

Minutes of October 19, 2023 Council

Regular Meeting of the Clayton, Ohio City Council
Clayton Government Center
October 19, 2023

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Vice-Mayor Gorman at 7:24 PM. Present were Councilmembers Bachman, Henning, Merkle, Kelly, and Lieberman. Motion by Henning to excuse Mayor Stevens from tonight's meeting, motion was seconded by Merkle. All yeas, motion carried.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

Brian Garver, Fire Chief, introduced recently hired Fire Fighters Wells and Smith and provided a brief background on each.

CLERK'S REPORT

Clerk Seim presented the minutes of the October 5, 2023 Council meeting. Motion by Henning, seconded by Kelly to approve the minutes as presented. All yeas, motion carried.

Law Director Dillon advised that we are having a second reading of an Ordinance, therefore we need to move Visitor's Comments prior to the reading of the Ordinance. Motion by Bachman to amend tonight's agenda, motion was seconded by Henning. All yeas, motion carried.

VISITOR'S COMMENTS

Joe Plummer asked what is the percentage of golfers that are from Clayton, you get a discount if you live in Clayton. Elaine Wittman, Assistant to the City Manager, stated she would have to pull the exact numbers, but I can certainly do that. Rose Plummer had a question on the recovery rate for the operation, I think you were at 96% through September. What do expect that to finish at for the year, because there will still be grounds work that needs to take place. Wittman stated unfortunately I don't have a projection because we do also have the simulator that goes into that as well. You are correct that we do still have full-time staff members that we pay, we have golf course maintenance that still takes place. We are ahead of where we were last year at this time, I do foresee it being better than last year at 77%. Ms. Plummer then asked, as far as subsidizing the golf course, have we already sent money to that fund through the year. Amanda Zimmerlin, City Manager, stated every year there are transfers from the general fund to the golf course.

OLD BUSINESS

Ordinance No. O – 10 – 23 – 23 An Ordinance Approving Amendments to the City's Personnel Practices Manual at Article 6, and Further Adding a New Article 18 and a New Article 33 all as Delineated in the Appended Attachment A. Second reading, no further discussion. Motion by Henning to approve the Ordinance, seconded by Kelly. All yeas, motion carried.

Resolution R – 10 – 23 – 60 was tabled at the October 5th meeting. Motion by Henning to untable Resolution R – 10 – 23 – 60, motion was seconded by Kelly. All yeas, motion carried.

Zimmerlin stated at the last Council meeting Council had requested that we increase the number of members of the Parks Advisory Commission from the nine that we currently have to 15. Administratively, 15 people is a very hard board to manage. I also spoke with the Development Director who administratively runs the Parks Commission, and he talked to the Parks Board directly to see if they were interested in having 15 people on that board. They are making the recommendation to Council that it maintain a nine member board rather than 15. I also recommend we keep it at nine.

Resolution R – 10 – 23 – 60 A Resolution Appointing _____ to the Parks Advisory Commission. Motion by Kelly to table this Resolution until our next meeting when Mayor Stevens is in attendance, motion was second by Bachman. All yeas, motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

None

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

Zimmerlin reminded Council we will have a work session prior to our next meeting, November 2nd to hear recommendations from the Charter Review Commission. Our fall Sweep Clayton Clean is being held this Saturday, October 21st from 8:00 am until noon at Woolery Lane. Our Costumes and Carvings event will be held on Sunday, October 29th from 2-4 pm at Meadowbrook at Clayton.

Zimmerlin asked Earl Harlamert from the Parks Commission to speak on upgrades at Northview Park. Harlamert advised we are hosting a ribbon cutting ceremony on Saturday, October 28th at 2:00 pm for the all-inclusive playground at Northview Park. This new area has an all-weather surface for wheelchairs and other adaptive equipment that can be used to access the equipment, which includes a wheelchair ramp into the swing set. You can also access the playground area directly from the new ADA compliant parking lot and paved multi-use path connecting all the areas within Northview Park.

Zimmerlin then called up Chief Garver to provide Council with a brief overview of the HAAS system we will be using. Chief Garver advised the HAAS system is an emergency alert system that alerts vehicles of impending interaction with emergency vehicles. This system has been shown to reduce crashes with emergency vehicles by 90%. Trotwood is currently using this system. Clayton, Englewood and Union will be joining Trotwood, resulting in a cost savings for all four communities.

COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS

Henning wished Mr. Harlamert a belated Happy Birthday; remember Halloween is coming up on October 31st from 6-8 pm; also, our Costumes and Carvings evening will be held October 29th, and Esther Price is holding their Community Fall Event on Saturday, October 28th from 11 am to 2 pm. Kelly stated on Wednesday, October 25th the Northmont Area Chamber of Commerce is holding a Town Hall meeting at Meadowbrook at Clayton at 6:30 pm. Join your fellow community members to hear from local candidates about their views and why they are running. As well as hear about local issues on the ballot. Come out and learn about your candidates. Lieberman stated I feel I would be remiss if I didn't say something about what is happening over in the Middle East right now. I've mentioned this before, but I lost my entire at Auschwitz. It

struck me today that what we are seeing in this world today is really hateful stuff. Today I received a call from a United States Attorney who I go head-to-head all the time in what I do, and he said I wanted to let you know and Judge Rice know that I'm thinking of you and I'm praying for you at this time. That's when it struck home to me how dangerous our times are. To me it's surreal to think that we could have thousands of people killed for no real legitimate reason. I know I'm getting old and my words don't mean much anymore, but I really wish there were more people in this world that could realize that the answer isn't violence. The answer isn't killing people who you don't agree with, or whose religions you may not practice, or who you just don't like because of decisions they may have made. It's easy to do when you look at them as others or as monsters, but they're not, they're human beings, just like my family was, they didn't deserve what they got. Like I didn't deserve when I was a kid, I asked my Dad when we were going to have a family reunion on his side and was told we have no family. I don't know why I'm saying this other than the fact I think I had to say something. I'm asking everyone who hears this to maybe think before you say something stupid or promote other people to do it. I'm hoping that we all can just treat each other right and with respect and with dignity. You do that and you're not going to be killing each other. Gorman stated we hope Mayor Stevens makes it home safely from Europe, and Halloween is coming up and we ask everyone to please be careful on the roads, look and slow down.

Motion by Henning, second by Lieberman to adjourn. All yeas, motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:58 PM.