

## Regular

January 18, 2023

Ontario City Council met in regular session on January 18, 2023, in the Municipal Building with Council President Eddie Gallo presiding. The meeting opened at 7:00 p.m., with the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

The minutes of the regular Council meeting of January 4, 2023 were presented for approval. Hearing no corrections, the minutes were approved as presented.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Mr. Sapp reported the Parks Committee met earlier this evening to discuss this year's projects using the Rescue Plan funds that must be spent by the end of 2023. Tentative park improvements include: cameras, street lights at Cal Miller to Dunlap, paving the ballfield parking lot, and adding more lighting at the ballfield parking lot. The Mayor will get quotes for these projects.

Mr. Webb said the Utilities Committee met this evening in executive session.

Mr. Webb moved for the Law Director to prepare legislation changing the gas aggregation approval number with IGS Energy to not more than \$0.625 per Ccf, second b Mr. Sapp. Seven members cast their votes Aye, zero Nay, and the motion passed. Legislation will be added to this evening's agenda.

Ms. Branham reminded Council members of the Personnel Committee meeting on February 1, 2023, at 6:00 p.m.

Ms. Feagin said the Streets Committee will meet on February 2, 2023, at 5:30 p.m.

### **MAYOR'S REPORT**

Mayor Hutchinson reported:

- First Energy sent out information on their bill assistance program. Customers requesting help with their winter bills can go to First Energy's website to complete the form.
- The Columbia Gas infrastructure improvements could result in customers receiving increased bills.
- Avita has a ribbon cutting on February 1<sup>st</sup> at 4:00 p.m. for their Avita Ontario South location (formerly Sears) that will house the pharmacy and clinics.
- Funding for the preparation of a three-year strategic plan is in the budget. Regional Planning has established a request for proposals.
- The city is in partnership with ODOT to complete the W. 4<sup>th</sup> Street corridor traffic study.

### **SAFETY DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

No report.

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**LAW DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Law Director Medwid presented his annual report.

## LAW DIRECTOR'S REPORT OF CASES AS OF 12-31-22

<u>MAYOR'S COURT TOTALS</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>% +/-</u>
TOTAL NUMBER OF TICKETS / SUMMONS ISSUED	1379	1080	+ 27.7
TOTAL NUMBER OF CHARGES ISSUED	1649	1355	+ 21.7
TOTAL OVI CHARGES	11	8	+ 37.5
TOTAL CHARGES HEARD IN MAYORS COURT	1707	1400	+ 21.9
TOTAL WAIVERS PAID AT CLERKS OFFICE	930	587	+ 58.4
OPEN ARREST WARRANTS	68	403	- 8.7

MANSFIELD MUNICIPAL COURT TOTALS

TOTAL TRAFFIC	80	56	+ 42.8
TOTAL CRIMINAL	78	71	+ 9.8

MAYOR'S COURT REVENUE

<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>% +/-</u>
\$265,474.65	\$269,150.34	-1.76

**RECREATION DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Recreation Director Hendrix presented the following report.

HAUNTED TRAIL

The Haunted Trail held last fall was successful and raised over \$7,000, which was shared with school organizations that helped with the trail.

CRAFT SHOW

The Craft Show raised over \$10,000 from vendor fees and admission. Over 2,500 people attended this popular event.

OPEN SWIM

Open Swim started in November. We have averaged about 50 kids each time. Open swims are scheduled twice a month in Jan, Feb., and March from 6:30 to 8 pm. The remaining dates are Jan. 26<sup>th</sup>, Feb. 13<sup>th</sup>, March 2<sup>nd</sup>, and March 16<sup>th</sup>, 2023. Open Swim is offered to all Ontario residents and Ontario students.

SWIM LESSONS

Swim lessons will be held the week of Feb. 27<sup>th</sup> and March 6<sup>th</sup> 2023. Debby Henry is the instructor and nine High School Students will help teach the kids in the water. Max number is 25 students at \$50 each. Proposing to increase to \$60 each due to increased costs and the significant increase of minimum wage.

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EASTER EGG HUNT

The Easter Egg Hunt is scheduled for Saturday, April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023 at noon in Marshall Park. I will have several school groups stuffing eggs in the next month to get ready for the 5,000 eggs that we hide.

SENIOR CITIZEN PROM

Our Senior Citizen Prom is scheduled to be held on Saturday, May 13<sup>th</sup>, 2023. We will be sending out invitations to all local senior centers and assisted living facilities. All senior citizens in the area are invited to attend! There will be a live band, lots of music, Middle School students will help with food and serving. A meal will be provided.

NEW LIFEGUARD CLASS and RECERT CLASS

A recertification class for lifeguarding will be held on April 16<sup>th</sup>, 2023, from 12 to 5 pm at the High School. A new lifeguarding class will be offered May 25<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> from 9 am to 4 pm. Cost for recert class is \$75. The New Lifeguarding class was \$85, which was a reduced price to Ontario students because they worked at Open Swim and Lifeguarding events but with the increase in fees this class will probably be \$100.

SUMMER RECREATION CAMP AND SWIM LESSONS

Summer Rec is scheduled to be held June 5<sup>th</sup>- 8<sup>th</sup> and June 12<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup>, 2023 from 9 am to noon at the Ontario Middle School. Swim lessons will be offered after summer rec camp. Cost of Summer Rec Camp was \$40 and would like to propose an increase to \$50 per week. Swim lessons were \$50 and would like to request an increase to \$60.

MISS ONTARIO SCHOLARSHIP PAGEANT

We are starting to work on Miss Ontario for this coming year. We have scheduled Miss Ontario for Saturday, June 24<sup>th</sup>. We are working on getting sponsors for the Miss Ontario Scholarship pageant. We are looking into the possibility of having a Little Miss Ontario pageant this year as well.

**MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS**

Ms. Branham moved to approve the Collective Bargaining Agreement between the City of Ontario and the Fraternal Order of Police, Ohio Labor Council, Inc., Patrol Officers, Sergeants, Lieutenants and Full-Time Dispatchers of the City of Ontario, effective January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2025. Second by Mr. Sunderland. Seven members cast their votes Aye, zero Nay, and the motion passed.

**PUBLIC COMMENTARY**

Matt Bachelder, Manager of the Ontario Public Library, came forward to explain additional services the library offers the community.

- The Adult Literacy Program is a system-wide program throughout the county with trained volunteer tutors to help improve reading abilities (they are always looking for volunteers), assistance with technology usage, the system-wide Richland County Bookmobile visits assisted living locations, Books by Mail for at-home delivery for qualifying residents, and Meeting Room reservations.
- In 2022 they attended several events such as Y Healthy Kids Day at Marshall Park and Literacy on the Lawn at the elementary school. This year the events include a monthly Y Kids Club, and Summer Market Days at Alpaca Meadows.
- A remodeling project is in the design phase with no specific timeline. Customers were asked to provide ideas and some of their suggestions included more meeting space and a modern children's area with more interactive elements.
- A levy will be on the May ballot.

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**CONSIDERATION OF ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTION**

RESOLUTION NO. 23-02

A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE A REVOCABLE PERMIT TO OCCUPY THE RIGHT-OF-WAY IN A MANNER THAT WILL NOT IMPEDE THE CITY OF ONTARIO SIDEWALKS PROJECT, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Ms. Branham moved to suspend the reading of Resolution No. 23-02 on three separate days, second by Mr. Webb. Seven members cast their votes Aye, zero Nay, and the motion passed. Mr. Sapp read Resolution No. 23-02 for the first time, by title only.

Mr. Sapp moved to adopt Resolution No. 23-02, second by Mr. Sunderland. Seven members cast their votes Aye, zero Nay, and Resolution No. 23-02 was adopted.

RESOLUTION NO. 23-03

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR (OR HIS DESIGNEE) TO APPLY FOR A PUBLIC WATER SYSTEM EQUIPMENT GRANT FROM THE OHIO ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Ms. Feagin moved to suspend the reading of Resolution No. 23-03 on three separate days, second by Ms. Branham. Seven members cast their votes Aye, zero Nay, and the motion passed. Mr. Rehfeldt read Resolution No. 23-03 for the first time, by title only.

Mr. Rehfeldt moved to adopt Resolution No. 23-03, second by Ms. Branham. Seven members cast their votes Aye, zero Nay, and Resolution No. 23-03 was adopted.

RESOLUTION NO. 23-04

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SERVICE-SAFETY DIRECTOR (OR HIS DESIGNEE) TO DONATE UNNEEDED AND OBSOLETE T-6 LIFT STATION PUMP PARTS TO THE RICHLAND COUNTY MAINTENANCE DIVISION OF WASTEWATER, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mr. Webb moved to suspend the reading of Resolution No. 23-04 on three separate days, second by Mr. Sapp. Seven members cast their votes Aye, zero Nay, and the motion passed. Mr. Webb read Resolution No. 23-04 for the first time, by title only.

Mr. Webb moved to adopt Resolution No. 23-04, second by Mr. Sunderland. Seven members cast their votes Aye, zero Nay, and Resolution No. 23-04 was adopted.

ORDINANCE NO. 23-01

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR (OR HIS DESIGNEE) TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH IGS ENERGY (INTERSTATE GAS SUPPLY, INC) FOR THE GAS AGGREGATION PROGRAM AT A RATE OF LESS THAN OR NOT MORE THAN \$0.625 PER CCF, REPEALING ORDINANCE NO. 22-44, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mr. Rehfeldt moved to waive the 24-hour rule on Ordinance No. 23-01, second by Ms. Feagin. Seven members cast their votes Aye, zero Nay, and the 24-hour rule was waived.

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Mr. Sunderland moved to suspend the reading of Ordinance No. 23-01 on three separate days, second by Mr. Bradley. Seven members cast their votes Aye, zero Nay, and the motion passed. Mr. Bradley read Ordinance No. 23-01 for the first time, by title only.

Mr. Bradley moved to adopt Ordinance No. 23-01, second by Ms. Branham. President Gallo requested the title include the wording "OR HIS DESIGNEE" after "AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR.". Mr. Bradley re-read Ordinance No. 23-01, by title only, as amended. Seven members cast their votes Aye, zero Nay, and Ordinance No. 23-01 was adopted, as amended.

At 7:27 p.m., there being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned upon a motion by Ms. Feagin.

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Edward J. Gallo, President of Council

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Cathy VanAuker, Clerk of Council