

Minutes of Logan City Council Regular Meeting
City Council Chambers 7:00 P.M. December 8, 2020

(Due to the need for Covid-19 related need for social distancing, meetings are held at the Logan-Hocking Middle School Library.)

Guests: Mayor Greg Fraunfelter, Safety-Service Director Bruce Walker, Law Director Abby Saving, City Auditor Chris Robers, Phillip Lightfoot, Deb Tobin (Logan-Hocking Times) and Alexsei Pavloff (Logan Daily News) Absent: Jen Fickel

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by President Fred Hawk at 7:04 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance with prayer following.

Roll Call: Present – Mike Berry, Shirley Chapman, Judie Henniger, James Martin, Jim Robinson and Ed Tucker Absent: Dave Driscoll

Tucker made a motion to excuse Councilman Driscoll’s absence, which was seconded by Robinson. After a voice vote the motion unanimously passed.

Approval of Proceedings: Chapman made a motion to approve the November 24, 2020 minutes as submitted and was seconded by Henniger. After a voice vote the motion unanimously passed.

People Appearing Before Council:

Phillip Lightfoot – Lightfoot appeared before Council again to express concerns regarding Ordinance No. 73, 2020. He did some research since the last meeting to address questions Council members had at that time. He said the last time the alley in question was maintained by the city was ten years ago. Also, the section of the alley in question has only two driveways connecting to it, both belonging to him. Utility trucks do not use the alley because it is too narrow for big trucks to pass through it. Law Director Saving said there was an \$800.00 cost to the city of vacating the street which is not reimbursed through the present policy of vacating streets. It was agreed by members that this vacation request was an indicator that the current alley vacation policy needed rectified.

REPORTS:

Mayor – Fraunfelter said he had no report but wanted to give Chapman and Henniger an opportunity to speak about a recent economic zoom meeting they attended. Chapman said five cities that apply for an available grant will receive help in the application process and leadership development. Chapman felt the City would “be really missing the boat if we do not apply” for the grant, but the application is due by December 18th, which is right around the corner. Chapman said the “city has assets that should be used to help the town grow.” Henniger added that at the end of the zoom meeting it was said city officials should know

every new business in town, meeting and encouraging them. Council should seek ways to be of help to all small businesses.

Safety-Service Director – Walker said he for two days he met with engineers from the company who built the water plant and they determined that the problem was timing of the valves; they were not working in sync with each other. They are working to solve the problem. Walker added there will be a progress meeting on January 14th in regard to the Evelyn Street sewer development.

City Auditor – Robers submitted a list of items the fire department wants to purchase with available CARES Act money. It was determined after some discussion that it was not necessary for Council to give their approval for these purchases. He also submitted the November Auditor's report for approval. Robinson made a motion to accept the report as submitted which was seconded by Tucker. After a voice vote the minutes were unanimously accepted. Robers also expressed a need to hire an additional person for the Auditor's Office to assist with the documentation of CARES Act expenditures. This person would be paid with the CARES Act funds. This person would also be in training to eventually replace an employee that will be retiring by the summer of 2021. After some discussion as to how to go about granting permission for hiring a new employee, President Hawk polled Council as to how many members gave their blessing on hiring a new employee for the Auditor's Office. After a voice vote, all council members indicated they were in support of the hiring of a new employee.

City Treasurer – Robers submitted the November Treasurer's report for approval for the absent Jen Fickel. Robinson made a motion to accept the report as submitted which was seconded by Henniger. After a voice vote the minutes were unanimously accepted.

Law Director – No report

Finance – Robinson indicated there was only one concern to share with Council; Police Chief Mellinger called him regarding the Enterprise Lease program for police force fleet. He said if they could send in the order now, the police department could possibly obtain the fleet five months earlier than previously expected. Robinson felt he needed some indication from Council to affirm the police chief could order the fleet in advance. Robinson said he personally did not see any issues in granting the chief permission to do this. Law Director Saving indicated that the Master Lease Agreement had already been negotiated and submitted to the mayor. Chapman pointed out that big resources are being delayed due to the impact of the Covid-19 virus so we should probably get the order in as soon as possible. After a polling of Council all members indicated "yes" to support of granting permission to the police chief to order the fleet from Enterprise Fleet Management.

Public Utilities - No report

Recreation – No report

Water & Sewer – Berry submitted minutes for the committee meeting from last week, which was concerned with the revision of the water capacity fee structure for new water and sewer customers. Berry pointed out the flow rates for various sized pipes increase according to the squared radius of the pipe. The committee agreed to propose fee increases to reflect actual flow differential, which is reflected in the new Ordinance No. 85, 2020 which will have its First Reading tonight.

Streets and Alleys – No report

Public Safety – No report

Planning and Annexation – No report

Cemetery & Parks – No report

Reading of Communications – None

LEGISLATION:

EMERGENCY:

Ordinance No. 84, 2020

AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING FROM UNAPPROPRIATED MONEY IN THE LOCAL CORONA VIRUS RELIEF FUND THE SUM OF \$489,690.83 AND INCREASING EXPECTED REVENUE IN THE LOCAL CORONA VIRUS RELIEF FUND BY \$489,690.83, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. Before voting, Berry questioned if these CARE Act funds were returned from other entities; and do we have any say in how the money is spent? Robers indicated that the money comes from unused country funds and that he has the discretion on how the money can be spent. Robinson moved to suspend the rule of council to eliminate the second and third reading. This motion was seconded by Chapman and unanimously passed after a roll call vote. Chapman moved to pass the ordinance which was seconded by Tucker. After a roll call vote the motion passed, all voting yea.

THIRD READING:

Ordinance No. 68, 2020

AN ORDINANCE CREATING NEW LINE ITEMS WITHIN THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND AND APPROPRIATING FROM UNAPPROPRIATED MONEY IN THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND THE TOTAL SUM OF \$62,685.20 TO THE

NEWLY CREATED LINE ITEMS. Robinson moved to pass the ordinance which was seconded by Tucker. After a roll call vote the motion passed, all voting yea.

Ordinance No. 69, 2020

AN ORDINANCE REDUCING APPROPRIATIONS IN THE POOL CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND, CREATING A REVENUE LINE ITEM AND INCREASING EXPECTED REVENUE IN THE POOL CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND BY THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$17,589.20. Henniger moved to pass the ordinance which was seconded by Robinson. After a roll call vote the motion passed, all voting yea.

Ordinance No. 70, 2020

AN ORDINANCE CREATING TWO NEW LINE ITEMS WITHIN THE POOL DEBT FUND, A REVENUE AND EXPENSE LINE ITEM, INCREASING THE REVENUE LINE ITEM BY \$45,096.00 AND APPROPRIATING FROM UNAPPROPRIATED MONEY IN THE POOL DEBT FUND THE SUM OF \$45,096.00 TO THE EXPENSE LINE ITEM. Chapman moved to pass the ordinance which was seconded by Tucker. After a roll call vote the motion passed, all voting yea.

Ordinance No. 71, 2020

AN ORDINANCE CREATING A NEW LINE ITEM WITHIN THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND AND APPROPRIATING FROM UNAPPROPRIATED MONEY IN THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND THE SUM OF \$110,232.00 TO THE NEWLY CREATED LINE ITEM. Robinson moved to pass the ordinance which was seconded by Chapman. After a roll call vote the motion passed, all voting yea.

Ordinance No. 72, 2020

AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING THE SUM OF \$7,500 FROM UNAPPROPRIATED MONEY IN THE WATER FUND. Robinson moved to pass the ordinance which was seconded by Martin. After a roll call vote the motion passed, all voting yea.

Ordinance No. 73, 2020

AN ORDINANCE VACATING LIGHTFOOT ALLEY, PURSUANT TO SECTION 723.05 OHIO REVISED CODE AND WITH THE CONSENT OF THE OWNERS OF PROPERTY ABUTTING THE ALLEY THAT IS TO BE VACATED. Before voting, Henniger indicated that she had contacted the fire chief and he indicated the alley was too narrow to ever be used by fire trucks for emergency access. Chapman indicated that she was concerned that Lightfoot would get this property for free, but now indicates he might sell it; the alley should not be "given" to anyone when vacated. Robinson indicated that he planned to suggest a moratorium on future vacations of alleys or public streets until the Streets and Alleys committee can come up with a policy to better handle them in the interest of the city. Henniger moved to pass the ordinance

which was seconded by Tucker. After a roll call vote the motion passed, all voting yea.

After some discussion, Robinson moved to put a moratorium on vacating alleys until we have a better policy to complete the process. Law Director Saving pointed out that the Streets and Alleys committee could develop this policy and put a moratorium on future vacations without the input or permission of Council to do so. That said, Robinson withdrew his motion. Henniger said the committee would in fact be implementing a moratorium on street vacations until a satisfactory policy can be developed.

Ordinance No. 74, 2020

AN ORDINANCE TO MAKE APPROPRIATIONS FOR CURRENT EXPENSES AND OTHER EXPENDITURES OF THE CITY OF LOGAN, OHIO DURING THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2020. Robinson moved to pass the ordinance which was seconded by Martin. After a roll call vote the motion passed, all voting yea.

Ordinance No. 75, 2020

AN ORDINANCE TO INCREASE THE SALARY OF A CERTAIN CITY EMPLOYEE. (Service Director). Robinson moved to pass the ordinance which was seconded by Chapman. After a roll call vote the motion passed, all voting yea.

Ordinance No. 76, 2020

AN ORDINANCE TO INCREASE THE SALARIES OF CERTAIN CITY EMPLOYEES. (Police Chief, Police Captain, Fire Chief and Code Enforcement Officer). Chapman moved to pass the ordinance which was seconded by Martin. After a roll call vote the motion passed, all voting yea.

Ordinance No. 77, 2020

AN ORDINANCE TO INCREASE THE SALARY OF A CERTAIN CITY EMPLOYEE. (Waste Water Treatment Plant Superintendent). Robinson moved to pass the ordinance which was seconded by Tucker. After a roll call vote the motion passed, all voting yea.

Ordinance No. 78, 2020

AN ORDINANCE TO INCREASE THE SALARY OF A CERTAIN CITY EMPLOYEE. (Water Treatment Plant Operator). Robinson moved to pass the ordinance which was seconded by Chapman. After a roll call vote the motion passed, all voting yea.

Resolution No. 31, 2020

A RESOLUTION TRANSFERRING THE TOTAL SUM OF \$62,685.20 FROM THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND TO THE POOL DEBT FUND AND THE POOL CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND. Robinson moved to pass the ordinance which was seconded by Chapman. After a roll call vote the motion passed, all voting yea.

SECOND READING

Resolution No. 35, 2020

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND/OR THE SERVICE DIRECTOR TO GIVE A ONE-TIME SIGNING BONUS OF \$2,500.00 TO EDWARD OGLE, WATER DISTRIBUTION/WASTEWATER COLLECTIONS FOREMAN. Robinson explained that Ogle has the expertise to be an asset to the city and he deserved to be compensated with a signing bonus.

FIRST READING

Ordinance No. 85, 2020

AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING A WATER AND SEWER FEE SCHEDULE FOR THE PURPOSE OF COLLECTING CAPACITY, USAGE, AND INSPECTION FEES; SETTING AN ANNUAL THREE (3%) PERCENT INCREASE; AND, SETTING A ONE-TIME ACCESS CONNECTION FEE. Berry submitted minutes for the Water and Sewer committee meeting that further explains the need for this ordinance. There was some discussion regarding the need for this ordinance. Chapman said that the City was losing money; this ordinance would still make Logan water rates cheaper than city suburbs and lower than the EPA formula would indicate.

Robinson made a motion to not have the second monthly meeting of council meeting for the month of December. Chapman seconded the motion and after a voice vote the motion was unanimously passed.

ADJOURN: A motion was made by Chapman and seconded by Berry to adjourn. The

motion passed by voice vote – all yea. The meeting adjourned 8:13 p.m.

Merrilee Carlson, Clerk

Fred Hawk, Council President