

Regular

October 16, 2024

Ontario City Council met in regular session on October 16, 2024, 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-Fonner, Rose Feagin, Nathan Sunderland, Council President Eddie Gallo, Mayor Kris Knapp, Service-Safety Director Adam Gongwer, and Clerk of Council Cathy VanAuker.

The minutes of the regular Council meeting of October 2, 2024 were presented for approval. Hearing no corrections, the minutes were approved as presented.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mr. Rehfeldt called a Finance Committee meeting for November 8, 2024, at 9:00 a.m.

Mrs. Branham-Fonner reported the Personnel Committee met this evening. Mayor Knapp provided an overview of recommended changes to the Personnel Policy Manual. The remainder of the meeting was held in executive session.

Mr. Sunderland reminded Council of the Safety Committee meeting on November 6, 2024, at 5:30 p.m. In his research on how to increase/decrease speed limits, he found the local ODOT needs contacted.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Knapp introduced the new Zoning Inspector, Benji Hall. Director Gongwer filled in as Zoning Inspector until the appointment was made and is currently training the new Inspector.

SERVICE-SAFETY DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Director Gongwer provided an update:

- Leaf pick-up begins Monday. Do not rake leaves into the street as it blocks the stormwater and sewer. Do not put out large branches or sticks as this is a vacuum machine not a shredder.

Mr. Sunderland asked if a study could be done at Home Road/Walker Lake Road. This is a dangerous intersection and should be a 4-way stop. New housing is being built close by and will increase traffic. Director Gongwer will suggest this when he speaks with ODOT.

- Additional intersections shared between Ontario and Mansfield that should be included in the study are 4th Street/Home Road and Park Avenue West/Home Road.

LAW DIRECTOR'S REPORT

No report.

When Mr. Bradley asked about the procedure to decrease a speed limit, Law Director Medwid responded that Council could change a speed limit by ordinance.

- This will be sent to the Safety Committee.

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MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS

President Gallo announced the following:

October 26th is Trick or Treat from 4 – 6 p.m. On the same night is Haunted Hallways at the school, sponsored by Ontario Community Events, times vary by age group.

Notice is hereby given that a public hearing will be held before Council on November 20, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. to rezone two parcels located at 3052 Mabee Road, Arbor Creek Gardens and Floral, from R-1 Low Density Residential to Business.

PUBLIC COMMENTARY

Speaking before Council against marijuana dispensaries in Ontario and the effects it would have on the community were Mark Lehman, 338 Medowlark Drive, Bruce Saltzgeber, 225 Chambers Road, Brett Dewees, 3930 Millsboro Road, Melinda Saltzgeber, 225 Chambers Road, and Ben Mutti, Avon/Lex-Ontario Road.

CONSIDERATION OF ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTION

ORDINANCE NO. 24-17

AN ORDINANCE IMPOSING A MORATORIUM UNTIL NOVEMBER 30, 2024, ON THE ACCEPTANCE, CONSIDERATION AND/OR GRANTING OF ANY APPLICATIONS FOR LOCAL LICENSING APPROVAL, AND/OR ANY ZONING, OCCUPANCY, OR OTHER PERMITS RELATING TO CULTIVATORS, PROCESSORS OR RETAIL DISPENSARIES OF MARIJUANA WITHIN THE CITY OF ONTARIO, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Ms. Feagin moved to suspend the reading of Ordinance No. 24-17 on three separate days, second by Mr. Sunderland. Seven members cast their votes Aye, zero Nay, and the motion passed. Mr. Sapp read Ordinance No. 24-17, for the first time, by title only.

Mr. Sapp moved to adopt Ordinance No. 24-17, second by Mrs. Branham-Fonner. Seven members cast their votes Aye, zero Nay, and Ordinance No. 24-17 was adopted.

ORDINANCE NO. 24-18

AN ORDINANCE IMPOSING A MORATORIUM INDEFINITELY, ON THE ACCEPTANCE, CONSIDERATION AND/OR GRANTING OF ANY APPLICATIONS FOR LOCAL LICENSING APPROVAL, AND/OR ANY ZONING, OCCUPANCY, OR OTHER PERMITS RELATING TO CULTIVATORS, PROCESSORS OR RETAIL DISPENSARIES OF MARIJUANA WITHIN THE CITY OF ONTARIO, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mr. Rehfeldt read Ordinance No. 24-18, for the first time, by title only.

At 7:31 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/ Cathy VanAuker, Clerk of Council

/s/ Eddie J. Gallo, President of Council