

MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL
JANUARY 25, 2016

Call to Order

Mayor Steve Miller called the Regular Meeting of Council to order at 7:00 PM at the Fairfield Municipal Building, 5350 Pleasant Avenue.

Prayer/Pledge of Allegiance

Councilmember Keller led in prayer and Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call

Clerk Wilson called the roll of Council. Present members were Councilmember Craig Keller, Councilmember Debbie Pennington, Councilmember Tim Abbott, Councilmember Chad Oberson, Councilmember Mike Snyder, and Councilmember Bill Woeste.

Councilmember Woeste, seconded by Councilmember Abbott, moved to excuse Councilmember Jones. Motion carried 6-0.

Agenda Modifications

Councilmember Woeste, seconded by Councilmember Snyder, moved to add an ordinance under Development Services Committee. Motion carried 6-0.

Executive Session Requests

No Executive Session requests.

Special Presentations and Citizen Comments

Duke Energy Gas Presentation

Councilmember Abbott introduced Duke Energy Gas Operations Manager Chad Fritsch, who presented the city with a token of appreciation for their support in the replacement of 1,200 miles of gas lines in the city and surrounding communities.

Chamber of Commerce Update

Kert Radel, President of the Chamber of Commerce, announced the annual dinner on March 16 and announced that it will celebrate 60 years of service to the business community of Fairfield. Jim Scott, former WLW Radio personality, will be the keynote speaker for the event, and there will be several other activities to celebrate the anniversary.

Public Hearing(s)

No public hearings.

Mayor/Council Reports

Councilmember Snyder reported that Smithcorp Inc., is continuing to replace over 2,000 feet of 1957-era cast iron water main pipe. The project will replace sections of water main that have begun to fail, as well as establish a critical interconnection under Pleasant Avenue across from the Dip Ice Cream shop. He also announced the Hamilton-Fairfield Symphony Orchestra production on January 30 at the Fairfield High School Auditorium.

Councilmember Oberson reported that salt usage and snow services are down so far this year, but he commended the Public Works Department for their great work on the snow/ice events that the city has experienced this year.

Councilmember Abbott reported that the income tax revenues for 2015 are higher than 2014, with final numbers available in early February. He also announced that the annual audit will start in late spring.

Councilmember Pennington announced that a Farmers & Artisan Market will be held on Wednesday evenings beginning April 20 and running through October. The event will be held in the Village Green. More information will be included in the spring newsletter.

Councilmember Keller announced that the Fire Department received a donation of a complete set of CPR mannequins from the Greater Cincinnati Automobile Association in conjunction with Performance Toyota to support the CPR program. He also announced that the department is completing a purchase of equipment through the Assistance to Firefighters grant program. Lastly, he announced that Police Officer Joseph Mollmann reported for duty on January 6 and began training at the police academy on January 11.

Approval of Minutes

Regular Meeting Minutes of January 11, 2016

- The Regular Meeting Minutes of January 11, 2016 were approved as written

OLD BUSINESS

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

Chad Oberson, Chairman; Mike Snyder, Vice Chairman; Bill Woeste, Member

Resolution declaring necessity of repairing sidewalks (including aprons).

Legislative Action: Councilmember Oberson presented the second reading of this resolution.

Ordinance to authorize the City Manager to enter into a three (3) year contract with T.R. Gear Landscaping for the Grounds, Entryways and Landscaping Program.

Legislative Action: Councilmember Oberson presented the second reading of this ordinance.

NEW BUSINESS

Mayor Miller recused himself from the New Business portion of the agenda, as his relationship with one of the parties involved in the item for Development Services Committee could possibly be construed by some as a conflict of interest. Vice Mayor Abbott finished out the meeting.

DEVELOPMENT SERVICES COMMITTEE

Bill Woeste, Chairman; Adam Jones, Vice Chairman; Mike Snyder, Member

Ordinance to authorize the City Manager to enter into a Property investment reimbursement agreement with Veritiv Operating Company to provide financial incentives for the renovation and modernization of

an office building at 6120 S. Gilmore Road to create and preserve jobs and employment opportunities and improve the economic welfare of the City of Fairfield and its citizens and declaring an emergency.

Councilmember Bill Woeste, seconded by Councilmember Debbie Pennington moved to read the following ordinance by title only. Motion Carried 6-0.

Background: City Manager Wendling recommended an ordinance to provide financial incentives for renovation of an office building to Veritiv Operating Company. This agreement will bring approximately 475 jobs to the city. Greg Kathman, Economic Development Manager, explained that this project will be located at the corner of S. Gilmore and Mack Road. He introduced Ed Patterson, Vice President of Corporate Communication and Public Affairs for Veritiv, who thanked the city for their support and consideration of the agreement. He stated that the property is owned by Cincinnati Financial Corporation. Mr. Patterson thanked the Development Services staff, specifically Greg Kathman, for his support in this process and explained the business and the opportunity that the new location will provide for expansion of their business. Mr. Kathman introduced Mike Sewell, Chief Financial Officer for Cincinnati Financial, who expressed his excitement for the project, both for the benefit of the city and county. Mr. Kathman explained that Veritiv plans to invest approximately \$2 million in the renovation of the building, and the agreement provides for the reimbursement of that investment over a ten-year period, provided the company meets its employment requirements. The maximum of the investment will be the actual dollars invested in the property or \$2 million, whichever is greater. He explained that there are secure terms for the city, in that the payments are made one year in arrears, so that the city has an entire year's worth of data to evaluate to ensure that all terms of the agreement are met before that year's payment is made. The first payment would be made in early 2018. Legislative Action: Councilmember Woeste presented the first reading of this ordinance.

Councilmember Bill Woeste, seconded by Councilmember Mike Snyder moved to suspend the rules requiring three (3) readings of this ordinance. Motion Carried 6-0. Councilmember Bill Woeste, seconded by Councilmember Chad Oberson moved to adopt . Motion Carried 6-0. ORDINANCE NO. 5-16. APPROVED 6-0.

Councilmember Oberson thanked Veritiv for choosing Fairfield and commended staff for their hard work. Vice Mayor Abbott commended staff on their work and thanked the company for coming to Fairfield. Councilmember Woeste welcomed Veritiv to the city.

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

Chad Oberson, Chairman; Mike Snyder, Vice Chairman; Bill Woeste, Member

Ordinance to authorize the City Manager to enter into a contract with Prus Construction for the 2016 Concrete Repair and Replacement Program.

Councilmember Chad Oberson, seconded by Councilmember Mike Snyder moved to read the following ordinance by title only. Motion Carried 6-0.

Background: City Manager Wendling recommended a contract with Prus Construction for the annual concrete repair and replacement program. Legislative Action: Councilmember Oberson presented the first reading of this ordinance.

PARKS, RECREATION AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

Debbie Pennington, Chairman; Craig Keller, Vice Chairman; Tim Abbott, Member

Ordinance to authorize the City Manager to execute a grant application and agreement with Ohio Public Works Commission/Clean Ohio Fund Green Space Conservation for the Seward Road-Morris Farm Project and declaring an emergency.

Councilmember Debbie Pennington, seconded by Councilmember Bill Woeste moved to read the following ordinance by title only. Motion Carried 6-0.

Background: City Manager Wendling recommended an ordinance to submit a grant application and agreement to OPWC for the Seward Road-Morris Farm Project. Legislative Action: Councilmember Pennington presented the first reading of this ordinance.

Councilmember Debbie Pennington, seconded by Councilmember Craig Keller moved to suspend the rules requiring three (3) readings of this ordinance. Motion Carried 6-0. Councilmember Debbie Pennington, seconded by Councilmember Bill Woeste moved to adopt . Motion Carried 6-0. ORDINANCE NO. 6-16. APPROVED 6-0.

FINANCE & BUDGET COMMITTEE

Tim Abbott, Chairman; Debbie Pennington, Vice Chairman; Craig Keller, Member

Councilmember Debbie Pennington, seconded by Councilmember Craig Keller moved to read the following three (3) ordinances by title only. Motion Carried 6-0.

Ordinance to establish salaries and hourly rates for certain salaried and hourly employees of the City of Fairfield, Ohio and to authorize and limit the numbers and types of certain employees, to repeal Ordinance No. 15-15 and all amendments thereto and declaring an emergency.

Background: City Manager Wendling recommended an update to the salary ordinance for AFSCME employees, due to an extended medical leave by one of the clerks in the Income Tax Division. It is necessary to add another Account Clerk position so that the division is adequately staffed for the upcoming tax season. The additional position will be removed when the medical leave is over. Legislative Action: Councilmember Pennington presented the first reading of this ordinance.

Councilmember Debbie Pennington, seconded by Councilmember Craig Keller moved to suspend the rules requiring three (3) readings of this ordinance. Motion Carried 6-0. Councilmember Debbie Pennington, seconded by Councilmember Chad Oberson moved to adopt . Motion Carried 6-0. ORDINANCE NO. 7-16. APPROVED 6-0.

Ordinance to amend Ordinance No. 107-15 entitled "An Ordinance to make estimated appropriations for the expenses and other expenditures of the City of Fairfield, Ohio, during a period beginning January 1, 2016, and ending December 31, 2016."

Background: City Manager Wendling recommended contractual appropriations in the amount of \$700,000 for the 2016 Concrete Repair and Replacement Program. Legislative Action: Councilmember Pennington presented the first reading of this ordinance.

Councilmember Debbie Pennington, seconded by Councilmember Craig Keller moved to suspend the rules requiring three (3) readings of this ordinance. Motion Carried 6-0. Councilmember Debbie Pennington, seconded by Councilmember Chad Oberson moved to adopt . Motion Carried 6-0. ORDINANCE NO. 8-16. APPROVED 6-0.

Ordinance to amend Ordinance No. 107-15 entitled "An Ordinance to make estimated appropriations for the expenses and other expenditures of the City of Fairfield, Ohio, during a period beginning January 1, 2016, and ending December 31, 2016."

Background: City Manager Wendling recommended non-contractual appropriations of \$100,000 for 2016 Grounds, Entry-ways & Landscaping Program (supplies for work by city employees); \$100,000 for 2016 Annual Drainage Program (supplies for work by city employees); \$42,000 for design for Pleasant Avenue Signal Reconstruction (Pleasant & Evalie and Pleasant & Hunter). Legislative Action: Councilmember Pennington presented the first reading of this ordinance.

Councilmember Debbie Pennington, seconded by Councilmember Mike Snyder moved to suspend the rules requiring three (3) readings of this ordinance. Motion Carried 6-0. Councilmember Debbie Pennington, seconded by Councilmember Bill Woeste moved to adopt . Motion Carried 6-0. ORDINANCE NO. 9-16. APPROVED 6-0.

Meeting Schedule

Clerk Wilson read the following meeting schedule:

- Monday, February 8 Council-Manager Briefing, 6:00 p.m.; Regular Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- Monday, February 22 Council-Manager Briefing, 6:00 p.m.; Regular Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- Monday, March 14 Council-Manager Briefing, 6:00 p.m.; Regular Meeting, 7:00 p.m.

Executive Session of Council (if needed)

No Executive Session.

Councilmember Woeste thanked the Development Services staff for their hard work to bring Veritiv to the community. He stated that this is a good project and he is grateful for their work.

Adjournment

The regular meeting adjourned at 7:35 PM.

ATTEST:

Clerk of Council

Mayor's Approval

Date approved: _____