



NORWOOD CITY COUNCIL
Norwood Community Center
1810 Courtland Ave- Bottom Floor
Norwood, OH 45212
May 11, 2021, 7:30 p.m.
Minutes

A) CALL TO ORDER

B) PRAYER

C) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

D) ROLL CALL

Roll called. All members present.

E) AMENDMENT OF AGENDA

The President noted changes to the agenda as follows: Add the communication from the Norwood Tax Commissioner regarding tax earnings to correspondence as item P4; add Housing Health and Public Safety Committee report from 4/13, 21 to item I. On motion by Mr. Bonsall, seconded by Mr. Breadon, it was moved to amend the agenda as stated. Roll was called. All members present voted yes. Motion passed.

F) MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

April 27, 2021 minutes - On motion by Mr. Breadon, seconded by Mr. DiNardo, it was moved to receive and file the minutes as read. Roll was called. All members present voted yes.

G) PUBLIC HEARINGS

None

H) REQUEST TO ADDRESS COUNCIL

Donna Laake Re: ASAP Norwood – Park Audit Results

The audit was done after a grant was received in conjunction with the City of Covington. In the fall of 2020 ASAP Norwood recruited residents to visit parks and note what they saw. They had a minimum of 5 people look at each park. There were 15 areas as some parks were split into different areas. Ms. Laake put the results together in a way that could be interpreted with help from students at Xavier. Rosie Santos, who is a certified park and recreation professional, drafted a presentation. Ms. Santos then spoke next and provided the assessment of the audit. Park analysis highlights, key findings and next steps were discussed. The parks were organized based upon characteristics and whom they tend to serve – local, neighborhood, regional, and special purpose parks. Recommendations were discussed for each type of park such as visibility, equipment, signage, prioritization opportunities, etc. General recommendations were also discussed for the parks overall. Park design, strategy, and safety features are examples. The key findings were that the city should address safety, have baseline standards, improve maintenance and maximize investment. A final assessment will be provided to ASAP on May 17. ASAP will be pursuing grant money and the City Recreation Director will be acting as project manager for any resulting park projects.

Mr. DiNardo asked if the report will include staffing requirements/needs. Ms. Santos advised that a recommendation will be made on that topic. Mr. Kelsch asked if there would be a list of the parks from best to worst. Ms. Santos said that she can do that but that her report will include also potential of the parks. Mr. Kelsch asked how the council Parks Committee would be included. Leslie Stevenson advised that this is only the first stage of the plan and that the next step is to have further conversations with the city on where to go next. Mr. Geraci was concerned that the information was not presented to the Parks Committee first. Several other council members noted that presentation to the Parks Committee is not required and they thanked ASAP for their work.

Deborah Meyer who lives at 7264 Columbia Road in Maineville spoke to council about Mosquito Joe Spraying. She is the owner of the franchise in the greater Cincinnati area. She wanted to come speak since she was made aware that a letter had been sent to the council about spraying being harmful. She provided

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background information about the business nationally and her franchise specifically. The company is a part of organizations geared toward lowering the use of pesticides. She also discussed efforts made to ensure that their products and processes are environmentally and bee friendly. She discussed diseases spread by mosquitos and effects.

Pastor Sonny James who lives at 1830 Hopkins Avenue addressed council. He sends his prayers to those families still dealing with the pandemic. He stated that systemic racism isn't just a bunch of racist people standing at a podium. He was glad that his son was seriously considered for the Nuisance Property Appeals Board but noted that no one has reached out to him about the prior YMCA when his church had met there for years. He said that there are systemic protocols still in place in Norwood including in the Administration.

I) REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES OF COUNCIL

Housing, Health & Public Safety report- April 13, 2021 - Mr. Geraci gave the report. A discussion was had regarding AirBnB's, group homes and the Nuisance Property Task Force. On motion by Mr. Bonsall, seconded by Mr. DiNardo, it was moved to receive and file the report. Roll was called. All members present voted yes. Motion passed.

Housing, Health & Public Safety report- May 4, 2021 – Mr. Geraci gave the report. The committee met the members of the Nuisance Appeals Board. They also discussed the feeding of animals that are not pets outdoors. On motion by Mr. Bonsall, seconded by Mr. DiNardo, it was moved to receive and file the report. Roll was called. All members present voted yes. Motion passed.

Committee of the Whole report- May 4, 2021 – Council President gave the report. They discussed police body cameras. They also discussed the Accounting Methods Report. On motion by Mr. DiNardo, seconded by Mr. Thompson, it was moved to receive and file the report. Roll was called. All members present voted yes. Motion passed.

J) THIRD READING OF ORDINANCES/RESOLUTIONS

- 1) AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF NORWOOD TO ENTER INTO COMMUNITY REINVESTMENT AREA AGREEMENTS WITH PLAYING CARD PARTNERS, LLC; AUTHORIZING THE CITY TO ENTER INTO A RELATED SCHOOL COMPENSATION WITH THE NORWOOD CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

On motion by Mr. Bonsall, seconded by Mr. Thompson, it was moved to have the third reading of the ordinance. Mr. Bonsall noted that he believes that the school board passed their portion. It was approved by the school board it was confirmed by Amber Ballard who is the vice president of the school board. They are excited about this issue moving forward. Roll was called. All members present voted yes. The Clerk did the third reading. On motion by Mr. Breadon, seconded by Mr. DiNardo, it was moved to pass the ordinance. Roll was called. All members present voted yes. Motion passed.

K) SECOND READING OF ORDINANCES/RESOLUTIONS

L) INTRODUCTORY READING OF ORDINANCES/RESOLUTIONS

- 1) A RESOLUTION DECLARING JUNE 2021 TO BE PRIDE MONTH IN THE CITY OF NORWOOD

On motion by Mr. Thompson, seconded by Mr. Gabbard, it was moved to suspend the rules and have all three readings of the resolution with the first in its entirety. Roll was called. All members present voted yes. The Clerk did the three readings. On motion by Mr. Thompson, seconded by Mr. Gabbard, it was moved to pass the resolution. Roll was called. All members present voted yes. Motion passed.

- 2) ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF NORWOOD, OHIO TO PREPARE AND SUBMIT AN APPLICATION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE TRANSIT INFRASTRUCTURE FUND PROGRAM(S) AND TO EXECUTE CONTRACTS AS REQUIRED, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

On motion by Mr. Bonsall, seconded by Mr. Breadon, it was moved to suspend the rules to have all three readings of the ordinance. Roll was called. All members present voted yes. The Clerk did the three readings. Mr. Bonsall noted that this gives the city the opportunity to apply for funds from the county Transit Tax Fund. He suggested using funds on traffic light modernization. On motion by Mr. Bonsall, seconded by Mr. Breadon, it was moved to pass the ordinance. Roll was called. All members present voted yes. Motion passed.

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- 3) AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE ISSUANCE AND SALE OF NOT TO EXCEED \$8,000,000 OF URBAN RENEWAL REFUNDING REVENUE BONDS, SERIES 2021 (LINDEN POINTE PROJECT) OF THE CITY OF NORWOOD, OHIO, PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 725 OF THE OHIO REVISED CODE TO SECURE BONDS TO BE ISSUED BY THE PORT OF GREATER CINCINNATI DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY FOR THE PURPOSE OF REFINANCING OUTSTANDING OBLIGATIONS OF THE CITY ISSUED TO FINANCE AND REFINANCING THE COSTS OF CERTAIN PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS; AUTHORIZING A PLEDGE OF CERTAIN SERVICE PAYMENTS TO SECURE SUCH BONDS OF THE CITY AND PORT AUTHORITY; AUTHORIZING COOPERATION WITH THE PORT OF GREATER CINCINNATI DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY TO FACILITATE THE REFINANCING; AUTHORIZING AND APPROVING RELATED MATTERS; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

On motion by Mr. Bonsall, seconded by Mr. DiNardo, it was moved to have the first and second readings of the ordinance. Mr. Pat Woodside spoke to give some information about what this ordinance does and why. This refinances bonds to provide a lower interest rate. Mr. Geraci asked what the money will be used for and Mr. Woodside noted that it can be used to help with public infrastructure. Andy Brossart spoke next. Roll was called. All members present voted yes. The Clerk did the first two readings.

- 4) ORDINANCE REPEALING ORDINANCE NO.2-2011 WHICH HAS ADOPTED SECTION 151.02, TITLED "APPLICATION FEES," OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF NORWOOD, OHIO, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

On motion by Mr. Geraci, it was moved to have the first reading of the ordinance. Mr. Geraci would like to do more research on this item as he is concerned that the ordinance would not result in bringing in the most qualified candidates. The Safety Service Director addressed council and noted that the city is losing qualified candidates because of the fee, especially when many other departments do not require a fee. The city wants to cast a wide net and is concerned about missing people who can't afford to pay a fee. He suggested that the fee be dropped. Mr. Geraci noted that he suggested the first reading, only so that council can get information about how many other departments in the area are charging and what departments they are. The Civil Service Director has been advised that there are some open positions, advised the Safety Service Director, and he hopes that a test will be advertised and done soon. Mr. Bonsall asked if this ordinance is passed tonight will that help get the test sooner. The Safety Service Director noted that a test needs to be picked first and he isn't sure how long it will take to get it set. Mr. Bonsall also asked when the last time it was that a fee was charged. The SSD did not know but would find out and also find out how many people applied. Roll was called. All members present voted yes. The Clerk did the first reading.

- 5) AN ORDINANCE DECLARING IMPROVEMENTS TO CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY WITHIN THE CITY OF NORWOOD, OHIO TO BE A PUBLIC PURPOSE; DECLARING SUCH PROPERTY TO BE EXEMPT FROM REAL PROPERTY TAXATION; DESCRIBING THE PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS TO BE MADE TO BENEFIT SUCH REAL PROPERTY; REQUIRING ANNUAL STATUTORY SERVICE PAYMENTS IN LIEU OF TAXES; CREATING A FUND FOR THE DEPOSIT OF SUCH SERVICE PAYMENTS; AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A SERVICE AGREEMENT WITH THE OWNER OF SUCH REAL PROPERTY; AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A SCHOOL COMPENSATION AGREEMENT ; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

On motion by Mr. Breadon, seconded by Mr. DiNardo, it was moved to suspend the rules and have all three readings of the ordinance. Mr. Woodside advised the counsel that this ordinance exempts property from taxation for 30 years and sets up statutory service payments. This is to generate income in the future and to fund bonds at the US Playing Card site. Roll was called. All members present voted yes. The Clerk did all three readings. On motion by Mr. Breadon, seconded by Mr. Thompson, it was moved to pass the ordinance. Roll was called. All members present voted yes. Motion passed.

M) ADMINISTRATION REPORTS

The Mayor gave his report. He thanked everyone involved in the park assessment and noted that the council and administration have exhibited a commitment to the parks. He noted that with the current staffing levels it is difficult to maintain the parks we have.

He noted current projects in the city and their current status. He noted that the city is working on getting funding to get additional projects done. He noted some capital projects that are waiting to be completed. He noted that the Recreation Task Force team is working with the new Recreation Director on re-branding and new events. This weekend on Saturday from 10-12pm there is a clean- up at the new Norwood Recreation building. A Project Manager has begun working with the city to get capital projects going. A new HR person has been hired for the Mayor's office to get some issues resolved. He has interviews ongoing for someone to work in the Building Department, Zoning Board and Board of Appeals. He

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advised the city hopes to use some of CARES money set up to replace some needed water meters. He also stated that the budget does have some money to make improvements to parks.

Mr. DiNardo asked when a plan may be available for the Finance Committee to review what the CARES money is used for. The Mayor estimated a few weeks. The Law Director noted that the money is given to the state and then the state will pass laws on how it can be used. Mr. Gabbard asked that the city consider using some of the funds for technology to be used by council and in council members. Mr. Geraci also suggested some funds also be used to help the Elm Avenue Project.

N) UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

O) NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Geraci called a Housing Health and Public Safety meeting for Tuesday May 18th at 7:30 at the Community Center. Agenda to have insect spray discussion, feeding of outdoor animals and residential parking.

Mr. Kelsch called a Parks, Recreation and Public Spaces meeting for Wednesday, May 19th, 7:30 at the Community Center to discuss the Park Audit results.

Mr. Geraci called a Law Committee meeting on Tuesday May 18th to discuss Diversion Programs at 6:30 in the Community Center.

Civic Clerk Agenda Management System into Committee of the Whole, President Miracle will set up the meeting at a later time.

Mr. Geraci requested that a letter is sent to MSD to evaluate several catch basins along Pemberton & Homer. They appear to be collapsed.

P) COMMUNICATIONS

- 1) Ohio Division of Liquor Control Re: Transfer of Permit Norwood Express LLC to Norwood Petro INC

The Clerk read the communication. On motion by Mr. DiNardo seconded by Mr. Thompson, it was moved to receive and file the communication and to respond that no hearing is needed. Roll was called. All members present Voted yes.

- 2) Division of Liquor Control Re: Notice to Legislative Authorities

The Clerk read the communication. On motion by Mr. Bonsall, seconded by Mr. DiNardo, it was moved to receive and file the communication. Mr. Bonsall didn't think that there were any premises which required review other than perhaps Stonies. The Law Director stated that his intention is to have a resolution regarding Stonies at the next hearing and requested to be contacted if any other properties should be looked at. They are having conversations with the police department on what strategies can be used to handle complaints. Roll was called. All members present Voted yes.

- 3) Mayor Victor Schneider Re: Mayor's Court Fines

The Clerk read the communication. On motion by Mr. Thompson, seconded by Mr. DiNardo, it was moved to receive and file the communication. Mr. Geraci noted the number of parking citations that were issued. Roll was called. All members present voted yes. Motion passed.

- 4) Chuck Barlow Re: Earnings Tax Collection Reports


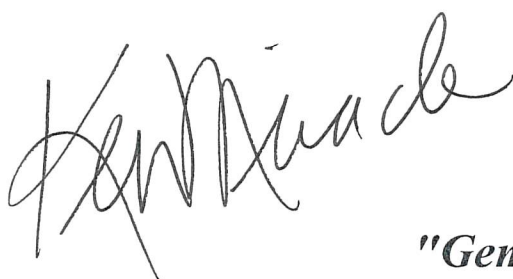
The Clerk read the communication. On motion by Mr. Breadon, seconded by Mr. DiNardo, it was moved to receive and file the communication. Roll was called. All members present voted yes. Motion passed.

Q) EXCUSE ABSENT MEMBER/S

All members present.

R) ADJOURNMENT

On motion by Mr. Breadon, second by Mr. DiNardo, it was moved to adjourn. Roll was called. All members present voted yes. Motion passed



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