

City of Aurora, Ohio
CITY COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
June 13, 2016

The Council of the City of Aurora, Ohio met in Council Chambers at City Hall on Monday, June 13, 2016 for the purpose of holding a regular public meeting. Council President George Horvat called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with the Pledge to the Flag of the United States of America.

ROLL CALL

Present: Reva Barner
 Kathi Grandillo
 Harold Hatridge
 George Horvat
 Dennis Kovach
 Amy McDougald
 James Vaca
 Scott Wolf

Absent: John Kudley, Jr.

Also Present: Ann Womer Benjamin, Mayor
 Dean DePiero, Law Director
 Timothy Clymer, Finance Director
 John Trew, Director of Public Services
 Karen Aldredge, Chief of Staff
 Denis Januska, Director of Planning, Zoning & Building
 Brian Byard, Police Chief
 Donna Hawks, Clerk of Council

For clarity all items appear in the meeting minutes in the same order as they appear on the meeting agenda.

Consideration of Minutes

MOTION: Approval of the May 23, 2016, Meeting minutes

Mr. Vaca moved; Ms. Grandillo seconded. The motion carried on a 6-0-2 roll call vote. Mr. Hatridge and Mr. Horvat abstained.

AYES: Barner, Grandillo, Kovach, McDougald Vaca, Wolf
NAYS: None
ABSTAIN: Hatridge, Horvat

Mayor's Report

(Attached)

Mayor Womer Benjamin said the culvert work and SR306 road closure in Bainbridge which is scheduled to begin July 5 has been delayed by ODOT until July 25 after the RNC. She said expectations are that the SR82 closure will be finished by the end of June. She announced that Aurora will have two Grand Marshalls for this year's July 4 parade. She said Mr. Richard Fetzer will share the honor with Aurora High School's TBD Robotics team. Mayor Womer Benjamin said the dedication of Pioneer Park and the Deed House was a great success and very well attended. She thanked those on Council who attended and thanked the city staff, contractors, volunteers and local businesses who came together to make the event special.

Mayor Womer Benjamin provided a brief recap of those she met with and functions that she attended

since the last meeting of Council. She said she participated in a Hindu blessing of a new home in Aurora for an Indian couple who recently moved to city. She said it made her realize how increasingly multi-cultural Aurora is becoming.

Mayor Womer Benjamin expressed her sympathy to the families of the Orlando victims. She also remembered her very dear friend and mentor, Senator George Voinovich who passed away on Sunday. She said Senator Voinovich was instrumental in her going into public service 24 years ago. Mayor Womer Benjamin said he has been a great public servant and model for all in public service and she is very sad to see him pass.

Law Director's Report

(Attached)

Mr. DePiero said over the past year the city has stepped up the vigilance on housing code and nuisance abatement and he has been working closely with Ms. Januska and her department. He said there are a number of matters that were handled through Kent Municipal Court and the city is getting compliance with a number of items. Mr. DePiero said one area is where a property is declared unsafe or a public nuisance to apply the appropriate pressure to get the property cleaned up, tore down or mediated. He said each property will be looked at on a case by case basis. He said once he receives an order if he is not able to get the property owner to pay for the demolition the city will do it and attach the cost to their property taxes.

Mr. Vaca asked what would be a reasonable timeframe.

Mr. DePiero said it will vary; appropriate notice must be given and filing of the complaint. He said it is a lengthy process but the hope is to move them as fast as he can. He said the ultimate goal is for the property owner to sell or fix the property.

Mr. Hatridge asked Mr. DePiero to provide Council the parameters the city will be looking at for each situation.

Mr. DePiero said the City Ordinances set forth what the parameters are.

Ms. McDougald asked if the city has a contractor that is working on all of them.

Mr. DePiero said the city has not hired anybody. He said he thinks it will be looked at on a case by case basis.

Ms. McDougald asked if it would be possible for Habitat for Humanity to come in and look for salvageable material.

Mr. DePiero said most of the time there is nothing left to salvage or it has been stripped.

Ms. Barner said she applauds the city for taking action.

Council President's Report

(Attached)

MOTION: To amend the agenda by adding Ordinances 2016-068 thru 2016-070

Mr. Vaca moved; Mr. Wolf seconded. The motion carried on a unanimous voice vote.

Citizens Comments - Legislation

Mr. George Mazzaro, Eldridge Road – commented on Ord. 2016-061 – he said the Mayor is not in charge of the property within the community. Ord. 2016-067 – he said he assumes they are monthly payments and

it seems to be very expensive.

Councilman Remarks - Legislation

There were none

Legislation

Ordinance 2016-059

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THAT THE POSITION OF PLANNING AND ZONING INSPECTOR BE REINSTATED TO FULL-TIME WITH A SALARY RANGE OF \$33,949.00-\$70,000.00 AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY IN ORDER TO KEEP UP WITH THE DEMANDS OF THE DIVISION OF PLANNING, ZONING AND BUILDING

To third reading

Ordinance 2016-060

AN ORDINANCE APPROVING A CONDITIONAL ZONING CERTIFICATE FOR A COMPARABLE USE FOR THE VACANT PROPERTY LOCATED AT AURORA COMMONS CIRCLE, SOUTHWEST OF PNC BANK, IN A C-3 PLANNED COMMUNITY SHOPPING CENTER ZONING DISTRICT

To third reading

ORDINANCE 2016-061

AN ORDINANCE APPROVING A CONDITIONAL ZONING CERTIFICATE FOR A PUBLIC OUTDOOR RECREATION FACILITY FOR THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 325 TOWNLINE ROAD (HARTMAN PROPERTY) IN A R-1 RESIDENTIAL ZONING DISTRICT

Mr. DePiero said in reference to the comment made by a resident as to who signs the legislation; in the Charter Article IV, gives the Mayor wide attitude and wide powers to administer the affairs of the city. He said the Mayor also wide powers to delegate those administrative powers. He said it is fair to say the Mayor has the right to request legislation and to sign legislation sheets or delegate that authority to one of her directors.

To third reading

Ordinance 2016-065

AN ORDINANCE APPROVING AND ADOPTING THE TAX BUDGET OF THE CITY OF AURORA FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR 2017, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY AS THE BUDGET MUST BE ADOPTED BY JULY 15, 2016 IN ORDER TO COMPLY WITH OHIO REVISED CODE 5705.28

MOTION: To amend legislation by replacing with the proposed legislation provided by the Law Department

Ms. McDougald moved; Mr. Wolf seconded. The motion carried on a unanimous voice vote

Mr. DePiero said the amendment was the addition of the "whereas" clause.

To third reading

Ordinance 2016-067

AN ORDINANCE ACCEPTING THE QUOTATION AND RENEWING THE CONTRACT WITH VSP (VISION SERVICE PLAN) FOR THE ADMINISTRATION OF AN EMPLOYEE VISION INSURANCE PROGRAM FOR CITY OF AURORA EMPLOYEES FOR THE TIME PERIOD SEPTEMBER 1, 2016 THRU AUGUST 31, 2018

To second reading

Ordinance 2016-068

AN ORDINANCE SELECTING THE BID OF AND AWARDING A CONTRACT TO ONTARIO STONE AS THE BEST RESPONSIVE AND RESPONSIBLE BIDDER FOR 2016 CRUSHED LIMESTONE, WASHED GRAVEL AND OTHER MATERIALS PURSUANT TO THE PRICING ON THE ATTACHED EXHIBIT, TAKING THE NECESSARY FUNDS FROM THE GENERAL FUND (#01) AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY AS THE 2015 CONTRACT HAS EXPIRED

MOTION: To suspend the rule requiring an ordinance to be read on three separate occasions
Mr. Kovach moved; Mr. Wolf seconded. The motion carried on a unanimous voice vote.

MOTION: To adopt Ordinance 2016-068

Mr. Wolf moved; Ms. Grandillo seconded. The motion carried on an 8-0 roll call vote.

AYES: Barner, Grandillo, Hatridge, Horvat, Kovach, McDougald, Vaca, Wolf

NAYS: None

Ordinance 2016-069

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING EXHIBIT "A" TO AURORA CODE OF ORDINANCES CHAPTER 161, "EMPLOYEES GENERALLY," TO REFLECT CHANGES IN COMPENSATION FOR THE INDIVIDUALS LISTED ON THE ATTACHED SCHEDULE AND/OR TO PLACE THOSE NEWLY HIRED INDIVIDUALS LISTED ON THE ATTACHED SCHEDULE ON EXHIBIT "A" AT THE COMPENSATION SPECIFIED FOR THEM, APPROVING SUCH COMPENSATION, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY (**KELLER**)

MOTION: To suspend the rule requiring an ordinance to be read on three separate occasions
Mr. Kovach moved; Ms. Grandillo seconded. The motion carried on a unanimous voice vote.

MOTION: To adopt Ordinance 2016-069

Mr. Kovach moved; Ms. McDougald seconded. The motion carried on an 8-0 roll call vote.

AYES: Barner, Grandillo, Hatridge, Horvat, Kovach, McDougald, Vaca, Wolf

NAYS: None

Ordinance 2016-070

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN UNCLASSIFIED, PART-TIME TRANSPORTATION VAN DRIVER POSITION AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

MOTION: To suspend the rule requiring an ordinance to be read on three separate occasions
Mr. Kovach moved; Ms. Grandillo seconded. The motion carried on a unanimous voice vote.

MOTION: To adopt Ordinance 2016-070

Mr. Kovach moved; Ms. Grandillo seconded. The motion carried on an 8-0 roll call vote.

AYES: Barner, Grandillo, Hatridge, Horvat, Kovach, McDougald, Vaca, Wolf

NAYS: None

Citizens Comments

Mr. George Mazzaro, Eldridge Road, said the fire hydrants still need a lot of work. He said a street sign is missing. He said the gazebo needs a lot of repair. He referenced a memo he wrote 12 years ago. He said he is troubled there is still a storm water problem 12 years later.

Mr. Wally Swyte, Chatham Road, discussed road striping. He indicated what he feels are the problems with the striping. Mr. Swyte said the newly paved SR43 & SR82 will have the Cadillac of striping; they will be striped with the latest in thermal plastic striping. He said longevity and visibility will be improved. He

said this should be considered in the future for any newly paved roads.

Mr. Trew said there is a problem with striping throughout the United States. He said oil based paints are no longer permitted and the water based paints are not visible when it rains.

Councilman and Committee Remarks

Ms. McDougald said she went to the Deed House dedication and it was an amazing event. She said there was fantastic weather for the Fishing Derby. She said fire hydrants in her neighborhood will be painted and she thanked the Mayor for that.

Mr. Vaca said the roads used to be striped in the beginning of the year and by the end of the year the striping was worn off. He said striping was then started later in the year because visibility of striping is more important in the winter. He said he appreciates the work that has started on the trees in Geauga Lake.

Ms. Grandillo wished Ms. Januska a happy birthday.

Mr. Wolf said thermal plastics are great, but they are expensive right now. He said it will take a while before they are more affordable for cities. He said the EPA requirements for road striping are the cause of this; not what the city is achieving to do.

Mr. Hatridge thanked the Administration and Council members who attended the Memorial Day services. He explained the sand between the pavers was disturbed by geese.

Mr. Kovach commended the city staff on their work at the Deed House.

Ms. Barner said she is so proud to be a part of Council and with everything the city has been contributing. She said Barrington Blvd. looks beautiful. Ms. Barner wished all of the dads a happy father's day.

Adjournment

MOTION: To adjourn

Mr. Vaca moved; Mr. Hatridge seconded. The motion carried on an 8-0 roll call vote.

AYES: Barner, Grandillo, Hatridge, Horvat, Kovach, McDougald, Vaca, Wolf

NAYS: None

The meeting was adjourned at 7:36 p.m.

George Horvat, Council President

Donna Hawks, Clerk of Council