

Minutes	Logan City Council	Regular Meeting
City Council Chambers	7:00 P.M.	June 29, 2021

Guests: Mayor Greg Fraunfelter, City Service Director Bruce Walker, City Law Director Abby Saving, Deb Tobin (Logan-Hocking Times), Keri Johnson (Logan Daily News), Tom Hammer, Sandy Wells-Hammer, Chris Maley. City Treasurer Jen Fickle was absent.

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by President Fred Hawk at 7:00 p.m. Hawk led the Pledge of Allegiance and Robinson led the following prayer.

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

Approval of Proceedings: Chapman made a motion to accept the June 8, 2021, minutes as submitted this evening. The motion was seconded by Henniger. After a voice vote the motion unanimously passed.

People Appearing Before Council:

Tom Hammer: Hammer first congratulated the city’s current administration on all that they have accomplished on behalf of the community, but then asked if it was possible to do something about the “huge hole” in the alley behind his house. Fraunfelter assured Hammer that they “would get it done;” they would be working on the streets within a week.

REPORTS:

Mayor – The Mayor explained two different issues involving federal funding. Ohio is one of only 8 states that have townships as part of their government structure. Federal Covid funds were not originally distributed by the state to townships, so the money had to be redistributed. Logan is designated a “non-entitlement unit” since the population is less than 50,000 people. The Ohio Senate determined to cut the non-entitlement units funding in half, forcing them to share with townships without changing the funding for larger cities. This was problematic for the state’s smaller cities like Logan. The other funding issue was the federal funding for broadband expansion. The Ohio Senate cut money from the budget to go to many areas including Southeastern Ohio. After an outcry of protest, the broadband funding to Southeastern Ohio was restored.

The mayor set July 15th for the City Council tour of Bellefontaine, departing at 7:00 to 7:30 a.m. The mayor also requested two meetings of combined committees. The Water/Sewer and Finance Committee meeting was scheduled for Wednesday July 7, 2021, at 8:30 a.m. The Public Safety and the Streets and Alleys meeting will be Thursday, July 8, 2021, at 9:00 a.m.

Safety Service Director – After completing assessments of applicates and conducting interviews, Walker announced that Chris Maley had been selected for the open position of Fire Chief and introduced him to Council. Maley thanked the mayor and Safety-Service position, jokingly saying that, “he accepted the job,” since he had not previously officially done so. He said he was honored to serve the city in that capacity. Since he had started his career in Logan, he was happy he would complete his career with Logan. He expressed appreciation for the opportunity.

Walker stated that the Walnut Street sewer component of the project is now complete, and the sidewalks will be soon. The crew will start on the curbs next week. He also reported that work had at last been done on the cul-de-sac at Edgehill; the residents had been waiting awhile for the repair work to begin. The surface and “bad spots” had been covered and the topcoat of black top would be completed later this year when the rest of the city paving was done. Chapman inquired about the cause of the deep holes and if the Edgehill residents had indicated pleasure the work had finally been done. Walker explained that drainage to sewers was the basic problem causing the holes. He added a couple had sat on their porch to observe the work in progress, which he interpreted as positive feedback from residents.

Auditor – Robers indicated that the auditors had completed the audit of the city. Overall, the audit results were positive, but there was one compliancy issue that needed corrected; there was no public records policy in the manual. This is being resolved.

Treasurer – No report

Law Director – No report

Finance – Robinson submitted the minutes for the June 14, 202, meeting. Water Distribution Foreman Ed Ogle requested \$25,000.00 for the purchase of 10 new fire hydrants to replace non-functioning ones. Robers requested \$7,500.00 to be appropriated to the PERS/Medicare line item because the benefits for the code enforcement department had not been included previously. Robers also announced the likelihood that the two income tax department employees were due to retire soon; solutions to this problem were discussed, with no action taken. Fire Chief Robertson submitted a request of \$9,000.00 for a complete set of new tires for two department vehicles but due to the high cost, Robinson suggested they only replace the front tires, resulting in a reduced cost of \$3,500.00. The chief also requested an extension of the use of part-time firefighters to cover staffing issues. The next committee meeting was scheduled for Wednesday July 7, 2021, at 8:30 a.m. in Council Chambers.

Public Utilities – No report

Recreation – Martin explained that tonight’s emergency legislation, Resolution No. 22,

2021, was to enable the application for financial assistance through the Ohio Department of Natural Resources to purchase playground equipment for Mingo Park.

Water and Sewer – No report

Streets and Alleys – Henniger submitted the minutes for the June 14, 2021, meeting. Discussion occurred regarding the results of a parking study conducted by the Chamber of Commerce and Hocking Hills Tourism, including the lack of defined areas for parking. The topic of downtown angled parking was also addressed but more information was needed to come to conclusions, so a traffic pattern study will be completed by the Chamber and Hocking Hills Tourism. The last topic addressed was a request of the city to look into changing trash pick up from alleys to curbside due to problems that exist with alley pickup. A meeting of all trash providers to get their input was suggested before taking action on this problem.

Public Safety – No report

Planning and Annexation – No report

Cemetery and Parks Committees – No report

Ad Hoc – Robinson indicated that later in the meeting he would ask for Ordinance 44, 2021 to be indefinitely tabled; valid concerns had been expressed about its wording. He scheduled the next Ad Hoc meeting for Monday July 19, 2021, at 8:00 a.m. in Council Chambers.

Reading of Communications – No report

LEGISLATION:

EMERGENCY:

Resolution No. 22, 2021

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE AND FILE AN APPLICATION WITH THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF LOGAN TO APPLY FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE THROUGH THE STATE OF OHIO NATUREWORKS GRANT PROGRAM, IN WHATEVER AMOUNTS AVAILABLE, FOR PUBLIC RECREATION PURPOSES WITH THE CITY OF LOGAN AGREEING TO OBLIGATE THE FUNDS REQUIRED TO SATISFACTORILY COMPLETE PROPOSED PROJECT AND BECOME

ELIGIBLE FOR REIMBURSEMENT UNDER THE TERMS OF THE NATUREWORKS GRANT PROGRAM AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. Robinson moved to suspend the rule of council to eliminate the second and third reading. This motion was seconded by Martin and unanimously passed after a roll call vote. Robinson moved to pass the resolution which was seconded by Driscoll. After a roll call vote the motion passed, all voting yea.

THIRD READING:

Ordinance No. 34 2021

AN ORDINANCE CREATING A NEW LINE ITEM WITHIN THE GENERAL FUND AND APPROPRIATING FROM UNAPPROPRIATED MONEY IN THE GENERAL FUND THE SUM OF \$5,000.00 TO THE NEWLY CREATED LINE ITEM. Driscoll made a motion to pass the ordinance which was seconded by Chapman. After a roll call vote the motion unanimously passed.

SECOND READING:

Ordinance No. 42, 2021

AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING THE TOTAL SUM OF \$5,366.37 FROM UNAPPROPRIATED MONEY IN THE GENERAL FUND.

Ordinance No. 43, 2021

AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING THE TOTAL SUM OF \$80,000.00 FROM UNAPPROPRIATED MONEY IN THE WATER FUND. These funds are necessary due to unexpected maintenance costs at the new water treatment facility and substantial use of water treatment chemicals.

At this point Robinson made a motion to table Ordinance No. 44, 2021 indefinitely to work on improving the language of the ordinance. Chapman seconded the motion. After a roll call vote, the motion unanimously passed.

Ordinance No. 44, 2021

AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING SECTION 153.09, TITLED VACANT BUILDINGS, AND SECTION 153.10, TITLED FORECLOSED PROPERTIES AND BUILDINGS, TO CHAPTER 153, EXISTING STRUCTURES CODE OF THE CITY OF LOGAN CODE OF ORDINANCES. Tucker and Chapman pointed out at the previous meeting

that there was a wording conflict between the wording of this ordinance and Section 150 in the city code; some wording was repetitive.

FIRST READING:

Ordinance No. 45, 2021

AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING THE TOTAL SUM OF \$11,000.00 FROM UNAPPROPRIATED MONEY IN THE GENERAL FUND.

Ordinance No. 46, 2021

AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING THE SUM OF \$25,000.00 FROM UNAPPROPRIATED MONEY IN THE WATER FUND.

Before adjournment, the mayor said ODOT had sent him an email regarding TAP grants that could be used for finishing downtown streets.

Tucker asked Walker if it was possible to get a work schedule/agenda from Columbia Gas so the city could coincide their own street work with the Columbia's schedule, in the hope of preventing streets that had just been paved by the city from then being torn up by Columbia Gas. Berry asked if Columbia was good at keeping the city informed of their work schedule and inquired if they ever bear the cost of needed repairs? Walker explained that there has traditionally been an amicable, give-and-take, working relationship between the gas company and the city.

Chapman made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Henniger seconded it. After a voice vote the motion unanimously carried and the meeting was adjourned at 7:49 p.m.

Merrilee Carlson, Clerk

Fred Hawk, Council President