

SUMMARY OF CAUCUS DISCUSSION AND MINUTES OF THE REGULAR STRONGSVILLE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON FEBRUARY 1, 2010.

The Council of the City of Strongsville met in the Caucus Room at the Strongsville Communications Center, 13213 Pearl Road, on ***Monday, February 1, 2010 at 7:30 p.m.***

Present: Council Members: Patrick J. Coyne, Michael J. Daymut, Joseph C. DeMio, Kenneth M. Dooner, Michael J. Gallagher, Raymond L. Haseley, and Mark A. Roth. Also Present: Acting Clerk of Council Aimee Pientka. Administration: Law Director Kenneth A. Kraus, Finance Director Joseph K. Dubovec, Service Director Joseph M. Walker, City Engineer Ken Mikula, Building Commissioner Tony Biondillo, Recreation Director Stephen F. Kilo, Communications and Technology Director John Bedford, Human Resources Director Anthony Urankar, Police Chief Charles Goss and Fire Chief Robert Moody.

The following Committees met to review legislation on the agenda:

Finance Committee: Chairman Dooner recommended suspension and adoption for Ordinance No. 2010-013, which is making appropriations for current expenses and other expenditures for the City of Strongsville.

Planning, Zoning and Engineering: Chairman Coyne recommended suspension and adoption of Ordinance No. 2010-014 which is regarding the execution of an Army Corps of Engineers permit for the Strongsville Technology Park and the Foltz Parkway Extension Phase II Project.

Public Safety and Health Committee: Chairman DeMio recommended suspension and adoption for Ordinance No. 2010-015 pertaining to the maximum numbers of officers in the Police Department and Ordinance No. 2010-016 pertaining to the maximum number of members in each rank in the Fire Department.

Recreation and Community Services Committee: Chairman Gallagher recommended suspension and adoption for Ordinance No. 2010-017 which is a contract for youth sports wearing apparel for use by the Recreation Department.

Economic Development and Technology Committee: Chairman Daymut advised members of Council of the upcoming breakfast meeting on Thursday, February 11th. Costco is going to be sponsoring this event. The speaker will be George Stradtlander from Medical Mutual and he will be discussing healthcare reform and the impact on local businesses.

Committee of the Whole: President Gallagher recommended Ordinance No. 2010-011 regarding nepotism and the hiring of employees be placed on second reading. Ordinance No. 2010-018 regarding the approval of the replacement pages to the Codified Ordinances was recommended for suspension and adoption.

Mr. Mikula distributed a notice from the Cleveland Water Department regarding their failure to be in compliance with some chemical level that they are required to maintain by the EPA standards. This letter is going to be distributed to each customer and Mr. Mikula wanted Council to be aware of what is going on in case the residents call in. Mr. Mikula stated there was no harm to anyone's health and no one was placed in danger.

Councilman Gallagher advised Councilman DeMio to make a motion to approve the delegate list for Southwest General at the meeting tonight.

CAUCUS DISCUSSION (cont'd):

Councilman Daymut wanted to mention a call he received from an elderly resident regarding a scam that is going around. Letters are being mailed out to residents that involve guaranteeing their inside wiring, pipes, water lines, sewer lines, etc. Mr. Daymut said he saw something on the news where the State is trying to take some action against this. Mr. Daymut suggested posting something on the City's website to alert residents to this scam. Mr. Gallagher commented that Twitter is something that has to be looked into more for city use. He stated the Sheriff's Office has started using Facebook and Twitter and that in previous discussions with Chief Goss, the use of Twitter might be an additional means of communication with the residents and our Police Department. Mr. Gallagher asked Mr. Bedford what he thought of this and Mr. Bedford stated that they have been looking into this and still continue to do so. Mr. Daymut stated that for information passing something like this may be appropriate. Mr. Daymut stated the problem may be bringing someone in to monitor this because negative and unfounded information can be placed on there and there would be no way to refute it. Mr. Gallagher stated unlike Facebook, Twitter is more of an instantaneous informational social networking tool. Mr. Daymut wants to make sure the City is protected from malicious statements and that there are proper safeguards in place. Mr. Gallagher stated that according to the information that was provided to him by Aimee (Council Assistant), many cities that are utilizing this are not running into any real problems and with the Sheriff's Office recent implementation, it's something the City has to move on. Mr. Gallagher stated that in regards to who can monitor this, maybe the City could look into some local colleges and extern-type programs. Students are always looking for credit hours. Mr. Gallagher stated that we are in the early discussions regarding this and that Council will wait to hear Mr. Bedford's report on the matter.

Councilman DeMio moved, seconded by Councilman Daymut, to adjourn from open session into executive session [Article XI, Section 9, City Charter] to discuss personnel matters. Roll Call: All ayes. Motion carried. Council adjourned into executive session at 7:42 p.m. with the following members present: Coyne, Daymut, DeMio, Dooner, Gallagher, Haseley and Roth. Motion was made by Mr. Daymut and seconded by Mr. DeMio to conclude the Executive Session and reconvene in open session. All members present voted aye and the motion carried. The executive session concluded at 7:47 p.m.

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR STRONGSVILLE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON FEBRUARY 1, 2010 IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER AT THE STRONGSVILLE COMMUNICATIONS CENTER

CALL TO ORDER:

Council President Michael J. Gallagher called the meeting to order at 8:00 p.m. All joined in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

CERTIFICATION OF POSTING:

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

ROLL CALL:

Present: Council Members: Patrick J. Coyne, Joseph C. DeMio, Kenneth M. Dooner, Michael J. Gallagher, Raymond L. Haseley, Mark A. Roth III, and Michael J. Daymut. Also Present: Aimee Pientka, Acting Clerk of Council. **Administration:** Mayor; Kenneth A. Kraus, Law Director; Joseph K. Dubovec, Finance Director; Joseph M. Walker, Service Director; Anthony J. Biondillo, Building Commissioner; Ken Mikula, City Engineer; Stephen F. Kilo, Recreation Director; John Bedford, Communications and Technology Director; Anthony Urankar, Human Resources Director; Brent Painter, Manager of Economic Development; Charles Goss, Chief of Police; and Robert Moody, Chief of Fire.

Absent: Mayor Thomas Perciak

COMMENTS ON MINUTES:

The Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting of January 19, 2010 were approved as submitted.

APPOINTMENTS AND CONFIRMATIONS:

None.

REPORTS OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES:

SOUTHWEST GENERAL HEALTH SYSTEM –Mr. Gallagher: Myself-there is no report this evening. The first meeting will be in late February-I will be in attendance.

SCHOOL BOARD – Mr. Roth: Thank you Mr. Gallagher. Of the January 21st meeting, Lynne Krug, a gifted teacher at Allen Elementary school was honored for 2010 Ohio Teacher of the year runner up. She was honored for that fact. I just want to ask, I'm curious-I want to ask Aimee if she can fire off a question...I don't want to put anybody on the spot or anything. They went for a Silent Hero Grant-the schools did and they're going to start implementing it at the High School and Albion Middle School. I just want to ask them why they choose those two locations. If it's limited, why didn't they just do both Junior High's or maybe just the High School...I'm curious how they chose those two locations. That's it Mr. Gallagher.

Mr. Gallagher – Thank you Mr. Roth. Questions for Mr. Roth?

(None)

RECREATION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES – Mr. Gallagher: Myself-before Recreation Ordinance 2010-017 and that is the purchase of youth sports ware apparel for the year for the Recreation Center; recommendation is suspension and adoption and that's all before Recreation this evening. I'll take any questions.

(No questions)

REPORTS OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES (cont'd):

PUBLIC SERVICE AND CONSERVATION – Mr. Haseley: Thank you, Mr. Gallagher. I have no legislation on tonight's agenda. I'll be happy to answer any questions if anybody has any.

Mr. Gallagher – Questions for Mr. Haseley?

(None)

PUBLIC SAFETY AND HEALTH – Mr. DeMio: Thank you, Mr. Gallagher. We have two Ordinances on the agenda tonight-2010-015 and 2010-016, both of which are maximum amounts of officers for police and fire. We have had this discussion with the Administration at the Mayor's request. It is in Ordinance form now, and I believe he has and we have all support of all Council. Other than that, I will field questions regarding this Committee Mr. Gallagher.

Mr. Gallagher – Thank you Mr. DeMio. Questions for Mr. DeMio?

(None)

PLANNING, ZONING AND ENGINEERING – Mr. Coyne: Thank you, Mr. Gallagher. The Planning, Zoning and Engineering Committee met this evening. We're going to recommend the adoption of Ordinance 2010-014. That's all I have this evening.

Mr. Gallagher – Questions for Mr. Coyne?

(None)

FINANCE - Mr. Dooner: Thanks Mr. Gallagher. The only thing before Finance is Ordinance 2010-013-this is for the appropriations for current expenses and other expenditures for 2010; recommendation is suspension and adoption. That is all we have Mr. Gallagher.

Mr. Gallagher – Thank you Mr. Dooner. Questions for Mr. Dooner?

(None)

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TECHNOLOGY – Mr. Daymut: Thank you, Mr. Gallagher. We have no ordinances or resolutions on this evening's agenda. I'm going to give a brief report on our meeting of last Monday, the 25th here at the Communications Center. We did review our business network breakfast meeting which will be held Thursday, February 11th. Again, I would like to thank Costco for sponsoring that particular event. Our speaker will be George Stradtlander from Medical Mutual and the topic will be healthcare reform and the impact on our local businesses. If you have the opportunity, my colleagues here to attend that, I think it'll be a very insightful meeting and we'll learn a lot of what is going on in Washington-maybe more than we learn from Washington. We received a report from Ed Oliveros from our Tech Committee concerning the energy initiatives that are being put on by the County here and that has to do with turbine-the turbines in the lake and NOPEC and what they're doing for our businesses. The Rotary Business Expo-it's been going on for a few years at the Rec Center. I would ask everyone here...we have a sub-committee that's been formed. Bruce Keenen, a member of my Committee will chair that Committee with several other members to make sure it's as successful as possible to promote all our local businesses here in Strongsville.

REPORTS OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES (cont'd):

Mr. Daymut (cont'd) - Mr. Gallagher, I know you're a member of Rotary so if you would like to join in on that we would appreciate having you.

Mr. Gallagher – Very good.

Mr. Daymut – We discussed our surveys as you know we've done our industrial, our census and our retail and the service providers and we will be doing several small surveys. Again, we have partnered with Ohio State for those. We set our goals for 2010, we formed several sub-committees and we hope to have a workshop for our residents here that are interested in becoming entrepreneurs and a few of the Committee members will get together and we'll announce that at a future meeting. We also discussed the storm water fee which we have had discussion here at Council and the impact here on our businesses and our residents. We received a report from Brent Painter of new businesses locating in Strongsville here and we have decided to tour our industrial parks probably in the spring or summer to make sure that we are doing everything we can as a City and bring back recommendations to the Administration and to City Council. Our next meeting will be Monday, February 22nd at 7:00 p.m. here at the Communications Center. That's all we have Mr. Gallagher. Thank you very much.

Mr. Gallagher – Thank you Mr. Mr. Daymut. Questions for Mr. Daymut?

(None)

BUILDING AND UTILITIES –Mr. Gallagher: Myself-there is no legislation before Building and Utilities.

Mr. Roth – Mr. Gallagher?

Mr. Gallagher – Mr. Roth.

Mr. Roth – Within Building and Utilities...

Mr. Gallagher – Yes Sire.

Mr. Roth – I've received several phone calls from my constituents in Meadowood complaining about the dramatic sudden rate increases which I think are more pronounced because of the thirty year- they're all electric homes and a thirty year agreement has been expired. I guess my first question is did we know as an Administration-did we know that this was going to expire 12/31/09 because this was initiated even seven years before me. That's a long time ago. I didn't know that this agreement was going to expire. Well, it has expired now so what I would like to at least see us do is put a Resolution-not only announcing that we're not really happy about the rate increases for everyone but also maybe to please come back to the negotiation table with those people that had an agreement all these years for all electric homes. I would like to see us fire off a letter as a Council and maybe do a Resolution to that effect.

Mr. Gallagher – I think that would be a good idea. A lot of people are being hit Mr. Vassil will probably tell us about that again today-

Mr. Vassil – I'll speak-

REPORTS OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES (cont'd):

Mr. Gallagher – Mr. Vassil will help us from there. We will do that Mark.

Mr. Roth - Ok-I'm hearing from Meadowood people that there was but-

Mr. Gallagher – And the increase has been dramatic.

Mr. Roth – Ok, that's it.

Mr. Gallagher – Thank you.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – Mr. Gallagher: Finally Committee of the Whole this evening- we have Ordinances 2010-011 which is by the entire Council and Mayor Perciak on nepotism. We're going to read that again just one more time just to make sure we're all tight and everybody understands where we're going on that. 2010-018 is housekeeping on adopting replacement pages in our Codified Ordinance. Our recommendation is suspension and adoption. I'll take any questions.

(No questions)

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

MAYOR'S OFFICE – Mr. Gallagher: Reports and Communications from the Mayor-Mayor Perciak is on vacation. We will not have that at this evening.

FINANCE DEPARTMENT - Mr. Dubovec: Thank you, Mr. Gallagher. Funds will be made available for all ordinances and resolutions on this evening's agenda requiring certification of funding. Thank you.

Mr. Gallagher – Thank you Mr. Dubovec. Questions for Mr. Dubovec?

(None)

LAW DEPARTMENT – Mr. Kraus: Mr. President, I would simply report that all resolutions and ordinances before City Council this evening are in proper legal form.

Mr. Gallagher – Thank you Mr. Kraus. Questions for Mr. Kraus?

Mr. Roth – Yes Mr. Gallagher.

Mr. Gallagher – Mr. Roth.

Mr. Roth – Mr. Kraus, were you aware of our thirty year agreement regarding all electric homes?

Mr. Kraus – No, I mean I wasn't here then, but I'm still not aware directly or indirectly of such an agreement. I'll be happy to try and look into it and see if there was an agreement or if we have any records that the City here regarding such an agreement subject to any information that Mr. Vassil may get to us here later.

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

Mr. Roth – Ok.

Mr. Gallagher – Any further questions for Mr. Kraus? After we hear Mr. Vassil Mark we'll...because it is impacting an awful lot, especially seniors.

Mr. Roth – Yes.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION:

Mr. Gallagher – This is the segment of our evening where we have audience participation. Those in the audience wishing to address Council we welcome your comments. You'd have five minutes at the podium. We need your name and address for our record. We don't have anyone signed in but I see Mr. Vassil is here so Mr. Vassil welcome.

Bill Vassil, 18271 Fox Hollow Drive, Strongsville – Bill Vassil, 18271 Fox Hollow Drive, Strongsville, Ohio. To prove a point, there was no thirty year agreement and you can prove that by Bob Schmidt. All his homes are electric. He just put homes in North Ridgeville and in Avon and they're all electric and they were caught with the electric going up. There was no thirty year agreement. There was no thirty year agreement here is Strongsville because the thirty years have gone a long time ago. I moved in '75 and I'm an all electric home. Just to show you how screwy the electric company is-back in 1993, I replaced my furnace and my heat pump with new units. About three months after I did this I get a letter from the Illuminating Company wanting to know if I went to gas which I did not do. My wife doesn't like gas so we stayed electric. That was 1993 and now I moved here in '75. My electric bills at that time were \$142/month for both heat and the electric used for our lights and etcetera plus our hot water tank is electric. This is what's happened-my daughter lives in Middleburg and she has a gas home and her electric according to the people at the Illuminating Company there is nothing wrong with her meter. She went from @400KW/Hrs to 1200KW/Hrs at a \$400 clip. They're putting the poles in like I said over at Drake. They're trying to show you that they're very cooperative. They're a bunch of jerks.

Mr. Gallagher – Thanks Mr. Vassil. Anyone else in the audience, we don't have anyone else signed in.

(None)

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS:

Ordinance No. 2010-011 by Mayor Perciak and All Members of Council. AN ORDINANCE ENACTING SECTION 266.21 OF CHAPTER 266 OF TITLE SIX OF PART TWO-ADMINISTRATION CODE OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF STRONGSVILLE TO PROHIBIT NEPOTISM IN EMPLOYMENT BY THE CITY, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. 1st rdg: 01-19-10.

Placed on Second Reading. Referred to Committee of the Whole

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS (cont'd):

Ordinance No. 2010-013 by Mayor Perciak. AN ORDINANCE MAKING APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE CURRENT EXPENSES AND OTHER EXPENDITURES OF THE CITY OF STRONGSVILLE, OHIO, FOR THE YEAR 2010 AND REPEALING ORDINANCE NO. 2009-259.

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

Motion for adoption by Mr. DeMio, second by Mr. Coyne.

Roll Call: Ayes: Dooner, Gallagher, Haseley, Daymut, Coyne, DeMio.

Nays: Roth.

Motion carries.

Ordinance No. 2010-013 ADOPTED.

Ordinance No. 2010-014 by Mayor Perciak and All Members of Council. AN ORDINANCE APPROVING, AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE AN ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS PERMIT WITH TERMS AND CONDITIONS IN CONNECTION WITH THE CITY'S STRONGSVILLE TECHNOLOGY PARK AND THE FOLTZ PARKWAY EXTENSION PHASE II PROJECT, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

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

Motion for adoption by Mr. DeMio, second by Mr. Coyne.

Roll Call: All ayes. Motion carries.

Ordinance No. 2010-014 ADOPTED.

Ordinance No. 2010-015 by Mayor Perciak. AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING THE MAXIMUM NUMBER OF UNIFORMED OFFICERS IN THE POLICE DEPARTMENT, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

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

Motion for adoption by Mr. DeMio, second by Mr. Coyne.

Roll Call: All ayes. Motion carries.

Ordinance No. 2010-015 ADOPTED.

Ordinance No. 2010-016 by Mayor Perciak and All Members of Council. AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING THE MAXIMUM NUMBER OF MEMBERS IN EACH RANK IN THE FIRE DEPARTMENT, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

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

Motion for adoption by Mr. DeMio, second by Mr. Coyne.

Roll Call: All ayes. Motion carries.

Ordinance No. 2010-016 ADOPTED.

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS (cont'd):

Ordinance No. 2010-017 by Mr. Gallagher. 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. DeMio to suspend the rules requiring every ordinance or resolution to be read on three different days, second by Mr. Coyne. All members present voted aye and the motion carried.

Mr. DeMio – I don't think I could repeat that yes to my right there, but yes.

Mr. Coyne – Second.

Mr. DeMio – Michael, you're a trip, it's from lifting.

Mr. DeMio – It's from lifting I'm sure that's what it is. What are you lifting?

Unidentified Voice – A Pencil.

Mr. DeMio – I just want to know something...

Mr. Gallagher – Let us continue on.

Mr. DeMio – Mr. Kraus, could you turn around a second. What is redder-her shirt or Mr. Gallagher's face?

Mr. Haseley – It's a toss up.

Mr. DeMio - ...from a professional perspective.

Mr. Kraus – I'm going to exercise my rights.

Mr. DeMio – Fifth amendment.

(Laughter)

Mr. Gallagher – Where are we at?

Motion for adoption by Mr. DeMio, second by Mr. Coyne.

Roll Call: All ayes. Motion carries.

Ordinance No. 2010-017 ADOPTED.

Ordinance No. 2010-018 by Mayor Perciak and All Members of Council. AN ORDINANCE TO APPROVE AND ADOPT REPLACEMENT PAGES TO THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY, REPEALING ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS IN CONFLICT THEREWITH, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

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

Motion for adoption by Mr. DeMio, second by Mr. Coyne.

Roll Call: All ayes. Motion carries.

Ordinance No. 2010-018 ADOPTED.

COMMUNICATIONS, PETITIONS AND CLAIMS:

Motion for Council approval of delegate list for Annual Meeting of Southwest General Health District by Mr. DeMio, second by Mr. Coyne.

Roll Call: All Ayes. Motion carries.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS:

Mr. Haseley – We never excused the Mayor.

Mr. Gallagher – We don't have to.

Mr. Daymut – I think you do. You may check with Ken.

Mr. Gallagher – Mr. Kraus-we do not have to excuse the Mayor do we?

Mr. Kraus – No you do not.

Mr. Gallagher – I didn't think so.

Mr. Haseley – Why did we do it for forty years?

Mr. Gallagher – And now we're doing it right. Is there any miscellaneous business before Council?

Mr. DeMio – You know Mike, I would be remiss not to mention and this is on behalf of the Strongsville Soccer Organization. We are collecting soccer balls and we will give those soccer balls to Haiti. If anyone would like to donate them-please, my address is in the phonebook or the Assistant Clerk Aimee I'm sure would be glad to take them over at the Service Center, Foltz and I will give them to the proper folks. Any size, lightly used or new ball would be greatly appreciated. I appreciate your time Mike. I apologize for not mentioning that earlier.

Mr. Gallagher – Everybody got that? Any further business?

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to come before this Council, Council President Gallagher adjourned the meeting at 8:22 p.m.

Signature on File
Aimee Pientka
Acting Clerk of Council

February 16, 2010
Date of Approval