



# Council Chambers

## February 23, 2016

### A) CALL TO ORDER

The Council for the City of Norwood met in regular session on the above date with Mrs. Donna Laake presiding. The meeting opened with a prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance.

### B) PRAYER

### C) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mrs. Laake requested everyone to remain standing to acknowledge the retirement of Fire Chief Curt Goodman and offered words and prayers of support with regards to his health.

### D) ROLL CALL

On roll call, the following members answered present: Mr. Bonsall, Mr. Clark, Mrs. Stickley, Mr. Blair, Mrs. Hanrahan, Mr. Sanker, and Mr. Mumper.

### E) AMENDMENT OF AGENDA

On a motion by Mr. Mumper, seconded by Mr. Clark, it was moved to amend the agenda as follows: add the Finance Committee report and the ordinance regarding Safe Routes to School. All members present voted, "Yes".

### F) MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

On a motion from Mr. Bonsall, seconded by Mrs. Stickley, it was moved to accept the minutes of the February 9, 2016 meeting, as if read. All present voted, "Yes".

### G) REQUEST TO ADDRESS COUNCIL ON AGENDA ITEMS

David Cutler of Ashland Avenue, spoke in opposition of the Bicyclist Ordinance. Mr. Cutler stated that he bicycles daily, weather permitting. He believes the ordinance is unnecessary; a three foot clearance is a good idea but an ordinance insults automobile drives and bicyclists. He also feels other upgrades not requiring an ordinance can be made, such as upgrading traffic signals with sensors for bicyclists, using storm sewer grate openings that will not trap bike tires, and pothole repair. Mr. Cutler does not think things are bad for bicyclists in Norwood.

### H) REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES OF COUNCIL

- 1) Committee of the Whole: Feb. 16, 2016 Re: Streets & Street Levy  
On a motion from Mr. Mumper, seconded by Mr. Clark, it was moved to accept the committee report. All present voted, "Yes".
- 2) Committee of the Whole: Feb. 16, 2016 Re: Electric Aggregation  
On a motion from Mr. Clark, seconded by Mr. Blair, it was moved to accept the committee report. All present voted, "Yes".
- 3) Committee of the Whole: Feb. 16, 2016 Re: Metropolitan Sewer District  
On a motion from Mr. Bonsall, seconded by Mrs. Hanrahan, it was moved to accept the committee report. All present voted, "Yes".
- 4) Law, Ordinance, & Human Resources: Feb. 10, 2016 Re: Mobile Signs  
On a motion from Mr. Clark, seconded by Mr. Mumper, it was moved to accept the committee report. All present voted, "Yes".
- 5) Finance, Budget, and Audit: Feb. 18, 2016 Re: 2016 Appropriations  
On a motion from Mr. Mumper, seconded by Mr. Blair, it was moved to accept the committee report. All present voted, "Yes".

### I) SECOND READING OF ORDINANCES

ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 331.03 OF THE NORWOOD CODIFIED ORDINANCES: OVERTAKING, 3 FOOT PASSING DISTANCE FROM BICYCLISTS; DRIVER'S DUTIES; AND AMENDING SECTION 313.09 DRIVER'S DUTIES UPON APPROACHING AMBIGUOUS OR NON-WORKING TRAFFIC SIGNAL.

On a motion from Mr. Bonsall, seconded by Mr. Sanker, it was moved to hear the second reading of the ordinance. All present voted, "Yes."

#### **J) INTRODUCTORY READINGS OF ORDINANCES**

- 1) **ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SAFETY-SERVICE DIRECTOR TO APPLY SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL TRAVEL PLAN PROJECT FUNDS, AND TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY**

On a motion from Mr. Clark, seconded by Mr. Blair, it was moved to suspend the rules and hear all three readings of the ordinance. All present voted, "Yes."

Mr. Sanker asked if anyone was present to answer questions about this project. Deb Robison gave a brief presentation to council about the program and also fielded questions. Ms. Robison stated she was here about a year and a half ago with a presentation for the same thing; they are currently requesting funding for \$400,000 in improvements. Norwood applied for, and was selected last year; they are going through a list and selecting items for this year. One of the items they are applying for this year addresses issues in front of Norwood Middle School; it also impacts children attending Sharpsburg School. This application must be filed by March 4, 2016; they can apply every year. Mrs. Laake added that some things were cut back because they came in slightly higher than budgeted; overages are backed-off to make sure not to cost any money to the city. One of the improvements includes upgrading cross-walks and traffic signals (ADA signs with audible and visual count down). This ordinance must accompany the application. Mrs. Laake thanked Mr. Moore and the Law Department for putting the ordinance together with little notice. Mr. Clark thanked Ms. Robison for coordinating this, and asked about the application notification process. Mrs. Robison stated they should hear back in the summer. Mr. Bonsall stated he volunteered on the Safe Routes to School team last year; he also acknowledged Ms. Robison as being key in coordinating this process and thanked her for coordinating the team and the plan.

On a motion from Mr. Bonsall, seconded by Mr. Clark, it was moved to pass the ordinance. All present voted, "Yes."

#### **INTRODUCTORY READINGS OF RESOLUTIONS**

- 1) **RESOLUTION DECLARING THE NECESSITY OF LEVYING A TAX FOR CURRENT OPERATING EXPENSES IN EXCESS OF THE TEN-MIL LIMITATION AND REQUESTING THE COUNTY AUDITOR TO CERTIFY MATTERS IN CONNECTION THEREWITH, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

On a motion from Mr. Mumper, seconded by Mr. Blair, it was moved to suspend the rules and hear all three readings of the resolution. All present voted, "Yes."

Mr. Sanker stated there is currently a 5-year operating levy that expires next year; this is a renewal and not a tax increase. This levy is critical to the operating expenses of the city. Mrs. Laake stated November is the earliest the levy can be placed on the ballot; this would be more transparent and avoid a special election. Mr. Moore stated this process begins with Council passing a resolution requesting the Hamilton County Auditor to calculate the money generated by the levy; once the dollar amount is returned by the Hamilton County Auditor, the next step is for Council to pass a resolution to place the levy on the ballot in November.

On a motion from Mr. Mumper, seconded by Mr. Blair, it was moved to pass the resolution. All present voted, "Yes."

#### **K) ADMINISTRATION REPORTS**

There were no administration reports.

#### **L) OTHER REQUESTS TO ADDRESS COUNCIL**

- 1) Pastor Sonny James      Re: Community

Mr. James commended Mrs. Laake for acknowledging Chief Goodman at the onset of the meeting, and asked for all residents to join in prayer for Chief Goodman's health. He then spoke about the prayer over the city and acknowledged Mr. Clark, thanking him for gathering residents and clergy together to pray for the city of Norwood; they prayed over the city, city leadership, the police, and residents of Norwood. Mr. James thanked Norwood Public Works for making the community safe by doing a great job clearing the snow from the streets. Mr. James also mentioned the need to look at alternative funds to take care of young people in Norwood; he wants to work with city leaders on this matter.

#### **M) UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Mr. Cark announced the next prayer service over the city will take place March 5, at 1pm, on the steps of Norwood City Hall.

Mr. Sanker elaborated on the details of the most recent Finance Committee meeting; he stated Mr. Stith sent a letter to all department heads regarding the second February payroll potentially not being paid until March 1. The committee is looking at bills and deciding what to pay to keep current.

**N) NEW BUSINESS**

Mrs. Laake referenced an email she received about the Lindner YMCA; discussion has taken place about closing down the Norwood YMCA location. There is a move to turn the Norwood YMCA into a gymnastic facility with a spring-floor; this would be the only facility of this type in Hamilton County. Concerns were raised about what to do with basketball and the summer program for children. They are seeking public input before proceeding. Mr. Sanker spoke about rumors regarding a church on Courtland Avenue being converted into condos; it is still in the discussion stages and hasn't been sold. If anything further develops, neighbors will be appropriately notified.

**O) COMMUNICATIONS**

**1) Letter from the Tax Department**

**Re: Monthly Earnings Tax Report**

Mr. Sanker noted we are 5% behind where we were at this time last year.

On a motion by Mr. Mumper, and seconded by Mrs. Hanrahan, it was moved to receive and file the letter. All present voted, "Yes."

**2) Letter from Liquor Control**

**Re: Capital Grille**

On a motion by Mr. Bonsall, and seconded by Mr. Blair, it was moved to receive and file the letters. All present voted, "Yes."

**P) EXCUSE ABSENT MEMBER/S**

There were no absent members.

**Q) ADJOURNMENT**

On a motion by Mr. Clark, seconded by Mr. Blair, it was moved to adjourn. All present voted, "Yes".

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**Joseph S. Geers**  
**Clerk of Council**

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**Donna M. Laake**  
**President of Council**