



October 7, 2019

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

The Council of the City of Cortland met in regular session on Monday, October 7, 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 and Scott Rowley; absent was Kevin Piros. Also present at the meeting were Mayor Woofter, Law Director Wilson, Finance Director Gibson, and Police Chief Morris, Fire Chief Rea and Clerk of Council; absent was Service Director Wittman

A motion to approve Council Minutes from the September 16, 2019 Regular Council Meeting was made by Councilmember Moore and seconded by Councilmember Keller. **ROLL CALL** - Edwards, aye; Fleischer, aye; Keller, aye; Moore, aye; Petrosky, aye; Piros, absent; Rowley, aye. **MOTION PASSED**

A motion to approve Schedule of Bills to be paid totaling \$120,601.62 was made by Councilmember Rowley and seconded by Councilmember Edwards. **ROLL CALL** - Edwards, aye; Fleischer, aye; Keller, aye; Moore, aye; Petrosky, aye; Piros, absent; Rowley, aye. **MOTION PASSED**

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**ORDINANCE O-36-19** - An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into an LPA Federal Local-Let Project Agreement with the State of Ohio, Department of Transportation to establish the responsibilities for the administration of the Mecca Street Resurfacing & Intersection Improvement Project, PID 104626 was read and moved for second reading by Councilmember Edwards and seconded by Councilmember Fleischer. **ROLL CALL ON O-36-19** - Edwards, aye; Fleischer, aye; Keller, aye; Moore, aye; Petrosky, aye; Piros, absent; Rowley, aye. **ORDINANCE PASSED SECOND READING**

**ORDINANCE O-37-19** - An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter an agreement with GPD Group to perform engineering and design services for the Mecca Street Resurfacing & Intersection Improvement Project, PID 104626 was read and moved for second reading by Councilmember Rowley and seconded by Councilmember Fleischer. **ROLL CALL ON O-37-19** - Edwards, aye; Fleischer, aye; Keller, aye; Moore, aye; Petrosky, aye; Piros, absent; Rowley, aye. **ORDINANCE PASSED SECOND READING**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**ORDINANCE O-38-19** - An Ordinance approving the editing and inclusion of certain ordinances as parts of the various component codes of the codified ordinances of Cortland, Ohio and to amend or enact sections of the traffic and general offenses codes to conform to enactments of the General Assembly and declaring an emergency as not to disrupt the services for continued operation of the affected department was read and moved by Councilmember Edwards and seconded by Councilmember Rowley. A motion



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to suspend the rules was made by Councilmember Moore and seconded by Councilmember Rowley.

**ROLL CALL ON SUSPENSION OF RULES** - Edwards, aye; Fleischer, aye; Keller, aye; Moore, aye; Petrosky, aye; Piro, absent; Rowley, aye. **ROLL CALL ON O-38-19** - Edwards, aye; Fleischer, aye; Keller, aye; Moore, aye; Petrosky, aye; Piro, absent; Rowley, aye. **ORDINANCE PASSED EMERGENCY**

**REPORTS:**

**FINANCE DEPT REPORT:**

**FINANCE DIRECTOR GIBSON** – I have one thing to report. I received a check from the Ohio Bureau of Workers Comp for \$56,000 based on their \$1.5 billion dividend to Ohio’s private and public sectors this year. It reads that this dividend was made possible by our strong investment returns and the good work of the employers like you who pay their BWC premiums and look out for the health and safety of their employees. This was 88% of our premium we paid in 2017. So, we just got all of our 2017 back. It will go into the funds that it had come out of.

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETROSKY** - Excellent.

**FINANCE DIRECTOR GIBSON** – That is all I have to report. I’d be happy to answer any questions.

**POLICE DEPT REPORT:**

**POLICE CHIEF MORRIS** – I have nothing to report and I’ll entertain any questions you might have.

**FIRE DEPT REPORT:**

**FIRE CHIEF REA** – I have one thing to report. If you have been paying attention to the news, we are part of a \$1.3 million grant awarded to the Trumbull County Fire Chiefs. I told you about this earlier in the year when we applied for it. We applied for \$1.6 million and the federal government knocked it back a little bit on their end, so we didn’t get the entire amount of what we asked for, but we got the vast majority. Our share is going to be in the \$50,000 range of federal money that we will have to pay about \$5,000 for. It’s a pretty nice deal. We hope to have it in place at the beginning of the year. It has to go to bid so it will be coming back to you. Champion Township is going to administer it. They will take care of the process. We will be putting on an ordinance to pay that \$5,000 to pay our share to them probably in December, give or take. I will let you know when that time comes.

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETROSKY** - That’s awesome. Congratulations.

**FIRE CHIEF REA** – This is all for the MARCS radio upgrades that we are going to have to do sooner or later.

**SERVICE DEPT REPORT:**



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**(SERVICE DIRECTOR WITTMAN ABSENT)**

**MAYOR'S REPORT:**

**MAYOR WOOFER** – First thing, since we have so many people here tonight, if you haven't noticed we have a new entrance. We moved the entrance from the south to the north side. One of the reasons we did that was to improve the traffic flow for the garbage truck. Now the garbage truck can pull straight in and pick up the container and lift it. Previously to that, it was a bit cumbersome for him to do that.

Also, we are moving along with our new IT services. The administrative side received their new computers and screens today. They were all installed. Patti, I heard you say that you were having a little problem with it.

**FINANCE DIRECTOR GIBSON** – Yeah. He fixed it. It was just some updating that needed to be done. He will come back tomorrow and do the backroom computer and screens in my office.

**MAYOR WOOFER** – Our computers are much smaller and are working much faster. At least I noticed that on my computer today. We are moving along with that.

Fall Clean Up is this week on Oct 10<sup>th</sup> or 11<sup>th</sup>, depending when your trash night is. Items should be put out with your regular garbage for pick up.

Trick or Treat is set for Thursday, October 31<sup>st</sup> from 6 to 8 pm.

Brush Chipping is the week of Oct 28<sup>th</sup>. This will be the last pick up of the year so make sure if you have anything you put it out Sunday evening. It will be picked up some time during that week.

Also, you probably read a lot in the paper about the transit system and what is happening with that. You may or may be aware of the issues we have had with the Trumbull County Transit System and the fact that it was inefficient when it came to billing at the end of the year. We did not have a clue as to how they were charging or what they were charging for who and where. We would get a sheet from them containing all the 44410 zip codes of which the City of Cortland only shares part of that. We had no clue as to where our money was going. Last year we paid \$3,552 to the Trumbull County Transit System without a real indication of exactly how many people in the city were getting picked up, etc. So, through the efforts of the Eastgate Council of Governments working with other municipalities in the area and different mayors, they've put a lot of time and effort into this. It looks like the City of Cortland will definitely be in agreement with what their findings are and will be moving towards WRTA to take over the transit system in the county. It will be a shared, more regionalized system. It will be the Mahoning/Trumbull County Transit System. This is all dependent on grant money that the WRTA is looking to receive, approximately just shy of \$2 million so they can take over the Trumbull County part. Services will begin starting in Warren in March and then we will see things happening in Cortland after that. The good news is that this will probably cost less money and eventually the cost to the city may go



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away completely. We may see a regular route set up that would provide bus service between here and Warren and Youngstown on a regular scheduled bus service. That's down the road. So, those are the neat things that might happen out of this. Ride passes will be \$1.25 each way for residents using the service. We will have more on that upcoming. I hope to have a resolution at our next council meeting that we will present to the Eastgate Council of Governments in support of the WRTA system. So, with that, that's all a have unless there are any questions.

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETROSKY** – Eventually, you said they are looking at putting a loop into Cortland. Can our residents call up, once this begins, and have a bus come and pick them up, or some kind of shuttle?

**MAYOR WOOFER** – Yes. What is happening right now will remain. It should be seamless. They shouldn't see any difference at all. There won't be a start or a stop, it will just be taken over by WRTA but will be run much more efficiently with more accountability.

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETROSKY** - Good. Thank you for the information.

**COUNCILMAN MOORE** - Will council have to take action on pulling out of the Transit Board? Do we have contract?

**MAYOR WOOFER** – No. We will just provide a resolution of support.

**COUNCILMAN MOORE** - That will accomplish everything?

**MAYOR WOOFER** – Yes.

### **NO COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**MAYOR WOOFER** – I will read this Proclamation and each one of you that is listed on it will be receiving one afterwards.

#### ***Proclamation***

*On September 7, 2019, Cortland Police Officer Nicholas Mancini suffered a heart attack and crashed his police cruiser while on duty, and*

*WHEREAS, civilians Mark Carnes, James Betts, Caitlin Braun, Kelly Brown and Chris Barrickman immediately stopped to help Officer Mancini at the scene until local safety services arrived, and*



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*WHEREAS, the quick thinking of James Betts to use the police radio to call for help, Caitlin Braun's 9-1-1 call and Mark Carnes who performed CPR until the ambulance arrived were instrumental in saving Officer Mancini's life, and*

*WHEREAS, the expertise of Cortland Police and Fire, Bazetta Twp. Police and Fire, Trumbull County Sheriff's Office, Trumbull County 911, Ohio State Highway Patrol, Howland Twp. Police, Warren Police and the law enforcement and medical staff at Mercy Health all helped save the life of Officer Mancini in a timely manner, and*

*WHEREAS, because of the proficiency of these individuals and numerous safety services, Officer Mancini miraculously survived and is recovering at home, and*

*WHEREAS, the City of Cortland is extremely appreciative and recognizes the heroic actions of those that helped save the life of Cortland Police Officer Nicholas Mancini; Mark Carnes, James Betts, Kelly Brown, Chris Barrickman, Caitlin Braun, Cortland Officers Paul O'Connor and Tiffany Wolfe, Cortland Fire Department Paramedics Daniel Jaros, Steve Mauch, Pat Dales and EMT Dean Stanley, Bazetta Fire Paramedics William Steiner, Brian Schotsch, Bradley Hall and Aaron Hanson, Trumbull County 9-1-1 dispatchers Tiffany Alberini, Maggie Powell, Ted Harrell and Dale Hahne*

*NOW THEREFORE: I, James Woofter, Mayor of the City of Cortland, Ohio, do hereby proclaim, appreciation and sincere thanks to the aforementioned for their heroic and valiant efforts.*

*Given under my hand and Seal of the City of Cortland, Ohio this 7<sup>th</sup> day of October in the year of our Lord Two Thousand and Nineteen.*

*Mayor James Woofter  
City of Cortland*

**MAYOR WOOFTER** – Congratulations.

**(APPLAUSE)**

**POLICE CHIEF MORRIS** – Officer Mancini was not able to make it tonight at the advice of his doctor. He is still recovering. He is tired. We do appreciate everyone that participated. We attempted to watch all the dash cameras, 911 calls and radio traffic to make sure we didn't miss anyone that deserved credit for this very heroic life-saving effort. If we did, we certainly apologize. That certainly wasn't our intention. The Optimist Club is having a fundraiser for him if anyone is interested. I'll leave the flyers up at the front counter.



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**COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETROSKY** - Thank you, Chief.

**(MAYOR PASSES PROCLAMATIONS OUT)**

**MAYOR WOOFER** – With sincere appreciation, thank you very much. It took an army to save one of our best. So, I thank you very much.

**NO QUESTIONS OF COUNCIL FROM AUDIENCE**

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

**Meeting adjourned at 7:23 p.m.**

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**CLERK OF COUNCIL**

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**PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL**