



February 4, 2019

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING – 7:00 P.M.

The Council of the City of Cortland met in regular session on Monday, February 4, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. at the City Administration Building, 400 N High St, Cortland, Ohio with Council President Deidre Petrosky presiding. Members of Council present were James Edwards, Kathy Fleischer, Patti Keller, Don Moore, Kevin Piros and Scott Rowley. Also present at the meeting were Mayor Woofter, Law Director Wilson, Police Chief Morris, Fire Chief Rea, Service Director Wittman and Clerk of Council Horn; absent was Finance Director Gibson.

A motion to approve Council Minutes from the January 22, 2019 Regular Council Meeting was made by Councilman Moore and seconded by Councilwoman Keller. **ROLL CALL** - Edwards, aye; Fleischer, aye; Keller, aye; Moore, aye; Petrosky, aye; Piros, aye; Rowley, aye. **MOTION PASSED**

A motion to approve Schedule of Bills to be paid totaling \$ 27,827.02 was made by Councilman Piros and seconded by Councilwoman Keller.

COUNCILMAN MOORE - I have one question. Maybe this is more for Don. I noticed there was a payment of \$1,236.00 for Main Lite Electric for repairing the sirens. Is that just a one-time thing or are we going to be looking at replacing those in the future?

SERVICE DIRECTOR WITTMAN - I will defer to the fire chief.

FIRE CHIEF REA - I knew that was coming my way. There are more repairs to come. Part of it is replacement batteries, all the batteries at this one needed repaired. We replaced the batteries on the one up at St Rt 5. We are going to have to get ourselves on a schedule to have those done. The one at Blake is going to need some more work on the box. The box is rotted out. Everything inside looks pretty good, he said, but the box itself needs some attention. It's going to be an ongoing cost for the tornado sirens.

COUNCILMAN MOORE - Are we looking at an upgrade at some point in the future? How old are those?

MAYOR WOOFTER - 15 or 20 years old. The cost of them is a lot cheaper, at this point, because of the condition they are in right now to do repairs on them rather than putting out \$10,000 to \$15,000 a siren to replace them.

ROLL CALL - Edwards, aye; Fleischer, aye; Keller, aye; Moore, aye; Petrosky, aye; Piros, aye; Rowley, aye. **MOTION PASSED**

NO OLD BUSINESS



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NEW BUSINESS:

RESOLUTION R-11-19 – A Resolution requesting the Auditor of Trumbull County, State of Ohio, to advance the amount of \$100,000.00 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 Moore and seconded by Councilwoman Fleischer. **ROLL CALL** - Edwards, aye; Fleischer, aye; Keller, aye; Moore, aye; Petrosky, aye; Piros, aye; Rowley, aye. **MOTION PASSED**

RESOLUTION R-12-19 – A Resolution requesting the Auditor of Trumbull County, State of Ohio, to advance the amount of \$200,000.00 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 Councilwoman Keller and seconded by Councilman Rowley. **ROLL CALL** - Edwards, aye; Fleischer, aye; Keller, aye; Moore, aye; Petrosky, aye; Piros, aye; Rowley, aye. **MOTION PASSED**

RESOLUTION R-13-19 – A Resolution requesting the Auditor of Trumbull County, State of Ohio, to advance the amount of \$200,000.00 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 and seconded by Councilman Piros. **ROLL CALL** - Edwards, aye; Fleischer, aye; Keller, aye; Moore, aye; Petrosky, aye; Piros, aye; Rowley, aye. **MOTION PASSED**

ORDINANCE O-02-19 - An Ordinance authorizing the W. E. Downie Company to perform repairs on the Southdale Lift Station was read and moved by Councilman Edwards and seconded by Councilman Rowley. A motion to suspend the rules was made by Councilman Rowley and seconded by Councilman Moore.

SERVICE DIRECTOR WITTMAN - This is for replacing two check valves that stop the flow of sewage when one pump is working and sewage is coming back into the line. The existing ones are really designed to be in a horizontal position but have been installed in a vertical position, so they are not closing all the way and it is causing the pump to run longer and using electricity. The check valves we are looking at replacing can be installed in the horizontal or vertical and will improve the efficiency of the lift station.

COUNCILMAN PIROS - How did this come about? Is it something we noticed or...?

SERVICE DIRECTOR WITTMAN – Yes. We have Mission Communications. It gives us detailed pump information for 4 of the 8 lift stations. Southdale has that. We continue to monitor those on a daily basis. You will notice when something is plumbing longer than normal and as well as the electrical readings.



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COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETROSKY - Do we have that situation at any of the other pumps or just this particular one at Southdale?

SERVICE DIRECTOR WITTMAN – Just this one. Unfortunately, we have 8 different lift stations and 8 different designs

ROLL CALL ON SUSPENSION OF RULES - Edwards, aye; Fleischer, aye; Keller, aye; Moore, aye; Petrosky, aye; Piros, aye; Rowley, aye. **ROLL CALL ON O-02-19** - Edwards, aye; Fleischer, aye; Keller, aye; Moore, aye; Petrosky, aye; Piros, aye; Rowley, aye. **ORDINANCE PASSED EMERGENCY**

ORDINANCE O-03-19 - An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter an agreement with Thomas Fok and Associates, Inc. to perform engineering and bidding assistance for the Cedar Drive Waterline Replacement Project was read and moved for first reading by Councilman Moore and seconded by Councilman Edwards.

SERVICE DIRECTOR WITTMAN – This is the OPWC project that was funded and authorized at the end of last year to enter into that loan agreement. As you are aware, we did replace a couple 100 feet in the first phase of the project. Thomas Fok had done some preliminary engineering work to allow us to go out and do that with a forced account under a previous project. That was less than \$30,000. This will be the balance of the water line replacement as drawn out in those plans, but there is additional work that needs to be done to loop over to Maplewood and to Stonewood as well as getting the detailed plans so we can go about to bid for that. A direct select of the contract of the design services because it's under that \$50,000.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETROSKY – And we have some project continuity then, too.

SERVICE DIRECTOR WITTMAN – Yes.

ROLL CALL ON O-03-19 - Edwards, aye; Fleischer, aye; Keller, aye; Moore, aye; Petrosky, aye; Piros, aye; Rowley, aye. **ORDINANCE PASSED FIRST READING**

ORDINANCE O-04-19 - An Ordinance approving the Solid Waste Management Plan of the Geauga Trumbull Solid Waste Management District was read and moved for first reading by Councilman Rowley and seconded by Councilwoman Keller. **ROLL CALL ON O-04-19** - Edwards, aye; Fleischer, aye; Keller, aye; Moore, aye; Petrosky, aye; Piros, aye; Rowley, aye. **ORDINANCE PASSED FIRST READING**



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REPORTS:

FINANCE DEPT REPORT:

(FINANCE DIRECTOR GIBSON ABSENT)

POLICE DEPT REPORT:

POLICE CHIEF MORRIS – We took delivery of 2 of the 3 new cars. The third car showed up but there were some issues with it so they took it back and hopefully we will have it back this week. Officer Rice and Officer Smith have been working to get some of the stuff finished up of those cars so we can get them in service. One of the cars that we were going to get rid of we are going to hold on to. The resale on it is minimal, so we will hold onto one of the old Impalas. This will allow us to begin to assign cars to officers and hopefully prolong the life of the cars. We have one car that is beyond any repairs and will get auctioned off here shortly. You will see it on Municibid. It will get not much more than scrap value, I would think. There is an oil leak in the engine that we tried to repair and it's not fixing.

Also, I've been told that MARCS radios will get delivered to the radio company this week, hopefully. We are working with the county to get our frequencies programmed in, and hopefully, we will get those up and running within the next month or so once we get everything set in stone. Other than that, I'll entertain any questions you might have.

FIRE DEPT REPORT:

FIRE CHIEF REA – I don't have too much for you tonight. We were able to meet with our representative from Congressman Joyce's office about MARCS radio. I'd like to thank Congressman Joyce and Congressman Ryan for their support. Both of them are going to write letters of support for our project. Hopefully, they will add a little weight being that they are both senior congressmen and sit on the Appropriations Committee. That's what we are hoping for. Other than that, I have nothing else to report. I'd be happy to answer any of your questions.

SERVICE DEPT REPORT:

SERVICE DIRECTOR WITTMAN – If you've come into the city from up north on St Rt 5, you may have noticed that the speed limit warning sign has been installed. It is just south of the Cortland Playroom. I want to thank Chief Morris and specifically him making Officer Orslene available. He has been taking the webinars and getting trained on uploading the data from the unit itself. I just installed it. He's getting all the data and everything. The first time we had it up the battery only lasted a little over 24 hours. He has adjusted some of the settings. So, it's not taking photos of as many vehicles. We also determined that the photos, you really can't see anything. Sometimes it's after the car has gone passed. Just to reiterate, this is not going to be used for traffic enforcement. The capabilities of the photos are very limited in resolution, but it seems to be working. A lot of cars are slowing down and taking notice. We chose that location due to the proximity of city hall as well as the number of vehicles coming in as well as the changing of the speed limit from 55 mph to 35 mph.



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MAYOR WOOFER - Tell them what you told me about the number of cars that are coming in at 55 mph.

SERVICE DIRECTOR WITTMAN – I think Officer Orslene said the first day there were 18 cars that were approaching that sign clocked at 55 mph or above. It's on a learning curve right now as far as working through with the batteries. You're not supposed to take it all the way down where the battery loses life so we've been tracking that. It sends us an email when it gets down to a certain percentage life. It was last installed on Thursday and we haven't got a notification yet. We need to keep those recharged through 5 cycles to ensure the batteries are working. We will be looking at deploying that at another location.

MAYOR WOOFER - Do you know what the cost of the batteries are?

SERVICE DIRECTOR WITTMAN – No. I do not.

MAYOR WOOFER - I'm just wondering if we shouldn't look at a second set of batteries so we can rotate them out.

COUNCILMAN PIROS - Do they have a little solar cell?

SERVICE DIRECTOR WITTMAN – This one does not have solar capabilities. The solar unit would be a little more permanent, not as mobile. I had it installed within 5 minutes as far as the mounting bracket. You just hang it on the bracket and there's a key. There's no way to access any of the bolts or anything.

MAYOR WOOFER - Plus, we've taken into consideration that we want to use this in Willow Park, and that's pretty well shaded with trees.

SERVICE DIRECTOR WITTMAN – We can look at getting another set of batteries, but eventually it will need to be brought in occasionally to upload the data if we are not going to pay the \$1,500/ year for the cellular package that we get in this first year. The batteries recharge within 3 hours.

MAYOR WOOFER - I didn't realize they charged that quickly. That's good.

SERVICE DIRECTOR WITTMAN – The first time they charged up it took a while, but on Thursday I had them start in the morning and by noon it was backed up.



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COUNCILMAN MOORE - Did the real cold weather cause any problems, water line breaks, anything?

SERVICE DIRECTOR WITTMAN – There were two on North Mecca probably within a couple 100 feet of each other. That kind of justifies the fact that we are looking at replacing that water line here in the next couple months or so. You should have an ordinance for the design services for a selected engineering company. There was one when we had that big snow storm, as well, on Russell. They usually come in three's, so we've had our three. So, you might be off the hook.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

MAYOR WOOFER – City Welcome Packets –When new residents move into the city, our Police/Fire Depts personally deliver a Welcome Packet to their home. These packets include a letter from the myself, a map of the city as well a listing of important phone numbers in the community. Businesses and/or organizations can donate items to the Welcome Packets each year. Last year, over 40 companies participated and we had bags full of all kinds of wonderful items. It's a very nice gift from the city. Letters to businesses and organizations went out last month but if you know of a business and/or organization that would like to participate, please have them give Rhonda a call here at city hall. She handles this project for us. There is no cost to participate. We simply need a supply of 125 items by March 11th.

City offices are closed on Monday Feb 18th for Presidents' Day. Republic trash/recycling collection will be on normal schedule that week.

Spring Clean Up is May 2nd and May 3rd. So, start getting your things ready for that.

Also, as many of you saw the pictures on my phone. Waldo has been found! The finishing touches on the sign will be done, Mark says, tomorrow. They have to adjust the brackets on the portion out there. I'm hoping the sign will be installed by the end of the week. Thank you to the Service Dept for helping this afternoon. The sign was brought in on the back of a pick-up truck and we needed the back hoe to lift it off. Right now, it's in storage in the police bay in the garage behind us. I thank the chief for allowing us to do that for a couple days. We will get it out of there as soon as we can. That's all I have unless someone has questions.

COUNCILMAN MOORE – I would like to thank the Mayor for coming to Cortland Rotary last week. He did a good job outlining the accomplishments of last year, the upcoming plans and of course, any visit wouldn't be complete without him asking for money for the tennis courts. Good job. Tomorrow morning we have the police chief. You aren't going to ask for money, are you?

POLICE CHIEF MORRIS - Well, they told me I could ask for money but (INAUDIBLE)... I better not step on the toes of the tennis courts!

(LAUGHTER)



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POLICE CHIEF MORRIS - We will take any donations they want to give so I guess I won't ask for any money.

(LAUGHTER)

COUNCILMAN MOORE – Looking forward to your visit.

MAYOR WOOFER - Thank you, Don. I appreciate that.

A motion to set date for second Regular Council Meeting in February for Tuesday, February 19, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. (Presidents' Day is Monday, February 18, 2019 ~ City Offices Closed) was made by Councilman Piros and seconded by Councilman Rowley. ROLL CALL - Edwards, aye; Fleischer, aye; Keller, aye; Moore, aye; Petrosky, aye; Piros, aye; Rowley, aye. MOTION PASSED

NO COMMITTEE REPORTS

NO QUESTIONS OF COUNCIL FROM AUDIENCE

MAYOR WOOFER – We have three special visitors. It looks like we have a scout with us tonight. What troop are you with?

SCOUT - I'm with Troop 4054.

MAYOR WOOFER – Is that the Boy Scout / Girls Scout troop?

UNKNOWN AUDIENCE MEMBER – Right now, she is part of the Venture Crew. With the Boy Scouts, you have Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, and then you have the Venture Crew which is ages 14 to 21 co-ed boys and girls. But, she is one of the newest members of Girl Troop 5054 which is the new Boy Scouts / Girl Troop.

MAYOR WOOFER - Is that the new uniform then?

UNKNOWN AUDIENCE MEMBER – No. This is the Venture Crew uniform. The Girl Troop will wear the same uniform as the Boy Scouts. It will be the tan shirts. She is out of the Optimist Club through Troop 54. We have brought on a Girl Troop. Right now, we have 5 girls that have signed up for it. We will have all four of the scouts.



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COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETROSKY - That's awesome. You guys are pioneers.

MAYOR WOOFER - Thank you for coming tonight. We also have two special guests from out of the country, one from Pakistan and one from Brazil. Would you like to stand and tell us your names?

STUDENT 1 – Hi. I'm Liez. I'm from Brazil.

STUDENT 2 – Hi. I'm Neshbia and I'm from Pakistan.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETROSKY - Welcome.

MAYOR WOOFER - They live in Cortland but they are exchange students going to the Howland School System. So, welcome.

(INAUDIBLE)

UNKNOWN AUDIENCE MEMBER – No, it's through the Academic Year Abroad.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETROSKY - Excellent. Welcome.

STUDENT 1 – Thank you

STUDENT 2 – Thank you.

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:26 p.m.

CLERK OF COUNCIL

PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL