

Regular

April 2,

2015

Ontario City Council met in regular session on April 2, 2015, in the City Offices, with Council President Larry Collins 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 Ken Earhart, Larry Arnold, Eddie Gallo, Mark Weidemyre, Michele Webb, Pamela Drake, Mayor Randy Hutchinson, Law Director Andrew Medwid, Service-Safety Director Jeff Wilson, Auditor Mary Ann Hellinger, Treasurer Barb Crider and Clerk of Council Cathy VanAuker.

The minutes of the regular Council meeting of March 19, 2015 were presented for approval. Ms. Drake made a motion to approve the minutes with a second by Mr. Gallo. Six members cast their votes Aye, zero Nay, and the motion passed.

Mr. Arnold made a motion to excuse Jim Hairston from this evening's meeting. Ms. Drake seconded the motion. Six members cast their votes Aye, zero Nay, and the motion passed.

Mayor Hutchinson invited Brianne Kidinger forward to receive a Proclamation on behalf of Children's Services.

Child Abuse Prevention Month

Last year, Richland County Children Services conducted 2,118 investigations into alleged child abuse and neglect – almost six per day; and

WHEREAS, Unemployment, parental drug and alcohol abuse, stress, and social isolation are identified risk factors for child maltreatment; and

WHEREAS, Child abuse costs the nation an estimated annual direct cost of \$124 billion, approximately \$1,400 each year for the average American family; and

WHEREAS, Prevention strengthens families and is cost-effective. Research shows spending for child abuse prevention programs saves dollars that would be spent for crisis-oriented programming such as protective services, foster care, special education and counseling; and

WHEREAS, Promoting family functioning/resiliency, social support systems, concrete supports, nurturing and attachment and knowledge of parenting/child development all are known protective factors which prevent child maltreatment and help to strengthen families; and

WHEREAS, Child abuse prevention is an acknowledged community responsibility; and

THEREFORE, I, Randy Hutchinson, Mayor of Ontario, do hereby proclaim April 2015 as Child Abuse Prevention Month in Ontario and call on all city residents, agencies, and organizations to do their part to protect children and assist families in need.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto
set my Hand this second day of April, in the year
of our Lord Two Thousand Fifteen.

Randy Hutchinson, Mayor

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mr. Gallo said the Parks Committee meeting will be rescheduled in the next couple of weeks. This Saturday is the Easter Egg Hunt at Marshall Park.

Mr. Weidemyre said the interested buyer for the Beer Road property has accepted the city's offer. The Law Director will prepare the contract.

Regular

April 2,

2015

Ms. Drake said the Utilities Committee met earlier this evening in executive session.

Mr. Earhart and Mrs. Webb had no report.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Hutchinson provided the following report.

- The 4th of July Festival Committee would like input and help from Council members and Administration. Please let him know if you would like to be involved.
- Last week Mayor Hutchinson traveled with Mr. Weidemyre to Washington D.C. for three days to the USA Select Investment Summit where world-wide investors, economic development organizations, and government officials attended. The trip was very beneficial as they were able to meet with many people. They also made connections with Jobs Ohio and look forward to follow-up discussions. They want to be aggressive in bringing jobs to Ontario as they look to fill the GM facility and Business Park.

SERVICE-SAFETY DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Wilson reported on the following.

- The second annual spring clean-up is scheduled with high school students on Wednesday, April 22. Concentration will be on the north end of Lex-Springmill Road. If there are enough volunteers it will expand to Walker Lake Road west of Lex-Springmill. Rumpke Waste and Next Generations are sponsors of this event.
- Stick and limb pick-up is scheduled April 20th – 24th. Residents are to have limbs to the curb on that Monday to guarantee pick-up because there is not a route scheduled.
- The city borrowed the Township's street sweeping broom so road and sidewalk cleaning will began this week. Subdivisions should be completed by tomorrow. The grit on the uncurbed roads will be swept to the berm making it easier for clean up at the end of the month. Clean up will begin next week on the sidewalks along Lex-Springmill.
- These project dates will be announced in the Tribune.

When Mr. Gallo asked if businesses could assist in cleaning up the areas in front of their locations, Mayor Hutchinson said he asked for help last year but was told for liability reasons the employees were not allowed to leave the property.

Mr. Weidemyre said the widening of the intersection at Ferguson/Lex-Springmill has been delayed. Mr. Wilson said they were able to move forward with the posts at the four corners but won't start on the west side until a couple of conditions are met, and in the meantime, there is still plenty of work to do on the east side until that is taken care of.

- The managers of Applebee's and Cheddars are in favor of the improvement and will convey their support to their corporate offices.

LAW DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Medwid had no report.

OTHER REPORTS

Dr. Dorey Diab, President of the Ontario Growth Corporation and President of North Central State College, presented the Ontario Growth Corporation's Quarterly Report. Dr. Diab highlighted the OGC accomplishments of Cole, Tool & Die, Fed Ex, Avita Health System, Valero Gas Station, Town Place Suites by Marriott, Ontario Sign Project, Select USA International Summit and the Campus District Project. OGC member Raj Chandat said through

Regular

April 2,

2015

the contacts that were made at the Summit he was able to promote Ontario to interested companies in India.

Mr. Gallo suggested Council coordinate the OGC allocation to a calendar year and make the payment to them in January. The funding for 2015 has been allocated but has not been released.

PUBLIC COMMENTARY

Raj Chandat came forward to encourage the continuation of the city's support to OGC which is a very good cause as they work diligently to bring business to this town. He felt the participation to Washington D.C. was very beneficial and through the connections the Mayor and Mr. Weidemyre made he was able to communicate with companies from India. In the future they may want to consider extending the budget for OGC so they may continue advancement in their endeavors.

Bob Stout, 2393 Whitney, was next to address Council. Mr. Stout said it was less than a year ago that he came before them to address the excessive wages and benefits of city employees and he would like to address it again. The wages of hotels, restaurants and shopping malls is not significant enough to afford the expenses that are being paid in wages and benefits for the City of Ontario. If the city does not go after good manufacturing jobs of \$15 - \$20 per hour this city will fall in the footsteps of Mansfield. The city will have two options: to go to residents to increase taxes, which he doesn't advise, or they can prepare to file bankruptcy. He looked over the proposed budget and the wages and benefits are astronomical. If you do not go forward and request concessions the city will end up like Mansfield. The number one fact finding reason Mansfield was near bankruptcy was their excessive wages, benefits and perks.

- Mr. Weidemyre said they are focusing on industry which was the purpose of going to Washington D.C. They only spoke to industrial manufacturing companies.

CONSIDERATION OF ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

ORDINANCE NO. 15-14

AN ORDINANCE APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO SIGN AND DELIVER AN ENGAGEMENT LETTER WITH ACI FINANCIAL ADVISORS, L.L.C., AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mr. Weidemyre made a motion to suspend the rules requiring the reading of Ordinance No. 15-14 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. Earhart read Ordinance No. 15-14 for the first time, by title only.

Mr. Earhart made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 15-14. Mr. Weidemyre seconded the motion. Hearing no discussion, six members cast their votes Aye, zero Nay, and Ordinance No. 15-14 was adopted.

At 7:35 p.m., there being no further business to come before the meeting, the same was adjourned upon a motion by Mr. Arnold with a second by Ms. Drake and the motion passed unanimously.

Larry C. Collins, President of Council

Cathy VanAuker, Clerk of Council