



City of Willowick
CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

Tuesday, November 21, 2023 at 7:30 PM
City Council Chambers

ADA NOTICE

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, individuals needing special accommodations (including auxiliary communicative aids and services) during this meeting should notify the City of Willowick at 440-585-3700 at least three working days before the meeting.

MINUTES

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

President Koudela called to order the twenty-first meeting of Council at 7:31pm

PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE

INVOCATION

ROLL CALL OF COUNCIL

PRESENT

President Monica Koudela
Ward 1 Councilman Patrick Mohorcic
Ward 1 Councilman Tom Loncala
Ward 2 Councilwoman Natalie Antosh
Ward 2 Councilwoman Theresa Bisbee
Ward 3 Councilman Charles Malta
Ward 3 Councilman David Phares

Also Present: Mayor Vanni, Director Landgraf, Chief Malovrh, Chief Daubenmire, Director Shannon, Engineer McLaughlin, Clerk Morgan **Absent:** Director Kless, Chief Brennan, Director Benedict

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Motion to Approve the Minutes of the October 17, 2023 Regular Council Meeting

Motion made by Ward 1 Councilman Mohorcic, Seconded by Ward 2 Councilwoman Antosh.

Voting Yea: President Koudela, Ward 1 Councilman Mohorcic, Ward 1 Councilman Loncala, Ward 2 Councilwoman Antosh, Ward 2 Councilwoman Bisbee, Ward 3 Councilman Malta, Ward 3 Councilman Phares

No Discussion; Motion Carried

APPOINTMENTS, SPECIAL RESOLUTIONS & PROCLAMATIONS

2. Appointment of Two Council Members for the Volunteer Fire Fighters' Dependents' Fund Board

Councilwoman Antosh and Councilman Phares volunteered to remain on the committee.

Motion made by Ward 1 Councilman Mohorcic, Seconded by Ward 3 Councilman Malta.

Voting Yea: President Koudela, Ward 1 Councilman Mohorcic, Ward 1 Councilman Loncala, Ward 2 Councilwoman Antosh, Ward 2 Councilwoman Bisbee, Ward 3 Councilman Malta, Ward 3 Councilman Phares

No Discussion; Motion Carried

ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS

None

REPORTS & COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR/SAFETY DIRECTOR

Mayor Vanni reported on the status with the house next door to city hall. Funds for the demolition of the building is still pending at state level. The city was not awarded the NOPEC grant for its portion of the project but \$20,000 was previously budgeted. The land bank will be paying for half with the possible cost for the city being \$10,000.

Fire department received a grant for over \$24,000 to purchase fire hose equipment.

Civil Service meeting was held to discuss raising the age limit for police officers from 35-40 or 45 and Mayor requested this placed with the Safety Committee before the next meeting. This has been set for 12/5/2023 at 6:30pm.

Willowick Rite Aid will be included in the numerous store closings effective November 30 due to bankruptcy. Mayor has reached out to find out plans for the building but nothing to date.

Mayor attended Euclid sewer meeting in addition to council members to express concerns on the proposal of an additional 14.68% increase due to costs in the water treatment plant. The increase was put before Euclid City Council for a first reading with second reading set for 12/11/2023. Euclid service director has been in contract with Mayor during this process.

Report from Nik Janek with the Board of Health. Project Dawn (Deaths Avoided with Naxolone aka Narcan) is a way the county general health is addressing the opioid crisis. Courses for training on administration of Narcan available online at Lake County Health. Under new business, the budget was approved for the aggregate amount through February for \$11,134,024 with appropriations expected at \$10,970,680. Mr. Janek also made a request for rat bait traps funding. The cost for six is approximately \$106.

COUNCIL DISCUSSION OF THE MAYOR'S REPORT

President Koudela noted that Euclid is also bringing up to the EPA the burden of the increase on residents in Euclid and Willowick and hoping that the EPA will improve a modified plan.

Councilman Malta inquired about the closing of the UH Urgent Care. Mayor reported in the previous meeting that more medical offices and doctors will be utilizing that building and urgent care is now in Willoughby.

GENERAL COMMUNICATIONS & REPORTS – Directors & Officials

Service Director – Todd Shannon

Electronic Report submitted. The project at Manry is nearing completion. City mechanics saved the city \$9,000 for refabricating the original railings. Christmas decorations are in progress for after thanksgiving. An update on leaf pick up, there has been one pass through the city is completed and a second pass began on 11/20. Once

trucks switch over to salt trucks, which is a three-day process, leaf pickup will end for the season.

Recreation Director – Julie Kless

Absent

City Engineer – Tim McLaughlin

Engineer McLaughlin explained the motions submitted on the agenda. The Fairway project is in the initial stages of getting underway and addressed the inquiries regarding its timing with all the other current projects. He noted that the City received funding for this project through OPWC and ARPA funds and it was not secured or contracted until later this year.

Mayor Vanni noted that the costs for this project will be nothing so no storm water funds will be used and can be allocated elsewhere.

Finance Director – Cheryl Benedict

Absent

Law Director – Stephanie Landgraf

Discussed the legislation on the agenda regarding RITA taxes and 1-month moratorium on the Issue 2 regulations to allow city to review and decide next steps.

Police Chief – Brian Turner

Electronic report submitted. Nothing further.

Fire Chief – Bill Malovrh

Electronic report submitted. Nothing further.

President Koudela praised the Chief for the numbers provided and noted that the department was maintaining 90% coverage most of the time.

Chief Housing/Zoning Inspector – Sean Brennan

Absent

WARD MATTERS

None

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

a) Public statement (1 minute maximum)

b) Council response to the public

c) Public clarification (30 seconds to 1 minute for the purpose of restating or rearticulating an original question, concern, suggestion or idea)

Mike Bowen 472 E. 319th Street thanked everyone and provided accolades to the crews picking up leaves even in the bad weather.

President Koudela thanked Mr. Bowen for his comments.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES**Finance – Bisbee, Koudela, Mohorcic**

Councilwoman Bisbee made note that she will be contacting the Finance Director to set up another combined meeting with Finance and Sewer Committees.

Safety – Phares, Malta, Bisbee

Councilman Phares restated the meeting set for December 5, 2023, at 6:30 to discuss the fire study and age eligibility recommendation for the police department.

Service, Utilities & Public Lands – Malta, Phares, Bisbee

Councilman Malta discussed the meeting held prior to council meeting and the updates for the Gold Star Memorial. He also explained the process and the steps taken to officially change E. 321st Street to Jim & Mary Lou Beers Way.

Streets, Sidewalks & Sewers – Malta, Antosh, Mohorcic

*See Service, Utilities and Streets

Tax Compliance – Koudela, Antosh, Patton

None

Moral Claims – Antosh, Phares, Patton

None

Budget – Koudela, Bisbee, Mohorcic

None

LIAISON REPORTS**Planning – Phares/Alternate Koudela**

Councilman Phares noted the Planning Commission meeting and the discussion of the rules and regulations for car repair shops on Vine Street. He also mentioned the possibility of cleaning up older, outdated ordinances.

Board of Zoning Appeals – Koudela/Alternate Mohorcic

None

Volunteer Fire Fighters' Dependents Fund Board – Antosh, Phares

None

*See voting under 'Appointments' for the return of current committee members

Recreation Board – Bisbee/Alternate Phares

None

Plan Review Board – Antosh

None

Hearts & Hammers – Malta

Reminded of the fundraiser for the end of January and the current ticket sales

FUND TRANSFERS & BID AUTHORIZATIONS

None

CONTRACT APPROVALS

3. Motion Authorizing the Mayor to Enter into a Contract with Flock Safety Systems in the Amount of \$37,500 for a Five-Year Subscription Renewal for the City of Willowick

Motion made by Ward 3 Councilman Malta, Seconded by Ward 2 Councilwoman Antosh.

Voting Yea: President Koudela, Ward 1 Councilman Mohorcic, Ward 1 Councilman Loncala, Ward 2 Councilwoman Antosh, Ward 2 Councilwoman Bisbee, Ward 3 Councilman Malta, Ward 3 Councilman Phares

No Discussion; Motion Carried

INTRODUCTION & CONSIDERATION OF LEGISLATION

4. Amended Resolution No. 2023-46

An Amended Resolution Authorizing the Mayor to Enter into a Real Estate Purchase Option Agreement with the Lake Development Authority and Kurtz Bros., Inc., and Declaring an Emergency

Motion to waive the three day rule made by Ward 1 Councilman Loncala, Seconded by Ward 2 Councilwoman Antosh.

Voting Yea: President Koudela, Ward 1 Councilman Loncala, Ward 2 Councilwoman Antosh, Ward 2 Councilwoman Bisbee, Ward 3 Councilman Malta, Ward 3 Councilman Phares

Voting Abstaining: Ward 1 Councilman Mohorcic

Motion to suspend the rules made by Ward 3 Councilman Malta, Seconded by Ward 2 Councilwoman Antosh.

Voting Yea: President Koudela, Ward 1 Councilman Loncala, Ward 2 Councilwoman Antosh, Ward 2 Councilwoman Bisbee, Ward 3 Councilman Malta, Ward 3 Councilman Phares

Voting Abstaining: Ward 1 Councilman Mohorcic

Motion to adopt made by Ward 2 Councilwoman Antosh, Seconded by Ward 3 Councilman Phares.

Voting Yea: President Koudela, Ward 1 Councilman Loncala, Ward 2 Councilwoman Antosh, Ward 2 Councilwoman Bisbee, Ward 3 Councilman Malta, Ward 3 Councilman Phares

Voting Abstaining: Ward 1 Councilman Mohorcic

No Discussion; Motions Carried

5. Ordinance No. 2023-45

An Ordinance Amending Chapter 194 of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Willowick, Ohio, titled "Earned Income Tax Regulations Effective Beginning January 1, 2016, with an Effective Date of January 1, 2024

1st Reading 10/17/2023; 2nd Reading 11/21/2023

6. Ordinance No. 2023-49

An Ordinance Amending Ordinance 2023-5 to Provide for Additional Appropriations from the General Fund (101); Street Construction Maintenance & Repair Fund (202); Sewer Revenue Fund (205); and Senior Citizens Levy Fund (220) for Current Expenses and Other Expenditures of the City of Willowick, State of Ohio, During the Calendar Year Ending December 31, 2023, and Declaring an Emergency

*This was amended at the table to change the funds for the police department from **\$2,000** to **\$3,500**

Motion to waive the 3 day rule made by Ward 2 Councilwoman Antosh, Seconded by Ward 3 Councilman Phares.

Voting Yea: President Koudela, Ward 1 Councilman Mohorcic, Ward 1 Councilman Loncala, Ward 2 Councilwoman Antosh, Ward 2 Councilwoman Bisbee, Ward 3 Councilman Malta, Ward 3 Councilman Phares

Motion to suspend the rules made by Ward 2 Councilwoman Antosh, Seconded by Ward 3 Councilman Phares.

Voting Yea: President Koudela, Ward 1 Councilman Mohorcic, Ward 1 Councilman Loncala, Ward 2 Councilwoman Antosh, Ward 2 Councilwoman Bisbee, Ward 3 Councilman Malta, Ward 3 Councilman Phares

Motion to adopt made by Ward 2 Councilwoman Antosh, Seconded by Ward 3 Councilman Malta.

Voting Yea: President Koudela, Ward 1 Councilman Mohorcic, Ward 1 Councilman Loncala, Ward 2 Councilwoman Antosh, Ward 2 Councilwoman Bisbee, Ward 3 Councilman Malta, Ward 3 Councilman Phares

Mayor Vanni noted under Workers' Compensation, we have already paid for 2023. The \$155,000 listed is for 2024 in full to qualify for the 2% discount.

No Further Discussion; Motions Carried

7. Ordinance No. 2023-50

An Ordinance Directing the Director of Finance to Certify Delinquent Accounts to the Lake County Auditor and Lake County Treasurer for Collection as Property Tax and Declaring an Emergency

Motion to suspend the rules made by Ward 3 Councilman Malta, Seconded by Ward 1 Councilman Mohorcic.

Voting Yea: President Koudela, Ward 1 Councilman Mohorcic, Ward 1 Councilman Loncala, Ward 2 Councilwoman Antosh, Ward 2 Councilwoman Bisbee, Ward 3 Councilman Malta, Ward 3 Councilman Phares

Motion to adopt made by Ward 2 Councilwoman Antosh, Seconded by Ward 3 Councilman Phares.

Voting Yea: President Koudela, Ward 1 Councilman Mohorcic, Ward 1 Councilman Loncala, Ward 2 Councilwoman Antosh, Ward 2 Councilwoman Bisbee, Ward 3 Councilman Malta, Ward 3 Councilman Phares

No Discussion; Motions Carried**8. Ordinance No. 2023-51**

An Ordinance Adopting a Moratorium on Applications for, and the Granting of Zoning Permits for Any Building, Structure, Use or Change of Use that Would Enable the Use of Cultivation, Processing, Distribution or Sale of Marijuana for Recreational or Non-Medical Purposes for a Period not to Exceed Twelve (12) Months in Order to Allow the City to Review Applicable State and Local Laws and Guidelines, to Plan for Regulations Relating to Such Uses, and Declaring an Emergency

Motion to suspend the rules made by Ward 2 Councilwoman Antosh, Seconded by Ward 3 Councilman Phares.

Voting Yea: President Koudela, Ward 1 Councilman Mohorcic, Ward 1 Councilman Loncala, Ward 2 Councilwoman Antosh, Ward 2 Councilwoman Bisbee, Ward 3 Councilman Malta, Ward 3 Councilman Phares

Motion to adopt made by Ward 2 Councilwoman Antosh, Seconded by Ward 1 Councilman Loncala.

Voting Yea: President Koudela, Ward 1 Councilman Mohorcic, Ward 1 Councilman Loncala, Ward 2 Councilwoman Antosh, Ward 2 Councilwoman Bisbee, Ward 3 Councilman Malta, Ward 3 Councilman Phares

Councilman Phares mentioned he would like to have discussions in the next 12 months to make this ordinance permanent.

No Further Discussion; Motions Carried

MISCELLANEOUS

9. Motion Authorizing Change Order #1-Final to CRS Metalworx, Inc., in the deduct amount of \$4,420.50 for the Willowick Community Center HVAC Improvement

Motion to suspend the rules made by Ward 2 Councilwoman Antosh, Seconded by Ward 3 Councilman Phares.

Voting Yea: President Koudela, Ward 1 Councilman Mohorcic, Ward 1 Councilman Loncala, Ward 2 Councilwoman Antosh, Ward 2 Councilwoman Bisbee, Ward 3 Councilman Malta, Ward 3 Councilman Phares

No Discussion; Motion Carried

10. Motion Authorizing the Release of Retainage in the Amount of \$13,960.00 to CRS Metalworx, Inc., for the Willowick Community Center HVAC Improvement

Motion made by Ward 3 Councilman Malta, Seconded by Ward 2 Councilwoman Antosh.

Voting Yea: President Koudela, Ward 1 Councilman Mohorcic, Ward 1 Councilman Loncala, Ward 2 Councilwoman Antosh, Ward 2 Councilwoman Bisbee, Ward 3 Councilman Malta, Ward 3 Councilman Phares

No Discussion; Motion Carried

11. Motion Authorizing Change Order #1-Final to Dura Mark, Inc., in the Deduct Amount of \$7,974.40 for the 2023 Striping Program

Motion made by Ward 2 Councilwoman Antosh, Seconded by Ward 1 Councilman Loncala.

Voting Yea: President Koudela, Ward 1 Councilman Mohorcic, Ward 1 Councilman Loncala, Ward 2 Councilwoman Antosh, Ward 2 Councilwoman Bisbee, Ward 3 Councilman Malta, Ward 3 Councilman Phares

No Discussion; Motion Carried

12. Motion Authorizing the Release of Retainage in the Amount of \$3,755.40 to Dura Mark, Inc., for the 2023 Striping Program

Motion made by Ward 2 Councilwoman Antosh, Seconded by Ward 3 Councilman Malta.

Voting Yea: President Koudela, Ward 1 Councilman Mohorcic, Ward 1 Councilman Loncala, Ward 2 Councilwoman Antosh, Ward 2 Councilwoman Bisbee, Ward 3 Councilman Malta, Ward 3 Councilman Phares

No Discussion; Motion Carried

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Jean Bowen 472 E. 319th Street inquired about the new home under construction on E. 321st and why it was being built so far in front of the other homes.

President Koudela explained that each street has a minimum setback. She does not recall this home being brought before the BZA so it may meet all the city ordinances and noted that the other houses are much older. She speculated that the owners may have wanted a bigger back yard.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by Ward 2 Councilwoman Antosh, Seconded by Ward 1 Councilman Loncala.

Voting Yea: President Koudela, Ward 1 Councilman Mohorcic, Ward 1 Councilman Loncala, Ward 2 Councilwoman Antosh, Ward 2 Councilwoman Bisbee, Ward 3 Councilman Malta, Ward 3 Councilman Phares

No Discussion; Motion Carried; Meeting Adjourned at 8:13pm

ATTEST



Christine Morgan, Clerk of Council



Council President Pro Tempore