



**NORWOOD CITY COUNCIL**  
**Norwood High School Gym**  
**2020 Sherman Ave**  
**Norwood, OH 45212**  
**May 12, 2020**  
**7:30 p.m.**

**A) CALL TO ORDER**

The Council for the City of Norwood met in regular session on the above date with Mr. Ken Mirable Presiding as President. The meeting opened with a prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance.

**B) PRAYER**

**C) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**D) ROLL CALL**

On the roll call, the following members answered present: Mr. Bonsall, Mr. Gabbard, Mr. Geraci, Mr. Kelsch, Mr. DiNardo, Mr. Thompson and Mr. Breadon. All council members were present.

**E) AMENDMENT OF AGENDA**

The President noted amendments needed to the agenda as follows: to add the minutes from 3/10 , 3/24 & 4/15 City Council meetings to the Minutes of Previous Meetings Section; to move the ordinance at K3 to K1 and to revise the same ordinance. On motion by Mr. Bonsall, seconded by Mr. Geraci, it was moved to amend the agenda as the President stated. Roll called. All members present voted yes. Motion passed.

**F) MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

a. March 10, 2020

b. March 24, 2020

c. April 15, 2020

On motion by Mr. DiNardo, seconded by Mr. Breadon, it was moved to approve the minutes as read. Roll was called. All members present voted yes. Motion passed.

**G) REQUEST TO ADDRESS COUNCIL ON AGENDA ITEMS**

None

**H) REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES OF COUNCIL**

**1) Finance, Budget, and Audit Committee Report**

The committee met on May 6<sup>th</sup>. They reviewed 4 major topics. They invited treasurer Molony to present on the review of revenue projections and impact on budget. Auditor also assisted. Reviewed expectations which will be more firm after the second quarter. Expectation is a decrease in 5% in revenue while Cincinnati is looking at a decrease in 20%. The committee reviewed current competitive bid process and current thresholds for purchase order approvals. They fleshed out a skeleton process. The committee considered a potential program for the city to assist small businesses under COVID-19 pressure. They discussed preliminary matters in financial planning review for the third quarter of this year. Further they requested that the Administration evaluate hires for critical positions until the revenue over the next quarter is understood better.

On motion by Mr. Geraci, seconded by Mr. Kelsch, it was moved to accept the report. Mr. Thompson thanked the committee for their work and suggested that the committee prepare for a possible 20% reduction in revenue just in case. Mr. Bonsall advised that the Administration has slowed down on hiring for non-critical departments. Roll was called. All members present voted yes. Motion passed.

**I) THIRD READINGS OF ORDINANCES/RESOLUTIONS**

None

*"Gem of the Highlands"*

## **J) SECOND READING OF ORDINANCES/RESOLUTIONS**

- 1) ORDINANCE AMENDING NORWOOD CODIFIED ORDINANCE 373.01(d) TO ADOPT THE "IDAHO LAW" AS IT PERTAINS TO THE OPERATION OF BICYCLES IN THE CITY OF NORWOOD, OHIO

On motion by Mr. Bonsall, seconded by Mr. Geraci, it was moved to do the second reading of this ordinance. Roll was called. All members present voted yes. Motion passed. The Clerk did second reading.

## **K) INTRODUCTORY READINGS OF ORDINANCES/RESOLUTIONS**

- 1) ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SAFETY-SERVICE TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT, UNDER THE HOUSTON GALVESTON AREA COLLECTIVE (HGAC) JOINT PURCHASING PROGRAM, WITH 911 FLEET & FIRE EQUIPMENT FOR THE PURCHASE OF A 2021 SEAGRAVE FIRE ENGINE

On motion by Mr. Geraci, seconded by Mr. DiNardo, it was moved to have the first reading of this ordinance. Mr. Dinardo noted that there is a time crunch on this ordinance. This is in the Financial Recovery Plan. The debt structure of this ordinance falls outside of the competitive bid rules and is beneficial for the city because of favorable maintenance contracts and reduced fees. Mr. Geraci had a few questions for Fire Chief McCabe. The Mayor suggested that the council members ask the chief questions directly so that he doesn't need to come to every meeting and interrupt his family time. Mr. Geraci asked if the department looked into other truck manufacturers. Chief McCabe noted that the fire department has had Seagrave since 1950's but that is because it is a good quality and lasts a long time. Having one manufacturer makes maintenance easier. Due to items needed based upon Norwood, if a cheaper truck has the additions required, the cost compared to Seagrave is comparable. The big issue is who makes the stainless steel cab. The other manufacturer that does, has no presence here in Cincinnati. The pumper was supposed to be purchased last year and the price went up in the interim unfortunately. Mr. Bonsall indicated he is willing to do all three readings tonight. He worked with the previous chief on this matter too and knows there has been a lot of planning that has gone into it. Mr. Kelsch appreciates the Chief coming to the meeting and having the needed information. He asked the chief to speak on the current equipment and how this new truck will be beneficial. The Chief went through the fire trucks the city currently has. They are all a number of years old. Many are causing the city thousands of dollars in repairs. They are getting old and do many runs a year. The truck replacement schedule they had was not followed previously. There is a need for new trucks and to plan for the need. The ladder truck will be discussed next year. They have a mechanic staff but the new fire trucks are so computer based now, there isn't much that they can do. The price to send them to school is steep and may not be cost effective. They have to have the trucks tested yearly to make sure that they are road worthy and this helps to limit the city's liability. Mr. Geraci asked the Chief to check into sending our mechanics to Seagrave to get certified on their equipment specifically. The Chief said that the previous mechanic was sent to Seagrave. The current mechanics are great but don't have the experience. He will see about looking into that.

Mr. Geraci noted he was willing to rescind his motion for a first reading to be able to do all three readings. Mr. DiNardo was in favor of keeping it only to one reading since we are not in a hurry. Mr. Bonsall suggested 2 readings tonight so that the ordinance can be passed at the next meeting since Mr. DiNardo won't be here. Mr. Geraci said he was willing to change his motion to two readings. Mr. DiNardo changed his also. Chief McCabe said they are fine with the ordinance being discussed at more than one meeting.

Roll was called. All members voted yes. Motion passed. The Clerk did the first two readings of the ordinance.

- 2) RESOLUTION DECLARING CITY PERSONAL PROPERTY TO BE SURPLUS PROPERTY, AND AUTHORIZING THE DISPOSITION OF THAT PROPERTY, CONSISTENT WITH THE CONTRACT WITH HAMILTON COUNTY, OHIO

On motion by Mr. DiNardo, seconded by Mr. Kelsch, it was moved to have the first reading of this ordinance. The Mayor noted that this will clean out city hall quite a bit. Mr. Kelsch asked about the vehicles on the list. The Mayor noted that the junk vehicles are sitting at public works. The computers are first generation computers that were just tucked into corners. There is old furniture. They will be put on the website and there will be time for people to go look at the items. Mr. Bonsall noted that since it is a public auction it could serve to bring in some money to the city.

Roll was called. All members present voted yes. Motion passed. The Clerk did the first reading.

*"Gem of the Highlands"*

### 3) AN ORDINANCE CODIFYING SECTION 549.02 OF THE NORWOOD CODIFIED ORDINANCES PROHIBITING THROWING OR SHOOTING MISSILES, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

On motion by Mr. Thompson, seconded by Mr. Breadon, it was moved to suspend the rules and have all three readings of this ordinance. Mr. Breadon asked why this ordinance was presented. The Law Director noted that there was a law passed in Ohio that created liability for the city for infringing upon someone's gun rights. In response to this the city got rid of the gun section from the code. A few weeks ago, a police officer asked the Law Department if a resident could have archery practice in a park. The Law Department thought that perhaps these items should be put back into the code. Mr. Bonsall asked if the rocket launched at the 4<sup>th</sup> of July would be prevented. The Law Director said that this is the exact language that was in the code before and it would have the same effect as it always did. Mr. Bonsall stated he thinks that the language is still ambiguous. The Law Director does not see any ambiguity and that this applies to a bow and arrow or crossbow and that is what the police would apply this to. He suggested that the council can put this issue into committee to review other exceptions. Mr. Bonsall would like to see only a first reading or putting the matter into committee. Mr. Kelsch asked if this was an increasing issue in the city. The Law Director said that this came about because someone was firing a bow in a park. Mr. DiNardo asked if this was an issue if you are shooting an arrow in your own backyard. The Law Director noted that if the arrow went over your fence then it would make the action criminal. The Mayor noted that a bow hunter uses a compound bow which is a powerful weapon that will go a long distance and do a lot of damage. He would recommend putting the issue into committee to flesh out the ordinance even more. Mr. Thompson revised his motion to put the ordinance into the law and ordinance committee for further review. Mr. Breadon revised his second. Roll was called. All members present voted yes. Motion passed

#### L) ADMINISTRATION REPORTS

The Mayor gave his administrative report. He noted that there is a group of pastors in Norwood that are working to open up churches by the end of the month. They are working with health department to come up with guidelines to do it safely. He noted that restaurants are opening. The Administration has discussed the issue with the law and building departments to see what they can do to help. They are looking at ways to protect patrons and employees. The City will work with restaurants to help them get opened in a safe and responsible manner. The administration is working on getting city hall opened back up. They are going to put partitions up and they are doing lots of decontamination. He participates in a lot of briefings with various agencies. The Hamilton County Health Department noted that they have a page where people can report concerns directly. The Mayor said that he knows that bars are anxious to open up too but it may take more time. The Administration is fully supportive of opening things back up in a responsible manner. There is still a weekly department head meeting to discuss issues and how to support each other.

There are planning grants that the city is working on. There is a mini planning grant just put in with the Norwood Together group. It is for Montgomery road to Smith to help with engineering studies to help to plan what the city would like to see there. There is a grant through Keeping Norwood Cool. Dana Boll was successful in getting a grant that looks at environmental exposure on children. That will be administered through the Health Department. They are working on getting a grant that will get more guardrails and lighting on the Norwood Lateral. The more they look at the lateral the more issues that they find and the city is hoping to get grants to resolve those issues.

The city is still on track for street repaving. The dates are being pushed back but they are still on track. The Safety Service Director has been speaking with residents who have trees that need to be removed due to raising the sidewalk and destroying the curb.

The Montgomery road bus humps are a mess. When Norwood had a milling machine they used to go grind those out. They may contract that out or ask public works to fix those.

The Census is very important to the City of Norwood. It determines funding for schools, hospitals, roads. The Mayor asked for everyone to speak to others and encourage them to fill out the census. There are yard signs available and you can call or email him for one. [Mayor@norwood.com](mailto:Mayor@norwood.com).

The Mayor hired an executive assistant. It is Tom Perry who has lived in Norwood for many years. He started with the city yesterday and is already working on grant writing. He has brought some new tools to the mayor.

The quarterly newsletter will be emailed later this month. This is the first of the newsletters. This will be sent to people who took the survey on Facebook. They have about 175 surveys filled out. They also have about 100 email addresses from other places. He hopes everyone will share the newsletter. It will have information on what's going on in the city and who to contact at city hall.

***"Gem of the Highlands"***

There was a wrap up zoom meeting with the group from UC that put the web site together. They have a good foundation but it still needs more work. The council members will need to provide a picture if they don't like the one that is there. Mr. Gabbard has offered to take photos if anyone needs one. There will be a calendar of events and a way to submit events.

There is a banner across Montgomery Road to celebrate the graduating seniors. The city is willing to get involved in projects to do things for Norwood 2020 seniors.

The old Fidelity building is being worked on by Norwood natives. The city is working with the owner to help it be successful.

The administration is considering other color schemes for the painting of the police department.

The administration is working with Duke to ensure that all street lights on Montgomery road are working. The clock at city hall has been repaired.

Norwood hometown fireworks has been cancelled for this year due to funding. The Norwood Day parade has not yet been cancelled and the administration is working with the Chamber on that issue. They are working on whether the municipal pool will open.

The Mayor's wife is doing summer entertainment at victory park on Wednesday nights starting in June. This is not an event funded by the city. They would like to get other events going at the other parks too.

Mr. Bonsall said that he is glad that the clock is fixed. He also mentioned that perhaps if the parade route was extended then people could space out more. The Mayor noted that the parade is a function of the Chamber of Commerce so it is their decision. Mr. Bonsall stated that he was told that the lifeguards for the Norwood pool have already been trained. The Mayor confirmed. Mr. Bonsall suggested perhaps also partnering with the City of Cincinnati to allow them to use our trained lifeguards or reimburse for the classes. Mr. Bonsall is also impressed with the hire of Tom Perry and thinks he will do a great job.

Mr. Kelsch asked the Mayor if there were any updates with the Water Department. The Mayor said that the department still has extra help to put in readings and man the phones. There is still work being done on the software system and clarification of procedures.

The Mayor noted that several department heads are working on putting procedures and policies together for the city which will help.

Mr. Geraci noted that he had spoken with Mr. Brown about grants to assist with Montgomery Road and he is happy to hear that the city is moving forward with it. The Mayor noted that the grant requires the community be involved.

#### **M) OTHER REQUESTS TO ADDRESS COUNCIL**

None

#### **N) UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Mr. Geraci asked to schedule a housing committee meeting. Mr. Gabbard, Mr. Kelsch and Mr. Geraci all indicated that they are available on Thursday so they scheduled a meeting at 3:30 in council chambers.

The President had three items to place into the finance committee. They are items 12, 14, 16 from the auditor's report. These are purchasing procedures and policies.

#### **O) NEW BUSINESS**

Mr. Gabbard asked to put into housing committee the building department fees and permits. Mr. Gabbard also thanked the mayor for his support of the banner celebrating the seniors. He thanked the people who helped make it happen. It has no year so it can be used again to honor seniors. Great way to show support during time of crisis. Mr. Geraci said that the building department fees are on the agenda for the housing committee meeting this week.

Mr. Geraci asked to schedule a law committee meeting. A meeting will be scheduled.

#### **P) COMMUNICATIONS**

1) Letter from Auditor's Office

RE: April Monthly Financial Report

The Clerk read the letter. On motion by Mr. Bonsall, seconded by Mr. Breadon, it was moved to receive and file the letter. Roll was called. All members present voted yes. Motion passed.

2) Letter from Mayor Schneider

RE: Mayor's Court Fines (April 2020)

The Clerk read the letter. On motion by Mr. Bonsall, seconded by Mr. Kelsch, n it was moved to receive and file the letter. Roll was called. All members present voted yes. Motion passed.

3) Letter to Norwood Board of Education

RE: Donation of Playground Equipment

***"Gem of the Highlands"***

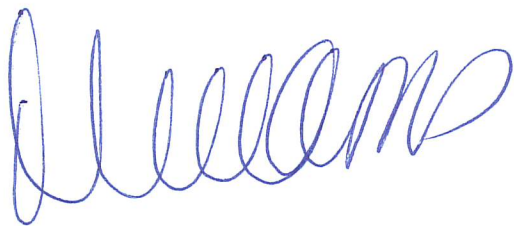
The Clerk read the letter. On motion by Mr. Bonsall, seconded by Mr. Breadon, it was moved to receive and file the letter and express the council's appreciation. Mr. Gabbard asked to discuss with building department, law department and public works the moving of the equipment. President stated he had already contacted those departments. Mr. Gabbard thought this was a great way to honor of the memory of Lisa Tanner. Mr. Kelsch noted that new hardware is needed and they are working on getting that. They are reviewing what parks that the equipment can be put at safely. Roll was called. All members present voted yes. Motion passed.

**Q) EXCUSE ABSENT MEMBER**

All members present.

**R) ADJOURNMENT**

On motion by Mr. Bonsall, seconded by Mr. Geraci, it was moved to adjourn the meeting. Roll was called. All members present voted yes. Motion passed.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Miracle".A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Williams".

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