

Regular Council

Monday, November 16, 2015 at 6:00 p.m.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Michael Headley.

A Prayer was given by Mayor Headley.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all present.

Present were: Council members Mike Barth, Ron Jones, Mark Haver and Ron Beverly; Solicitor Troy Essex; Administrator Kent Miller and Clerk-Treasurer Diane Collins. Bruce Hart and Mick Pocratsky were absent. There were 12 visitors present.

Haver moved to approve the November 2 minutes with a correction to the EMS report. Royer and Elson's status changed from Basic EMT to Advanced. Barth seconded. All voted yes.

Jones moved to approve the bills list. Haver seconded. All voted yes.

Nelson Hershberger of Tri-State Dairy was present. Mr. Hershberger wants to purchase the two properties north of his business on Wendell Avenue to expand the dairy. He doesn't want to purchase the property if there is a chance council was not going to be in favor of it. Mr. Hershberger said he has been in business at that location almost five years and doesn't have enough room. Beverly stated he would hate to see a commercial business expand in a residential section. It was noted there is already other residential property on the other side of him. Moving to Industrial Drive was mentioned. Hershberger stated he would need to keep his business running while expanding or moving. Mayor Headley promised him we would help him work it out.

Resident Kenneth Vogelsong of Vogelsong Properties, LLC was present to answer questions that council may have about his request for two lot splits at 338 and 340 Chicago Avenue. This matter was briefly discussed at the last council meeting. There would be a thirty foot utility easement. The proposed driveway would be privately owned by each of the lots. It would not be a city roadway. Mr. Vogelsong understands that water runoff is a concern and said a rain garden was proposed for the run off. Barth said he spoke to Wastewater superintendent Ron Daniels who told him there is a separated storm line out that way that Mr. Vogelsong should be able to tap into. Haver stated this belongs in a Water/Sewer/Refuse Committee meeting at this time. Mayor Headley sent it to the committee to decide if his drainage plan will work.

HIXTV Committee: October meeting minutes were in the council packets. Beverly commented that if HIXTV isn't using the building on North Main Street why they don't move out of it. Committee member Mike Barth replied that the group is planning to do that.

Personnel Committee: November 12 meeting minutes were placed on the council table tonight.

Administrator's Report: Miller reported tonight's bill's list will have the final pay request for the Industrial Drive Extension. Original contract price was \$605,306.80 and the final cost after balancing quantities came in at \$600,997.99. The warranty period will cover any defects which may develop in the next year. Mayor Headley commended Miller on the roadway coming in under budget and the fact that he did a wonderful job getting it done in November as Miller said it would be. It was noted that all that is left is signage, lights and a ribbon cutting ceremony.

Subject to weather factors, the last planned leaf pick up is Monday, December 7. Folks should have their leaves out by that morning. Each street will get one pass on each side starting in the morning. Piles left behind or which pop up afterwards will have to be taken to the lot by the residents.

Miscellaneous:

Ordinance 2015-13 to amend Chapter 181 of the Codified Ordinances regarding Municipal Income Tax was read for the third reading. Collins pointed out that there are three concerns that Cheryl Smith consulted the Ohio Municipal League about and the answers were in writing in front of each council member. Collins explained that one item missing out of this new version is wording stating that retirees would not have to file an income tax return. Essex told council that it could be revisited and added later. Jones moved to approve. Barth seconded. All voted yes.

Ordinance 2015-14 to reduce the minimum sewer charges was read by caption only for the third reading. Haver moved to approve. Jones seconded. Beverly & Barth voted no. Haver and Jones voted yes. Mayor Headley broke the tie by voting yes.

Ordinance 2015-15 to amend the water rates was read by caption only for the third reading. Jones moved to approve. Haver seconded. Barth, Jones, and Haver voted yes. Beverly voted no.

Ordinance 2015-16 the 2016 Annual Appropriations Ordinance was read by caption only for the second reading.

Ordinance 2015-17 restructuring the pay for full time employees of the EMS department was read by caption only for the first reading.

Resolution 2015-24 authorizing the Mayor to purchase real estate necessary to sewer and drainage improvements was read by caption only for the first reading.

There was discussion about the downtown parking. Mayor Headey and council have received many complaints about the new layout of the parking spaces downtown. 27 spaces were lost when ODOT painted the parking spaces at a 30 degree angle at the request of council. Miller reported he obtained a quote of \$9,800 to grind off the present lines and repaint the spaces which will also goof up the \$4,000 handicap parking spaces he just had changed to match the current angle parking. When asked, Miller stated it could possibly be done yet this year if we don't wait until the next regular scheduled meeting to make a decision. Barth stated he heard more cons than pro. Beverly noted he does not have trouble finding a parking space and that store owners don't need to park in front of their stores. They can go out back or down the street. Council wants Miller to find out how many spaces we will gain back. Hicksville Pharmacare owner Jon Myers stated he would love to see it go back but not if we only gain a few spaces. A special council meeting will be called as soon as Miller gets the information. It was noted that other items would be put on the agenda also.

Police/Fire/EMS: Fire Chief Scott Cramer asked council to reinstate Drew Wort as a Basic EMT. Mayor Headley recommended reinstating Drew Wort pending a good physical, drug screen and background check. Barth moved to approve. Jones seconded. All voted yes.

Clerk/Treasurer's Report: Collins asked council how they intended to fill her term when she is sworn in to the Mayor's position. Essex stated that council will appoint someone to fill her unexpired term. Collins asked if she could go ahead and advertise for an assistant assuming they will appoint my current assistant Cheryl Smith to the position and somebody responded with a yes and there were no objections.

Mayor's Report - The October Mayor's Court Report was put in council packets for review. Mayor Headley stated he has three people for the Local Board of Tax Review. They are Barb Savage, Joyce Shadrack from council & Cheryl Miller. Miller asked if they needed to live in town. The answer was never given. Hickory Creek is having an open house coming up that he encouraged people to go to. He asked residents not to drop off recyclables and leave before the county recycling trailer arrives. Congratulations to Diane Collins coming on board as Mayor January 1 along with Shelia Baker as council member. Beverly added a congratulations to Haley Hesselschwartz for being crowned Miss Northwest Ohio this past weekend.

Beverly asked how Kent's guys did on their recent testing. The Water and Sewer test results don't come for five or six weeks. The guys didn't pass their CDL tests because they took too long to do their pre-trip. Austin goes back this Thursday. Steve goes back next Tuesday.

Barth moved to adjourn. Jones seconded. All voted yes.

Mayor

Clerk/Treasurer