

Regular

December 18, 2024

Ontario City Council met in regular session on December 18, 2024, in the Municipal Building with Council President Eddie Gallo presiding. The meeting opened at 7:12 p.m. with Sgt. Barnhart leading the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present during roll call were Council members Troy Sapp, Dave Rehfeldt, Kyle Webb, Josh Bradley, Rose Feagin, Nathan Sunderland, Council President Eddie Gallo, Mayor Kris Knapp, Law Director Andrew Medwid, Service-Safety Director Adam Gongwer, Chief Tom Hill, and Clerk of Council Cathy VanAuker.

The minutes of the regular Council meeting of December 4, 2024 were presented for approval. Hearing no corrections, the minutes were approved as presented.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mr. Sapp will contact OYS to prepare a report for the beginning of the year. The golf cart/side-by-side parade was a success and will be expanded next year. Ontario Giving was a great event where Ontario High School student Bodpegn Miller, who recently signed with OSU football, signed autographs, and the Miss Ontario Court participated.

Mr. Webb reported the Personnel Committee meeting this evening was held in executive session. Committee members agreed to take Ordinance 24-10, Personnel Policy and Procedure Manual, off the table to vote on this evening.

Mr. Bradley said the Economic Development Committee meeting was held in executive session this evening.

Mr. Bradley scheduled an Economic Development Committee meeting for January 8, 2025 at 5:30 p.m.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Knapp reported:

- Mr. Webb was acknowledged for setting up the new iPads that Council received this evening.
- The 2025 temporary budget includes funds to upgrade the Council Chambers with tv's.
- The Community Room was recently painted and new flooring installed. The Service Department employees wiped off all the cables and fixed the blinds.
- RCDG will assist in organizing the Community Improvement Corporation (CIC). The Law Director will prepare legislation for the next agenda.
- Mansfield has a contract with Richland Public Health dated 1986, and Ontario has a contract with Richland Public Health dated January 3, 2002. The goal is to merge the contracts. Ontario appoints two members to the Board.
- Mr. Greg Franklin is renovating the previous Oswalt Furniture Building, 557 Home Road, into the Loft and Rails Event Center. He is requesting transfer of a liquor license to this location. Events serving alcohol to over 100 guests will require a police officer on the premises.
- Mr. Singh is requesting transfer of a liquor license to sell wine at the OnWay gas station at 3636 PAW.
- Mayor Knapp read a request from a Springfield Township Trustee to consider not charging the Fire Stations for water usage. Discussion will continue at a later time when the Township Trustees and City Council members meet.

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POLICE DEPARTMENT'S REPORT

Chief Hill thanked the Fire Department for all they do and how well the Police and Fire Departments work together.

On December 20th a special event will be held in the Community Room for a 4 year-old boy battling a brain tumor. He will be sworn in as honorary police officer # 127. Santa Claus will be there for the children.

SERVICE-SAFETY DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Director Gongwer provided an update on the Hagerman light display. Interior lights were used on the displays. When moisture gets in the lights and one light goes out, the entire strand goes out. The City must comply to more stringent regulations when hooking up the lights on public property than when they were displayed on private property. Next year, exterior LED lights will be on the displays and permanent electricity will be installed.

LAW DIRECTOR'S REPORT

No report.

MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS

President Gallo thanked Mr. Bradley, the Fire Department, the School, and the community for attending the Texas Roadhouse Breakfast with Santa event. Emily Walker at Texas Roadhouse is a great community partner.

Mr. Sunderland thanked OYS Director Kenn Spencer and the Lions Club for the success of the Ontario Craft Show.

PUBLIC COMMENTARY

Seeing no one who wished to speak, the Public Commentary portion of the meeting was closed.

CONSIDERATION OF ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTION

Mr. Webb moved to take Ordinance No. 24-10 from the table, second by Mr. Sunderland. Six members cast their votes aye, zero nay, and the motion passed.

ORDINANCE NO. 24-23

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING VARIOUS SECTIONS OF CHAPTER 193 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF ONTARIO REGARDING MUNICIPAL TAX, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mr. Sapp read Ordinance No. 24-23, for third time, by title only.

Mr. Sapp moved to adopt Ordinance No. 24-23, second by Mr. Sunderland. Six members cast their votes Aye, zero Nay, and Ordinance No. 24-23 was adopted.

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ORDINANCE NO. 24-24

AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING PERMANENT APPROPRIATIONS FOR CURRENT EXPENSES AND OTHER EXPENDITURES OF THE CITY OF ONTARIO, OHIO, FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2025 AND EXPIRING DECEMBER 31, 2025.

Mr. Rehfeldt read Ordinance 24-24 for the third time, by title only.

Mr. Rehfeldt moved to adopt Ordinance No. 24-24, second by Mr. Sapp. Six members cast their votes Aye, zero Nay, and Ordinance No. 24-24 was adopted.

ORDINANCE NO. 24-25

AN ORDINANCE REZONING PARCEL #s 038-60-170-12-000 and 038-60-170-13-000 ON MABEE ROAD FROM R1- LOW DENSITY RESIDENTIAL TO B-BUSINESS DISTRICT, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Ms. Feagin moved to suspend the reading of Ordinance No. 24-25 on three separate days, second by Mr. Sapp. Six members cast their votes Aye, zero Nay, and the motion passed. Mr. Webb read Ordinance No. 24-25 for the second time, by title only.

Mr. Webb moved to adopt Ordinance No. 24-25, second by Mr. Sapp. Four members cast their votes Aye, two Nays by Ms. Feagin and Mr. Sunderland, and Ordinance No. 24-25 was adopted.

ORDINANCE NO. 24-29

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 1137- STANDARD ZONING DISTRICTS; 1137.05 - B-BUSINESS DISTRICT; PARAGRAPH (C) CONDITIONALLY PERMITTED USES, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mr. Bradley read Ordinance No. 24-29, for the second time, by title only.

ORDINANCE NO. 24-30

AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING WAGES AND SALARIES FOR NON-COLLECTIVE BARGAINING UNIT EMPLOYEES OF THIS CITY, REPEALING ORDINANCE NO. 24-19, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Ms. Feagin moved to suspend the reading of Ordinance No. 24-30 on three separate days, second by Mr. Sunderland. Six members cast their votes Aye, zero Nay, and the motion passed. Ms. Feagin read Ordinance No. 24-30 for the first time, by title only.

Ms. Feagin moved to adopt Ordinance No. 24-30, second by Mr. Sapp. Six members cast their votes Aye, zero Nay, and Ordinance No. 24-30 was adopted.

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ORDINANCE NO. 24-31

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE 24-06 KNOWN AS THE PERMANENT APPROPRIATIONS ORDINANCE FOR 2024 BY MAKING ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS IN THE GENERAL FUND, SPECIAL REVENUE FUND, AND THE ENTERPRISE FUND.

Mr. Webb moved to suspend the reading of Ordinance No. 24-31 on three separate days, second by Mr. Sunderland. Six members cast their votes Aye, zero Nay, and the motion passed. Mr. Sunderland read Ordinance No. 24-31, for the first time, by title only.

Mr. Sunderland moved to adopt Ordinance No. 24-31, second by Mr. Sapp. Six members cast their votes Aye, zero Nay, and Ordinance No. 24-31 was adopted.

ORDINANCE NO. 24-32

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR (OR HIS DESIGNEE) TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT THROUGH BUCKEYE ENERGY BROKERS FOR THE GAS AGGREGATION PROGRAM, AT A RATE NOT TO EXCEED \$0.66 PER CCF, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Ms. Feagin moved to suspend the reading of Ordinance No. 24-32 on three separate days, second by Mr. Sapp. Six members cast their votes Aye, zero Nay, and the motion passed. Mr. Sapp read Ordinance No. 24-32, for the first time, by title only.

Mr. Sapp moved to adopt Ordinance No. 24-32, second by Mr. Sunderland. Five members cast their votes Aye, zero Nay, one Abstain by Mr. Rehfeldt, and Ordinance No. 24-32 was adopted.

ORDINANCE NO. 24-33

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE TAX CREDIT AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY AND CHARTER NEXT GENERATION, INC., ALLOWING THE MAYOR TO SIGN THE AMENDMENT, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Ms. Feagin moved to suspend the reading of Ordinance No. 24-33 on three separate days, second by Mr. Sapp. Six members cast their votes Aye, zero Nay, and the motion passed. Mr. Webb read Ordinance No. 24-33, for the first time, by title only.

Mr. Webb moved to adopt Ordinance No. 24-33, second by Mr. Sunderland. Five members cast their votes Aye, zero Nay, one Abstain by Mr. Rehfeldt, and Ordinance No. 24-33 was adopted.

ORDINANCE NO. 24-34

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR, OR THE MAYOR'S DESIGNEE TO EXPEND DEMINIMUS FUNDS FOR EMPLOYEE MEALS AND REFRESHMENTS FOR EMPLOYEE APPRECIATION FUNCTIONS, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mr. Bradley moved to suspend the reading of Ordinance No. 24-34 on three separate days, second by Mr. Sapp. Six members cast their votes Aye, zero Nay, and the motion passed.

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Mr. Rehfeldt read Ordinance No. 24-34, for the first time, by title only.

Mr. Rehfeldt moved to adopt Ordinance No. 24-34, second by Mr. Sunderland.
Six members cast their votes Aye, zero Nay, and Ordinance No. 24-34 was adopted.

ORDINANCE NO. 24-10

AN ORDINANCE APPROVING UPDATES TO THE CITY'S PERSONNEL
MANUAL AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mr. Webb read Ordinance No. 24-10, for the third time, by title only.

Mr. Webb moved to adopt Ordinance No. 24-10, second by Mr. Rehfeldt.
Six members cast their votes Aye, zero Nay, and Ordinance No. 24-10 was adopted.

At 7:52 p.m., there being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned upon a motion by Mr. Sunderland, second by Mr. Webb.

Eddie J. Gallo, President of Council

Cathy VanAuker, Clerk of Council