

## Regular

February 21, 2024

Ontario City Council met in regular session on February 21, 2024, in the Municipal Building with Council President Eddie Gallo presiding. The meeting opened at 7:06 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

The minutes of the regular Council meeting of February 7, 2024, were presented for approval. Hearing no corrections, the minutes were approved as presented.

Denise Jackson, Richland County Recorder, came forward to introduce herself to Council. Ms. Jackson was appointed to the position in October and wanted to explain the duties and responsibilities of her office.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Mr. Sapp reported on the Parks Committee meeting held this evening.

- The decision was made to keep the length of the Johnny Appleseed Baseball Contract at 10 years, with the 90 day termination clause, and to add the \$100,000 that JABC will invest in the field.
- The Veterans tank will be moved once they decide who will move the tank.
- Two of the six tennis courts need repaired, otherwise they may have to be closed. The Director will provide quotes at the next meeting for both resurfacing and replacing the courts.
- The June date for the Sluss Festival may need changed.
- Due to the significant price increase, the Parks Foreman and Director will get an updated quote for the field striper.
- Cameras will be installed at the Splash Pad.

Mr. Rehfeldt scheduled a Finance Committee meeting on February 23, 2024, at 2:00 p.m., and a Finance Committee of the Whole meeting on March 6, 2024, at 5:30 p.m., to discuss the permanent budget that needs passed by the end of March.

### **MAYOR'S REPORT**

Mayor Hutchinson provided updates:

- Thirty applications have been received for Veterans Banners.
- Coyotes are very aggressive now that it is mating season. Be aware of your surroundings, especially if you have small dogs.

### **SERVICE-SAFETY DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Director Knapp reported:

- The S. Lex-Springmill Road waterline project is on schedule.
- The Street Resurfacing Engineer Contract went out. Focus areas are on the Willowdell/Rosewood neighborhood, and the Mary Lou Lane neighborhood. This is based on the information from the street resurfacing survey.
- Mendards is providing weekly updates on their project. They verified the design team and consultant have the correct plans.

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## **ZONING INSPECTOR'S REPORT**

Zoning Inspector Michael Morton presented the 2023 annual report.

### New Housing

- 10 new dwellings: 4 single family, 3 doubles.
- The city has approximately 40 building lots available. Zimmerman acres was filled in 2023, Red Maple Farms will be filled by the end of this year, and the last development available for single family homes is Autumn Ridge.

### New Business

- Holiday Inn, Crumble Cookie, and Caliber Collision opened.
- Oxyrase expanded to the building next to them and will expand more in the future.
- Farm Credit redeveloped the same site and should open in the spring.
- Culvers should open in the spring.
- Menards storage warehouse project does not have an opening date.

### 2024

- Activity is expected at Richland Mall.
- The former Steak and Shake will redevelop into a new business.
- GetGo has not responded to several phone calls.
- Ultimate Shine Car Wash, planning to go next to Menards, have not communicated since receiving all of their approvals.
- The Hilton Hotel, planned on Walker Lake Road in front of the Cinema, should be approved soon.

## **MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS**

President Gallo intends to continue inviting Veterans to lead the Pledge of Allegiance at Council meetings. Anyone with connections to Ontario who would like to participate, or if you know of someone, please contact President Gallo, his information is on the website.

The 4th of July Festival parade organizer is looking for all Veterans who would like to be part of the parade.

The VFW tank is going to be moved to the park where it will become the centerpiece for a Military Memorial. A committee will be formed for this project. Veterans who would like to be on this committee should contact President Gallo, Mayor Hutchinson, or Mr. Sapp.

## **PUBLIC COMMENTARY**

Craig Hunt, 3680 Park Avenue West, would like the JABC field improvements to include higher backstops to control foul balls. Also, consider moving the Sluss Festival to the upper section of the park so they have access to electricity.

- JABC already included the taller backstops in their list of improvements.

Donald Zehner, candidate for Sheriff, introduced himself, provided his background, qualifications for this position, and projects he would initiate.

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**CONSIDERATION OF ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTION**

ORDINANCE NO. 24-03

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR, OR HIS DESIGNEE (SERVICE-SAFETY DIRECTOR) TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT OR CONTRACTS FOR AN INFLOW AND INFILTRATION REDUCTION PROJECT LOCATED WITHIN THE SPRING VILLAGE SEWER-SHED, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Ms. Feagin moved to suspend the reading of Ordinance No. 24-03 on three separate days, second by Mr. Sunderland. Seven members cast their votes Aye, zero Nay, and the motion passed. Mr. Bradley read Ordinance No. 24-03, for the first time, by title only.

Mr. Bradley moved to adopt Ordinance No. 24-03, second by Mr. Webb. Seven members cast their votes Aye, zero Nay, and Ordinance No. 24-03 was adopted.

ORDINANCE NO. 24-04

AN ORDINANCE EXPANDING AND MODIFYING THE TERMS AND TAX EXEMPTIONS OF THE MIXED USE COMMUNITY REINVESTMENT AREA, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mrs. Branham-Fonner read Ordinance No. 24-04, for the first time, by title only.

Mr. Rehfeldt asked if the Zoning Districts could be reviewed to include better options and include Light Manufacturing. Inspector Morton said he would bring it up at the Steering Committee and Regional Planning. The building code does need updated because it is from the 1960's and a lot of the modern uses are not in our code.

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

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Edward J. Gallo, President of Council

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Cathy VanAuker, Clerk of Council