

Council met in a special session with all nine members present. G. Phillips, Nickerson, Henderson, Fairrow, Payne, Preston, A. Phillips, Brown, Proehl.

President Gieringer led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Community Affairs: Mr. Greg Phillips stated that this committee has no items on the agenda and nothing to report.

Human Resources: Ms. Payne stated that this committee has no items on the agenda and nothing to report.

Development: Ms. Nickerson stated that this committee has no items on the agenda and nothing to report.

Finance: Mr. Tony Phillips stated that this committee has two items on the agenda. The first item is listed as a first read but Mr. Phillips stated that this item would change to a 2nd read at the appropriate time. The item is an ordinance to make appropriations for current expenses and other expenditures of the city of Chillicothe, State of Ohio, during the fiscal year beginning January 1st, 2023, and ending December 31st, 2023, and declaring an emergency. The second item is a first reading of an ordinance appropriating funds for the purpose of making payroll, fringe and pensions for the remainder of 2022 and declaring an emergency. At the appropriate time, Mr. Phillips will make a motion to waive the three-read rule on this item. Mr. Phillips asked to take a poll of attendance for the 26th, there is a need for enough members to be in attendance to pass the budget.

***Ms. Nickerson interjects and shares that she doesn't think this item is the 2nd read.

Mr. Phillips and Ms. Preston stated that the three-day receipt rule was waived on the item and then added to the agenda

Ms. Nickerson believes the three-day receipt rule was waived but that the item wasn't voted on to be added to the agenda so it should still be first read. She stated that she did not receive a copy of the minutes to double check.

Ms. Moss stated that a copy of the minutes was not provided because of the special meeting status. Ms. Nickerson shared "a special meeting still constitutes a regular meeting."

Ms. Spetnagel shares that she is not sure, and Ms. Nickerson says she can't verify.

Ms. Henderson read from her notes that during Old Business item 4 was added to the agenda and item was a 1st read, waived the three-day receipt rule, passed that, and would move to a second read.

Ms. Nickerson stated that she is not trying to argue but trying to make sure it is handled correctly.

Pres. Gieringer asked Ms. Nickerson if she thought it could be taken care of at the meeting next week.

Ms. Nickerson shares that she does not recall voting on adding it to the agenda and that it would be nice to have the minutes to reference. She mentions that she thinks council is still required to vote on the minutes.

Ms. Preston made a motion to recess for a moment. Ms. Payne seconded. All members in attendance voted "yea" and Pres. Gieringer declared the motion passed.

Ms. Nickerson asked to have the minutes voted on, Pres. Gieringer asked for roll call on the minutes, Ms. Nickerson interjected and asked what was being voted on. Pres. Gieringer explained that there were no minutes to be approved so his opinion is that everyone just votes "nay". Ms. Nickerson explains the importance of minutes and Ms. Moss responded that with being absent at the last meeting and sick through the week, this mistake is hers and apologizes for not having her laptop or a copy of the minutes. Ms. Moss' understanding was that minutes were not approved at a special meeting.

Mr. Proehl suggests voting on them at the next meeting.

Pres. Gieringer asks Ms. Nickerson what her thoughts are.

Ms. Nickerson: "You're the president, what do you suggest?"

Pres. Gieringer: "My suggestion would have been, as a member of council, you brought your concerns up before the meeting went live so we could work together as a body to correct this in an appropriate manner. Did you receive your packet this week?"

Ms. Nickerson: "I am not going to argue with you, I did receive the packet."

Pres. Gieringer: "You asked for what my opinion was and that's my opinion."

Parks and Recreation: Ms. Henderson shares that this committee has no items on the agenda, however, she would like to call for a Parks & Rec committee meeting at 6:30 January 9th, 2023, to discuss the Wade Street park potential.

Safety Service: Ms. Preston stated that this committee has two items on the agenda. The first is an ordinance providing for an agreement between the City of Chillicothe, Ohio, and the Ross County Commissioners, whereby the City of Chillicothe, Ohio, will continue to be eligible through 2023 for state reimbursement of costs incurred in appointing counsel for Indigent Criminal Defendants and declaring an emergency. The next is a first reading of an ordinance amending Section 521.17(a) titled "Maximum Height of Grass and Weeds" of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Chillicothe and declaring an emergency.

Engineering: No report was given by Mr. Fairrow.

City Service/Transit: No report was given by Mr. Fairrow.

Utilities: No report was given by Mr. Proehl.

Reports of Officials:

Mayor Feeney: In the absence of the mayor, no report was given.

Auditor Spetnagel: Ms. Spetnagel shares that there are two financial items on the agenda. One is for the 2023 budget and the other is to appropriate additional funds to make payroll, fringes, and pension for the remainder of the year. Those are both very important ordinances and Ms. Spetnagel asks for everyone's support in getting that accomplished.

Law Director Villarreal: In the absence of Ms. Villarreal, there was no report given.

Audience Participation:

Pres. Gieringer briefed the Audience on Council Rule 22 which limits each speaker to a 5-minute presentation and a limitation of 15 minutes per any single subject.

Terry Williams, 47 ½ E. Main Street, Mr. Williams has a question concerning the meeting agenda – he states that items 2 & 3 from the previous agenda (Dec. 12) were neither disposed of during that meeting nor do they appear on tonight's agenda. He wonders why the items are missing, quoting Council Rule 7(f).

Pres. Gieringer responded with thanks for the input and that the issue would be addressed at the next meeting.

Old Business:

New Business:

Reading and Passage of Legislation:

An Ordinance to make appropriation for current expenses and other expenditures of the City of Chillicothe, State of Ohio, during the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2023, and ending December 31, 2023, and declaring an emergency. Pres. Gieringer declared this item would move to the next agenda.

First reading of an Ordinance appropriating funds for the purpose of making payroll, fringe and pensions for the remainder of 2022 and declaring an emergency. Mr. Tony Phillips made a motion to waive the three-read rule. All members in attendance voted “yea” and Pres. Gieringer declared the motion passed. All members in attendance voted “yea” concerning the legislation and Pres. Geiringer declared the ordinance adopted.

First reading of an Ordinance providing for an agreement between the City of Chillicothe, Ohio, and the Ross County Commissioners, whereby the City of Chillicothe, Ohio, will continue to be eligible through 2023 for state reimbursement of costs incurred in appointing counsel for Indigent Criminal Defendants and declaring an emergency. Pres. Gieringer declared this item would move to the next agenda.

An Ordinance amending Section 521.17(a) titled “Maximum Height of Grass and Weeds” of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Chillicothe and declaring an emergency. Pres. Gieringer declared this item would move to the next agenda.

Pres. Gieringer asked for a motion to adjourn. Ms. Henderson made a motion to adjourn, and Mr. Fairrow seconded. All members in attendance voted “yea” and the meeting was adjourned at 7:21pm.