

Regular

February 7, 2024

Ontario City Council met in regular session on February 7, 2024, 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 Dave Rehfeldt, Kyle Webb, Josh Bradley, Sherry Branham-Fonner, Rose Feagin, Nathan Sunderland, Mayor Randy Hutchinson, Service-Safety Director Kris Knapp, and Clerk of Council Cathy VanAuker.

The minutes of the regular Council meeting of January 17, 2024, were presented for approval. Hearing no corrections, the minutes were approved as presented.

Menards Real Estate Representative Pat Wewel addressed concerns pertaining to the self storage facility project.

- The city will enforce the Zoning Compliance Certificate. The storage units will not open until all items on the list are in compliance.
- Menards was slow to respond to the poor contractor work but will make sure the substandard work is corrected.
- A fence is planned to fill the gap between two of the buildings. In the meantime, the light shining through the gap will be disconnected or covered up.
- The 4' berm was not continued west as far as the plans indicated and will be corrected.
- The stormwater has been a continuous battle due to the excessive rain and wet site conditions, compounded by the eastern berm that was not originally anticipated to be on the site. The berm does provide additional screening. More work is needed to direct the stormwater across the site and into the on-site stormwater detention pond. Additional cuts will be made through the berm to promote water flow.
- Menards would like to be good neighbors and will work to repair relationships strained during this project.

Director Knapp told the residents next to the project site that the ponding issue will be addressed, the stormwater run-off on the east side will be modified, and work will be done on the dirt mound so stormwater does not run onto any of their properties. He will forward the project updates from Menards to the neighboring property owners.

K.E. McCartney Engineer Mark Rufener said the ponding on the north side was due to the swell not being built correctly, so it does not drain properly.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mr. Rehfeldt called a Finance Committee meeting of the Whole on March 6, 2024 at 5:30 p.m.

Mrs. Branham-Fonner reported the Personnel Committee met this evening in executive session.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Hutchinson provided updates:

- The form for Veterans Banners is on the website and will be on Facebook in a couple of weeks.

SERVICE-SAFETY DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Director Knapp reported:

- The S. Lex-Springmill Road waterline project will begin Monday, February 12th.

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MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS

Superintendent Strickler would like Council to hold meeting at the school during school hours so students can attend.

Next week is the July 4th Festival kick-off meeting. Anyone willing to volunteer or become part of the festivities should contact Administration.

PUBLIC COMMENTARY

Craig Hunt, 3680 Park Avenue West, would like Council to consider the potential financial impact if marijuana dispensaries were allowed. The revenue could help support projects such as infrastructure.

- Council is discussing a 6-month moratorium on recreational marijuana, but not on medical marijuana. The moratorium would be in place until state regulations are determined and implemented.

Mike Stallings, 1915 Walker Lake Road, asked if all concerns at the Menards project would be corrected before they can open.

- The Zoning Compliance Certificate won't be approved until everything is taken care of.

Robin Vanerio, 1883 Walker Lake Road, questioned if a fence installed in the gap between the buildings behind her house would be high enough to block the spotlight, and who is responsible for cleaning up the trash coming from the project site.

- Solutions for the opening between the buildings are still being discussed.
- The Menards Property Team will be made aware that trash issues will be emphasized in the future, not only from the project site but also from the main store. The local store management did nothing after they were notified about the excessive amount of trash ending up in a vacant lot.

CONSIDERATION OF ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTION**ORDINANCE NO. 24-02**

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING VARIOUS PROVISIONS OF CHAPTER 11 – PLANNING AND ZONING CODE OF THE CITY OF ONTARIO CODIFIED ORDINANCES.

Mr. Sunderland moved to suspend the reading of Ordinance No. 24-02 on three separate days, second by Mr. Webb. Six members cast their votes Aye, zero Nay, and the motion passed. Mr. Sunderland read Ordinance No. 24-02, for the second time, by title only.

Mr. Sunderland moved to adopt Ordinance No. 24-02, second by Ms. Feagin. Six members cast their votes Aye, zero Nay, and Ordinance No. 24-02 was adopted.

RESOLUTION NO. 24-02

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO PERFORM BRIDGE REPAIR ON HOME ROAD OVER US-30, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

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Mr. Webb moved to suspend the reading of Resolution No. 24-02 on three separate days, second by Mrs. Branham-Fonner. Six members cast their votes Aye, zero Nay, and the motion passed. Ms. Feagin read Resolution No. 24-02, for the first time, by title only.

Mr. Sunderland moved to adopt Resolution No. 24-02, second by Mr. Webb. Six members cast their votes Aye, zero Nay, and Resolution No. 24-02 was adopted

At 8:04 p.m., there being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned upon a motion by Mr. Webb, second by Mrs. Branham-Fonner.

/s/ Edward Gallo
President of Council

/s/ Cathy VanAuker
Clerk of Council