

**SUMMARY OF CAUCUS DISCUSSION AND MINUTES OF THE STRONGSVILLE CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING HELD ON, TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2023.**

The Council of the City of Strongsville met in the Caucus Room at the Mike Kalinich Sr. City Council Chamber, 18688 Royalton Road, on **Tuesday, February 21, 2023 at 7:45 p.m.**

**Present: Council Members:** James E. Carbone, Annmarie P. Roff, Joseph C. DeMio, James A. Kaminski, Gordon C. Short, Thomas M. Clark and Kelly A. Kosek. **Also Present:** Clerk of Council Aimee Pientka. **Administration:** Mayor Thomas P. Perciak, Finance Director Eric Dean and Law Director Neal Jamison.

Council President, James Carbone, called the caucus to order at 7:52 p.m.

The following Council Committees met to review legislation on the agenda:

Planning, Zoning & Engineering: Chairman Kaminski advised Resolution No. 2023-026 is a resolution authorizing the Mayor to advertise for bids for the Whitney Road covered bridge project. Suspension and adoption was recommended for this legislation.

Public Safety & Health Committee: Chairman Kaminski advised Ordinance No. 2023-027 is an ordinance approving and authorizing the filing of an application for financial assistance with the Ohio Department of Public Safety under the Ohio EMS grant program for the training of personnel and/or purchase of emergency medical equipment. Suspension and adoption was recommended for this legislation.

**MINUTES OF THE STRONGSVILLE CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY,  
FEBRUARY 21, 2023 IN THE MIKE KALINICH SR. CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS.**

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Council President James E. Carbone called the meeting to order at 8:00 p.m. All joined in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

**CERTIFICATION OF POSTING:**

The Clerk of Council certified that the meeting had been posted in accordance with Ordinance No. 2004-273.

**ROLL CALL:**

**Present: Council Members:** James E. Carbone, Annmarie P. Roff, Joseph C. DeMio, James A. Kaminski, Gordon C. Short, Thomas M. Clark and Kelly A. Kosek. **Also Present:** Clerk of Council Aimee Pientka. **Administration:** Mayor Thomas P. Perciak, Law Director Neal Jamison and Finance Director Eric Dean.

**COMMENTS ON MINUTES:**

The Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held on February 6, 2023 were approved as submitted.

**APPOINTMENTS, CONFIRMATIONS, AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS:**

**Mayor's appointment and Council confirmation of Terry Toth to fill the unexpired term of Edward Pfahl (term expiring January 21, 2024), as a member of the City's Planning Commission, to be effective February 21, 2023.**

***Motion made by Ms. Kosek, second by Mr. DeMio, to appoint Terry Toth as a member of the City's Planning Commission, to be effective February 21, 2023. All members present voted aye and the motion carried.***

Mayor Perciak – Mr. President, anybody who wants Terri Toth's resume, I have it.

Mr. Kaminski – He's a great candidate.

Mayor Perciak – Yes, he is. He is very involved with the civic organizations and just for the record, he also maintains a series-7 security license; he has a lot going on up there.

Mr. Carbone – Very good...yes, he is all around town helping out at all the events.

**REPORTS OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES:**

**SCHOOL BOARD – Mr. Clark:** Thank you Mr. President, there has not been a school board meeting since our last meeting. The next school board meeting is this Thursday, February 23, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. If no questions, I'll move on to Building and Utilities.

**BUILDING AND UTILITIES – Mr. Clark:** Just one announcement...Dave Connelly from First Energy, our representative from First Energy, will join us for caucus at our next meeting on March 6, 2023. We will spend some time with him during the caucus.

Mayor Perciak – That will be a good thing.

Ms. Roff – I don't know if anybody else put out...but I tried to put out to some of the residents, obviously, about some of the outages. I know that Mayor, our little pocket there has lots of ...

Mayor Perciak – Issues...

Ms. Roff - ...response there. If anybody else has anything, obviously either send them to him, or I don't know if we can do just one big group printout.

Mayor Perciak – Ann you're correct, these people are actually logging all their outages. They are getting aggravated, so it's time for this.

Ms. Roff – It's been a nightmare there.

Mayor Perciak – They want to force you and I to do something about it. We try to explain to them that this is...the only thing we could do is voice our displeasure and lean on them, but they don't...the residents don't actually believe us that we can't control them.

Ms. Roff – I thank you, Jim and Joe, for having...getting those things started as far as our liaisons for the electric company. Thank you, I know Joe way back when and then Jim has taken over that so, thank you guys.

**REPORTS OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES (cont'd):**

**BUILDING AND UTILITIES – Mr. Clark (cont'd):**

Ms. Kosek – Is everyone still reminding folks to...when they have outages, to call them in so that there's a record?

Ms. Roff – I hope so, yeah.

Ms. Kosek – I constantly am telling residents to do that so that there's some sort of record. I know that there was a stretch a couple months ago where there were outages in Westwood Farms and Meadowood pretty regularly. There was a lot of unhappiness there which I'm sure is similar to what you all are experiencing.

Mayor Perciak – Look at the one on Sunday where the people...somebody drove over a fire hydrant; you had no water pressure. We actually had to have our guys, thank God they are around the clock, go out and drive. We were able to isolate where that was, and find out that somebody plowed over a fire hydrant on Gate Post.

Ms. Kosek – Yes, that was...yes, on that Sunday morning that Joe Walker went out. Yes, I was asking everybody, "We have no water pressure, does anybody know what's going on?" Joe was able to figure it out by having the service guys go out and I believe that they are the ones that identified the problem.

Mayor Perciak – That is correct.

Ms. Kosek – If people make the right calls, we can get this worked on for everybody. I would remind everybody out of power, to let First Energy know.

Ms. Roff – It's real important for them to call in even if they know their neighbors called in to call and have it documented. That's how they kind of track from the beginning to the end of where the outages are. It's real important, even if you know your neighbor called to call in, and they have a record of them; at least a stretch of area, thank you.

Mr. Carbone – Do you have anything else?

Mr. Clark – No, that concludes my report.

**SOUTHWEST GENERAL HEALTH SYSTEM – Mr. Short:** Thank you Mr. Carbone, we have not had a board meeting at the hospital system; the next board meeting is set for March 29, 2023. We have no update from the CEO, that is usually done at the beginning of the month. I should have a report at the next Council meeting. I will close my report for Southwest General unless there are any questions.

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT – Mr. Short:** We have not met, we will plan another meeting soon in the next couple of months; I will keep you posted. That concludes my report, but I will happily take any questions.

**PUBLIC SERVICE AND CONSERVATION – Mr. DeMio:**

(No report)

**REPORTS OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES (cont'd):**

**FINANCE – Ms. Kosek:**

(No report)

**PLANNING, ZONING AND ENGINEERING – Mr. Kaminski:** Alright, we will start off with Planning, Zoning and Engineering. Resolution No. 2023-026 which is a resolution authorizing the Mayor to advertise for bids for the Whitney Road covered bridge. Mayor, I am sure you're happy that we are finally getting that started soon.

Mayor Perciak – Well, I never knew there were so many engineers living in our community with a better way to do it. I just thought I would make you aware of that, Mr. Kaminski.

Mr. Kaminski – I have seen many of those emails as well, yes. The recommendation on that is suspension and adoption.

**PUBLIC SAFETY AND HEALTH – Mr. Kaminski:** We have Ordinance No. 2023-027 which is authorizing the filing of an application for the Ohio EMS grant program; which will be for the training of personnel and for the purchase of emergency medical equipment. My recommendation is suspension and adoption. I will be happy to take any questions, otherwise, that concludes my reports for this evening.

**RECREATION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES - Ms. Roff:** I do not have anything tonight, but I will happily take any questions. I would also like to turn it over to Mr. Clark, to make some exciting announcements.

Mr. Clark – Yes, so I just want to share one thing. As part of the recreation center, we have a youth wrestling program, and this past Sunday, there were two wrestlers from our Strongsville Club that won a state championship. At 90 lbs., and in the Ohio Youth Association, Austin Trusnik won a state championship and made Strongsville proud. At 67 lbs., James Potts won the Ohio Youth Wrestling Association State Championship. We had a third placer...that was Kaden Breslin at 82 lbs.; three state placers. The last time we had a state championship from Strongsville was about 8 years ago; so to have two in one year is awesome. That team that signed up through our recreation program, and started wrestling through our recreation program, won a district championship; sent 10 kids to that state tournament and took 9<sup>th</sup> as a team. Out of all the teams in Ohio, I think 87 actually sent kids to the tournament and qualified. Pretty impressive and again, thanks for everyone that supports our recreation programs. Speaking of which, I think we have a flyer to support recreation uniforms coming up soon. Thanks for the minute there, Ann.

Mr. DeMio – Ann if I may, I want to...I hate to do this today, because of the time, but I have to tell you... I'm going to point you out Tom Clark. It's funny how lawyers and wrestlers seem to lead a very similar path...it's very true.

Mayor Perciak – I'm sure Neal wants to hear this.

Mr. DeMio – Oh he does...

Ms. Roff – As would Kelly.

Ms. Kosek – I'm very interested.

**REPORTS OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES (cont'd):**

**RECREATION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES - Ms. Roff (cont'd):**

Mr. DeMio - ... it's not as exciting as the plane issue. Jim Kaminski and Jim Carbone understand what I am talking about; I told them both this. Tom, you alone have created a new environment with your staff. I was just talking to you about Daniel Misiewicz and Walter and all those people. They constantly say how you are and how it's changed to where it was when Jim...when you were a kid. I want to point that out. Anything that keeps our kids off the streets. The Mayor is a big proponent of this; it only helps the community and you're outstanding. It's about time that people understand it's not just what you hear, it's what you do; that's all I wanted to point out.

Mr. Kaminski – I agree 100%, it is great to see the youth program come back; and as strong as it is now, it's really exciting...so, it's awesome.

Mr. DeMio – Some people say there's addition by subtraction, but other people understand what I really mean...right, Ann?

Mr. Carbone – All good stuff.

**COMMUNICATIONS AND TECHNOLOGY – Mr. Carbone:**

(No report)

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – Mr. Carbone:**

(No report)

**REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR, DIRECTORS OF DEPARTMENTS AND OTHER OFFICERS:**

**MAYOR PERCIAK:** Thank you Mr. President...good evening everyone, I will be delivering the State of the City speech on March 21, 2023 at the Ehrnfelt Recreation Center. We are going to open the doors at 11:15 a.m. and we are going to try to get started at 11:30 a.m. to get the speech going by 12:00 p.m. / 12:15 p.m. Anybody wanting tickets or wanting to attend, please contact Amy at the Chamber of Commerce, and they will make arrangements for you. Any of our Council people wishing to attend, please contact Sue DeLuca and she will add you to our list of names that will be going. That is the 21<sup>st</sup> of March 2023, thank you.

**FINANCE DEPARTMENT – Mr. Dean:** Thank you Council President, I hereby certify that the funds will be made available for all ordinances and resolutions on such agenda requiring certification of funding, thank you.

**LAW DEPARTMENT – Mr. Jamison:** All ordinances and resolutions are in proper legal form. That concludes my report.

**AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION:**

(None)

Ms. Roff – If I can thank Neal and the Mayor too, for those ordinances last...two weeks ago on Howe Rd. I had a lot of people reach out, and a lot of people were very happy to see the work that you guys did there so, I appreciate that in getting those properties taken care of.

**REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR, DIRECTORS OF DEPARTMENTS AND OTHER OFFICERS (cont'd):**

Mr. Jamison – Thank you for that...we're moving forward. I spoke to the attorney last week and we are pretty soon to be following the appropriate litigation to move that forward.

Ms. Roff – I have directed people that have had questions to go to you guys....

Mr. Jamison – Okay, very good.

Ms. Roff - ...just so they get the correct information, but I appreciate that from both of you guys.

Mr. Jamison – No problem, you're welcome.

**ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS:**

**Resolution No. 2023-026** by Mayor Perciak and All Members of Council. A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS FOR THE WHITNEY ROAD COVERED BRIDGE PROJECT (CUY-WHITNEY ROAD BRIDGE PID NO. 111574), AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion by Ms. Kosek to suspend the rules requiring every ordinance or resolution to be read on three different days, second by Mr. DeMio. All members present voted aye and the motion carried.

**Motion to adopt by Ms. Kosek, second by Mr. DeMio.**

**Roll Call: All ayes. Motion carries.**

**Resolution No. 2023-026 ADOPTED.**

**Ordinance No. 2023-027** by Mayor Perciak and All Members of Council. AN ORDINANCE APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING THE FILING OF AN APPLICATION FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE WITH THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY UNDER THE OHIO EMS GRANT PROGRAM FOR THE TRAINING OF PERSONNEL AND/OR THE PURCHASE OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL EQUIPMENT; AUTHORIZING ACCEPTANCE OF FUNDS, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion by Ms. Kosek to suspend the rules requiring every ordinance or resolution to be read on three different days, second by Mr. DeMio. All members present voted aye and the motion carried.

**Motion to adopt by Ms. Kosek, second by Mr. DeMio.**

**Roll Call: All ayes. Motion carries.**

**Ordinance No. 2023-027 ADOPTED.**

**COMMUNICATIONS, PETITIONS AND CLAIMS:**

(None)

**MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS:**

(None)

**ADJOURNMENT:**

There being no further business to come before this Council, President Carbone adjourned the meeting at 8:15 p.m.

*Marialena Beach*

Marialena Beach  
Council Secretary

*03-06-23*

Date