

Regular

July 14, 2021

Ontario City Council met in regular session on July 14, 2021, in the Municipal Building, with Council President Eddie Gallo presiding. The meeting opened at 7:02 p.m., with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present during roll call were Council members Ken Earhart, Dave Rehfeldt, Chad Wilford, Sherry Branham, Michele Webb, Nathan Sunderland, Council President Eddie Gallo, Mayor Randy Hutchinson, Law Director Andrew Medwid, Service-Safety Director Jeff Wilson, and Administrative Assistant Shawna Dawson.

The minutes of the regular Council meeting of June 16, 2021 were presented for approval. Hearing no corrections, the minutes were approved as presented.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mr. Rehfeldt said the Finance Committee met earlier this evening to discuss the mid-year financial summary. The 2020 audit was favorable with no internal control weaknesses with a clean opinion by the auditing firm. Revenue forecasts for the balance of the year increased \$650,000. The \$1.1 million anticipated from the state has been reduced to approximately \$600,000, due to the required payment to the township. Expenses are in line with the exception of medical payments, which are already equal to the amount in the original budget. There have been a lot of claims this year that could be due to medical costs related to COVID. The parks and infrastructure improvements bond was approved for \$2,455,000 at 1.33% interest.

Mr. Gallo announced the Parks Committee will meet on July 21, 2021 at 5:00 p.m.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Hutchinson reported:

- The 4th of July Festival went very well. There was a large attendance and the fireworks were fantastic. They may consider holding the festival in the park next year so all activities are in one location. The crowd was excellent, the police had the drone up, and id bracelets were available for children. Mayor Hutchinson thanked everyone involved for making the festival a success.

SERVICE-SAFETY DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Wilson presented the following update:

Marshall Park Road Project: The road relocation project is nearly finished. The road and guardrail are in, leaving only the parking lot and striping portion of the project. Once the weather cooperates, there will be two days of work remaining. Portions of Cal Miller Drive will be closed for 4 to 5 days after the lot is striped but all park facilities will be accessible.

Rt. 309 Paving Project: The Rt. 309 resurfacing project is underway. Barrels were placed last week, closing one lane in both directions. The project has been slowed down significantly due to the rainy weather. There has not been an update regarding a timeline for completion.

Salt Prices 2021/2022: We have received our road salt contract for the 2021/2022 winter season. Once again, we participated in the ODOT aggregation program. Cargill was the winning bidder for our region, at a price of \$48.44 per ton. That is down \$7.52 from last year's price of \$55.96 per ton. We are committed to purchase a minimum of 2,070 tons to a maximum of 2,530 tons to fulfill our contract.

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Natural Gas Aggregation: Last November the citizens of Ontario elected to participate in a natural gas aggregation. All residents and businesses in the city have the option to participate in this program. Due to a considerable increase in natural gas rates last February, we delayed entering into any agreements with suppliers. I am happy to announce that our broker, Buckeye Energy, has negotiated a very attractive 2-year agreement with Volunteer Energy Services, Inc., which is slated to begin October 1st. A message will be included with the water bills and on the city's website with information about the plan. Citizens will receive a letter in August explaining the program and instructions on how to participate. Buckeye Energy also manages our electric aggregation program.

Home Road Paving Project. Paving is underway on Home Road and should be completed soon. This is a joint project with Mansfield because half of the road is in Ontario and half in Mansfield.

LAW DIRECTOR'S REPORT

No report.

PUBLIC COMMENTARY

Lea Sultz, 3080 Erla Drive, came forward to express her views against the rezoning of the parcels on Park Avenue West from Business to either General Industry or Industrial Park. Mrs. Sultz didn't think there were noticeable differences between the GI and IP zoning districts and was concerned about the possible noise and odors associated with industrial businesses. She requested the zoning not be changed and remain a Business District.

PUBLIC HEARING

At 7:16 p.m., the public hearing was opened for the 2022 Tax Revenue Budget. Seeing no signatures on the sign-in sheet, the public hearing was closed at 7:16 p.m.

CONSIDERATION OF ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

ORDINANCE NO. 21 – 23

AN ORDINANCE REZONING PARCEL #s 038-60-297-08-000, 038-60-161-15-001, 038-60-166-02-000, 038-60-161-15-000, 038-60-211-04-000, 038-60-211-05-000, 038-60-203-15-000, 038-60-211-06-000, 038-60-211-07-000, AND 038-60-232-12-000 ON PARK AVENUE WEST FROM B-BUSINESS DISTRICT TO ~~GI-GENERAL INDUSTRIAL~~ IP-INDUSTRIAL PARK DISTRICT, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mr. Sunderland read Ordinance No. 21-23, for the third time, by title only, as amended.

Mr. Sunderland moved to adopt Ordinance No. 21-23, second by Mr. Earhart. Hearing no discussion, five members cast their votes Aye, one Nay by Mr. Sunderland, and Ordinance No. 21-23 was adopted.

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RESOLUTION NO. 21-08

A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE TAX REVENUE BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF ONTARIO FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2022, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mrs. Webb moved to suspend the reading of Resolution No. 21-08 on three separate days, second by Ms. Branham. Six members cast their votes Aye, zero Nay, and the motion passed. Mrs. Webb read Resolution No. 21-08 for the first time, by title only.

Mrs. Webb moved to adopt Resolution No. 21-08, second by Mr. Sunderland. Hearing no discussion, six members cast their votes Aye, zero Nay, and Resolution No. 21-08 was adopted.

ORDINANCE NO. 21-28

AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT FOR NON-COLLECTIVE BARGAINING UNIT CITY EMPLOYEES, REPEALING ORDINANCE 21-19, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mrs. Webb moved to suspend the reading of Ordinance No. 21-28 on three separate days, second by Mr. Earhart. Six members cast their votes Aye, zero Nay, and the motion passed. Ms. Branham read Ordinance No. 21-28 for the first time, by title only.

Ms. Branham moved to adopt Ordinance No. 21-28, second by Mrs. Webb. Hearing no discussion, six members cast their votes Aye, zero Nay, and Ordinance No. 21-28 was adopted.

At 7:19 p.m., there being no further business to come before the meeting, the same was adjourned upon a motion by Mrs. Webb, second by Mr. Sunderland, and the motion passed.

Edward J. Gallo, President of Council

Cathy VanAuker, Clerk of Council