

CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

December 10, 2018

The meeting was called to order by President Rausch at 7:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Rausch.

INVOCATION: The Invocation was given by Mayor Rausch.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Nevin Taylor, Deb Groat, Tracy Richardson, JR Rausch, Alan Seymour, Mark Reams, and Henk Berbee.

OTHERS PRESENT: City Manager Terry Emery, Finance Director Justin Nahvi, Law Director Tim Aslaner, Police Chief Floyd Golden, Fire Chief Jay Riley, Public Service Director Mike Andrako, City Engineer Jeremy Hoyt, IT Director Aaron Story, Economic Development Director Eric Phillips, and Clerk of Council Rebecca Dible.

CITIZENS PRESENT: Jason Willis, Anthony Will, Donald Boerger, and Kathy Young.

REPORTERS PRESENT: Will Channel- Journal Tribune

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Minutes from November 26, 2018 and the December 3, 2018 Work Session were approved as presented.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT:

Mr. Emery reported the following:

Merry on Main - Grand Opening Celebration

To celebrate the official opening of the rink, a special community kick-off event will take place this Saturday (December 15) at Partners Park. The event will feature children's activities, carriage rides, a giant inflatable snow globe, festive music, food vendors, and a special ribbon cutting lead by community leaders, sponsors, and Santa Claus.

EVENT SCHEDULE

Visit with Santa Claus: 10:00 AM - Noon

Giant Snow Globe: 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM

Special performance by The Academy & Red Music School: 11:00 AM

FREE Carriage Rides: Noon – 4:00 PM

Ribbon Cutting: 12:30 PM

Public Skate: 1:00 PM – 8:00 PM

Ice Rink Operating Hours (December 15 – January 1)

Regular Hours

Weekdays 5:00 to 8:00 PM & Weekends 2:00 to 8:00 PM

Extended Holiday Hours

Christmas Eve: 2:00 - 8:00 PM

December 26 - 28: 2:00 - 8:00 PM

New Year's Eve: 2:00 - 10:00 PM

New Year's Day: 2:00 - 8:00 PM

***Closed Christmas Day**

City Offices Closed

City offices will be closed Tuesday, December 25 in observance of Christmas Day and also on Tuesday, January 1 in observance of New Year’s Day.

Mr. Andrako reported the following:

Public Service Department

Snow and Ice Events

Streets crews responded to snow and ice events on 12/4 and 12/5 using a total of 9 operator hours and 12.5 tons of salt. This brings the season totals to 108 operator hours and 109 tons of salt.

Leaf Collection

Leaf collection efforts continue, with brush collection and bagged yard waste also being collected on a weekly basis.

Water Main Installation

Water crews continue to work on the water main installation on 3rd St.

Mr. Berbee asked for an update on the storm work that was taking place on W 5th Street in front of Pizza Hut. Mr. Hoyt stated that the manhole was set earlier that day and he was being told by the contractors that all work was going well and they may be finished prior to Christmas, however it was definitely expected to be completed prior to the end of the year.

Mrs. Richardson asked when the traffic light at SR31 & Millwood would be in use. Mr. Andrako stated that it was expected to be in use in about two more weeks. He stated that because there was not a traffic pattern change, the light did not need to flash for 10 days prior to use, as do new lights which cause traffic pattern changes. Mrs. Richardson stated that people were looking forward to being able to use the new road and asked if citizens could be notified of when to expect the road opening. Mr. Emery stated Administration would give the announcement through social media once more details were solidified, per her request.

Mr. Emery then asked Jason Willis to introduce himself to Council, as he is DP&L’s new Customer Business Manager with whom the City would be working. Jason has been with DP&L for about nine years and was looking forward to working with the City. Mr. Emery stated he was looking forward to working with Mr. Willis, continuing with open lines of communication with DP&L, just as the City had with Ben Vollrath who had been Mr. Willis’ predecessor.

REPORT OF CLERK OF COUNCIL:

None

REPORT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR:

None

HEARING OF CITIZENS:

None

RESOLUTIONS:

None

ORDINANCES:

1st Reading TO AMEND THE GEOGRAPHICAL BOUNDARY OF THE DESIGNATED OUTDOOR
Title Only REFRESHMENT AREA

Administration Comments:

Council Comments: Mayor Rausch asked why sidewalks on both sides of Plum Street were not included in the DORA, extending from the Elks Lodge to Partners Park. Mr. Taylor agreed, stating when large events occurred and the DORA would be in effect, Plum Street was usually closed to vehicle traffic. Mr. Andrako stated initially, Administration had been concerned about the number of additional signs that would be needed to extend the space of the DORA and therefore, had kept the boundaries more confined. Mr. Aslaner explained the process, including advertisement, needed to amend the DORA boundaries from those currently set forth in the proposed legislation.

3rd Reading TO APPROVE THE PURCHASE OF AN EASEMENT FROM THE STATE OF OHIO FOR THE USE,
Title Only MAINTENANCE, IMPROVEMENT, REPLACEMENT, AND OPERATION OF CITY WATER LINES THAT RUN THROUGH THE PROPERTY OF THE OHIO WOMEN’S REFORMATORY

Administration Comments:

Council Comments:

Mrs. Richardson moved to pass the legislation and the question put, stood:
Mr. Berbee YES; Mr. Taylor YES; Mrs. Groat YES;
Mrs. Richardson YES; Mr. Rausch YES; Mr. Seymour YES; Mr. Reams YES

3rd Reading Title Only TO AUTHORIZE APPROPRIATION TRANSFERS, ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS, AND REDUCTION IN APPROPRIATIONS, MODIFYING THE 2018 BUDGET

Administration Comments: Mr. Nahvi stated that he had taken proposed amendments to Council at the December 3, 2018 Work Session and asked that the legislation be amended as he had presented. Due to invoices which needed to be paid as soon as possible, Mr. Nahvi also requested Council consider passing the legislation that evening.

Council Comments:

Mr. Taylor moved to amend the legislation with updated Exhibit A as presented at the Council Work Session, and the question put, stood:

Mr. Taylor YES; Mrs. Groat YES; Mrs. Richardson YES; Mr. Rausch YES;
Mr. Seymour YES; Mr. Reams YES; Mr. Berbee YES

2nd Reading Public Hearing TO AUTHORIZE APPROPRIATION TRANSFERS, ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS, AND REDUCTION IN APPROPRIATIONS, MODIFYING THE 2018 BUDGET

Administration Comments:

Council Comments:

Citizen Comments:

Mr. Taylor moved to waive 3rd Reading and the question put, stood:
Mrs. Groat YES; Mrs. Richardson YES; Mr. Rausch YES;
Mr. Seymour YES; Mr. Reams YES; Mr. Berbee YES; Mr. Taylor YES

Mrs. Richardson moved to pass the legislation and the question put, stood:
Mrs. Richardson YES; Mr. Rausch YES; Mr. Seymour YES; Mr. Reams YES;
Mr. Berbee YES; Mr. Taylor YES; Mrs. Groat YES

COMMENTS OF THE CITY MANAGER AND COUNCIL PERSONS AND GENERAL DISCUSSION:

Mr. Emery stated that it was a very busy with all of the exciting activities planned for the Holidays and asked that people driving Uptown be cautious and pay close attention to pedestrians and children crossing the streets.

Mrs. Richardson requested that Council invite Holly Zweig to give an update on the status of medical marijuana as many things were happening and it had been a while since their last update. She also shared that the Economic Development 411 event that several members of Council and Administration had attended the previous Friday had been very enlightening on many levels. It was valuable, as it highlighted what was happening in the community, particularly with smart mobility, and that we were at the forefront, moving the state. She gave kudos to the team and thanked active members of City staff for their work. Mrs. Richardson then gave a shout out to the community, as the Care Train Auction was held the previous weekend, and around \$217,000 was raised. She stated it was remarkable and said that it said a lot for the generosity of the community.

Mr. Berbee stated that the Finance Committee had decided to move the January 2019 meeting to Monday, January 14th at 6pm.

Mr. Reams had noticed the use of Maclvor Woods had increased, however it appeared that a vehicle had driven on the path between Kroger and Emmaus, perhaps by mistake in the dark. Mr. Andrako agreed it would be prudent to place a bollard to prevent these types of incidents. Mr. Emery stated that people had recently voiced concerns regarding dogs off leash on the trail. Mr. Reams explained he had seen a coyote on one of his visits and that it would be in people's best interest to keep their dogs leashed. Mr. Andrako stated they were exploring the possibility of placing specific signs regarding leashing dogs at Maclvor Woods. Mr. Reams also mentioned that he had noticed large vehicles parking for extended periods of time by the North entrance in the Kroger parking lot, which was creating a blind spot for pedestrians. Mayor Rausch agreed that he had noticed this as well. Mr. Emery assured them that Administration would reach out to Kroger to see what could be done to remedy the concern.

Mr. Seymour mentioned that it seemed as though the City was to the point of "sign pollution." He explained that when walking in Adena Pointe, it seemed as though there were neon signs on every crosswalk. Mr. Andrako explained that there were signs on all crosswalks without stop control as a matter of policy and safety. Mr. Seymour understood the policy and reasoning, however the signs still seemed excessive. On a different note, he then read an article from the Journal Tribune's paper that day, which stated that 50 years ago the final section of "New SR 33" was completed connecting Marysville to Dublin. Mr. Seymour stated this was arguably the single most contributory factor to Marysville's economic development and population growth.

Mr. Taylor echoed Mr. Seymour's sentiments regarding the amount of signs around Marysville. He had recently been witness to a fender bender because a driver had been preoccupied looking at a flashing sign Uptown. He agreed that when possible, less signs would be better.

Mayor Rausch stated the holiday decorations around the City, including the Christmas tree at Partners Park and the festive events taking place made the City seem "Norman Rockwell-esque". He encouraged people to join in the festivities and visit Uptown while remembering the true reason for the season.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned to executive session to discuss the sale of real property at 7:37 p.m. The meeting adjourned to open session at 7:44 p.m. There being no further business to come before Council, the meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.