

Regular

April 21,

2016

Ontario City Council met in regular session on April 21, 2016, 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 Larry Arnold, Eddie Gallo, Dan Zeiter, Mark Weidemyre, Michele Webb, Leo Hess, Mayor Randy Hutchinson, Law Director Andrew Medwid, Service-Safety Director Jeff Wilson, Auditor Mary Ann Hellinger and Clerk of Council Cathy VanAuker.

Mr. Weidemyre moved to excuse Ken Earhart from this evening's meeting. Mr. Gallo seconded the motion. Six members cast their votes Aye, zero Nay, and the motion passed.

The minutes of the regular Council meeting of April 7, 2016 were presented for approval. Mr. Zeiter moved to approve the minutes with a second by Mr. Arnold. Six members cast their votes Aye, zero Nay, and the motion passed.

At this time Mayor Hutchinson invited Carl Hunnell of Richland County Children's Services forward to receive a Proclamation for Child Abuse Prevention Month.

Child Abuse Prevention Month

Child abuse is a community problem and finding solutions depends on involvement among people throughout Ontario and the entire Richland County community; and

WHEREAS, Richland County Children Services received 6,294 phone calls from the public during 2015, averaging more than 17 per day; and

WHEREAS, The agency investigated 1,864 allegations of child abuse and neglect during 2015, averaging 35 new cases per week; and

WHEREAS, On an average day in 2015, Richland County Children Services provided ongoing services to 328 cases that included 696 children; and

WHEREAS, Identification of abuse is the first step to strengthening our efforts in prevention and early intervention; and

WHEREAS, Protecting children and helping families takes cooperation among all areas of our community, including public and private entities and individuals; and

THEREFORE, I, Randy Hutchinson, Mayor of Ontario, do hereby proclaim April 2016 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 Twenty First day of April, in the year
of our Lord Two Thousand sixteen.

Randy Hutchinson, Mayor

COMMITTEE REPORTS

When Mr. Gallo asked if the city building was setup as a safe zone for online (i.e. Craig's List) exchanges, Mayor Hutchinson said not officially but it is a safe zone for custody exchanges and whenever someone needs a place to exchange.

- Mrs. Webb said Mansfield advertised a designated safe zone area and installed signs.

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Mr. Hess reported on the Utilities Committee meeting held earlier this evening where they discussed the results of the April 13th meeting with USDA and the next steps in the sewer planning.

Mr. Arnold, Mr. Gallo, Mr. Zeiter, Mr. Weidemyre and Mrs. Webb had no report.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Hutchinson reported on the following items:

- The 4th of July Committee and Miss Ontario Pageant are looking for volunteers. Contact the Mayor for meeting information.
 - The Miss Ontario Pageant has been expanded this year and they would like volunteers even if it is just for the pageant on June 25th.
 - The July 4th Festival will be held on Saturday, July 2nd. The Festival Committee would like Council participation and citizens to volunteer.

SERVICE-SAFETY DIRECTOR

Mr. Wilson presented the following report:

Street Paving Dates. Shelly & Sands will begin street paving between June 1st – 15th which is after school will be out and the road bases should be dry. The work should take approximately two weeks.

Spring Litter Clean-up. The annual litter clean-up day went well on Tuesday. Thirty-seven students and three teachers participated in cleaning up the areas near the Cinemark Theatre, W. 4th Street from Mabee Road to Beer Road, Rt. 30 from Lex-Springmill east past the new hotel, and Ferguson Road east of Lex-Springmill. A total of 65 bags of trash and debris were collected by students. Thank you to event sponsors Next Generation for providing trash bags for the 3rd year and Sam's Club for donating water.

A group of 12 students from Pioneer Career Center did some work this week in the park, spreading mulch around the dog park entrance and picking up trash in and around the cemetery.

Captain Dale Myers retired effective Monday, April 18, 2016. He is a 40 year veteran in law enforcement with nearly 30 years of service in the the Ontario Police Department.

Disc Golf Course. The disc golf course officially opened this Tuesday. Baskets are concreted in place and tee pads will be installed as work continues. Red stakes are currently being used to identify tee areas. Four golfers from out of town said they followed the progress updates on Facebook and were glad to finally play the very challenging course. Some of the holes are long for being in the woods but they liked the layout and opportunity to play somewhere else. They plan to play at this course often. Disc golf is played with a Frisbee.

- Mr. Gallo said they are making plans for a July 4th tournament.

LAW DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Medwid had no report.

MISCELLANEOUS REPORTS

Mr. Collins read the following Notice of Public Hearing:

Notice is hereby given that a public hearing will be held before the Council of the City of Ontario, Ohio, at a Regular Meeting at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, June 2, 2016, at the Ontario Charles K. and

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Charlotte M. Hellinger Municipal Building, 555 North Stumbo Road, Ontario, Ohio, upon a proposal to amend the following sections of the City Zoning Ordinances:
Chapter 1145.28 General Provisions - Site Plan Review
Chapter 1151.04 Planning Commission - Duties

The City of Ontario Planning Commission has recommended in favor of these changes. All persons interested in these issues are invited to attend and express their views.

PUBLIC COMMENTARY

Jackie Argo, 3326 Mabee Road, was first to approach Council to say there is a definite odor problem on Mabee Road. She has lived at this location for 30 years and there is no problem with the neighboring farm with horses. She will be at the next Planning Commission meeting to speak. They may not be able to get rid of the hogs but she will not accept the odor, the neighbors deserve better.

Bud Adams, 3318 Mabee Road, was next to come before Council to express similar concerns. There are times they cannot be outside because of the odor and at night time the windows need shut because the pigs are screaming. He parks his motor home on the opposite side of the house and runs the air conditioner all summer because he can't leave the windows open. What is this doing to the value of his property? His family has lived on Mabee Road since 1955. What are his rights as a city resident? He doesn't know what he can do and is trusting Council to give him direction. If he would have known what was happening, he would have put his house on the market a long time ago but who will buy his house now? What can they do about this situation, something needs to be done that will help everybody.

Sue Swank, 1666 Olive Drive, asked Council where they stand on having back yard chickens in Ontario. She lives on less than 3 acres and is not eligible to have a few chickens for fresh eggs. Ms. Swank asked them to consider this and how she needs to approach it for further discussion. She owns 1.8 acres and would like to have six chickens, no roosters.

Craig Hunt, 3680 Park Avenue West, would like something done about the stray cats. He called the Dog Warden who said there was nothing he could do about the cats. If there was an ordinance or a cat license required then maybe something could be done.

At 7:24 p.m., there being no further business to come before the meeting, the same was adjourned upon a motion by Mr. Weidemyre with a second by Mr. Arnold and the motion passed unanimously.

Larry C. Collins, President of Council

Cathy VanAuker, Clerk of Council