



October 21, 2019

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING – 7:00 P.M.

The Council of the City of Cortland met in regular session on Monday, October 21, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. at the City Administration Building, 400 N High St, Cortland, Ohio with Council Vice President Kevin Piroos presiding. Members of Council present were James Edwards, Kathy Fleischer, Patti Keller, Don Moore and Scott Rowley; absent was Council President Deidre Petrosky. Also present at the meeting were Mayor Woofter, Law Director Wilson, Finance Director Gibson, Police Chief Morris, Service Director Wittman and the Clerk of Council; absent was Fire Chief Rea.

A motion to approve Council Minutes from the October 7, 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, absent; Piroos, abstain; Rowley, aye. **MOTION PASSED**

A motion to approve Schedule of Bills to be paid totaling \$155,169.85 was made by Councilmember Rowley and seconded by Councilmember Keller. **ROLL CALL** - Edwards, aye; Fleischer, aye; Keller, aye; Moore, aye; Petrosky, absent; Piroos, aye; 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 third and final reading by Councilmember Rowley and seconded by Councilmember Moore. **ROLL CALL ON O-36-19** - Edwards, aye; Fleischer, aye; Keller, aye; Moore, aye; Petrosky, absent; Piroos, aye; Rowley, aye. **ORDINANCE PASSED THIRD AND FINAL 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 third and final reading by Councilmember Fleischer and seconded by Councilmember Edwards. **ROLL CALL ON O-37-19** - Edwards, aye; Fleischer, aye; Keller, aye; Moore, aye; Petrosky, absent; Piroos, aye; Rowley, aye. **ORDINANCE PASSED THIRD AND FINAL READING**

NEW BUSINESS:

RESOLUTION R-35-19 - A Resolution whereby the City of Cortland supports efforts of the City of Warren to implement regionalization of public transportation services in Trumbull and Mahoning Counties was read and moved by Councilmember Fleischer and seconded by Councilmember Keller.



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MAYOR WOOFER - As we talked at the last council meeting, Trumbull County as a whole... In fact, I don't know anyone in the county that is currently or has previously paid for the support of the public transportation service that is not on board with switching to WRTA. This resolution is to show the City of Cortland's support and in that move to have the WRTA handle our city transportation. It will be better service and hopefully in the long run it will be less money. The other group is un-fundable and a real mess. I would appreciate your support along with all the other communities to accept and pass this resolution. Thank you.

COUNCILMAN MOORE - The current Transit Board is funded out of the senior levy?

MAYOR WOOFER – No. It is funded, in part, by the senior levy. The Trumbull Transit System is not fundable because of accountability. The senior levy has pulled their money out of there. So, they are using their money to pay and provide transportation to the seniors right now. Once WRTA takes that over, then that will be shifted.

COUNCILMAN MOORE - Thank you.

MAYOR WOOFER – You're welcome.

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

RESOLUTION R-36-19 - A Resolution specifying amounts appropriated by account numbers for the City of Cortland, Ohio was read and moved by Councilmember Rowley and seconded by Councilmember Fleischer.

FINANCE DIRECTOR GIBSON - This is in reference to Ordinance O-39-19 for the new police vehicle. It's moving money from contingencies and operating supplies into the vehicle line item.

COUNCILMAN MOORE - Is this to replace the vehicle that was lost in the accident?

FINANCE DIRECTOR GIBSON - Yes.

COUNCILMAN MOORE - Aren't there some insurance proceeds?

FINANCE DIRECTOR GIBSON - We received \$27,700 from the insurance company.

COUNCILMAN MOORE - Was that part of this, or does that go into a different fund?



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FINANCE DIRECTOR GIBSON - It goes into this fund. We received it, but we still have to appropriate it because it's a new.... We didn't appropriate that extra \$35,000 in motor vehicles so we have to move it up into that line item.

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

ORDINANCE O-39-19 - An Ordinance authorizing the Chief of Police to purchase a new 2020 Ford F150 Police Responder Truck from Mark Thomas Ford was read and moved by Councilmember Keller and seconded by Councilmember Rowley. A motion to suspend the rules was made by Councilmember Rowley and seconded by Councilmember Fleischer.

POLICE CHIEF MORRIS - This vehicle will replace the one that was damaged, the 2017 Ford Explorer Officer Mancini crashed. Patti gave you the amount the insurance gave us. The insurance would cover the transfer of equipment but wouldn't cover... for instance, if a light bar didn't fit in a 2020 model, they would not replace the light bar because the light bar was not damaged in the crash. The light bar doesn't fit on any of the newer 2020 model vehicles, so we are basically stuck with a light bar that the insurance wouldn't pay for. At this point, as you see, we are going to buy this vehicle as a plain vehicle. I've applied for a grant that we've received in the past that will help pay for some of this updated equipment. However, we will not receive word until January 21, 2020. Hopefully, we will be awarded that. This truck will be assigned to the School Resource Officer. So, we will be driving it for a short period of time without any equipment on it. We can do that in hopes of getting the grant to cover any equipment we could not transfer. We do share some stuff that can transfer over from the wrecked vehicle.

COUNCILMAN MOORE - Why a pick-up?

POLICE CHIEF MORRIS - We talked about having a need for one in the past. This is a good way to start with one. The City of Niles has six. They love them. It has as tow package on it. Occasionally, we have to pull a trailer for traffic cones. Also, the 2020 model of the Explorer, this is the first year of the Explorer, I can tell you there have been some depts that purchased those and couldn't get them delivered until the recalls were taken care of. If you remember, when I bought the 2019's, I did not want to deal with first year model vehicles. Those concerns are coming to fruition. They are very difficult to outfit. The outfitting companies are just getting the equipment. This is a good time. It's the 3rd or 4th year of these Responder Pick-up Trucks.

COUNCILMAN ROWLEY - Wasn't there a significant price increase on those also?

POLICE CHIEF MORRIS - Yes, there was. The Explorers were only a couple thousand more than the Police Interceptor Utility. In the civilian market it's called the Explorer. They have jumped up from



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about the \$26,000 range we were paying for to about \$31,000 or \$32,000. That's without any equipment or options on it. We are not paying that much more. We were able to get this through Mark Thomas Ford. It is not on state contract yet. Rumor has it, that it will be on state contract here in the next few weeks. Mark Thomas was able to come in a couple thousand less than where we normally buy vehicles from. I think the quote comparisons were in there. Normally, they are not able to touch them. I was happy to keep it local.

COUNCIL VICE-PRESIDENT PIROS - Absolutely.

COUNCILMAN MOORE - Will this be a marked vehicle?

POLICE CHIEF MORRIS – It will be what we call a slick top vehicle. We will not put a light bar on it. It will have decals, lights in the visor and lights in the grill. One of the main reasons for that is these SUV's and pick-up trucks will have a better resale value when we go to get rid of them, unlike the Impalas. If we don't have big holes drilled in the roof, we will get better money for them. Also, when you are parked in front of an SUV or pick-up truck and look into rear view mirror, you really can't see the top of the roof where the light bar is. You see the grill and you see the visor. We are going to put the lights where people are going to see them.

COUNCIL VICE-PRESIDENT PIROS - On the equipment that can't be used, will you put it on Muncibid?

POLICE CHIEF MORRIS – We will see. We hold onto equipment that we have in other cars, so if we crack a lens or... We get very little money for this stuff on Muncibid, so we will hold onto the light bars. If one of our cars burns out a bulb, those are quite pricey at upwards of \$150 to \$200 a light bulb. On Muncibid we will sell those for \$75 a piece.

COUNCIL VICE-PRESIDENT PIROS – So our internal salvage is good.

POLICE CHIEF MORRIS - Right. Our internal salvage is better than getting rid of something.

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

REPORTS:

FINANCE DEPT REPORT:



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FINANCE DIRECTOR GIBSON – You have my report. I have nothing else to add. I'd be happy to answer any questions.

MAYOR WOOFER - Patti, do you want to mention about...

FINANCE DIRECTOR GIBSON – Our credit cards?

MAYOR WOOFER – Yes.

FINANCE DIRECTOR GIBSON – We will be having training tomorrow at 10:00 on the credit cards. Once we are done with that, we will be able to take them over the counter. I'll have them put it in the eNews.

COUNCILWOMAN FLEISCHER - Will we be able to do it on-line too?

FINANCE DIRECTOR GIBSON – We can already accept them on-line on the utility site. There is a little link there that you can go to.

MAYOR WOOFER – The credit cards we accept here at the counter can be used for anything. If somebody wants to come in and pay their building permits or...

FINANCE DIRECTOR GIBSON – Garages bags, garage sales...

MAYOR WOOFER – ... water bills, anything. They can use a credit card for that. It is the type of credit card system, that we have searched out and decided to go with, where the consumer that comes in here to pay the bills will be paying their own up charge or percentage rate. Normally, it would cost the retailer, or in this aspect, the city. So, we won't have additional charges, the person using the credit card will pay those.

COUNCIL VICE-PRESIDENT PIROS - That will show right on their receipt or their bill, the 3% or whatever it happens to be?

FINANCE DIRECTOR GIBSON – Yes. It will show on there. If you do go on to the link, it will show you what the processing fee is. It shows your total bill and then it shows the processing fee. We have been having water and sewer payments paid through credit cards on-line, not many, but a couple have paid through credit cards on-line.

MAYOR WOOFER – We like to refer to it as a convenience fee. It is a convenience to use a credit card if they don't have the cash handy or...



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COUNCIL VICE-PRESIDENT PIROS - Or they want their airline miles.

(LAUGHTER)

POLICE DEPT REPORT:

POLICE CHIEF MORRIS – You have a copy of my report. If you have any questions, I'd be happy to answer them.

FIRE DEPT REPORT:

(FIRE CHIEF REA ABSENT)

FIRE CAPTAIN PRICE – Do you have any questions for the Fire Dept? You should have his report. We have been busy.

SERVICE DEPT REPORT:

SERVICE DIRECTOR WITTMAN – You also have my monthly report.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

MAYOR WOOFER – First thing, Brush Chipping is the week of Oct 27th. This is the last one of the year. Please have your brush out by Sunday evening, October 27th. They can pick anytime during that week.

Trunk or Treat at the Cortland Christian Church is this Thursday, Oct 24th from 6:30 to 8:00. This year we are doing a combined table with police, fire and administration. We will have a table there with a cover on it with our city logo. I am inviting any of the council people that would like to come and hand out candy and meet the public and say hi, to do so. I will also advise council and anyone running for a council seat, this is not a place to do campaigning. It's a place to introduce who you are and to meet the public and hand out candy. No campaigning. Of course, police and fire will be on hand. There will be police cars there for the kids to look through and a couple of.... I don't know what all you bring. What will you be bringing, Todd?

FIRE CAPTAIN PRICE - We usually bring two or three vehicles. It's my shift. The ladder truck will be there as well as a squad.

MAYOR WOOFER – Good. It should be nice. They had quite a few in attendance last year. They are excited. It's going to be indoor/outdoor type thing, weather permitting. Obviously, the trucks will be outside.

Trick or Treat is Oct 31st from 6 to 8 pm this year. It's usually on Halloween, October 31st.

Also, if you have not seen or looked at our eNews. Our tennis courts are completed. They are beautiful. They did an excellent job. I appreciate the work that was done by all the companies that were



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involved in the reconstruction of the tennis courts. I took some aerial pictures of them. They were on the eNews last week.

COUNCIL VICE-PRESIDENT PIROS - Those were very nice.

MAYOR WOOFER – Also coming up, as a reminder, the Veterans Memorial will be holding their first ever, Veterans Memorial Celebration at our Veterans Memorial Park on Nov 10th at 2:00 p.m. If you could all attend, we'd appreciate that. It's going to be a nice event. Rain or shine, there will be tents set up.

NO COMMITTEE REPORTS

DAVE MAJICK – 138 DIAMOND WAY

DAVE MAJICK – Looking around town at the signs for the election coming up for people like Scott and so forth, and we are ending our summer, I wanted to come in and thank Council, Jim Woofter, Don, Dave and the Rec Board and those people that have done a great job. Not only for us in pickleball but resurfacing the tennis courts and the money and efforts you've put into it. The tennis courts are really nice. They did a great job there. That's a nice park. Add on to that, the water park and restrooms done here, and the Veterans Memoria. I have to say, in Jim's tenure here as Mayor, there has been a lot of good things done in Cortland. As a member in the community, and specifically pickle ball, I appreciate your efforts.

MULTIPLE INDIVIDUALS - Thank you.

NO QUESTIONS OF COUNCIL FROM AUDIENCE

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:21 p.m.

CLERK OF COUNCIL

PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL