



Council Chambers

April 12, 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

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. Bonsall, it was moved to amend the agenda as follows: add the Housing, Health, & Recreation Committee Report and allow individuals to address council regarding electric aggregation with Council discussion, immediately following the approval of minutes. All members present voted, "Yes".

F) MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

On a motion from Mr. Clark, seconded by Mr. Blair, it was moved to accept the minutes of the March 22, 2016 and March 24, 2016 meetings, as if read. All present voted, "Yes".

G) REQUEST TO ADDRESS COUNCIL ON AGENDA ITEMS

Mr. Bonsall informed Council about the two companies present at the meeting to address Council about electric aggregation. The city of Norwood already has a gas aggregation program but does not currently have an electric aggregation program; Norwood is one of only a few communities in Hamilton County without an electric aggregation program. Mrs. Laake stated electric aggregation would have to be placed on the ballot for Norwood residents to approve before public hearings would be held to select the vendor. Don Marshall with Eagle Energy, LLC, addressed Council and distributed a packet of information to all Council members; a copy of the packet is on file in the Clerk of Council's office. Mr. Marshall provided an overview of electric aggregation history and logistics; with an electric aggregation program, there are lower electricity costs and a reduction in fraud. Rates of the program are clearly stated for residents to know the terms of service. Residents can leave the program at will; Eagle Energy does not charge a termination fee. Eagle Energy currently serves ten communities in the Duke area. Mr. Marshall also talked about green-power as an option; the rate attained for green-power for the city of Oxford is 18% lower than Duke's price-to-compare. The green-power is generated via wind-power and is added into the electric grid. Two public hearings would need to take place. The electrical supplier makes a three-year commitment; only one supplier will be utilized for the three-year period. The most effective solution for residents to avoid getting "slammed," is to be made aware who the preferred electrical supplier is. Daniel Deters and Sydney Faxon Trout, both with Energy Alliances, Inc., addressed Council and distributed a packet of information to all members of Council; a copy of the packet is on file in the Clerk of Council's office. Mr. Deters stated everything Mr. Marshall said about electric aggregation is accurate. He also stated Energy Alliances has worked with 33 communities in Ohio; they currently handle 16 electric aggregation programs. If Energy Alliances is selected, they will run the campaign to educate Norwood voters prior to an electric aggregation ballot initiative; they have worked 43 campaigns in Ohio and were successful in all of them. Ms. Faxon Trout stated that rates do not increase or decrease during the three-year contract. Mr. Deters also stated their rates have never been higher than the utility cost.

H) REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES OF COUNCIL

- 1) Housing, Health, & Recreation: 4/11/16 Re: Property Inspection, Norwood Headshop,
and Forest Avenue Play Structure

Mr. Bonsall thanked Mrs. Hanrahan for her leadership on these items; he also thanked Mr. Clark for attending the meeting and for providing some insight from when the new planning code was passed in 2010/2011.

On a motion by Mr. Clark, seconded by Mr. Mumper, it was moved to accept the committee report. All present voted, "Yes."

I) THIRD READING OF ORDINANCES

1) ORDINANCE PROMOTING THE "CITY WIDE STREET SALE" AND ABATEMENT OF ALL PERMIT FEES ASSOCIATED WITH THE SALE

On a motion from Mr. Clark, seconded by Mr. Mumper, it was moved to hear the third reading of the ordinance. All present voted, "Yes."

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

2) ORDINANCE PROMOTING THE "CITY WIDE STREET SALE" AND ABATEMENT OF ALL PERMIT FEES ASSOCIATED WITH THE SALE

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

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

J) INTRODUCTORY READINGS OF ORDINANCES

There were no introductory readings of ordinances or resolutions.

K) ADMINISTRATION REPORTS

There were no administrative reports.

L) OTHER REQUESTS TO ADDRESS COUNCIL

1. Police Chief Kramer Re: Purchase of Police Cruisers

Chief Kramer addressed Council on the topic of purchasing police cruisers. He informed Council the price is \$50,986.41 per cruiser; this includes the cost of customizing the vehicle. The cost will be \$970 per vehicle, per month, for 60 months. Chief Kramer stated he cannot put on officer in an unsafe vehicle; he thanked Kevin Meinking at Norwood Publics Works for the work he performs on the current cruisers. Mr. Bonsall asked a question about the number of officers per shift; Chief Kramer stated there is a minimum of six officers per shift. With the condition of current vehicles, he may have no choice but to double or triple officers in a vehicle. Mr. Sanker stated a purchase order can't be issued this year for a purchase taking place next year. Chief Kramer does not recall a purchase order being required in the past. Mr. Mumper stated an ordinance is usually the document that is accepted.

2. Drew Lepine Re: Ordinance Prohibiting Beekeeping

Mr. Lepine, of Crosley Avenue in Norwood, addressed Council regarding an ordinance prohibiting beekeeping; he is interested in suburban beekeeping. Mr. Lepine provided several facts regarding the importance of bees, shared his interest in beekeeping, and also stated the cities of Cincinnati, St. Bernard, and Sharonville do not prohibit beekeeping. Mr. Lepine discussed several benefits of suburban beekeeping, and several of the restrictions put into place by Hamilton County. Mr. Lepine would like for Council to consider reviewing the current ordinance.

M) UNFINISHED BUSINESS

On a motion from Mr. Mumper, seconded by Mr. Bonsall, it was moved to place the issue of beekeeping into the Housing, Health, and Recreation committee. All present voted, "Yes."

N) NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Clark announced the Hope Over Heroin launch event taking place at the Cameron Avenue Church of God on May 3rd at 6:30pm. He also stated the event they are hosting will take place on August 26 and 27; additional details will be shared once a contract is signed.

Mrs. Hanrahan asked Mr. Moore about the timing of getting the ordinances codified. Mr. Moore answered by saying there is no money and a current time-line for that project is unknown.

Mr. Bonsall asked Council how they wanted to proceed with the issue of electric aggregation and any feedback regarding the presentations. Mr. Mumper stated his preference is Energy Alliances; they have previously worked with Norwood. Mrs. Hanrahan and Mr. Clark agreed with Mr. Mumper. Mr. Clark thanked Mr. Bonsall for bringing the issue to the attention of Council, which will save the residents and the city money. Mrs. Stickley recommended that the ordinance does not have an emergency clause; this would allow residents additional time to address Council with any questions.

On a motion from Mr. Bonsall, seconded by Mr. Clark, it was moved to have the Law Department draft an ordinance at the next Council meeting to place electric aggregation on the November 2016 ballot. All present voted, "Yes."

Mr. Sanker raised the issue of residents walking their dogs on soccer and/or baseball fields; with children playing on these fields, it is important to clean up any excrement left by the dog. Mr. Mumper also noted grocery bags are an easy means of scooping and disposing animal excrement.

Norwood Knothole Opening Day was discussed; their Opening Day Parade will take place this Saturday. Mr. Bonsall talked about the new FC Cincinnati soccer team; he attended the opening game and is pleased the opportunity is made available to residents to attend the games. Mr. Mumper wished Mr. Bonsall a happy birthday; Mr. Bonsall then wished Mr. Clark a happy birthday.

O) COMMUNICATIONS

1. Letter from Mayor Williams Re: Mayors Court Fines
On a motion by Mr. Bonsall, and seconded by Mr. Blair, it was moved to receive and file the letter.
All present voted, "Yes."
2. Letter from Chuck Barlow Re: Monthly Earnings Tax Report (February)
On a motion by Mr. Clark, and seconded by Mr. Sanker, it was moved to receive and file the letter.
All present voted, "Yes."

P) EXCUSE ABSENT MEMBER/S

There were no absent members.

Q) ADJOURNMENT

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

Joseph S. Geers
Clerk of Council

Donna M. Laake
President of Council