

SUMMARY OF CAUCUS DISCUSSION AND MINUTES OF THE STRONGSVILLE CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING HELD ON, MONDAY, MARCH 18, 2024.

The Council of the City of Strongsville met in the Caucus Room at the Mike Kalinich Sr. City Council Chamber, 18688 Royalton Road, on **Monday, March 18, 2024, at 6:45 p.m.**

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

Council President, James Carbone, called the caucus to order at 6:51 p.m.

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

Public Safety & Health Committee:

Chairwoman Roff – I have two items for...we're going Public, Safety & Health first, right? I have two items. I have Ordinance No. 2024-032, right?

Mr. Jamison – Yes, Ordinance No. 2024-032.

Chairwoman Roff – That is authorizing to file for financial assistance through the Attorney General; suspend and adopt for that one. Then also, Ordinance No. 2024-033; and that is to purchase items for our police department; suspend and adopt for that one.

Mr. Carbone – Any questions for Ms. Roff?

(No questions)

Recreation & Community Services Committee:

Chairman Spring – Thank you Mr. President, for Ordinance No. 2024-034; it is an ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into a grant agreement with NOPEC. It's for the NOPEC 2024 Energized Community Grant program in connection with The Town Center Enhancement and Walkability Initiative project in the amount of \$109,743.00. The recommendation is to suspend and adopt. We also have Resolution No. 2024-035; it's a resolution accepting a donation from The Strongsville Community Theater. It's in appreciation of the personnel at the Walter F. Ehrnfelt Recreation Center for the usage of various meeting rooms. Thanks for all they do for them. So, they just want to say thanks, and it's a donation for \$2,000.00. The recommendation is to suspend and adopt as well. That is all I have.

Mr. Carbone – Any questions for Mr. Spring?

(No questions)

Finance Committee:

Chairman Short - Yes, thank you Mr. Carbone, we have one ordinance on the agenda tonight. This is Ordinance No. 2024-036, and this is for the approval to issue new bonds not to exceed \$6 million dollars. These are to be used for street repairs and improvements in the city based upon the plan we approved earlier this year. The recommendation is to suspend and adopt. I don't know Eric, if there is anything you want to add to it, or...?

Mr. Dean – Yes, these are one-year notes and then they are just rolling over from prior years' street programs that we have done. In looking at our past history, we've used these short-term notes to fund larger projects as we go, and we have been paying them down. The plan is to pay this down when we do issue new notes.

Mr. Short – Thank you, and we also have a Aaa bond rating. We are getting a very good interest rate in this high interest rate time. The recommendation there is to suspend and adopt on that.

Mr. Dean – Yes, we are looking at around a 3.4% interest rate based on the current market, but things can change.

Mr. Short – That is a really good interest rate. That's why we maintain a Aaa bond rate. Any other questions...any questions? The recommendation, again, is to suspend and adopt, thank you.

Planning, Zoning & Engineering Committee:

Chairwoman Kosek – I'm happy to do it. We've got Ordinance Nos. 2024-037, 2024-038 and 2024-039 in Planning, Zoning and Engineering. So, the first one is to permit the Mayor to enter into a contract with Fabrizi Trucking and Paving for the replacement project relating to the waterline on Saddlehorn Circle. Fabrizi Trucking came in with the winning bid, the lowest and best bid of \$442,810.00. I'd ask that we suspend and adopt that. We also have Ordinance No. 2024-038 which will allow the Mayor to file an application with The Ohio Department of Development through the "All Ohio Future Fund" to get some grant assistance for the Foltz Parkway Extension Phase II project. Mayor do you want to...or you or Eric want to talk about what you are looking for in that grant?

Mayor Perciak – We've applied for \$3 million dollars in that grant. The program is just going to be...as a matter of fact, there were all kinds of phone calls today back and forth because it's just coming out, so we are trying to be first in the gate. We are still waiting for our Army Corps permit, so we are taking a big leap of faith here that we will have the Army Corps permit. If all the permits are not in place, they will not grant us the money, but we are moving forward.

Ms. Kosek – Hopefully, the Army Corps will get on the ball.

Mayor Perciak – That would be good.

Ms. Kosek - We also have Resolution No. 2024-039, and this is a resolution to confirm the final site plan for the construction of an outdoor pavilion structure for hospice at the Southwest General Health Center. I'd ask that we suspend and adopt that.

Public Service & Conservation Committee:

Ms. Kosek – For the other committee, we have...asking the Mayor to, or allowing the Mayor with Resolution No. 2024-040, to advertise for bids for our general pavement services program for 2024. I know at the "State of the City," we announced all of the streets. Is that publicly available on the website now, Mayor?

Mayor Perciak – That I don't know, but anybody who wants a copy of it, I will ask David to put it out there.

Ms. Kosek – Yes, rather than repeating them all here, it would be nice if it was just available.

Mayor Perciak – Okay.

Ms. Kosek – Thank you.

Mayor Perciak – You're welcome.

Ms. Kosek – If we can suspend and adopt that. If anybody has any questions, I'm happy...or the Mayor I'm sure can answer other questions. Is everybody good? Great...okay, that's all.

Committee of the Whole:

Mr. Carbone – Okay, Thank you. Committee of the Whole that's myself. We have Ordinance No. 2024-005; this is concerning the sale of recreational marijuana in our community. This was placed on first reading and referred to the Planning Commission. This was given a favorable recommendation from the Planning Commission, and then we had two other readings. The recommendation here...we also have a public hearing on it this evening. We are going to see what the responses are with that before we decide whether we are going to vote on this, this evening or not. Are there any questions with this?

(No questions)

Mr. Carbone – I know the police chief came in; and I know a lot of us reached out to our director of safety, our law director, and our police chief. I know we have had ample time to discuss this and digest this. We will see what the community has to say before we move forward, okay? Any further questions?

(No questions)

Mr. Carbone – We have forty seconds before our regular Council meeting.

Ms. Roff – In that little bit of time Mayor, thank you and your staff for...I just see a lot of activity on Howe Road by our gravel yard. I know it's been difficult....

Mayor Perciak – I think the "thanks" need to start with the law director.

Ms. Roff – Yes, Neal most definitely. I know he's helped me. I thank him almost every time, but yes. I know it's been very difficult; so, I appreciate that and the neighbors around there appreciate that. I'm glad we are getting that cleaned up.

Committee of the Whole (cont'd):

Mr. Jamison – Thank you.

Ms. Roff – It's been a haul.

****Please note – The legislation discussed above on tonight's agenda can be viewed in entirety at: <https://www.strongsville.org/government/city-council/minutes-agendas> by clicking on the March 18, 2024 agenda link. ****

MINUTES OF THE STRONGSVILLE CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, MARCH 18, 2024 IN THE MIKE KALINICH SR. CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS.

CALL TO ORDER:

Council President James E. Carbone called the meeting to order at 7:00 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. 2023-182.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Council Members: James E. Carbone, Annmarie P. Roff, James A. Kaminski, Gordon C. Short, Thomas M. Clark, Kelly A. Kosek and Brian M. Spring. **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 March 4, 2024 were approved as submitted.

APPOINTMENTS, CONFIRMATIONS, AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS:

(None)

PUBLIC HEARING:

Ordinance No. 2024-005 by Mayor Perciak and All Members of Council. AN ORDINANCE ENACTING A NEW CHAPTER 841 "RECREATIONAL MARIJUANA" OF TITLE TWO OF PART EIGHT-BUSINESS REGULATION AND TAXATION CODE OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF STRONGSVILLE CONCERNING THE SALE OF RECREATIONAL MARIJUANA, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. *First reading and referred to the Planning Commission 01-02-24. Favorable recommendation by the Planning Commission 01-11-24. Second reading 01-16-24. Third reading 02-05-24. Public Hearing 03-18-24.*

*Mr. Carbone invited anyone wishing to speak **IN FAVOR** of the Ordinance to approach the podium and address Council.*

PUBLIC HEARING (cont'd):

(No comments)

*Mr. Carbone invited anyone wishing to speak **IN OPPOSITION** of the Ordinance to approach the podium and address Council.*

Karen Kromer, 18922 Bennington Drive, Strongsville Ohio 44136: Okay, my name is Karen Kromer. My address is 18922 Bennington Drive in Strongsville, ward 2. I didn't know anything about it. We came because we really wanted to ask Ms. Roff about why they were building on Hunt Road; so then, I heard this. Why would you want to do that...allow recreational marijuana in Strongsville? Don't we have enough trouble with the kids getting into alcohol and drugs and everything? To just allow them to do that, that's kind of bizarre to me. Is it something you are really considering? Or was it brought because somebody want to do it?

Mr. Jamison – Ma'am, the ordinance provides that they will not be allowed to sell in the City of Strongsville – recreational marijuana. It's the opposite of what you think.

Mr. Kromer – I didn't understand it when you all were talking.

Mr. Carbone – So if this goes to vote this evening, if we vote in favor of it, it means it would not be allowed to be sold in the city.

Mr. Kromer – Oh, I apologize. I'm kind of new to this, thank you.

Mr. Carbone – Thank you, anybody else in the audience?

Hearing no further comments in regard to this matter, Council President Carbone closed the Public Hearing on said Ordinance.

REPORTS OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES:

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT – Mr. Clark: No report this evening, but our next meeting will be on Monday, April 22, 2024. Again, our next meeting will be on April 22nd. Any questions?

(No questions)

Mr. Clark – That ends my report.

BUILDING AND UTILITIES – Ms. Roff:

(No report)

PUBLIC SAFETY & HEALTH – Ms. Roff: I have two ordinances. Ordinance No. 2024-032; that is to authorize our Mayor and our administration to go out for assistance...for financial assistance to purchase bullet proof vests for our police officers. The recommendation is to suspend and adopt for that. Then, I have Ordinance No. 2024-033, and that is for the purchase of some armor plates for our safety forces. Suspend and adopt for that if we could please.

REPORTS OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES (cont'd):

PUBLIC SAFETY & HEALTH – Ms. Roff (cont'd):

Mr. Carbone – Any questions for Ms. Roff?

(No questions)

Ms. Roff – Lastly, is that we will have an item on tomorrow's ballot for the rezoning of some property on Royalton Road to be rezoned for public...to be used for public service; possibly a new fire station. It's surrounding some property that we already have rezoned to be used for...to be zoned from residential into public service area. I would like the support of the residents for that please and that's all.

RECREATION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES – Mr. Spring: Thank you Mr. Carbone, first up Ordinance No. 2024-034 is an ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into a grant agreement with NOPEC through the NOPEC 2024 Energized Community Grant program. This is in connection with our Town Center Enhancement and Walkability Initiative project. The recommendation is to suspend and adopt. They have agreed to provide funding to the city in the amount of \$109,743.00. We also have Resolution No. 2024-035; that is a resolution accepting a donation from The Strongsville Community Theater, in appreciation for the personnel at our recreation center, for usage of various meeting rooms; they go there every year. They wanted to say thank you, and they made a donation of \$2,000.00. The recommendation is to suspend and adopt that as well. Any questions on recreation?

(No questions)

SCHOOL BOARD – Mr. Spring: Reporting back to the school board meeting on March 14, 2024, there was some student achievements. They gave away a "Polaris Award" for engineering to a student from Strongsville High School, named Gavin Wehe. Also, there were student achievements for the girls' 2024 Dance Team. They received an achievement for accomplishing being state champs in the lyrical category; so we want to say congratulations to them. They gave a presentation on the athletic department budget. We had a very good successful winter sports program. Competing – we have five championship teams, so we want to say congratulations to all of them. Also, in the superintendent report, they discussed expanding with mobile units at the schools. Right now, the recommendation is to add six new mobile units at various schools throughout the district to take care of the growing number of students. They also had a conversation about substitutes and giving them competitive pay so we always have good and ready substitutes when they need them. That completes my report.

FINANCE – Mr. Short: Thank you Mr. Carbone, for finance we do have one ordinance on the agenda tonight. Ordinance No. 2024-036; this is to issue up to \$6 million dollars of notes or bonds, actually one-year notes, to pay for the cost of improving streets by reconstructing, resurfacing, grading, and other improvements as designated by the plans approved prior to this Council for 2024. The recommendation there is to suspend and adopt. Any questions on that?

(No questions)

REPORTS OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES (cont'd):

SOUTHWEST GENERAL HEALTH SYSTEM – Mr. Short: I do not have a report, but we do have a board meeting next Wednesday, March 27, 2024. I will have report at our next Council meeting. That concludes my report, thank you.

COMMUNICATIONS AND TECHNOLOGY – Mr. Kaminski:

(No report)

PLANNING, ZONING AND ENGINEERING – Ms. Kosek: Yes, we have three on the agenda for Planning, Zoning, and Engineering. We have Ordinance No. 2024-037; and that is to allow the Mayor to enter into a contract for the replacement of the waterline on Saddlehorn Circle. The lowest and best bid was the Fabrizi Trucking and Paving for around \$442,000.00. I'd ask that we suspend and adopt that. Moving on to the next ordinance which is Ordinance No. 2024-038; this would be an ordinance authorizing the Mayor to apply for a grant for the Foltz Parkway Extension Phase II project. That would be an application with The Ohio Department of Development through the "All Ohio Future Fund." During the caucus, the Mayor shared with us that we were hoping to apply for a \$3 million dollar grant to aid in that project which would extend the parkway. It would then end in a cul-de-sac, so that we were able to have some additional land that would be available for some industrial use. It is very clear that the plan is not to take it through to Boston Road. I just want to make sure that it's clear on that point. I'd ask that we suspend and adopt that so that the Mayor can meet that application for a grant. We also have Resolution No. 2024-039 which is approving the final site plan for construction of a hospice outdoor pavilion structure for Southwest General. I would ask that we suspend and adopt that.

PUBLIC SERVICE AND CONSERVATION – Ms. Kosek: We have Resolution No. 2024-040; and that is authorizing the Mayor to advertise for bids for the purchase of the general pavement services for 2024. The Mayor did announce which streets would be part of that program and shared with us that he will get that posted onto the website so everyone can see which roads will be part of the 2024 plan. I'd ask that we suspend and adopt that as well. If anyone has any questions about any of the four either from Planning and Zoning or from Public Service, I'm happy to answer those. Otherwise, I will kick it back to you Jim.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – Mr. Carbone: Committee of the Whole that's myself, we have Ordinance No. 2024-005, which we had the public hearing this evening, concerning the sale of recreational marijuana in our community. Again, it was placed on three readings...three hearings. It did get a favorable recommendation through our Planning Commission; so we are going to vote on that this evening. Are there any questions with that?

(No questions)

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

MAYOR PERCIAK: Thank you Mr. President, just two quick notes. First of all, Easter is coming, and Good Friday is a couple weeks away. City Hall will close at 12 noon on Good Friday; that's the first announcement. The second announcement is, I wish everybody here and at home a blessed Easter, thank you.

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

FINANCE DEPARTMENT – Mr. Dean: Thank you Mr. President, I hereby certify that the funds will be made available for all ordinances and resolutions on tonight's agenda which require certification of funding, thank you.

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

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION:

Bonnie Thoennes, 9407 Brushwood Lane, Strongsville, Ohio 44136: My name is Bonnie Thoennes, I live at 9407 Brushwood Lane. Mr. Mayor, Mr. President, Council members, and other city officials, I am here because I want to make a comment about the last few months which reminds me of a strike. The strike was a standoff between the Board of Education and teachers. This standoff is between the Board of Education and the GOP Ohio Pac which represents the number of Strongsville residents. I am disturbed by all this negativity that is posted on poll levy websites. There are always going to be people that complain about the levy, and maybe they have a good reason. Others might be like our grandpas that always complain. The board should just ignore it and concentrate on the positive. Nothing good can come out of this negativity even if this levy renewal will pass. What happened between the Board of Education and residents, it will leave a bad feeling. I believe that public elected officials should not make a stand against residents. They are elected by the people and for the people. We all should be allowed to disagree and come to a compromise that benefits us all. School cannot exist without the resident's support and residents need good schools to educate their children. Yes, there was a letter sent by the GOP Ohio PAC; so what? The information in that letter was factual. Except, maybe it wasn't presented the way the Board of Education and the school administration wanted it to be. The district should respond to that letter, in a respectful manner, provide information and clarification about the renewal levy to residents without the attack; and let people decide at the voting booth. Instead, they called the GOP PAC letter a fake news propaganda, which was not true and actually made it worse. Although this is my opinion, I don't believe that I am the only one who sees it this way. Also, statements like these posted on "For Levy" websites don't help. Enough is enough with the one-liner misleading propaganda from a political activist group whose majority of members live outside Strongsville. Attention Strongsville residents, do not allow yourself to be misled by propaganda. Strangely enough, a political activist group whose majority of members live outside city limits and do not represent our interests, continue to question the fiscal responsibility of our award winning school executives. Why even go there? Someone could say, "Let's not forget that the two people...top people, that are in charge of our schools are outsiders." Mr. Superintendent is from Medina and their assistant to the superintendent lives in Lorain County. Should we trust them? Do they really care about our city and about our district? It's easy to discredit someone and their motives. Maybe the GOP Ohio PAC does care for some residents, but believe that they are no being properly represented, respected or heard. Maybe the superintendent does care, but we really don't know. The other thing I would like to comment on today is that \$71 million dollars tax reserve, no matter how you slice it or dice it, it's still \$71 million dollars. We can argue about it forever which is not going to solve anything. My biggest problem is that the \$25 million dollars that was moved into the 070 Fund, a big chunk of it's going to be used for an athletic field facility. A facility that has nothing to do with education. This district can afford a field house, but cannot afford a full-time kindergarten for all. Full-time kindergarten should not be offered in the district that cannot provide finances and room for all. It is very unfair not be offered to, if the district cannot provide finances.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (cont'd):

Ms. Thoennes (cont'd) - We all are affected by the current inflation; and we all struggle to adjust our expenses. This district should not be spending money on things that are not important. What is important is to build 4 new elementary schools...an athletic field can wait. An administrative office could be remodeled with that \$5 million dollars that would be left in that fund after applying the \$20 million dollars toward the elementary schools. I also believe that each new school should have a section for a pre-school. Maybe having one pre-school building, it's good for a small city, but Strongsville is not one of them. Children from far corners of the city will be bussed quite a few miles twice a day, just to spend two and a half hours at school. How is that good for the kids or parents? How is that saving money on transportation? With all that traffic already on Royalton Road and Pearl Road, it just does not make sense to have one building. Thank you for listening and allowing me to make the comments.

Andy Kromer, 18992 Bennington Drive, Strongsville, Ohio 44136: I'm Andy Kromer, a ward 2 resident of Strongsville. First, let me say thank you for what you do. My wife and I are longtime residents of Strongsville; and we love the city and we appreciate everything you do for us. We were...we woke up a couple of weeks ago and there's a project that started on Hunt Road - a memory care center. What we heard about it left a lot of questions in my mind. Who is the...who is responsible for the law or ordinance that allows a facility like that to be built in residentially zoned areas? The other question I had, I couldn't find any definitive answers. How many parcels of land are involved? Is that all being put on one parcel? I was led to believe it was like 5 or 6. The other concern that I had was, is the property taxed as a residential area? This thing sure looks like a commercial business. What's the difference between the tax rates for commercial enterprises and residences? Where can I go to get more information on this? I know from what I read, our hands are tied in Strongsville and it had to be done. Those are my concerns.

Mr. Carbone – Right, audience participation is an opportunity for you to voice your opinion on some things. As far as dialogue back and forth, we don't do that during this part of the meeting, but Neal, maybe...

Mr. Jamison – Once audience participation is over, I will answer them and then I will take the gentleman in the back and explain it in further detail.

Mr. Kromer – Talk to you? Okay.

Mr. Carbone – Thank you Mr. Jamison.

Mr. Jamison – When we are done with audience participation, I will answer and take you back.

Mr. Kromer – I'm sorry?

Ms. Roff – You can go sit with Neal in the room, and he can explain and answer some of those questions. Do you have my phone number?

Mr. Kromer – I recognize this situation as being a problem for Strongsville. As I understand it and the way the situation is, they can come in anywhere and put an operation like that right in the middle of a subdivision. Is that your understanding? Should that be looked at or something try to be done about it?

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (cont'd):

Mr. Carbone – Yes, you have some questions there of some concern. Mr. Jamison can answer those for you.

Mr. Kromer – Thank you very much for hearing me.

Ms. Roff – Do you have my information?

Mr. Kromer – Pardon me?

Ms. Roff – Do you have my information?

Mr. Kromer – Do I have it?

Ms. Roff – Yes, my phone number and stuff.

Mr. Kromer – Yes.

Ms. Roff – Okay, then you can reach out to me.

Mr. Kromer – Well, we missed connections.

Ms. Roff – I know, we kept going back and forth and I apologize. I was actually at city hall earlier with that meeting, and it went past the time that I was going to call you back.

Mr. Kromer – Thank you very much.

Ms. Roff – Thank you.

Richard Micko, 20520 Wildwood Lane, Strongsville, Ohio 44136: President Carbone, President Pro Tem Short, members of Council, Mayor Perciak and administration, I was going to have a 10 minute speech on why we need new elementary schools; but I am going to thank my friend Bonnie because she did a great job of it, so I don't need to do that. Election Day is Tuesday, March 19, 2024. If you are hoping for another great speech by me advocating for the passage of Issue 25, you will be disappointed. I hope you will listen anyways. A few housekeeping issues: The polls will be open starting at 6:30 a.m. and closing at 7:30 p.m. Schools will be in session during the primary election. All of our district buildings that are used as polling locations will have signs for directions and designated parking where possible. Those areas are the same as in past elections. Extra patience and courtesy will occur during school arrival and dismissal. Our elementary schools at Chapman, Kinsner, Surrarer, and Whitney start school at 9:05 a.m., and finish at 3:30 p.m. The middle school begins at 7:55 a.m., and ends their school day at 3:00 p.m. The hours to pay attention to at the high school are 7:20 a.m. and 2:25 p.m. Please be aware of the extra foot, bus and car traffic at those times. The district administration offices are also a polling location; but you don't have to worry about extra traffic. Although it adds a little worry and it might be inconvenient, I like having Election Day while school is in session. It offers our students a live session in civics and government. Our teachers are able to take advantage of voting day as part of their lessons. State of Ohio's curriculum sets our standards for kindergarten through high school. So, what do we actually teach? You can go to the Ohio Department of Education's website and find our curriculum that we follow in Strongsville.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (cont'd):

Mr. Micko (cont'd) - For civic participation in Social Studies, we start teaching in kindergarten that individuals share responsibilities and take action toward the achievement of common goals in homes, schools and communities. As students progress through grade school, we build on that. Every grade has standards to be taught for civic participation. Jumping to fourth grade, we teach that individuals have a variety of opportunities to act in and influence their state and national government. Citizens have both rights and responsibilities in Ohio and in the United States. By the time we get to high school, students will take American History and American Government in order to graduate. By the time they graduate, the past thirteen years of learning will prepare our students to be good citizens in our community. When we teach our children history, we often use quotes from presidents. Here are two that I like in anticipation of election day: The first is from Franklin D. Roosevelt during one of his radio fireside chats on October 5, 1944 he shared, "Nobody will ever deprive the American people of the right to vote except the American people themselves; and the only way they can do this is by not voting." The second is from President Dwight D. Eisenhower during the breakfast meeting of republican state chairman on September 10, 1955: "Some politicians some years ago said, that bad officials are elected by good voters who do not vote." Bringing it back to Tuesday's primary election – Nothing will teach these lessons for our children better than we the adults in the room showing our students what it looks like to be actively engaged in our civic life. Simply put...show up, get in line, be patient if the line is long, and vote. Thank you for your attention and I hope everyone votes. If they haven't voted already, vote tomorrow and have a good evening.

Mr. Carbone – Would anybody else in the audience like to come up?

(No comments)

Mr. Jamison – Mr. Chairman, just really quick for the folks and I will take the gentleman in a second. For those listening about the community based residential care facilities, particularly the one that is going in on Hunt Road, that is a permitted use as it was enacted in our Code a number of years ago. That's consistent with a lot of other communities in Ohio; in consistent with the law that come down in this area. That being said, we do have an Ordinance 1252.37 under our local Code that spells out a number of regulations that they have to comply with in order to come in to an area. It deals with matters like supervision. How many people are there to supervise individuals that are there to be cared for? It regulates the number of persons residing there. Also, compliance with the Building and Fire Codes so that it's safe not only for the residents there, but for the people in the neighborhood. There is a comprehensive ordinance in place. It is a permitted use in the residential area and this is not the first one in Strongsville. There are a number that have been here for a number of years and this particular project is in full compliance with all of our ordinances. They have met with our building department and our city planner; and they have gone through the appropriate steps. There's nothing improper being done there. It's a permitted use and they followed all of the Code. With that being said, I will take you in the back in a second and talk to you further about it. I just thought in general because I know we had some other individuals. I spoke to one last week who questioned this; and I explained the same thing to that gentleman as well. I just thought, while I had this chance, I would explain that, thank you.

Mr. Carbone – Thank you Mr. Jamison and I think we all received some calls. Just speaking for myself, I did receive a lot of calls. There were a lot of requests to maybe for the business to do some things that are bordering the homes. I did relay all those requests to our City Planner, George Smerigan.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (cont'd):

Mr. Jamison – He’s incorporated those and I think they will follow through. This project has done everything we have asked them to do so far.

Mr. Carbone – Thank you.

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS:

Ordinance No. 2024-005 by Mayor Perciak and All Members of Council. AN ORDINANCE ENACTING A NEW CHAPTER 841 “RECREATIONAL MARIJUANA” OF TITLE TWO OF PART EIGHT-BUSINESS REGULATION AND TAXATION CODE OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF STRONGSVILLE CONCERNING THE SALE OF RECREATIONAL MARIJUANA, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. *First reading and referred to the Planning Commission 01-02-24. Favorable recommendation by the Planning Commission 01-11-24. Second reading 01-16-24. Third reading 02-05-24. Public Hearing 03-18-24.*

Motion to adopt by Mr. Short, second by Ms. Roff.

Roll Call: All ayes. Motion carries. Ordinance No. 2024-005 ADOPTED.

Ordinance No. 2024-032 by Mayor Perciak and All Members of Council. AN ORDINANCE APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING THE FILING OF AN APPLICATION FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FROM THE OHIO ATTORNEY GENERAL’S OFFICE IN CONNECTION WITH THE OHIO LAW ENFORCEMENT BULLETPROOF VEST PROGRAM; AUTHORIZING ACCEPTANCE OF FUNDS, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

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

Motion to adopt by Mr. Short, second by Ms. Roff.

Roll Call: All ayes. Motion carries. Ordinance No. 2024-032 ADOPTED.

Ordinance No. 2024-033 by Mayor Perciak and All Members of Council. AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO STATE OF OHIO ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES CONTRACTS FOR THE PURCHASE OF HARD ARMOR TORSO BALLISTIC PLATES FOR USE BY THE POLICE DEPARTMENT OF THE CITY, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

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

Motion to adopt by Mr. Short, second by Ms. Roff.

Roll Call: All ayes. Motion carries. Ordinance No. 2024-033 ADOPTED.

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS (cont'd):

Ordinance No. 2024-034 by Mayor Perciak and All Members of Council. AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A GRANT AGREEMENT WITH THE NORTHEAST OHIO PUBLIC ENERGY COUNCIL (NOPEC, INC.) FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE THROUGH THE "NOPEC 2024 ENERGIZED COMMUNITY" GRANT PROGRAM TO UTILIZE ENERGY EFFICIENT PRODUCTS IN CONNECTION WITH THE CITY OF STRONGSVILLE TOWN CENTER ENHANCEMENT & WALKABILITY INITIATIVE PROJECT, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

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

Motion to adopt by Mr. Short, second by Ms. Roff.

Roll Call: All ayes. Motion carries. Ordinance No. 2024-034 ADOPTED.

Resolution No. 2024-035 by Mayor Perciak and All Members of Council. A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING A DONATION OF MONEY FROM THE STRONGSVILLE COMMUNITY THEATRE IN APPRECIATION OF THE PERSONNEL AT THE WALTER F. EHRNFELT RECREATION & SENIOR CENTER AND FOR USAGE OF THE VARIOUS MEETING ROOMS.

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

Motion to adopt by Mr. Short, second by Ms. Roff.

Roll Call: All ayes. Motion carries. Resolution No. 2024-035 ADOPTED.

Ordinance No. 2024-036 by Mayor Perciak and All Members of Council. AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE ISSUANCE AND SALE OF NOT TO EXCEED \$6,000,000 OF NOTES, IN ANTICIPATION OF THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS, FOR THE PURPOSE OF PAYING COSTS OF IMPROVING STREETS BY RECONSTRUCTING, RESURFACING, GRADING, DRAINING, PAVING AND MAKING OTHER IMPROVEMENTS AS DESIGNATED IN THE PLANS APPROVED OR TO BE APPROVED BY COUNCIL, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

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

Motion to adopt by Mr. Short, second by Ms. Roff.

Roll Call: All ayes. Motion carries. Ordinance No. 2024-036 ADOPTED.

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS (cont'd):

Ordinance No. 2024-037 by Mayor Perciak and All Members of Council. AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT FOR THE SADDLEHORN CIRCLE WATERLINE REPLACEMENT PROJECT IN THE CITY OF STRONGSVILLE, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

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

Motion to adopt by Mr. Short, second by Ms. Roff.

Roll Call: All ayes. Motion carries. Ordinance No. 2024-037 ADOPTED.

Ordinance No. 2024-038 by Mayor Perciak and All Members of Council. AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO FILE AN APPLICATION WITH THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENT THROUGH THE ALL OHIO FUTURE FUND FOR GRANT ASSISTANCE FUNDING FOR THE FOLTZ PARKWAY EXTENSION PHASE II PROJECT IN THE CITY OF STRONGSVILLE; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

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

Motion to adopt by Mr. Short, second by Ms. Roff.

Roll Call: All ayes. Motion carries. Ordinance No. 2024-038 ADOPTED.

Resolution No. 2024-039 by Mayor Perciak and All Members of Council. A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING PLANNING COMMISSION APPROVAL OF THE FINAL SITE PLAN FOR CONSTRUCTION OF A HOSPICE OUTDOOR PAVILION STRUCTURE FOR THE SOUTHWEST GENERAL HEALTH CENTER FACILITY LOCATED AT 18659 DRAKE ROAD, IN THE CITY OF STRONGSVILLE.

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

Motion to adopt by Mr. Short, second by Ms. Roff.

Roll Call: All ayes. Motion carries. Resolution No. 2024-039 ADOPTED.

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS (cont'd):

Resolution No. 2024-040 by Mayor Perciak and All Members of Council. A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS FOR THE PURCHASE OF GENERAL PAVEMENT SERVICES FOR 2024 TO BE USED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICE OF THE CITY OF STRONGSVILLE, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

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

Motion to adopt by Mr. Short, second by Ms. Roff.

Roll Call: All ayes. Motion carries. Resolution No. 2024-040 ADOPTED.

COMMUNICATIONS, PETITIONS AND CLAIMS:

Receipt of Renewal Application for Placement of Farmland in an Agricultural District: Susan L. Schnittke, 11291 Handle Road, Strongsville, Ohio. (Application received by Clerk of Council on 03-12-24. Application approved by Cuyahoga County Fiscal Officer on 03-11-24.)

Set for a public hearing April 1, 2024.

Receipt of Renewal Application for Placement of Farmland in an Agricultural District: Meryl & Cynthia Hossfeld, 11698 Handle Road, Strongsville, Ohio. (Application received by Clerk of Council on 03-12-24. Application approved by Cuyahoga County Fiscal Officer on 03-11-24.)

Set for a public hearing April 1, 2024.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS:

Mr. Carbone – Just a reminder, I know it was brought up today, we have two issues in our community tomorrow that could really continue to move us forward. That is Issue 20 and Issue and 25. Like multiple people said today, please get out and vote. Other than that, the meeting is adjourned.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to come before this Council, President Carbone adjourned the meeting at 7:36 p.m.



Marialena Beach
Council Secretary



Date