

Regular

May 15

2008

Ontario City Council met in regular session on May 15, 2008 in the City Offices, with Council President Pro Tem Mark Weidemyre presiding. The meeting opened at 7:00 p.m., with the Pledge of Allegiance.

The following persons were in attendance when roll was called: Council members Dan Zeiter, Mark Weidemyre, Leon Blackwell, Barry Lewis, Paul Williams, and Charlotte Hellinger; Mayor Kenneth Bender; Law Director Rebecca Thomas; Service/Safety Director Charles Au; and Clerk of Council Cathy VanAuker. A number of interested citizens were present in the audience.

Mr. Blackwell made a motion to excuse Mr. Metzger and Mr. Cinadr from this evening's meeting. Mrs. Hellinger seconded the motion. At roll call, six members voted Aye, zero Nay, and the motion passed.

The minutes of the regular Council meeting of May 1, 2008 were presented for approval. Mr. Williams made a motion to approve the minutes and Mr. Lewis seconded the motion. At roll call, six members voted Aye, zero Nay, and the motion to approve the minutes passed.

PUBLIC COMMENTARY

Hearing no one who wished to speak, Mr. Weidemyre closed the Public Commentary portion of the meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mr. Zeiter commented on the joint Safety and Finance meeting held May 8, 2008, by stating the Finance Committee recommended changing the percentage of the disbursements by reducing the Street Construction and Maintenance Fund by 5% and increasing the General Fund 5%, which is Ordinance No. 08-20 on this evening's agenda.

Mr. Zeiter also reported that he attended the quarterly meeting of the Ontario Substance Abuse Advisory Council, along with Mayor Bender, Mr. Weidemyre, and Auditor Morehead. Mr. Zeiter praised the involvement and accomplishments of Substance Abuse Coordinator, Mrs. Cain, and distributed the detailed Ontario Substance Abuse Program newsletter to all Council members.

Mr. Lewis advised Council members of the Safety Committee meeting, held simultaneously with the Finance meeting, where they discussed the purchase of two tornado sirens and a generator that will accommodate the entire City building.

Mr. Weidemyre, Mr. Blackwell, Mr. Williams, and Mrs. Hellinger had no report this evening.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Bender reported the following to Council.

Confirmation was received for a \$500,000, 0% loan, from the Ohio Public Works Commission that will be released on July 1, 2008, for the second phase of the I&I rehabilitation on the west side of the City.

An announcement was made by the Richland County Engineer, in conjunction with the County Board of Commissioners and the Richland County Emergency Management Agency, the Richland County GIS Consortium will be updating the GIS system. A well-marked DDTI van from Columbus will be circulating throughout the county upgrading the GIS position information. This process will be conducted during May 21-May 30, 2008.

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At this time, Mayor Bender invited the Executive Director of the Mental Health Recovery Services Board, Joe Trolan, forward to receive a Proclamation for Mental Health Month.

MENTAL HEALTH MONTH

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WHEREAS, mental health is essential to everyone's overall physical health and emotional well-being; and

Whereas, mental illness will strike one in five adults and children in a given year regardless of age, gender, race, ethnicity, religion, or economic status; and

Whereas, people who have mental illness can recover and lead full, productive lives; and

Whereas, an estimated two-thirds of adults and young people who have mental health disorders are not receiving the help they need; and

Whereas, the cost of untreated and mistreated mental illnesses and addictive disorders to American businesses, governments and families has grown to \$113 billion annually; and

Whereas, community-based services that respond to individual and family needs are cost-effective, and beneficial to consumers and the community; and

Whereas, the National Mental Health Association and its national partners observe Mental Health Month every May to raise awareness and understanding of mental health and illness.

Now, Therefore, I, Kenneth A. Bender, Mayor of the City of Ontario, do hereby proclaim

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as

“Mental Health Month”

and call upon the citizens, government agencies, public and private institutions, businesses and schools of Ontario to recommit our community to increasing awareness and understanding of mental health, and the need for appropriate and accessible services for all people who have mental illnesses.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Ontario to be affixed this 15th day of May, in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand and Eight.

Kenneth A. Bender, Mayor

Mr. Trolan addressed Council to say: On behalf of the Mental Health and Recovery Services Board, the providers in Richland County, and the 3,700 Richland County residents who receive services annually, I thank the Council once again for your continued support. We spend eleven months out of the year dealing with and addressing mental illness and it's nice to have one month out of the year where we can actually celebrate mental health. Thank you once again for making that possible.

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SERVICE/SAFETY DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Au addressed Council with an update on several items.

ODOT is requesting a meeting regarding the damage to the bridge over State Route 309. The tentative schedule indicates construction will begin the later part of May, continue through June, with completion prior to July 4, 2008. Due to the closing of eastbound 309, a detour will direct traffic to exit at the interchange just before this location, travel on 4th Street, and return to 309 at Trimble Road. Maintaining one-lane traffic through the construction zone would be dangerous and would impede the construction progress.

The Menards project is underway with the roadway improvements scheduled in three sections. Section three will be completed first, which is the widening of Home Road at the Walker Lake Road intersection. This will be followed by the Home Road extension in the northerly direction, and the last section will be to connect to the extension of Spring Village. This decision was based upon the limited traffic during the closing of the Home Road bridge, which should allow completion to take place prior to the County Fair traffic in August. Before this portion is finished, work should begin on Walker Lake Road near Lexington-Springmill. To maintain consistent traffic flow to the local businesses, only one side of the roadway will be under construction at a time. However, traffic will be slow-moving and motorists are discouraged from taking this route unless necessary. Although most of this work will be performed during the nighttime hours the road will be closed a couple of times during construction. All of the roadwork should be done by this fall, the building completed the first of 2009, and, allowing a couple of months for stocking, the anticipated opening is scheduled for February 2009.

RECREATION DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mrs. VanCura reported on several events.

Lifeguard Certification Class – A class is scheduled in June. This is free of charge to Ontario residents in exchange for paid life guarding during the year for Family Swim and Summer Recreation. Ten Ontario students have signed up for the class.

Summer Recreation – Seventy-seven teenagers are scheduled to work Summer Rec the weeks of June 16 and June 23. Approximately two-hundred-thirty registrations have been received to participate each week in the thirteen activities. Golf is a new addition to the program this year and is a popular choice. A \$5.00 registration fee is being collected each week from every participant.

Swim Lessons – The fee is \$40 per child. Although two sessions are offered with twenty-five students per session, several children have been closed out of the classes that will be held immediately following Summer Rec.

Contest For Ontario 50th Year Celebration – All students, kindergarten through fifth grade, are encouraged to design a card in celebration of the 50th Anniversary Party for the City of Ontario. Prizes will be awarded to the best entries within different age groups. Contest rules are available from their Art teacher and paper will be supplied. Following the parade on August 23rd, the Ontario Growth Association is hosting a celebration at Marshall Park where awards will be distributed and many of the cards will be on display.

LAW DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mrs. Thomas had no report.

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MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS

Mr. Lewis made a motion to accept the official City of Ontario Flag design. Mr. Williams seconded the motion. Mr. Zeiter commented on the irony of the 50th Anniversary Party card contest. The Mayor and one police officer made the decision when selecting the flag design for the City. Council was left out of the process even though they were at a presentation several months ago when a City resident shared information on how to develop the design of the flag. Five members cast their votes Aye, one Nay by Mr. Zeiter, and the motion to accept the City of Ontario Flag was approved.

CONSIDERATION OF ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

ORDINANCE NO. 08-18

(THIRD READING) AN ORDINANCE ENACTING CHAPTER 1146 AND REPEALING SECTIONS 1133.02(12), 1133.02(17), 1133.02(21), 1133.02(34), 1133.02(71), 1133.02(63.1), 1133.02(141) AND 1145.27 TO THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ONTARIO, OHIO AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mr. Blackwell read Ordinance No. 08-18 for the third time, by title only.

Mr. Blackwell made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 08-18. Mr. Williams seconded the motion. Hearing no discussion, five members cast their votes Aye, one Nay by Mr. Lewis, and Ordinance No. 08-18 was adopted.

ORDINANCE NO. 08-20

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 12.1(2) OF ORDINANCE 97-60, AND 04-38, 04-55, 05-08 AND 05-48 TO ALLOCATE THE BALANCE OF INCOME TAX FUNDS AVAILABLE TO BE DISBURSED.

Mr. Williams made a motion to suspend the rules requiring the reading of Ordinance No. 08-20 on three separate days. Mr. Blackwell seconded the motion. Six members cast their votes Aye, zero Nay, and the motion to suspend the rules passed. Mr. Williams read Ordinance No. 08-20 for the first time, by title only.

Mr. Williams made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 08-20. Mrs. Hellinger seconded the motion. Hearing no discussion, six members cast their votes Aye, zero Nay, and Ordinance No. 08-20 was adopted.

ORDINANCE NO. 08-21

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE 08-11 KNOWN AS THE PERMANENT APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE, FOR 2008 BY MAKING ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS TO THE GENERAL FUND.

Mr. Lewis made a motion to suspend the rules requiring the reading of Ordinance No. 08-21 on three separate days. Mr. Zeiter seconded the motion. Six members cast their votes Aye, zero Nay, and the motion to suspend the rules passed. Mr. Lewis read Ordinance No. 08-21 for the first time, by title only.

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Mr. Lewis made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 08-21. Mr. Williams seconded the motion. Hearing no discussion, six members cast their votes Aye, zero Nay, and Ordinance No. 08-21 was adopted.

At 7:21 p.m., there being no further business to come before the meeting, the same was adjourned upon a motion by Mr. Blackwell and a second by Mr. Lewis. At roll call, six members voted Aye, zero Nay, and the motion to adjourn passed.

President of Council

Clerk of Council