

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING – 7:00 P.M.

The Council of the City of Cortland met in regular session on Monday, July 20, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. at the City Administration Building, 400 N High St, Cortland, Ohio with Council President Jim Woofter presiding. Members of Council present were James Edwards, Dennis Linville, Deidre Petrosky, Kevin Piros, Scott Rowley and Terry Tackett. 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 July 6, 2015 Council Meeting was made by Councilman Tackett and seconded by Councilwoman Petrosky. **ROLL CALL** - Edwards, abstain; Linville, aye; Petrosky, aye; Piros, aye; Rowley, aye; Tackett, aye; Woofter, aye. **MOTION PASSED**

A motion to approve Schedule of Bills to be paid totaling \$52,039.14 was made by Councilman Linville and seconded by Councilman Piros. **ROLL CALL** - Edwards, aye; Linville, aye; Petrosky, aye; Piros, aye; Rowley, aye; Tackett, aye; Woofter, aye. **MOTION PASSED**

OLD BUSINESS:

ORDINANCE O-16-15 – An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter an agreement with GPD Group to perform construction administration and inspection for the North High Street Pedestrian Enhancement Project was read and moved for third and final reading by Councilman Linville and seconded by Councilwoman Petrosky. **ROLL CALL O-16-15** - Edwards, aye; Linville, aye; Petrosky, aye; Piros, aye; Rowley, aye; Tackett, aye; Woofter, aye. **ORDINANCE PASSED THIRD AND FINAL READING**

ORDINANCE O-17-15 – An Ordinance authorizing ODOT to perform PID No. 96568 resurfacing work on sections of SR 305 within the corporation limits in the City of Cortland, Ohio was read and moved for third and final reading by Councilman Rowley and seconded by Councilman Piros. **ROLL CALL O-17-15** - Edwards, aye; Linville, aye; Petrosky, aye; Piros, aye; Rowley, aye; Tackett, aye; Woofter, aye. **ORDINANCE PASSED THIRD AND FINAL READING**

NEW BUSINESS:

RESOLUTION R-33-15 - A Resolution accepting the Alternative Tax Budget authorized by the Trumbull County Budget Commission and certifying it to the Trumbull County Auditor was read and moved by Councilwoman Petrosky and seconded by Councilman Piros. **ROLL CALL R-33-15** - Edwards, aye; Linville, aye; Petrosky, aye; Piros, aye; Rowley, aye; Tackett, aye; Woofter, aye. **RESOLUTION PASSED**

RESOLUTION R-34-15 - A Resolution authorizing the Clerk of Council to advertise a public hearing to consider a zone change request for a portion of Parcel No. 30-000063 located on St Rt 5 to Industrial, I-1 was read and moved by Councilman Piros and seconded by Councilman Rowley.

COUNCILMAN TACKETT - This already went through zoning?

MAYOR MOLL - Yes, it was approved at the last meeting.

ROLL CALL R-34-15 - Edwards, aye; Linville, aye; Petrosky, aye; Piros, aye; Rowley, aye; Tackett, aye; Woofter, aye. **RESOLUTION PASSED**

RESOLUTION R-35-15 - 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 Councilwoman Petrosky and seconded by Councilman Piros. **ROLL CALL R-35-15** - Edwards, aye; Linville, aye; Petrosky, aye; Piros, aye; Rowley, aye; Tackett, aye; Woofter, aye. **RESOLUTION PASSED**

ORDINANCE O-20-15 – An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into a contract with Foust Construction Inc. for the North High Street Pedestrian Enhancement Project was read and moved by Councilman Piros and seconded by Councilman Rowley. A motion to suspend the rules was made by Councilman Rowley and seconded by Councilman Piros. **ROLL CALL ON SUSPENSION OF RULES** - Edwards, aye; Linville, aye; Petrosky, aye; Piros, aye; Rowley, aye; Tackett, aye; Woofter, aye. **ROLL CALL O-20-15** - Edwards, aye; Linville, aye; Petrosky, aye; Piros, aye; Rowley, aye; Tackett, aye; Woofter, aye. **ORDINANCE PASSED IN EMERGENCY**

ORDINANCE O-21-15 – An Ordinance authorizing the City’s Continuing Fire Education and EMS Training Center instructor payment rates was read and moved for first reading by Councilman Piros and seconded by Councilman Edwards.

COUNCILMAN TACKETT - Is this something we’ve done in the past?

MAYOR MOLL - We’ve never had an ordinance for it. There were some changes to it.

COUNCILMAN TACKETT - It’s not just our people taking this. It’s people from other depts. taking it too, right?

FIRE CHIEF REA - This is so we can pay our instructors so we can teach for our training center. We are setting them a pay rate. In the past we paid them \$15 and \$20. The last one was \$25 per hour. But we had nothing in black in white that said this is what we pay our instructors. So, when I sent it to the auditor, they are looking at courses and how much we charge. However, we had nothing in how we pay them. This is setting forth our pay schedule and also a couple other things.

COUNCILMAN TACKETT – Okay, very good.

FINANCE DIRECTOR MOYER – I’d like to add to that. Dave is exactly right. We have never brought this before council and passed as legislation. The reasoning for that is the Continuing Education Fund is a self-funding entity. They basically made their own policy and set their own rate. Now it’s been determined, and Dave has decided in the interest of making everything brought to council’s attention and done in a legal way, we are going to do it as a form of legislation. So, no, we did not do that in the past but we had one rate that we paid and it was set by the continuing education people. It wasn’t brought necessarily before council.

MAYOR MOLL - It was an administrative rule. In my mind, we need to minimize the number of administrative rules we legislate, but this was one the auditors felt was important.

FINANCE DIRECTOR MOYER - Yes.

FIRE CHIEF REA - About two years ago they wanted to know our rate fees, so we had to make a rate fee. Then, it was let's match the rate fee to the student. What's next is how are you paying your people? So, now everything is transparent.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT WOOFER - When you say "they", who are you referring to, the auditors?

FIRE CHIEF REA – Yes, the auditors. We didn't have to prove anything to them for years.

MAYOR MOLL - I guess this is going on all over the place.

(Multiple conversations)

COUNCILMAN PIROS – And these rates are determined by industry standards?

MAYOR MOLL - Sort of.

COUNCILMAN PIROS – The average?

FINANCE DIRECTOR MOYER – It was submitted to me by Dave with the rate based on who it is and what criteria they fall under.

FIRE CHIEF REA – The criteria as to where they fall is set by the state. You have to get certified by the state or nationally certified to teach certain courses. You need a state certification in EMS instruction. If not, you can be an assistant instructor, but you'll get paid by that rate.

MAYOR MOLL - If you don't charge too much, people won't come to your class and if you don't charge enough, people won't teach your class. It's a competitive marketplace environment.

FIRE CHIEF REA - It's anywhere from \$15 an hour to \$50 an hour. If you go down to YSU and teach as an EMS instructor, it's \$50 to \$75 per hour.

COUNCILMAN PIROS – So, this is a good in between?

FIRE CHIEF REA - Yes. With the continuing education it won't break us. We never went into it to be a money maker and a revenue stream. It self-sustained itself for over 18 years. We buy equipment and you'll see at the next council meeting we are buying a new power point projector. That all came out of the education fund. It's very competitive to keep EMS.

COUNCILMAN PIROS – Are there other fire depts. that do training?

FIRE CHIEF REA - Yes. We do most of the continuing education for the responders in the area. The Howland Fire Dept. does initial education and continuing education. The Bazetta Fire Dept. has a CE site for their own guys but when they need the EMS recertification they come to us. They do a little bit of their continuing education classes but we do the refresher classes.

COUNCILMAN PIROS – I know it gets busy.

FIRE CHIEF REA – Yes. Twice a year we have several people going through our station, about 50 a month for that month. We run it in Oct and then again in Feb.

ROLL CALL O-21-15 - Edwards, aye; Linville, aye; Petrosky, aye; Piros, aye; Rowley, aye; Tackett, aye; Woofter, aye. **ORDINANCE PASSED FIRST READING**

MAYOR'S REPORT:

MAYOR MOLL – I wanted to mention that the bridge is almost done. I want to put in the record we certainly appreciate the work the state and the county and everyone else involved in doing that project and paying for that project for us. It turned out very, very nice.

COUNCILMAN PIROS – The lights are on.

MAYOR MOLL – Yes, the lights are on today. Almost everything is done except the bridge needs to be painted. Other than that, it looks great.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT WOOFTER - That is supposed to happen this week.

MAYOR MOLL – Yes. I just wanted to make sure we get it on the record that we thank those people for their help. We'll try to take care of it.

FINANCE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

FINANCE DIRECTOR MOYER – The Budget for 2016 will be filed tomorrow. We did file our resolutions that we passed for the advances on taxes, so those will be coming shortly. That's all I have unless there are any questions.

POLICE CHIEF'S REPORT:

POLICE CHIEF ANDREWS – Officer Zach Granelly is one of our reserve officers who moved up to part-time status with us. The Mayor swore him in on Friday. He's a good kid from Vienna. He also works for Girard part-time a little bit. He's young and real good with people. I'm looking forward to him working for us quite a bit. He's already started picking up shifts for us so it works out great. Other than that, you have my monthly reports and I'll answer any questions you have for us.

FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT:

FIRE CHIEF REA - We were notified that we got the State EMS equipment grant for \$3,500. We have till next July and that will help out quite a bit for EMS supplies. If we have anything left over we will send our guys out for training as well.

July 20, 2015

Last week, as most of you know, I was at the State Fire Chief's Conference down at Easton in Columbus. It was an excellent conference with a lot of good education and legislation of what's going on. I talked to Chief Andrews about some of the stuff that is coming out that will hopefully benefit both police and fire in the future.

The shower and men's bathroom at the fire dept. are done. They look great. We got rid of the mold.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT WOOFTER - Is there an exhaust fan in there?

FIRE CHIEF REA - Yes, a brand new exhaust fan, as a matter of fact, if you want to come down and see it you are more than welcome to do that. Tomorrow the last piece goes in before they add the shower curtain.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT WOOFTER - It does look nice. I saw it well under construction.

FIRE CHIEF REA - We have to paint the walls yet. Next year, hopefully if everything goes right, we will start the women's restroom.

The MDT's are in the station. We are waiting for our mounting brackets. We ordered them last month. They said a month, 60 days, maybe 90 days. They weren't very specific on when we'll get them but when you are ordering 64 of them it can take some time. So the computers are there, we've been using them. The guys are trying to orient themselves with them. We'll have training and then the brackets will get in here and then we'll be good to go.

MAYOR MOLL - You'll get the training before you put them in the vehicle?

FIRE CHIEF REA - Yes.

MAYOR MOLL - Good. That's a good idea.

FIRE CHIEF REA - It's a one day training. The people from ID Networks give us a video tape so we'll always have it on the computer so when new people come in we can sit them down and give them the training. It's pretty straight forward. So far it looks like it is. Other than that, you have monthly report and I'll be happy to answer any questions.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT WOOFTER - I would like to comment on behalf of the fire dept. The Cortland News is featuring the Cortland Fire Dept. this next issue that comes out on Fri and Sat. There will be a front page story. This is their 130th birthday this year. We felt it was an apropos time to do a nice story on the fire dept. so there are some pictures and things of interest that I think you'll find rather interesting.

SERVICE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

SERVICE DIRECTOR WITTMAN - You all received the monthly report. Just a reminder, the next mosquito spraying is this Thursday. There has been some discussion as far as missing streets and not getting our monies worth for the hours they are out spraying. I spoke with the individual who rode along with them last time and he said there are times they have to double and triple back to hit all the areas. He assured me every road in the city had been sprayed.

MAYOR MOLL - So you may, in fact, drive over a section that had been sprayed before or will be sprayed later to get to something.

SERVICE DIRECTOR WITTMAN – They are not spraying all the time that they are driving. They are not driving at the same speed that they would be when they are fogging. 15 mph is the maximum speed when they are fogging.

MAYOR MOLL - What's the max speed when they aren't fogging, about 40?

SERVICE DIRECTOR WITTMAN – I don't want to encourage speeding but that would be more cost effective for the city.

MAYOR MOLL - Well, I was wondering based on the calls we've had.

SERVICE DIRECTOR WITTMAN – So, as we are wrapping projects up with the intersection and the Downtown Waterline Project – Phase II, we are scheduling a pre-construction meeting next Monday for the Downtown Waterline Project - Phase III. With the passage of the ordinance this evening for the sidewalk project, that will be getting scheduled for our next project scheduled using federal highway dollars. I'm working on getting a contract put together for the annual resurfacing project that will be awarded to Butch and McCree. Our preliminary conversations with them is that they can schedule us mid Sept. So, getting the OPWC money delayed the project so we are following in line with the projects they already have on the books. So, after school is in session, that paving project will be completed.

MAYOR MOLL - So, it will be disruptive.

SERVICE DIRECTOR WITTMAN – No, it won't be disruptive. It just won't be ideal.

MAYOR MOLL - For a day or so.

SERVICE DIRECTOR WITTMAN – At the end of August we will have applications for the next round of projects to get in the pipeline through OPWC and Transportation Alternative Programs so if you have any ideas give me a call. I have a rough estimate of projects we are going to be putting together to submit for funding assistance keeping in mind there are strict eligibility criteria for each of those programs. If you have any ideas or input for the city, please let me know. Other than that, I'll entertain any questions that council may have.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT WOOFER – I have a question. In our packets we had a letter from Attorney Gessner in regards to the snow removal in downtown Cortland. I would like to know if we are going to try to address his concerns. I guess I'm asking the Mayor and Service Director.

MAYOR MOLL - He brought up a procedure we used to clear the sidewalks and because of the decorative lighting downtown, we can no longer use that procedure. At one point, we used to drive a pick-up truck on each sidewalk and push the snow on the street and push it down to the railroad. You can't do that with the decorative lighting. It makes it a much more difficult process to do what we used to do. Whether there is an alternative, I don't know. Other than getting a crew down there with frontend loaders and truck it out, I don't know for sure what we can do. We will look at it.

COUNCILMAN PIROS – I hate to bring this up again, but what about the Yanmar?

MAYOR MOLL - It wouldn't touch that stuff.

COUNCILMAN PIROS – Not after it has hardened, but during the normal...

MAYOR MOLL – No. We don't have enough people during normal plowing times. The issue there is you have to plow the streets.

COUNCILMAN PIROS – I understand that but...

MAYOR MOLL – If you have everyone tied up plowing the streets, we don't have anyone else to run the other equipment.

COUNCILMAN PIROS – But when we bought it I thought we said we would do all the primary streets first and then we would come back and do sidewalks and main downtown but that was when the schools didn't do bussing. That was the reason we bought it, to supplement after the initial snow was removed. That would have been a perfect thing with the intent of it.

MAYOR MOLL – There is no place to put the snow though with that machine.

COUNCILMAN PIROS – Push it back on the road and then take it down.

MAYOR MOLL – By the time you get to that there are cars parked down there. It's a very difficult logistical problem to solve. A lot of handwork.

SERVICE DIRECTOR WITTMAN – The Mayor shared the letter with me. I had a number of initial responses and thoughts when I first read it. A lot of the factors contributing to the concerns that Attorney Gessner brought up precluded the city from doing clearing this year. We had an unusual cold winter when the snow pack turned into an ice shear, there is no equipment let alone... he alluded to that you could not shovel. Well, we couldn't plow it off of the parking spaces because it was stuck in place. The blade would just bounce off that snow. In short of taking tons of salt and spreading it through there we would not be able to do any snow removal. Plus, we were running short on salt. So, it was a perfect storm. We will still engage in the practice of hauling snow out when the conditions permit.

MAYOR MOLL – But it's more difficult than it used to be.

SERVICE DIRECTOR WITTMAN – It is not an approach we have abandoned.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT WOOFER – Downtown is a special area and concern because there is limited parking downtown for those businesses and their concern is making sure they are able to get their customers through the doors. It's kind of a big circle of problems because they would shovel...

SERVICE DIRECTOR WITTMAN – They need to start engaging in snow removal to allow their customers to get into their doors as well.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT WOOFER – And they do. They shovel walkways through and then...

SERVICE DIRECTOR WITTMAN – They need to not just shovel walkways but remove the snow from the sidewalks. That is the responsibility as a property owner. It falls squarely within the codified ordinances.

MAYOR MOLL – There are businesses that do that.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT WOOFER – Yes, there are some businesses that are able to do that and there are some that aren't. I would just like to try to do a better job if we possibly can. I appreciate you letting us know the procedure that we used to use will be still be used when possible.

COUNCILMAN LINVILLE - Were we in a position to file a claim for reimbursement on the salt issue?

MAYOR MOLL – Yes.

COUNCILMAN LINVILLE - And did we?

SERVICE DIRECTOR WITTMAN – Yes, all the information requests for the Ohio Attorney General as far as salt purchases from 2008 to, or maybe 2009... 3 years of salt purchases has been provided to them. I don't anticipate that being a lot of money.

COUNCILMAN LINVILLE - I wouldn't think so.

SERVICE DIRECTOR WITTMAN – When you are talking \$11.5 million over three years with how many communities in the state of Ohio?

COUNCILMAN PIROS - How is our salt access this year?

MAYOR MOLL – A lot better.

COUNCILMAN PIROS - Back to where it was before last year?

MAYOR MOLL – No.

COUNCILMAN PIROS - Two years ago or getting closer?

MAYOR MOLL – Don just completed a summer buy through the county and we have some quotes from Morton Salt for the regular season.

SERVICE DIRECTOR WITTMAN – We have a pretty substantial carry over from last year. We have 300 tons through the summer fill which is about half of our annual allocation. Then we will be looking at getting about 300 tons through our winter fill.

COUNCILMAN PIROS - And the cost is within reason compared to last year when it sky rocketed?

SERVICE DIRECTOR WITTMAN – It’s almost half.

MAYOR MOLL – Twice what it was three years ago but half what it was...

COUNCILMAN PIROS - Better than last year, but not as good as it was three years ago. At least it’s not as drastic as it was last year. That’s good.

NO COMMITTEE REPORTS

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

COUNCILMAN PIROS - The Splash Pad Car Wash was successful. We raised just under \$400. Thank you to everyone who came out and got their car washed. I don’t know what the total is now but I think we are a shouting distance of 50% with the pledges.

MAYOR MOLL – We are at or about 50%.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT WOOFER – What about Galleria? Did they give you some kind of...?

MAYOR MOLL – We haven’t got the numbers from them but I think they did pretty well.

COUNCILMAN PIROS - According to them it was very successful.

MAYOR MOLL – I hope they do that kind of thing again. I think it was a nice event as well not to just raise money but to get the people out in the city.

COUNCILMAN PIROS - It was packed.

MAYOR MOLL – Yes, it was packed.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Councilman Piros and seconded by Councilman Tackett.

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:32 p.m.

CLERK OF COUNCIL

PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL