



Council Chambers

April 23, 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.

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, and Mr. Breadon; Mr. Sanker was absent.

Mrs. Laake stated Mr. Geers, Clerk of Council, is currently chaperoning an 8th grade class trip to Washington, DC. Mr. Sanker, who serves as Clerk of Council Protempore, also stated he will not be able to attend the meeting tonight. Mrs. Laake asked Mr. Clark to serve as the Clerk of Council Protempore, since he is the most senior member of Council.

E) AMENDMENT OF AGENDA

On a motion by Mr. Breadon, seconded by Mr. Thompson, it was moved to amend the agenda as follows: remove the presentation of the Life Saving Award; add a resolution authorizing the city Auditor to approve a "then and now" certificate; add a communication from Mr. Stith regarding the "then and now" certificate, prior to consideration of the corresponding resolution; add an ordinance enacting chapter 556 of the Norwood Codified Ordinances. All members present voted, "Yes."

F) MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

On a motion by Mr. Breadon, seconded by Mrs. Hanrahan, it was moved to accept the minutes of the April 9, 2019 meeting. All members present voted, "Yes".

G) PRESENTATION OF LIFE SAVING AWARD TO OFFICER HOFFMAN AND OFFICER SCHIDELER

(removed from the agenda)

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

There were no reports of standing committees of Council.

J) SECOND READING OF ORDINANCES

1) ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SERVICE/SAFETY DIRECTOR TO SELL SURPLUS REAL PROPERTY BY INTERNET AUCTION AND TO ENTER INTO AN EXCLUSIVE RIGHT TO SELL AGREEMENT WITH KELLER WILLIAMS/PINNACLE GROUP TO CONDUCT THE AUCTION DURING CALENDAR YEAR 2019 AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mr. Clark stated he will abstain from voting on this ordinance because of his full-time job.

On a motion by Mr. Thompson, seconded by Ms. Stevenson, it was moved to hear the second reading of the ordinance. Mr. Clark abstained; all other members present voted, "Yes."

K) INTRODUCTORY READING OF ORDINANCES

1) ORDINANCE ENACTING CHAPTER 556 OF NORWOOD CODIFIED ORDINANCES ENTITLED "SCOOTER, BICYCLES, AND REMOTE VEHICLE RENTAL BUSINESSES."

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

Mrs. Hanrahan stated this ordinance will help to control bikes and scooters that are brought into Norwood from companies outside the city; Xavier University also has some safety concerns surrounding these items. The scooters are in the way of pedestrians and are a safety issue; Mrs. Hanrahan has photos of the placement of these scooters. This ordinance will give the city the right to collect these items that are parked illegally and hold them until a \$75 fee is paid by the owner of the scooter, per scooter.

Mr. Thompson asked if this ordinance is similar to legislation enacted by other cities; Mrs. Hanrahan replied by stating language was taken from other cities dealing with this matter.

Ms. Stevenson asked if there is an awareness of where the scooters should be parked; Mrs. Hanrahan replied by stating a video is provided to those renting the scooter, identifying where/how they should be parked. Mrs. Hanrahan confirmed that Lime has an agreement with Xavier University. Mr. Thompson stated it does not appear as though an appropriate place has been defined as to where the scooters may be placed, once removed from Xavier University property; Mr. Moore stated the scooters cannot be parked on city property, but they can be parked on private property, with the property owner's approval. Some of the wording for this ordinance was pulled from with city's shopping cart ordinance. Mr. Moore added that this becomes a practical matter when three or more of the scooters are placed on sidewalks or in the city right-of-way in "nests" by the company, which becomes an obstruction for pedestrian traffic.

Mr. Breadon thanked Mrs. Hanrahan for doing "homework" on this topic. Mr. Bonsall stated it is the city's prerogative to say if they want the scooters in the city or not. Mrs. Hanrahan stated the ordinance is a way to assign responsibility for parking the scooters, instead of banning them altogether; if they are going to be used in Norwood, they cannot be left to block pedestrian traffic. Ms. Stevenson stated she would appreciate more guidance on what is permissible and what repercussions the city might consider if the guidelines are violated; she asked about the possibility of the ordinance being sent back to committee and to invite Xavier University to discuss what they are already doing to address the scooters. Mrs. Hanrahan stated she is already speaking with Xavier University and Lime; Xavier University is waiting to see what type of action Norwood takes with the scooters. Mr. Bonsall would like to see a representative from Lime also present at the meeting. If passed, the ordinance will only remain in effect until an agreement is reached with the scooter businesses.

All members present voted, "Yes."

INTRODUCTORY READING OF RESOLUTIONS

1) RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY AUDITOR TO APPROVE A "THEN AND NOW" CERTIFICATE FOR THE GENERAL FUND'S RECREATION KEY (01-10500 TO COVER THE COST OF AN INVOICE FOR UMC FOOD MINISTRIES FOR 2018 OF \$3,083.60, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

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

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

L) ADMINISTRATION REPORTS

There were no administration reports.

M) OTHER REQUESTS TO ADDRESS COUNCIL

There were no other requests to address Council.

N) UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Mrs. Hanrahan stated she has heard a lot of criticism of Council approving the Fiscal Recovery Plan without properly reviewing it; if able to attend that meeting, she also would have voted for the Fiscal Recovery Plan. Mrs. Hanrahan stated she started asking for a draft of the Fiscal Recovery Plan the week before the Council vote and was refused a copy; no one provided Council a draft copy of the plan to review, which is no way for Council to govern. Mr. Thompson agrees with Mrs. Hanrahan, and stated he raised similar concerns at that meeting. Council was not given enough time to review the plan; it would be thoughtful to be given more than a few minutes to review any important legislation. Mr. Bonsall also agrees that Council needed more time to review the plan; Council might want to consider sending a letter stating they will not be approving this in the future without more time to review the plan.

On a motion by Mr. Thompson, seconded by Mrs. Hanrahan, it was moved to place the matter of the Recreation Department invoice into Committee of the Whole, and request the Administration, Auditor, and Recreation Department Head attend the meeting. All members present voted, "Yes." Mrs. Laake stated she will be in touch with everyone regarding a meeting date. Mr. Bonsall requests the administration provide copies of any other reprimands that have taken place with similar instances regarding the Recreation Department Head.

Ms. Stevenson inquired about the revisions to the Standing Rules of Council; she suggests any outstanding recommendations or feedback be forwarded on to Mrs. Laake. If there are no other recommendations, Ms. Stevenson would like to see the revisions moved on for formal consideration. Mrs. Laake stated, if there are no other recommendations, the adoption of the revisions to the Standing Rules of Council will be placed on the next meeting agenda.

Mr. Bonsall mentioned Cincinnati's Tobacco-21 campaign and asked for updates on that matter in committee; Mrs. Hanrahan replied by stating it is being worked on, as there are other items currently on

the committee agenda. Mrs. Laake stated ASAP-Norwood has also been working on this issue; some background work still needs to be completed.

Ms. Stevenson mentioned ballot initiatives in the State of Ohio; she would like to suggest Council have the ability to discuss how ballot initiatives are handled by the city administration. Ms. Stevenson mentioned the recent request by the administration to consider a ballot initiative to increase the earnings tax; the recent ballot initiative to eliminate fines and penalties for marijuana possession was also discussed, and how the administration is still allowing citations to be issued, despite the will of Norwood voters.

O) NEW BUSINESS

Mrs. Hanrahan requests the Clerk of Council send a letter to Mayor Williams, asking for him to “instruct Council on proper procedures that Council members should follow if they desire to observe the negotiation process with our unions as it moves forward.”

Mr. Bonsall stated multiple citizens have raised the issue of building and health code enforcement and the fact that the city itself doesn’t comply with all of the codes; he would like to see the matter of code enforcement of city buildings placed into Committee of the Whole. This will make sure all are operating with the same rules and it will help everyone know what needs to be done.

Ms. Stevenson announced there will not be an Economic Development and Community Engagement Committee meeting on the first Thursday in May; a meeting may be scheduled at a later date.

Mr. Bonsall provided an update on the highway cleanup that took place along 562(the Norwood Lateral). There were 15 volunteers who assisted as part of Keep Cincinnati Beautiful; the city of Norwood provided the Senior bus as a means of transporting volunteers. A dump truck was filled with trash that was collected along the Lateral. Volunteers at non-Norwood sites were envious of the Norwood bus that was transporting volunteers; Mr. Bonsall thanked the administration for the use of the bus and creating a new best-practice.

Ms. Laake announced the tire and freon removal/recycling program that will take place at Norwood Public Works this weekend; all participants must be Norwood residents.

Mrs. Laake stated she attended a recent OKI Board meeting; they shared the impact of the gasoline tax and the permissive tax for license plates. Norwood will receive an additional \$346,000 in 2020 and an additional \$349,000 in 2021.

Ms. Stevenson reminded residents and invited members of Council to attend the Ward 1 Community Council meeting at the Norwood Community Center cafeteria on April 25th, from 7pm – 8pm.

Mr. Bonsall reminded residents of the 4th annual High-Five Parade taking place in West Norwood. The parade will take place on April 27th, beginning at 11am, at the intersection of Mills and Carter Avenues; the parade route will go through West Norwood. The goal of the parade is to spread joy and cheer through the community; the event will end at noon at Victory Park.

P) COMMUNICATIONS

1) **Jim Stith, Norwood Auditor** **Re: Resolution Added to Pay UMC Food Ministries**

(letter was read prior to consideration of the resolution authorizing the City Auditor to approve a “then and now” certificate)

On a motion by Mr. Bonsall, seconded by Mr. Breadon, it was moved to receive and file the letter.

Mr. Bonsall stated he has discussed this matter with Mr. Stith; the city will have to pay this invoice or may risk future grant funding if it is not paid. Mr. Breadon would like to speak with the Recreation Department Head about this matter. Mr. Breadon asked Mr. Moore about Council’s responsibility to reprimand, which was mentioned in the letter; Mr. Moore replied by stating the first point of discipline is the Mayor or Safety-Service Director. This letter is asking Council to issue a reprimand to place it on public record; the Auditor is trying to send the message that employees cannot order things or encumber funds without a purchase order. Mr. Moore added that purchasing items without a purchase order in place undermines the established financial system in the city. Mrs. Laake confirmed the Financial Supervisors met with all department heads to review how the finances are handled.

Mr. Clark stated he would also like to look into this more; it is frustrating how something like this could happen. The department head should have known the process, given her length of employment with the city and the recent review of processes. Mr. Thompson also expressed his frustration in how this happened; this was a public event, and no one else bothered to raise a “red flag.” Mrs. Hanrahan stated she has talked to several individuals about the matter, and she believes the resolution needs to be passed and the invoice paid.

Mr. Bonsall confirmed this paid for lunches that were provided to children at the Community Center, not at the pool; up to 50 children were provided lunch on weekdays during the summer. The invoices for this were sent to the Recreation Department and were not turned in to the Auditor’s office; the city cannot allow stuff like this to happen again. Mr. Breadon stated he supports providing lunch for

children, but he agrees the city has to ensure laws are being followed. Mrs. Hanrahan stated there are many “unknowns,” and would like for the Recreation Department Head to be asked to address Council.

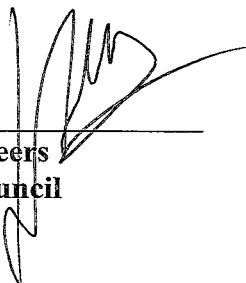
All members present voted, “Yes.”

Q) EXCUSE ABSENT MEMBER/S

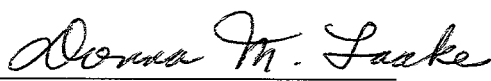
On a motion by Mr. Bonsall, seconded by Ms. Stevenson, it was moved to excuse the absence of Mr. Sanker and Mr. Geers. Mr. Bonsall made a note of Mr. Geers’ attendance as Clerk of Council; this is the first meeting he has missed since being appointed Clerk of Council in 2016. Mrs. Laake thanked Mr. Clark for filling in as Clerk of Council. All members present voted, “Yes.”

R) ADJOURNMENT

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



Joseph S. Geers
Clerk of Council



Donna M. Laake
President of Council