

**CITY OF WILLOWICK
LAKE COUNTY, OHIO
MINUTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL**

DATE: June 16, 2020
PLACE: City Hall
TIME: 7:30 p.m.

This meeting was conducted as a virtual public meeting due to the coronavirus pandemic. Council President Patton stated that we are authorized to hold the virtual meeting under the authority as set forth by the Law Director.

The tenth meeting of Council was called to order by Council President Patton at 7:30 p.m., followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and Invocation.

Present: Council members Phares, Patton, Antosh, Bisbee, Koudela, Vanni and Malta.
Also Present: Mayor Regovich, Finance Director Benedict, Acting Fire Chief Zak, Police Chief Turner, Service Director Pauley, Chief Housing and Zoning Inspector Brennan, Recreation Director Kless, City Engineer Lannon, Economic Development Manager Drake, and Council Clerk Wovrosh. Law Director Landgraf was absent.

Approval of Minutes

Motion by Mr. Malta, seconded by Ms. Antosh to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council of June 2, 2020.

Discussion: None.

Vote: All ayes. Motion carried.

Appointments, Special Resolutions & Proclamations

None.

Administrative Appeals

Administrative Appeal Order No. 2020-8 Earley	An Order granting a variance and exception of solid type fence right-side property line in the application of Section 1165.04(c) of the Codified Ordinances in Board of Zoning Appeals
---	--

Motion by Mr. Malta, seconded by Ms. Bisbee to approve Administrative Appeal Order No. 2020-8.

Discussion: Mr. Earley explained that they would like to install the fence since they are often in their backyard, and their neighbors do not take care of their yard. Two other neighbors have the same type of fence.

Vote: All ayes. Motion carried.

Administrative Appeal Order No. 2020-9 Snyder-Bradnais	An Order granting a variance and exception of double fencing on rear property line in the application of Section 1165.05 of the Codified Ordinances in Board of Zoning Appeals
--	--

Motion by Ms. Antosh, seconded by Mr. Phares to approve Administrative Appeal Order No. 2020-9.

Discussion: Ms. Snyder-Bradnais said that they would like to install the fence for privacy since they live next to Manry and a lot of people staring into their yard. They would also like to let their dogs out.

Vote: All ayes. Motion carried.

Administrative Appeal Order No. 2020-10	An Order granting a variance and exception of 2' to construct an accessory building 8' from their dwelling in the application of Section 1171.02(c)
--	---

Motion by Mr. Vanni, seconded by Mr. Malta to approve Administrative Appeal Order No. 2020-10.

Discussion: Neighbor Dee Logan asked for a clarification of this variance request. Mr. Brennan explained that the structure would be 2’ closer to the dwelling.

Vote: All ayes. Motion carried.

Administrative Appeal
Order No. 2020-11
Pearsons #1

An Order granting a variance and exception to allow an additional ground sign in the application of Section 1349.08(d)(4) of the Codified Ordinances in Board of Zoning Appeals

Motion by Ms. Bisbee, seconded by Mr. Malta to approve Administrative Appeal Order No. 2020-11.

Discussion: Matt D’Arcy from Pearsons LLC was present representing Pearsons/CP’s Cooler.

Vote: All ayes. Motion carried.

Administrative Appeal
Order No. 2020-12
Pearsons #2

An Order granting a variance and exception of 27 sq. ft. to install a ground sign with one face at 67 sq. ft. in the application of Section 1349.08(d)(4) of the Codified Ordinances in Board of Zoning Appeals

Motion by Mr. Phares, seconded by Mr. Malta to approve Administrative Appeal Order No. 2020-12.

Discussion: None.

Vote: All ayes. Motion carried.

Administrative Appeal
Order No. 2020-13
Pearsons #3

An Order granting a variance and exception of 1’ width to install a ground sign 13’ wide in the application of Section 1349.08(e) of the Codified Ordinances in Board of Zoning Appeals

Motion by Mr. Phares, seconded by Ms. Antosh to approve Administrative Appeal Order No. 2020-13.

Discussion: None.

Vote: All ayes. Motion carried.

Administrative Appeal
Order No. 2020-14
Pearsons #4

An Order granting a variance and exception of 6’ 6” height to install a ground sign 12’6” high in the application of Section 1349.08(e) of the Codified Ordinances in Board of Zoning Appeals

Motion by Mr. Phares, seconded by Ms. Antosh to approve Administrative Appeal Order No. 2020-14.

Discussion: None.

Vote: All ayes. Motion carried.

Administrative Appeal
Order No. 2020-15
Pearsons #5

An Order granting a variance and exception of 24 sq. ft. for a secondary signage to install a 67.5 sq. ft. wall sign in the application of Section 1349.04(c)(2)(a) of the Codified Ordinances in Board of Zoning Appeals

Motion by Mr. Phares, seconded by Ms. Antosh to approve Administrative Appeal Order No. 2020-15.

Discussion: None.

Vote: All ayes. Motion carried.

Administrative Appeal
Order No. 2020-16
Pearsons #6

An Order granting a variance and exception of 57.6 sq. ft. for exceeding square footage allowed for signage in the application of Section 1349.08(c)(1) of the Codified Ordinances in Board of Zoning Appeals

Motion by Mr. Phares, seconded by Ms. Antosh to approve Administrative Appeal Order No. 2020-16.
Discussion: None.
Vote: All ayes. Motion carried.

Administrative Appeal
Order No. 2020-17
Giuffre #1

An Order granting a variance and exception of 4' 10" to construct a garage attached to a home that will not be 12' from neighbor's garage in the application of Section 1163.06(b) of the Codified Ordinances in Board of Zoning Appeals

Motion by Mr. Phares, seconded by Ms. Antosh to approve Administrative Appeal Order No. 2020-17.
Discussion: The contractor, Paul Molan of M&M Home Improvements, was present. The variances are being requested to assist the homeowner who has a disability. The front ramp would be removed and built in the garage for safety reasons and in inclement weather. Mr. Malta inquired if this had been denied by BZA, but Mr. Brennan stated that it had not been denied.
Vote: Ayes: Phares, Patton, Antosh, Bisbee, Koudela, Vanni. Nays: Malta. Motion carried.

Administrative Appeal
Order No. 2020-18
Giuffre #2

An Order granting a variance and exception of 72 sq. ft. to construct a 648 sq. ft. attached garage in the application of Section 1337.01(c)(5)(b) of the Codified Ordinances in Board of Zoning Appeals

Motion by Mr. Phares, seconded by Ms. Antosh to approve Administrative Appeal Order No. 2020-18.
Discussion: None.
Vote: Ayes: Phares, Patton, Antosh, Bisbee, Koudela, Vanni. Nays: Malta. Motion carried.

Reports and Communications from the Mayor/Safety Director

Mayor Regovich reported:

- Covid-19 update: Things are starting to open back up. We track numbers weekly and are waiting to see if there is a spike as a result. We are expecting to be open in all city buildings except the Senior Center by July 1. The opening of the Senior Center is uncertain since we have not been able to get answers from the State or the County Health Department. The county currently has no plans to open senior centers as of yet.
- We have been working diligently on the Special Improvement District (SID) for shoreline erosion. Council members were requested to get the word out to people they know who live on the lake and might be interested in participating in the SID to protect their shoreline. The SID would allow those who live on the lake to finance the improvements to protect the shoreline from erosion by putting them on their taxes as an assessment. Current cost is estimated to be about \$1,000 per linear foot. This will help people save money since contractors could do multiple houses at one time. We hope that this will be up and running by the end of the summer. We've broken records for lake level in April and May already, and erosion will continue to be a problem until the level goes down. People should contact the Mayor's office if they are interested. There are 13 or 14 municipalities along the lake that plan to participate in this.
- He and Mr. Malta visited the new Hemp Spot at LSB and Gilchrist. Residents were concerned about what type of business this would be. They sell nothing that has to do with a controlled substance or that is illegal. It is a business that sells oils, proteins made from hemp along with drinks. All are for health and wellness. There is going to be a coffee bar, and customers can sit outside on the patio. The owners are enthusiastic to be in Willowick and want to be involved in the community. He encouraged Council members to stop by and visit when it opens.

Council Discussion of the Mayor's Report

Mr. Malta said that residents of Gilchrist were happy to find out that the Hemp Spot is about wellness. He thanked Mayor Regovich and Mr. Phares for going with him to Carrington Court and Mikasa related to a noise complaint. He also thanked the police officers who have been going there the last couple of years. It was helpful in rectifying the problem.

Ms. Antosh received a call from a resident inquiring if there would be a reduction in their tax bill since the pools are not opening and the Rec center is not completely open. Mayor Regovich said that the tax money we collect is needed to operate the rest of the city since we are going to be tax deficient related to the income tax. They were reduced to save money so that we can keep running the facilities long-term. It would be expensive to open them and keep them running right now, and we are not expecting many to enroll. We're trying to keep the city fiscally responsible and people safe at the same time.

General Communications & Reports – Directors & Officials

Service Director Rob Pauley: Written report submitted. They had the final walk-thru for the E. 329th Street Sewer Rehab and paving project. They are hoping to have the punch list done within the next week. The next Special Collections by Lake County Solid Waste District is electronics and TVs. There may be fees charged, depending on the size of the items. The department took possession of the new five-ton sewer truck which replaced a 29-year-old truck. Ms. Koudela said a resident was concerned that there wouldn't be enough work for the Service Department employees in light of Covid-19 and that jobs were being created. The street sweeper went down his street two or three times within a week.

Mr. Pauley said there is enough work to keep them busy. They are catching up on a lot of deferred work. They have gone through the city twice as a whole with the street sweeper. Ms. Koudela said that the same resident had inquired if some in the Service Department should be furloughed. Mayor Regovich said that it has not been discussed, nor does he see that as an option unless it would be for financial reasons. There is plenty of work for everyone to do. In the summer with the additional work, there are not enough people to get all the work done. He also noted that during summer there are employees who are on vacation, so they need all the employees. It would be highly unlikely that the street sweeper had gone down a road three times unless it was cleaning up after some nearby construction. Ms. Bisbee said she received a thank you from the resident on E. 300th whom the Service Department helped with some trees.

Recreation Director Julie Kless: No written report. The parks and playgrounds are open. She thanked the parks crew and also Johnny DiFranco who made the signs to enable them to open safely following state guidelines. The spray parks are to open the following day. It is for residents only, and a Rec ID is required. They are starting to take online registrations for camp. It will be smaller groups for a shorter period of time. It is scheduled to start July 6. There is an ordinance on the agenda amending the camp fee from \$750 to \$700. Though it is six weeks rather than the usual nine weeks, there are a number of costs involved to meet the guidelines and also the normal supplies needed for camp. They are working with the Health Department along with Jim Meadows from Lake Metroparks to start the Concerts in the Park. Target date for the first one is July 12. Baseball and softball have started. They will start game play in July. She thanked both boards for all their help, especially Tony Bisbee with baseball and Nikki Jablonski with softball who helped put together the guidelines and waivers to be sure that all residents will be able to enjoy a safe environment under the state guidelines. They are working on a plan with the Health Department to be able to move forward with the outdoor movie which will be at Dudley on July 18. Ms. Bisbee thanked Ms. Kless for everything that she did related to the issues that arose at Manry the day before with baseball.

City Engineer Tim Lannon: No written report. The state is three months behind, but they did take initial action on funding the Capital Improvement Fund through the Ohio Public Works Commission. This year we had planned for sanitary sewer lining on the south half of E. 328th Street. It appears we will

be able to get into the bidding; we will be watching the website to see when the funds might be available. The concrete work is done on the Manry Park walking trail as well as the final grading and seeding. A little work still remains to be done. We also would like to get an improved gate out to Vineyard.

Finance Director Cheryl Benedict: No written report. Though there is no Budget or Finance Committee meetings scheduled, Ms. Benedict prepared comparison spreadsheets for the revenue and expenses and is preparing the narrative to explain some of the variances. Income tax collections are up. Income from Recreation and building permits is down. Overall it looks good through May. These will be distributed to Council members. She will continue to do this for the next several months so that Council can see if things are changing. She requested a Tax Budget Hearing for the next meeting since it has to be passed by July 15. She will provide it to Council prior to the meeting.

Law Director Stephanie Landgraf: Absent. No written report.

Police Chief Brian Turner: No written report. Mr. Malta thanked all those in the Police Department for the fine job they all do. Ms. Bisbee thanked the Chief and those from his department who helped at Manry the night before. She requested drive-throughs if possible to be sure they don't have the same issue. Chief Turner will make sure that there is increased police presence at the parks.

Acting Fire Chief Ron Zak: Written report for May submitted electronically. Mr. Malta thanked Chief Zak and Brian Kolat for bringing the fire engine for the free lunch program and also Theresa Bisbee for her work over the last three months with the program. Chief Zak was happy to be back out in the public and able to help.

Chief Housing and Zoning Inspector Sean Brennan: No written report. Mr. Malta thanked Mr. Brennan for his quick response to incidents that Mr. Malta has contacted him about.

Economic Development Manager Monica Drake: No written report. Ms. Drake participated in a webinar with Congressman David Joyce who explained the Payroll Protection Program guidelines which have expanded, and she reviewed the updates. The Shoregate Station/Phillips Edison CRA has been submitted to the State of Ohio and the Lake County Auditor's office, so the process is done. She is also discussing the commercial CRA with another business and will be following up with them. She has reached out to the county to follow up with their micro grant and small business loans to see if any businesses have contacted them. She is available to assist them with the process if needed. She will be working with the new business to assist them with any needs they have to move forward toward their opening.

Ward Matters

Mr. Malta said the resident at 347 Fairway requested that the boulders in the tree lawn be removed if possible. He asked Mr. Pauley if they could be moved across the street to 341 E. 293rd where the house was hit by a car a few years ago. It was not known if the city or an owner installed them since the current owner has only lived there four or five years. Mr. Pauley will look into it and try to accommodate the request.

Public Participation

Dee Logan of 327 Blissfield asked if any of the Council members have read the information and website she provided regarding the harmful health effects of weed killer on people and the environment. This is a health, wellness and safety issue for residents and the lake. Mr. Patton said that the Service, Utilities and Public Lands Committee will address this when the meetings open back up again. Mr. Malta, committee chairman, responded that he has read some of the literature and confirmed that the committee will meet once things get back to normal. Ms. Logan inquired if only the committee members will read it, or if all of Council will be reading it. Mr. Patton replied that the committee would read it as part of their consideration and recommendation to Council. Once it reaches Council, they would then read it.

Reports of Standing Committees

Finance: No report.

Safety: No report.

Service, Utilities & Public Lands: No report. Mr. Malta said that the previously scheduled committee meeting is still on hold until meetings open up again.

Streets, Sidewalks & Sewers: No report.

Tax Compliance: No report.

Moral Claims: No report.

Budget: No report. Mr. Vanni requested that Ms. Benedict let him know of any changes with the information she has and if they would need to meet.

Liaison Reports

Planning Commission: No report.

Board of Zoning Appeals: No report.

Volunteer Firefighters Dependents Fund Board: No report.

Recreation Board: No report.

Plan Review Board: Ms. Antosh reported that one new company, a hair salon named Glory Dust, has submitted an application.

Hearts & Hammers: Mr. Malta reported that they installed a patio at 377 High Tee. He thanked all who helped. They also just finished up the spring clean-up.

Fund Transfers and Bid Authorizations

None.

Contract Approvals

Motion by Ms. Antosh, seconded by Mr. Phares to authorize the Mayor to enter into a K9 Handler Agreement with Patrolman Brian O’Toole of the City of Willowick Police Department with regard to K9 Calibur.

Discussion: None.

Vote: All ayes. Motion carried.

Introduction & Consideration of Legislation

Ordinance No. 2020-27 (Law Director)	An Ordinance modifying the fee schedule for enrollment in the 2020 Summer Camp Program in the Willowick Recreation Department, repealing certain Ordinances, and declaring an emergency.
---	--

Motion by Ms. Bisbee, seconded by Ms. Antosh to waive the three readings of Ordinance No. 2020-27.

Discussion: None.

Vote: All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Ms. Bisbee, seconded by Mr. Phares to adopt Ordinance No. 2020-27.

Discussion: None.

Vote: All ayes. Motion carried.

Resolution No. 2020-21
(Finance Director)

A Resolution to approve authorizations (Then and Now Certificate) to Huntington Public Capital Corporation in the amount of \$55,073.98, for the City of Willowick, and declaring an emergency.

Motion by Mr. Malta, seconded by Ms. Bisbee to waive the three readings of Resolution No. 2020-21.
Discussion: None.
Vote: All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Malta, seconded by Mr. Vanni to approve Resolution No. 2020-21.
Discussion: None.
Vote: All ayes. Motion carried.

Resolution No. 2020-22
(Law Director)

A Resolution to accept the donation of funds from Excalibur Auto Body for the purchase and training of the police dog named K9 Calibur for assignment in the Police Department's K9 unit, and declaring an emergency.

Motion by Mr. Phares, seconded by Ms. Antosh to waive the three readings of Resolution No. 2020-22.
Discussion: None.
Vote: All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Phares, seconded by Ms. Antosh to approve Resolution No. 2020-22.
Discussion: None.
Vote: All ayes. Motion carried.

Miscellaneous

None.

Public Participation

None.

Adjournment

Motion by Ms. Antosh, seconded by Mr. Vanni to adjourn.
Discussion: None.
Vote: All ayes. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 8:38 p.m.

PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL
ATTEST:

CLERK OF COUNCIL