



City of Willowick
CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

Tuesday, January 05, 2021 at 7:30 PM
City Council Chambers/ Webex

ADA NOTICE

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, individuals needing special accommodations (including auxiliary communicative aids and services) during this meeting should notify the City of Willowick at 440-585-3700 at least three working days before the meeting.

MINUTES

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

The first meeting of Council of 2021 was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Council President Patton. This was conducted as a virtual meeting pursuant to the applicable Ohio Statute, the advice from the Governor's Office and the Ohio Attorney General. The meeting is in compliance with Ohio's Sunshine Law.

PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE

INVOCATION

ROLL CALL OF COUNCIL

PRESENT

Council President Robert Patton
Ward 1 Councilwoman Monica Koudela
Ward 1 Councilman Michael Vanni
Ward 2 Councilwoman Natalie Antosh
Ward 2 Councilwoman Theresa Bisbee
Ward 3 Councilman Charles Malta
Ward 3 Councilman David Phares

Also Present: Mayor Regovich, Finance Director Benedict, Fire Chief Tennyson, Police Chief Turner, City Engineer McLaughlin, Economic Development Manager Drake, Chief Housing and Zoning Inspector Brennan, Sewer Foreman Gross, Council Clerk Wovrosh and Angie Trend. Law Director Landgraf and Recreation Director Kless were absent.

For the record Council President Patton reported that he was at City Hall with the Mayor and due to a hardware issue they were unable to get the video camera to work. He and the Mayor would be participating in the meeting by voice only.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Motion by Mr. Malta, seconded by Ms. Antosh to approve the minutes of the Regular City Council Meeting of December 15, 2020.

Discussion: None.

Voting: All ayes. Motion carried.

APPOINTMENTS, SPECIAL RESOLUTIONS & PROCLAMATIONS

None.

ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS

None.

REPORTS & COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR/SAFETY DIRECTOR

Mayor & Acting Service Director Regovich reported:

Budgets have been submitted to City Hall from the director's. Councilman Vanni was asked for a date for the Budget Hearings as the Finance Director and the Mayor will be going over the budgets in the next week.

Lake County is in Phase 1A for vaccines which is healthcare workers and personnel who routinely are caring for covid patients. The first batch of vaccines that Lake County received was around 500 doses. Some of the delay in distribution is making sure the vaccines are properly handled so as not to waste them. Lake County's highest day of positive cases was on December 8, 2020 at 385 and on January 4, 2021 the number was at 161.

Schools are looking to open around January 18 however the superintendent has not submitted his plan yet.

COUNCIL DISCUSSION OF THE MAYOR'S REPORT

None.

GENERAL COMMUNICATIONS & REPORTS – Directors & Officials**Acting Service Director – Rich Regovich**

On Christmas day there was another heavy snowstorm. The service workers were out plowing and did a great job getting the side streets cleared once they were able to get caught up on the main roads. One of the big plow trucks did go down with an electrical issue but all of the other equipment is up and running. The city still has plenty of salt left and will be prepared for the next storm.

There is another sink hole on Fairway near the 84 inch pipe. There is an emergency Resolution on the agenda tonight for repairs however the City Engineer and Mayor will be looking for help at the county level due to most of the water coming out of the pipe being from Wickliffe and this being a major repair. This needs to be a long time fix and for now safety is a concern. The city will be backfilling any area of concern with gravel.

Service workers are out in the parks and buildings making some changes. Meals on Wheels have been operating out of the Senior Center Monday, Wednesday and Friday as they lost their place in Eastlake.

Discussion: Councilman Malta stated that he is very happy that things are moving forward on Fairway and will be able to pass the information along.

Recreation Director – Julie Kless

Absent. No written report.

City Engineer – Tim McLaughlin

No written report.

Finance Director – Cheryl Benedict

No written report. Budget meetings will begin with the directors next week and it would take a few days to get the packages together.

Law Director – Stephanie Landgraf

Absent.

Police Chief – Brian Turner

Written report submitted electronically.

Fire Chief – Joe Tennyson

Written report submitted electronically. Lake County is proceeding with the vaccinations for first responders. The new rescue squad is in and the radios are being installed. It should be out on the road in the next week or two.

Chief Housing/Zoning Inspector – Sean Brennan

No written report.

Economic Development Manager – Monica Drake

Received a Community Reinvestment Application from a resident for residential purposes which will be followed up on. She also followed up on someone wanting to open a business in the city but has received no information back yet.

WARD MATTERS

Councilwoman Bisbee reported that she had received several emails and phone calls from residents in Ward 2 asking if the city could post on the website the disbursements from the CARES Act. Some residents are being misinformed or do not understand the information in the posted minutes as to what the money is being used for. The Mayor reported that the Finance Director is working on a reconciliation now. Once it is complete it will be shared with the residents on the website.

Councilwoman Bisbee also stated that she had received several questions and comments in regards to the new sewer charges and wondered if more information could be posted on the website as far as what the increase would cost the residents.

Finance Director Benedict stated that the increase would vary for everyone because it is based on individual consumption charges. By multiplying the sewer charge only by 10% that should give the residents an idea as to what their increase will be.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

a) Public statement (1 minute maximum)

b) Council response to the public

c) Public clarification (30 seconds to 1 minute for the purpose of restating or rearticulating an original question, concern, suggestion or idea)

Bryon White, 30550 Willow Lane stated he had three comments: 1) the covid relief fund local government distribution shows Willowick receiving 2.3 million. Mr. White said spending 2.3 million would take months to figure out where it was spent even though it should have already been spent. 2) Ordinance 2020-51 shows the first quarter ending March 31, 2021 and police overtime at \$39,000 just for the first quarter which estimates \$156,000 in police overtime for the year. 3) With covid closing down most of the facilities within Willowick we still have the pools and Senior Center showing expenditures.

Finance Director Benedict explained the police overtime is in the temporary budget and is figured at 30% of what was budgeted for last year. It does not mean that this will all be spent this is only a temporary budget for overtime and wages for the first three months of the year. Council President Patton

stated that if they didn't have a temporary budget they would not be able to run the city for the first three months of the calendar year. Mr. White asked if the budget was 30% then would the budget for police overtime be \$120,000 in overtime for either the year or the quarter.

Chief Turner stated that Finance Director Benedict was correct in her explanation and if there needed to be any further clarification it could be provided.

The Mayor reported that the covid relief money is all earmarked to be spent. Some of it is still waiting on items that have been ordered and the Finance Director is working on the breakdown. As far as the pools the budget is anticipation as to what will be spent upcoming. If the pools don't open then the money will not be spent. The breakdown of earmarked money from the Cares Act funding will be posted as soon as it is available.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Finance – Vanni, Bisbee, Koudela

No report.

Safety – Phares, Malta, Bisbee

No report.

Service, Utilities & Public Lands – Malta, Phares, Bisbee

No report.

Streets, Sidewalks & Sewers – Vanni, Malta, Antosh

No report.

Tax Compliance – Koudela, Antosh, Patton

No report.

Moral Claims – Antosh, Phares, Patton

No report.

Budget – Vanni, Koudela, Patton

Councilman Vanni set the budget hearing for Saturday, February 6 beginning at 8 a.m. and it will most likely be virtual.

LIAISON REPORTS

Planning – Phares/Alternate Koudela

No report.

Board of Zoning Appeals – Koudela/Alternate Vanni

No report.

Volunteer Fire Fighters' Dependents Fund Board – Antosh, Phares (Amended)

No report.

Recreation Board – Bisbee/Alternate Phares

No report.

Plan Review Board – Antosh

No report.

Hearts & Hammers – Malta

Councilman Malta reported the meeting for January 6th has been cancelled and the fundraiser has also been cancelled due to the pandemic.

FUND TRANSFERS & BID AUTHORIZATIONS

None.

CONTRACT APPROVALS

None.

INTRODUCTION & CONSIDERATION OF LEGISLATION

2. Resolution No. 2021-1

A Resolution authorizing an expenditure in an amount not to exceed \$45,000 to Broadway Excavating for the emergency repair of a 7' storm sewer at 441 Fairway, and declaring an emergency.

Motion made by Mr. Malta, seconded by Ms. Antosh to waive the three readings on Resolution No. 2021-1.

Discussion: None.

Voting: All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion made by Ms. Antosh, seconded by Mr. Vanni to approve Resolution No. 2021-1.

Discussion: None.

Voting: All ayes. Motion Carried.

3. Ordinance No. 2021-1

An Ordinance amending Ordinance 2020 - 51 to provide for additional appropriations from the Stormwater Management Capital Fund (420) for current expenses and other expenditures of the City of Willowick, State of Ohio, during first quarter ending March 31, 2021, and declaring an emergency.

Motion made by Ms. Antosh, seconded Mr. Vanni to waive the three readings of Ordinance No. 2021-1.

Discussion: None.

Voting: All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion made by Ms. Antosh, seconded by Mr. Vanni to adopt Ordinance No. 2021-1.

Discussion: None.

Voting: All ayes. Motion carried.

MISCELLANEOUS

Mr. Malta wanted to thank Sue Wovrosh for the excellent job she did as Council Clerk and wanted to wish her a happy retirement. Also there is a Coats for Kids event on Saturday at Willow Praise Church. They have already raised 350 coats and are looking to get to 500. Master Pizza in Eastlake will be giving away 500 medium pizzas for every kid that gets a coat.

Ms. Koudela reported that she received a complaint from a resident in Ward 2 about Kimble missing

several streets in the Harrison, E 305 St. and Thomas area. When Kimble was contacted the resident was told that they would have to wait until the following week to get their garbage picked up. The resident wanted to know if this could possibly be a breach of contract on Kimble's part.

Council President Patton received the same complaint and stated that Kimble has cameras and GPS tracking on their trucks so it can be tracked as to where and when the trucks are in the city. Kimble kept a spreadsheet for all of the addresses that the residents did not have their garbage out when the truck went by. It appears there may have been a discrepancy between the complaint and Kimble's records. Mayor Regovich stated that he did reach out to Kimble about the Saturday pickup on the holiday weekend after having received some complaints at City Hall and they did provide him with the spreadsheet information. The city is in the second year of the contract with Kimble and there are three more years to go. This is definitely something that we can keep a log of and address it at the end of the contract.

Mr. Malta expressed his frustration with not being able to get in touch with the representative that was at the original meeting for Kimble. Kimble does a good job but they need to make sure someone is answering the calls.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

a) Public statement (1 minute maximum)

b) Council response to the public

c) Public clarification (30 seconds to 1 minute for the purpose of restating or rearticulating an original question, concern, suggestion or idea)

Phil Detering, 469 Bayridge Blvd., wanted to know if he would be able to get the budget packet like he did last year. Council President Patton confirmed that the packets would be available and per the Mayor they could be sent electronically or a hard copy could also be provided. Finance Director Benedict advised it would be a couple of weeks before the packets would be ready.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Ms. Antosh, seconded by Mr. Vanni to adjourn.

Discussion: None.

Voting: All ayes. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL

ATTEST: _____

CLERK OF COUNCIL