

Regular

April 18

2013

Ontario City Council met in regular session on April 18, 2013, in the City Offices, with Council President Daniel Zeiter presiding. The meeting opened at 7:04 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, and Pamela Drake, Mayor Larry Collins, Assistant Law Director Harry Welsh, Service-Safety Director Roger Heston, and Clerk of Council Cathy VanAuker. A number of interested employees and citizens were in the audience.

Ms. Drake made a motion to excuse Mrs. Webb from this evening's meeting. Mr. Arnold seconded the motion. At roll call, six members voted Aye, zero Nay, and the motion passed.

The minutes of the regular Council meeting of April 4, 2013 were presented for approval. Mr. Weidemyre made a motion to approve the minutes with a second by Mr. Hairston. At roll call, five members voted Aye, zero Nay, one Abstain by Mr. Arnold and the motion passed.

PUBLIC COMMENTARY

Sam VanCura, 777 Cyprus Drive, came before Council to pay tribute to School Resource Officer Adam Gongwer and to promote the Richland Community Development Group. RCDG is giving \$7,000 toward the band shell project but they are more interested in being involved with the City of Ontario in their economic development. They have a seat on Team NEO which works with northeastern Ohio for economic development, RCDG receives all inquiries for Richland County and they are hopeful they will be able to work together.

Kathy Daniels, 10181 Gregg Road, Fredericktown, was next to come before Council to speak on behalf of the Richland Community Development Group, stating they would like to work together with Ontario. Ms. Daniels said she would like to see the money being considered for a similar group redirected to RCDG to support some of the projects they are already working on for Ontario, making Ontario the first to monetarily support RCDG, and in the future to consider making it a county wide opportunity.

- Mr. Arnold asked how RCDG determines where to locate a business because based on the information he recently received in the mail, Mansfield receives the highest percentage of new businesses locating in Richland County. There seems to be an interest now that there is the possibility of allocating money. When he asked what amount of funding has Mansfield contributed, Mr. VanCura said Mansfield has not made a contribution and Richland County is one of the lowest contributors to economic development in the State of Ohio.
- Responding to how RCDG selects between Mansfield and Ontario when a company is interested in this area, Mr. VanCura said site selectors know what they want and RCDG is to find the best place in Richland County for that site selector to look at properties and they make the final decision. RCDG remains relatively neutral to where businesses go. Their first goal is to bring business into Richland County because it benefits everyone.
- Ms. Daniels said when a site selector comes in it does not go to the RCDG Board but to the Executive Director Bridget McDaniel. The entire Board is committed to the county.
- In response to Mr. Hairston's question of how many businesses come already knowing their first choice preference for location, Mr. VanCura said most haven't identified a community but are looking for sewer, water, and electricity.
- Mr. Weidemyre said available properties are submitted and communities are notified by the state of potential businesses wanting to locate in the state. Properties are sent to the site selectors and if your properties are not submitted then you aren't considered. This is done through the state's website. Mr. Weidemyre thought they were looking for an Ontario advocate similar to Shelby and Mansfield because RCDG must remain neutral.

Regular

April 18

2013

- Mr. VanCura said RCDG is not asking for money but they are aware the city is considering funding \$25,000 to create a job that would duplicate their efforts. Site selectors tell you what they are looking for and their requests can be matched up with the information in the database.
- Ms. Daniels distributed updated pages pertaining to Ontario for the information al brochures handed out at the last Council meeting.

Next to come before Council was Brian McConnell, Chairman of the Ontario Growth Corporation. OGC is asking for \$25,000 for operational costs to promote Ontario; OCG has a 501(3)(C) for obtaining grants. Their strong Board of community leaders has a vision for Ontario by looking for retail and industrial retention and expansion. They would like to put their plan into place and become the economic development resource for the city. OCG is also looking for other entities to pay for sponsorship as well as ideas for fund raising.

Kerry Westfield, secretary/treasurer for OCG and secretary for OGA, was next to stand before Council promoting the benefits of having an organization concentrate specifically on the economic development for Ontario. They work collaboratively with Team NEO and OGC would be an advocate for Ontario to build a stronger economy so families would want to live, work, and stay in Ontario.

Craig Hunt, 3680 Park Avenue West was next to approach Council to express his concern about the cars parking in the grass during soccer games at Marshall Park when there is available parking. If the cars were kept on the pavement it would prevent ruts in the grass. Mr. Hunt felt parking spaces should be created along the entrance to the park for parents picking up their children at the elementary school because they pull into the grass and now it is full of ruts.

- Mr. Williams said he has had difficulty finding parking during soccer games and wasn't sure how the city could constantly watch where people park.
- Mr. Hunt suggested putting down more gravel for additional parking.

Next to come forward was Tina Vermillion, 1661 Victoria Court, to encourage Council to rename the Spring Village Park in her neighborhood after Doris Carr who was a wonderful resident of that neighborhood and recently passed away unexpectedly. Years ago she encouraged the children of the neighborhood to earn money to create a baseball field in the empty lot but later the field was turned into a playground park. Mrs. Carr was instrumental in convincing the property owner, Mr. Barnhill, to donate the land for a park so houses couldn't be built on that site. Mrs. Vermillion suggested the name Doris Carr Park and then read a letter from her son, Doug, telling the history of how his mother influenced the neighborhood children to earn money, one method was collecting pop bottles, as a community project to create the ballfield that was later turned into a park.

- Mr. Zeiter explained whenever they receive requests of this nature they are discussed at the appropriate committee meeting; this will go before the Parks Committee.

Mayor Collins invited Officer Adam Gongwer forward to receive the following Proclamation:

WHEREAS: Officer Adam Gongwer has continued to provide a high level of professionalism as the Ontario School Resource Officer, has garnered the respect of staff, parents and students through numerous class presentations, safety trainings, hallway interactions and peer mediation throughout his 5 year tenure at Ontario Local Schools and,

WHEREAS, Officer "Adam", as the students call him has completed numerous DARE lessons in the 5th Grade and was also awarded the DARE instructor training "Class Representative" in 2009 and,

WHEREAS, Office Gongwer continues to participate in the annual county-wide Mock Crash, which demonstrates to the Junior classes of several high schools, the dangers of drinking and driving during Prom season, and

WHEREAS, Officer Gongwer has instructed the Ontario Local Schools staff and students in various A.L.I.C.E. lockdown response options which teaches proactive life-saving strategies

Regular

April 18

2013

during an emergency & has also shared this program with other school districts, businesses and organizations and,

WHEREAS, Officer Gongwer brought the story of Rachel Joy Scott, the first victim at Columbine High School, to Ontario Schools which teaches students how to look for the positive in others, speak words of kindness, and start a chain reaction of treating others how you would like to be treated creating the positive momentum by working with students who are participating in various “Friends of Rachel” clubs within the district and,

WHEREAS, Officer Gongwer like his fellow members of Ontario Division of Police, often work above and beyond the call of duty when it involves the safety or well being of Ontario’s youth by continually planning for, meeting with, or implementing programs that promote healthy choices, wise decisions and choosing positive influences for the students and,

NOW THEREFORE, as Mayor of the City of Ontario, I do hereby proclaim April 19th, 2013, as Adam Gongwer Day in the City of Ontario and urge all residents of Ontario to remember and recognize the noble and valuable role individuals like Adam play in our community.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the City of Ontario To be affixed this 18th day of April in the year of our Lord Two Thousand Thirteen.

Larry C. Collins, Mayor

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mr. Williams expressed his appreciation that Council approved keeping the Resource Officer in the school system with everything that is happening in other schools around the country.

- Mr. Williams reported the band shell will cost the city \$4,000. Lowe’s was very gracious in reducing the amount for materials and the city will receive a \$7,000 grant. Zara Construction and Pioneer Vocational students will do the construction.

Mr. Williams made a motion to spend \$4,000 on the band shell. Mrs. Hellinger seconded the motion. Six members cast their votes Aye, zero Nay, and the motion passed. Mr. Weidemyre said the ground breaking will be April 24, 2013 at 10:00 a.m.

Mr. Hairston referred to the new legislation before Council on updating appropriations. No additional funds were allocated but the 24 hour rule will need passed in order to vote on the ordinance.

Mr. Weidemyre was contacted by someone looking into the Industrial Park and needing 12 – 15 acres to build a distribution facility. Mr. Weidemyre asked Council if they would like to discuss putting in at least an initial street.

- Mr. Williams said he would like to have a tenant before spending money on development.
- Mr. Arnold felt the owners of the Ontario Business Park have a specific goal and would turn down certain types of businesses so the Industrial Park would not be in competition with them. Money must be spent in order to get business.
- Ms. Drake said she doesn’t have the information she needs and will abstain because the information was presented during the last committee meeting which did not include everyone and there wasn’t any indication this was going to be presented. She has questions that she would like answered and suggested the next meeting is a committee of the whole.

Mr. Weidemyre scheduled an Economic Development Committee of the Whole meeting on April 23, 2013 at 3:00 p.m.

Regular

April 18

2013

Mr. Weidemyre received several complaints concerning a property that is being used for dumping but the Zoning Inspector is going to check into this. He also received a call about a property where five boats are stored on unlicensed trailers; code does not allow unlicensed vehicles. Mr. Welsh will look into this.

Ms. Drake said the residents building a home on Sandelwood are requesting use of the easement to access their property.

Ms. Drake made a motion for the Assistant Law Director to prepare legislation authorizing use of the easement to access the private property on Sandelwood. Mr. Arnold seconded the motion. Mr. Zeiter said this type of license has been granted in the past for residents to access their property and the property owners are responsible for the improvements. Six members cast their votes Aye, zero Nay, and the motion passed.

Ms. Drake made a motion requesting the Assistant Law Director to prepare legislation approving \$50,000, to account number 408-3020-52536, for the additional ring on the EQ basin. Mr. Williams seconded the motion. The cost of adding the ring at a later time would cost substantially more. Six members cast their votes Aye, zero Nay, and the motion passed.

Mr. Arnold, Mrs. Hellinger, and Mrs. Webb and had no report.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Collins announced Mansfield is hosting a county-wide observance at the Mansfield Central Park Gazebo, Praying for America, on the National Day of Prayer, May 2, 11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m.

SERVICE-SAFETY DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Heston reported on the following items:

- The December overflow was 1.1 million gallons and by adding the ring to the EQ basin will increase the holding capacity of the tank to 1.2 million gallons. Redirection the flow from Tappan Park to W. 4th Street will save 150,000 – 200,000 gallons so if there is another rain like last December the EQ basin tank would not be large enough without the additional ring.
- Tomorrow is the last day for winter debris pick-up.
- A water line break located under the road has caused a delay in the paving of Rock Road; a water line will be installed along the side of the road. Paving for the remainder of Rock Road will take place in June. An electric pole will need moved that was protected by the bridge.

LAW DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Welsh circulated the master plan for the Ontario Business Park.

CONSIDERATION OF ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

ORDINANCE NO. 13-12 – (SECOND READING) AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING THE CITY OF ONTARIO'S PERSONNEL POLICY AND PROCEDURE MANUAL AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Hearing no motion to suspend the rules requiring the reading of Ordinance No. 13-12 on three separate days, Mr. Weidemyre read Ordinance No. 13-12 for the second time, by title only.

Regular

April 18

2013

ORDINANCE NO. 13 – 14 – AN ORDINANCE APPROVING AN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT BETWEEN THIS CITY AND ONTARIO GROWTH CORPORATION, INC., AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE IT ON BEHALF OF THIS CITY, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Hearing no motion to suspend the rules requiring the reading of Ordinance No. 13-14 on three separate days, Ms. Drake read Ordinance No. 13-14 for the first time, by title only.

ORDINANCE NO. 13-15 - AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 13-08 KNOWN AS THE PERMANENT APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE FOR 2013 BY MAKING ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS AND ADJUSTMENTS IN EXISTING APPROPRIATIONS IN THE GENERAL, 35% STREET CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE, WATERWORKS, AND SEWER FUNDS.

Mr. Arnold made a motion to waive the 24 hour rule on Ordinance No. 13-15. Mr. Hairston seconded the motion. Six members cast their votes Aye, zero Nay, and the motion passed.

Mr. Weidemyre made a motion to suspend the rules requiring the reading of Ordinance No. 13-15 on three separate days. Mr. Arnold seconded the motion. Six members cast their votes Aye, zero Nay, and the motion to suspend the rules passed. Mr. Hairston read Ordinance No. 13-15 for the first time, by title only.

Mr. Hairston made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 13-15. Ms. Drake seconded the motion. Hearing no discussion, six members cast their votes Aye, zero Nay, and Ordinance No. 13-15 was adopted.

At 8:10 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. Arnold. At roll call, six members voted Aye, zero Nay, and the motion to adjourn passed.

Daniel J. Zeiter, President of Council

Cathy VanAuker, Clerk of Council