

FINDLAY CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

REGULAR SESSION

DECEMBER 1, 2020

COUNCIL CHAMBERS

ROLL CALL of 2020-2021 Councilmembers:

PRESENT: Greeno, Haas, Hellmann, Niemeyer, Palmer, Russel, Shindledecker, Slough, Warnecke, Wobser

ABSENT: Russel

President of Council Harrington pointed out that Councilman Russel informed him that he would not be in attendance tonight. Councilman Slough moved to excuse Councilman Russel, seconded by Councilman Wobser. All were in favor. Filed.

President of Council Harrington lead the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance followed by a moment of silence.

ACCEPTANCE/CHANGES TO PREVIOUS CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES:

- Councilman Slough moved to accept the November 17, 2020 Public Hearing meeting minutes to accept changes to the current zoning map via Ordinance No. 2020-124, Councilman Niemeyer seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried. Filed.
- Councilman Slough moved to accept the November 17, 2020 Regular Session City Council meeting minutes, Councilman Niemeyer seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried. Filed.

ADD-ON/REPLACEMENT/REMOVAL FROM THE AGENDA:

Councilman Shindledecker moved to add the following to tonight's agenda, seconded by Councilman Slough. All were in favor. Motion carried. Filed.

ADD-ON:

- Letter from City Auditor Staschiak – Coronavirus Relief Fund HB 614 Redistribution (**REPORTS OF MUNICIPAL OFFICERS AND MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENTS section**)
- Ordinance No. 2020-137 – Coronavirus Relief Fund HB 614 Redistribution (**LEGISLATION section**)

PROCLAMATIONS: none

RECOGNITION/RETIREMENT RESOLUTIONS: none

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS: none

PETITIONS:

Status of Amber Waves Development (E Bigelow Ave) annexation

On November 23, 2020, annexation documents for the Amber Waves Development (East Bigelow Avenue) annexation were received from the County Commissioners Office and will now be held in the office of the City Clerk the required 60 days ending January 23, 2021. Philip L. Rooney, Rooney & Ranzau, Ltd., is the agent for the petitioner Amber Waves Development, Inc. and has submitted a letter requesting the property to be zoned I1 Light Industrial. This annexation will be referred to as the Amber Waves Development (East Bigelow Avenue) Annexation. Resolution No. 025-2020 (services the City will provide if annexed into City limits) was adopted during the October 6, 2020 City Council meeting. The City Planning Commission and the Planning and Zoning Committee will discuss the rezoning request during their December 10, 2020 meetings. Legislation to accept and approve the annexation, as well as to rezone the parcels will be on the agenda to receive their first reading during the February 2, 2021 City Council meeting. Annexation will be on hold in the City Clerk's Office until January 23, 2021. Filed.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS: none

REPORTS OF MUNICIPAL OFFICERS AND MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENTS:

Officer/Shareholders Disclosure Form from the Ohio Department of Commerce Division of Liquor Control for Royal Buffet 168 Incorporated, dba Royal Buffet, located at 2551 Tiffin Avenue, Findlay, Ohio for a D1 liquor permit. This requires a vote of Council.

Robert K. Ring, Chief of Police – Royal Buffet 168 Incorporated, dba Royal Buffet, located at 2551 Tiffin Avenue, Findlay, Ohio. A check of the records shows no criminal record on the following:

Yan zhen Guo

Councilman Slough moved for no objections be filed, seconded by Councilman Haas. All were in favor. Filed.

Officer/Shareholders Disclosure Form from the Ohio Department of Commerce Division of Liquor Control for Amy May's Downtown, LLC, located at 331 South Main Street, Findlay, Ohio for a D5 liquor permit. This requires a vote of Council.

Robert K. Ring, Chief of Police – Amy May's Downtown, LLC, located at 331 South Main Street, Findlay, Ohio. A check of the records shows no criminal record on the following:

Amy May Taylor

Councilman Slough moved for no objections be filed, seconded by Councilman Palmer.

Discussion:

Councilman Hellmann asked if this is the business that was reprimanded for not obeying the Governor’s social distancing order and not wearing masks. Mayor Muryn replied that is correct, but have since been following the regulations and have been working with the Health Department and have learned their lesson.

Councilman Niemeyer asked if the liquor license for Royal Buffet is a new license and if Amy May’s is a transfer liquor license. President of Council Harrington replied that a D1 and D5 liquor permit are two (2) different types of licenses. He is unsure of the specifics on them. Law Director Rasmussen replied just for application. Mayor Muryn added that applications are for different types of classifications and what they will be able to serve. Councilman Niemeyer is correct that the Royal Buffet permit is a new application request and Amy May’s permit is for a transfer. All were in favor. Filed.

Hancock Regional Planning Commission Director Cordonnier – City of Findlay Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) request for appropriation

On November 23, 2020, the City of Findlay Revolving Loan Fund Committee awarded a loan to Dots in Color Inc. in the amount of one hundred forty-five thousand dollars (\$145,000.00). The funding will provide funds for business acquisition. The closing date for the loan has been set for December 4, 2020. Legislation to appropriate funds, waive the required three (3) readings and pass the ordinance on an emergency basis in order to accommodate the timeline of the project is requested. Appropriations of City RLF funds have historically been passed on an emergency basis in order to accommodate the time sensitive needs of businesses and the bank involved in financing the project. Ordinance No. 2020-135 was created.

FROM:	City of Findlay Revolving Loan Fund	\$ 145,000.00
TO:	Dots in Color, Inc. #31904100	\$ 145,000.00

Discussion:

Councilman Niemeyer asked what Dots in Color Inc. is and asked if there is a dollar amount cap on these types of requests. City Auditor Staschiak replied that he serves on the RLF Board as ex officio. This business is a sewing business on Tiffin Avenue where the current owners are leaving the business and a new owner will be taking over the business. They have secured bank financing so this is alternate financing. This particular component of the RLF loan cannot exceed fifty percent (50%) of the entire package of purchase cost of the business. This very successful business is exactly what Findlay wants in their community. When reviewing requests like this, the Board looks at what is going on with the business and how they are performing. This particular business is doing very well in the community as far as the amount of sales they have, specifically with the line of equipment they have. It was refreshing to hear the excitement of the call for this business. It is neat to see this happen as it is what Findlay wants which is a small locally owned business under franchises as much as possible.

Councilman Wobser added that this is next to Dietsch’s on Tiffin Avenue. It has been there for forty plus (40+) years and has been very successful. They are selling the business and retiring.

Councilman Slough asked if they do alterations. City Auditor Staschiak replied that the majority of their sales are on the machinery they offer, but also do other things there. The new owner is very knowledgeable of what is needed to be successful and appears to have the energy to do what it is going to take to do so. The business will make a heavy investment in the community.

President of Council Harrington noted that they sell sewing machines in the thousands of dollars. His wife is a sewer that has purchased many things from the business.

DURING NEW BUSINESS, Mayor Muryn pointed out that she purchased a sewing machine from Dots In Color Inc. several years ago that she still uses. It is great to see that business changing hands and continuing in the community. Filed.

Board of Zoning Appeals minutes – October 8, 2020. Filed.

City Engineer Thomas – Madison and Monroe Sewer Replacement Project No. 35691700

As part of this project, the sanitary sewer is going to be replaced on a portion of Monroe Street. Engineering has run into an issue on the project, but has a solution. Attached is a color-coded plan for reference. The utilities from the north side of the right-of-way to the south consist of an existing storm sewer (pink line) is located between the north edge of payment and the utility poles. The existing waterline (blue dashed line) is located in the middle of the pavement. The existing sanitary (green dashed line) is located at the south edge of pavement. The existing gas line (yellow line) is located anywhere from one foot (1’) to three feet (3’) from the existing sanitary. There are also utility poles with overhead lines located on the south side of the pavement between the gas line and the sidewalk. The original plan was to install the proposed sewer (darker black line) between the utility poles and the sidewalk. The underlying soils on this project are sandy and will cause issues during construction. Sandy soils are typically an issue because the trench will not hold its shape as the sand runs into the trench. With the existing soils, Engineering is concerned that the utility poles will be undermined, causing them to possibly fall over. Engineering has also talked to the utility company about relocating the poles, but would mean the entire line along the project would have to be relocated and there is not enough room between the sidewalk and the existing right-of-way line for the relocated poles. The utility can sometimes hold the poles to keep them from falling over as work is completed around the pole, but the concern is that due to the depth of the sewer, the soil under the pole will run into the trench and the pole will drop vertically causing a problem. The proposed sewer could be pushed north into the pavement where the existing sewer or existing waterline could become undermined and would be damaged.

The existing sewer has to remain in service until the new one is installed. It would not be a viable option to move the sewer to the north side of the pavement as the location of the existing storm sewer and the fact that there are also utility poles on that side would then shift to undermine or damage the existing storm sewer, the existing waterline and/or the utility poles on that side of the pavement. A solution would be to relocate the waterline to the south side of the right-of-way and place it under the existing sidewalk eliminating the undermining or damage to the existing waterline and the proposed sewer could then be placed in the pavement. The waterline will not be as deep as the sewer and can be placed closer to the right-of-way line and would then not have as much of an affect, if any, on the existing utility poles. The City's Water Distribution Department is willing to install the relocated waterline to help minimize the effect on the construction cost. Materials (with contingency) and to repair the sidewalk is estimated to be forty thousand dollars (\$40,000.00). A couple of recent completed waterline projects have been closed with just over one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000.00) of unspent funds were returned to the Water Fund. Legislation to appropriate and transfer funds is requested as follows:

FROM: Water Fund	\$ 40,000.00
TO: Madison and Monroe Sewer Replacements <i>Project No. 35691700</i>	\$ 40,000.00

Ordinance No. 2020-136 was created. Filed.

City Planning Commission agenda – December 10, 2020; **minutes** – November 12, 2020. Filed.

City Auditor Staschiak – credit card reader for Utility Billing Dept

Customers of the City's Water and Sewer Funds have various payment options and is the desire of the City's Utility Billing Department to add the ability to pay by credit card at the counter. Fees for various payment methods charge by vendors are charged back to the customer. In order to apply best billing practices consistently across all methods of payment, a resolution is needed to be passed by Council allowing for the associated credit card fees to be charged to the customer. Once passed, installation of the new card readers with the service provided will be scheduled. Legislation allowing fees to be charged back to customers who choose to pay in this manner is requested. Resolution No. 032-2020 was created. Filed.

Safety Director Schmelzer – milling machine

Safety Director Schmelzer and Public Works Supervisor Honse have been investigating options to provide the most cost effective way to execute the City's annual paving programs. The City has made great strides in continuing to coordinate contracts and balance it with work performed by City personnel. For the past two (2) years, the Public Works Department has leased a milling machine for approximately fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000.00) a year to complete the bulk of the work for the City's SCM&R paving projects. In lieu of a lease, the City could purchase the same equipment for approximately three hundred seventy thousand dollars (\$370,000.00) for approximately ten (10) years or more of use given the number of hours that the City would use the equipment annually and would enable the City to avoid a lease schedule and be able to do the work as weather and funding permit. There is an opportunity to purchase a new 2019 unit that would accomplish these goals with a savings of over twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000.00) compared to purchasing a 2021 unit. Purchase contract options, trade-in value of older equipment and warranty language are still being examined. More details on this will be provided during the Public Works section of the budget hearing with legislation needing to be passed during the last City Council meeting in December. The contract for purchase is based on a state bid pricing schedule for a BOMAG 1300/300. Payments would come out of the SCM&R budget in lieu of an annual lease payment until the equipment is paid off. Under draft agreement terms, the City would obtain the equipment to use in 2021 with no payments required until January 2022.

Discussion:

Councilman Hellmann asked if personnel costs to run the machine, insurance, maintenance and/or housing it has been taken into consideration into the cost of this machine and if the City will still come out ahead. Safety Director Schmelzer replied yes. In his letter to Council, he alluded that the City is already operating this machine which takes away manpower and storage costs. The City is also trading in two (2) pieces of equipment for this. One is a much larger piece of equipment (curb machine) and the other is an asphalt zipper which is a smaller model of the same thing. When he first began with the City, the Street Depart was essentially building roads where they were running curbs down one side of the street one year, then down the other side of the street another year, and would pave the street the third year requiring the Public Works Department to bid against contractors and not to exceed the fifty thousand dollar (\$50,000) limit. They would have streets tore up for three (3) years in a row. While examining how to do street projects long term, it was determined that the Public Works Department is better suited to be more tactical with what they accomplish. Small jobs were bid out to contractors instead of doing very large scale tasks as there are guys very good at laying down thousands of feet of curb. City crews do not have to do that all the time. The Public Works Department transitioned from trying to build roads all the time to being a tactical unit that takes care of repairs and maintenance which requires different pieces of equipment. Instead of using a curb machine that lays thousands of feet of curb in mass and a zipper that can do a little milling in alleys, work with the Engineering Department by combining efforts with the bids for curb work and go in and do stretches of asphalt and take care of alleys that need grading in addition to paving is done. The milling machine that is proposed for this is much more suited to accomplish that. The Street Department has leased a milling machine over the last two (2) years for fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000.00) a year for two and a half (2 ½) months' worth of work. While that arrangement has worked well, the Public Works Supervisor was made aware of a brand new 2019 model that will save the City twenty to thirty thousand dollars (\$20,000-\$30,000) by buying it. The vendor is willing to hold it for the City for two (2) weeks but will then be available for anyone else to purchase. There is no reason Council has to move forward with this now except that there is no guarantee that it will be available after two (2) weeks. It is up to Council if they want to purchase the equipment with cash or put an agreement together. It is on Council's agenda tonight to inform them of the option and if Council wants to move forward with it, legislation can be on the next City Council agenda.

Councilman Wobser asked if the City purchases this piece of equipment if they will be able to use it for more than two and a half (2 ½) months' worth of work. Safety Director Schmelzer replied yes. The City will receive approximately fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000.00) in trade-ins bringing the total cost down to approximately three hundred twenty thousand dollars (\$320,000.00). The fifty thousand dollar (\$50,000.00) trade-in value would double because of the City being able to utilize the equipment for more than 2 ½ months which basically pays for a year's worth of leasing equipment. It would be paid for in three to seven (3-7) years based on the number of hours of usage. He anticipates getting ten to fifteen (10-15) years out of a piece of equipment like this. City crews take care of their equipment so he would anticipate possibly getting fifteen (15) years out of it which narrows the ROI down significantly if the City can get more time out of the machine. Councilman Wobser asked if the 2019 is as good as the 2021 model. Safety Director Schmelzer replied they are basically the same. There are no 2020 models available. This was on the list of items to stockpile for capital projects in that it will be a cost benefit to purchase the equipment instead of leasing it. He just spoke with the machine manufacturer the other day and was told that they still have a hold on it. The difference in this piece of equipment and the current asphalt zipper the City has is the width of what they are able to mill. The biggest difference is the accuracy to set grade. The elevation can be set with the new machine. The current zipper dictates a thickness of what is to be taken off and has to be tweaked to a ridiculous degree which is very difficult when repaving, or are milling off a certain thickness and going back in and putting it back down which is okay when doing an alley with a grade that has to be maintained, but when in a street situation when milling down a certain amount and are on a curve or need to have grading in very flat areas along an existing road to maintain drainage, the new machine will be able to set a grade and will automatically adjust the amount that it plains off the road providing a much better paving job for drainage. It also will do the job much faster.

Councilman Hellmann asked what is needed from Council tonight. Safety Director Schmelzer replied that nothing is needed from Council tonight. He had originally had planned to have legislation on tonight's agenda to look at this in more simple terms with Council giving him the option to either put together a purchase contract for annual payments or a lump sum, but was unable to work out that language, so he instead provided a letter explaining this opportunity and if Council feels it is a good idea, then legislation can be on the next City Council agenda. Councilman Wobser asked if all the details are available for Council to make a decision tonight. Safety Director Schmelzer replied no. Council is not being asked to make a decision tonight and is instead being informed about what is being looked at. If he is able to put all the needed information together before the next City Council meeting, Council can then decide if they want to go with the new machine and if so, if they want to pay cash or finance it. A trade in value for the two (2) pieces of equipment for fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000.00) with the option of paying for a number of years is what has been verbally discussed. There would be a corresponding interest rate of 2.7% with an option of purchasing a five (5) year warranty for twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000.00) similar to a vehicle bumper-to-bumper warranty. Payment on it would not start until 2022 because they are already getting value out of the City's equipment which is somewhat of a down payment. The City would be given fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000.00) in cash for the trade-in. If this new piece of equipment is going to last for the City, it will perform well in the first year. The new machine does not require any money down the first year and will have a warranty for the next four (4) years giving flexibility to fit it in the SCM&R budget given the fact that the City is currently leasing it for fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000.00) a year right now. He is providing the most flexibility for the purchase. The options are to go into a purchase agreement with an annual payment or a cash upfront purchase. Councilman Wobser asked if this should go to the APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE so that a committee report would be available at the last City Council meeting of the year to make a decision. He asked if this is to be done before the end of the year. Safety Director Schmelzer replied he would like to have it finalized before the new equipment is sold. It is unknown if anyone else will buy it before the end of the year. If Council wants to refer it to the APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE and he has the information available for that meeting, he can bring it to that meeting. Another option is to discuss it during the budget hearings next week. Filed.

City Auditor Staschiak – Coronavirus Relief Fund (HB 614 Redistribution)

As of November 20, 2020, the City spent or encumbered all of the Coronavirus Relief funding that had been distributed as of that date. The process allowed for the City to be eligible for a redistributed portion of all of the unspent/unencumbered funds from the various entities in the County that were returned to the County Auditor. The City received a redistribution amount of four hundred thirty-six thousand eight hundred twenty-three dollars and seventy-seven cents (\$436,823.77) late last week. The redistributed monies are to be first used for Resilience Program grants to local 501(c)(3) organizations with any unused money to be used for the previously agreed upon list that includes reimbursement of Police patrol and line Firefighter wages. This round of funding must be entirely used by December 30, 2020. Legislation to appropriate funds, suspend statutory rules and give all three (3) readings at the December 1, 2020 City Council meeting is requested. [Ordinance No. 2020-137 was created.](#)

FROM:	Coronavirus Relief Fund (HB 614 Redistribution)	\$ 436,823.77
TO:	Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF) #22099000-other	\$ 436,823.77

Discussion:

Councilman Wobser asked that the letter be read into the record, seconded by Councilman Slough. All were in favor. The Council Clerk read the letter in its entirety.
Filed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: none

LEGISLATION:

RESOLUTIONS:

RESOLUTION NO. 030-2020 (*CDBG – fair housing services agreement*) **requires three (3) readings** **third reading - adopted**

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF FINDLAY, HANCOCK COUNTY, STATE OF OHIO TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT WITH FINDLAY HOPE HOUSE FOR THE HOMELESS, INC. TO PROVIDE FAIR HOUSING SERVICES FOR RESIDENTS OF THE CITY OF FINDLAY BEGINNING NOVEMBER 1, 2020.

Councilman Slough moved to adopt the Resolution, seconded by Councilman Greeno. Ayes: Greeno, Haas, Hellmann, Niemeyer, Palmer, Shindledecker, Slough, Warnecke, Wobser. The Resolution was declared adopted and is recorded in Resolution Volume XXXIV, and is hereby made a part of the record.

RESOLUTION NO. 032-2020 (*credit card reader for Utility Billing Dept*) **requires three (3) readings** **first reading**

A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE CHARGING UTILITY CUSTOMERS A FEE FOR PROCESSING CREDIT/DEBIT CARD PAYMENTS AT THE COUTNER OF THE CITY OF FINDLAY UTILITY BILLING OFFICE.

First reading of the Resolution.

ORDINANCES:

ORDINANCE NO. 2020-126 (*BRWP \$5,000/year renewal for three (3) years*) **requires three (3) readings** **third reading - adopted**

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF FINDLAY, OHIO TO EXTEND ITS FINANCIAL COMMITMENT TO THE BLANCHARD RIVER WATERSHED PARTNERSHIP (BRWP) OF FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$5,000.00) PER YEAR FOR CALENDAR YEARS 2021 THROUGH 2023, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Councilman Greeno moved to adopt the Ordinance, seconded by Councilman Shindledecker. Ayes: Haas, Hellmann, Niemeyer, Palmer, Shindledecker, Slough, Warnecke, Wobser, Greeno. The Ordinance was declared adopted and is recorded in Ordinance Volume XXI, Page 2020-126 and is hereby made a part of the record.

ORDINANCE NO. 2020-127 **requires three (3) readings** **third reading – adopted**

(*Law Director budget - more funds for legal svcs (pending litigation & proposed detox facility*)
AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING FUNDS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Councilman Hellmann moved to adopt the Ordinance, seconded by Councilman Slough. Ayes: Hellmann, Niemeyer, Palmer, Shindledecker, Slough, Warnecke, Wobser, Greeno, Haas. The Ordinance was declared adopted and is recorded in Ordinance Volume XXI, Page 2020-127 and is hereby made a part of the record.

ORDINANCE NO. 2020-128 (*HRPC provide CDBG program*) **requires three (3) readings** **third reading - adopted**

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF FINDLAY, OHIO, TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE HANCOCK REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION (HEREINAFTER REFERRED TO AS HRPC) FOR THE FACILITATION AND PREPARATION OF THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) PROGRAM, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Councilman Slough moved to adopt the Ordinance, seconded by Councilman Hellmann. Ayes: Niemeyer, Palmer, Shindledecker, Slough, Warnecke, Wobser, Greeno, Haas, Hellmann. The Ordinance was declared adopted and is recorded in Ordinance Volume XXI, Page 2020-128 and is hereby made a part of the record.

ORDINANCE NO. 2020-134 (*726 S Blanchard St rezone*) **requires three (3) readings** **second reading**

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 1100 ET SEQ OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF FINDLAY, OHIO, KNOWN AS THE ZONING CODE BY REZONING THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED PROPERTY (REFERRED TO AS 726 SOUTH BLANCHARD STREET REZONE) WHICH PREVIOUSLY WAS ZONED "R4 DUPLEX/TRIPLEX" TO "C2 COMMERCIAL DISTRICT".

Second reading of the Ordinance.

ORDINANCE NO. 2020-135 (*Dots in Color, Inc. RLF*) **requires three (3) readings** **first reading - adopted**

AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING AND TRANSFERRING FUNDS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Councilman Wobser moved to suspend the statutory rules and give the Ordinance its second and third readings, seconded by Councilman Greeno. Ayes: Palmer, Shindledecker, Slough, Warnecke, Wobser, Greeno, Haas, Hellmann, Niemeyer. The Ordinance received its second and third readings. Councilman Slough moved to adopt the Ordinance, seconded by Councilman Palmer. Ayes: Shindledecker, Slough, Warnecke, Wobser, Haas, Hellmann, Niemeyer, Palmer. The Ordinance was declared adopted and is recorded in Ordinance Volume XXI, Page 2020-135 and is hereby made a part of the record.

ORDINANCE NO. 2020-136 (*Madison and Monroe sewer replacement project*) **requires three (3) readings** **first reading**

AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING AND TRANSFERRING FUNDS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

First reading of the Ordinance.

ORDINANCE NO. 2020-137 (Coronavirus Relief Fund (HB 614 Redistribution) requires three (3) readings
AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING FUNDS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

first reading - adopted

Councilman Wobser moved to suspend the statutory rules and give the Ordinance its second and third readings, seconded by Councilman Greeno. Ayes: Slough, Warnecke, Wobser, Greeno, Haas, Hellmann, Niemeyer, Palmer, Shindledecker. The Ordinance received its second and third readings. Councilman Greeno moved to adopt the Ordinance, seconded by Councilman Slough. Ayes: Warnecke, Wobser, Haas, Hellmann, Niemeyer, Palmer, Shindledecker, Slough. The Ordinance was declared adopted and is recorded in Ordinance Volume XXI, Page 2020-137 and is hereby made a part of the record.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

OLD BUSINESS: none

NEW BUSINESS:

Councilman Shindledecker: **PLANNING & ZONING COMMITTEE** meeting on December 12, 2020 at 12:00pm via zoom
agenda: Amber Waves Development Inc. (E Bigelow Ave) annexation - rezone

Councilman Wobser asked Council if the APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE wants to discuss the milling machine request or if it should be discussed during the budget hearings. Councilman Palmer replied he feels it would be better suited for discussion during the budget hearings. Councilman Niemeyer agreed with Councilman Palmer. Safety Director Schmelzer noted that he will send out as much information as possible to Council before the budget hearings.

Councilman Wobser complimented the Mayor stating that the Christmas tree looks wonderful. It is one of the best ones the City has ever had. Given the year everyone has had, it is nice to have such a nice tree in Dorney Plaza. Mayor Muryn replied that every year, Matt Stoffel, Dave Honse, and AJ Copus from the Street Department scope out the city all year long to find Christmas trees that are nearing the end of their life and are going to have to be either removed because they are going to start to die or are too close to homes as they get too large. This year's tree was found via social media. It is over twenty-five feet (25') tall and has over fifty thousand (50,000) lights on it. She currently is downloading security footage on it so that a time lapse of it can be done of it being brought in, put up, and decorated during last night's snowstorm. It will be released on social media soon. Councilman Shindledecker added that he was employed during his college years trimming Christmas trees on a farm in Pennsylvania, which was the worst job he ever had in his life, so he can appreciate the work that went into this year's City Christmas tree. The presentation of the virtual Christmas tree ceremony was professionally produced and very nice. Mayor Muryn thanked Councilman Shindledecker and noted that it was a fun Friday project while watching sporting events. While it was a lot of fun, she wishes everyone could have been there together for the lighting of it and to be able to have enjoyed it. Her husband was the cameraman. They had a lot of fun putting it together.

Mayor Muryn noted that Council has their budget books in front of them. She asked that Councilmembers review them prior to next week's budget hearings and address questions then. Budget hearings this year will be via zoom. She asked for anyone who needs any information on the zoom meeting or has any questions getting on to zoom to let her know. The public will be able to view it through YouTube similar to how City Council meetings are streamlined.

Mayor Muryn noted that applying for the Resilience Program is now closed. As of Monday, there were sixteen (16) non-profit organizations in Hancock County who submitted application requests totaling over one million dollars (\$1,000,000.00) for the four hundred thirty-six thousand dollars (\$436,000.00) Coronavirus Relief Fund HB 614 redistribution request from City Auditor Staschiak. Discussions with the Selection and Review Committee will take place tomorrow on how the program should be able to meet a lot of those needs.

Councilman Wobser noted that there was a lot of man/woman hours putting the budget books together. There is a lot of great commentary in it from the City Auditor who spells things out nicely. It is well worth Council's time to read through it before the budget hearings next week. It assists in keeping it straight on where money is coming from and where it is going to go. It also helps out during budget hearing conversations. President of Council Harrington reminded everyone that the budget hearings are Wednesday, December 9, 2020 and Thursday, December 10, 2020. Both nights begin at 5:30pm with the first night anticipated to end by 8:30pm and the second night to end around 7:30pm. City Auditor Staschiak announced that budget books will be available for review. Mayor Muryn added that the City will have a two million dollar (\$2,000,000.00) carry-forward balance with the hope it will grow through the end of the year as additional funds come in and the budget finally shakes out. The City is fortunate to have that carry-forward balance with everything that has gone on this year and possibly into next year. Department Heads have managed their expenses well and will continue to do so. The City has ended the year in a strong position. Councilman Haas noted that he will not be available for the budget hearings as he has to work both nights. President of Council Harrington added that he highly recommends all Councilmembers review their budget books and forward any questions to him, the Mayor or the Mayor's Office and those questions will be addressed or forwarded to the correct person.

Councilman Palmer thanked the City's snow plow drivers for the excellent job they did after the snow storm last night, so much so that he had an easy ride home this morning, but that his eight (8) year old was upset that school was not cancelled.

Councilman Greeno moved to adjourn, seconded by Councilman Slough. All were in favor. Meeting adjourned at 7:42pm.

CLERK OF COUNCIL

COUNCIL PRESIDENT