

City of Aurora, Ohio
CITY COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
July 11, 2016

The Council of the City of Aurora, Ohio met in Council Chambers at City Hall on Monday, July 11, 2016 for the purpose of holding a regular public meeting. Council Vice President Dennis Kovach 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
 Dennis Kovach
 John Kudley, Jr.
 Amy McDougald
 James Vaca

Absent: George Horvat
 Scott Wolf

Also Present: Ann Womer Benjamin, Mayor
 Dean DePiero, Law Director
 Leah Cellura, Assistant Finance Director
 John Trew, Director of Public Services
 Jack Burge, Director of Economic and Entrepreneurial Development
 David Barnes, Fire Chief
 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 June 27, 2016, Meeting minutes

Ms. Grandillo moved; Mr. Hatridge seconded. The motion carried on a 5-0-2 roll call vote. Ms. Barner and Ms. McDougald abstained.

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

Mayor's Report

(Attached)

Mayor Womer Benjamin thanked all that participated in the July 4th festivities. She said the day and all of the events were a great success. She said she was pleased and honored that Senator Rob Portman was in attendance. She said the Transportation Program is under way. She said Aurora seniors and disabled should call 330-995-8795 to sign up for transportation to medical appointments and for errands throughout northeast Ohio. Mayor Womer Benjamin said she received the Auditor's certification for the upcoming renewal of the 1.5-mill fire levy. She said Council will have the legislation at the next meeting. She said the legislation needs to be at the Board of Elections by August 10.

Mayor Womer Benjamin provided a brief recap of those she met with and functions that she attended since the last meeting of Council.

Law Director's Report

(Attached)

Mr. DePiero said the dollar amount for the dispatching services exceeds the \$75,000 estimated by Chief Byard. He said the correct amounts will be inserted in the contracts prior to signing.

Mr. Vaca thanked Mr. DePiero for due diligence with the removal of the abandon house on Aurora Hudson Road.

Mr. DePiero thanked Mr. Vaca and gave credit to Ms. Januska and Ms. Pereces.

Ms. Barner asked for an update on the home in the Highlands.

Mr. DePiero said he received notice that the foreclosure action on the property was dismissed as the note was paid up to date. He said upon receiving the information he contacted the Planning and Building Department to send someone out immediately to do another inspection on the property. He said the ownership records still indicate that the owner of the property is deceased.

Ms. Barner asked if the city can still do something since the note was paid.

Mr. DePiero said it just means the foreclosure action was dismissed by the court; it does not mean the city cannot aggressively try to get a resolution.

Council President's Report

(Attached)

MOTION: To amend the agenda by adding Ordinances 2016-078 thru 2016-080

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

MOTION: To amend the agenda by adding an executive session after Councilman & Committee Remarks

Mr. Kudley moved; Ms. Barner seconded. The motion carried on a unanimous voice vote.

Citizens Comments - Legislation

Ms. Deb Conti, South Chillicothe Road – commented on Ord. 2016-072 – she said she remembers when a group of people from the Highlands were at a meeting because of water issues. She said most of the water in the Highlands drains into that area. She said looking at the map she does not see a retention or detention area and would like to know how that will be addressed.

Mr. George Mazzaro, Eldridge Road – commented on Ord. 2016-067 – he said it is a fringe benefit that is given that is not used as often as it should be. Ord. 2016-072 – he said he has a very serious problem with it. He asked if the city has approval of the EPA and Army Corp of Engineer. He asked if there is a retention basin sufficient to catch the runoff.

Mr. DePiero said the EPA issues and the drainage issues are all conditions of any final passage. He said this is subject to a court order and the city must abide by the court order. He said Ms. Grandillo as Chair of the Planning Commission and the members are working hard to make the best of a situation that the city may not agree with. He said as stewards of the public trust we must make sure that the city does not unnecessarily interfere with the court order that could cost taxpayer money to be paid out for wrongfully stopping a development that is being ordered by a court.

Mayor Womer Benjamin said the administration has taken a strong stance towards development in Aurora. She said where the city has been faced with court orders from prior administrations the city has not fallen down giving into a court order. She said the administration continues to assert the rights the

city has to protect the land, residents, infrastructure and zoning. She said she feels that has been done very effectively. She said development is going to happen; but the city will not cave in or back down with respect to any of the new development and will make sure the code and zoning is enforced and that the community and residents are protected. She thanked Ms. Januska and her staff, Ms. Grandillo, Planning Commission members and the Law Director, for being as effective as they are being with this regard.

Councilman Remarks – Legislation

Mr. Vaca commented on Ord. 2016-072 – he said the entrance of the development has been a button topic. He asked if it will be handled after approval of the zoning certificate.

Mr. DePiero said it will be handled in the next phase through the Planning Commission then Council.

Mr. Vaca stated the residents are not happy with the entrance. He asked if the certificate is granted will it remain as is.

Mr. DePiero said the folks involved have been thoughtful and he thinks there is an attempt to try to get a resolution.

Ms. Grandillo said Ord. 2016-072 is for a conditional zoning certificate for a residential conservation development. She explained it has nothing to do with the plans. She said the plans will come before the Planning Commission at their next meeting.

Legislation

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

MOTION: To adopt Ordinance 2016-067

Mr. Kudley moved; Ms. Grandillo seconded. The motion carried on a 7-0 roll call vote.

AYES: Barner, Grandillo, Hatridge, Kovach, Kudley, McDougald, Vaca

Nays: None

Ordinance 2016-071

AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$163,000.00 FROM THE STREET CONSTRUCTION, MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR FUND (#40) FOR CONCRETE AND CURB REPAIR

To third reading

Ordinance 2016-072

AN ORDINANCE GRANTING A CONDITIONAL ZONING CERTIFICATE TO EAST PIONEER DEVELOPMENT LLC FOR A RESIDENTIAL CONSERVATION DEVELOPMENT LOCATED ON THE SOUTH SIDE OF EAST PIONEER TRAIL WEST OF PAGE ROAD, IN AN R2 ZONING DISTRICT

To third reading

Ordinance 2016-073

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A ONE (1) YEAR CONTRACT, SUBSTANTIALLY IN THE FORM ATTACHED HERETO, FOR DISPATCHING SERVICES WITH THE VILLAGE OF HIRAM POLICE AND FIRE DEPARTMENTS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY IN ORDER TO PROVIDE ADEQUATE TIME TO INSTALL SOFTWARE, HIRE AND TRAIN DISPATCHERS, AND COORDINATE SERVICES

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

MOTION: To adopt Ordinance 2016-073
Mr. Vaca moved; Ms. Grandillo seconded. The motion carried on a 7-0 roll call vote.

AYES: Barner, Grandillo, Hatridge, Kovach, Kudley, McDougald, Vaca
Nays: None

Ordinance 2016-074

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A ONE (1) YEAR CONTRACT, SUBSTANTIALLY IN THE FORM ATTACHED HERETO, FOR DISPATCHING SERVICES WITH THE VILLAGE OF GARRETTSVILLE FIRE DEPARTMENT AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY IN ORDER TO PROVIDE ADEQUATE TIME TO INSTALL SOFTWARE, HIRE AND TRAIN DISPATCHERS, AND COORDINATE SERVICES

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

MOTION: To adopt Ordinance 2016-074
Mr. Vaca moved; Mr. Hatridge seconded. The motion carried on a 7-0 roll call vote.

AYES: Barner, Grandillo, Hatridge, Kovach, Kudley, McDougald, Vaca
Nays: None

Ordinance 2016-075

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A ONE (1) YEAR CONTRACT, SUBSTANTIALLY IN THE FORM ATTACHED HERETO, FOR DISPATCHING SERVICES WITH COMMUNITY EMS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY IN ORDER TO PROVIDE ADEQUATE TIME TO INSTALL SOFTWARE, HIRE AND TRAIN DISPATCHERS, AND COORDINATE SERVICES

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

MOTION: To adopt Ordinance 2016-075
Ms. McDougald moved; Ms. Grandillo seconded. The motion carried on a 7-0 roll call vote.

AYES: Barner, Grandillo, Hatridge, Kovach, Kudley, McDougald, Vaca
Nays: None

Ordinance 2016-078

AN ORDINANCE ACCEPTING THE QUOTATION OF, AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH UNITED SYSTEMS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$22,450.00 FOR THE PURCHASE OF 3 HANDHELD ELECTRONIC WATER METER READING DEVICES, TAKING THE NECESSARY FUNDS FROM THE WATER FUND (#70) AND THE WATER CAPITAL FUND (#71) AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY IN ORDER TO REPLACE OUTDATED EQUIPMENT

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

MOTION: To adopt Ordinance 2016-078
Mr. Vaca moved; Ms. McDougald seconded. The motion carried on a 7-0 roll call vote.

AYES: Barner, Grandillo, Hatridge, Kovach, Kudley, McDougald, Vaca
Nays: None

Ordinance 2016-079

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 (**ACKLIN**)

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

MOTION: To adopt Ordinance 2016-079

Ms. Barner moved; Ms. Grandillo seconded. The motion carried on a 7-0 roll call vote.

AYES: Barner, Grandillo, Hatridge, Kovach, Kudley, McDougald, Vaca
Nays: None

Ordinance 2016-080

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF A 2017 AMBULANCE FROM HORTON EMERGENCY VEHICLES IN THE AMOUNT OF \$214,098.25 WHICH IS THROUGH THE OHIO STATE TERM PRICING SCHEDULE (#STS233), TAKING THE NECESSARY FUNDS FROM THE FIRE PARAMEDIC LEVY FUND (#39) AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY IN ORDER TO EXPEDITE THE PURCHASE OF AN EMERGENCY VEHICLE

To second reading

Citizens Comments

Mr. George Mazzaro, Eldridge Road, said he takes exception to the Mayor's comment. He said it has been a year since the flooding and there still is no consultant report. He asked about the road repair survey. He said he is tired of hearing what staff is doing when there are a lot of things in the city that is not getting done. He said the staff is not doing what is necessary to keep the community in good shape.

Ms. Deb Conti, South Chillicothe Road, asked for clarification on legislation that passed.

Councilman and Committee Remarks

Ms. McDougald thanked the Mayor for painting fire hydrants in her neighborhood. She congratulated Ms. Grandillo on becoming President of Aurora's Rotary.

Ms. Grandillo said she was at a recent Walden gathering and so many of the residents were very complimentary of Aurora's EMS.

Ms. Barner thanked everyone for a wonderful July 4th. She thanked Mr. Kraus and Ms. Gerber for doing a fantastic job. She thanked the Police and Fire Departments for working at the Barrington fireworks.

Mr. Vaca commented on the fireworks.

Mr. Kovach said it was a great July 4th and thanked everyone.

MOTION: Pursuant to Ohio Revised Code 121.22(G) (1) that Aurora City Council adjourn to executive session to discuss the employment of a public employee of the City of Aurora

Mr. Kudley moved; Mr. Vaca seconded. The motion carried on a 7-0 roll call vote.

AYES: Barner, Grandillo, Hatridge, Kovach, Kudley, McDougald, Vaca

Nays: None

Council entered into executive session at 7:32 p.m.

MOTION: To return to open session

Mr. Vaca moved; Mr. Hatridge seconded. The motion carried on a 7-0 rollcall vote.

AYES: Barner, Grandillo, Hatridge, Kovach, Kudley, McDougald, Vaca

Nays: None

Council returned to open session at 7:46 p.m.

Adjournment

MOTION: To adjourn

Ms. McDougald moved; Ms. Grandillo seconded. The motion carried on a 7-0 roll call vote.

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

NAYS: None

The meeting was adjourned at 7:46 p.m.

Dennis Kovach, Council Vice President

Donna Hawks, Clerk of Council