



NORWOOD CITY COUNCIL

Norwood High School Gym

May 26, 2020 7:30 p.m.

A) CALL TO ORDER

B) PRAYER

C) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

D) ROLL CALL

Roll was called. Mr. Bonsall, Mr. Gabbard, Mr. Geraci, Mr. Kelsch, Mr. Thompson and Mr. Breadon are in attendance. Mr. DiNardo is absent.

E) AMENDMENT OF AGENDA

The President noted amendments needed to the agenda as follows: Item h2 is to be removed. On motion by Mr. Thompson, seconded by Mr. Breadon, it was moved to amend the agenda as the President stated. Roll was called. All members present voted yes. Motion passed.

F) MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

None

G) REQUEST TO ADDRESS COUNCIL ON AGENDA ITEMS

Deb Robison who lives at 2048 Maple Avenue. She stated that Norwood is a proud community that supports its students. She thinks that establishing pride month will send a good message to the youth. A CDC study says that LGBTQ youth are more likely to suffer feelings of hopelessness, suicidal thoughts, and to feel bullied. Feeling support helps more productive outcomes for these youth. Passing the Pride Month ordinance will tell the youth that we support them.

H) REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES OF COUNCIL

- 1) Housing, Health & Public Safety Committee Report – The report was given by Mr. Geraci. They discussed chronic nuisance but it was tabled. They discussed the Building department fee increases and are requesting that a letter to be sent to Service Safety Director indicating that they are approving the building department fees. The committee was unable to complete auditor's list at this time. On motion by Mr. Kelsch, seconded by Mr. Thompson, it was moved to receive and file the report. Roll was called. All members present voted yes. Motion passed.

I) THIRD READINGS 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 have the third reading of the ordinance. Roll was called. All members present voted yes. Motion passed. The Clerk did the third reading. 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.

- 2) 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. Thompson, seconded by Mr. Kelsch, it was moved to have the third reading of the ordinance. Roll was called. All members present voted yes. Motion passed. The Clerk did the third reading. On motion by Mr. Breadon, seconded by Mr. Geraci, it was moved to pass the ordinance. Roll was called. All members present voted yes. Motion passed.

J) SECOND READING OF ORDINANCES/RESOLUTIONS

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

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Mr. Gabbard noted that there are some vehicles that are surplus that may or may not work. He noted that there is a website where people can review and bid if they would like. The website is www.hamiltoncountyohioauction.com.

On motion by Mr. Gabbard, seconded by Mr. Kelsch, it was moved to have the second and third reading of the ordinance. Roll was called. All members present voted yes. Motion passed. The Clerk did the second and third readings. On motion by Mr. Gabbard, seconded by Mr. Breadon, it was moved to pass the ordinance. Roll was called. All members present voted yes. Motion passed.

K) INTRODUCTORY READINGS OF ORDINANCES/RESOLUTIONS

1) RESOLUTION DECLARING JUNE 2020 TO BE PRIDE MONTH IN THE CITY OF NORWOOD

On motion by Mr. Thompson, seconded by Mr. Gabbard, it was moved to have the all three readings of the ordinance and the first reading in its entirety.

Mr. Thompson noted that he brought the resolution. As part of being a diverse community we should recognize that there are community members that are part of the LGBTQ community. Ohio is one of the few states where discrimination against the LGBTQ community is still legal. He wants to let the community here in Norwood know that we support them.

Mr. Gabbard agrees with Mr. Thompson. You don't have to agree with the lifestyle but we should respect and love without boundaries or judgment. This is a small gesture to say that we are proud of all Norwoodians.

Mr. Bonsall noted that Mr. DiNardo emailed the council to express his support and would have voted yes. Important to have all three readings so that it can be passed before June 1.

Roll was called. All members present voted yes. Motion passed. The Clerk did all three readings.

Mr. Kelsch commended Mr. Thompson and Mr. Gabbard for the resolution. He feels it is important to recognize the entire community. Mr. Geraci agrees with Mr. Kelsch. He has friends who are a part of the community. He wonders what other groups should the council recognizing. He may disagree a little but thinks this resolution is fantastic.

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 MAYOR AND/OR SERVICE-SAFETY DIRECTOR TO SIGN AN ENVIRONMENTAL COVENANT DOCUMENT FOR THE TERREX HARRIS AVE, LLC OFFICE REDEVELOPMENT SITE ON HARRIS AVENUE, WEST OF FOREST AVENUE, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

On motion by Mr. Mr. Thompson, seconded by Mr. Geraci, it was moved to have the first reading of the ordinance.

Mr. Gabbard asked who requested the ordinance. It was noted that the request was the last page in the package. Mr. Breadon asked the Mayor to provide some information about the reasons for this ordinance. The Mayor deferred to the Law Director. The assistant law director requested the ordinance. In order to move forward with construction there are some environmental issues that need to be resolved. The EPA says that there are only certain uses that we can do on this site. This agreement says that the EPA won't sue the city as long as we follow their recommendations.

Mr. Geraci asked the Law Director if this meant that construction would be starting soon. The Law Director said that he believes that the property owner hopes to start soon.

Mr. Breadon asked the Law Director. He thought he remembers that there was a drainage issue that was brought to the council before. The Law Director confirmed that there are sewer lines through that property and some utilities will need to be moved if they still use the same plans but he doesn't know for sure. The Mayor noted that the subway tunnels went under that site which has presented some challenges with the development of that site. It is taking time to get plans in place.

Mr. Thompson asked if this is a time sensitive request. The Law Director was unsure. Mr. Bonsall did note that Mr. Garry requested that all three readings be done at once. Mr. Thompson revised motion to all three readings. Geraci revised his also.

Roll was called. All members present voted yes. Motion passed. The Clerk did all three readings. On motion by Mr. Breadon, seconded by Mr. Bonsall, it was moved to pass the motion. Roll was called. All members present voted yes. Motion passed.

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L) ADMINISTRATION REPORTS

The Mayor gave his administration report. The city is still putting plans in place to open swimming pool. No date yet. They have lifeguards that are ready to go and certified as required. The Pool manager and public works are ready to go.

The Administration is working on grants for lights on the Norwood lateral. Streetlights are operating again all over the city thanks to the Service Safety Director working with Duke Energy. The city is trying to get grant money so that they can make the city money go further.

The big clean up on the lateral was a success but there is new liter. They are trying to address how to clean up the lateral in the long term.

The administration has quotes for painting the police department. Someone has volunteered to donate the paint. They are looking at paint schemes.

The Service Safety Director has been working to make sure hvac systems are working in the city buildings. City Hall's roof has problems with the gutters. There are more problems with the roof than originally thought. The Service Safety Director is working on getting quotes for the work needed on that, the windows and brick of the building.

Firehouse roof bidding is moving forward. The bid process has closed. The process shows no favoritism and does not share information between the bidders. The city opens all of the quotes at one time.

The auction site will have the surplus items from city hall soon. The person who takes pictures will be out soon to take photos. The whole auditorium is full with stuff to be listed.

The city's quarterly newsletter will go out 6/1. The city has gathered about 250 email addresses already but hopes that people will be sharing the newsletter. On July 1 the new city website will go live. You will be able to pay water bill and parking tickets on the site.

A city policies and procedures manual is on its way. The law firm that works with union negotiations is helping with this. The city is working with them currently to explain what the city is trying to accomplish. This has to be completed to get out of fiscal emergency.

Tom Perry has been vetting software applications that will help people to send information to the city about potholes. It is an app people can use on their phones. Mr. Gabbard noted that public works is out every day doing what they can.

Mr. Gabbard indicated that he had sent the mayor an email in January about setting up a task force including several departments to discuss troubled properties. Then the team working together could go to the property to discuss the issues and resolve them. He notes that several departments may be getting calls about a property but there is no coordination between the different departments. He suggested the health department, police, fire, building department all be involved and said there was something similar many years ago.

Mr. Kelsch asked the Mayor for an update on the Elm Avenue storm sewer situation. The Mayor said that it has been a challenge to get information from MSD – apparently this is due to the covid-19 issues. He knows that public works is trying to assist people in that area as much as possible. He will touch base with the engineering firm again.

Mr. Gabbard asked the mayor to mention the census again. The Mayor requested that our residents participate in the census. He noted that if you don't send in your information there will be people knocking on your door. It is easy to do online. A lot of funding that comes into the city is based upon our population.

M) OTHER REQUESTS TO ADDRESS COUNCIL

none

N) UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Mr. Geraci requested that the city be in communication with the parade board to make sure that we have a parade which will bring a sense of normalcy. He knows the mayor doesn't make the decision but may have some pull in the decision.

Mr. Thompson noted that he was asked to remind everyone that Norwood day at Coney Island has been cancelled due to covid19.

O) NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Geraci asked for a letter to be sent to the mayor requesting that an opening date for the pool be decided on by this Friday.

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Mr. Geraci asked for an update on the quality hotel. It is an eyesore. He asked for the Clerk to send a letter to the Mayor and Service Safety Director. He also asked for a letter to be sent to the same people asking for the administrate to reach out to the Greater Cincinnati Water Works why there are such issues with the Norwood sewer system. He keeps having back ups. Mr. Bonsall noted that the Greater Cincinnati Water Works doesn't handle sewers. Mr. Geraci noted he meant MSD.

Mr. Bonsall said that Norwood together is holding a sidewalk drawing contest. A photo can be emailed to Norwoodtogether@gmail.com. If you need chalk you can email Norwood together and they will provide some. If you know of a new resident email Norwood together and they will bring a new resident bag.

Mr. Geraci said he would be emailing the members of the law and ordinance committee to set a date for a meeting. The same for the housing committee meeting. His schedule goes week by week so when he has his next schedule he will reach out.

Mr. Geraci asked the chair if there would be a committee of the whole meeting any time soon. The president said he planned on having one the first part of June and will be emailing all parties soon.

Mr. Bonsall wanted to let residents know that there were ordinances passed regarding the residential pace program which helps people make improvements to their properties. Toledo port authority handles the program but they have indicated that they haven't started the program yet. There are a lot of things that may qualify and the cost would just be assessed to property taxes at a low interest rate.

Mr. Kelsch is going to do some fund raising for parks projects. There is a gofundme for that. The link is on his facebook political page and he will share it again. Mr. Thompson requested that the link be emailed to the council so that council members can share it.

P) COMMUNICATIONS

1) Letter from Mayor Schneider

RE: Appointment to Norwood Tax Board of Appeals

The Clerk read the letter. On motion by Mr. Breadon, seconded by Mr. Gabbard, 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: Norwood Fire Code Appeals Board

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

Q) EXCUSE ABSENT MEMBER

On motion by Mr. Breadon, seconded by Mr. Bonsall, it was moved to excuse council member DiNardo. Roll was called. All members present voted yes. Motion passed.

R) ADJOURNMENT

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