



Council Chambers

June 14, 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 remain standing in recognition of Flag Day and for a moment of silence for the victims of the shooting in Orlando.

D) ROLL CALL

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

E) AMENDMENT OF AGENDA

On a motion by Mr. Sanker, seconded by Mr. Bonsall, it was moved to amend the agenda as follows: add Resolution Adopting 2017 Tax Budget to immediately follow the Public Hearing. 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 May 24, 2016 meeting, as if read. All present voted, "Yes".

G) PUBLIC HEARING: 2017 TAX BUDGET

Mrs. Laake called the 2017 Tax Budget Public Hearing to order.

The floor was open to anyone speaking in favor of the 2017 Tax Budget; no one spoke.

The floor was open to anyone speaking against the 2017 Tax Budget; Pastor Sonny James came forward. Mr. James stated a few things in the tax budget stand out. Mr. James commended the Council on doing the best that they can regarding the budget, but he believes Council should look at other municipalities facing similar circumstances. Mr. James stated the "fine things" are being missed in the budget; we should make sure no one is left out. Mr. James believes the community is "at risk" in certain areas; there is still more work to be done.

With no one else speaking in favor or against the 2017 Tax Budget, the Public Hearing was closed.

H) REQUEST TO ADDRESS COUNCIL ON AGENDA ITEMS

There were no requests to address council on agenda items.

I) REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES OF COUNCIL

1) Finance, Budget, & Audit: 5/26/16 Re: 2016 Appropriations

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

J) THIRD READING OF RESOLUTIONS

1) RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF NEW GYMNASTICS PROGRAM AT THE RICHARD E. LINDNER YMCA

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

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

Mrs. Laake requested that a copy of the signed resolution be sent to the Richard E. Linder YMCA.

K) INTRODUCTORY READINGS OF ORDINANCES

INTRODUCTORY READINGS OF RESOLUTIONS

1) RESOLUTION ADOPTING 2017 TAX BUDGET

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

L) ADMINISTRATION REPORTS

Mayor Williams discussed the issue of drug overdoses in the city of Norwood; according to a report generated by the Norwood Fire Department, overdoses are down dramatically. Mayor Williams added that this is not over, but a significant decline in overdoses has taken place. Mrs. Laake added to the discussion by stating feedback was overheard at a Colerain Township meeting addressing drug overdoses, in which the Norwood Police and Fire Departments were called out for the good work they are doing. Mayor Williams stated there were numerous cases where the Norwood Fire Department revived the individuals who overdosed. Mr. Bonsall asked Mayor Williams if the numbers involving the decrease in drug overdoses in Norwood will be shared with the public; Mayor Williams answered by saying as soon as he gets the report, it will be shared. Mr. Mumper asked about the closure of Highland Avenue. Mayor Williams stated it is a project being completed by the city of Cincinnati; he is unaware of a project completion date. Mrs. Hanrahan asked about an update on the phone system; Mayor Williams stated there are some details with the phone system that are upsetting and he will be talking with the Law Director and the Auditor about this situation.

M) OTHER REQUESTS TO ADDRESS COUNCIL

James Fisher Re: Comments made on or about May 24th Housing meeting
Mr. Fisher, of Hopkins Avenue, felt it was necessary to address Council regarding some comments made by a city official at the May 24th Housing, Health, & Recreation Committee meeting. The comment was directed at residents who are not able to maintain the structures on their property; it was recommended they move into a condo or an apartment. Mr. Fisher believes this statement singled out a group of residents and he found it to be very upsetting. Mr. Fisher feels this city official should be terminated for making such statements, as it hinders the ability to do his job in a fair and just manner. Mrs. Hanrahan stated she was at the meeting and heard the comment Mr. Fisher was referencing; she agrees the comment was offensive.

Pastor Sonny James Re: Community
Mr. James stated over 300 people attended the event that took place at the Norwood YMCA on May 27th. In addition to numerous Norwood residents in attendance, the Norwood Fire Department was in attendance and grilled food for the event; members of the Norwood Police Department also attended the event. The YMCA opened their pool to the public; a championship belt was awarded to kids for video-gaming. Mr. James thanked a list of businesses who donated funds or supplies to help with the event. The next event will be a golf outing; the date is to be determined. Mr. James announced a partnership with the YMCA again for an event at the end of the summer.

N) UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business.

O) NEW BUSINESS

Mrs. Hanrahan asked Mayor Williams if he could address members of Council on the letter he sent to them regarding the Metropolitan Sewer District (MSD). Mayor Williams stated residents have been complaining for years about the rates charged by MSD. He referenced a meeting that was attended years ago, where a comment was made at the meeting to expect a 7% increase by MSD each year. Mayor Williams talked about the formation of MSD in 1968. Norwood has multiple sewer types; they all end in the same place. Mayor Williams would like to see Council Committee of the Whole meet with the Law Director, Treasurer and Auditor to identify potential reasons to take legal action against MSD. Norwood sends MSD \$5,000,000 a year; if paid late, they charge a penalty. Mayor Williams would like to look into options, such as, placing the money into an escrow account. Mayor Williams referenced a recent audit that took place with MSD; he doesn't think the report from the audit is specific enough. Mayor Williams would like to see Norwood treated fairly; if Norwood acts now, other communities might follow. Mr. Bonsall thanked Mayor Williams for bringing the issue to the attention of Council. Mr. Bonsall stated there are other communities impacted by this; he also noted that the suburbs currently outnumber the city of Cincinnati within Hamilton County. Mayor Williams stated the MSD work crews work well with our Public Works. Mr. Mumper agrees with Mayor Williams that we must do something. Mr. Mumper also agreed with the comment that MSD work crews are great to work with and are hard working; it is the MSD administration that is not doing well with the budget. Mr. Mumper placed the matter of MSD into Committee of the Whole. Mrs. Laake and Mayor Williams will complete some background work prior to the Committee of the Whole meeting.

Mrs. Hanrahan announced the Housing Health, & Recreation Committee will meet at 6:30pm on June 20, in Council Chambers to discuss bee-keeping.

Mr. Bonsall announced that Moriah Pie at the Speckled Bird Café, located at Carter and Mills, will offer a "pay as you're able" pizza from 4:30pm-9:30pm; this takes place every Friday. There will also be a free

concert taking place on June 17th at 6:30, at the Vineyard Central Church Plaza (in front of the church on Mills Avenue). Also on June 17th, the Norwood Police Department will host a movie in the park at Lower Millcrest Park.

P) COMMUNICATIONS

1. Letter from the Mayor Re: Mayor's Court Fines
On a motion by Mr. Mumper, and seconded by Mrs. Stickley, it was moved to receive and file the letter.
Mr. Mumper stated the numerous pages are a waste of paper; they only need the letter and totals appearing on page three. Mr. Mumper also stated that if it is required to print all pages, it should be printed on both sides of the paper. All present voted, "Yes."
2. Letter from Chuck Barlow Re: Monthly Earnings Tax
On a motion by Mr. Mumper, and seconded by Mrs. Hanrahan, it was moved to receive and file the letter.
3. Letter from Marion Schniegenberg Re: Hometown Fireworks
On a motion by Mr. Mumper, and seconded by Mr. Bonsall, it was moved to receive and file the letter.

Mrs. Laake congratulated Mr. Mumper on the birth of his new twin grandsons.

Q) EXCUSE ABSENT MEMBER/S

On a motion by Mr. Mumper, and seconded by Mrs. Hanrahan, it was moved to excuse Mr. Clark's and Mr. Blair's absence. All present voted, "Yes."

R) ADJOURNMENT

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

Joseph S. Geers
Clerk of Council

Donna M. Laake
President of Council