

Council Chambers

March 13, 2018

A) CALL TO ORDER

The Council for the City of Norwood met in regular session on the above date with Mrs. Donna Laake presiding. The meeting opened with a prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance.

B) PRAYER

C) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

D) ROLL CALL

On roll call, the following members answered present: Mr. Bonsall, Mr. Clark, Mr. Thompson, Ms. Stevenson, Mr. Sanker, and Mr. Breadon; Mrs. Hanrahan was absent.

E) AMENDMENT OF AGENDA

On a motion by Ms. Stevenson, seconded by Mr. Bonsall, it was moved to amend the agenda as follows: add a communication from MADD regarding their Award of Excellence and add a Committee of the Whole report. All members present voted, "Yes".

F) MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

On a motion by Mr. Clark, seconded by Mr. Thompson, it was moved to accept the minutes of the February 27, 2018 regular meeting and the March 7, 2018 special meeting as if read, with an edit requested by Ms. Stevenson regarding her comments about coffee at the event taking place at Brick Coffee; the coffee was paid for by Stevenson for Ward 1, and not free coffee provided by Brick Coffee. Mr. Clark thanked Mr. Geers for the thorough analysis of the meeting. All present voted, "Yes".

G) REQUEST TO ADDRESS COUNCIL ON AGENDA ITEMS

There were no requests to address Council on agenda items.

H) REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES OF COUNCIL

1) Finance, Budget and Audit: 03/07/2018 **RE: The Secretary to the Clerk of Council Pay**

On a motion by Mr. Clark, seconded by Mr. Breadon, it was moved to accept the committee report, to approve the pay rate change of \$13.50 per hour, have the pay increase made retroactive to Ms. Hill's start date of February 20th, and to have a letter sent to the Auditor's office regarding the pay change and the retroactive pay date. Ms. Stevenson expressed that it was difficult to understand why others started above the rate of pay being offered, as there was not proper documentation comparing skills among the current secretary to previous secretaries; she is concerned Council is not offering Ms. Hill enough per hour. Ms. Stevenson is pleased to see that Council is paying Ms. Hill above the base pay rate. All present voted, "Yes."

2) Finance, Budget, and Audit: 03/07/2018 **RE: Ordinance Amending 33-2009**

On a motion by Mr. Clark, seconded by Mr. Breadon, it was moved to accept the committee report. All present voted, "Yes."

3) Economic Development and Community Engagement: 03/01/2018

RE: LISC – Business Development Tools and Committee Goals

On a motion by Mr. Bonsall, seconded by Mr. Thompson, it was moved to accept the committee report. All present voted, "Yes."

4) Committee of the Whole: 03/13/2018 **RE: Review of Financial Recovery Plan**

On a motion by Mr. Clark, seconded by Ms. Stevenson, it was moved to accept the committee report. All present voted, "Yes."

D) SECOND READING OF ORDINANCES

1) ORDINANCE PROMOTING THE "CITY WIDE STREET SALE" MAY 11-12, 2018, AND ABATING ALL PERMIT FEES ASSOCIATED WITH THE SALE, as amended.

On a motion by Mr. Bonsall, seconded by Mr. Clark, it was moved to have the second reading of the ordinance, as amended. All present voted, "Yes."

4. INTRODUCTION

1) ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE 33-2009 TO ADD THE POSITION OF TAX CLERK, TO ESTABLISH THE TAX CLERK POSITION'S SALARY RANGE, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

(this ordinance was added to the agenda by the acceptance of the Finance, Budget, and Audit committee report)

Mr. Sanker made a motion to suspend the rules and hear all three readings of the ordinance. Due to the lack of a second to the motion, the motion failed.

On a motion by Mr. Thompson, seconded by Mr. Sanker, it was moved to hear the first reading of the ordinance.

Mr. Bonsall stated he will be voting against having the first reading of the ordinance; he does not believe that every action necessary has been taken. There are undisclosed reasons as to why this change should be made. Mr. Bonsall stated that any department requesting a net increase in salary must show a hardship; it would be a good thing to look at the pay of all appointed positions. Mr. Sanker stated no one is currently in the position; this is establishing the position. This isn't giving anyone a pay raise. Ms. Stevenson stated she is not in favor of this ordinance; it was not advertised or posted publicly. Ms. Stevenson agrees that some things aren't clear or as clear as they can be; she will follow-up via email to inquire as to why this has not been posted publicly. Mr. Thompson stated he agrees with comments about the position not being posted publicly; he is worried about people to do the work in that office not available, since it is already tax season. Mr. Thompson sees the point of needing to fill a position for a department to function effectively; Council doesn't know exactly how much the job will cost, just the range..

Mr. Bonsall, Mr. Clark, Ms. Stevenson, and Mr. Breadon voted, "No." Mr. Thompson and Mr. Sanker voted, "Yes." The motion failed.

J) INTRODUCTORY READING OF RESOLUTIONS

There were no introductory readings of resolutions.

K) ADMINISTRATION REPORTS

There were no administration reports.

L) OTHER REQUESTS TO ADDRESS COUNCIL

Janet Smith

Re: League of Women Voters MSD Forum 3/28/2018

Ms. Smith, with the League of Women Voters, addressed Council regarding an upcoming Metropolitan Sewer District (MSD) Update. The forum is different from previous forums, and will have one speaker at four different tables addressing four different topics: sewage back-ups and reimbursement for home damage, MSD rate structure and affordability, infrastructure construction, and governance of MSD. Ms. Smith distributed a flyer to all members of Council; a copy is on file in the Clerk of Council's office; she would love to see residents of Norwood attend the forum. The forum is taking place at Mt. Auburn Presbyterian Church, 103 William Howard Taft, from 6pm-8:30pm; doors will open at 5:30pm.

Lance Alexander

Re: Financial Alternatives

Mr. Alexander, of Foraker Avenue, addressed Council regarding financial alternatives. Mr. Alexander distributed a letter to members of Council; Civilian Utilization and Local Leadership (CULL Project), which is on file in the Clerk of Council's office. Mr. Alexander stated there are several areas that can be improved; skilled labor could be utilized to offset costs. Many people possessing certain skills can help to save the city thousands of dollars. Ms. Stevenson asked if the ideas were his own or were taken from Facebook; Mr. Alexander replied by stating they were a mix of both. Ms. Stevenson thanked Mr. Alexander for sharing his ideas and also expressed her concern regarding laws pertaining to volunteers; she is unaware of the limitations but will be looking into it. Mr. Alexander expressed his concern regarding long-term contracts. Mr. Bonsall thanked Mr. Alexander; he likes the thought of looking at the potential of saving money on technology issues and reallocating funds elsewhere.

M) UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Mr. Bonsall wanted to respond to a comment made regarding ordinance 33-2009; he completely agrees that employment in the Tax office is critical during tax season. Mr. Bonsall stated a Tax Clerk position was posted internally, but no one applied; at that point, the department head is to request the Safety-Service Director to administer a Civil Service test. An interim tax clerk is another option to consider for this position; Mr. Bonsall encourages the Tax Commissioner to follow processes in place.

N) NEW BUSINESS

Mrs. Laake commented on the playground build; it will take place Saturday, June 2nd, from 9am – 5pm at Northwoods Park. There are 30-35 volunteers needed; some volunteers have signed up via Facebook. Mrs. Laake stated she talked with the owners of the Mound Café, and they will supply BBQ, coleslaw, and macaroni and cheese for the volunteers. Mrs. Laake stated the holes will be dug and volunteers simply need to show up to assemble the equipment and mix concrete. Curbs will also be placed around all of the playground equipment; because of this, the "curly-q-thing" will be kept. Anyone interested in volunteering can send an email to dmlaake@gmail.com.

Mrs. Laake stated she attended the most recent OKI meeting; the 2020 census was discussed. The government is looking at having more of the census completed on-line; maybe contact libraries about accommodating people who do not own computers. Mrs. Laake stated at the OKI meeting, it was also suggested that each community have a “Municipal Complete Count” committee to make sure everyone gets counted; the committee idea was a recommendation of the US Census Bureau. Total census counts must be submitted by December 31, 2020; the process will begin on April 1, 2020.