also stated she will speak to three pieces of legislation on the Agenda this evening.

Duvall stated the Service Committee met on March 18, 2025, and heard the Capital Projects presentation by Strand Associates LLC for the City of Circleville. This information will be included in the next newsletter for the citizens of Circleville.

Keller spoke about his hiring of Paul Pride as a consultant for the Police Department back in August of 2024. Keller stated Mr. Pride will continue in this role through mid-May, when he will begin his transition into his new role as the Director of Public Safety.

REPORTS FROM CITY OFFICIALS:

Law Director Kinney stated she will speak regarding the Union agreement with the Fire Department.

Mayor Blanton announced Paul Pride will be the next Safety Director for the City of Circleville. He will officially start on June 1, 2025.

QUESTIONS OR ANSWERS TO ADMINISTRATION: None.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

COMMUNICATIONS: Circleville City Council will hold a Public Hearing Tuesday, April 15, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. in Council Chambers located in the City Hall Building, 127 S. Court Street, 2nd FL, Circleville, OH 43113. The Public Hearing will be to hear the following request: Alto Real Estate, LLC Planned Unit Development incentives.

MOTION-ROLL CALL -VOTE

Klitzka motioned to place the communication on file for City Council. Hedges seconded. Motioned carried.

ORDINANCES FOR SECOND READING:

a) RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CIRCLEVILLE PUMPKIN SHOW INC. TO USE THE CITY ADMINISTRATION PARKING LOT LOCATED AT 120 EAST FRANKLIN STREET DURING THE CIRCLEVILLE PUMPKIN SHOW FOR THE CALENDAR YEARS OF 2025 THROUGH 2029 TO BE USED AS SPACE FOR ARTS AND CRAFT VENDORS.

Discussion: Lukasak stated this is a recurring Resolution.

MOTION-ROLL CALL -VOTE

Lukasak motioned to hold this Resolution for a third reading. Moats seconded. Roll call. (5 Yeas- 0 Nays).

b) AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE TO EXECUTE AND FILE AN APPLICATION WITH THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES FOR POSSIBLE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE THROUGH THE NATUREWORKS GRANT PROGRAM AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Discussion: Lukasak stated this Ordinance allows the City to apply for the Natureworks Grant Program and if received it will be used by the Pickleball Association to help build another court at Barthelmas Park. The max award the City can receive this year for this grant is \$23,072.

MOTION-ROLL CALL -VOTE

Lukasak motioned to hold this Ordinance for a third reading. Moats seconded. Roll call. (5 Yeas- 0 Nay).

c) AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE TO ENTER INTO A CLEAN OHIO GREEN SPACE CONSERVATION PROGRAM GRANT AGREEMENT WITH THE OHIO PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION TO PROVIDE GRANT FUNDS TO IMPROVE LOCAL ENVIRONMENT FOR THE CITY OF CIRCLEVILLE AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. CHAPTER 349 OF THE OHIO REVISED CODE AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Discussion: Lukasak stated this is a companion Ordinance to the Ordinance that allowed the City to apply for the Ohio Public Works Commission Grant. This Ordinance allows the Service Director to accept the grant in the amount of \$994,156. The grant will be used to help purchase the two park lands on Pickaway Street and North Court Street.

MOTION-ROLL CALL -VOTE

This motioned to hold this Ordinance for a third reading. Klitzka seconded. Roll call. (5 Yeas- 0 Nay).

FIRST READING

d) A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING UPTOWN CIRCLEVILLE MAIN STREET PROGRAM TO USE CITY STREETS FOR THEIR FIRST FRIDAY EVENT.

Discussion: Duvall stated this Resolution is for a recurring Resolution and allows Uptown to host their first Friday event.

MOTION-ROLL CALL -VOTE

Duvall motioned to hold this Ordinance for a second reading. Moats seconded. Roll call. (5 Yeas- 0 Nay).

e) A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING UPTOWN CIRCLEVILLE MAIN STREET PROGRAM TO USE CITY STREETS FOR THEIR ANNUAL 3-ON-3 TOURNAMENT FOR 2025.

Discussion: Duvall stated this Resolution is for a recurring Resolution and allows Uptown to host their annual 3-On-3 event.

MOTION-ROLL CALL -VOTE

Klitzka motioned to hold this Ordinance for a second reading. Moats seconded. Roll call. (5 Yeas- 0 Nay).

f) RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CIRCLEVILLE PUMPKIN SHOW, INC. TO OPERATE THE ANNUAL "CIRCLEVILLE PUMPKIN SHOW" ON VARIOUS STREETS AND SIDEWALKS OF THE CITY OF CIRCLEVILLE, OHIO.

Discussion: Duvall stated this is a recurring Resolution that allows Circleville Pumpkin Show Inc. to use various streets and sidewalks for the Circleville Pumpkin Show.

MOTION-ROLL CALL -VOTE

Duvall motioned to hold this Ordinance for a second reading. Lukasak seconded. Roll call. (5 Yeas- 0 Nay).

g) AN ORDINANCE DECLARING THE INTENT TO VACATE ALLEY NO. 1 LOCATED IN THE WEST RIGHT-OF-WAY OF PICKAWAY STREET AND OHIO STREET BEING THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF ORIGINAL LOT 18 IN THE HUSTON'S SECOND ADDITION TO CIRCLEVILLE.

Discussion: Duvall stated alleys 1, 4, and 5 are part of the old Cellar Lumber and the alleys are already abandoned. Duvall stated the neighbors on both sides of the property have agreed as well as received P&Z's approval.

MOTION-ROLL CALL -VOTE

Duvall motioned to hold this Ordinance for a second reading. Klitzka seconded. Roll call. (5 Yeas- 0 Nay).

h) AN ORDINANCE DECLARING THE INTENT TO VACATE ALLEY NO. 4 LOCATED IN THE NORTHEAST RIGHT-OF-WAY CORNER OF PICKAWAY STREET AND OHIO STREET BEING THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF ORIGINAL LOT 8 IN THE HUSTON'S SECOND ADDITION TO CIRCLEVILLE.

Discussion: See above comments from letter G.

MOTION-ROLL CALL -VOTE

Duvall motioned to hold this Ordinance for a second reading. Moats seconded. Roll call. (5 Yeas- 0 Nay).

i) AN ORDINANCE DECLARING THE INTENT TO VACATE ALLEY NO. 5 LOCATED IN THE NORTHWEST RIGHT-OF-WAY OF PICKAWAY STREET AND OHIO STREET BEING THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF ORIGINAL LOT 18 IN THE HUSTON'S SECOND ADDITION TO CIRCLEVILLE.

Discussion: See above comments from letter G.

MOTION-ROLL CALL -VOTE

Duvall motioned to hold this Ordinance for a second reading. Lukasak seconded. Roll call. (5 Yeas- 0 Nay).

j) A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CIRCLEVILLE ELK #77 TO USE CITY STREETS FOR THEIR FLAG DAY CELEBRATION EVENT.

Discussion: Duvall stated this Resolution is for a recurring Resolution and allows Circleville Elk to host their Flag Day event.

MOTION-ROLL CALL -VOTE

Duvall motioned to hold this Ordinance for a second reading. Klitzka seconded. Roll call. (5 Yeas- 0 Nay).

k) A RESOLUTION ALLOWING THE CITY OF CIRCLEVILLE TO ADOPT THE CIRCLEVILLE SAFETY ACTION PLAN.

Discussion: Duvall stated this Resolution is stating the City agrees with the recommendations from the Capital Projects presentation and the Safer Streets For All (SS4A) study. The City will still need to pass Ordinances to implement any changes the City moves forward with.

MOTION-ROLL CALL -VOTE

Duvall motioned to hold this Ordinance for a second reading. Lukasak seconded. Roll call. (5 Yeas- 0 Nay).

l) A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PRESIDENT OF CIRCLEVILLE CITY COUNCIL, DIGITAL SCANNING AND ARCHIVAL PRESERVATION AGREEMENT WITH THE HFGROUP.

Discussion: Hedges stated this Resolution came out of the Finance Committee with a recommendation for passage. Keller stated he and the Clerk have identified records all the way back to the early 1800's. HF Group will preserve, scan, digitize, and archive all the City's original legislation. Keller stated some of the records are in a fragile state and will need special remediation that HF Group has the capabilities to do. The second phase of the project will be scanning 41 boxes of meeting documents including past agendas, minutes, and attachments.

MOTION-ROLL CALL -VOTE

Hedges motioned to hold this Ordinance for a second reading. Klitzka seconded. Roll call. (5 Yeas- 0 Nay).

m) AN ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE AND IMPLEMENT THE LABOR AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FIRE FIGHTERS LOCAL 1232 AND THE CITY OF CIRCLEVILLE AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Discussion: Hedges outlined several key points from the contract: starting January 1, 2025, employees will get a \$1 wage adjustment and a 3% raise; in 2026 and 2027, they'll receive a 3% increase each year, with no option to renegotiate wages unless a levy is approved; it also includes an extra holiday and a fitness incentive.

MOTION-ROLL CALL -VOTE

Hedges motioned to hold this Ordinance for a second reading. Duvall seconded. Roll call. (5 Yeas- 0 Nay).

n) AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE ANNUAL APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE IN THE GENERAL FUND 101 SAFETY FORCES .5% TAX FUND 212 ARPA FEDERAL GRANT FUND 257 OF THE CITY OF CIRCLEVILLE.

Discussion: Auditor Bidwell stated this Ordinance is the result of budget cuts from the failed safety levy. The Ordinance reduces the total budget by \$229,680.02. Bidwell stated the elimination of the Parks and Rec Director will reduce Fund 101 by \$108,758. Bidwell also stated the Ordinance eliminates one police officer position and will reduce Fund 212 by \$88,074.22.

MOTION-ROLL CALL -VOTE

Hedges motioned to hold this Ordinance for a second reading. Moats seconded. Roll call. (5 Yeas- 0 Nay).

o) AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE ANNUAL APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE IN THE SAFETY FORCES .5% TAX FUND 227 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND 306 WATERWORKS OPERATING FUND 808 WATERWORKS IMPROVEMENT AND EXTENSION FUND 819 WATER PLANT REHABILITATION FUND 838 AND SEWER REPLACEMENT FUND 934 OF THE CITY OF CIRCLEVILLE.

Discussion: Hedges highlight \$2.6 million from this Ordinance is for the OWDA loan. Utilities Director Brian frost stated \$500,000 was already budgeted for and is just for a name change of who receives the payment. Frost stated that the OWDA loan amounts are for principal forgiveness, and this is just a place holder for the money passing through.

MOTION-ROLL CALL -VOTE

Hedges motioned to hold this Ordinance for a second reading. Klitzka seconded. Roll call. (5 Yeas- 0 Nay).

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Klitzka motioned to excuse Theis from tonight's meeting. Lukasak seconded. Motion carried.
2. Moats motioned to excuse Hallinin from tonight's meeting. Lukasak seconded. Motion carried.
3. Mayor Blanton stated some of the legislation has a timing element and needs to be passed. The Mayor asked Council to consider having a Special Council Meeting this Thursday April 3, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. for the purpose of having the second and third reading of the legislation.

Hedges motion to adjourn the City Council meeting. Klitzka seconded. Council is adjourned at 7:32 p.m.

Minutes prepared by: Melissa Burns, Clerk.