

SUMMARY OF CAUCUS DISCUSSION AND MINUTES OF THE STRONGSVILLE CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING HELD ON, MONDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2020.

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, February 3, 2020 at 7:30 p.m.**

Present: Council Members: Matthew A. Schonhut, Annmarie P. Roff, James A. Kaminski, 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, Assistant Building Commissioner Mike Miller, City Engineer Ken Mikula, Human Resource Director Steve Kilo, Public Safety Director Charles Goss, Fire Chief Jack Draves and Police Chief Mark Fender.

Absent: Recreation and Senior Services Director Bryan Bogre.

Council President Schonhut called the caucus to order at 7:30 p.m.

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

Planning, Zoning & Engineering Committee: Chairman Schonhut advised Ordinance Nos. 2020-016 and 2020-017 both pertain to the completion of the Howe Road Sanitary Sewer Project. These are for the final assessed amount to the homeowners, as well as establishing the connection charges. Ms. Roff wanted to thank Lori Daley for offering to take any calls from the residents in regards to the process for connection. The recommendation was to suspend and adopt both pieces of legislation.

Motion made by Mr. Carbone, second by Mr. DeMio, to approve the committee meeting minutes of January 21, 2020. All members present voted aye and the motion carried.

Recreation & Community Services Committee: Chairwoman Kosek recommended suspension and adoption for Ordinance No. 2020-018. This is a contract for youth sports wearing apparel for use by the recreation department. The lowest bidder was Adler Team Sports in the amount of \$39,843.93.

Committee of the Whole: Mr. Schonhut advised Resolution No. 2020-019 is to support the Cuyahoga County Health and Human Services Levy, Issue No. 33. This will be placed on first reading so council has more time to look at this resolution. Mr. Kaminski asked if moving forward, will council be placing items similar these on the agenda. Mr. Short advised in the past, council would have resolutions like this, when the pertained to the city (school levies, etc.). Ms. Roff advised there have been other resolutions in the past like this that council has voted on (Southwest levy, etc). Mr. Schonhut advised council would have to determine the precedent they would like to set moving forward.

Mr. Schonhut advised there will be a TREX liquor permit for Barrios on the next agenda. If anyone has any questions regarding this, they can reach out to Neal Jamison or Brent Painter.

Mr. DeMio advised there will be a finance committee meeting, right before caucus, on April 20th. There will also be meetings tentatively in June and September.

Mr. DeMio advised he has received calls regarding the flags on Royalton Road and Pearl Road. It appears some companies have left their flags up beyond the allotted timeframe. For example, the wind wavers across from the mall have been up for a while. Mr. Walker advised he would look into it.

Mr. DeMio asked if the final colors on the buildings are set for the new Medical Mutual development across from the mall. Brent Painter thought some of that might just be the insulation and not the final exterior. Some of the buildings do have the final exterior up. Mr. DeMio requested a copy of the information from ARB showing the final renderings and what ARB approved. Mr. Miller advised he would take care of that. Mr. DeMio would like to discuss this when the mayor returns, but was wondering if council would be able to see these types of proposals before the Architectural Review Board takes action on them. Mr. Miller advised some of the tenants have not been signed yet, so that development is not complete; therefore, not all buildings and design have gone through ARB. Ms. Roff asked if the buildings will all be one color. Mr. Miller advised some will have different colors because some of the tenants have corporate colors which were approved by ARB. Mr. Schonhut advised council does not have authority over ARB, but could look at having a representative at the ARB meetings to get input and report back to council. Mr. Carbone advised council should be looking at the city's design guidelines for business and retail development. He advised this is something he and others have talked about for years; and it is important because of projects like what is being discussed, as well as future redevelopment. Mr. Carbone advised the economic development advisory group stated the city should look into hiring an outside consultant to review our city's design guidelines.

Mr. DeMio asked about the development in front of Lowes. Mr. Painter advised there have been discussions and activity, but nothing has been officially submitted to the Planning Commission yet.

Mr. Short asked Mr. Painter if there were a couple restaurants closing at the mall. Mr. Painter advised he spoke to corporate at the mall recently and they are trying to get a date together to meet with him.

Ms. Kosek discussed the portion of curb missing at the center of town. She would like to know how we could prevent this happening repeatedly. Mr. Walker advised Mr. Mikula and himself are looking at possible resolutions. Mr. Mikula advised when they were talking with ODOT about design, ODOT did not want certain things there. Mr. Mikula advised they could revisit and discuss this more once the project is complete.

Mr. DeMio advised the street light is out at the red house by the bank at Royalton Road/Pearl Road. Mr. Walker advised he would look into this as well.

Ms. Kosek advised she received a call from a resident regarding the signage in Ledgewood Plaza by Starbucks. There was an out of town family member visiting a resident and had some confusion. Chief Fender advised he would have the traffic department look into it. Mr. Kaminski advised he has heard numerous complaints about the garbage bins by Starbucks.

MINUTES OF THE STRONGSVILLE CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2020 IN THE MIKE KALINICH SR. CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS.

CALL TO ORDER:

Council President Schonhut called the meeting to order at 8:03 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, James A. Kaminski, 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, Assistant Building Commissioner Mike Miller, City Engineer Ken Mikula, Human Resource Director Steve Kilo, Public Safety Director Charles Goss, Fire Chief Jack Draves and Police Chief Mark Fender.

Absent: Recreation and Senior Services Director Bryan Bogre

COMMENTS ON MINUTES:

The Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held on January 21, 2020 were approved as submitted.

APPOINTMENTS, CONFIRMATIONS, AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS:

Attendance of Boy Scout Troop 701:

Mr. Schonhut – We do have a special group of young men in the audience from Troop 701. Pat Lyons is here today too as well. Pat, if you don't mind, I'm going to have you come up and just kind of introduce the Troop a little bit. Gentlemen, we will have each of you just come up really quick and just say you name and just briefly tell us your favorite thing about Strongsville.

Mr. Lyons – I wanted to say this for a while, but what up council! My name is Pat Lyons; I actually live down in Medina, Ohio; but our Troop is 701. We're here in Strongsville. Some of the guys are from Brunswick, Berea, but it's just kind of proximity. Most of the young men though are from Strongsville and we appreciate you all letting us come up and learn about citizenship in the community, thank you.

At this time, the Boys Scouts came up individually to introduce themselves and say what they liked about Strongsville.

REPORTS OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES:

SCHOOL BOARD – Mr. Carbone: Yes, at the last school board meeting, Dr. Ryba, the Superintendent talked about the new student vaping policy. In the past at the high school, if you were caught vaping it was a 3 day out of school suspension. Now moving forward, it is a 2 day out of school suspension, with the third day as an in-school and then you have to do a learning session on the dangers of vaping and a quiz about what you learned about the dangers of vaping. Also, the big news was about the appointed board member which is Seth Roberts. He's Vice President of Strategic Playgrounds. Out of 22 great applicants, they choose him. Also, we want to wish him the best of luck. We know with our schools here in Strongsville and some of you young men had mentioned it, how important they are. We don't have the city we think we have without our schools; so we have to have that partnership. Not to put a little bit more stress on Seth; but it is very important to make good decisions so we can continue to have a strong school district. That ends my report.

Mr. Schonhut – Thank you Mr. Carbone, any questions for Mr. Carbone?

(No comments)

REPORTS OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES (cont'd):

SOUTHWEST GENERAL HEALTH SYSTEM – Mr. Short: Thank you Mr. Schonhut, we did not have a board meeting yet. The first one is scheduled for February 26th. I have nothing to report but I will happily take any questions.

Mr. Schonhut – Any questions for Mr. Short?

(No comments)

BUILDING AND UTILITIES – DeMio: Thank you so much, we do not have anything to report for the committee today; although in caucus we did talk about some of the issues that council has gotten calls about...in regards to some of the color schemes of the buildings across from the mall, and some of the flags that have been out in the main streets, possibly beyond the allotted time. We'll do some more follow-up at our next council meeting which is two weeks from today; that is it.

Mr. Schonhut – Thank you Mr. DeMio, any questions for Mr. Demio?

(No comments)

COMMUNICATIONS AND TECHNOLOGY – Ms. Roff: I do not have anything but I would be happy to take any questions.

Mr. Schonhut – Any questions for Ms. Roff?

(No comments)

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT – Mr. Carbone: Yes, we had an economic development meeting on Monday, January 27th. It was very well attended. Thank you Councilwoman Kosek for also being there. We talked about an outside consultant with re-looking at almost 300 acres of our downtown area; but the bulk of the meeting was spent talking about the mall, the future of the mall and the strengths and weaknesses of the mall. We're going to continue to have those discussions. That ends my report.

Mr. Schonhut – And for the young man in the audience that is a fan of the mall, we'll make sure that stays vibrant for years to come. Any questions for Mr. Carbone?

Ms. Roff – Maybe he could be part of the committee.

FINANCE – Mr. DeMio: Thank you so much, again, we don't have anything before this committee today; but we did talk in caucus about setting our new...I'll call it a preliminary budget meeting. It will be April 20th, sometime after 6:30 p.m., depending on the size of the agenda. We need at least 20 minutes; I think that would be fine, unless our great finance director, Mr. Dubovec, decides that he wants to do a diagram similar to the aeronautics diagram that our law director once did for us regarding planes and such. That's all really we have in the committee right now Mr. President, but we'll close otherwise.

Mr. Schonhut – Thank you Mr. DeMio.

REPORTS OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES (cont'd):

PLANNING, ZONING AND ENGINEERING – Mr. Schonhut: We have two ordinances on the agenda tonight, both as they relate to the Howe Road Sanitary Sewer Project. We are just finalizing the assessment there. As we discussed in caucus at length, if anybody has any questions, I will happily take them. If not, the recommendation on those is to suspend and adopt tonight.

Ms. Roff – I just want to publicly thank the engineering department for going out and getting those grant dollars and bringing that cost for the residents there significantly lower. I'll think they'll be happy.

Mr. Schonhut – If I'm not mistaken, I think it was around \$450,000.00 in grants roughly; so Ken and Lori, thank you very much and as far as I recall, one of the biggest dents in a project like that, that I can recall in my time; so thank you very much. Anything further?

(No comments)

PUBLIC SAFETY AND HEALTH – Mr. Short: Thank you Mr. Schonhut, we have no ordinances or resolutions on tonight's agenda, but I will happily take any questions.

Mr. Schonhut – Any questions for Mr. Short?

(No comments)

PUBLIC SERVICE AND CONSERVATION – Mr. Kaminski: Yes, no items on the agenda this evening for Public Service; however, I am open for questions.

Mr. Schonhut – Any questions for Mr. Kaminski?

(No comments)

RECREATION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES – Ms. Kosek: We have one ordinance on the agenda tonight; it's Ordinance No. 2020-018. It is to authorize the mayor to enter into a contract to purchase youth sports apparel. We went out for bid and the best and lowest bid was Adler Team Sports for \$39,843.93, which was significantly better than the other bidder. It was also the company we have used in the past; so I would recommend that we suspend and adopt that. That will conclude my report and I will try not to be any more tongue-tied tonight.

Mr. Schonhut – Thank you Ms. Kosek, any questions?

(No comments)

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – Mr. Schonhut: We do have one resolution on the agenda tonight in regards to a levy at the county level. We're going to place that on first reading. We did discuss numerous different topics back in caucus tonight which I thought was constructive conversation; so thank you for that. Any questions out of that committee?

(No comments)

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

MAYOR PERCIAK:

(No report)

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 will conclude my report, thank you.

LAW DEPARTMENT – Mr. Jamison: Thank you Mr. Chairman, I would just like to say seeing the boy scouts here tonight, I was at a neat event on Saturday. My nephew achieved the rank of Eagle Scout; so they had the ceremony this Saturday afternoon. What really struck me was they had all the individuals, current and past, come up for Eagle Scouts and recognize them; so I just want to let all those young men who are Life Scouts...keep working towards your Eagle Scout. I can tell you, I was a Life Scout and much to my mother's chagrin, I never became an Eagle Scout. I congratulated my nephew for being the first in the family to be an Eagle Scout. It's a great organization you're in and keep working. The Eagle Scout is a great achievement; and for those who are close, keep doing it, even for the Star Scouts who are here. All ordinances and resolutions are in proper legal form. That concludes my report.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION:

Mr. Schonhut – We have nobody signed in; however, anybody in the audience is still welcome to address us. We ask that you please give us your name and address. Please spell your name for our clerk; and we kindly ask that you keep your comments to five minutes. Is there anybody in the audience that would like to address council tonight?

Joseph Parsons, 14528 Whitney Road, Strongsville, OH: – Well, I would think that during the fall and the winter months, we should use cars; but during the spring and summer we should not and instead, use bikes because it is nice enough outside for us to use bikes; conserving the amount of energy it takes for a car to pollute.

Mr. Schonhut – I certainly agree, thank you very much. If you don't mind, and I'll comment back for you, if you could give us your name and address; only because we do need it for our clerk for the record.

My name is Joseph Parsons, and my house address is 14528 Whitney Road.

Mr. Schonhut- Thank you very much, we were talking a little bit about that in caucus actually, not necessarily banning vehicular traffic for spring and summer time, but it certainly is part of our master plan that we recently adopted which was to make Strongsville more walkable and more bike able and to make that more appealing so that we can keep young men like you in our city for the rest of your life. How about that...so that you can continue to see Strongsville prosper. We certainly appreciate and respect those comments. Anybody else have anything to add onto that?

Mr. Walker – Mr. President, I would like to second that motion and would you please call a vote

(Laughter)

Mr. Schonhut – Is there anybody else in the audience who would like to address council tonight?

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS:

Ordinance No. 2020-016 by Mayor Perciak and All Members of Council. AN ORDINANCE LEVYING SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF HOWE ROAD BETWEEN CERTAIN TERMINI BY CONSTRUCTING SANITARY SEWERS, CATCH BASINS AND MANHOLES, INSTALLING SANITARY SEWER SERVICE CONNECTIONS WHERE THEY DO NOT NOW EXIST, AND REPLACING, WHERE NECESSARY, PAVEMENT, DRIVEWAY APRONS, STORM SEWERS AND CULVERTS, ALL TOGETHER WITH THE NECESSARY APPURTENANCES THERETO, 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 Mr. DeMio. All members present voted aye and the motion carried.

Motion to adopt by Mr. Short, second by Mr. DeMio.

Roll Call: All ayes. Motion carries. Ordinance No. 2020-016 ADOPTED.

Ordinance No. 2020-017 by Mayor Perciak and All Members of Council. AN ORDINANCE TO ENACT SECTION 1046.248 OF THE CITY'S CODIFIED ORDINANCES IN ORDER TO ESTABLISH CHARGES FOR ANY CONNECTIONS DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY TO THE HOWE ROAD SOUTH SANITARY SEWER PROJECT FOR THOSE LOTS AND LANDS FOR WHICH AN ADDITIONAL CONNECTION OR CONNECTIONS IS REQUIRED OR WHICH WERE NOT ASSESSED FOR SUCH 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 Mr. DeMio. All members present voted aye and the motion carried.

Motion to adopt by Mr. Short, second by Mr. DeMio.

Roll Call: All ayes. Motion carries. Ordinance No. 2020-017 ADOPTED.

Ordinance No. 2020-018 by Mayor Perciak and All Members of Council. AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT FOR THE PURCHASE OF YOUTH SPORTS WEARING APPAREL FOR USE BY THE RECREATION DEPARTMENT 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 Mr. DeMio. All members present voted aye and the motion carried.

Motion to adopt by Mr. Short, second by Mr. DeMio.

Roll Call: All ayes. Motion carries. Ordinance No. 2020-018 ADOPTED.

Resolution No. 2020-019 by Mayor Perciak and All Members of Council. A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE CUYAHOGA COUNTY HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES LEVY, ISSUE NO. 33.

Placed on first reading and referred back to the committee.

COMMUNICATIONS, PETITIONS AND CLAIMS:

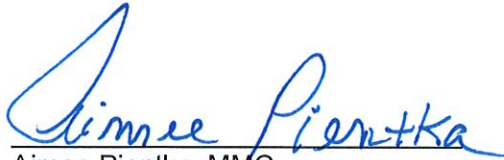
(None)

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS:

Ms. Roff – If anybody is looking for something to do on February 22nd, the Athletic Boosters at the high school is having “Night at the Races.” It is \$45/person and a lot of fun and supports our Strongsville sports. It would be great to have you.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to come before this Council, President Schonhut adjourned the meeting at 8:24 p.m.



Aimee Pientka, MMC
Clerk of Council

February 18, 2020
Date