

Regular

March 15

2012

Ontario City Council met in regular session on March 15, 2012, in the City Offices, with Council President Daniel Zeiter presiding. The meeting opened at 7:07 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, Jim Hairston, Mark Weidemyre, Michele Webb, Pamela Drake, Mr. Zeiter, Mayor Larry Collins, Law Director Allan Sowash, and Service-Safety Director Roger Heston, Water Distribution Manager Evan Hellinger and Clerk of Council Cathy VanAuker. A number of interested employees and citizens were in the audience.

The minutes of the regular Council meeting of March 1, 2012 were presented for approval. Mr. Weidemyre made a motion to approve the minutes with a second by Mrs. Hellinger. At roll call, seven members voted Aye, zero Nay, and the motion to approve the minutes passed.

PUBLIC COMMENTARY

Craig Hunt, 3680 Park Avenue West, came before Council to suggest the possibility of creating a pond at Marshall Park. Maintenance would be minimal and a pond could be enjoyed by everyone in the community without a membership fee. The pond could be stocked for fishing, feeding ducks and benches could be placed nearby.

- Other communities have ponds in their parks without security fencing.
- The retention pond could be expanded.

Mayor Collins presented a Proclamation to Carla Rumas, Director of Therapy Services for Newhope Industries.

DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES AWARENESS MONTH MARCH 2012

WHEREAS, the more than 1,700 individuals served by Richland Newhope, their families, friends, neighbors and co-workers encourage everyone to focus on the abilities of all people; and

WHEREAS, the most effective way to increase this awareness is through everyone's active participation in community activities and the openness to learn and acknowledge each individual's contribution; and

WHEREAS, opportunities for citizens with developmental disabilities to function as independently and productively as possible in our community; and

WHEREAS, we encourage all citizens to support opportunities for individuals with developmental disabilities that include full access to education, housing, employment, and recreational activities; and

NOW THEREFORE, I, Larry C. Collins, Mayor of the City of Ontario, do hereby proclaim March, 2012, as Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month and recognize that "together" we can accomplish more and make all of our communities better. Take the time to get to know someone with a disability and what he or she has to offer.

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 March in the year of our Lord Two Thousand Twelve.

Larry C. Collins, Mayor

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Ms. Rumas thanked Mayor Collins for the Proclamation. Ms. Rumas said their agency is frugal with taxpayers dollars and came in 6% under budget last year; this year they are another 3% under last year's budget as they continue to do more with less while serving more people. Because of their efforts they won't have to return to the voters until 2017.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mr. Arnold reported on the recent Personnel Committee meeting. The City was challenged with an increase in health insurance premiums. Therefore, an employee committee was established and they have held a couple of sessions to determine cost savings efforts. When they have completed their discussions he will report their recommendations.

Mr. Arnold said the Streets Committee asked for a list of street lights that could possibly be turned off as a cost savings measure without being detrimental to safety. The Streets Supervisor is waiting on First Energy to respond with the amount of savings based on the quantity of lights he submitted.

Mrs. Hellinger said the Utilities Committee met but there are no definite plans at this time.

Mr. Weidemyre reported on the Economic Development Committee meeting held prior to Council this evening where discussion took place concerning future plans for the Mike Volk Company. Roland Volk attended the meeting. Committee members also decided to begin the process of creating an Industrial Park on the 67 acres on Beer Road. Previously four lots were platted and cost estimates were obtained for the roadways and water and sewer service to these lots. A local developer has offered to erect a spec building in the park. Brian Cooper of Robert W. Baird & Company provided a presentation during the meeting to show available financial options. The Committee recommended researching bonding as a source for funding the project.

Mr. Weidemyre made a motion to prepare legislation to present before Council to seek bonding for this project. Mr. Hairston seconded the motion. Council members not at the Committee meeting will receive a copy of the presentation. All buildings are occupied at the Nussbaum Parkway Industrial Park. Seven members cast their votes Aye, zero Nay, and the motion passed.

Mr. Williams, Mr. Hairston, Mrs. Webb and Ms. Drake had no report.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Collins announced March 12th marked the 100th Anniversary of the Girl Scouts.

The City of Ontario has received the designation as a Tree City USA by the Arbor Day Foundation for the seventh consecutive year.

SERVICE-SAFETY DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Heston said in 2009 there was \$11 million to run the City, this year there is \$7.9 million. The efforts of the employees have made this transition possible by doing a lot more with a lot less because they are dedicated. The equipment is older and more labor intensive while some departments are short of personnel. Mr. Heston extended thanks to every employee.

Mr. Heston has not received any correspondence from railroad representatives regarding the Rock Road bridge.

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MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS

When asked for an update on the unfinished church on Park Avenue West, Mayor Collins responded that he has communicated several times with them over the past couple of years and was told there was a contract on the sale of the building but there are no definite dates. The Health Department and the Zoning Inspector have inspected the property but there is nothing they can do.

The abandoned van sitting in the Flowerama parking lot is not part of the bankruptcy proceedings but belongs to another corporation. The Law Director sent notification to them concerning the removal of the van.

LAW DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Sowash had no report.

CONSIDERATION OF ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

ORDINANCE NO. 12-07

(THIRD READING) AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING PERMANENT APPROPRIATIONS FOR CURRENT EXPENSES AND OTHER EXPENDITURES OF THE CITY OF ONTARIO, OHIO FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2012 AND EXPIRING DECEMBER 31, 2012.

Mr. Weidemyre read Ordinance No. 12-07, as amended, for the third time, by title only.

Mr. Weidemyre made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 12-07. Mr. Arnold seconded the motion. Hearing no discussion, seven members cast their votes Aye, zero Nay, and Ordinance No. 12-07 was adopted.

At 7:35 p.m., Mr. Williams made a motion to enter into executive session per Ohio Revised Code 121.22 (G)(1) to consider employment of a public employee. Mr. Weidemyre seconded the motion. At roll call, six members voted Aye, one Nay by Mr. Weidemyre, and the motion passed.

At 8:43 p.m., Mr. Williams made a motion to reconvene into regular session. Mr. Weidemyre seconded the motion. At roll call, seven members voted Aye, zero Nay, and the motion passed.

At 8:44 p.m., there being no further business to come before the meeting, the same was adjourned upon a motion by Mr. Weidemyre and a second by Mr. Williams. At roll call, seven members voted Aye, zero Nay, and the motion to adjourn passed.

Daniel J. Zeiter, President of Council

Cathy VanAuker, Clerk of Council