

SUMMARY OF CAUCUS DISCUSSION AND MINUTES OF THE STRONGSVILLE CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING HELD ON, MONDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2019.

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, November 4, 2019 at 7:15 p.m.**

Present: Council Members: Matthew A. Schonhut, Annmarie P. Roff, Matthew P. Patten, Joseph C. DeMio, Kelly A. Kosek, Gordon C. Short and James E. Carbone. **Also Present:** Clerk of Council Aimee Pientka. **Administration:** Mayor Thomas P. Perciak, Law Director Neal M. Jamison, Finance Director Joe Dubovec, Economic Development Director Brent Painter, Communications and Technology Director David E. Sems, Service Director Joe Walker, Recreation and Senior Services Director Bryan Bogre, Building Commissioner Tony Biondillo, City Engineer Ken Mikula, Human Resource Director Steve Kilo, Public Safety Director Charles Goss, Fire Chief Jack Draves and Police Chief Mark Fender.

Council President DeMio called the caucus to order at 7:15 p.m.

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

Planning, Zoning & Engineering Committee: Chairman Schonhut advised Ordinance No. 2019-170 is to apply for Ohio Issue 1 funding for improvements to the Howe Road and Shurmer Road intersection in connection with the Howe Road/Shurmer Road roundabout project. The estimated cost of the project is \$1,550,103.00. If approved, the funding from the State would be approximately \$600,000.00. Mr. Schonhut advised this is a fiscal responsibility move; this is not voting in favor or not in favor of the project. Ms. Roff asked if the engineering company had any blueprints in regards to this project. Mr. Mikula advised his office has been receiving various documents and council is welcome to come in at any time to review them. Ms. Roff asked what documentation from the city is sent down to the State when we apply for this funding. Mr. Mikula advised they send what council has viewed in the preliminary meetings that were had. They also send the cost estimate and some of the accident data obtained through the police force. Ms. Roff asked if there was any additional information sent that council and/or the public has not yet seen. Mr. Mikula advised there was nothing additional that was submitted. Ms. Roff asked if the grant is awarded and council decides in the future to not move forward with this project, is there any penalty imposed on the city when they return the money back to the State. Mr. Schonhut advised that is what council did for the slip ramp project. Council decided not to move forward with the project and returned \$3.2 million dollars back to the State. Mr. Schonhut advised again this legislation is to be fiscally responsible. In the future and once council has all the information, they can then decide whether or not to move forward with the project. Mr. Short advised council has to do this now because the State's application process deadline is November 15th at the latest. Mayor Perciak advised the application has already been submitted, but it is incomplete until it includes a resolution from city council. Ms. Roff asked if the city applies for funding for this project, are we limiting ourselves for funding for other potential projects. Mayor Perciak and Mr. Mikula advised no, you can obtain funding for other projects. Ms. Kosek asked when the deadline was for the application. Mr. Mikula advised September 12, 2019. Ms. Kosek asked if council could have passed a resolution before the application was turned in. Mr. Mikula advised yes. Ms. Roff asked what the delay was in presenting council with this. Mr. Mikula advised it is routine for engineering to submit the application first before presenting anything to council. Ms. Roff advised if council received the information earlier, it would give more time for them to look at it and not have to make a decision based off a time deadline. She would appreciate it if administration would present information earlier in the future.

Public Service & Conservation Committee: Chairwoman Roff recommended suspension and adoption for Resolution No. 2019-171. This is to authorize the mayor to advertise a request for qualifications and proposals for engineering design and consulting services in connection with the rehabilitation of the wastewater treatment plants and Westwood lift station. Mayor Perciak advised this is strictly for engineering and consulting services. This project will be paid from the sanitary sewer fund. The city provides sewer services for about a third of the city. The eventual improvements needed could potentially cost around \$5 million dollars. Mr. DeMio advised there is adequate funding for this in the sanitary sewer fund. Ms. Roff asked how long the improvements could take. Mayor Perciak advised he did not know at this time.

Recreation & Community Services Committee: Chairwoman Roff advised Ordinance No. 2019-172 is to make payments for preventative maintenance services and emergency repair services for the HVAC systems at the recreation and senior center, as well as the Old Town Hall building. The payments will go to Relmec Mechanical, LLC as per the 2018 agreement the city entered into with them. The payment is in a total amount not to exceed \$65,000.00. Suspension and adoption was recommended for that legislation. Ordinance No. 2019-173 is to make payments for preventative maintenance services and emergency repair services for the HVAC systems at the city's recreation aquatic center and police department building. The payments will go to The K Company, Inc. as per the contract entered into through Ordinance No. 2015-136. The total amount will not exceed \$70,000.00. Suspension and adoption was recommended for this legislation. Both are without public bidding so all 7 votes of council are needed for this legislation to pass. Mr. Bogre advised we have annual maintenance contracts with both these companies. The amounts went over \$50,000.00 this year because one of the compressors failed on one of the rooftops, as well as the many repairs needed. These companies are very familiar with the equipment already existing at these buildings. In regards to the aquatic center, the city has had to replace 2 compressors in that unit.

Communications & Technology Committee: Chairwoman Kosek recommended suspension and adoption for Ordinance No. 2019-174. This is to enter into an agreement with TAC Computer, Inc. for continuation of computer software and maintenance services for the police and fire departments, including the city's regional public safety dispatch center. The agreement is in the amount of \$11,712.69 per quarter. This is without public bidding so all 7 votes of council are needed for this legislation to pass.

Economic Development Committee:

Motion made by Ms. Kosek, second by Mr. Carbone to approve the Economic Development Committee meeting minutes of Monday, October 28, 2019. All members present voted aye and the motion carried.

Ms. Kosek advised the next committee meeting will be on December 9, 2019.

Committee of the Whole: Mr. DeMio asked Mr. Jamison to go over some correspondence council received from Mr. Boyer, owner of Kids First Early Childhood Education located at 15163 Howe Road. Mr. Jamison provided a brief history of the property in question and a discussion ensued.

MINUTES OF THE STRONGSVILLE CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2019 IN THE MIKE KALINICH SR. CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS.

CALL TO ORDER:

Council President DeMio 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: Matthew A. Schonhut, Annmarie P. Roff, Matthew P. Patten, Joseph C. DeMio, Kelly A. Kosek, Gordon C. Short and James E. Carbone. Also Present: Clerk of Council Aimee Pientka. **Administration:** Mayor Thomas P. Perciak, Law Director Neal M. Jamison, Finance Director Joe Dubovec, Economic Development Director Brent Painter, Communications and Technology Director David E. Sems, Service Director Joe Walker, Recreation and Senior Services Director Bryan Bogre, Building Commissioner Tony Biondillo, City Engineer Ken Mikula, Human Resource Director Steve Kilo, Public Safety Director Charles Goss, Fire Chief Jack Draves and Police Chief Mark Fender.

COMMENTS ON MINUTES:

The Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held on October 21, 2019 were approved as submitted.

APPOINTMENTS, CONFIRMATIONS, AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS:

(None)

REPORTS OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES:

SCHOOL BOARD – Mr. DeMio: There is no school board meeting until November 21st, so we will have a report after that time at our regular meeting shortly thereafter. I think that would be the first week in December.

SOUTHWEST GENERAL HEALTH SYSTEM – Mr. Short: We did not have a board meeting since our last council meeting so no report. I do want to remind people that tomorrow's election is the renewal levy for Southwest. Again, not a tax increase but a levy to continue to support our great hospital system; so I would encourage everybody when they are voting tomorrow to support the levy for Southwest General. That concludes my report but I will happily take any questions.

BUILDING AND UTILITIES – Mr. Patten: Thank you, Mr. DeMio, no ordinances or resolutions this evening; but I will happily take any questions if there are any. If not, then I will close my committee.

REPORTS OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES (cont'd):

COMMUNICATIONS AND TECHNOLOGY – Ms. Kosek: Thank you, we have one ordinance on the agenda tonight, it's Ordinance No. 2019-174. It is the approval of the TAC computer service agreement which provides the software for police, fire and regional dispatch. This is a contract that we have had for a number of years and it is a renewal. The cost is \$11,712.69 per quarter. We use the same provider because they are the provider who has the software we need. To go out and get new software would be very expensive. I would recommend that we suspend and adopt this. We do need all 7 on that ordinance tonight.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT – Ms. Kosek: We met as an economic development committee on October 28, 2019. We did approve those minutes and those are available probably after this meeting. We also had a retail resident advisory board meeting and I'm going to let Jim address what the retail advisory board discussed.

Mr. Carbone – Yes, after our economic development meeting we met with our committee. Our committee made it known that they would like to explore what options we have potentially at the mall. What I'd like to do is set up a meeting, maybe this month in November, have some people come in and discuss what options-what we can and can't do there; one being maybe, mayor, have you come in or Brent and talk about some things pertaining to the mall. Also, we had discussed some other options. I'd like to take a page out of Mike Daymut's, the old Ward 1 councilman's, book and we discussed using the city van and taking out to Pinecrest. It's over on the east side. It's one of the newest malls. They are even newer than Crocker Park and Legacy. They've done things a lot differently. I'm not saying that we would ever want to mold anything to that, but just to give some options of what's new out there so we could discuss those things. We're planning to potentially, again, take a page out of Mike Daymut's book, use the city van and use it as a little field trip and just see what is out there for discussion for our committee. That ends my report.

Ms. Roff – Whose driving?

Mr. Carbone – We'll have to work all that out.

Ms. Kosek – Thanks Jim, I also wanted to let Brent Painter discuss or give us some small details of the small business expo that is scheduled for November 6th.

Mr. Painter – Thank you Councilwoman Kosek, yes, on November 6th, which is this Wednesday at our rec center, we'll be having our business expo, our small business expo. It's from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. It's a great opportunity for the public to come out and support our local business community. Everything is free; there is no charge to get in the door. You'll have free food samples, free product demonstrations, over 100 companies are registered, all kinds of restaurants and entertainment companies will be there. It is a great way to support our business community, but also and very importantly, this is a great event that showcases the excellence we have within Strongsville's business community. I think it's important for the residents to understand what great activity we have going on; whether it's in our business parks or within our retail corridor or professional services. This is a great way to come out and see that Strongsville really is an employment hub in Southwest Cuyahoga County but also in Cuyahoga County in general. It's good to meet some of the people who mean so much to our business community.

Ms. Kosek – Thanks Brent, and then we are scheduled to have our next economic development committee meeting on December 9th at 7:00 p.m. in the council chamber. That will be in lieu of November and late December; we're just kind of combining those in trying to avoid the holidays. That meeting will be open to the public. Joe, that closes both of my committees.

REPORTS OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES (cont'd):

FINANCE – Mr. Carbone: We have no ordinances or resolutions this evening, so that will end my report.

PLANNING, ZONING AND ENGINEERING – Mr. Schonhut: Thank you Mr. DeMio, one ordinance tonight, Ordinance No. 2019-170; it's authorizing the mayor and the engineer to submit an application for Issue 1 funding through the State for the proposed improvements at Howe Road and Shurmer Road, the proposed roundabout. The application is for just north of \$620,000.00. That would be grant dollars that would be going towards that project. Should we choose to move forward with it, a vote in favor or against this tonight doesn't really say much about the project itself as this has nothing to do with voting for the project because we have not gotten everything back from the engineering firm that we're working with out of Columbus on this. We have not seen plans on this. We have not had a chance to vet those plans. This is just being fiscally responsible with making sure we're able to secure dollars should we choose to move forward with the project. We have done this before when we were discussing the slip ramp as well. We did secure just north of \$3.2 million dollars for that project that we ultimately walked away from when we decided not to move forward with that; so by no means is this voting for the project. That would come at a later time should we choose to move forward; but this is just, in my opinion, being fiscally responsible to make sure that we do secure funds from the State in the event that we choose to move forward and really just how the whole State's budget works, we have to have this submitted within the next week and a half here. Obviously, we're not in a position yet to decide whether we're moving forward with the project or not. We're just making sure we have all of our ducks in a row in the event that we do. Any questions, comments or concerns on that at all?

Mr. DeMio – No, I think you summed it up exactly how I was going to follow up on it.

Mr. Schonhut – That's all I have.

PUBLIC SAFETY AND HEALTH – Mr. Short: Thank you Mr. DeMio, we no ordinances or resolutions on tonight's agenda; however, I do want to make one point to the residents and voters in Strongsville, especially those in Ward 4 for tomorrow's election. There have been some changes by the Cuyahoga County Board of Elections to voting locations. People who voted at the Old Town Hall at 18205 Royalton Road, which is Ward 4 Precinct B, will now vote at Strongsville High School located at 20025 Lunn Road. Those, like myself, who voted at the Early Learning Preschool at 19543 Lunn Road, which is Ward 4 Precincts D and G, will now also vote at the Strongsville High School. Please make note of that so there's no confusion tomorrow when you're trying to vote. Other than that, that concludes my report, but I will take any questions.

Mr. DeMio – My ward where I live, my precinct, has changed from the Old Town Hall to the high school as well; so I'll probably see you there Gordon.

Mr. Short – Oh, I'll be there.

Mr. DeMio – Any questions for public safety or do the chiefs have any input for us as well?

(No Comments)

Mr. DeMio – I do want to make a little note mayor that I had a request the other day. I talked to Chief Fender regarding some issues of traffic and he got back to me. I got back to the resident quickly and they were impressed that the chief gave me the answers in such a timely fashion. I did want to thank him for correcting what was out there for a little bit and it was important for you to know. That was on a Friday night I think? I appreciate that very much as does the resident.

REPORTS OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES (cont'd):

PUBLIC SERVICE AND CONSERVATION – Ms. Roff: I have Ordinance No. 2019-171. This is just authorizing the mayor to go out to receive bidding and design to redo the wastewater treatment plant and the Westwood lift station. The recommendation for that is to suspend and adopt. That closes my committee for service unless anyone has questions. Real quick Joe, an update as far as the center of town, do you have an estimate? People are asking if it's going to be done before the Christmas lights.

Mr. Walker – The completion? Yes, our city engineer gave us an update this morning. I think they're anticipating pavement striping by November 15th, is that correct? So we do anticipate everything except for the actual traffic lights to be done before the Christmas lighting ceremony.

Ms. Roff – Thank you, so that closes my committee.

RECREATION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES – Ms. Roff: I have Ordinance Nos. 2019-172 and 2019-173. Both of these are to allocate funds to pay for HVAC work and maintenance done. The one is the Old Town Hall and the other is at the recreation center, in the aquatic center, and the police department. These are without public bidding. They will need all seven. Both of those have caps on them; they are reasonable. The recommendation is suspend and adopt there for both of those. I'll close my committee unless there are questions.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – Mr. DeMio: There are no ordinances or resolutions before us this evening pertaining to our legal matters. I do want to take a moment, and please let me finish before we take a moment of silence, there's a couple of folks here-there's actually 4, Brent Wilson, a firefighter in Columbia Township. He lost his life in helping a citizen. Sgt. Thomas Cole Walker, in the army. A tragedy went down a few weeks ago in Conneaut...he lived in Conneaut, Ohio. Bishop Lennon, and then of course, Tiffany, our assistant clerk, her grandmother, better known as Grandma Leota I'm going to call her, she lost her life a few days back and we would like to have a moment of silence for all of those folks too, if you don't mind.

At this time, a moment of silence was observed.

Mr. DeMio – Thank you so much and prayers be with them all.

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

MAYOR PERCIAK: Thank you Joe, just a quick update. We did visit Columbus on October 25th. The finance director, the assistant finance director, myself and the economic development director, with our bank representatives, we again applied through Moody's to reaffirm our Aaa bond rating. Of course, we didn't get an answer that day. The meeting went on for approximately an hour and a half to two hours; very in depth dive on our financial statements and an extremely in depth dive on our economic development projects in the business parks. Moody's was concerned. Their concern was our revenue stream and the largest amount of our revenue stream comes through the payment of income tax through the business men and women in our business parks. The startling fact was that we were able to provide for them over 19,000 people that come to work here in Strongsville every day. That in itself was significant. We provided that information to them with stacks of other information, a pie chart as to where all our revenue comes from, and a budget projection as to where we anticipate our revenue stream to continue. Now it's up to them, we wait for them, and maybe in 30 days we'll know. Other than that, that ends my report.

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

FINANCE DEPARTMENT – Mr. Dubovec: Thank you Mr. President, funds are available for all ordinances and resolutions on this evening's agenda requiring certification of funding. That concludes my report, thank you.

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

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION:

Mr. DeMio – We do have three folks that signed up today. I think they are all on the same issue, the pet store. You can come in any order. You've been here before, you know the routine-name, address, spell your first and last name. If you all three want to come up, you can come up if you want. Just remember, Aimee will be timing...you know the routine, it's five minutes...you know how it works. If you want to do it together, you can do that. If you want to do it individually, you can do that. You can do it in five minute increments and when you're done, you're done. Whoever would like to go first...it's your name, address.

Faith Colbrunn, 30391 Oakwood Circle, North Olmsted, OH: My name is Faith Colbrunn. My address is 30391 Oakwood Circle, North Olmsted, OH 44070. Yes. I'm here about the Pick of the Litter pet store at SouthPark Mall. I was there last Thursday on 31st. I looked around the store and I asked the clerk if the puppies that were there, they were currently in fish tanks, I asked if they were walked and exercised daily. She said no, they weren't. They don't have a direct door to the outside and she's alone in the store most of the time so there was no way to actually give them daily outside exercise of any kind. I brought along with me the copy of the Strongsville ordinance, it's Part 6, "General Offenses", Section 618.05, "Cruelty to Animals in General." I'm not going to read the whole paragraph, but the pertinent part is, "No person shall keep animals in an enclosure without wholesome exercise and change of air." That's part of the Strongsville Ordinances and it is also part of the Ohio Revised Code. I just wanted to bring that to your attention, thank you.

Denisa Iacob, 1434 Newman Avenue, Lakewood, OH: My name is Denisa Iacob. I'm on 1434 Newman Avenue, Lakewood, OH 44107. So, what I wanted to address today is two different topics. I would like to start off with a firsthand witness of an incident I saw in Pick of the Litter. On July 29, 2019, I was inside Pick of the Litter and around 8:00 p.m. One of the open pens that has dogs in it had a dog that was jumping up and down, trying to get out of the pen. A woman was walking by and the dog snipped the woman's arm as she was walking by the pen because the pen was open. It did rip the skin; I was literally right there standing next to her. She told the employee. The employee quickly removed the dog from the pen, made a phone call from the back, which I can only assume was to Tom Collins because she said, "We can't be having this happen in our store." She took the dog that bit the woman, shoved him in an enclosed cage with other dogs in it and the woman ended up walking out of the store. Nothing was done. I didn't notice any phone calls being made to the animal control officer or a veterinarian because of the dog bite; and from records that I received from Mr. Jamison in regards to the animal control investigations there, there was nothing on July 29, 2019; there were no dispatch calls made on that date; so this dog bite was never reported. It happened at Pick of the Litter, I saw it with my own eyes. In the Strongsville city code, Sections 618.18 and 618.11, there is code against dog bites and the action that needs to be taken. There was nothing taken in regards to this incident and this is just one that I happened to be there at the store at that time and see. At this point, I just want to point out that not only is this one of the acts that Pick of the Litter is getting away with and not reporting it, but it's just really disturbing of what is going on in that store and I wanted you to be aware of something that I saw. We have so much other proof between pictures and videos of other horrible things that go on in that store.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (Cont'd):

Ms. Jacob (cont'd) - Then a second point, I just want to kind of speak to bring to your attention what is going on at Pick of the Litter, but I understand as was previously stated by Mr. Jamison, that the regulation of pet stores is to be handled at the State level as noted in the O.R.C., Section 956.23; but what I think is lacking here at the city level is accountability because as an elected official by the public, I believe it is your duty to represent the public and our concerns and be a voice in an instance of unlawfulness in this city. So, I do understand that while you can't enforce the civil penalties and what is going on at Pick of the Litter, I do believe that it is necessary to be working with the Department of Agriculture in Columbus and making them aware of what is going on here in your city and bringing it to their awareness. They only have 2 appointed inspectors for the whole State in Columbus that should handle these issues. There's no way that those two people can make their way to pet stores all over Ohio in so many cities where they exist. Pick of the Litter, not only do they violate O.R. C. Section 956...many sections of it which I won't bring up here because I understand that it is out of your hands, but they also violate Goddard's Law and S.B. 331. I think there is enough evidence to bring this up to those in Columbus that are in power to take care of this further; so I just want to leave this podium with the thought of how do we simply sit back and allow the continued animal abuse happening at Pick of the Litter simply because the laws cannot be enforced at the city level? We are all a voice for the animals. You're a voice for Strongsville to those in power to enforce these regulations in Columbus. Please pass that along to them, thank you.

Kerry Stack, 30401 Oakwood Circle, North Olmsted, OH: Hello, my name is Kerry Stack. I live at 30401 Oakwood Circle, North Olmsted. I come here with the thought I'd never thought I'd say outside of Sea World, but empty the tanks. What we have here...the problem isn't the problem, the problem is council's attitude towards this problem. I am hearing words of excellence in business community, and this is your shining example of the business and community that you have going on here in Strongsville? This is a disgrace. Now, the big thing I keep hearing is you're impotent to do anything about this due to State regulations; however, I have plenty of instances here with municipality code that has been broken. Municipality code can indeed be enforced by you guys, by council, by the law director, by Chuck McCleary, ACO. For instance, we have medical neglect at Pick of the Litter which is documented by Chuck McCleary and he has not followed through on quite a few instances, all of which have been posted on my blog, all of which have posted on Facebook and have been shared. He has not been following through with his job which has been appointed by the mayor if I'm correct. That is an appointed position that his father held, is that correct? Who appoints the ACO?

Mayor Perciak – It is not an appointed position. He is a member of the Teamsters Union. They apply for it and that is pretty much how it works.

Mr. Walker – It's a collective bargaining unit position and he received that position based on seniority.

Ms. Stack – Okay, so we have somebody here who's effectively not doing their job. I'm concerned as to why he has not been held accountable for the vast, vast majority of things that he has neglected to report and enforce. So yes, all of this can be taken up with the State of Ohio in Columbus; but to begin, who do you think they're going to listen to, me from North Olmsted, Kerry who; or are they going to listen to councilmembers, law directors, mayors who are calling and saying, "Hey, we have a problem you need to enforce your laws in our city and we need to clean this up right now." We have plenty of evidence of all the different laws, S.B. 506, that have been absolutely flaunted by Tom Collins at Pick of the Litter. Furthermore, we have dogs who have been sick. ACL has been called by concerned citizens to come out there. It is documented in Chuck McCleary's own statements, which I have, that he would follow up on these dogs, promise that they be taken to the vet within a day or two, ten days later they're still not taken to the vet. These dogs are being medicated with prescriptions that Tom Collins had in the back room for the past two years according to The Humane Society's reports who I also have.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (Cont'd):

Ms. Stack (cont'd) - Now, previous council meetings, we were told by Mr. Jamison, on top of that, all the other instances of why council can't do anything, why the law director can't do anything and why Mr. McCleary can't do anything. On top of all of that, the county health department has been out there and they have found no violations as well. That's not true; they have not finished their investigation yet. I have spoken with the Humane county, and they have found just awful, awful things including dead puppies in the freezer, animals being taken out of the freezer that had been there for three years that died under respiratory illnesses and other undisclosed instances. One puppy was mauled to death by another dog. I'm asking you why are you tolerating this in your city? You have an ongoing investigation through The Humane office of the APL and you're still allowing this to happen.

Mr. DeMio – We will close audience participation.

Mr. Jamison – Mr. Chairman, if I could respond to a couple of the ladies that came up. I met with Ms. Stack over a month in my office. We sat down for an hour and had a long discussion about these issues that she has raised and others have raised before and even tonight. It was a good conversation. I explained to her, and we had a good discussion about our local code, about what we can and can't do. It was my understanding at the conclusion of that meeting that there was an understanding about the limitations under our criminal code about prosecuting under that for the situation at hand. After that meeting, I reached out to the Department of Agriculture in an ongoing effort to try and get some clarity as to what we can do under the State Code and the limitations that were placed on us a couple of years ago. I spoke to someone down there in the legal department shortly after that and did not get an appropriate response. They basically told me that their purpose under Chapter 956 is to perform record keeping. So with the blessing of the mayor, I started reaching out to our State Representative Tom Patton, our State Senator Matt Dolan and personally spoke to each gentlemen. They got back to me each day when I reached out to each of them. They both agreed to work with us to, if not change the legislation, to find out what we can do; specifically, Senator Dolan reached out to the legislative liaison with the Department of Agriculture and put me in contact with that gentleman. I've since been informed that what they have done is referred this to the Ohio Attorney General for them to determine what they can or can't do at the Department of Agriculture level in terms of a couple of things: 1. Whether they can develop regulations for communities like us to try and enforce or follow so that we can have the tools to try and address the various things that the ladies have brought forward, and 2. What is the ability of the department or can they assign that to local communities. So, I am waiting for that response from the Ohio Attorney General. As I have said at every meeting you have come up, we take it serious. I've gone above and beyond to try and talk to the people at the State level to address this. As it relates to the Department of Health, it is my understanding that they were out there a couple of weeks ago; and it was communicated to me that there were no issues or violations as far as The Board of Health. As far as the APL, we've always had a good relationship with them and if there is an ongoing investigation by them, we'll cooperate fully and work with them to follow up with whatever they deem or might find in that situation. We take it serious as I have said before. I'm working at the State level with the State Senator, State Representative, the Department of Agriculture and the Ohio Attorney General's office to give us the power and the ability to try and deal with this. We'll keep you apprised as that develops because we take this serious and we'll continue to do so, thank you.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (Cont'd):

Mr. DeMio – As a quick note, I want to make it crystal clear that I have, on behalf of council, talked to our law director to make sure that there is no confusion that we want to go through the process making sure that if the police department, health department...anything we can do to help with. Mr. Jamison and I have talked easily a half a dozen times over the last 30 days and much more than that. I really believe that Mr. Jamison has done everything he can. I have been at the facility...I always forget the name because I don't go there...Pick of the Litter and I can just share with you that it is an interesting at best place. I agree with many of the things you have said. Mr. Jamison agrees with many of the things you have said; it doesn't mean we can interrupt or stop the process of an investigation. Please don't think it's falling on deaf ears is my big point. I want you to be assured that I promised each and every councilperson that I would continue to talk with Mr. Jamison and/or meet with the State reps if he wishes us to, whatever it takes. If they find it in good standing, if they find them in bad standing...we have to digest that either way; but don't think anything you say up here is for not because it isn't. I want you rest assured that's how we feel as this council. If anyone disagrees with anything I've said and wants to say anything, please go right ahead.

(No Comments)

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS:

Ordinance No. 2019-170 by Mayor Perciak and All Members of Council. AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY ENGINEER TO PREPARE AND SUBMIT AN APPLICATION FOR STATE OF OHIO ISSUE 1 FUNDING FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO THE HOWE ROAD AND SHURMER ROAD INTERSECTION IN CONNECTION WITH THE HOWE ROAD (CR188) AND SHURMER ROAD (CR205) ROUNDABOUT PROJECT IN THE CITY OF STRONGSVILLE, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

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

Motion to adopt by Mr. Carbone, second by Mr. Schonhut.

Ms. Roff – To be clear, I just wanted it stated that I am not voting for the project. I want to be confident though that there's funds there available if they move forward with a project like this, against anyone that may feel that the project is the right thing for that area. To be fiscally responsible, my vote is a yes.

Roll Call: All ayes. Motion carries.

Ordinance No. 2019-170 ADOPTED.

Resolution No. 2019-171 by Mayor Perciak and All Members of Council. A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ADVERTISE A REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS AND PROPOSALS FOR ENGINEERING DESIGN AND CONSULTING SERVICES IN CONNECTION WITH THE REHABILITATION OF THE WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANTS AND WESTWOOD LIFT STATION.

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

Motion to adopt by Mr. Carbone, second by Mr. Schonhut.

Roll Call: All ayes. Motion carries.

Resolution No. 2019-171 ADOPTED

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS (cont'd):

Ordinance No. 2019-172 by Mayor Perciak and All Members of Council. AN ORDINANCE APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO MAKE PAYMENTS FOR PREVENTATIVE MAINTENANCE SERVICES AND EMERGENCY REPAIR SERVICES FOR THE HVAC SYSTEMS AT THE CITY'S WALTER F. EHRNFELT RECREATION & SENIOR CENTER AND OLD TOWN HALL BUILDINGS, WITHOUT PUBLIC BIDDING, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

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

Motion to adopt by Mr. Carbone, second by Mr. Schonhut.

Roll Call: All ayes. Motion carries.

Ordinance No. 2019-172 ADOPTED

Ordinance No. 2019-173 by Mayor Perciak and All Members of Council. AN ORDINANCE APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO MAKE PAYMENTS FOR PREVENTATIVE MAINTENANCE SERVICES AND EMERGENCY REPAIR SERVICES FOR THE HVAC SYSTEMS AT THE CITY'S WALTER F. EHRNFELT RECREATION & SENIOR CENTER'S AQUATIC CENTER AND POLICE DEPARTMENT BUILDINGS, WITHOUT PUBLIC BIDDING, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

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

Motion to adopt by Mr. Carbone, second by Mr. Schonhut.

Roll Call: All ayes. Motion carries.

Ordinance No. 2019-173 ADOPTED

Ordinance No. 2019-174 by Mayor Perciak and All Members of Council. AN ORDINANCE APPROVING, RATIFYING AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH TAC COMPUTER, INC. FOR CONTINUATION OF COMPUTER SOFTWARE AND MAINTENANCE SERVICES FOR THE STRONGSVILLE POLICE AND FIRE DEPARTMENTS, INCLUDING THE CITY'S REGIONAL PUBLIC SAFETY DISPATCH CENTER, WITHOUT PUBLIC BIDDING, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

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

Motion to adopt by Mr. Carbone, second by Mr. Schonhut.

Roll Call: All ayes. Motion carries.

Ordinance No. 2019-174 ADOPTED

COMMUNICATIONS, PETITIONS AND CLAIMS:

(None)

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS:


Ms. Roff – I would like just to be sure people have my cell phone number for the city, 440-241-5253, so that they are able to call and leave their emails so that I can keep them informed if they have questions, as far as the roundabout goes, with any information that I receive, and hopefully in a timely fashion receive, that I am able to communicate it with them so that they can gather questions or concerns that they would have...if any plans come back that that is the right project for that.

Mr. DeMio – Thank you so much, anything else?

(No Comments)

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to come before this Council, President DeMio adjourned the meeting at 8:39 p.m.



Aimee Pientka, MMC
Clerk of Council

11-18-19

Date