



August 19, 2019

**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING – 7:00 P.M.**

The Council of the City of Cortland met in regular session on Monday, August 19, 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, Finance Director Gibson, and Police Chief Morris, Fire Chief Rea, Service Director Wittman and Clerk of Council Horn.

A motion to approve Council Minutes from the August 5, 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 \$ 57,876.05 was made by Councilwoman Keller and seconded by Councilman Rowley.

**MAYOR WOOFTER** – I have a question. I don't see my reimbursement for my travel that I put in.

**FINANCE DIRECTOR GIBSON** – I will have to check and see where it's at.

**MAYOR WOOFTER** – I gave that to Terri a couple weeks ago.

**FINANCE DIRECTOR GIBSON** – I'll check. I'll look and see where it's at. I'm not sure if you gave it to her, but I'll look.

**MAYOR WOOFTER** – I gave it to her.

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETROSKY** - We'll figure it out.

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

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**ORDINANCE O-27-19** - An Ordinance amending Codified Ordinance No. 921.06 and authorizing the City of Cortland to place special assessments onto the Trumbull County Tax Records arising from unpaid water accounts was read and moved for third and final reading by Councilman Piros and seconded by Councilwoman Fleischer. **ROLL CALL ON O-27-19** - Edwards, aye; Fleischer, aye; Keller, aye; Moore, aye; Petrosky, aye; Piros, aye; Rowley, aye. **ORDINANCE PASSED THIRD AND FINAL READING**



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**ORDINANCE O-28-19** - An Ordinance amending Codified Ordinance No. 925.08 and authorizing the City of Cortland to place special assessments onto the Trumbull County Tax Records arising from unpaid sewer accounts was read and moved for third and final reading by Councilman Piros and seconded by Councilwoman Keller. **ROLL CALL ON O-28-19** - Edwards, aye; Fleischer, aye; Keller, aye; Moore, aye; Petrosky, aye; Piros, aye; Rowley, aye. **ORDINANCE PASSED THIRD AND FINAL READING**

**ORDINANCE O-31-19** - 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 second reading by Councilman Moore and seconded by Councilman Rowley. **ROLL CALL ON O-31-19** - Edwards, aye; Fleischer, aye; Keller, aye; Moore, aye; Petrosky, aye; Piros, aye; Rowley, aye. **ORDINANCE PASSED SECOND READING**

### **NEW BUSINESS**

**RESOLUTION R-33-19** - A Resolution accepting the amounts and rates as determined by the Budget Commission of Trumbull County and authorizing the necessary tax levies and certifying them to the County Auditor was read and moved by Councilman Rowley and seconded by Councilman Moore.

**FINANCE DIRECTOR GIBSON** - We do this every year.

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

**RESOLUTION R-34-19** - A Resolution specifying amounts appropriated by account numbers for 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-32-19** - An Ordinance authorizing the Service Director to enter into a contract with Arrow Surface Enterprise, Inc. to perform acrylic color coat surfacing and striping of the tennis courts at Willow Park was read and moved by Councilwoman Keller and seconded by Councilwoman Fleischer. A motion to suspend the rules was made by Councilman Piros and seconded by Councilman Rowley.

**COUNCILMAN MOORE** – It was my understanding that they were not going to have these courts done until next spring? Is that correct? I was wondering why this was in emergency.

**SERVICE DIRECTOR WITTMAN** - This is so they will be finished this year.



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**COUNCILMAN MOORE** – This will be done this year? They won't be using it, is that correct?

**SERVICE DIRECTOR WITTMAN** - Yes.

**MAYOR WOOFER** – It will be beyond their fall schedule. Also, it's in emergency to beat the fall leaves and everything else.

**ROLL CALL ON SUSPENSION OF RULES** - Edwards, aye; Fleischer, aye; Keller, aye; Moore, aye; Petrosky, aye; Piro, aye; Rowley, aye. **ROLL CALL ON O-32-19** - Edwards, aye; Fleischer, aye; Keller, aye; Moore, aye; Petrosky, aye; Piro, aye; Rowley, aye. **ORDINANCE PASSED**  
**EMERGENCY**

**ORDINANCE O-33-19** - An Ordinance authorizing the Service Director to contract with Main Lite Electric Company, Inc. for the installation of five (5) street lights on Huntington Trail was read and moved by Councilman Piro and seconded by Councilman Rowley. A motion to suspend the rules was made by Councilwoman Keller and seconded by Councilman Rowley.

**COUNCILMAN MOORE** - Can somebody speak to this, please?

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETROSKY** - Do you want to talk about it or do you want me to talk about it?

**MAYOR WOOFER** – Oh, I guess I'll talk about it. Huntington Trail has had an issue with their lights for quite some time, a long time, too long. So, I had Christine write a letter and invite all the residents of Huntington Trail so we could talk about what we are going to do about their lights. There are five post lights up there. One was completely knocked off, another one isn't working and another one has the lenses broken out of it... So, when Huntington was originally built, the lights that they have up there right now were under the SP Program of Ohio Edison that they would maintain and take care of them. We would pay the electric, but they would do all of the maintenance. At some point over the years, Ohio Edison pulled these lamps out of their program so then the city had to assume taking care of all these. Again, as I stated earlier, one of the posts had gotten hit by a car and gotten knocked off and another one was broken, etc. They are in pretty bad repair. So, the residents wanted the lamp posts replaced and we came to an agreement. They will not be replaced with exactly what they have, but something similar to what they have, but different to what we have anywhere else in town just to be in keeping with their neighborhood that we had already agreed to once. So, that's basically what this is. I think Don has ordered the lights through Main Lite. Don, when are they supposed to be in?

**SERVICE DIRECTOR WITTMAN** - No. I haven't started because there is no authorization.

**MAYOR WOOFER** – Well, I meant after this is approved.



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**COUNCILMAN PIROS** - These will be under that Ohio Edison plan then.

**MAYOR WOOFER** – Yes. These lights will be under the Ohio Edison plan. We’ll pay the electric and Ohio Edison will maintain all the maintenance on them.

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETROSKY** – Right. Don got quotes from Main Lite and Ohio Edison. Main Lite was the lower bid. We talked about a light somewhere in the middle and the cost savings on that was only going to be \$900, so we just went with the light that they had chosen in the first place.

**COUNCILMAN MOORE** – I see here in the minutes of the meeting it says “the city would like to replace the lights with the same as the rest of the city”, which are the colonial post top. Why wouldn’t we do that?

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETROSKY** – Because that is not the will of the people on Huntington Trail.

**COUNCILMAN MOORE** – But they don’t call the shots for the city.

**MAYOR WOOFER** – I understand that, but when that development was originally approved by the city it was approved with those types of lights.

**COUNCILMAN MOORE** – Which we didn’t pay for.

**MAYOR WOOFER** – The city didn’t. Well... the developer.

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETROSKY** - They were accepted by the city. Let me answer your question, we could replace the lights that they have up there now. They will be \$5,000 each, for five lights, for \$25,000. But then they still would not be in the Ohio Edison ESIP Program which means we would still be maintaining that.

**COUNCILMAN MOORE** – I wouldn’t say that. You have Option A, which is the colonial, from First Energy of \$18,000. Main Lite doesn’t have a number for that. I don’t know what their number would be. Even that number is \$7,000 cheaper than going with Option B. I see no reason why we need to spend city dollars to put in those higher price lights when what we put in will match the rest of the city.

**COUNCILWOMAN FLEISCHER** – What’s the \$900 difference?

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETROSKY** - The \$900 difference is a mix of the... I have to get my notes out. Don, do you know this at the top of your head?



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**SERVICE DIRECTOR WITTMAN** – It would have been the ornate fiberglass pole with the colonial post top.

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETROSKY** - Right. And that solidifies the comment that was made at the meeting that the cost is in the poles and not in the post top, or in the lamp.

**MAYOR WOOFER** - You didn't answer the question.

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETROSKY** - I didn't answer the question?

**MAYOR WOOFER** - No. During this meeting, I had also Dee Dee and Kevin attend. Then there was discussion afterwards why we decided to go with the more expensive light.

**COUNCILMAN PIROS** - We decided to pursue a hybrid approach. That hybrid approach wouldn't have saved us any money basically. It was either one or the other.

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETROSKY** - Right.

**COUNCILMAN MOORE** – But the original minutes of this say the city wanted to use the colonial post. I suspect that calling in the residents probably changed the thinking on that.

**SERVICE DIRECTOR WITTMAN** - That was my suggestion. I didn't want to go up there and put in the colonial post tops without at least informing the residents that we were going to head in that direction. Otherwise, you would have had everybody in here in an uproar because we took what was there and gave them a substandard light. We are just replacing what they had with something equivalent so that it can go into the ESIP Program and the city gets out of the business of maintaining those lights.

**COUNCILMAN MOORE** – I still don't see it when the rest of the city has the colonial lights. When it came time to replace it and we're spending the money for it...

**SERVICE DIRECTOR WITTMAN** - Thirty years ago, the city accepted those lights as is and they were in the ESIP Program. Ohio Edison, for whatever reason and I was here at the time and it really wasn't clear to me, took them out of the ESIP Program and they got thrown into energy only. We've been maintaining these lights over the years. I looked at this ten years ago because we were having some issues of getting them replaced and put back into the ESIP Program. The costs have just continually escalated. So, I understand from the city perspective, but at the same time I don't think the residents are going to be amiable to that plan.



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**COUNCILMAN MOORE** – Do they feel so strongly that they would pay the difference out of their pocket?

**SERVICE DIRECTOR WITTMAN** - We didn't even go to that. In their opinion, they pay that difference every time their taxes are due.

**COUNCILMAN MOORE** – Well, we can't look at it that way. I think we have to look at the money we have for the city. When I ran for this, I said I want to be a good steward of city dollars. To me, it doesn't justify it. It is one street with five street lights. Why would you put in something different than the rest of the city? They are not on a different level than anybody else in the city.

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETROSKY** – Nobody is saying that they are on a different level. We are not saying that.

**MAYOR WOOFER** – They are.

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETROSKY** – We are?

**MAYOR WOOFER** –No, I said they are.

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETROSKY** – Well, perhaps, but the point is you're replacing them with something that's less. We replace things with things that are equal to or better. To do that, we would be spending \$5,000 on each light and they would still not be in the ESIP Program.

**MAYOR WOOFER** – Listen, first of all, I'm in agreement with you. I was not happy with the attitude that was taken by the group of people that were there. But, this is a neighborhood they chose to buy into. Some were there originally. They bought into this neighborhood because of the enhancements that were in this neighborhood, including the light posts. They were different. Obviously, they didn't buy their house because of the light posts. Part of the reason they bought up there was that the lots are all two acres lots, twice the size of any other lot in the City of Cortland and the homes are bigger than any other home in Cortland. They chose to purchase in there for aesthetic reasons. One thing we could look at is if we would lose a lamp post on the bridge or on West Main Street, would we replace that with what is there now? The bridge posts were an 80/20 split. The city didn't really pay for it. We paid 20% of those lights, but would we replace them with another light post like any other place in the city?

**COUNCILMAN MOORE** – But that's a commercial part of town.

**MAYOR WOOFER** - I understand that but it's still...



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**COUNCILMAN MOORE** – When you drive into Huntington, and you go through the neighborhood, it's the colonial top lights. When you come out the other side, it's the colonial top lights. Why can't we put colonial top lights for the five lights in Huntington?

**MAYOR WOOFER** - It's your option to vote any way you want on this. If council chooses not to support this then they'll get the lights like they have everywhere else in the city. Just because we are submitting this ordinance for the better lights in the neighborhood they chose to purchase in. They had those existing lights to begin with. They're still not getting what they had. They are getting something sub-standard to what is there but still it's in the program. We don't have to maintain these things anymore.

**COUNCILWOMAN FLEISCHER** - The ordinance says the total cost is not to exceed \$25,000, so what's the difference? Where is it more than \$25,000?

**MAYOR WOOFER** - No it would be less if it were the other lights like what's in the rest of the town.

**COUNCILWOMAN FLEISCHER** – Oh, I see what you are saying. Main Lite doesn't have a price here for that.

**COUNCILMAN PIROS** - No.

**MAYOR WOOFER** – Yes, it does. Main Lite has the difference...

**COUNCILWOMAN FLEISCHER** – Not for Option A, just for Option B.

**MAYOR WOOFER** – If you look on the backside of your sheet, the lamp posts that we have everywhere else in town is this colonial post top, right Don? Those are \$18,000.

**COUNCILWOMAN FLEISCHER** – Right. But it doesn't say a price for Main Lite though. It says TBD.

**MAYOR WOOFER** - Oh well, whatever, I understand what you are saying there. I guess we never got the price from Main Lite; but nonetheless, it would probably be a little bit less with Main Lite to replace what we have anywhere else in town. This group, after the meeting, decided that we would go with the better lighting that they have in that neighborhood. If you guys want to vote it down, vote it down. They'll get what they get. But Kevin, Dee Dee, Don and I felt that going with the better light in that neighborhood under the reasons why they purchased in there.

**COUNCILMAN PIROS** - We aren't upgrading.



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**COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETROSKY** – No we are not.

**COUNCILWOMAN FLEISCHER** - We are replacing.

**COUNCILMAN PIROS** - We are just replacing. Just like with anything else, if your TV were to break, you would not accept a smaller or different TV if it was under warranty or if it was going to be replaced. You would want equal or better.

**COUNCILWOMAN FLEISCHER** - This is going to save the city money too, regardless of which one you go with because we're not going to be maintaining it. Whichever way you go, we are not maintaining it. I don't know the cost involved in that but...

**SERVICE DIRECTOR WITTMAN** - Ten years ago, we were putting band aid after band aid on these lights. It was a cost and it was taking away. We didn't have the expertise. We were having to call Main Lite in to service these. It got to a point where at that time it was \$10,000 to replace all the lights. Don't hold me to that. It was ten years ago. That's what the cost might have been. The expense wasn't justified at that point in time. Let's continue to fix them and pay the energy only. Now we are at the point where we have two that are shot and on one of them the bolts fell down. We had the option of going in and putting back something similar, the cast iron pole with the globes and fixing the globes, but that's just going to perpetuate the cycle of us, the city, maintaining those lights and incurring those costs down the road. This way, we get into it, it's at the tipping point where we can do the one time capital expenditure and get out from the arm of the life cycle costs of maintaining these lights and they will go back to Ohio Edison. They will be paid for through the ESIP Program.

**COUNCILWOMAN FLEISCHER** - Are these going to be the same light bulbs for both types of fixtures? And the same type of electricity output and everything?

**MAYOR WOOFER** - They are LED's.

**SERVICE DIRECTOR WITTMAN** – They are not LEDs.

**MAYOR WOOFER** - They are not LED lights?

**SERVICE DIRECTOR WITTMAN** – They are high pressure sodium.

**ROLL CALL ON SUSPENSION OF RULES** - Edwards, aye; Fleischer, aye; Keller, aye; Moore, nay; Petrosky, aye; Piros, aye; Rowley, aye. **ROLL CALL ON O-33-19** - Edwards, aye; Fleischer, aye; Keller, aye; Moore, nay; Petrosky, aye; Piros, aye; Rowley, aye. **ORDINANCE PASSED**  
**EMERGENCY**



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**REPORTS:**

**FINANCE DEPT REPORT:**

**FINANCE DIRECTOR GIBSON** – First of all, I'd like to thank you for supporting the ordinances for the special assessments. We can start cleaning up some of the accounts.

The auditors were here last week. I have not heard from them. They left Thursday and they are not back; so I'm assuming they are wrapping everything up at their office. We should be hearing from them soon. Other than that, I'd be happy to answer any questions.

**POLICE DEPT REPORT:**

**POLICE CHIEF MORRIS** – You have a copy of my report. The only thing I'd add is we hired Tiffany Wolfe as a part-time officer. She came to us with about four year's full time experience with Hubbard Township and seven years total in law enforcement. She will be a great transfer with a short abbreviated training time. We will be able to get her on the road quickly. We hired someone before that left us and went to another agency. We spent a lot of money in training and then lost her. This is a replacement that we won't have to train a lot. I think we will be able to get her on the road with about 40 hours.

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETROSKY** - Excellent.

**POLICE CHIEF MORRIS** – She will be a great asset to us. She is currently assigned to TAG with Hubbard Township and they eliminated that position with their financial issues down there. We've benefited from that.

**COUNCILWOMAN FLEISHCER** - I actually work with one of her co-workers from the township and he said she's great.

**POLICE CHIEF MORRIS** – That's what I heard, nothing but good things.

**FIRE DEPT REPORT:**

**FIRE CHIEF REA** – If you keep tabs on our Facebook post, you would have seen on August 13<sup>th</sup> we went up and helped train the Lakeview K-8 School with University Hospitals on "Stop The Bleed" kits. With part of that program, University Hospitals will be donating 120 quick response buckets for each classroom and all common areas. Just about every room in that building will with have one of these buckets.

**MAYOR WOOFER** - What's in the bucket?

**FIRE CHIEF REA** – Tourniquets, gauze, candy, blankets, toilet paper... All the stuff you might need if you are secured in a room for a long period of time. They have the items in there for stopping the blood



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in case we have students get severely injured at the school. They also have items should we have a natural disaster and they can't get out of the classroom and someone is injured. They could take care of it or they could just stay in their classroom for an extended period of time. We are going to be working on getting the high school "Stop the Bleed" kits next. University Hospitals are building these buckets by the thousands. They are trying to cover every school system from Cleveland on down to Columbiana County.

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETROSKY** - That's awesome. It's quite a community project.

**MAYOR WOOFER** - Too bad they have to do it.

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETROSKY** - Yes.

**SERVICE DEPT REPORT:**

**SERVICE DIRECTOR WITTMAN** – I don't have anything to report other than the long awaited hydrant flushing will begin Sept 3<sup>rd</sup> and last two to three weeks until we get all the hydrants flushed throughout the city. Other than that, I will entertain any questions that council may have of me.

**COUNCILMAN MOORE** – Don, they did a good job on the streets. I go out walking on Rosewae and the pavement job there was excellent. They addressed the storm drain approaches and everything else. They did a good job.

**SERVICE DIRECTOR WITTMAN** – A couple other people have complimented their paving quality. They do have to come back and finish sealing some of the curbs. I will touch base with them. It looks like it's done, but the hardest is that last 10%, getting them to complete that work and getting all the pay estimates and everything in place. We came within one or two tons of quantity and we have allowances in that so we are definitely under the contract amount.

**COUNCILMAN MOORE** – I don't know if we ever used that company before but they were good.

**SERVICE DIRECTOR WITTMAN** – They paved last year.

**MAYOR'S REPORT:**

**MAYOR WOOFER** – I don't really have a whole lot. Just a reminder, Brush Chipping is the week of August 26<sup>th</sup>. Please have your branches and limbs out Sunday evening. The guys will be around that week to pick things up and chop them up. That's really all I have.

**COUNCIL MAN PIROS** – The Splash Pad closes tentatively that weekend?

**MAYOR WOOFER** – On Labor Day unless the weather is nice, then we will leave it open.



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Our garbage contract with Republic has been extended for an additional two years. Residents in the city will see a price increase of \$0.49 per month in their billing, which is pretty reasonable. Everything else stays the same. At \$0.49 a month, you will see a \$1.50 increase roughly. That increase will start Sept. 1<sup>st</sup>.

**COUNCILMAN MOORE** – Jim, is there anything new with the health insurance? It expires Sept 1<sup>st</sup>.

**MAYOR WOOFER** – There is nothing new. We are getting roughly a 19% increase.

**COUNCILMAN MOORE** – From?

**MAYOR WOOFER** – The existing plan that we have. We asked our city employees to go online and fill out questionnaires and so forth so we could compare it with another company and it came back more. So, after a discussion with our representative from our health insurance, we've decided in our staff meeting the other morning that we were going to bite the bullet. We have to. There is nothing better than what we have right now.

**COUNCILMAN MOORE** – Still with Anthem, right?

**MAYOR WOOFER** – Yes. We are still with Anthem.

**COUNCILMAN MOORE** – We haven't had a Health Care Committee Meeting, so...

**MAYOR WOOFER** – The Health Care Committee Meeting will be tomorrow morning at 9:00 and we will review that whole thing.

**FINANCE DIRECTOR GIBSON** – No. It's Wednesday.

**COUNCILMAN MOORE** – I wasn't notified of that.

**POLICE CHIEF MORRIS** - It's Wednesday morning.

**MAYOR WOOFER** – I don't have my calendar in front of me.

**(MULTIPLE CONVERSATIONS ~ INAUDIBLE)**

**COUNCILMAN MOORE** – Can someone confirm that to me in an email?

**MAYOR WOOFER** – Yes. I'm pretty sure its 9:00 on Wednesday.



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(MULTIPLE CONVERSATIONS ~ INAUDIBLE)

**NO COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**A motion to set date for first Council Meeting in September on Tuesday, September 3, 2019 (Monday, September 2, 2019 is Labor Day ~ *City Offices Closed*) was made by Councilman Edwards and seconded by Councilman Moore. ROLL CALL - Edwards, aye; Fleischer, aye; Keller, aye; Moore, aye; Petrosky, aye; Piros, aye; Rowley, aye. MOTION PASSED**

**NO QUESTIONS OF COUNCIL FROM AUDIENCE**

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

**Meeting adjourned at 7:33 p.m.**

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**CLERK OF COUNCIL**

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**PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL**