

Regular

January 16, 2019

Ontario City Council met in regular session on January 16, 2019, in the Municipal Building, with Council President Jim Hellinger presiding. The meeting opened at 7:00 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present during roll call were Council members Ken Earhart, Larry Arnold, Eddie Gallo, Dan Zeiter, Mark Weidemyre, Michele Webb, Nathan Sunderland, Council President Jim Hellinger, Mayor Randy Hutchinson, Law Director Andrew Medwid, Service-Safety Director Jeff Wilson, Recreation Director Heather Hendrix and Clerk of Council Cathy VanAuker.

The minutes of the regular Council meeting of January 2, 2019, were presented for approval. Mr. Zeiter moved to approve the minutes, second by Mr. Arnold. Five members cast their votes Aye, two Abstain by Mr. Gallo and Mrs. Webb, zero Nay, and the motion passed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mr. Earhart reported on the Utilities Committee held earlier this evening where the Mayor and Service-Safety Director provided an update on the cost analysis of the Poggemeyer presentation showing the feasibility of building a wastewater treatment plant. Council agreed to allow Administration to move forward with the next step of the process with Poggemeyer.

Mr. Gallo clarified the city was not responsible for the maintenance or repair of Lex-Springmill Road near Buckeye Village. He has received several calls about the pot holes in the area where Ontario, Mansfield and the County come together. Mansfield has an agreement with the County to maintain that portion of the road. Mr. Gallo will contact the County about repairing the pot holes.

Mr. Zeiter scheduled a Finance Committee meeting to review the 2019 permanent budget on February 6, 2019 at 5:30 p.m.

Mr. Weidemyre will schedule an Economic Development Committee meeting once the research is completed on the sewer lines at the Ontario Commerce Park.

Mrs. Webb said the Safety Committee met this evening, mostly in executive session to discuss safety issues, followed by an update from the Chief on the past year's training, equipment that was paid off and a cruiser purchase for the Police Department.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Hutchinson said Racer Trust is providing marketing for Ontario Commerce Park. They have been phenomenal and, at no charge to the city, created a fabulous 32 page brochure, listed the property on their national website, and contributed two conceptual drawings. They host Developmental Forums for their large properties and have scheduled one for the Ontario Commerce Park, inviting site selectors and investors to discuss the site and provide feedback on the development of the property. The Mayor will attend but Council members are not invited to this private meeting. Team Neo, RCDG and Jobs Ohio are also marketing the property.

State of the City Address

Ontario, Ohio
Mayor Randy E. Hutchinson
January 16, 2019

In looking back at 2018, the City of Ontario can be very proud of what was accomplished.

The biggest story to come out of 2018, is the acquisition of the former GM Property. I believe that the property has a lot of potential. The property has a lot to offer a business, such as rail access and access to major highways. Council and Administration have been

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working together to market the property and bring jobs to Ontario and Richland County. We have a lot of work to do and we are working on cleaning the site up and getting it ready to market. By owning the property, the City can control its own destiny.

The City was active this year with business grand openings. Zoning reported that several new homes and businesses were built. With the growth, numerous businesses moved into existing store fronts. We also had several locally owned businesses move to Ontario, with several locating at the Richland Mall.

The Ontario Division of Police experienced a slight decrease in calls for service over 2017. Part 1 crimes were reduced over 2017. Chief Hill contributes this to the targeted residential and business patrol. The changes in patrol were made possible with the increase in patrol officers, made possible by Council. Also, with the increased patrol there was a reduction in traffic crashes.

The 4th of July Celebration was a success and I want to thank all of the citizens that worked on the committee. To keep the event evolving, new games and contests were added. The event continues to grow and The 4th of July Committee is always looking for more volunteers. This event wouldn't be possible without the hard working volunteers and community sponsors. This year's event will be Saturday June 29th. If anyone wishes to volunteer for the 4th of July Committee, please e-mail me at mayor@ontarioohio.org.

We also had a successful Miss Ontario Pageant in 2018. Miss Ontario Gianna Gallo has been very active this year attending numerous events around the County. This year's Miss Ontario Pageant will be held Saturday June 22nd. This event wouldn't be possible without the help of volunteers and community sponsors. If anyone wishes to volunteer for the Miss Ontario Committee, please e-mail me at mayor@ontarioohio.org.

The Recreation Department had a very successful year. Director Heather Hendrix continued to put on activities all year long for the citizens. Family swim night, Easter egg hunt, summer recreation and honking hauling trucks, are just a few of the great programs she coordinates. She was able to add a few new programs in 2018, such as a baby sitting class and an art class. Unfortunately one of the new events, the Haunted Trail had to be cancelled due to the weather. Heather worked with school groups and citizens on the trail and hopefully the weather cooperates this year.

Concerts in the Park were continued with the assistance of Ontario Youth Sports. With the increased publicity the crowds were much larger. The partnership with Ontario Youth Sports will continue this year. We will continue to provide a wide variety of music. With food vendors available at the concerts and the play scape, the free concerts are a true family event. I want to thank all of the community sponsors. Without the community sponsors and Ontario Youth Sports, these free concerts wouldn't be possible.

I am very proud of our parks, Marshall Park is the focal point of our community. Ontario Youth Sports and our Recreation Department keep our parks active all year long. Ontario Youth Sports does a wonderful job with sports programs for our children. They also sponsored a free movie night in the park and yoga in the park. They also host numerous tournaments throughout the year, such as the Target Cup, Baseball Bash and Summer Slam. These tournaments bring people from all over the state to Ontario, which means increased revenue for our local businesses.

The Christmas Tree Lighting at Marshall Park was a success again this year. The event is made possible by the Ontario Growth Association, Ontario Youth Sports and Community Sponsors. The Ontario Lions Club sponsors a coloring contest each year. Free hot chocolate and cookies are provided to everyone. Entertainment was provided by the Ontario High School Jazz Band, Show Choir, Majorettes, Golden Girls, and Royal Guard Flag Corps. We didn't have the best weather this year, but everyone had a great time and the children enjoyed a visit from Santa Claus. A special thanks goes out to Gary and Lynn Levelius and Diane Bemiller. Each year Gary and Lynn set up a large light display, which is set to music. Along with the decorations the City has in the park, it provided a very nice display which was enjoyed by

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numerous citizens throughout the Holiday season. Each year Diane donates her time to take photos for everyone with Santa Claus.

In April we held our fifth annual Litter Clean Up day, picking up litter in several areas throughout the City. This event wouldn't be possible without the help of Amy Nagel and the Ontario High School students and staff, along with area churches and citizens. The City and the Ontario Schools have a great community partnership.

With the assistance of Richland County Regional Planning we were able to complete two street projects. The slip ramps at the SR309 and West Fourth Street were removed. Also a handicap accessible crosswalk was installed at the intersection of SR309 and North Lexington-Springmill Road. These two changes will help make Ontario a safer place for work and recreation.

I would like to recognize all of the employees that work for the City. We have a quality work force, which keeps our City running smoothly, safe, and clean.

My Service Safety Director, Jeff Wilson, and I look forward to working with council in 2019.

Ontario has a Strong Past and a Bright Future.

Respectfully,
Mayor Randy E. Hutchinson

Mayor Hutchinson added that our sponsors and volunteers are very, very important to our community.

Mr. Arnold continued with the Mayor's reference to our sports and parks in saying that Ontario hosted the first Target Cup two years ago and Ontario was the only city they came back to a second time. OYS Director Kenn Spencer was invited to the National Conference in Chicago for youth athletics. Target displayed an exhibit focusing on soccer and highlighted Ontario on their expertise in running the tournament. When other communities asked Mr. Spencer to share how he was able to accomplish a successful tournament he was able to share that it was due to the support he received from the city and city employees. This will be the third consecutive year Ontario will host the Target Cup. Mayor Hutchinson encouraged everyone to attend the event and thanked Parks Department Head Evan Hellinger and his team for keeping our parks in pristine condition.

Mayor Hutchinson said our community volunteers are the reason for the success of the Miss Ontario Pageant and 4th of July Festival. Frank and Wendy Flogger donate countless hours spearheading both of these committees. Jim Henry and many others work diligently on the 4th of July Festival.

SERVICE-SAFETY DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Wilson presented his 2018 year-end report.

2018 Cemetery Report: Last year there were a total of 15 burials (9 cremations/6 full burials), which was an increase of 6 from the previous year. A total of 19 lots were sold in 2018, an increase of 8 from 2017. Approximately 446 lots remain for sale.

There were 7 requests for foundation lay-outs, which is required to install a headstone or change anything on an occupied lot. We restored 11 old foundations, 4 more than 2017, at a cost of \$6,042.42, an increase of \$1,550.00 from 2017. The total income received in 2018 was \$4,750.00.

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COSTS

96.5 man hours for burials @ \$75.00/hour (including equipment) = \$7,237.50
 Net Loss = (\$2,487.50 – not including Superintendent wages)

This is the second year in a row the cemetery has lost money. Costs verses expenses are reviewed every two years so, consequently, some of the fees were raised beginning in 2019.

2018 Contractor's License Report: The city issued 48 Contractor License renewals and 70 new licenses in 2018. Compared to 2017, renewals were up slightly from 44 and new licenses were down by 2. Total income generated from the fees was \$9,400.00, which was exactly the same as the previous year.

Property at 1731 Park Avenue West: The house at 1731 Park Avenue West was demolished and the property was leveled off. This spring the demolition company will plant grass seed to ensure proper stabilization.

A Couple of Reminders: Christmas Tree pick up will continue through Friday, January 25th. All ornaments and tinsel must be removed and the tree placed by the curb. The city will be enforcing the 2-inch snow parking ban on city streets this winter, which is necessary in order to allow the plows to do their job safely and efficiently.

- Mayor Hutchinson said the city was proactive this year. In October, those with cars parked on the street were notified that the snow ban would be enforced this winter.

LAW DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Medwid had no report.

RECREATION DIRECTOR'S REPORTCraft Show

The \$2 admission was shared between the Ontario Lions Club and the Recreation Department. Total admission collected was \$4,580 so each group received \$2,290. Approximately four boxes of new toys were given to the Ontario Police Toy Drive. There was a great turn out despite the rainy weather. There were a few issues with the facilities, such as a leaking roof, the sound system and Wi-Fi not working, but otherwise everything went well. Special thanks to the Ontario Lions Club for all of their help, the Fairgrounds Auxiliary, my high school volunteers for helping get lunches for the vendors and Miss Ontario for helping to take money at the door.

Art Class

Approximately 35 people of all ages attended the holiday wood pallet class on Sunday, December 16th from 2 to 5 p.m. and it was a lot of fun. Adults painted a wood pallet sign and the kids did a wood board sign. Refreshments were served. Hannah Beh was the instructor and she did a great job coming up with the ideas and directing the class. Cost was \$10 for kids and \$20 for adults. Special thanks to the Street Department crew for helping cut the wood needed for the crafts.

Open Swim

Open swim is held twice a month, January through March, but was only held once in December. Advertisement is on the website, Facebook, fliers are sent home with elementary students, announcements at the Middle School and on the school website. Our first open swim had approximately 20 kids in attendance. This past week over 40 people attended open swim, which was a great turn out!

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Computer Registration System

Mrs. Hendrix is working on getting a computer system set up for online registration for swim lessons, summer recreation and the craft show. The processing cost will be passed on to the registrant at no cost to the city.

Babysitting Class

Plans are to hold another babysitting course through the Red Cross or the YMCA in March or early April. The limit is 20 per class. Cost and dates are still to be determined.

Easter Egg Hunt

The Egg Hunt is scheduled for April 13th this year, at noon. Work is in progress to get donations of candy and volunteers to help stuff the 5,000 eggs. Several school groups will be helping stuff eggs this year- ADIOS group, Leadership group, FCCLA and the middle school student council.

Swim Lessons

Swim lessons will be offered instead of the swim clinic the first and second weeks of March. Several high school students will work the lessons being offered to Stingel students. Registration forms will be online in the next few weeks and there will be a maximum of 25 students in the class.

Geocache Event

Another geocache scavenger hunt will be held March 31st from 3 to 5 p.m. at Marshall Park.

Summer Rec Interviews

If anyone is interested in helping with the Summer Rec interviews they will be held from 3 to 6 p.m. on April 4, 2019. Dates for summer rec are June 10th - 13th and 17th - 20th.

Lifeguarding

Lifeguarding classes will be held the end of May/first week in June and the recertification class will be on April 6th. Debby Henry will be teaching these classes. Registration is now open.

The Recreation Department earned over \$5,000 more this year than last year primarily due to increasing the craft show admission and various fees.

Council members commended Mrs. Hendrix for doing a great job in her efforts of keeping programs going and adding new programs with great attendance.

PUBLIC COMMENTARY

Craig Hunt, 3680 Park Avenue West, came forward:

- Asking for the status on Mansfield tearing down their water tower, Mayor Hutchinson said they are not going to at this time because they need the tower for their antennas. Mansfield owns the tower and the land it sits on.
- Last year there were issues with the oversized pushers on the road. They are illegal and if one is seen on the road the police should be notified.
- Is the money for the wood being logged and cut in the park going into the parks or general fund? Mayor Hutchinson said a firm was hired to take down the trees to avoid the risk of them falling down. Based on the price they are charging they get to keep the wood but will leave the tree tops, the city isn't going to sell wood.

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CONSIDERATION OF ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS**RESOLUTION NO. 19-01**

(SECOND READING) A RESOLUTION DECLARING THE INTENT OF THE CITY OF ONTARIO TO SELL PROPERTY NO LONGER NEEDED FOR MUNICIPAL PURPOSES THROUGH AN INTERNET AUCTION\SALE DURING CALENDAR YEAR 2019.

Mr. Weidemyre moved to suspend the reading of Resolution No. 19-01 on three separate days, second by Mr. Arnold. Seven members cast their votes Aye, zero Nay, and the motion passed. Mr. Arnold read Resolution No. 19-01 for the second time, by title only.

Mr. Arnold moved to adopt Resolution No. 19-01, second by Mr. Weidemyre. Hearing no discussion, seven members cast their votes Aye, zero Nay, and Resolution No. 19-01 was adopted.

RESOLUTION NO. 19-02

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO PERFORM A RESURFACING PROJECT ON US 30 THROUGH THE CITY OF ONTARIO, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mr. Earhart moved to suspend the reading of Resolution No. 19-02 on three separate days, second by Mrs. Webb. Seven members cast their votes Aye, zero Nay, and the motion passed. Mr. Gallo read Resolution No. 19-02 for the first time, by title only.

Mr. Gallo moved to adopt Resolution No. 19-02, second by Mr. Weidemyre. Hearing no discussion, seven members cast their votes Aye, zero Nay, and Resolution No. 19-02 was adopted.

ORDINANCE NO. 19-01

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND SERVICE-SAFETY DIRECTOR TO EXECUTE SUPPLEMENTAL AGREEMENT NUMBER 2 TO THE SEWER AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF MANSFIELD AND THE CITY OF ONTARIO ON BEHALF OF THIS CITY, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mr. Sunderland moved to suspend the reading of Ordinance No. 19-01 on three separate days, second by Mr. Arnold. Seven members cast their votes Aye, zero Nay, and the motion passed. Mr. Earhart read Ordinance No. 19-01 for the first time, by title only.

Mr. Earhart moved to adopt Ordinance No. 19-01, second by Mr. Sunderland. Hearing no discussion, seven members cast their votes Aye, zero Nay, and Ordinance No. 19-01 was adopted.

ORDINANCE NO. 19-02

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ASSIST DAN AND SHELLY SECKLE IN APPLYING FOR AN ABANDONED GAS STATION CLEANUP GRANT THROUGH THE TARGETED BROWNFIELD ASSESSMENT PROGRAM ADMINISTERED BY THE OHIO ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

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Mr. Arnold moved to suspend the reading of Ordinance No. 19-02 on three separate days, second by Mr. Earhart. Seven members cast their votes Aye, zero Nay, and the motion passed. Mr. Weidemyre read Ordinance No. 19-02 for the first time, by title only.

Mr. Weidemyre moved to adopt Ordinance No. 19-02, second by Mr. Gallo. Hearing no discussion, seven members cast their votes Aye, zero Nay, and Ordinance No. 19-02 was adopted.

ORDINANCE NO. 19-03

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 6.17, USE OF CITY CREDIT CARD, OF THE CITY OF ONTARIO'S PERSONNEL POLICY AND PROCEDURE MANUAL, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mr. Weidemyre moved to waive the 24-hour rule on Ordinance No. 19-03, second by Mr. Arnold. Seven members cast their votes Aye, zero Nay, and the motion passed.

Mr. Sunderland moved to suspend the reading of Ordinance No. 19-03 on three separate days, second by Mr. Zeiter. Seven members cast their votes Aye, zero Nay, and the motion passed. Mr. Zeiter read Ordinance No. 19-03 for the first time, by title only.

Mr. Zeiter moved to adopt Ordinance No. 19-03, second by Mr. Weidemyre. Hearing no discussion, seven members cast their votes Aye, zero Nay, and Ordinance No. 19-03 was adopted.

At 7:42 p.m., there being no further business to come before the meeting, the same was adjourned upon a motion by Mr. Arnold, second by Mr. Sunderland and the motion passed unanimously.

James A. Hellinger, President of Council

Cathy VanAuker, Clerk of Council