

City of Aurora, Ohio
CITY COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
August 22, 2016

The Council of the City of Aurora, Ohio met in Council Chambers at City Hall on Monday, August 22, 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
 Harold Hatridge
 George Horvat
 John Kudley, Jr.
 Amy McDougald
 James Vaca
 Scott Wolf

Absent: Kathi Grandillo
 Dennis Kovach

Also Present: Ann Womer Benjamin, Mayor
 Dean DePiero, Law Director
 Tim Clymer, Finance Director
 John Trew, Director of Public Services
 James Kraus, Director of Parks & Recreation
 Denise Januska, Director of Planning, Zoning and Building
 Jack Burge, Director of Economic and Entrepreneurial Development
 Karen Aldredge, Chief of Staff
 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 August 8, 2016, Meeting minutes

Mr. Vaca moved; Ms. McDougald seconded. The motion carried on a 7-0-1 roll call vote. Mr. Hatridge abstained.

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

Presentation – Mr. Dick Bliss

Mayor Womer Benjamin presented Mr. Dick Bliss with a proclamation in recognition of his recent induction into the National Wrestling Hall of Fame.

Various Council members commended Mr. Bliss on his career accomplishments.

Swearing-in of Police Officer Brandon Dreger

Mr. DePiero administered the oath of office to Police Officer Brandon Dreger.

Mr. Joseph Diorio, Health Commissioner – Portage County Combined General Health District

Health Commissioner Diorio discussed the services provided by his office and introduced his staff.

Mayor's Report

(Attached)

Mayor Womer Benjamin said she learned late Friday afternoon that Cedar Fair would be closing Wild Water Kingdom after Labor Day. She said the city has been working on a master Plan with Cedar Fair and Bainbridge Township for the Geauga Lake property over the last couple months. She said Cedar Fair is funding that initiative. She said the Wild Water Kingdom property will be included with what Cedar Fair will be marketing for sale and will also be included in the master plan. Mayor Womer Benjamin said from the Aurora perspective it adds more potential lake front to the plans.

Mayor Womer Benjamin commented on the construction numbers for July. She said she had been told by a longstanding employee from the Building Department that the fees for that month might be the highest that were ever received in a month. Mayor Womer Benjamin said it shows a lot of things are going on in Aurora.

Mayor Womer Benjamin said trick-or-treat will be on October 31 from 6-8:00 p.m.

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 did not read his report.

Council President's Report

(Attached)

MOTION: To amend the agenda by adding Ordinances 2016-098 thru 2016-100

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

Citizens Comments – Legislation

Mr. George Mazzaro, Eldridge Road – commented on Res. 2016-096 – he said an error was made in the local paper referencing the amount of the donation. He said it was corrected this past week but he is concerned that damage may have been done.

Councilman Remarks – Legislation

There were none

Legislation**Ordinance 2016-081**

AN ORDINANCE SELECTING THE BID OF AND AWARDED A CONTRACT TO SHALERSVILLE ASPHALT AS THE BEST RESPONSIVE AND RESPONSIBLE BIDDER FOR 2016 BITUMINOUS HOT MIX PURSUANT TO THE BID PRICING ON THE ATTACHED EXHIBIT, TAKING THE NECESSARY FUNDS FROM THE STREET CONSTRUCTION MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR FUND (#40)

MOTION: To adopt Ordinance 2016-081

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

AYES: Barner, Hatridge, Horvat, Kudley, McDougald, Vaca, Wolf

NAYS: None

Ordinance 2016-082

AN ORDINANCE SELECTING THE BID OF AND AWARDING A CONTRACT TO HD SUPPLY WATERWORKS LTD. AS THE BEST RESPONSIVE AND RESPONSIBLE BIDDER FOR 2016 CULVERT PIPE PURSUANT TO THE BID PRICING ON THE ATTACHED EXHIBIT, TAKING THE NECESSARY FUNDS FROM THE STREET CONSTRUCTION MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR FUND (#40)

MOTION: To adopt Ordinance 2016-082

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

AYES: Barner, Hatridge, Horvat, Kudley, McDougald, Vaca, Wolf

NAYS: None

Resolution 2016-096

A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE CITY'S DONATION OF \$1,000 PER MONTH, \$12,000 TOTAL, DURING CALENDAR YEAR 2016 TO THE AURORA VOLUNTEERS OF AMERICA FOOD PANTRY TO PROMOTE THE PUBLIC HEALTH, SAFETY, AND GENERAL WELFARE OF THE RESIDENTS WITHIN THE CITY, APPROPRIATING \$12,000 FROM THE GENERAL FUND (#01) AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY TO ALLOW FOOD TO BE DISTRIBUTED TO NEEDY AURORA RESIDENTS AT THE EARLIEST POSSIBLE OPPORTUNITY

To second reading

Ordinance 2016-097

AN ORDINANCE APPROVING AND ADOPTING THE CURRENT REPLACEMENT PAGES OF THE AURORA CODIFIED ORDINANCES, AS PREPARED BY THE WALTER H. DRANE COMPANY AND VERIFIED BY THE CLERK OF COUNCIL, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY IN ORDER TO COMPLY WITH CURRENT STATE LAW

MOTION: To suspend the rule requiring an ordinance to be read on three separate occasions

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

MOTION: To adopt Ordinance 2016-091

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

AYES: Barner, Hatridge, Horvat, Kudley, McDougald, Vaca, Wolf

NAYS: None

Ordinance 2016-098

AN ORDINANCE ACCEPTING THE PROPOSAL OF, AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH BUCKEYE PUMPS INC. IN THE AMOUNT OF \$27,348.00 FOR EQUIPMENT UPGRADE TO THE PUMP STATIONS TAKING THE NECESSARY FUNDS FROM THE SEWER CAPITAL FUND (#73) AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY IN ORDER TO KEEP THE PUMP STATIONS OPERABLE

To second reading

Ordinance 2016-099

AN ORDINANCE INCREASING BUDGET LINE ITEM 7850-4300 "EQUIPMENT REPAIR AND MAINTENANCE" BY \$12,606.15 TO REFLECT THE REIMBURSEMENT INSURANCE CLAIM CHECK FROM HCC INSURANCE COMPANY FOR REPAIRS TO A PARKS AND RECREATION DUMP TRUCK, APPROPRIATING THE NECESSARY FUNDS FROM THE PARKS AND RECREATION FUND (#78) AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY AS THE VEHICLE IS CURRENTLY BEING REPAIRED

MOTION: To suspend the rule requiring an ordinance to be read on three separate occasions

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

MOTION: To adopt Ordinance 2016-099

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

AYES: Barner, Hatridge, Horvat, Kudley, McDougald, Vaca, Wolf

NAYS: None

Ordinance 2016-100

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING EXHIBIT "A" TO ARORA 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 **(ALLEN)**

MOTION: To suspend the rule requiring an ordinance to be read on three separate occasions

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

MOTION: To adopt Ordinance 2016-100

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

AYES: Barner, Hatridge, Horvat, Kudley, McDougald, Vaca, Wolf

NAYS: None

Citizens Comments

Mr. George Mazzaro, Eldridge Road, commented on an article written about Mr. DePiero when he was Mayor of Parma. He said the gazebo needs a lot of repair. He said the lawn at the entrance of the park needs to be cut. He said the Police Department needs an upgrade. He said he appreciates the Mayor giving him the Stantec report but said he has a problem that it took so long for everyone to receive a copy.

Councilman and Committee Remarks

Mr. Hatridge said Mr. Fellenstein and his crew did a fine job at Bissell Point Park. He said he is concerned that the Spring Hill property will be neglected with the development of the Hartman property.

Mr. Kraus said regarding the Spring Hill property that a new Kiosk was installed as part of an Eagle Scout project. He said the grass trail around the field is in. He said he met with the EPA regarding the necessary steps that need to be taken for the lake trail. He said signs have come in for the various parks.

Mr. Hatridge asked if some of the underbrush has been cleared around the lake. Mr. Kraus said that has been part of the discussion with the EPA as to how much can be cleared, where to clear and what type of equipment can and cannot be used.

Mr. Wolf asked for an update on the sidewalks on SR43, south of Aurora Hudson and North of Aurora Hudson.

Mr. Trew said easements are currently being obtained for SR43. He said the area between SR43 and Aurora Hudson is coming along really well. He said the engineering still needs to be completed for the area in front of Aurora Farms.

Mr. Wolf asked for an overview of the Pre-K soccer program for this year.

Mr. Kraus said based on feed backup from parents and coaches a change has been made on the way the

program is run. He said the pre-k is now separate from kindergarten. He said the pre-k program is an instructor contractual program; where an instructor is hired to work with the children teaching them skills once a week. He said instead of practice one day a week and a game on Saturday the program will be on Sunday with a 45 minute clinic and 45 minutes for a game. Mr. Kraus said the kindergarten program is still the same with a volunteer coach.

Mr. Vaca said he is appalled at the tall grass around the hydrants on Bissell and Mennonite Roads. He said the closing of Wild Water Kingdom is similar to what happened in 2007 when Geauga Lake Park Closed. He said it is unfortunate they do not care about the employees and residents in the area. He said he hopes something good comes out of the closing.

Ms. Barner commented on the eyesore Cedar Fair has left in Aurora and hopes that something will go in that area soon.

Adjournment

MOTION: To adjourn

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

AYES: Barner, Hatridge, Horvat, Kudley, McDougald, Vaca, Wolf

NAYS: None

The meeting was adjourned at 7:42 p.m.

George Horvat, Council President

Donna Hawks, Clerk of Council