



Council Chambers

January 22, 2019 ~ 7:30pm

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, Mrs. Hanrahan, Mr. Sanker, and Mr. Breadon.

E) AMENDMENT OF AGENDA

On a motion by Ms. Stevenson, seconded by Mr. Bonsall, it was moved to amend the agenda as follows: add an Administration Report from Mayor Williams regarding the State of the City. All members present voted, "Yes."

F) MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

On a motion by Mr. Clark, seconded by Mr. Breadon, it was moved to accept the minutes of both the December 11, 2018 meeting and the January 8, 2019 meeting as if read. All members 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

There were no reports of standing committees.

I) SECOND/THIRD READING OF ORDINANCES/RESOLUTIONS

There were no second or third readings of ordinances or resolutions.

J) INTRODUCTORY READING OF ORDINANCES

- 1) ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SERVICE-SAFETY DIRECTOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF NORWOOD AND THE PACE TELECOMMUNICATION CENTER BOARD (PTCB), A NON-PROFIT CORPORATION, IN THE CITY OF NORWOOD, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY (as amended).

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

Mr. Bonsall stated that approving the agreement is an update to include all cable television revenues, and also allows for video consulting services to take place, when time allows. Ms. Stevenson stated she talked with the Law Department about this being an emergency measure in section 3, but that was missing from the title of the ordinance on the agenda; she also had a question regarding the timing of passage for the ordinance. Mr. Moore replied by stating there is no rush to pass the ordinance; this will ensure funds are given to PACE. With regard to the emergency clause, this would go into effect immediately and would not be subject to a referendum. Mr. Moore recommended amending the ordinance to add "and declaring an emergency" in the caption. Mrs. Laake stated the piece of equipment needed to broadcast council meetings on the NCT channel will cost around \$70,000.

Mr. Bonsall made a motion to remove section 3 from the ordinance; due to no second, the motion died.

Ms. Stevenson expressed her preference to amend the caption and to consider it an emergency. Mr. Breadon agrees, stating several residents have expressed their frustration in not being able to see the Council meetings on television.

On a motion by Ms. Stevenson, seconded by Mr. Sanker, it was moved to amend the caption of the ordinance to include "and declaring an emergency." All members present voted, "Yes."

Mr. Bonsall withdrew his motion to hear the first reading; Mr. Thompson agreed to withdraw his second to the motion.

On a motion by Mr. Breadon, seconded by Mrs. Hanrahan, it was moved to suspend the rules and hear all three readings of the ordinance, as amended. All members present voted, "Yes."

On a motion by Mr. Clark, seconded by Mr. Breadon, it was moved to pass the ordinance, as amended. All members present voted, "Yes."

- 2) ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CLERK/TREASURER TO CERTIFY UNPAID BILLS FOR THE COST OF GRASS CUTTING TO THE HAMILTON COUNTY AUDITOR FOR FILING AS A LIEN ON THE TAX DUPLICATE OF THE OWNER(S) OF SAID PARCELS AND TO BE COLLECTED AS OTHER TAXES, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

On a motion by Mr. Thompson, seconded by Mr. Breadon, it was moved to hear the first reading of the ordinance. All members present voted, "Yes."

INTRODUCTORY READING OF RESOLUTIONS

- 1) RESOLUTION EXPRESSING SUPPORT OF THE NORWOOD ADOPT-A-PARK PROGRAM.

On a motion by Mr. Thompson, seconded by Mrs. Hanrahan, it was moved to hear the first reading of the resolution.

Mr. Thompson stated this resolution came out of the Parks, Recreation, Streets, and Infrastructure Committee; Mrs. Laake and Mr. Orosz also provided assistance. This program will allow for individuals, businesses, and other organizations to volunteer time and money for Norwood parks. Mrs. Laake stated reports will need to be made to the Safety-Service Director, so that the administration is aware of what is being done in parks with this program.

All members present voted, "Yes."

K) ADMINISTRATION REPORTS

Mayor Williams read his State of the City address, which he presented at a recent Norwood Chamber of Commerce meeting. Mayor Williams stated the city has a good future ahead, but will have to go through some tough times first. Mayor Williams stated the city is following the Financial Recovery Plan and doesn't do anything unless running it by the Financial Supervisors. The city finished 2018 with \$1.6 million in the black, but there are numerous issues that need to be addressed:

- bring the number of police up to 45
- a new backhoe is needed
- master light switch at Waterworks field #1 and #3
- Council Chambers floor
- new accounting software/system
- three new cruisers are needed
- City Hall roof
- need three more Public Works employees
- lights on the Norwood Lateral

Mayor Williams stated the need to cut operating expenses; he will veto any ordinance asking for a tax levy. In eight years, the city has seen \$350,000,000 worth of development with 3,000 new jobs. Mayor Williams would like to form a 3CDC in Norwood; this would be a private/public partnership with a formal structure for large and small businesses. A copy of Mayor Williams' full address is on file in the Clerk of Council's office.

Mr. Bonsall thanked Mayor Williams for delivering his address and asked for an update on the former Quality Inn; Mayor Williams replied by stating new owners are looking at remodeling the hotel and have secured financing.

Mayor Williams spoke about contract negotiations. An arbitrator ruled that the city must pay cost of living for 2017 and 2018 for the Norwood Police Department; this will cost the city over \$200,000. When this happens, the city has no control, and has to follow the Financial Recovery Plan.

Ms. Stevenson asked about Mayor Williams' vision for something like 3CDC in Norwood, and his vision for connecting what he wants to see, with what is already happening. Mayor Williams replied by stating he does not want to overshadow what is already underway; he would like to see professionals looking at the development area, banks, and investors. Ms. Stevenson stated there are currently people in Norwood who work in those areas and are interested in getting involved in this type of work. Mayor Williams stated he expects to provide an update in February; this is not for corporations only, and will include small and medium businesses. There will be a Norwood Quality of Life presentation and community roll-out at Xavier University on February 9th, beginning at 9am.

Mr. Bonsall stated each department has been asked for capital expenditures; a complete list is being compiled. Now is the time to bring these things forward; revisions to the Financial Recovery Plan must be submitted each year. Mayor Williams stated he would like to be a part of the start to get things moving in the right direction. Mayor Williams closed by thanking Council for their attention.

L) OTHER REQUESTS TO ADDRESS COUNCIL

- 1) **Pastor Sonny James** **Re: Community**

Mr. James, of Hopkins Avenue, addressed Council regarding issues facing the community. Mr. James stated his goal for coming to Council is to create more inclusion; he applauded Mayor Williams for mentioning inclusion and the idea of bringing in experts. Mr. James asked how many members of Council knew there would be a question about the Norwood Fire Department before it became public.

M) UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Mrs. Laake provided an update on the retiree healthcare; the administrative committee met and put together a letter which has been mailed with an application to current plan members. They are currently looking at years of employment and eligibility requirements. Mrs. Laake stated she received an email from the Barbara Montgomery, a supervisor at S & S Healthcare; they are preparing a letter to send to plan members regarding 2017 and 2018 claims.

Mr. Sanker reminded everyone that bricks are still available for the Pathway of Freedom at Victory Park; order forms are available in the Clerk of Council's office and at the American Legion.

Ms. Stevenson announced that she has received the first business donation for welcome packets for new residents; there have been over 300 single family home purchases. Businesses are recognizing this as a way to offer services to new residents.

N) NEW BUSINESS

Mrs. Hanrahan suggested members of Council visit all departments within the city. She recently visited Public Works, and saw a truck with a seat that is stuffed with plastic bags and covered with duct tape; members of Council need to be aware of some of the current working conditions within the city.

Mr. Bonsall announced Wasson Way will go from Xavier University to Ault Park; the full phase 2 of the project will be started and completed in 2019. The project received a \$100,000 donation from School Outfitters; they are located in Norwood. Mr. Bonsall thanked School Outfitters for their donation/grant and added that they have 150 employees who are looking forward to Wasson Way.

Mr. Clark reminded everyone that the Norwood Star has a community calendar; any events or activities may be submitted. Mrs. Laake suggested contacting the library, as they have events on their site, too.

Ms. Stevenson announced Community Building Institute (CBI) is conducting a fair housing survey in Cincinnati and Hamilton County; they are asking for public input regarding discriminatory practices and access to housing. The Facebook page for the survey is Facebook.com/CBICincy; the January 11th post is for residents and the January 22nd post is for professionals who work in development, real estate, and financing. The survey should only take about ten minutes to complete and is anonymous.

Mrs. Laake received a text message from Tyler Myer (with Norwood Community Television) who said the new transmitter had been ordered and they are currently waiting for it to be delivered.

O) COMMUNICATIONS

1) Letter from Joe C. Geers, Safety-Service Director

Re: Water Rates

On a motion by Mr. Sanker, seconded by Mr. Breadon, it was moved to receive and file the letter. All present voted, "Yes."

P) EXECUTIVE SESSION

(letter requesting Executive Session was originally received and filed at the December 22, 2018 meeting)

On a motion by Mr. Sanker, seconded by Mr. Breadon, it was moved to enter Executive Session for the purpose of discussing current union contract negotiations. All present voted, "Yes."

Council entered Executive Session.

Council returned from Executive Session.

Mr. Bonsall stated that within the Financial Recovery Plan, health insurance premiums did not increase by 15%, as assumed.


On a motion by Mr. Bonsall, seconded by Mr. Clark, it was moved that city employees pay 2% of the base health insurance plan and 5.5% of the buy-up health insurance plan for 2019. All members present voted, "Yes."

Q) EXCUSE ABSENT MEMBER/S

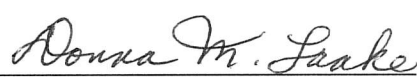
There were no absent members.

R) ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Mr. Bonsall, seconded by Mr. Clark, it was moved to adjourn. All members present voted, "Yes."



Joseph S. Geers
Clerk of Council



Donna M. Laake
President of Council