



Council Chambers

March 12, 2019 ~ 7:30pm

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.

Mrs. Laake announced there are Girl Scouts in attendance at the meeting; they are working on earning badges for “public speaking” and “finding common ground.” They will also hold a flag ceremony in conjunction with 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 Ms. Stevenson, seconded by Mr. Bonsall, it was moved to amend the agenda as follows: add a Finance, Budget, and Audit Committee report; remove the second reading of the ordinance dealing with surplus properties; add the introductory reading of a new ordinance dealing with surplus properties; add a resolution honoring the Girl Scouts to immediately follow approval of the minutes; add a communication from the Health Department regarding the credit card resolution, which will be read prior to consideration of that resolution.

Mrs. Hanrahan asked why the surplus property ordinance isn't simply being edited, and is instead, being removed and replaced; Mrs. Laake replied by stating there were substantial changes to the title and the content of the ordinance. Mr. Moore also added that it amends the ordinance since the last meeting; there is no need to have all three readings of the ordinance tonight.

All members present voted, “Yes.”

F) MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

On a motion by Mr. Breadon, seconded by Mr. Thompson, it was moved to approve the minutes of the February 26, 2019 meeting, as if read. All members present voted, “Yes”.

G) REQUEST TO ADDRESS COUNCIL ON AGENDA ITEMS

1) Ian Matthews Re: Norwood Community Clean-Up Resolution

Mr. Matthews, of Norwood Avenue, addressed Council regarding the resolution recognizing the Norwood Community Clean-Up. Mr. Matthews stated he is a member of the Infrastructure Committee with the Quality of Life Team; during the week of March 30 – April 7, they will be focusing on cleanups within Norwood. A Montgomery Road Street-Sweep will take place on March 30th, with everyone meeting at Norwood City Hall. On Saturday, April 6th, between the hours of 9am – 1pm, the goal is to have people designated to cleaning up all the parks in Norwood; they are partnering with Norwood Knothole teams, who will also be assisting with the park cleanup. Mr. Matthews is asking for the city to help by getting the word out there for residents about the cleanups.

Along the lines of neighborhood cleanup, Mr. Sanker stated we are entering the season when residents start cutting grass; there are too many individuals who blow their grass clippings into the street. Mr. Sanker suggests the individuals sweep up the grass clippings, as they are not supposed to be blown into the street. Mrs. Laake confirmed that blowing grass clippings into the street clogs drains when it rains.

Mr. Breadon stated the park cleanup is a great thing and asked Mr. Matthews if there is anything that is needed; Mr. Matthews replied by stating Keep Cincinnati Beautiful is donating some basic cleaning supplies. The biggest things needed are people and organization; a list is being created for specific needs at each park. Mr. Matthews added that the vision is to have this cleanup, another cleanup prior to the Norwood Day Parade, and one more prior to the Gem of the Highlands 5K. Mr. Breadon asked about cleanup plans for Fenwick and Hunter Parks; Mr. Matthews is looking for a park captain for every park in Norwood. Mr. Matthews left copies of flyers for distribution in Council Chambers.

H) REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES OF COUNCIL

1) Housing, Health and Public Safety: 3/5/2019

Re: Short-term rentals, Sale of properties, Building Department fees, and Lime/Bird Bikes

On a motion by Mr. Breadon, seconded by Mr. Sanker, it was moved to receive and file the committee report. All members present voted, "Yes."

2) Economic Development and Community Engagement: 3/7/2019

Re: Welcome to Norwood, Small Business in Norwood, Neighborhood Associations in Norwood, Quality of Life in Norwood

On a motion by Mr. Breadon, seconded by Mr. Bonsall, it was moved to receive and file the committee report. All members present voted, "Yes."

3) Finance, Budget, and Audit: 3/12/2019

Re: City Finances

On a motion by Mr. Clark, seconded by Ms. Stevenson, it was moved to receive and file the committee report. All members present voted, "Yes."

D) SECOND READING OF ORDINANCES

1) ORDINANCE DECLARING CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY TO BE SURPLUS AND AUTHORIZING THE SALE OR TRANSFER OF SUCH PROPERTY AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

(removed during amendment of the agenda)

J) INTRODUCTORY READING OF ORDINANCES

1) ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CLERK OF COUNCIL TO ENTER INTO A FIVE-YEAR CONTRACT WITH THE WALTER H. DRANE COMPANY FOR THE ANNUAL UPDATING OF THE NORWOOD CODIFIED ORDINANCES.

Mrs. Laake confirmed the State Financial Auditors have approved the spending of funds on this item; it does appear in the Financial Recovery Plan. Mr. Bonsall asked about the timeline for passing this ordinance; Mr. Moore replied by requesting the ordinance is passed as quickly as possible.

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

Ms. Stevenson asked about the itemized cost for this going forward each year; Mr. Moore replied by stating \$10,000 is a safe, rough number. The cost will be dependent upon how many city and state laws are changed; there is a cost per page. Mr. Moore also confirmed the revised codified ordinances are now available online.

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

2) ORDINANCE DECLARING CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY TO BE SURPLUS AND AUTHORIZING THE SALE OF SUCH PROPERTY AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

On a motion by Mrs. Hanrahan, seconded by Mr. Thompson, it was moved to hear the first and second readings of the ordinance.

Mr. Clark asked if the action of declaring this property for sale by auction is required by law; Mr. Moore confirmed this to be true. Mrs. Hanrahan commented on properties being given to a potential private Community Development Corporation (CDC) in the city; these properties are assets belonging to the tax-payers. The benefits of selling these properties could help fund the purchase of police cruisers, repairing the floor in Council Chambers, or fixing streets. Mr. Thompson asked if the Housing Committee has looked over the properties and if any properties were removed from the list; Mr. Sanker replied by stating up to three of the original properties are being held onto for potential future development, which could include street widening. Mr. Bonsall expressed his surprise in hearing the claims that any members of Council would try to give property away to a CDC; he had not heard of any discussions to transfer any of these properties to a CDC. Ms. Stevenson clarified a statement that was made at a Housing Committee meeting; the discussion was that it would be more valuable to move forward with goals that were established by the tax-payers. More specifically, the Community Agreement has goals about housing and use of vacant property; having a CDC does not mean we give it to a private organization.

Mr. Breadon thanked Mr. Moore for changing the wording of the ordinance and removing the phrase "or transfer." Mr. Thompson confirmed that Norwood does not currently have a CDC; the Community Agreement hasn't been adopted or ratified by the city, but it is something that he supports. It is currently not the right time to use the Community Agreement as a tool to drive decision-making; it is a plan that will take time to move forward. In order to give properties to a CDC, the city would have to hold on to the properties for an unspecified amount of time. Mr. Moore stated the first property was acquired in 2011; the best way to handle these properties would have been through a CDC and not through the city, who has had to pay the back taxes on these properties.

Mr. Sanker agrees with moving forward on having two readings; some of the details will be worked out with the auctioneer and the contract. There will be additional opportunities for available properties

in the future. Mrs. Hanrahan stated the matter has been in committee for four years; she expressed concerns with how the Quality of Life Plan Community Agreement is trying to be executed. The plan is not an agreement the city has formally entered into or adopted; it is an agreement among 50-100 Norwood residents. Mrs. Hanrahan stated she does support most of the goals and moving Norwood forward; a resident asked if the City Planner is being paid to work with outside organizations. Mrs. Hanrahan believes Council should not give preferential treatment to any outside group. Mr. Breadon expressed his concerns about the city holding on to the properties and the potential liability, due to some of the conditions of several of these properties. Mr. Thompson is hopeful this will start a conversation regarding a CDC in Norwood.

All members present voted, "Yes."

INTRODUCTORY READING OF RESOLUTIONS

1) RESOLUTION EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE NORWOOD CLEAN-UP WEEK, SATURDAY, MARCH 30 THROUGH SUNDAY, APRIL 7, 2019. (as amended)

On a motion by Mr. Breadon, seconded by Mr. Sanker, it was moved to amend the resolution to change the date in the last paragraph from "April 9th" to "April 7th." All members present voted, "Yes."

Ms. Stevenson acknowledged the work of the committee, the implementation and planning process, and both members of Council who put forth the resolution; this is an excellent example of the community identifying what they value. Mr. Bonsall thanked the Infrastructure Team for all the work they completed on this project; it is part of their plan and he hopes Council will look further into the Community Agreement to see what they might be able to support. Mr. Bonsall stated it is Council's prerogative to act on items in the Community Agreement.

On a motion by Mr. Breadon, seconded by Mr. Thompson, it was moved to suspend the rules and hear all three readings of the resolution, as amended. All members present voted, "Yes."

Mr. Bonsall thanked Mr. Thompson for his participation and help with this, as he was able to help facilitate some things.

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

2) RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE CITY'S CREDIT CARD POLICY, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mrs. Laake confirmed that the State Auditors support this policy. The Norwood Fire Department and Health Department require Terminal Distribution Licenses (TDL); payment by credit card is required. The State Auditors have stated they are not in favor of individuals using their personal credit card for payment of these items.

On a motion by Mr. Clark, seconded by Mrs. Hanrahan, it was moved to suspend the rules and hear all three readings of the resolution. All members present voted, "Yes."

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

3) RESOLUTION HONORING MEMBERS OF THE GIRL SCOUTS OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

(resolution considered immediately following the approval of minutes)

On a motion by Mr. Clark, seconded by Mr. Breadon, it was moved to suspend the rules and hear all three readings of the resolution, with the first reading in its entirety. All members present voted, "Yes."

Members of Council each thanked the young ladies and the leaders who were in attendance for their presentation during the flag ceremony and Pledge of Allegiance. Mrs. Laake presented signed copies of the resolution to the leaders.

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

K) ADMINISTRATION REPORTS

There were no administration reports.

L) OTHER REQUESTS TO ADDRESS COUNCIL

1) Amy Wolfinbarger Re: MSD & Sewer Fund

Ms. Wolfinbarger, of Carthage Avenue, addressed Council regarding the MSD and sewer fund; she mentioned an issue on Globe Avenue, in which MSD is digging holes and installing 8' water holding tanks. Ms. Wolfinbarger stated she reviewed the Auditor's report and noticed a \$3.2 million surplus in the sewer fund; this was discussed at the February 19, 2019 Committee of the Whole meeting, which

Ms. Stevenson announced a meeting for anyone interested in being part of the Implementation Team, under the Community Agreement; the meeting will take place at the Zion United Church of Christ, 2301 Indian Mound Avenue, on April 3, 2019, from 6:30pm – 8pm.

O) COMMUNICATIONS

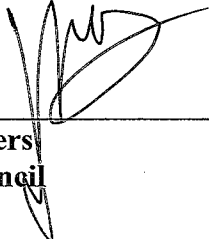
- 1) **Kelly Brown** **Re: February Financial Records**
On a motion by Mr. Clark, seconded by Mrs. Hanrahan, it was moved to receive and file the letter.
Mr. Bonsall confirmed that all members of Council should have been receiving these reports via email since January 2018.
All members present voted, “Yes.”
- 2) **Mayor Williams** **Re: Mayor’s Court Fines for February 2019**
On a motion by Mr. Bonsall, seconded by Mr. Thompson, it was moved to receive and file the letter.
All members present voted, “Yes.”
- 3) **Mayor Williams** **Re: Appointment of Representative to the Tax Incentive Review Council**
On a motion by Mr. Sanker, seconded by Mr. Clark, it was moved to receive and file the letter and to approve the appointments.
Ms. Stevenson stated she had requested Mayor Williams talk with the Economic Development and Community Engagement Committee about the CRA process; they also requested seeing the experience, expertise, and credentials of the nominees for appointments. Ms. Stevenson stated she will not be voting on this, to underscore the need to add more to the process.
Ms. Stevenson voted, “No,” all other members present voted, “Yes.”
- 4) **Norwood Health Department** **Re: Credit Card Policy**
(letter was read prior to the consideration of the credit card policy resolution)
On a motion by Mr. Sanker, seconded by Ms. Stevenson. It was moved to receive and file the letter.
All members present voted, “Yes.”

Q) EXCUSE ABSENT MEMBER/S


There were no absent members.

R) ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Mr. Breadon, seconded by Mr. Clark, it was moved to adjourn. All members present voted, “Yes.”



Joseph S. Geers
Clerk of Council



Donna M. Laake
President of Council