

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING – 7:00 P.M.

The Council of the City of Cortland met in regular session on Monday, February 16, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. at the City Administration Building, 400 N High St, Cortland, Ohio with Council President Dennis Linville presiding. Members of Council present were James Edwards, Patti Keller, Don Moore, Kevin Piros, and Scott Rowley; absent was Deidre Petrosky. Also present at the meeting were Mayor Woofter, Law Director Wilson, Finance Director Moyer, Fire Chief Rea, and Clerk of Council Horn; absent were Police Chief Andrews and Service Director Wittman.

A motion to approve Council Minutes from the February 1, 2016 Regular Council Meeting was made by Councilman Moore and seconded by Councilman Piros. **ROLL CALL** - Edwards, aye; Keller, aye; Linville, aye; Moore, aye; Petrosky, absent; Piros, aye; Rowley, aye. **MOTION PASSED**

A motion to approve Schedule of Bills to be paid totaling \$29,920.37 was made by Councilman Edwards and seconded by Councilman Rowley. **ROLL CALL** - Edwards, aye; Keller, aye; Linville, aye; Moore, aye; Petrosky, absent; Piros, aye; Rowley, aye. **MOTION PASSED**

OLD BUSINESS:

ORDINANCE O-06-16 – An Ordinance whereby the City of Cortland authorizes funding to S.C.O.P.E., Inc. to support its services for the Cortland Senior Center was read and moved for third and final reading by Councilman Piros and seconded by Councilman Rowley. **ROLL CALL O-06-16** - Edwards, aye; Keller, aye; Linville, aye; Moore, abstain; Petrosky, absent; Piros, aye; Rowley, aye. **ORDINANCE PASSED THIRD AND FINAL READING**

ORDINANCE O-07-16 – An Ordinance authorizing the Police Chief to purchase accessories and the installment of the accessories in the 2016 Chevrolet Impala police cruiser was read and moved for third and final reading by Councilman Moore and seconded by Councilman Edwards. **ROLL CALL O-07-16** - Edwards, aye; Keller, aye; Linville, aye; Moore, aye; Petrosky, absent; Piros, aye; Rowley, aye. **ORDINANCE PASSED THIRD AND FINAL READING**

ORDINANCE O-08-16 – An Ordinance amending Ordinance O-60-14 to approve and authorize a revision to the collective bargaining contract between the City of Cortland and the International Association of Firefighters (I.A.F.F.) Local 3632 was read and moved for second reading by Councilman Piros and seconded by Councilman Moore. **ROLL CALL O-08-16** - Edwards, aye; Keller, aye; Linville, aye; Moore, aye; Petrosky, absent; Piros, aye; Rowley, aye. **ORDINANCE PASSED SECOND READING**

ORDINANCE O-09-16 – An Ordinance amending Ordinance O-60-14 to approve and authorize a revision to the collective bargaining contract between the City of Cortland and the International Association of Firefighters (I.A.F.F.) Local 3632 was read and moved for second reading by Councilman Rowley and seconded by Councilman Moore. **ROLL CALL O-09-16** - Edwards, aye; Keller, aye; Linville, aye; Moore, aye; Petrosky, absent; Piros, aye; Rowley, aye. **ORDINANCE PASSED SECOND READING**

NEW BUSINESS:

RESOLUTION R-08-16 – A Resolution authorizing the Clerk of Council to advertise for Statements of Qualifications for providing professional services for design of the South Mecca Waterline Replacement Project was read and moved by Councilman Rowley and seconded by Councilman Piros. **ROLL CALL R-08-16** - Edwards, aye; Keller, aye; Linville, aye; Moore, aye; Petrosky, absent; Piros, aye; Rowley, aye. **MOTION PASSED**

RESOLUTION R-09-16 – A Resolution authorizing ODOT to perform PID No. 100323 resurfacing work on a section of St Rt 46 within the corporation limits of the City of Cortland, Ohio was read and moved by Councilman Moore seconded by Councilman Edwards. **ROLL CALL R-09-16** - Edwards, aye; Keller, aye; Linville, aye; Moore, aye; Petrosky, absent; Piros, aye; Rowley, aye. **MOTION PASSED**

RESOLUTION R-10-16 – A Resolution requesting the Auditor of Trumbull County, State of Ohio, to advance the amount of \$100,000 collected thru real estate tax, March settlement for use in the General Fund of the City of Cortland, Ohio was read and moved by Councilman Edwards seconded by Councilman Rowley. **ROLL CALL R-10-16** - Edwards, aye; Keller, aye; Linville, aye; Moore, aye; Petrosky, absent; Piros, aye; Rowley, aye. **MOTION PASSED**

RESOLUTION R-11-16 – A Resolution requesting the Auditor of Trumbull County, State of Ohio, to advance the amount of \$200,000 collected thru real estate tax, March settlement for use in the Police Levy Fund of the City of Cortland, Ohio was read and moved by Councilman Edwards seconded by Councilman Moore. **ROLL CALL R-11-16** - Edwards, aye; Keller, aye; Linville, aye; Moore, aye; Petrosky, absent; Piros, aye; Rowley, aye. **MOTION PASSED**

RESOLUTION R-12-16 – A Resolution requesting the Auditor of Trumbull County, State of Ohio, to advance the amount of \$200,000 collected thru real estate tax, March settlement for use in the Fire Levy Fund of the City of Cortland, Ohio was read and moved by Councilman Rowley seconded by Councilwoman Keller. **ROLL CALL R-12-16** - Edwards, aye; Keller, aye; Linville, aye; Moore, aye; Petrosky, absent; Piros, aye; Rowley, aye. **MOTION PASSED**

RESOLUTION R-13-16 – A Resolution authorizing the adoption of an amendment to the City of Cortland’s Ohio Association of Professional Firefighters (OAPFF) 457 Deferred Compensation Plan to reflect recent law changes was read and moved by Councilman Piros seconded by Councilman Edwards.

COUNCILMAN MOORE - This is to comply with the change in law right?

FINANCE DIRECTOR MOYER - Yes, this is to comply with the change the IRS has made.

ROLL CALL R-13-16 - Edwards, aye; Keller, aye; Linville, aye; Moore, aye; Petrosky, absent; Piros, aye; Rowley, aye. **MOTION PASSED**

ORDINANCE O-10-16 – An Ordinance amending Ordinance O-04-12 establishing the terms of employment for the Part-time Firefighter/Paramedics and Firefighters/EMT-B of the City of Cortland was read and moved for first reading by Councilman Rowley seconded by Councilman Piros.

COUNCILMAN MOORE – I looked at the original ordinance that this amends and there was a different rate for new firefighters. Does that still apply?

FIRE CHIEF REA - No. After sitting down with Fran, we decided to get rid of that. Most of the time, we'd miss it. When we brought a new fireman on it was just you are a fireman, you are a paramedic here's your wage. We forgot to attach you get a decrease rate for 6 months. We were hit or miss with that. Sometimes it happened and sometimes it didn't. So we decided to say you are a fireman, you are a medic, or you're an EMT, here's your wage. It makes it a lot easier on myself and Fran to keep track. Also, to keep track when they do go up to the next level.

COUNCILMAN MOORE – Does this amend that section by eliminating it?

FIRE CHIEF REA - Yes. That section is no longer in the new ordinance?

COUNCILMAN MOORE – Are the wages competitive for attracting new paramedics?

FIRE CHIEF REA – For one it is to be competitive. This will put us ahead of most of the other ones. There are a couple other places that pay more. There's one that pays \$14.00. If you go look at Howland's part-timers, and I don't have Howland's current rate, they get a raise concurrent with whatever the full time gets. So, each year that the full-time gets a raise they get the same exact raise. We haven't done that. My other thought was since 2008, the minimum rate was \$7.00 and it's now \$8.10. So in 2008 if they were worth \$11.00 an hour, they should be worth that difference in 2015. If you calculate that out, that's a 15.5 % raise in the minimum raise. So, we are looking at about 30% total raise. If you want to call it a raise. It looks like \$2.00 but when you put that 15.5% on the \$11.00 they were making in 2008 as compared to cost of living and minimum raise increase, you are showing about 30%.

COUNCILMAN MOORE – How many part timers does this apply to?

FIRE CHIEF REA – About 22.

COUNCILMAN PIROS - And they are responsible for all their course work and costs to get certified? So, this helps also with that.

FIRE CHIEF REA - Yes, they come to us certified. They are responsible for the upkeep of uniforms. I don't provide their entire uniform. I provide a job shirt for them for the colder weather. Out of their pocket comes boots, pants, winter coats... You are talking \$80 for a pair of pants and \$140 for a pair of boots. It's quite substantial. These guys do a great job for us and help keep us running. They deserve to be brought up to a better wage or at least a wage that's congruent with the wage increases minimum wage has seen over the years.

ROLL CALL O-10-16 - Edwards, aye; Keller, aye; Linville, aye; Moore, aye; Petrosky, absent; Piros, aye; Rowley, aye. **ORDINANCE PASSED FIRST READING**

ORDINANCE O-11-16 – An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to sign and for the City to fund a Mutual Agreement for Technical Assistance Between The City of Cortland and Trumbull Soil and Water Conservation District was read and moved for first reading by Councilman Edwards seconded by Councilman Piros.

COUNCILMAN PIROS -So this is \$.35 per resident? It looks like it's capped at \$3,000 max.

MAYOR WOOFER - That's correct.

COUNCILMAN PIROS – So using today's figures, what would that be approx.? Any idea?

FINANCE DIRECTOR MOYER - I wouldn't know. I'm sorry.

COUNCILMAN PIROS – Obviously under \$3,000.

LAW DIRECTOR WILSON - Don did the calculation and then he came up with \$3,000 as a safe figure to have in here going forward.

MAYOR WOOFER – I think that figures out to be around \$2,700 or \$2,800.

LAW DIRECTOR WILSON – Something like \$2,860. One of those numbers.

MAYOR WOOFER - He wanted to cap it out at \$3,000 to have some wiggle room in there.

COUNCILMAN PIROS – We've never done the \$.35 before have we? I don't remember ever seeing this.

FINANCE DIRECTOR MOYER - We've entered an agreements with them before, whether the \$.35 was the same as last time, I don't know.

COUNCILMAN PIROS – I don't ever remember seeing that.

MAYOR WOOFER - We usually do.

COUNCILMAN PIROS – It must have been a while ago.

LAW DIRECTOR WILSON – The cost might have been calculated differently, Kevin. It might have been about 5 years ago.

FINANCE DIRECTOR MOYER - I don't believe the amount is higher than normal.

COUNCILMAN PIROS – From what I see on here, every municipality is obligated to get into a similar agreement with Trumbull Soil and Water.

ROLL CALL 0-11-16 - Edwards, aye; Keller, aye; Linville, aye; Moore, aye; Petrosky, absent; Piros, aye; Rowley, aye. **ORDINANCE PASSED FIRST READING**

MAYOR'S REPORT:

MAYOR WOOFER – I don't have a whole lot to report on except for the fact that we got snowed on last night. All in all, I believe our city faired quite well. They did an excellent job on the road. I'd like to thank our Service Dept. I don't believe we had too many issues with residents over the road clearing. I decided after talking to Don last night not to call a parking ban. Actually, if I was going to do it, it should have been quite earlier in the day than when I thought of it at 9:00 last night. We decided not to go ahead and do that. As it turned out, I think

it worked pretty good. We might have plowed in a couple cars here and there. People should know by now, if it's snowing heavy, don't park on the street. It's pretty simple.

I made copies of our snow parking ban ordinance. Is this part of the Charter, Rhonda?

CLERK OF COUNCIL HORN - No. That is a codified ordinance.

MAYOR WOOFER – There's a lot of information on here and as council people, I'd like you to review it so you are familiar with it. If some of our residents want to make a complaint about snow or what's going on you really need to know what's on here. When you are plowing your own driveway, you don't throw the snow out into the roads. It's not a good thing to do. Keep the snow within your own property. Go on the outside and blow it back in. I know it's kind of difficult at times especially when we are removing snow off the streets and pushing them back into the drive. Don't throw it back out. It just makes it worse. Review these things and if you have any questions call Don or myself tomorrow.

One other thing for residents, clearing the snow off sidewalks is your responsibility. It is not the city's responsibility. If you are an area business or you are a resident and you have sidewalks contiguous to your property, it is your responsibility to clear them as best as you can.

COUNCILMAN PIROS - We do not have that link on our website. Can we put that on the website and the eNews? If people are looking for that it would be easy for them especially during the winter. Also reference it in the eNews, at least during the snow season.

CLERK OF COUNCIL HORN - Sure, we can do that.

FINANCE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

FINANCE DIRECTOR MOYER – You all have a copy of my Year End Report. We are making progress on the appropriations. I intend to have the first reading of the appropriations on the March 7th meeting and then we will pass in emergency at the second meeting in March so that it gets filed with the county at the end of the month. If there are any questions I'll entertain those, but that's all I have.

POLICE CHIEF'S REPORT:

(POLICE CHIEF ANDREWS ABSENT)

POLICE OFFICER WESTON – I am Officer John Weston here for Chief Andrews. We don't have anything to report from the police department but I'd be happy to try to answer any questions you may have.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT LINVILLE – John, were there many accidents last night and today?

POLICE OFFICER WESTON – Very few. Everyone around us got hammered but we did okay. We had just a couple fender benders here and there. Not bad overall.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT LINVILLE – I think the road crew did a nice job. That's good.

FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT:

FIRE CHIEF REA – Thank you for passing that piece of legislation and the other two we had. I have a few things for you tonight.

I recently got word of a capital improvement grant for safety forces. When Chief Andrews is back from vacation I will sit down with him and see if we can find a way to use some money if the state is willing to give it to us. Again, it's a grant and there are no guarantees. They just announced it last week and we have to apply by April or May. I don't know the exact date at the top of my head because I have 5 grants going on right now. We have to have that filed in a short time period. It is up to \$100,000 for capital improvements. I called down there last week just to make sure we can use it for renovations and they said we can. Tom has been looking at doing some renovations on the police side and I'm always looking to do renovations on the fire side. Hopefully we will be able to get a little money out of the state for that.

I also got word that we might have some training money coming back to us. I have to file a little more paperwork but they told me yesterday they will forward it through as soon as I get that paperwork for the training reimbursable grant which I put in for training from last year. You have to complete the training and then pay for it and then file it. So, that's looking pretty good.

This last week I got notification that we got a Bureau of Workers Comp Grant to replace one of our cots with a power cot and load system. The total cost of the project is \$44,000 for one ambulance. The Bureau of Workers Comp will cover a little over \$33,000 of that cot. Out of pocket, we will have \$11,000, and I already have \$3,500 sitting there in grant money from the State of Ohio to pay for part of that. So, we will spend about \$7,500 out of pocket. The idea behind it is we will cut down on some of our back, knee, hips and shoulder injuries from lifting patients and loading and unloading them out of the ambulances. That's all I have tonight. I'd be happy to answer any questions you have of me.

SERVICE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

(SERVICE DIRECTOR WITTMAN ABSENT)

NO COMMITTEE REPORTS

QUESTIONS OF COUNCIL FROM THE AUDIENCE:

STUDENT JORDAN CARTER – 236 GROVE ST

JORDAN CARTER – What is the name of your Service Director?

COUNCIL PRESIDENT LINVILLE - Don Wittman.

COUNCILMAN PIROS – I have an update on the splash pad. We have a couple upcoming fundraisers:

March 3rd - Beef 'O' Brady's – 4 to 8 p.m. 15% of all food sales will go toward the splash pad.

March 21st - CHICKEN4CHARITY at Quaker Steak & Lube – 4 to 10 p.m. Flyers are available on the city's website to download and take with you. They give us 15% of the food sales.

March 5th – Galleria & Arts Spring Open House. We will be represented there with basket raffles and a 50/50.

We are also raffling a brand new self-propelled Toro lawnmower. Donated by Cortland Mowers. Tickets will be available at these events as well as at city hall. The drawing is in May at the Parks Board Meeting. There are three prizes. The first prize is the mower and there is a second and third prize.

We also have the H & R Block fundraiser. They will donate \$20 to the splash pad for every new tax return that H & R Block does as part of that referral.

Lastly, Schwans Cares is partnering up with us. All of this information is available on the city website. There are links on there to download and get more information. For 45 days, and we are 5 or 6 days into it, they

will donate back 20% of all food sales. That does not increase your cost. So, whatever you purchase, 20% of that will go back to the city as a contribution to the splash pad. I think we are down to about \$16,000 or \$17,000 that we still need. We do have some pledges out that will bring us down to under \$15,000. So, we are making headway with that. Hopefully we can schedule the installation here soon of the safety surface in order to get it operational by Memorial Day. We don't want to open it without the safety surface. That's our goal, to get that scheduled soon.

COUNCILMAN MOORE - How much lead time is needed for that?

COUNCILMAN PIROS – John from My Splash Pad said if we get it in here in the next 3 to 4 weeks we should be okay to get that installed. He can squeeze us in. Part of the benefit by putting in the majority of the pad itself in the fall was that everything we are going to be doing for the final phase II is above ground. So, there is no excavation or cement pouring which is the most time consuming part. So everything is above ground. Luckily, we had the foresight to get half of it done in the fall. Now we don't have to do the whole thing in the spring.

COUNCILMAN MOORE – Do we have to complete the fundraising in 3 to 4 weeks?

COUNCILMAN PIROS – No. As long as we get the 50% down of phase II we can schedule it. That will be out another month or so and then we can continue our fundraising efforts to get to that.

We also have a Go Fund Me that's on-line. All of this is on the Cortland Splash Pad Facebook page. So, if you want to go out there and like it. We are posting all updates on there. We are also posting updates on our business donations. Those who sponsor, we will post on there to give a little recognition so you know who is partnering up on that.

COUNCILMAN MOORE - I think that's working. I got my son to donate over the weekend from Virginia Beach. He went to the Go Fund Me and boom.

COUNCILMAN PIROS – Hey, we'll take anything we can get. Anywhere in the country. You don't have to be a Cortland resident. Maybe you were a Cortland resident and you moved away. You can go on-line and donate back to the community.

COUNCILMAN MOORE - It's easy to do.

COUNCILMAN PIROS – Thanks.

MAYOR WOOFER – Kevin, I have a question about that Go Fund Me account. Most of the donations are funneling through the foundation so that money is a tax right off. How about this Go Fund Me account?

COUNCILMAN PIROS – You can claim it as a tax deduction I believe, but I would check with your tax advisor.

COUNCILMAN MOORE - Go to H & R Block and get \$20 back.

COUNCILMAN PIROS – There you go. We get a double whammy.

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:28 p.m.

CLERK OF COUNCIL

PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL