



Council Chambers

February 13, 2018

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, Mr. Thompson, Ms. Stevenson, Mrs. Hanrahan, Mr. Sanker, and Mr. Breadon.

E) AMENDMENT OF AGENDA

On a motion by Mr. Clark, seconded by Ms. Stevenson, it was moved to amend the agenda as follows: add minutes from the January 30, 2018 special meeting, add the appointment of a Secretary to the Clerk of Council under requests to address Council on agenda items, add a communication from Joe S. Geers regarding the appointment of the Secretary to the Clerk of Council, add a committee report from the Economic Development and Community Engagement Committee, add a committee report from the Finance, Budget, and Audit Committee, replace the Health United/XU Hub ordinance description with the correct ordinance description, remove the Safe Routes to School ordinance, add a communication from Norwood Community Television regarding Franchise Fees, add a communication from the Law Director regarding interest in 2165 Lawn Avenue, add a communication from the Safety-Service Director regarding a grant and funding for Forest Avenue, add a communication from Safety-Service Director Geers regarding SAFER Grant, and move Mayor Williams' request to enter executive session to the last communication. All members present voted, "Yes".

F) MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

On a motion by Mr. Sanker, seconded by Mr. Breadon, it was moved to accept the minutes of both the January 23, 2018 meeting and January 30, 2018 special meeting, as if read. All present voted, "Yes".

G) REQUEST TO ADDRESS COUNCIL ON AGENDA ITEMS

Joe S. Geers, Clerk of Council

Re: Appointment of Secretary to the Clerk of Council

Mr. Geers thanked Mr. Moore and Mr. Garry in the Law Department for allowing Mr. Brown to continue to perform the duties of Secretary to the Clerk of Council; Mr. Brown began serving as Secretary to the Law Department about five months ago and has been continuing with his duties as Secretary to the Clerk of Council. Mr. Geers highlighted the process of reviewing candidates for the position and the interview process. Mr. Geers requested Council approve the appointment of Pamela Hill to the Secretary to the Clerk of Council, with a start date of February 19, 2018. Ms. Stevenson thanked Ms. Hill for being here, and asked her to explain her Norwood residency, her experience, and why this role is important to her. Ms. Hill explained her work experience with customer service, as well as her technical experience, and that she is a Norwood resident.

On a motion by Mr. Bonsall, seconded by Mrs. Hanrahan, it was moved to appoint Pamela Hill as Secretary to the Clerk of Council. All present voted, "Yes."

H) REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES OF COUNCIL

1) Economic Development and Community Engagement: 2/1/18 **Re: Cornerstone TIF, Quality of Life Steering Committee**

Ms. Stevenson confirmed that Council is being asked whether or not to make a recommendation to prepare materials that would be used to have a discussion with the school district on the new finance instruction. Mr. Moore wanted to make sure there were no real objections to moving forward; the economic benefit would be for the school district, over the bond holders. There are questions as to whether or not the current payments will cover the bond requirements. Mr. Bonsall thanked Ms. Stevenson and Mr. Moore for their work on this matter. Ms. Stevenson also expressed her concerns about the complexity of this type of mechanism.

On a motion by Mr. Clark, and seconded by Mr. Breadon, it was moved to accept the committee report with no objections in moving forward. All present voted, "Yes."

2) Finance, Budget, & Audit: 2/12/18

Re: 2018 Finances

Mr. Bonsall stated the Fiscal Recovery Plan was discussed. Things have changed, and Council will have to change the Fiscal Recovery Plan. There are things that have to be looked at, such as purchasing new non-safety vehicles; they are also looking at freeing up money to cover matching grants for streets. Mr.

Bonsall asks for anyone who has ideas for the Fiscal Recovery Plan, to send them to him. The next Finance, Budget, and Audit Committee meeting will take place on March 7, 2018, at 6pm, in Council Chambers; all members of Council are invited to attend, as their questions and feedback should be heard. Mr. Bonsall stated he hopes to have the first reading at the March 13, 2018 meeting; this is not something that needs to be rushed and Council should take the time to review and make the right decisions. Once a draft copy has been created, Mr. Bonsall will distribute to all members of Council for their review.

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

I) SECOND READING OF ORDINANCES

1) ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 505.071 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF NORWOOD, OHIO, ENTITLED "CRUELTY TO COMPANION ANIMALS."

On a motion by Mrs. Hanrahan, seconded by Mr. Clark, it was moved to hear the second reading of the ordinance. All present voted, "Yes."

J) INTRODUCTORY READINGS OF ORDINANCES

1) ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND/OR SERVICE-SAFETY DIRECTOR TO ENTER INTO A GRANT OF EASEMENT WITH XAVIER UNIVERSITY FOR CLENEY AVENUE FOR UNDERGROUND UTILITIES AND STREETScape IMPROVEMENTS FOR XAVIER UNIVERSITY'S HEALTH UNITED BUILDING (HUB) AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

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

Mr. Bonsall stated he is excited that there is an organization willing to do streetscapes at no expense to the city, and that he is happy to support this ordinance. Ms. Stevenson asked Mr. Geers, Safety-Service Director, for clarification on Section 3, pertaining to changes going through the Planning Commission; Mr. Geers confirmed that any changes would have to go to the Planning Commission for approval.

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

J) INTRODUCTORY READING OF RESOLUTIONS

There were no introductory readings of resolutions.

K) ADMINISTRATION REPORTS

There were no administration reports.

L) OTHER REQUESTS TO ADDRESS COUNCIL

There were no other requests to address Council.

M) UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business.

N) NEW BUSINESS

Mrs. Hanrahan announced a Housing, Health, and Public Safety Committee meeting that will take place on March 5, 2018 at 6:30pm in Council Chambers; building permits will be on the agenda, as well as other items that are forthcoming.

Mr. Bonsall announced a Finance, Budget, and Audit Committee meeting that will take place on March 7, 2018, at 6:00pm, in Council Chambers; 2018 finances and Fiscal Recovery Plans will be on the agenda. Mr. Bonsall requests that Council not consider any ordinances to change, amend, or add appointed positions without first going through the Finance, Budget, and Audit Committee.

Ms. Stevenson announced that an adjunct faculty member with Xavier University reached out to her about attending a baby shower for Guatemalan children. Ms. Stevenson encouraged anyone interested in learning more to visit www.xavier.edu, select "inter faith office," and then select "medical service trip."

Mrs. Hanrahan stated the seniors would like the 2018 city-wide street sale dates so that they can begin planning; the 2018 city-wide street sale dates are May 18 and May 19, and September 7 and September 8.

Mr. Bonsall acknowledged a comment Mrs. Hanrahan stated at the previous meeting about orders that were in place for department heads not to speak with members of Council; Mr. Bonsall apologized for a statement he made at the previous meeting and also stated he has a lot of respect for the Police Chief and the Fire Chief. Mr. Bonsall requested that Mayor Williams withdraw that order. Mr. Bonsall asked for the Clerk of Council to send a letter to Mayor Williams requesting that any orders currently active be provided to Council, and that the orders are evaluated.

Mrs. Hanrahan asked about the status of the previous letter requested to be sent to Mayor Williams and Mr. Geers about job descriptions. The Clerk of Council acknowledged that Mr. Brown had sent an email

Mr. Clark thanked Mr. Geers for this. Mrs. Stevenson also thanked Mr. Geers for his work on this matter and requested that he address Council. Mr. Geers stated this project will be comparable to the work completed on Marion Avenue. It is funded through the Ohio Public Works Commission grant; there is a 20% match with an interest-free loan. This section of Forest Avenue (between Norwood and Highland Avenues) will receive new storm sewers, rebase of the street, curbs, gutters, and water mains in areas that are needed; this is a \$750,000-800,000 project. Mr. Geers confirmed \$300,000 in street repairs for 2019 and \$100,000 for street repairs in 2020 will come out of Community Development Block Grant funding. Mr. Bonsall asked about the start date; Mr. Geers confirmed the project funds will not be available until July 1, 2018; the goal is to start mid or late August 2018, with the final coat being laid in Spring 2019 (weather permitting). Mr. Thompson confirmed the street is steep in this area, which may have contributed to the current condition; Mr. Geers acknowledged the steep grade of the street and explained the construction process. Mr. Bonsall requested this portion of the street to be considered a “no truck” street.

On a motion by Mr. Clark, seconded by Mr. Breadon, it was moved to receive and file the letter. All present voted, “Yes.”

7) Letter from Joe Geers, Service - Safety Director Re: SAFER Grant

Mr. Thompson thanked Mr. Geers for the clarity he provided in this letter. Mrs. Laake stated it was difficult to get information, as members of the Fire Department were the only ones listed on the grant. Mr. Bonsall stated he sent an email to FEMA asking that they not penalize the city for not being able to satisfy this grant. The response from the FEMA representative stated that she had been trying to get the necessary paperwork submitted by Norwood for the reimbursements; it was very definitive that FEMA was trying to work with the city to submit the paperwork that was needed for payment. Mr. Bonsall stated it was not true that the city was wasting \$624,000, which was the story that appeared in the media; Mr. Bonsall does not blame the Firefighters Local. Mr. Bonsall stated he has seen no apologies in the way Council and the Administration were vilified by news media; there were no corrections in the media, either. As administrators and people looking out for all of the city, Council does care; Council very much cares about the safety of residents, the condition of parks, and the safety of residents walking on sidewalks, but has to work with limited resources. Mr. Bonsall is unsure why this reimbursement was not communicated; he asks that a member of the Administration is listed as a grant notification person when applying for these types of grants. Mr. Bonsall stated that not everything out there is true; take a step back and realize there are other parts to the story. Mrs. Laake stated the period of performance ends March 2, 2018; not everyone had family health insurance, so the maximum amount qualified for was not reimbursed. Ms. Stevenson thanked Mr. Bonsall and Mr. Geers for working behind the scenes. Mr. Bonsall stated FEMA had the payment turned around in two hours, as opposed to the normal two-week turn around time.

On a motion by Mr. Sanker, seconded by Mr. Breadon, it was moved to receive and file the letter. All present voted, “Yes.”

8) Letter from Mayor Tom Williams Re: Request to Enter Executive Session

On a motion by Mr. Bonsall, and seconded by Mr. Clark, it was moved to receive and file the letter and enter into Executive Session for the purposes to prepare for, conduct, or review negotiations or bargaining sessions with public employees concerning their compensation or other terms and conditions of their employment). All present voted, “Yes.”

Mrs. Laake called for a brief recess.

Council entered Executive Session.

Council returned from Executive Session.

Mrs. Laake asked if there were any motions for consideration based upon discussions in Executive Session; no motions were made.

P) EXCUSE ABSENT MEMBER/S

There were no absent members.

Q) ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Mr. Bonsall, 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