

Regular

September 2,

2010

Ontario City Council met in regular session on September 2, 2010, in the City Offices, with Council President Daniel Zeiter 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 Paul Williams, Larry Arnold, Charlotte Hellinger, Leon Blackwell, Mark Weidemyre, and Barry Lewis, Mr. Zeiter, Mayor Larry Collins, Assistant Law Director Harry Welsh, Service-Safety Director Roger Heston, Auditor Jane Hammond, Treasurer Linda Stoodt, and Clerk of Council Cathy VanAuker. Also in attendance were a number of interested employees and citizens.

Mr. Blackwell made a motion to excuse Mr. Cinadr from this evening's meeting. Mr. Williams seconded the motion. At roll, call five members vote Aye, one Nay by Mr. Lewis and the motion passed.

The minutes of the regular Council meeting of August 19, 2010 were presented for approval. Mr. Arnold 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.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mr. Williams gave support to Ordinance No. 10-43, prohibiting texting, which is on this evening agenda. He said there would also be an ordinance forthcoming pertaining to raising the false alarm fees.

Mrs. Hellinger commented on the recent Utilities Committee meeting held September 1, when Harry Winfrey from Richland Engineering answered questions pertaining to the Rock Road Lift Station. Utility rates were also discussed during this meeting.

Mrs. Hellinger scheduled a Utilities Committee of the Whole meeting for September 8, 2010, at 3:00 p.m.

Mr. Blackwell deferred to Mr. Weidemyre to report on the joint Personnel and Finance Committee meeting that was held prior to this evening's Council meeting.

Mr. Blackwell announced a Personnel Committee of the Whole meeting for September 16, 2010, at 5:30 p.m.

Mr. Weidemyre reported on the joint Personnel and Finance Committee meeting held prior to Council. Kathy Mosier from Richland County presented information about the County's health insurance plan. Joining this plan would save the City \$350,000 over current expenses. Also, brought before the Committee was an updated monthly report prepared by the Auditor and Treasurer showing a balance of \$160,000.

Mr. Arnold and Mr. Williams expressed their gratitude for the hard work involved and the combined efforts it took to produce an accurate monthly report. Next year consideration will need directed toward purchasing police cruisers, snow plows and the repairing of equipment and roads that were placed on hold this year.

Mr. Arnold and Mr. Lewis had no report this evening.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Collins reported on the following items:

- Ten permits were issued during August with a valuation of \$384,700.
- Mayor's Court collections were \$14,516 with past due collections of \$10,322 for a total of \$24,838. Of that amount, \$20,691 went to the City, \$3,270 to the State and an \$877

Regular

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2010

fee to the company that handles our collection fees. 112 tickets were written and there has been a total of past due collections since March of \$86,920.15.

- Police contract negotiations begin September 9, 2010.
- 2011 budget requests are due by September 15, 2010.
- Herm Stein of the Ohio Department of Development is asking Motors Liquidations to update Ontario on the plans for the General Motors plant that will be empty by the end of this year.
- Sarah Farkas from the Government Accountability Office in Washington will be here next week. Mayor Collins asked for input to assist him in answering the question: What affect did GM's restructuring have on the auto industry, relaying communications, and what assistance has the federal government provided to mitigate these affects? Studies are being conducted in six communities with Ontario being one of them.
- Communications are ongoing with three land owners wanting to develop properties in Ontario.

Mr. Weidemyre responded to questions concerning some vacant business locations.

- The owner of the old Carpetland building is fixing the parking lot but is unsure what will be done with the building.
- Persnickety is opening in the Barnes and Noble complex.
- Mr. McCreedy purchased the old Carpet and Tile Outlet building on Village Mall Drive and is making renovations.

Mr. Blackwell provided input to the Mayor's question about General Motors and said the Federal Government provided training for the workers who lost their jobs. Mayor Collins concurred that he would prepare numbers representing the impact to the community from lost income. Expenses for maintaining the GM facility are \$4.2 million per year and vacated buildings don't sit empty very long before they are torn down.

SERVICE-SAFETY DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Heston provided the following report.

- Thanks went out to those who attended the fundraiser at Applebee's Restaurant which was sponsored by Modern Woodmen of America for the purpose of assisting the Ontario Police Department with the purchase of the new Tactical Response Vehicle.
- Alterations are currently being done at the Water Plant to accommodate storage of the vehicle. The basic truck should arrive at Graham Auto Mall this coming week, then it will be converted.
- Police calls totaled 387 for the past two weeks:
 - 18 crashes (1 hit-skip, 4 injury)
 - 30 alarm drops
 - 45 suspicious persons or circumstances
 - 0 B&E's
 - 6 - 911 calls
 - 43 arrests
- ODOT reopened the bridge on Home Road over St. Rt. 309 after completing needed improvements and repairs.
- The balance of the materials for the Rock Road Lift Station SSO pipe installation have arrived and work will begin on September 8th. The repair of the damaged line under the stream will be done by City crews and Elite Excavating.
- The Home Road Lift Station project is well underway but was interrupted when a gas line was accidentally ruptured by the contractor. The expected completion date is late September.
- The ODOT paving project is nearing completion. There will be a five day closure on the St. Rt. 309 ramps to 4th St. after the holiday.

Regular

September 2,

2010

When Mr. Lewis asked about the turn lanes on Ferguson Road and W. 4th Street, Mr. Heston said he is waiting on a response from ODOT to determine if they are going to approve the large project for the entire area. Until then, nothing will be done with the turn lanes because it could jeopardize the possibilities for the grant.

Mr. Weidemyre said he has received several compliments on the pristine appearance of the cemetery, due to the hard work of Evan Hellinger and Wally Weber, stating the mowing takes a great deal of time.

LAW DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Welsh said he appreciated being able to attend this evening's meeting in the absence of Mr. Sowash.

MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS

The Ohio Division of Liquor Control submitted a transfer request at 2284 W. 4th Street to Azul Agave LLC from Five Guys Restaurant Development Inc. Council did not request a hearing on this transfer.

Mr. Zeiter read a letter from the Scholarship Committee Chairman of the Ohio Municipal Clerks' Association awarding Clerk of Council Cathy VanAuker a \$500 tuition scholarship to the Master Municipal Clerk Academy Career Development Program sponsored by Kent State.

CONSIDERATION OF ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

ORDINANCE NO. 10-41

AN ORDINANCE APPROVING THE EDITION AND INCLUSION OF CERTAIN ORDINANCES AS PARTS OF THE VARIOUS COMPONENT CODES OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF ONTARIO, OHIO.

Mr. Williams made a motion to suspend the rules requiring the reading of Ordinance No. 10-41 on three separate days. Mrs. Hellinger seconded the motion. Six members cast their votes Aye, zero Nay, and the motion to suspend the rules passed. Mrs. Hellinger read Ordinance No. 10-41 for the first time, by title only.

Mrs. Hellinger made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 10-41. Mr. Arnold seconded the motion. Hearing no discussion, six members cast their votes Aye, zero Nay, and Ordinance No. 10-41 was adopted.

ORDINANCE NO. 10-42

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 08-08 KNOWN AS THE WORKING ORDINANCE BY PROVIDING A SYSTEM OF COMPENSATORY TIME OFF IN LIEU OF OVERTIME AND ALLOWING SUPERVISORS TO ARRANGE FLEXIBLE WORK SCHEDULES FOR EMPLOYEES UNDER THEIR SUPERVISION.

Mr. Williams made a motion to suspend the rules requiring the reading of Ordinance No. 10-42, 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. Blackwell read Ordinance No. 10-42 for the first time, by title only.

Regular

September 2,

2010

Mr. Blackwell made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 10-42. Mr. Weidemyre seconded the motion. Hearing no discussion, six members cast their votes Aye, zero Nay, and Ordinance No. 10-42 was adopted.

ORDINANCE NO. 10-43

AN ORDINANCE PROHIBITING SENDING, READING OR WRITING A TEXT MESSAGE OR ACCESSING THE INTERNET WHILE DRIVING, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mr. Williams made a motion to suspend the rules requiring the reading of Ordinance No. 10-43, on three separate days. Mr. Weidemyre seconded the motion. Six members cast their votes Aye, zero Nay, and the motion to suspend the rules passed. Mr. Weidemyre read Ordinance No. 10-43 for the first time, by title only.

Mr. Weidemyre made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 10-43. Mr. Williams seconded the motion. Hearing no discussion, five members cast their votes Aye, one Nay by Mr. Lewis, and Ordinance No. 10-43 was adopted.

At 7:28 p.m., there being no further business to come before the meeting, the same was adjourned upon a motion by Mr. Williams and a second by Mr. Blackwell. At roll call, six members voted Aye, zero Nay, and the motion to adjourn passed.

President of Council

Clerk of Council