

Regular

April 6, 2022

Ontario City Council met in regular session on April 6, 2022, in the Municipal Building, with Council President Eddie Gallo presiding. The meeting opened at 7:09 p.m., with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present during roll call were Council members, Troy Sapp, Dave Rehfeldt, Chad Wilford, Josh Bradley, Sherry Branham, Rose Feagin, Nathan Sunderland, Council President Eddie Gallo, Mayor Randy Hutchinson, Law Director Andrew Medwid, Service-Safety Director Kris Knapp and Clerk of Council Cathy VanAuker.

The minutes of the regular Council meeting of March 16, 2022 were presented for approval. Hearing no corrections, the minutes were approved as presented.

Bridgette Coles, Richland County Children Services, came forward to receive a Proclamation for National Child Abuse Prevention Month. Mayor Hutchinson presented the Proclamation.

National Child Abuse Prevention Month

WHEREAS, children in Richland County are our most valuable resource, and they need our support to thrive and grow into healthy, productive adults; and

WHEREAS, during National Child Abuse Prevention Month, we renew our unwavering commitment to protecting children and responding to child abuse, promoting healthy families, and building a brighter future for all; and

WHEREAS, every child deserves a nurturing family and a safe environment, free from fear, abuse, and neglect; and

WHEREAS, parents, guardians, relatives, and neighbors all share a responsibility to prevent these devastating crimes, and our local government plays a critical role as well; and

WHEREAS, since 1883, the agency has been committed to helping future generations succeed, is focused on ensuring the safety and well-being of all families, and is partnering with local, state and federal agencies to improve the lives of children and their families; and

WHEREAS, I call upon all Ontario residents to join the effort to keep children safe and families strong;

THEREFORE, I, Mayor Randy E. Hutchinson, do hereby proclaim April 2022 as Child Abuse Prevention Month and I call upon all residents to observe this month with programs and activities that help prevent child abuse and provide for children's physical, emotional, and developmental needs.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set our hand this sixth day of April, in the year of our Lord two thousand twenty-two.

Randy Hutchinson, Mayor

Ms. Coles was grateful for the Proclamation because it focuses on what they do in caring for the children and families they serve. She asked that everyone help to turn Richland County blue. Tie a blue ribbon on your vehicle, mailbox, or anywhere to show you care about the children in Richland County. If you let her know, a picture will be taken. The Mental Health Board tied a blue ribbon around a tree, and two large ribbons are at the entrance of the Ontario Municipal Building.

- In 2021, 1,158 reports of child abuse were investigated in Richland County. Of these cases, 398 were cases of neglect, 325 physical abuse, 146 sexual abuse, 62 allegations of emotional maltreatment, 62 dependencies, and 62 instances of families in need financially, 54 children were taken into custody and 18 children were adopted. There are currently 130 children in their care. Children Services is in desperate need of Foster Parents, and Case Workers are also needed.

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COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mr. Sapp scheduled a Utilities Committee meeting on April 20, 2022 at 5:30 p.m.

Mr. Wilford announced a Parks Committee of the Whole meeting on May 4, 2022 at 6:00 p.m.

Mr. Bradley reported on the Economic Development Committee meeting held earlier this evening where they discussed:

- The multi-purpose stadium presentation. The Mayor will contact National Sports Services and direct them to the County Commissioners if they choose to pursue their development.
- The need for a strategic annexation plan for growth, specifically residential.
- Establish a better presence on Regional Planning's website.
- Demolition of the Wilson gas station on Park Avenue West should take place soon.

Ms. Feagin called a Streets Committee of the Whole meeting on May 4, 2022 at 5:30 p.m.

Mr. Sunderland reported the Safety Committee and the Parks Committee met in a combined meeting of the Whole, however, they did not have time to hold the Parks portion of the meeting.

- In the next couple of weeks a safety training session will be held at OCP for all Service Department employees.
- A donated treadmill was installed for Dispatchers to release stress during their shifts.
- The Police Department demonstrated various scenarios in the simulator training room. Members of the Department built the training room with donated materials. This training is extremely valuable for our officers and local police departments.
- Discussion on an outdoor shooting range will continue at the next meeting.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Hutchinson reported:

- The County is holding a Household Hazardous Waste Event at the Richland County Fairgrounds on July 30, 2022, at the Lantz Road entrance.
- A monitor will be installed in the lobby of the Municipal Building to display announcements and safety notices.

SERVICE-SAFETY DIRECTOR'S REPORT

No report.

LAW DIRECTOR'S REPORT

No report.

MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS

Mr. Gallo said festivities for the 4th of July Festival will begin on June 25, 2022 with the revitalization of the Miss Ontario Pageant. The 4th of July Committee is looking for sponsors and the Miss Ontario Pageant Committee is in need of female sponsors willing to be involved in the event.

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PUBLIC COMMENTARY

Craig Hunt, 3680 Park Avenue West, asked for clarification on Ordinance 22-25.

- Mr. Medwid explained this ordinance lists the approved legislation that is codified into the city code and this process is done twice a year.

PUBLIC HEARING

At 7:26 p.m., the public hearing was opened, amending Section 1145.09 – Exterior Lighting.

Craig Hunt, 3680 Park Avenue West, asked questions on the changes to the existing code. Council referenced Ordinance 22-26, which is on this evening's agenda and explained the new language.

At 7:37 p.m., the Public Hearing was closed.

CONSIDERATION OF ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

ORDINANCE NO. 22-24

(SECOND READING) AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH DYNEGY ENERGY SERVICES EAST, LLC D/B/A DYNEGY ENERGY SERVICES, LLC, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mr. Sapp moved to postpone indefinitely Ordinance No. 22-24, second by Mr. Bradley. Seven members cast their votes Aye, zero Nay, and the motion passed.

ORDINANCE NO. 22-25

AN ORDINANCE APPROVING THE EDITION AND INCLUSION OF CERTAIN ORDINANCES AS PARTS OF THE VARIOUS COMPONENT CODES OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF ONTARIO, OHIO, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Ms. Branham moved to suspend the reading of Ordinance No. 22-25 on three separate days, second by Mr. Sunderland. Seven members cast their votes Aye, zero Nay, and the motion passed. Mr. Rehfeldt read Ordinance No. 22-25 for the first time, by title only.

Mr. Rehfeldt moved to adopt Ordinance No. 22-25, second by Mr. Sapp. Seven members cast their votes Aye, zero Nay, and Ordinance No. 22-25 was adopted.

ORDINANCE NO. 22-26

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 1145, GENERAL PROVISIONS, SECTION 1145.09-EXTERIOR LIGHTING, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mr. Wilford read Ordinance No. 22-26 for the first time, by title only.

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RESOLUTION NO. 22-08

A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE STANDARD METHODS OF PROCUREMENT AND THE MANDATED AFFIRMATIONS AS REQUIRED BY THE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT OF 2021 FOR VENDORS, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mr. Sunderland moved to suspend the reading of Resolution No. 22-08 on three separate days, second by Mr. Wilford. Seven members cast their votes Aye, zero Nay, and the motion passed. Mr. Bradley read Resolution No. 22-08 for the first time, by title only.

Mr. Bradley moved to adopt Resolution No. 22-08, second by Ms. Feagin. Seven members cast their votes Aye, zero Nay, and Resolution No. 22-08 was adopted.

RESOLUTION NO. 22-09

A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT OF 2021 WRITTEN PROCUREMENT POLICIES AND PROCEDURES FOR ARPA SPECIFIC EXPENDITURES, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mr. Wilford moved to suspend the reading of Resolution No. 22-09 on three separate days, second by Mr. Bradley. Seven members cast their votes Aye, zero Nay, and the motion passed. Mrs. Branham read Resolution No. 22-09 for the first time, by title only.

Ms. Branham moved to adopt Resolution No. 22-09, second by Mr. Sunderland. Seven members cast their votes Aye, zero Nay, and Resolution No. 22-09 was adopted.

RESOLUTION NO. 22-10

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SERVICE-SAFETY DIRECTOR TO PARTICIPATE IN THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION'S ROAD SALT PROGRAM FOR THE AWARD OF ROAD SALT NEEDED DURING 2022 AND 2023, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mr. Sunderland moved to suspend the reading of Resolution No. 22-10 on three separate days, second by Mr. Sapp. Seven members cast their votes Aye, zero Nay, and the motion passed. Ms. Feagin read Resolution No. 22-10 for the first time, by title only.

Ms. Feagin moved to adopt Resolution No. 22-10, second by Ms. Branham. Seven members cast their votes Aye, zero Nay, and Resolution No. 22-10 was adopted.

At 7:41 p.m., there being no further business to come before the meeting, the same was adjourned upon a motion by Ms. Branham, second by Mr. Wilford, and the motion passed.

Edward J. Gallo, President of Council

Cathy VanAuker, Clerk of Council