

Regular

July 13, 2022

Ontario City Council met in regular session on July 13, 2022, in the Municipal Building, with Council President Eddie Gallo presiding. The meeting opened at 7:03 p.m., with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present during roll call were Council members Troy Sapp, Dave Rehfeldt, Josh Bradley, Rose Feagin, Nathan Sunderland, Council President Eddie Gallo, Mayor Randy Hutchinson, Law Director Andrew Medwid, Recreation Director Heather Hendrix, and Clerk of Council Cathy VanAuker.

The minutes of the regular Council meeting of June 15, 2022 were presented for approval. Hearing no corrections, the minutes were approved as presented.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mr. Sapp reported the Utilities Committee met this evening to discuss the ordinance pertaining to water usage, then reviewed the EPA guidelines and the recommendations provided by the previous Water Department Head. There is not a deadline on the water valve exercise program as long as the city is making a valid effort.

Mr. Sapp scheduled a Parks Committee meeting on August 3, 2022 at 5:30 p.m.

Mr. Rehfeldt cancelled the August 3rd Finance Committee meeting.

Mr. Bradley cancelled the August 17th Economic Development Committee meeting.

MAYOR'S REPORT

No report.

LAW DIRECTOR'S REPORT

No report.

RECREATION DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mrs. Hendrix provided the following report.

OPEN SWIM

Open Swims were held twice a month in January, February, and March from 6:30 to 8:00 pm. We had an average of 40 participants each time. The kids have fun playing games with all the toys and with their family and friends.

SWIM LESSONS

Swim lessons were offered February 28th to March 9th. Debby Henry was the main instructor, and eight high school students were hired to help teach the kids in the water. The maximum was 25 students at \$50 each. Lessons filled up quickly and there was a long wait list of people wanting to take lessons.

EASTER EGG HUNT

The Easter Egg Hunt was supposed to be held on Saturday, April 9th, at noon in Marshall Park. Due to snow/sleet, we pushed it back to April 16th. I want to thank the following groups for helping me stuff over 5,000 eggs: Middle School Leadership, FCCLA and ADIOS groups, High School Drug Free Seniors and FCCLA group. I want to thank the Key Club and National Honor Society members for volunteering for the event, along with the City Street/Parks Dept. and the Police Dept. for their help.

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SENIOR CITIZEN EVENT

Senior Citizen Game Night at the Ontario Middle School was held on Saturday, May 14th, 2022. About 40 people attended, they played card games, board games, ping pong, can jam, and cornhole. We had a Plinko game and prizes for everyone. Middle School students volunteered and played games with the attendees. Fun was had by all.

I want to thank Mr. Strickler, Kelley Caporini, Amy Hiner and Kara Franco for help with the food, games, and volunteers. Thanks to the Area Agency on Aging for the Plinko board and some prizes along with several local businesses that donated prizes – Arnold's, Alta, The Cove, Park National Bank and TJ Maxx.

NEW LIFEGUARD CLASS and RECERT CLASS

A recertification class for lifeguarding was held on April 3rd, from 12 to 5 pm at the High School. A new lifeguarding class was held May 26th, 27th and 31st from 9 am to 4 pm. Cost for the recert class was \$75 and the new lifeguarding class was \$85. We had approximately six in the recert class and six new lifeguards that will be working open swims and summer rec camp for the Recreation Department next year.

SUMMER RECREATION CAMP AND SWIM LESSONS

Summer Rec was to be held June 13th-16th and June 20th-23rd, from 9 am to noon at the Ontario Middle School. Due to the power outage at the school for over three days, we improvised and held summer rec. on June 16th and 17th. There were over 150 children each week and over 55 high school students were hired to work summer rec. camp. Several of those workers also helped with swim lessons afterwards. Due to the lack of swim lessons the first week, due to not being able to use the pool because the pumps weren't working, we gave a credit to all families for next year.

MISS ONTARIO SCHOLARSHIP PAGEANT

This year we brought back the Miss Ontario Pageant. We basically started from scratch but put the pageant back together and it went very well. We now have a new Miss Ontario, Abigail Kern!

I want to thank the following people for doing such a wonderful job in helping the city pull off this event! Thank you to: Gianna Gallo, Eddie Gallo, Madi Rehfeldt, Maria Gallo, Rachelle Gallo, Maria Caporini, and Kelley Caporini. They were amazing and quite the team. We had a great group of contestants, and I am so proud of all of them and their hard work.

I also want to thank the Ontario Lions Club, the Ontario 4th of July Committee, Mayor Hutchinson, the Ontario High School Cheerleaders, Mr. Strickler, and Trish Rustley for all of their help. A big thanks to Dorothy Menzger for helping with the judges, Cathy VanAuker for scoring, our judges, our contestants, entertainers, our queen assistants, stage crew, Councilwoman Rose Feagin, our main sponsor Spherion, Sutton Bank, Cori Kreger, Beyond Aesthetics, Brian and Michele Gates of State Farm, Studio 19, and everyone that attended.

UPCOMING EVENTS:KIDS FUN DAY AT THE PARK

A Kids Fun Day at the Park is being discussed that would include a collaborative effort with the Mansfield Y, OYS, and the Recreation Department. The goal is to have an event in the fall.

HONKIN HAULIN TOUCH A TRUCK

This event will be held on Sunday, Oct. 2nd from 1 to 3 pm. We may switch locations and have it down by the soccer fields this year if there are teams using the turf fields up above. We usually have about 15 different vehicles for the kids to explore. If you know of any businesses that would like to participate, please let me know.

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HAUNTED TRAIL

The 3rd annual Haunted Trail will be held on Saturday, Oct. 22, 2022. If you know of any non-profit organizations or groups that would like a spot on the trail, please let me know. We hope the weather will cooperate and it will be a fun event for everyone. Admission prices TBD.

ONTARIO CRAFT SHOW

The 45th annual Ontario Community Craft Show will be held on Dec. 3rd. Vendor applications are already coming in as the deadline is August 1, 2022, for previous vendors to apply. We have approximately 120 vendors and usually over 2,000 people in attendance. Admission will be \$2 and vendor fees are \$68 for a 9' x 10' space.

MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS

Mr. Gallo thanked the Mayor for his vision of holding the 4th of July Festival in the park, it was a success. Mr. Gallo thanked numerous people who volunteered their time for planning and working the festival, the Police Department and Springfield Fire Department. Plans are already in place for next year and they are looking for volunteers.

PUBLIC COMMENTARY

Janine Caico, 75 Bethel Lane, came forward to express her continued concern about the abandoned church and the previous Wilson's garage, both on Park Avenue West. These properties are visible as the entrance to Ontario for people coming from Mansfield. The January 19th minutes referenced a \$250,000 grant that was approved for the demolition of the former Wilson gas station but nothing has been done.

- Mayor Hutchinson said he submitted the BUSTR Grant (Bureau of Underground Storage Tank Regulations), which is for the clean-up of abandoned gas stations. Work on the building was to begin a month ago. Due to delays they rescheduled to start this week, but have not shown up yet. The demolition of the building will take approximately two days, but the remediation and environmental aspects could take up to nine months. Normally, this type of project takes up to two years but they think they can be done in one year. They will try to save as many trees as possible. The environmental requirements take time to ensure the property is safe and can be resold.
- County Codes and Permits issued notices to the owner of the church property, allowing 30 days to make repairs. If the owner does not comply, the Law Director will take action.

Ms. Caico also commended the Police Department for being visible in the neighborhood, it is appreciated.

Mike Stallings, 1915 Walker Lake Road, was next to come before Council to say the intersection at Walker Lake Road and Lex-Springmill is not safe for the two lanes of traffic going west on Walker Lake Road turning left onto Lex-Springmill because vehicles on the other side of the intersection continue to turn right on red in front of the oncoming traffic. He suggested a no turn on red sign.

When Mr. Stallings asked why there were so many entering and leaving Ontario signs on Walker Lake Road, Mr. Medwid said they were installed due to police jurisdiction. Mayor Hutchinson said when that area was annexed not all property owners wanted in the city, which created the fluctuation of city and township areas.

Craig Hunt, 3680 Park Avenue West, said the parks looked beautiful for the Festival weekend. He commended the Mayor for working at the park on Thursday and Friday, setting up for the festival, it was hot. Mr. Gallo added, the Mayor worked during the weekend cleaning up trash, carrying trash to the dumpster, and clean-up on Sunday morning.

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When Mr. Hunt asked about widening the intersection of Lex-Ontario/PAW and the houses on the corners, Mayor Hutchinson said if the city widens that corner it would be eminent domain, they would not buy any houses. Regional Planning and ODOT are reviewing this intersection.

PUBLIC HEARING

At 7:34 p.m., the public hearing was opened for the rezoning 1883, 1915, 1931/1933 and 1947 Walker Lake Road from Office Service to Business.

Mike Stallings, 1915 Walker Lake Road, asked if the procedure for selling their property would change. Mr. Medwid said the only change would be the zoning of the property.

At 7:38 p.m. the public hearing was closed.

CONSIDERATION OF ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS**ORDINANCE NO. 22-33**

(THIRD READING) AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING 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 table Ordinance No. 22-23, until further information was available. Second by Mr. Sunderland. Five members cast their votes Aye, zero Nay, and the motion passed.

ORDINANCE NO. 22-35

AN ORDINANCE REZONING PARCEL #s 038-60-152-13-009, 038-60-152-13-010, 038-60-152-13-005, 038-60-152-13-004, and 038-60-152-13-012 ON WALKER LAKE ROAD FROM OS- OFFICE SERVICE DISTRICT TO B-BUSINESS DISTRICT, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mr. Rehfeldt moved to suspend the reading of Ordinance No. 22-35 on three separate days, second by Mr. Sapp. Five members cast their votes Aye, zero Nay, and the motion passed. Mr. Rehfeldt read Ordinance No. 22-35 for the first time, by title only.

Mr. Rehfeldt moved to adopt Ordinance No. 22-35, second by Mr. Sapp. Five members cast their votes Aye, zero Nay, and Ordinance No. 22-35 was adopted.

ORDINANCE NO. 22-36

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 921- WATER, OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF ONTARIO, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Ms. Feagin moved to suspend the reading of Ordinance No. 22-36 on three separate days, second by Mr. Sapp. Five members cast their votes Aye, zero Nay, and the motion passed. Mr. Bradley read Ordinance No. 22-36 for the first time, by title only.

Mr. Bradley moved to adopt Ordinance No. 22-36, as amended. Second by Mr. Sunderland. Five members cast their votes Aye, zero Nay, and Ordinance No. 22-36 was adopted.

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ORDINANCE NO. 22-37

AN ORDINANCE ADDING CHAPTER 1174, PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENT TO THE CITY OF ONTARIO, OHIO PLANNING AND ZONING CODE, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Ms. Feagin read Ordinance No. 22-37 for the first time, by title only.

At 7:41 p.m., Mr. Bradley moved to enter into executive session per ORC 121.22 (G)(1) to consider the appointment, employment, or compensation of an employee. Second by Mr. Sunderland. At roll call, five members voted Aye, zero Nay, and the motion passed.

At 8:23 p.m., the meeting reconvened upon a motion by Mr. Bradley, second by Mr. Sapp.

At 8:24 p.m., there being no further business to come before the meeting, the same was adjourned upon a motion by Ms. Feagin, second by Mr. Sunderland.

Edward J. Gallo, President of Council

Cathy VanAuker, Clerk of Council