

Minutes of December 15, 2022 Council

Regular Meeting of the Clayton, Ohio City Council
Clayton Government Center
December 15, 2022

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Stevens at 7:30 PM. Present were Mayor Stevens and Councilmembers Bachman, Gorman, Merkle, and Kelly. Motion by Gorman to excuse Councilman Henning who is out of town this evening, motion was seconded by Kelly. All yeas, motion carried. Motion by Ms. Kelly to excuse Mr. Lieberman who is running late this evening, motion was second by Mr. Merkle. All yeas, motion carried.

CLERK'S REPORT

Clerk Seim presented the minutes of the December 1, 2022 Council meeting. Motion by Gorman, second by Kelly to approve the minutes as presented. All yeas, motion carried.

Mr. Lieberman joined the meeting at 7:34 p.m.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Law Director Dillon advised at this time we request the addition of Resolution R-12-22-84, A Resolution Repealing and Replacing Resolution R-03-22-27 Adopted March 17, 2022 Regarding Council Salary Review Commission, to tonight's agenda. The original Resolution stated five people were to serve but we are having trouble getting five people to serve so we ask that it be reduced down to three people. Also, instead of reporting in 2022 it changes it to 2023. Motion by Gorman to amend the agenda to add Resolution R-12-22-84 to tonight's agenda, motion was seconded by Kelly. All yeas, motion carried.

Ordinance No. O – 12 – 22 – 39 An Ordinance Authorizing Amendments to Designation of Job Categories and Pay Schedules and Declaring an Emergency. Elaine Wittman, Assistant to the City Manager, advised included in the proposed wage scale is a 2% cost of living increase to the top wage for non-union employees. The starting rate for exempt employees remains the same. Two new positions were added to the job categories this year: full-time Mechanic and part-time Event Attendant. Although we've had a Mechanic in our Service Department for many years, this position was classified as a Maintenance Worker II. A job description was developed to better encompass the mechanic's duties. The pay steps will remain the same as the Maintenance Worker II. Since minimum wage rose to \$10.10, the positions of Meadowbrook Assistant Attendant and Bartender increased to coincide with this increase. These increases will begin on January 9, 2023, to coincide with the first full pay period in 2023. Motion by Gorman to approve the Ordinance as an emergency, second by Bachman. All yeas, motion carried. Motion by Merkle to approve the Ordinance, second by Kelly. All yeas, motion carried.

Resolution No. R – 12 – 22 – 81 A Resolution to Authorize and Approve the 2023 Budget and Permanent Appropriations. Kevin Schweitzer, Finance Director, advised we held our budget workshop in November and there has been no changes to the document that we discussed. Motion by Gorman to approve the Resolution, second by Kelly. All yeas, motion carried.

Resolution No. R – 12 – 22 – 82 A Resolution Approving Amendment of 2022 Appropriations and Estimated Resources. Schweitzer advised a retainer of \$14,000 was received during the year for the Fire Trust fund and subsequently expended when the damaged structure was repaired. A CDBG grant was obtained for the demolition of 8027 N. Main St., the amount was \$35,000. Another CDBG grant was redistributed from the Main Street Business Improvement project to the Westbrook Park Restroom Renovation project in the amount of \$48,570. Over several years, the return of principal from certain investments were improperly posted as interest, thus, “double counting” the same monies. Adjustments were made to the funds affected and the following funds require additional appropriations and transfers from the General fund in the following amounts: General - \$676,676.90, Street - \$84,368.21, and Permissive Tax - \$14,923.78. In the Street fund, \$40,571 of personnel appropriations need reappropriated as operating as well. Motion by Gorman to approve the Resolution, second by Merkle. All yeas, motion carried.

Resolution No. R – 12 – 22 – 83 A Resolution Appointing a member to the Clayton Board of Zoning Appeals to fill the Unexpired Vacant Seat of Barbara Buyers. Motion by Merkle to appoint Ashley Caldwell to the vacant seat on the Board of Zoning Appeals, motion was second by Bachman. All yeas, motion carried.

Resolution No. R – 12 – 22 – 84 A Resolution Repealing and Replacing Resolution No. R-03-22-27 Adopted March 17, 2022 Regarding Council Salary Review Commission. Motion by Gorman to approve the Resolution, second by Merkle. All yeas, motion carried.

CITY MANAGER’S REPORT

Amanda Zimmerlin, City Manager, advised City offices will be closed Friday, December 23rd and Monday, December 26th for the Christmas holiday. They will also be closed Friday, December 30th and Monday, January 2nd for the New Year’s holiday. We have scheduled the Council Goal Setting session for Sunday, February 5th at Meadowbrook. The Village of North Clayton plans have been submitted for Plan Review and will be before the Planning Commission on January 23rd. I attended a meeting on electric aggregation with the MVCC. Aggregation passed in Clayton in November and I’m not sure what Council wants to do, if we want to go with public sector, private sector or just want to shelve it for now. At the meeting with MVCC there are about 18 other cities in the area who are MVCC members and are interested in forming a pool and basically using Palmer Energy to do the aggregation for all of these cities. If Council is interested there are a couple of pieces of legislation that we would need to pass to become part of this group. There’s no fee to the City, MVCC is going to take care of all of the selection, there will be a board that will make the decisions on which energy provider to use. They have made an offer to come and speak to Council if you are interested. After discussion Council asked that we have speakers present from both the private and public sectors before making a decision.

VISITOR'S COMMENTS

Earl Harlamert of the Parks Commission thanked the Parks Commission members for a great job on the Breakfast with Santa event. I also want to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Mayor Stevens thanked Earl for all the work that you and the parks commission members do throughout the year, you do a fantastic job.

COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS

Lieberman wished everyone a safe and happy holiday no matter what you may celebrate. I just want to comment on the Breakfast with Santa, it was a great time and everyone had fun. I also want to thank everyone for the hard work you do throughout the year, and Kevin, congratulations on receiving your award it is well earned. Kelly stated I just want to wish everyone happy holidays to all the residents and staff and thank everyone for a great year as we look forward to 2023. Merkle stated I want to thank everyone for the hard work that everyone has done during the course of this year, running the city is not easy. The people that work behind the scenes are the ones that take the brunt of the work and sometimes don't get acknowledged. Sincerely, I want to say thank you for the work that's been done, everyone's worked very hard and sometimes it doesn't get said enough but I personally want to say thank you and also say Merry Christmas, Happy New Year, Happy Hanukkah, or whatever faith you celebrate. Please keep everyone in mind and keep the faith. Gorman thanked everyone who worked the Breakfast with Santa, and I want to thank Santa that he was able to make it down for our event, he did a great job. I want to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. Bachman stated the Breakfast with Santa was a great event and well attended. As we reflect on the last year, I think everyone would agree that it was a very successful year for the city as we continue to grow. It's amazing we can say that this year we have three residential builds start up in a year, we continue to grow and continue to be a safe community. I wish to congratulate Kevin on his award, it is well deserved. I wish everyone a Merry Christmas, Happy New Year, and happy holiday season. Stevens wished everyone a great holiday season, it's been a great year for us on many levels. We've continued to grow, and it's really satisfying. It's the great group of people we've assembled, it's working together, and it's working toward a common goal to make our city better. I do want to say something about Kevin's award, three things. I think Kevin really represents the city well and has the knowledge to keep us compliant. But, just as important is that Kevin gets out in the community, he's not a person who sits behind a desk. The other thing I want to say is I'm a resident and knowing the city is financially responsible is important to all of us. Councilmember Gorman stated a number of Councilmembers have thanked or congratulated Kevin on his award but we haven't said what the award was for. Stevens advised Kevin received the Jesse Haines Award at the Montgomery County Auditor's Annual Update earlier today. Auditor Karl Keith presented Kevin with the award that was established to recognize the important role local government financial professionals play within their organization and their community. I hope everyone has a great holiday season, be safe, be careful, and enjoy your families.

Motion by Gorman, second by Bachman to adjourn. All yeas, motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:08 PM.