

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING – 7:00 P.M.

NOTE: Portions of these minutes could not be recorded verbatim because of problems with the sound system.

The Council of the City of Cortland met in regular session on Tuesday, January 20, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. at the City Administration Building, 400 N High St, Cortland, Ohio with Council President Woofter presiding. Members of Council present were James Edwards, Dennis Linville, Deidre Petrosky, Kevin Piros, Scott Rowley, and Terry Tackett (arrived at 7:02 p.m.). Also present at the meeting were Mayor Moll, Law Director Wilson, Police Chief Andrews, Finance Director Moyer, Fire Chief Rea, and Clerk of Council Horn; absent was Service Director Wittman.

A motion to approve Council Minutes from the January 5, 2015 Council Meeting was made by Councilman Linville and seconded by Councilman Piros. **ROLL CALL** - Linville, aye; Petrosky, aye; Piros, aye; Rowley, aye; Tackett, absent; Woofter, aye; Edwards, aye. **MOTION PASSED**

A motion to approve Schedule of Bills to be paid totaling \$64,772.74 was made by Councilwoman Petrosky and seconded by Councilman Piros. **ROLL CALL** - Petrosky, aye; Piros, aye; Rowley, aye; Tackett, absent; Woofter, aye; Edwards, aye; Linville, aye. **MOTION PASSED**

OLD BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

RESOLUTION R-08-15 – A Resolution determining to proceed with the submission to the electors declaring the amount of taxes that may be raised by levy at the maximum rate authorized by law without a vote of the electors to be insufficient for providing and maintaining motor vehicles, communications, and other equipment, used directly in the operation of a police department, or the payment of salaries of permanent police personnel in the City of Cortland, and declaring the necessity of an additional levy in excess of such rate was read and moved by Councilman Edwards and seconded by Councilwoman Petrosky. **ROLL CALL ON RESOLUTION R-08-15** - Piros, aye; Rowley, aye; Tackett, aye; Woofter, aye; Edwards, aye; Linville, aye; Petrosky, aye. **MOTION PASSED**

RESOLUTION R-09-15 – A Resolution determining to proceed with the submission to the electors declaring the amount of taxes that may be raised by levy at the maximum rate authorized by law without a vote of the electors to be insufficient for providing and maintaining motor vehicles, communications, and other equipment, used directly in the operation of a fire department, or the payment of salaries of permanent fire personnel in the City of Cortland, and declaring the necessity of an additional levy in excess of such rate was read and moved by Councilman Piros and seconded by Councilwoman Petrosky. **ROLL CALL ON RESOLUTION R-09-15** - Rowley, aye; Tackett, aye; Woofter, aye; Edwards, aye; Linville, aye; Petrosky, aye; Piros, aye. **MOTION PASSED**

ORDINANCE O-02-15 - An Ordinance amending Ordinance O-84-14 authorizing the Finance Director to transfer \$72,500 from the Water Fund to the Water Capital Reserve Fund was read and moved by Councilman Piros and seconded by Councilwoman Petrosky. A motion to suspend the rules was made by Councilman Piros and seconded by Councilwoman Petrosky.

FINANCE DIRECTOR – I'd like to state for the record that this is a correction. The original ordinance that was passed read the General Fund and it should have said the Water Fund and it wasn't caught until after it had passed when I was ready to transfer the funds. So, we are amending that ordinance to change it to having that \$72,500 come out of the Water Fund. It was my oversight.

MAYOR MOLL - A lot of us saw it and missed it.

LAW DIRECTOR WILSON - I missed it too, Fran.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT WOOFER - We all probably should have caught it.

ROLL CALL ON SUSPENSION OF RULES – Tackett, aye; Woofter, aye; Edwards, aye; Linville, aye; Petrosky, aye; Piros, aye; Rowley, aye. **ROLL CALL ON ORDINANCE O-02-15** - Edwards, aye; Linville, aye; Petrosky, aye; Piros, aye; Rowley, aye; Tackett, aye; Woofter, aye. **ORDINANCE PASSED EMERGENCY**

MAYOR'S REPORT:

MAYOR MOLL – I'd like to say welcome to the students here tonight. If you need any additional information, the city website has all the information you would need including what we pass here tonight. The website address is on the agenda. You are welcome to come back to any of our meetings anytime.

I have a couple announcements: You can continue to drop off your Christmas trees until this Friday, January 23rd at Willow Park. The Polar Plunge at Mosquito Lake is Saturday, January 24th. There is more information on the website for that. Also, "Good Morning, Cortland and Bazetta" put on by the Chamber of Commerce will be at Lake Vista on Friday, February 27th at 7:30 a.m. It's a breakfast meeting. If you are interested in going please let us know so we can prepare a single submission for the city as far as the fees go. I know the chiefs are going. My plan is to have them do a presentation. The school superintendent will do a presentation as well as a Bazetta Trustee. They will mostly be talking about levies.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT WOOFER – Council, if any of you want to come, please call or email Rhonda and let her know please. She'll take care of it.

FINANCE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

FINANCE DIRECTOR MOYER – You all received a copy of the monthly financial report which was the end of the fiscal year. The Finance Department Annual Report will be presented at the next meeting. Also, tomorrow Rhonda will be going to the Board of Elections with the legislation passed tonight. It will be filed in a timely manner to get it placed on the ballot. That should be the end of anything I need from council at this point to get that done. Thank you for the Special Meeting and the cooperation of everyone to get this done. That's all I have unless there are any questions.

POLICE CHIEF'S REPORT:

POLICE CHIEF ANDREWS – You should have my monthly and yearly reports in your council packets. Two months ago I explained a grant that we had pursued and worked through the school system to obtain. It was for an early warning system. Basically, with a push of a button it would broadcast the alert to all our portable radios. We looked at another system on this grant called a MARCS Radio. It's a statewide type system. The OST has been using it for some time; most of the state agencies have. We communicate with just about anybody anywhere

in the state. It was mostly started by the homeland security people and it's been grant produced for some time now. We had a representative come up and give us a lecture about this. We are going to that system instead; mostly, because we have been promised a base radio of this MARCS System to be put into our station. That radio is a \$5,000 radio. We will be one of the first non-state agencies in Trumbull County to have it police wise. In meeting with the 911 Center Director that is what they will be pushing down the road. They want to get everyone on this MARCS System. With this many police, fire and emergency management people in the county it is going to be a big undertaking, a lot of money. Right off the bat we got a very good system for jumping on board. The school likes it and we like it. The down side, which is very minimal, is the \$20 a month maintenance fee. So we pay \$240 for a \$5,000 piece of equipment. That's pretty good.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT WOOFER – A year?

POLICE CHIEF ANDREWS – Yes, a year. We are going to be pursuing that. I met with the superintendent today to finalize and the school board is on board as well. So, we will change the grant all together.

Secondly, I tentatively received knowledge that we got a \$7,000 grant from the Ohio Criminal Justice Society (OCJS). It will be put towards communications as well. The original grant was written for \$16,000 and they usually cut us in half. That will be for new portable radios. Initially, it was for across the board mobile radios and portable radios. I will redo the grant to cover all portable radios. We will cover the radios we carry with us at all times so we get more bang for our buck. That should be in place in February so we can make a purchase. It's all state co-operative so it should be easy. Other than that, I'll answer any questions you may have of myself or the department.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT WOOFER – Is any of that money going to be used for body cameras?

POLICE CHIEF ANDREWS – We have some officers wearing those anyway.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT WOOFER – We do? I didn't know we had them.

POLICE CHIEF ANDREWS – Yes. They purchased them themselves mostly through their uniform allowance or however they wanted. A lot of the guys have felt comfortable with them.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT WOOFER – What is it communicating with?

POLICE CHIEF ANDREWS – It's basically like a recorder.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT WOOFER - I know, but is it a self-contained unit or is it communicating to the camera...?

POLICE CHIEF ANDREWS – No. We have those in the car now. We have for some time. Those are self-contained and stored in the trunk. They can be burned on the computer system we have here. The individual ones would be no different than an officer carrying a tape recorder into an interview.

MAYOR MOLL - We do have policy covering the in car recorders but not covering the...

POLICE CHIEF ANDREWS – Right. If we did do that, we would have to do it across the board. We are talking about a large amount of money. What’s interesting about this grant is that we are one of three in this county to get it. The only others were Girard and Hubbard that received funding. A lot of the ones received from the state, almost 50%, were for body worn cameras and things like that. So, you can see the trend. They were a bit expensive across the board. If we had to foot the bill, we’d probably have more important things to spend our money on.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT WOOFER - What are they paying for those?

POLICE CHIEF ANDREWS – They can be up to \$500 a piece.

COUNCILMAN PIROS - Are those like GoPro’s?

POLICE CHIEF ANDREWS – Same concept.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT WOOFER - But they are smaller aren’t they?

POLICE CHIEF ANDREWS – The size of a garage door opener.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT WOOFER - Okay, so about the size of a GoPro.

POLICE CHIEF ANDREWS – Yes. They are not that invasive. Like the Mayor said, there are a lot of policy issues that go with it. If we control them like in the cars, there’s things you can’t delete or erase. We’d have to make them that way. I think we may see that come down the pike with the events that have happened in the past year. Either the state will start to mandate or make monies available to say we want you to do this.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT WOOFER - But on the other hand, since we don’t have a policy in place for those, are you are okay with the guys wearing those as chief of the department?

POLICE CHIEF ANDREWS – Yes.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT WOOFER - You aren’t concerned about them having them with no policy?

POLICE CHIEF ANDREWS – Like I said, it’s no different than us carrying a tape recorder which we’ve done for years to tape interviews and have them write it done. But it’s nice if somebody won’t give us a written statement that we have this that can be played right in court to say this is what the person said and did or this is what we said and didn’t do that they are saying we are doing. That’s probably the most helpful part of all that.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT WOOFER - Are we under any kind of requirement to let the person know they are being recorded?

POLICE CHIEF ANDREWS – No.

MAYOR MOLL - We are already recording them with the car camera. This is just a little up close and personal. And I don’t believe we have any rights to the content if the officer...

POLICE CHIEF ANDREWS – It would be questionable. I could make an argument. If we were going to do that, we would have to create policy. There would be a time and place for that, I would imagine.

LAW DIRECTOR WILSON –At some point in time, someone will ask for it.

POLICE CHIEF ANDREWS – Right, and it is public record. So if we use it, we will use it like the videos we have from the BAC room and the one in the interview room. We have a few attorneys that are becoming savvy to realize that pretty much everything is getting taped in the car, in the police station, even if it's secured. They are requesting that automatically. We have to save it, burn it and hang on to it probably for up to 6 months before they say we really want it now. A lot of that runs on loop for 30 days per our public records policy. We don't have to keep it.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT WOOFER - Would that be the same with these?

POLICE CHIEF ANDREWS – Could be. Right now it's not. Our videos and audios that are recorded from the car are kept for 30 days but that's on policy. That's a public record issue. We can say we will only keep it for 30 days unless it's evidence of value then we burn it on a disc and it goes in the arrest file. If an attorney wanted it, they would have to make a request to say we want this saved, do not delete it. We would honor that if we are already doing it.

COUNCILMAN PIROS - Chief, any salvage value to our existing radios?

POLICE CHIEF ANDREWS – Possibly. We are still looking into that. I have to modify the grant to see where we are going to go. I need to change it. We will trickle down some of our older radios into the reserves and part-timers. The ones we have now are off grants that are about 10 years old. Realistically, we wouldn't get that much that it would be worth it. I think it would be better to have extras on hand for an event or when things start to break.

POLICE CHIEF ANDREWS – By the way Chief Andrews, thank you for your annual report. It was very interesting and well put together.

FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT:

FIRE CHIEF REA – I don't have much for you tonight. You have my reports. Tomorrow morning I'll be going to a meeting for the MDT's. The county Fire Chiefs are going together; we are part of the grant. We will be finalizing the bids specifications and going out to bid for all the MDT's. I'm hoping they all come back and we are able to get them sometime in the first quarter. Other than that, I don't have anything else for you. I'd be happy to answer any questions.

SERVICE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

(SERVICE DIRECTOR WITTMAN ABSENT)

MAYOR MOLL – Don told me his monthly reports are in the council packets. We don't really have a lot going on lately. We got the bids out for the restrooms at Pearl Park and other than that we are just trying to get things together to get started this year again and do the things we did last year.

COUNCILMAN ROWLEY - I noticed some black pipes alongside the road on the way. Does that have to do with the project and the road getting repaved?

MAYOR MOLL – Widening and storm sewer repairs in that area.

COUNCILMAN ROWLEY - Across from Window R Us?

MAYOR MOLL – Yes. It's been there for quite a while. They did some work there last week on the storm sewer. They cleaned it up a bit. It's not as dangerous.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT WOOFER - I think they had to set it in.

MAYOR MOLL – Yes. I didn't realize they were going to do that this early. I thought they were going to wait until April. But they did get that done. It does look a little better now, I don't know if it's that much safer.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT WOOFER - We should expect to see them there in the spring again?

MAYOR MOLL – April.

NO COMMITTEE REPORTS

COUNCIL PRESIDENT WOOFER – At your place, you will see Rhonda made a list of current council members. I asked her to make a revision on that and add our email addresses. So, you'll be getting another one of these. Is there anyone not using email?

COUNCILMAN TACKETT – (Waved hand)

COUNCIL PRESIDENT WOOFER – You are not at all? Okay, but all other council members are and review there emails.

BRENT BOWKER – REPUBLIC SERVICES

BRENT BOWKER – Some of you I remember, some of you I do not. I am Brent Bowker for Republic/Allied Services. We are the garbage company that takes care of the garbage and recycling service here in Cortland. Recently, I met with Mayor Moll and Service Director Wittman. Your Spring Clean Up date is set for April 30th and May 1st. I'm here to answer any questions you may have of me. I know we had some issues a while back with work stoppage. We are continuing to work on our problems to get things straighten out. Also, we are trying to get all our trucks to be blue with either the Allied or Republic logo.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Councilman Piros and seconded by Councilwoman Petrosky. ROLL CALL - Rowley, aye; Tackett, aye; Woofter, aye; Edwards, aye; Linville, aye; Petrosky, aye; Piros, aye. MOTION PASSED

January 20, 2015

Meeting adjourned at 7:24 p.m.

CLERK OF COUNCIL

PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL