

Video Conference
Regular Meeting
September 28, 2020
7:00 p.m.

Council met via video conference in regular session with eight of the nine members present: Phillips, Payne, Nickerson, Tatman, Lewis, Gillum, Shoemaker and Proehl. Ms. Corcoran was having difficulties logging onto the meeting. Also, in attendance were Mayor Feeney, City Law Director Villarreal, City Auditor Spetnagel and Fire Chief Knotts. This meeting was video conferenced due to the COVID-19 pandemic and followed the guidelines of the Ohio Attorney General, Dave Yost, allowing the public to listen to the meeting safely.

President Arnold made a motion to excuse Councilwoman Corcoran's absence from the meeting and that motion was seconded by Ms. Nickerson. All members present voted "yea", and President Arnold declared the motion adopted.

Ms. Payne moved and Ms. Nickerson seconded that the minutes of the regular meeting of September 14, 2020 be accepted and approved, as submitted by the Clerk. All members present voted "yea", and President Arnold declared the motion adopted.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Safety Service Committee:

Ms. Gillum stated that the Safety Service Committee did not have any items on the agenda; however, she said that her committee did have several pieces of legislation pending and requested that she have a committee meeting on Monday, October 5th along with the other committees that will also be meeting on that date.

Development Committee:

Ms. Nickerson stated that the Development Committee did not have any items on the agenda; therefore, there was nothing to report.

Finance / Technology Committee:

Mr. Proehl reported the Finance Committee had several items on the agenda, Item #10, which is the first reading of a Resolution authorizing the Mayor and the City Auditor to spend COVID-19 funding as incurred, in accordance with CARES Act guidelines, and declaring an emergency. Mr. Proehl stated that at the appropriate time he will request to waive the three-read rule. Also, Item #11, which is the first reading of an Ordinance accepting and appropriating CARES Act Grant funds as funds are received and declaring an emergency. Again, Mr. Proehl stated that at the appropriate time he will request to waive the three-read rule so that they can make use of these funds. Item #5, which is a first reading for an Ordinance appropriating \$5,000.00 from unappropriated HUD Formula Grant funds to return FY'17 HUD Formula Grant funds not expended in 2019 to the Treasurer of the State of Ohio and declaring an emergency. Mr. Proehl stated that at the appropriate time he will request to waive the three-read rule. Finally, Item #6, which is the first reading of an Ordinance appropriating \$20,667.00 in insurance funds received as security as the result of a structure fire at 1065 Cliffside Drive, Chillicothe, Ohio, and declaring an emergency. Mr. Proehl stated that so that these funds can be made available that at the appropriate time he will request to waive the three-read rule, seeking to pass the item tonight.

Engineering Committee:

Mr. Shoemaker stated that the Engineering Committee had six items on the agenda, Item #2, which is the second reading of an Ordinance approving conversion of the traffic pattern from one-way to two-way street traffic on East and West Second Street between Mulberry and Walnut Streets. Item #3, which is a second reading of an Ordinance approving and accepting the dedication of an alley for public purposes, accepting the improvements for public use and maintenance of said alley and establishing the name "Hinton Way". Item #4, which is the first reading of an Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into a parking services agreement between the City of Chillicothe and ParkMobile, LLC, designating ParkMobile, LLC, as the merchant of record for processing credit/debit card payments, and declaring an emergency. Item #7, which is a first reading of an Ordinance amending Section 353.07: Deposit of Coin Required; Illegal Parking of the Codified Ordinances and authorizing the Safety Service Director to establish alternative parking fee payment methods. Items #8, which is the first reading of an Ordinance authorizing the modification of metered and unmetered parking zones,

replacement or removal of parking meters, and amending Section 353.02 of the Codified Ordinances. Lastly, Item #9, which is a first read of an Ordinance appropriating funds in the amount of \$90,000.00 for the City's reimbursement of Sunrush Enterprises, LLC's expenses for infrastructure improvements in accordance with Ordinance 70-02 and declaring an emergency. Mr. Shoemaker stated that he did not believe that he will be asking for a waiver of the three-read rule on any of these items at this time.

Utilities Committee:

Mr. Tatman reported that the Utilities Committee did not have any items on the agenda. Mr. Tatman did state that he is in reception of a new request for assignment #20-098, which has to do with legislation to revise and approve the Utilities Department Rules and Regulations. He said that he is not ready at this point for a meeting but that there will be one forthcoming.

City Services / Transit Committee:

Ms. Lewis reported that the City Services Committee did not have any items on the agenda; however, she would like to call a committee for next Monday, October 5th to discuss three items: #20-095, #20-096 and #20-097.

Community Affairs Committee:

Mr. Phillips stated that the Community Affairs Committee did not have any items on the agenda; therefore, there was nothing to report.

Human Resources Committee:

Ms. Payne reported that the Human Resources Committee had one item on the agenda, Item #1, which is the third reading of an Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to grant personal leave (PTO) to new or rehired non-bargaining employees who have extended experience or knowledge. Ms. Payne stated that besides this piece of legislation that there were no new items to report on.

Parks / Recreation / Tourism Committee:

President Arnold stated for Ms. Corcoran that the Parks & Recreation Committee did not have any items on the agenda, but that she would like to request a committee meeting for next Monday as well to discuss legislation regarding an appropriation for maintenance at the Coppel Field Complex.

Ms. Corcoran successfully joined the City Council meeting at 7:25 p.m.

REPORTS OF OFFICIALS

Report of Auditor Spetnagel:

City Auditor Spetnagel stated that she had two items on the agenda, Items #10 and #11. Item #10 is asking for a Resolution and support of spending of the CARES Act funds in accordance with the OBM guidelines. She said that there are very strict guidelines on how that money can be spent. Item #11 is accepting and appropriating additional CARES Act funds. Auditor Spetnagel said that the City has already received two payments so far and a third one is anticipated. She said that before this meeting she did a budget review that talked about the CARES Act money and that the City is expecting to receive about \$1.7 million, but she reiterated that there are a lot of requirements on that funding.

Report of Law Director Villarreal:

City Law Director Villarreal stated that they are working on the budget and trying to find ways to save money while committing to provide the highest level of service. She said that they will just keep working on that and continue to work on the legislation that keeps coming their way.

Report of President Arnold:

President Arnold said that he would like to make a note for somebody who passed away recently, Donna Stevens. He said that she spent a lot of time in this community doing a lot of volunteer work and gave a lot to this community. One thing in particular is the Railroad Museum at the Caboose. She worked on that for years, including her husband, and helped out a lot of other organizations as well.

Report of Mayor Feeney:

Mayor Feeney apologized for missing the Council reports due to technical difficulties. He wanted to thank Auditor Spetnagel for her financial update that she gave prior to today's meeting. He stated that in a world which is essentially marked by uncertainty, he thought she did a good job of painting the best picture possible right now. He said he thinks we are very fortunate to have a couple of unplanned windfalls to essentially course correct for this year. Going into next year in this budget cycle we will be looking forward to sort of figuring out how to project out for 2021 which should be no easy feat.

Mayor Feeney stated that as far as a report, the Human Resources Committee has a third read tonight for the legislation that essentially matches what the City did for Directors a couple of years ago. This allows at the appointing authority's discretion the ability to assign personal leave in addition to what the state and local rules allow for in terms of sick and vacation leave, and he said he would ask for Council's support in that matter. He added that this allows us to attract talent to the City in a way we can't otherwise.

Mayor Feeney stated that there are a couple of words of mourning he would like to share. He said that over the past couple of weeks we have had two really significant losses in the community. People who he thinks were very familiar to City Council and to the community. One was Mrs. Donna Stevens who was a very frequent attendee of Council meetings with her husband, John. He said that many of you may know her from her activity with the Caboose on Water Street. She was really a fixture at Council meetings and was really dedicated to the community and volunteering, and she will be sorely missed. He stated that the other person was Bob Etling who passed last weekend as well. He said he was somebody who really was vital to the community and to downtown, and he always saw possibility with what we could do here in Chillicothe. Both of them will be dearly missed, and that he thinks especially in this time when we don't get to see people like we used to and mourn like we used to, it is especially hard for families and others who are losing loved ones right now. He said he just wanted to keep their families and loved ones in his prayers and recognize them and their loss to the City.

Mayor Feeney said that on a different note, for the first time this year he has something good to announce. In consultation with the Health District it looks like we will be permitted to go forward with Trick-or-Treat this year. He said they are working through details but some of the core details are essentially that we are really going to try hard to get all of the villages and townships through a coordinated effort to have Trick-or-Treat at the same time across the County, regardless of their location, so that we are not cross contaminating and essentially driving from one neighborhood to another. He said to look for details this coming week as he is working with the Health District, township trustees, and villages. The library is going to help with a graphic to put out, and he is really looking forward to something positive. He said that it felt good to have a good announcement, because as of a couple of weeks he thought we were going to have to cancel it.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

President Arnold provided information during the public participation portion of the Council meeting to enable the public to communicate with City Council if desired. He added that contact information for any other time is on the website for each Council person if anyone needs to contact them. He also invited anyone who would like to be added to his mailing list to contact him directly. There were no participants during this meeting.

PETITIONS AND CORRESPONDENCE

The Clerk reported on the receipt of a notice from the Ohio Division of Liquor Control of the issuance of a permit to Fire & Stone LLC & Basement & Patio of 98 North Paint Street, 1st Floor.

Ms. Nickerson inquired about why there was an application for this business since they already had one.

Ms. Gillum replied that they are applying for a different level of permit, such as from a beer and wine liquor permit to a hard liquor permit.

COUNCIL ASSIGNMENTS AND CALENDAR

President Arnold stated that there will be a Committee meeting on Monday, October 5th at 6:30 p.m. This will include Engineering, Community Affairs, Parks & Recreation, Safety Services, and City Services.

The next Council meeting will be Monday, October 12th at 7:00 p.m.

The next Facilities meeting will be Monday, October 19th at 6:30 p.m.

President Arnold announced that there are new committee assignments since the last meeting, some of which are on this meeting's agenda, for inclusion in the Journal of Council:

City Services: Request for legislation to appropriate \$10,000 for refuse collection service and repairs
City Services: Request for legislation to appropriate \$4,000 for repair of street lights in the Downtown District

Utilities: Request for legislation to revise and approve Utilities Department "Rules and Regulations"

Development: Request for legislation to accept and appropriate \$5,070 from Atomic Credit Union to satisfy a CHIP mortgage

Parks & Recreation: Request for legislation to appropriate \$2,875 for repair of swimming pool pump walkway

Engineering: Request for legislation to authorize preliminary legislation for ODOT to proceed with signal timing upgrade project on State Route 159 in City limits

Safety Services: Request for legislation to appropriate \$1,700 to repair HVAC tower and \$2,650 for filling cracks in parking lot at Municipal Court

Parks & Recreation: Request for legislation to appropriate \$5,000 for maintenance of the Coppel Field in cooperation with the Ross County Park District

READING AND PASSAGE OF LEGISLATION

Ord. No 79-20 authorizing the Mayor to grant personal leave (PTO) to new or rehired non-bargaining employees who have extended experience or knowledge was read for the third time by title only. All nine members present voted "yea" on the item, and President Arnold declared Ordinance No. 79-20 adopted.

An Ordinance approving conversion of the traffic pattern from one-way to two-way street traffic on East and West Second Street between Mulberry and Walnut Streets was read for the second time by title only.

An Ordinance approving and accepting the dedication of an alley for public purposes, accepting the improvements for public use and maintenance of said alley and establishing the name "Hinton Way" was read for the second time by title only.

An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into a parking services agreement between the City of Chillicothe and ParkMobile, LLC, designating ParkMobile, LLC, as the merchant of record for processing credit/debit card payments, and declaring an emergency was read for the first time by title only.

Ord. No. 80-20 appropriating \$5,000.00 from unappropriated HUD Formula Grant funds to return FY'17 HUD Formula Grant funds not expended in 2019 to the Treasurer of the State of Ohio and declaring an emergency was read for the first time by title only. Mr. Proehl moved and Mr. Phillips seconded that the three-reading rule be suspended, placing this item on final passage. All nine members present voted "yea" and President Arnold declared the rule suspended. All nine members present then voted "yea" on the item itself, and President Arnold declared Ordinance No. 80-20 adopted.

Ord. No. 81-20 appropriating \$20,667.00 in insurance funds received as security as the result of a structure fire at 1065 Cliffside Drive, Chillicothe, Ohio, and declaring an emergency was read for the first time by title only. Mr. Proehl moved and Ms. Nickerson seconded that the three-reading rule be suspended, placing this item on final passage. All nine members present voted "yea" and President Arnold declared the rule suspended. All nine members present then voted "yea" on the item itself, and President Arnold declared Ordinance No. 81-20 adopted.

An Ordinance amending Section 353.07: Deposit of Coin Required; Illegal Parking of the Codified Ordinances and authorizing the Safety Service Director to establish alternative parking fee payment methods was read for the first time by title only.

An Ordinance authorizing the modification of metered and unmetered parking zones, replacement or removal of parking meters, and amending Section 353.02 of the Codified Ordinances was read for the first time by title only.

An Ordinance appropriating funds in the amount of \$90,000.00 for the City's reimbursement of Sunrush Enterprises, LLC's expenses for infrastructure improvements in accordance with Ordinance 70-02 and declaring an emergency was read for the first time by title only. Mr. Shoemaker asked if anyone had any comments regarding this legislation. He said that he would entertain possibly at the next meeting that Council waive the three-read rule. President Arnold said that they could include that in the discussions on Monday, October 5th Committee meetings.

Res. No. 16-20 authorizing the Mayor and the City Auditor to spend COVID-19 funding as incurred, in accordance with CARES Act guidelines, and declaring an emergency was read for the first time by title only. Mr. Proehl moved and Ms. Gillum seconded that the three-reading rule be suspended, placing this item on final passage. All nine members present voted "yea" and President Arnold declared the rule suspended. All nine members present then voted "yea" on the item itself, and President Arnold declared Resolution No.16-20 adopted.

Ord. No. 82-20 accepting and appropriating CARES Act Grant funds as funds are received and declaring an emergency was read for the first time by title only. Mr. Proehl moved and Mr. Shoemaker seconded that the three-reading rule be suspended, placing this item on final passage. All nine members present voted "yea" and President Arnold declared the rule suspended. All nine members present then voted "yea" on the item itself, and President Arnold declared Ordinance No. 82-20 adopted.

President Arnold inquired if there was a motion to adjourn.

Ms. Lewis moved and Ms. Gillum seconded that the regular meeting be adjourned. All nine members present voted "yea" and President Arnold declared the motion adopted. Adjourned at 7:51 p.m.

Clerk of Council

President of Council

