



# Council Chambers

## November 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. Thompson, Ms. Stevenson, Mrs. Hanrahan, Mr. Sanker, and Mr. Breadon; Mr. Bonsall and Mr. Clark were absent.

### E) AMENDMENT OF AGENDA

On a motion by Mr. Sanker, seconded by Mr. Breadon, it was moved to amend the agenda as follows: add the communication regarding OKI Board Representative. All members present voted, "Yes."

### F) MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

On a motion by Ms. Stevenson, seconded by Mrs. Hanrahan, it was moved to accept the minutes of the October 23, 2018 meeting as if read. All present voted, "Yes".

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

There were no requests to address Council on agenda items.

### H) REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES OF COUNCIL

#### 1) Finance, Audit, and Budget

Re: City Finances

Mr. Bonsall and Mr. Clark were not present to share the report; Mrs. Laake suggested addressing the report at the next Council meeting.

### I) SECOND READING OF ORDINANCES

#### 1) ORDINANCE CONSENTING TO THE PROJECT ID NO. 94224, THE REPAIR AND MAINTENANCE OF THE SECTION AVE. BRIDGE OVER STATE ROUTE 562, AND AUTHORIZING THE SAFETY SERVICE DIRECTOR TO ENTER INTO CONTRACTS WITH THE DIRECTOR OF TRANSPORTATION FOR THE STATE OF OHIO NECESSARY TO COMPLETE THE PROJECT, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

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

### J) INTRODUCTORY READINGS OF ORDINANCES

#### 1) ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE AUDITOR TO APPROVE "THEN AND NOW" CERTIFICATES FOR THE WATER FUND (50) TO COVER THE COST OF INVOICES FOR THE GREATER CINCINNATI WATER WORKS FOR 2018 UP TO \$550,000, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

On a motion by Mr. Thompson, seconded by Mr. Breadon, it was moved to hear the first reading of the ordinance.

Ms. Stevenson asked about the need for this ordinance, and stated it was referenced in the Finance, Budget, and Audit Committee but that it is not being reported out at this meeting; Mrs. Laake replied by saying that per Mr. Stith, the Water Fund is \$550,000 over the appropriated amount. The State Auditors are looking into the discrepancy; at the present time, the rate increase has not caught up to the bills being paid. Mrs. Laake also added that Cincinnati Water Works does monthly billing; the 5% increase approved earlier this year was not enough to cover the shortfall. The legal way to allow the auditor's office to pay bills over the appropriations is called a "then and now;" Mr. Stith and Mr. Patterson in the Auditor's office are the only individuals authorized to issue "then and now" appropriations that are less than \$35,000. This payment will allow the city to avoid a \$6,000 late fee. This must be completed by Council prior to the end of the month because of the bill due date; the State Auditors are now looking at the imbalance in the Water and Sewage Funds. Mrs. Hanrahan stated she spoke with Mr. Geers and Mr. Bonsall about this matter; her calls to the Auditor's office were not returned. Mrs. Hanrahan stated she has concerns about why this was not looked into six months ago. Ms. Stevenson asked about the timing to approve this ordinance; Mrs. Laake replied by stating Mr. Stith needs it approved by the next meeting.

All members present voted, "Yes."

## **INTRODUCTORY READING OF RESOLUTIONS**

### **1) RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE HAMILTON COUNTY MULTI-HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN.**

Mrs. Laake stated she spoke with Assistant Fire Chief McCabe about this; the plan is 400-500 pages in length. This plan has to be adopted by all communities in Hamilton County, in order to receive assistance via the plan; he would like to see it approved by the end of the month. This is a house-keeping item for the Norwood Fire Department.

On a motion by Mr. Sanker, seconded by Mr. Thompson, it was moved to hear the first reading of the resolution.

Ms. Stevenson asked about inviting Assistant Fire Chief McCabe to the next meeting; Mrs. Laake stated he plans on attending the next meeting.

All members present voted, "Yes."

## **K) ADMINISTRATION REPORTS**

There were no administrative reports.

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

### **Betty Davis Re: Health Department, Police department, and Norwood Kroger**

Betty Davis, of Montgomery Road, addressed Council regarding a situation involving an expired bag of chips she purchased from the Norwood Kroger; the chips made her very ill. Ms. Davis referenced a letter she wrote that was previously distributed to members of Council, which highlighted her various concerns. Ms. Davis feels she did not receive appropriate treatment when discussing this issue with the Norwood Health Department. Ms. Davis also spoke about what she feels was inappropriate treatment by a member of the Norwood Police Department; she wrote a letter to the Police Chief, who was not aware of what she was talking about. Ms. Davis wants to know the names of several city employees, requests that the Police Chief keep up to date on issues that are sent to him, and stated she would like to meet the K-9 Officer.

### **Brian Daniel Schuh Re: Religious/Ethnic/Cultural icons in Victory Park**

Brian Daniel Schuh, of Evanston Avenue in Cincinnati, addressed Council about a lighted menorah being placed at Victory Park. Mr. Schuh stated he is going to ask the Jewish Federation about donating money for the purchase of a lighted menorah. Mr. Moore informed Mr. Schuh that he should submit a request to the Law Department, Council, or the Mayor's office; Mrs. Laake suggested Mr. Schuh drop off the request at the Clerk of Council's office. Mr. Schuh also stated his plan to purchase two bricks for veterans at Victory Park.

## **M) UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

On a motion by Mr. Sanker, seconded by Mr. Breadon, it was moved to move the Finance, Budget, and Audit Committee report to the November 27, 2018 meeting agenda. All present voted, "Yes."

Ms. Stevenson stated she had a great time at the Gem of the Highlands 5K and the Off Pike Market; she is appreciative of all those who were involved in putting these events together. This event is a great path forward for the city.

Mrs. Laake provided an update on retiree healthcare; the bounced checks and fees were replaced. Retirees are still dealing with Benovations for claims that are pending through their company. Mrs. Laake is still waiting for a welcome letter for S & S Healthcare; this will be included in a mailer to retirees and will also include the administrative committee member nominees. Five members have agreed to serve. Mr. Sanker asked Mrs. Laake to let Council know when the letters have to be mailed, as they can assist. Mrs. Laake stated S & S Healthcare sent a registration list; addresses have been updated. Julie Tople assisted with this as well. Benovations was charging \$30-\$32 per retiree per month, whereas, S & S Healthcare is only charging \$8.50 per retiree per month.

Ms. Stevenson wanted to revisit the comments made by Ms. Davis; she is disturbed by what was shared and acknowledged receiving a copy of Ms. Davis' letter. Ms. Stevenson would like to discuss the matter further with Ms. Davis. Ms. Stevenson requested the consideration of placing the matter into Committee of the Whole. Mrs. Laake expressed her hope that the matter will be resolved by the departments involved.

## **N) NEW BUSINESS**

Mr. Thompson announced a Parks, Recreation, Streets, and Infrastructure Committee meeting taking place on November 27<sup>th</sup>, from 6:15pm-7:15pm.

Mrs. Hanrahan asked about how Council handles executive session; she raised the question of the city paying people to wait. Mrs. Hanrahan would like Council to consider moving executive session up, so the city is not paying for legal representation to wait. Mr. Sanker stated he understands the reason for concern, and sees a potential drawback of a change will impact those who are attending the meeting for all of the other business taking place on the agenda. Mrs. Laake recommends first identifying whether or not legal representation is being paid while they sit there and wait; she will look into this matter.

Mr. Breadon took a moment to remember the families in Pike County, and he congratulated the Pike County Sheriff's Department.

Mrs. Laake stated she was asked by Mayor Williams to attend the rededication ceremony of the tank at Victory Park; it was a brief ceremony but those in attendance liked the way the tank turned out. Mrs. Laake shared some history and logistics about the tank and also stated that the tank serves as a reminder that "our freedoms are never free."

**O) COMMUNICATIONS**

**1) Ohio Division of Liquor Control**

**Re: License Transfer for Marathon Station**

On a motion by Mr. Sanker, seconded by Mr. Thompson, it was moved to move this matter to the next meeting agenda. All present voted, "Yes."

**2) Letter from Mayor Williams**

**Re: Mayor's Court Fines for October 2018**

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

**3) OKI Regional Council of Governance**

**Re: OKI Board of Directors Representative**

On a motion by Mr. Sanker, seconded by Mrs. Hanrahan, it was moved to receive and file the letter and allow the current representative, Mrs. Laake, to serve another year.

Ms. Stevenson asked if it would be helpful if others joined; Mrs. Laake didn't feel that would be necessary. Mr. Moore agreed and added that there would be nothing to come out of having an extra representative, as the decisions come out of smaller committee meetings. Ms. Stevenson asked for some clarity regarding Norwood's representative not currently serving on any committees; Mrs. Laake replied by stating she is not on the executive committee, and that assignments are done by those who have been there for a while and have the time, energy, and resources to be on the executive committee. The executive board does most of the work in committees. There are 70 communities who submit for funding through grants; although members are required to go every two months, Mrs. Laake stated she attends every month and tries to keep up to date on various projects. She is involved, but has no vote as a representative. Mrs. Hanrahan thanked Mrs. Laake for serving on the board.

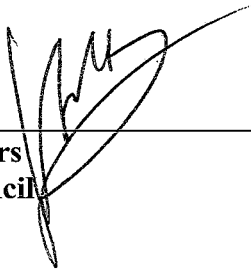
All present voted, "Yes."


**P) EXCUSE ABSENT MEMBER/S**

On a motion by Mr. Breadon, seconded by Mrs. Hanrahan, it was moved to excuse Mr. Bonsall and Mr. Clark. All members present voted, "Yes."

**Q) ADJOURNMENT**

On a motion by Mr. Breadon, seconded by Mr. Thompson, it was moved to adjourn. All members present voted, "Yes."

  
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Joseph S. Geers  
Clerk of Council

  
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Donna M. Laake  
President of Council