

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

**DATE:** November 3, 2020  
**PLACE:** Remote Meeting  
**TIME:** 7:30 p.m.

This meeting was conducted as a virtual public meeting due to the coronavirus pandemic. We are authorized to hold the virtual meeting under the laws of the State of Ohio as well as the Charter and Ordinances of the City of Willowick. Council will continue to meet virtually with regular assessment of the situation.

The seventeenth 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 Koudela, Vanni, Malta, Phares, Patton, Antosh, and Bisbee.  
**Also Present:** Mayor Regovich, Law Director Landgraf, Finance Director Benedict, Acting Fire Chief Palumbo, Lt. Joe Tennyson, Police Chief Turner, Service Department Foreman Gross, Chief Housing and Zoning Inspector Brennan, City Engineer McLaughlin, Economic Development Manager Drake and Council Clerk Wovrosh. Recreation Director Kless was absent.

**Approval of Minutes**

Motion by Mr. Malta, seconded by Ms. Antosh to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council of November 3, 2020.

Discussion: None.

Vote: All ayes. Motion carried.

**Appointments, Special Resolutions & Proclamations**

Special Resolution (Council President)	A Special Resolution recognizing Jerry Mathis for his contributions to the Willowick Community
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Motion by Ms. Antosh, seconded by Mr. Malta to approve the Special Resolution recognizing Jerry Mathis.

Discussion: None.

Vote: All ayes. Motion carried.

Mr. Patton thanked Mr. Mathis for his work and the positive influence he has on the Willowick community. Due to technical difficulties, Mr. Mathis would respond later in the meeting.

Mayor Regovich administered the Oath of Office to Joseph Tennyson for the rank of Fire Chief in the Willowick Fire Department. Mayor Regovich explained that Chief Tennyson has been with the Fire Department since 2003, has been a Lieutenant since 2014, and has been with the Eastlake Fire Department since 2005, so he brings a lot of time and experience to the position.

**Administrative Appeals**

None.

## **Reports and Communications from the Mayor/Safety Director**

Mayor Regovich reported:

- Leaf pickup begins November 30, and the Service Department will go through the city one time. It will take two to three weeks to complete, depending on weather.
- There may be a special meeting and executive session the following week to discuss a contract and legal items.
- Agreement with CEI is one the agenda. Windstorms over the weekend knocked out two light poles on E. 310<sup>th</sup>, and this agreement allows CEI to replace the poles with LED lights at no cost to us in the option we are choosing. As lights go out, they will be replaced with LEDs. This will save the city money in the long run.
- Following the storm over the weekend, there has been some storm clean-up on E. 310 and also Uxbridge. One block on Vine Street was closed for about 6 hours due to a downed wire.
- We have been doing root cutting on Willowick Drive as part of maintenance. The Sewer Dept. will now be going down E. 305 from the test tees of houses to the street. There is some calcification there, and we will open those lines up before winter arrives as time allows.
- We will start doing the leaves in the parks this week. The new path in Manry and all the sewers that were installed have allowed the park to dry out. This was a great project for the park.

## **Council Discussion of the Mayor's Report**

None.

At this point Mr. Mathis was able to rejoin the meeting. He stated that he was honored to receive this recognition. He is just trying to be kind to people on the street and show love to others. Mr. Patton said that a resident had requested that this be done for Mr. Mathis and thanked him for the positive influence he has had on the Willowick community.

## **General Communications & Reports – Directors & Officials**

**Acting Service Director Rich Regovich:** Written report submitted. The Service Department report was given during the Mayor's Report. Ms. Koudela inquired if all the trucks that were ordered for the Service Department have been received, and Mayor Regovich stated that they were. The truck for the Fire Department will be picked up the next day. Ms. Koudela also inquired about the snowplows, and the Mayor reported that installation is going well. Three have already been installed by our own employees.

**Recreation Director Julie Kless:** Absent. No written report.

**City Engineer Tim McLaughlin:** No written report. United Survey will be starting the lining project on E. 328<sup>th</sup> the following Monday.

**Finance Director Cheryl Benedict:** No written report. In response to a request during the last Finance Committee meeting, she emailed several documents that day regarding the proposed sewer rate increase.

**Law Director Stephanie Landgraf:** No written report.

**Police Chief Brian Turner:** Written report submitted electronically.

**Acting Fire Chief Mark Palumbo:** Written report submitted electronically.

**Chief Housing and Zoning Inspector Sean Brennan:** Written report submitted electronically.

**Economic Development Manager Monica Drake:** No written report. The city has received applications for small business grants which are now being processed. She has called on almost all businesses. Mr. Malta inquired if there is any interest in the PNC Bank. Ms. Drake said that there has been none.

## **Ward Matters**

None.

## **Public Participation**

None.

## **Reports of Standing Committees**

**Finance:** Mr. Vanni reported that the committee met on October 27, 2020 to discuss increasing the amount that the sewer rates can be raised in any given year. It is currently at 5%, and the discussion was to raise it to 10%. They also discussed raising the rates for 2021 by 10% if the legislation passes. Their recommendation to Council is to 1) amend Ordinance 921.08(b)(2) to give Council the ability to raise the sewer rate up to 10% in any given year, and this legislation is on the meeting's agenda; and 2) raise the sewer rate by 10% for the year 2021. If the legislation on tonight's agenda regarding the rate increase cap passes, then the legislation to raise the rate will be placed on first reading for the next meeting.

**Safety:** No report.

**Service, Utilities & Public Lands:** Mr. Malta reported that the minutes of the October 20, 2020 meeting were distributed.

**Streets, Sidewalks & Sewers:** No report.

**Tax Compliance:** No report.

**Moral Claims:** No report.

**Budget:** No report.

## **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: No report.

Hearts & Hammers: Mr. Malta said that fall clean-up is starting. Those interested in volunteering can contact him.

## **Fund Transfers and Bid Authorizations**

None.

## **Contract Approvals**

Motion by Mr. Vanni seconded by Ms. Antosh to authorize the Mayor to enter into an agreement with The Cleveland Illuminating Company to participate in the "Experimental Company Owned LED Lighting Program" tariff.

Discussion: None.

Vote: All ayes. Motion carried.

## **Introduction & Consideration of Legislation**

Ordinance No. 2020-45  
(Law Director)

An Ordinance amending Chapter 921 of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Willowick, Ohio, titled "Sewers Generally"; specifically Section 921.08, titled "Sanitary Sewer Rental Rates", and declaring an emergency.

Motion by Mr. Phares, seconded by Mr. Vanni to waive the three readings of Ordinance No. 2020-45.

Discussion: None.

Vote: All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Malta, seconded by Mr. Phares to adopt Ordinance No. 2020-45.

Discussion: None.

Vote: All ayes. Motion carried.

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Resolution No. 2020-37  
(Law Director)

A Resolution authorizing the transfer of funds from the East 327 Street Sewer Improvement Fund (428) to the Sewer Revenue Fund (205), and declaring an emergency.

Motion by Mr. Phares, seconded by Mr. Vanni to waive the three readings of Resolution No. 2020-37.

Discussion: None.

Vote: All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Vanni, seconded by Mr. Phares to approve Resolution No. 2020-37.

Discussion: None.

Vote: All ayes. Motion carried.

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Resolution No. 2020-38  
(Law Director)

A Resolution authorizing the return of funds from the Community Development Block Grant Fund (224) to the General Fund (101), and declaring an emergency.

Motion by Ms. Antosh, seconded by Mr. Vanni to waive the three readings of Resolution No. 2020-38.

Discussion: None.

Vote: All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Vanni, seconded by Mr. Malta to approve Resolution No. 2020-38.

Discussion: None.

Vote: All ayes. Motion carried.

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Resolution No. 2020-39  
(Law Director)

A Resolution authorizing the transfer of funds from the Lakeshore Boulevard Capital Improvement Fund (427) to the Street Improvement Levy Fund (213), and declaring an emergency.

Motion by Mr. Phares, seconded by Ms. Antosh to waive the three readings of Resolution No. 2020-39.

Discussion: None.

Vote: All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Vanni, seconded by Mr. Phares to approve Resolution No. 2020-39.

Discussion: None.

Vote: All ayes. Motion carried.

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Ordinance No. 2020-46  
(Law Director)

An Ordinance amending Ordinance No. 2020-8 providing for the compensation of appointed officials and certain other employees of the City, repealing certain Ordinances and declaring an emergency.

Motion by Mr. Vanni, seconded by Mr. Phares to waive the three-day rule for Ordinance No. 2020-46.  
Discussion: None.  
Vote: All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Ms. Antosh, seconded by Mr. Phares to waive the three readings of Ordinance No. 2020-46.  
Discussion: None.  
Vote: All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Malta, seconded by Mr. Phares to approve Resolution No. 2020-46.  
Discussion: None.  
Vote: All ayes. Motion carried.

**Miscellaneous**

Motion by Mr. Vanni, seconded by Ms. Bisbee to declare a 2005 Ford F-350 Vin#1FTWF31595EC52022 from the Service Department as unfit for public use by the City, obsolete, and having no value, to be disposed of as surplus.  
Discussion: None.  
Vote: All ayes. Motion carried.

**Public Participation**

Dee Logan of 327 Blissfield thanked the new staff members and the crossing guard for their work in making the city a safer place to live. She asked if the full Council will be discussing the issue of using weed killer on public lands at a future meeting. She also inquired if either Council member that she had given reading material to regarding the harmful effects of weed killer had read the items. It takes a good amount of time to become educated about the harmful effects. Mr. Patton said that all of Council will discuss this at a public meeting in the future. At Ms. Logan's request, Mr. Malta reviewed his report of the committee meeting that was held on October 20 which was a discussion about the ingredients that will be used in the fertilizer by TruGreen.

Ms. Koudela thanked Mr. Mathis for his friendliness that she experienced in recent weeks, and it put a smile on her face. She also inquired if Ofc. Bruno is back on duty. Mayor Regovich confirmed that both he and Ofc. Guerrieri are back on duty. She thanked Mr. DiFranco from the Service Department for the new street signs throughout the city. She confirmed that Kimble will pick up yard waste through the last full week of December. She thanked the city departments for all they do.

**Adjournment**

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

The meeting adjourned at 8:17 p.m.



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**PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL**

ATTEST: Susan K. Womack  
**CLERK OF COUNCIL**