

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING – 7:00 P.M.

The Council of the City of Cortland met in regular session on Monday, April 6, 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, and Terry Tackett; absent was Scott Rowley. Also present at the meeting were Mayor Moll, Law Director Wilson, Police Chief Andrews, Finance Director Moyer, Fire Chief Rea, Service Director Wittman, and Clerk of Council Horn.

A motion to approve Council Minutes from the March 16, 2015 Council Meeting was made by Councilman Piros and seconded by Councilman Edwards. **ROLL CALL** - Edwards, aye; Linville, aye; Petrosky, aye; Piros, aye; Rowley, absent; Tackett, aye; Woofter, aye. **MOTION PASSED**

A motion to approve Schedule of Bills to be paid totaling \$167,816.78 was made by Councilwoman Petrosky and seconded by Councilman Tackett. **ROLL CALL** - Edwards, aye; Linville, aye; Petrosky, aye; Piros, aye; Rowley, absent; Tackett, aye; Woofter, aye. **MOTION PASSED**

NO OLD BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

RESOLUTION R-15-15 – A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to apply for the FY 2015 Community Housing Impact and Preservation Program Funds (CHIP) with the Ohio Development Services Agency, Office of Community Development was read and moved by Councilman Piros and seconded by Councilwoman Petrosky. **ROLL CALL R-15-15** - Edwards, aye; Linville, aye; Petrosky, aye; Piros, aye; Rowley, absent; Tackett, aye; Woofter, aye. **MOTION PASSED**

RESOLUTION R-16-15 – A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to donate .23 acres of municipal owned real estate to the Trumbull County Land Bank was read and moved by Councilman Piros and seconded by Councilwoman Petrosky.

COUNCILMAN TACKETT - Why?

SERVICE DIRECTOR WITTMAN – This is the acreage up in the Shepherds Hill Development that the Southdale Storage Tank was located on. It currently has an access road that Century Link utilizes to get to their infrastructure. Underneath that is a storm sewer or water line. It's approximately 30 feet of frontage and widens out in the back, like a pie shape; so it's not usable. We are looking to divest the city of ownership of that property and any maintenance responsibilities that come along with it. The land bank is a mechanism by which they can offer to adjoining property owners in a fair and impartial manner.

MAYOR MOLL - And it saves the city the money going through that process ourselves.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT WOOFER – Don informed me the land bank has not agreed to accept it yet, so we are just putting this into motion so if they do we have our ducks in a row and we’re covered.

LAW DIRECTOR WILSON – That is correct. I reached out to the land bank and I haven’t heard back from them. With the resolution on tonight, and if it passes, we will be in a ready position.

SERVICE DIRECTOR WITTMAN – Yes. Essentially the property has no value due to the presence of the storm sewer easement, the access easement with Century Link, as well as the waterline bisecting the property.

ROLL CALL R-16-15 - Edwards, aye; Linville, aye; Petrosky, aye; Piros, aye; Rowley, absent; Tackett, aye; Woofter, aye. **MOTION PASSED**

RESOLUTION R-17-15 – A Resolution re-authorizing the Mayor of the City of Cortland, Ohio to place his signature on the replat of Lot 13 – Copperlake Plat No. 1 to relocate a sanitary easement was read and moved by Councilman Edwards and seconded by Councilman Piros.

SERVICE DIRECTOR WITTMAN – This was done back in 2012. There was a recommendation from the Planning and Zoning Commission to approve the re-plat. It’s not changing any acreage or size of a lot within the Copperlake Development. It merely was moving a recorded sanitary easement that was located on a parcel. It was not recorded within the time required. Council does has the authority to extend that approval. By approving this resolution, they would then thereby give an extension and allow the Mayor to sign the re-plat and change the location of the sanitary easement on the lot.

MAYOR MOLL – We thought it was too long a period of time.

ROLL CALL R-17-15 - Edwards, aye; Linville, aye; Petrosky, aye; Piros, aye; Rowley, absent; Tackett, aye; Woofter, aye. **MOTION PASSED**

RESOLUTION R-18-15 – A Resolution whereby the City of Cortland supports efforts of S.C.O.P.E. Inc. to develop, implement and offer senior services in Trumbull County was read and moved by Councilwoman Petrosky and seconded by Councilman Piros.

MAYOR MOLL – This is just a resolution of support that they submit with their grant application for the Cortland S.C.O.P.E. Center.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT WOOFER – It’s something we do every year?

MAYOR MOLL – Yes, we have, ever since they started offering grants.

ROLL CALL R-18-15 - Edwards, aye; Linville, aye; Petrosky, aye; Piro, aye; Rowley, absent; Tackett, aye; Woofter, aye. **MOTION PASSED**

ORDINANCE O-11-15 – An Ordinance authorizing the expenditure to Thomas Fok and Associates, Inc. to perform detailed design for the Downtown Waterline Replacement Project – Phase III was read and moved for first reading by Councilman Piro and seconded by Councilman Linville.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT WOOFTER – Don, maybe I misspoke to you this morning, I saw Thomas Fok’s survey team downtown on Main street. Were they working on Phase III?

SERVICE DIRECTOR WITTMAN – They were working for Phase III.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT WOOFTER – That’s what I thought because they were working on Grove.

SERVICE DIRECTOR WITTMAN – The previous ordinance earlier in the year, Ordinance O-03-15, authorized the mayor to enter a contract. Upon further review of that contract, I realized that the agreement through OPWC allows us to directly pay the contractor through OPWC will not be passed until July. We were just catching up with the expenditure at this point. So we are authorizing the payment of services and then we will reimburse them once the loan agreement is in place.

MAYOR MOLL – So this is a temporary action to incur that.

SERVICE DIRECTOR WITTMAN – Yes.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT WOOFTER – So, they’re not working on something they shouldn’t be doing yet.

SERVICE DIRECTOR WITTMAN – They are working. They are aware that we entered into the agreement. So this legislation fixes the timing of that and allows them to get started now as opposed to July. So, it’s more of a timing issue.

ROLL CALL O-11-15 - Edwards, aye; Linville, aye; Petrosky, aye; Piro, aye; Rowley, absent; Tackett, aye; Woofter, aye. **ORDINANCE PASSED FIRST READING**

COUNCIL PRESIDENT WOOFTER – As you know, we are required to attend Public Records Training authorized by the state. In this case, Cortland City Council would like to approve the appointment of Rhonda Horn, Clerk of Council, as Public Records Training Designee for City Council. Upon approving this, and I’m going to attend because I’m curious, you can still attend if you want to. Otherwise, Rhonda will be the designee.

COUNCILMAN TACKETT - Thank you, Rhonda.

CLERK OF COUNCIL HORN - You are very welcome.

A motion to approve the Appointment of Rhonda Horn, Clerk of Council, as Public Records Training Designee for Cortland City Council was made by Councilwoman Petrosky and seconded by Councilman Tackett. ROLL CALL - Edwards, aye; Linville, aye; Petrosky, aye; Piro, aye; Rowley, absent; Tackett, aye; Woofter, aye. MOTION PASSED

A motion to approve the Appointment of Mary McFarland, Assistant Finance Director, as Public Records Training Designee for Mayor was made by Councilwoman Petrosky and seconded by Councilman Piro.

MAYOR MOLL - She has done this for the last 8 or 9 years for me. Since I started.

ROLL CALL - Edwards, aye; Linville, aye; Petrosky, aye; Piro, aye; Rowley, absent; Tackett, aye; Woofter, aye. **MOTION PASSED**

MAYOR'S REPORT:

MAYOR MOLL – I would like to welcome the students here tonight. You are always welcome to come back to our meetings anytime. If you need additional information, the top of the agenda has the city's website address which has all the information you need including spellings of names, text from tonight's meeting and any actions of council this evening. There's a lot of background information there that may be helpful for your reporting.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT WOOFTER – We have a couple announcements: The Great American Clean-Up is April 25th. Volunteers will be needed at Willow Park at 10 a.m. Our police dept. spearheads this. So, if you students or your friends are looking for community hours, this is a great place to do it. You can go out and help clean up the park, leaves, sticks, trash or whatever.

Curbside Brush Pickup begins next week. It's the week of April 13th for the north side and week of April 20th for the south side. If anyone is confused where they live, they can look it up on our website which is the cityofcortland.org. It explains where the boundaries are.

Scrap Tire Recycling is the week of April 27th. Residents can drop off their tires at Willow Park. Don, where will that drop off be in the park? Will there be a sign?

SERVICE DIRECTOR WITTMAN – I'm not sure how we are going to handle the program this year. The Geauga Trumbull Solid Waste District has slashed what is eligible and no longer reimburses for labor. So, we are just doing just a drop off only. It will likely be out near the roadway.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT WOOFTER – Will there be a truck there or...

MAYOR MOLL – It will be obvious.

SERVICE DIRECTOR WITTMAN – It will be in the vicinity of the service garage. I don't know if we are going to get a roll off so people can throw their tires inside that, or set them along side of it, or just stock pile inside our gate.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT WOOFER – At some point, will we have something on the website, Rhonda?

CLERK OF COUNCIL HORN – It's already on the website. Once I get the specifics from Don I will post that information.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT WOOFER – So, residents can watch for that.

CLERK OF COUNCIL HORN – Yes.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT WOOFER – And we could probably post that on Facebook as well.

SERVICE DIRECTOR WITTMAN - It will be marked and it will be pretty evident where you see the pile of tires where to place yours.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT WOOFER – Spring Clean Up for the city is April 30th or May 1st with your regular trash pick-up.

The 2014 Drinking Water Consumption Confidence Report is now available on the city website and will be included in your next water bill. I received mine already because I got my bill last week. You can read about our water.

Kevin, would you like to give an update on the splash pad?

COUNCILMAN PIROS – We started approaching businesses for donations. We've already received some of our first donations. Our goal is to raise the money in 2015 and have the splash pad up and running by Memorial Day 2016. If everything goes as expected with the fundraising this year, we should have it in place for next summer.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT WOOFER – How much money has been donated at this point?

COUNCILMAN PIROS – I'm not sure. Terri may know that.

MAYOR MOLL – Somewhere between \$3,000 and \$4,000.

COUNCILMAN PIROS – We've had positive interest in the feedback from the community and businesses. It's just a matter of time before we start receiving additional funds.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT WOOFER – How much do we need?

MAYOR MOLL – \$70,000

COUNCILMAN PIROS – \$70,000 minimum. We'd like to have a little more to do a couple other things like benches and a walkway. I'm confident the community will support us and we'll have that up and running next year.

FINANCE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

FINANCE DIRECTOR MOYER - The state audit is well underway and seems to be going well. I noticed tonight you had a couple of appointments to approve and the mayor alluded to the fact that these things have been done in the past, but they are asking for council to take formal action on some of these things. You are going to see a couple more like this going forward where they are asking for it to be part of our meeting and approved by a motion. The audit itself seems to be going very well.

Also, the GAAP conversion is very well underway and I'm hoping within the next two weeks to have my portion of that wrapped up and I will certainly have it wrapped up by the end of this month so that's off the table before I'm off work for health reasons. Everything right now is progressing. I believe also the auditors will be done with their audit probably around the end of this month. So, the month of April we'll continue to have auditors and the GAAP conversion going on, but by the end of this month we should pretty well be wrapped up.

POLICE CHIEF'S REPORT:

POLICE CHIEF ANDREWS – Our Someplace Safe donation campaign finished up this month. We took everything down Friday. We took down two large SUV's and a cruiser full of goods, candy and monetary items. Everything the shelter could use. They were very appreciative. It was a very good campaign. I would like to thank a lot of the citizens from the Cortland/Bazetta area and some of you that I saw up here who donated as well. I appreciate that. I'd like to thank Marcia Bertolini, our secretary. She really made this possible by making phone calls, coordinating it, and keeping it going. Without her, this would have not been. Other than that, everything is going smoothly and I'll answer any questions you may have of me or the department.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT WOOFER – Have we seen any of the heroin problems within the city?

POLICE CHIEF ANDREWS – Yes. We just did this afternoon.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT WOOFER – Not the normal heroin but the poisoned heroin that is killing people.

POLICE CHIEF ANDREWS – It's hard to say. This individual did not die so we won't get the tox results that the coroner gets. If you saw the announcements from Captain Orr, I know Jeff real well. For him to come out and make statements like that, along with Dr Germaniuk, it's a huge problem.

We've talked about this for the last year or so and it's just getting worse. When you get some of these batches cut with something that is ridiculous, that's what happens.

COUNCILMAN TACKETT - Are the anti-drugs getting harder to get?

POLICE CHIEF ANDREWS – The Narcam and some of the newer drugs that are out, no.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT WOOFER – Chief Rea, is that what you used this afternoon to save this person?

FIRE CHIEF REA - Yes.

POLICE CHIEF ANDREWS – In fact, a lot of the laws that just came out make it capable for anyone to get it and store it. If you have a loved one that you know has a problem and you're a parent, you can have it now. We can have them. It's a great system but...

MAYOR MOLL - You have to get there.

POLICE CHIEF ANDREWS – Right, there is still a time limit. Just like anything, usually the body will shut down and stop breathing. Fortunately, these guys are very quick. They beat us sometimes and that's great. That's one of the benefits of being in a smaller city that has top notch people like these guys that will get out there and keep up. If you are in the county or up north of us, not so much, or if you are in the City of Warren in a place that nobody gets to you for a while. It's a huge problem when you see things like that. On our afternoon shift today we had one in an apartment complex in his car. He was brought back around.

COUNCILMAN TACKETT - Chief Rea, how do recognize that was the case, that it was an overdose? Was there a needle there or something?

FIRE CHIEF REA - It was called in that way. The people that knew the individual knew his past history.

COUNCILMAN TACKETT - Are there people that have needles hanging out of their arm?

POLICE CHIEF ANDREWS – That has happened quite frequently.

LAW DIRECTOR WILSON - There are people that are inhaling now as well.

POLICE CHIEF ANDREWS – That's what it was today probably. We are still working that case and there was a packet of suspected narcotics that will be taken to the lab tomorrow and tested.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT WOOFER – What’s the age of this individual?

POLICE CHIEF ANDREWS – I can’t go into that. He’s an adult.

FIRE CHIEF REA - I can’t say. He’s allowed to tell you more than I can tell you.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT WOOFER – Well, for the benefit students that are here, I just wanted to...

POLICE CHIEF ANDREWS – He’s an adult, but age knows no limits realistically

COUNCIL PRESIDENT WOOFER – I understand that but...

COUNCILMAN TACKETT - You kids stay away for that stuff.

FIRE CHIEF REA - What is being circulated around, there is no age limit to it. They are cutting it with several things including other narcotics, stronger narcotics which increases its potency. So, when they go use the same amount they used before, and you have another narcotic that is 10 to 1,000 times more potent, and they don’t know that, they’ll use the same amount and overdose. The problem is you don’t know what you are getting with street drugs.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT WOOFER – Several people have died this week in the county.

FIRE CHIEF REA - We have had 6 deaths in the county, 20 deaths this year. Last year there were 17 or 19 deaths from heroin in the county for all of last year. Not overdoses, but deaths. Overdoses are a whole other thing. We had 20 deaths from heroin this year already.

POLICE CHIEF ANDREWS – Like I said, we saw this coming and we’ve been talking and talking about it. What used to be an urban problem is now a problem for us. It will not be going away anytime soon. We are trying to address it as much as we can. Hopefully the schools are trying to address this newer problem. I know the medical community has been addressing it. They are more on the front lines than any of us. Where it goes, I don’t know.

FIRE CHIEF’S REPORT:

FIRE CHIEF REA – On the way in, I handed you a packet. Back in November or December, we got our ISO evaluation done. ISO is the Insurance Service Office. They rate your fire department and your water system for suppressing fires specifically. They compare it to the rest of the country. You get a rating which then the insurance industry can base their rates off of for your city. It was supposed to be in sometime around the holidays, and we just got it on Thursday. Mine came Thursday evening so I didn’t have time to get it in your packets, but I wanted you to have it tonight. We did do a little PR thing on our Facebook page about it. We were a 5, now we are down to a 4 or 4x. The lower the number the better. If you leaf through, this is not the whole report. It tells you what ISO is, what they do, how they

rate, and how we rate against the rest of the county. Basically, if you flip to the back page, it's an easy way to see how we compare. Since lower is better, everyone wants to be a 1. Considering there are only 97 departments in the whole nation out of 50,000 with an ISO of 1, that's a pretty elite class. That's departments like LA City and LA County. There is one 1 in Ohio, which is Solon. So that should give you an indication of how you can get a classification of 1, you have to have the resources to be able to do that. We ranked in a Class 4. So, if you break it down, there are 50,000 communities. These are not just fire departments. 10's are communities that don't have fire departments necessarily in them. They may contract out or do other things. We are in the top 20% of the nation, if you want to know where we fall as a fire department with the services we offer and the water distribution system. We are quite happy with that. We went from a 5 to a 4. Hopefully, in 5 years we are going to see what we can do to get it down to maybe a 3. Now, does it have a huge effect? No. It has a huge effect on insurance rates when you are going from a 10 or 7 area down to a 4 or 5. Mostly, it is for commercial structures when you are talking at the top end of the tier. The lower end of the tier are your residential and commercials. Something we are quite pride of. They refigured the evaluation this year. They dropped some criteria and added some new ones. We were a little unsure exactly what they were going to look for. We know a couple places where we can improve.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT WOOFER – How it directly relates to all us is if you are a business owner here in the city, and you own commercial property, and you are insuring that building, they look at this report and you can get a better insurance rating based on that.

MAYOR MOLL – Generally, we are already getting that benefit so it just says it's a good place to come and have a business.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT WOOFER – That is very good news. That means our fire department has been doing an excellent job in our city. We certainly appreciate that. They are a bunch of good guys. Remember that in November.

FIRE CHIEF REA – Yes, please.

SERVICE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

SERVICE DIRECTOR WITTMAN - The High/Main Street Project was resurrected last week with some installation of conduit for the soon to be installed decorative lighting. That was being undertaken by the electrical sub contractor. The main crew will be mobilizing in the next couple of weeks and commencing with the completion of the storm sewer installation. So, expect some lane restrictions on North High St.

MAYOR MOLL - I was very happy to see they cleaned up the mess of winter debris. It looks much better now.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT WOOFER – Well, partly they did. There is quite a bit of stuff on the sidewalks yet. They cleaned a section if that's what you're talking about.

MAYOR MOLL – I didn't see anything, but I don't go down Main St.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT WOOFER – I do. It partly looks better.

SERVICE DIRECTOR WITTMAN – So, the sooner they get started on that, the sooner it will get cleaned up, restored and finished.

As you are aware, we had an issue with our water system last weekend. It was really an unavoidable situation; however, the Service Dept. reacted in a timely fashion and really minimized the amount of recovery time. We were pragmatic in our approach in bringing the system back online without a boil alert extending for multiple days and even into a week. So, we did it as soon as we could bring fresh water into system and flush it. Had we rushed to get samples into the lab, and had a false positive or not had the distribution system turned over, there would have been a chance to extend it for a minimum of 48 hours. So, we delayed getting the samples until Monday morning, by about a day, to make sure everything was done and taken to the lab that we are accustomed to be using as opposed to one that would have accommodated us to get it done sooner. By then, we are already 48 hours in. It was a unique situation altogether in that it was immediately adjacent to the distribution line of the storage tank and it drained it within 4 to 5 hours overnight.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT WOOFER – I have a question about that. Is there such a thing as a back flow device that would prevent the tank from draining like that?

SERVICE DIRECTOR WITTMAN – I'm sure there is but it would have just saved the water from going out of the system. The distribution system would have still dropped below the 20 pounds. So, the city would have had no water sooner. Even if we had an alarm, it fell so fast we wouldn't have been able to react to where it would have...

COUNCIL PRESIDENT WOOFER – How long did it take to empty?

SERVICE DIRECTOR WITTMAN – Almost instantaneous if I look at the recording equipment as far as the pressure.

MAYOR MOLL – There was a lot of water in the park and it all ran into the creek.

SERVICE DIRECTOR WITTMAN – You could see there was an issue with the water draining out a little bit and then the wells kicked on and maintained pressure for a little while. Then, within an hour, it let go. It was a not so bad break and it became a severe break, almost a rupture. Unfortunately, it was at the worst time of day and it was in a location not traveled by people so it went undetected until morning.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT WOOFER – Well, our guys did a really good job getting it fixed right away. Of course, the hole was already dug by the geyser.

SERVICE DIRECTOR WITTMAN – I would like to reiterate that the boil advisory is just precautionary. There was no known contamination or positive samples of bacteria. It is an EPA requirement mandate that when it drops below a pressure of 20 lbs. in the distribution system you must bring it back online through a boil advisory and upon doing a requisite number of samples of negative bacteria, which is the protocol we followed. It's as expeditious of a timeline we can follow.

MAYOR MOLL - Well, it paid off. It was done and we didn't have to redo anything.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT WOOFER – Again, the Service Dept. did a great job with that. Thank you. Any other comments, Don?

SERVICE DIRECTOR WITTMAN – The Downtown Waterline Project is ongoing. They are working on Erie and we will be getting pipe in the next month or so, hopefully. As Jim alluded to, the design of Phase III, the surveying, is underway. A lot of these water improvements that we've done led to the ISO improved rating. Not to steal the fire depts. thunder, but Dave did allude to the distribution system and the availability to water. We are headed in a positive direction with the system improvements.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT WOOFER – That's a good thing.

SERVICE DIRECTOR WITTMAN – Other than that, my monthly report will be at the next meeting and I'll entertain any questions that council may have of me.

NO COMMITTEE REPORTS

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:39 p.m.

CLERK OF COUNCIL

PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL