

FINDLAY CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

REGULAR SESSION

FEBRUARY 2, 2021

COUNCIL CHAMBERS

ROLL CALL of 2020-2021 Councilmembers:

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

ABSENT: none

ACCEPTANCE/CHANGES TO PREVIOUS CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES:

Councilman Slough moved to accept the January 19, 2021 Regular Session City Council meeting minutes, Councilman Niemeyer seconded the motion.

Discussion:

Councilman Hellmann requested the following changes to the mobile health clinic discussion on page 3 of the January 19, 2020 minutes:

Councilman Hellmann supports this initiative as he ~~is~~ **has been** a Rotarian for many years and has served on the board ~~who has~~ **and have** gone through many ~~interactions~~ **iterations** on how to get this accomplished. It has been spearheaded by Bill ~~Rose~~ **Ruse**, former President and CEO of the Blanchard Valley Hospital who is one hundred percent (100%) behind this as he has put in a lot of time and effort on it. He encouraged Council to support this, as well as the City Administration. Mayor Muryn explained why the Rotary ~~was the organization that want this~~ **supports it**. ~~Dr. Bill Rose~~ **Ruse** was a driving force in seeing that this was a need in the community in gaining access and reaching out into the community for those that may not always look for help into the healthcare system.

Councilman Hellmann moved to approve the minutes as amended, seconded by Councilman Palmer. All were in favor. Motion carried. Filed.

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

ADD-ON/REPLACEMENT/REMOVAL FROM THE AGENDA:

Councilman Russel moved to replace the following on tonight's agenda, seconded by Councilman Wobser. All were in favor. Motion carried. Filed.

REPLACEMENTS:

1. agenda:

- date of the agenda ~~FEBRUARY 19, 2021~~ to now be FEBRUARY 2, 2021
- (**LEGISLATION** section) Ordinance No. 2021-011 (~~accept and approve the Amber Waves Development annexation~~) to now be (Ra Nik Ltd. agreement).
- (**LEGISLATION** section) Ordinance No. 2021-013 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 1100 ET SEQ OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF FINDLAY, OHIO, KNOWN AS THE ZONING CODE BY ZONING THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED PROPERTY AS I-1 LIGHT INDUSTRIAL (HEREINAFTER REFERRED TO AS THE ~~HENGSTLER~~ AMBER WAVES DEVELOPMENT ANNEXATION).

2. Ordinance No. 2021-013 – Amber Waves Development annexation (rezone) (**LEGISLATION** section)

- Header: changed ~~HENGSTLER ANNEXATION~~ to now be AMBER WAVES DEVELOPMENT ANNEXATION

PROCLAMATIONS: none

RECOGNITION/RETIREMENT RESOLUTIONS: none

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS:

Health Commissioner Karim Baroudi - update on Coronavirus pandemic Health Department response and vaccination campaign update

Health Commissioner Baroudi informed Council that the infection rate for the virus has gone down, so it is getting better, but we are not in a safe place yet. He asked Council to continue to reach out to their constituents ensuring that they keep their masks on, keep their distance, and not gather in congregations which are very important measures to take along with Vaccination efforts the Hancock Public Health Department is doing. He feels those measures are a way out of the pandemic. Hancock County is now down to about ten to fifteen (10-15) cases a day which is a lot better than where it was back in December where it was around one hundred sixty (160) cases a day. Health Commissioner Baroudi provided a handout showing the number of vaccinations administered in Hancock County. While there is a limited supply of the vaccination coming in, Mayor Muryn is continuing to lobby the state to obtain as many vaccines as she can, along with the partnership of the hospital, ensuring that every vaccine that arrives is administered right away. Vaccines arrive on Tuesdays and Wednesdays and are administered by that Friday. Over the last five (5) weeks, Hancock Public Health has vaccinated just over five thousand three hundred (5,300) individuals. Per Governor Dewine's approach, most of the vaccinations currently are being administered to those that are eighty years old and above (80+). It is the hope that the vaccinations will help eliminate, or at least slow down, the spread of the infection and provide faster progress. Approximately sixty percent (60%) of Hancock County's eighty year old and above population have been vaccinated because most of the infections have been within that age category which is the most vulnerable group. Those efforts went really well. Mass vaccination clinics are in progress with hospital staff and Hancock Public Health staff working together to administer the vaccinations. Hancock Public Health is the one central registry where residents are able to register online by answering just a few simple questions generating a list of those that have registered. That list will be looked at every morning before anything is scheduled. There are two (2) filters that the list goes through: the age filter of those that are eighty and above (80+) years of age have been moved to the top of the list, and those with existing health conditions will also be moved to the top.

The Hancock Public Health staff will then start calling and scheduling appointments to ensure that all available vaccines are administered in a timely fashion. My March, it is his hopes that the virus will ease up some by immunizing the population as soon as possible. There are approximately ten thousand (10,000) individuals pre-registered to receive a vaccine for Phase 1A and Phase 1B. The next phase is for those in the seventy to eighty (70-80) year old category with approximately two thousand three hundred (2,300) already pre-registered for the vaccine. It will take awhile to get through everyone that is pre-registered in that only around five hundred (500) doses a week are coming in, but are working hard to ensure that Hancock County citizens are able to receive the vaccination. The mobile health clinic is a great idea, especially right now because of the need for it. Once the weather breaks and more vaccines are available, the mobile health clinic will be able to help in administering the vaccination quickly. It will allow them to go to various places and reach out to people. All health services currently available at Hancock Public Health can then become mobile and be taken out to the citizens. If public health were to be made convenient, more would come.

Discussion:

Councilman Russel asked if the statistics of the vaccination indicated on the handout are for one (1) or two (2) shots. Health Commissioner Baroudi replied it is for one (1) shot. The handout implies it is just for vaccinations started which is the first shot. Councilman Russel asked if the numbers will somewhat stay the same as the second (2nd) dose of shots come in. Health Commissioner Baroudi replied that once the State receives the vaccine, they will send five hundred (500) of them to Findlay and will keep five hundred (500) for the second (2nd) doses and will send more again in three (3) weeks which are new vaccines. All the second (2nd) doses are accounted for and will come from the State. Councilman Russel asked if any records are kept on where the recipients of the vaccination is from and asked if the majority of them are from Findlay or other surrounding cities/villages within Hancock County or townships. He asked how many are coming in from outside of Findlay city limits to be vaccinated. Health Commissioner Baroudi replied that all demographics come to Findlay, some to work here. The Census that was just completed will soon provide what the population change will be, and how many come into the city for various reasons. Most of the vaccines were done in Findlay. The data can be broke down to the Census level if Council would like that information. Councilman Russel asked if those outside Findlay city limits are coming inside the limits to get the vaccine. Health Commissioner Baroudi replied that most of them are Findlay residents. Councilman Russel noted that he asked this because of how the request for the mobile health clinic may come into play for those that are outside of Findlay city limits. Someone in the high risk age category that is currently receiving the vaccination will most likely somehow find a way to get to where the vaccinations are being administered and not wait for a mobile health clinic to make its one (1) time round near them. Health Commissioner Baroudi replied that the mobile health clinic will also go to various locations within Findlay city limits (i.e. Rec Center, 50North, hospital, etc.). Right now, the Nurses at Hancock Public Health start very early each day packing up everything for the vaccinations. A mobile health clinic will be the base for them regardless of where they are and will go where those who need to utilize it are. If the County and City Health Departments had not merged a few years ago, they would not have been able to respond to the pandemic the way they have as one merged unit. The mobile health clinic will provide the tool they need to make healthcare convenient and will allow for discounted insurance for not only for the recipients that receive healthcare via the mobile health clinic, but also businesses as well. If the citizens of Hancock County want convenient healthcare services, the tools have to be available to those providing the healthcare to them. For a long time, public health nationwide has been underfunded. He is appreciative that Findlay City Council believes in public health. Findlay's Mayor lobbies for public health across the state and across the nation.

Councilman Palmer asked how the vaccination compares to surrounding counties and the State Auditor. Health Commissioner Baroudi replied that the State is approximately seven percent (7%) now which is pretty comparable with one of Ohio's largest counties to the north (Wood County) who has a lot more resources. Hancock County is doing a lot better than Seneca County, Hardin County, Wyandot County, and other Ohio counties similar to Hancock County's size.

Councilwoman Warnecke asked if the stats provided tonight include those vaccinations given at local pharmacies (CVS, Walgreens, etc.). Health Commissioner Baroudi replied that is all the numbers. All the vaccines coming in are going to the hospital. Local pharmacies (CVS, Walgreens, etc.) just started giving vaccines this week. They are given leftover vaccines from vaccinating in long-term care. The State allowed them to take the leftover vaccinations from them. They administer very minimal amounts compared to what is being done at the Health Department. The handout includes every shot administered county-wide

Mayor Muryn added that Hancock Public Health provided a centralized scheduling system that they plan to continue throughout the different phases. It is still unknown what future phases will look like and are pushing the State to provide some guidance on when Hancock Public Health can start working with business partners, other entities, and citizens to start getting them signed up for other phases to know what the numbers will look like. She has been requesting from the State to tell her what the phases are so that it can be figured out what the phases will be locally, and figure out what the numbers are so that as the vaccines come in, they can become organized and get them distributed quickly. It would be valuable information. She is having weekly conversations with the local retail pharmacies advising them to utilize the centralized system as much as possible. She is asking them to work through the State to maintain the centralized system so that those signed up to receive the vaccination in one place do not go and get it elsewhere. Hancock County is the only county in the state that she is aware of that is using a centralized system allowing us to be much more organized, mainly due to Health Commissioner Baroudi and his team and the hospital. They can very easily push through four hundred (400) vaccines a day at the hospital. Hancock County is very well positioned to get the vaccines out safely and effectively. They find out on Tuesdays what the following week's allocation is going to be and communicate that via telephone calls on what the scheduling will look like. Those wanting to register for the vaccines can register via hancockph.com (Hancock Public Health) and also through BVHsvaccineconnect which is a website that the hospital has set up for their service region that provides facts, resources, and connections to a number of websites.

Councilman Russel asked if the pharmacies administering the vaccinations are following the same phases that the Governor has laid out or if it is that being done by whomever they contact. Health Commissioner Baroudi replied that they are also following the phases. His only concerns with pharmacies administering it is that they are not receiving them from the central registry. Their registry started about a month before the vaccine rolled out. Hancock Public Health would like to be fair to its citizens by going through the list. Pharmacies have their own registration system that they are utilizing. Luckily, they are not receiving a lot of doses, so they are not really disrupting the order too much, but Hancock Public Health would like the pharmacies to pull from their list.

Councilman Russel asked if Hancock Public Health is cross-checking the list to ensure that someone has not already received the vaccine. Health Commissioner Baroudi replied that is correct, they are checking for that. Every time Hancock Public Health pulls the list to call and schedule, those they call are asked whether or not they have had their vaccine somewhere else and/or if they are scheduled to get one at the pharmacies.

Mayor Muryn added that local Pharmacists have been cooperating with Hancock Public Health, but have said that they cannot utilize the central location, so they have been working with the State to advocate to continue to use that system. Retail pharmacies are only receiving about fifty (50) vaccines each week and are only able to administer the vaccine to a small group. Councilman Russel asked if it is a HIPAA issue that prevents sharing the information. Mayor Muryn replied it is not.

PETITIONS:

Zoning amendment request – 610 South Blanchard Street

Sean Farmer would like to change the zoning of 610 South Blanchard Street to R4 Duplex/Triplex, High Density. It currently is zoned as C-1 Local Commercial District. Referred to City Planning Commission and Planning & Zoning Committee. Filed.

Status of Amber Waves Development annexation (East Bigelow Avenue)

On November 23, 2020, annexation documents for the Amber Waves Development annexation were received and have been in the office of the City Clerk the required 60 days ending January 23, 2021. Philip L. Rooney, agent for the petitioners. Resolution No. 025-2020 (services the City will provide if annexed into City limits) was adopted during the October 6, 2020 City Council meeting, Ordinances No. 2021-011 (accept and approve the annexation) and 2021-012 (rezone the parcel) were created and are to receive their first reading during tonight's City Council meeting. Filed.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS: none

REPORTS OF MUNICIPAL OFFICERS AND MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENTS:

Treasurer's Reconciliation Report – December 31, 2020. Filed.

City Auditor Staschiak – summary financial reports

A set of summary financial reports for the prior month follows including:

- Summary of Year-To-Date Information as of December 31, 2020
- Open Projects Report as of December 31, 2020
- Cash & Investments as of December 31, 2020

Filed.

Mayor Muryn – City/County emergency management services

Per Ohio Revised Code (ORC) Section 5502.27, a contract to furnish emergency management services between the City of Findlay and Hancock County is required. The current contract expired December 31, 2020. Both the City of Findlay and the Hancock County Board of Commissioners would like to renew the agreement for a period of two (2) years being effective from January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2022 at a cost of forty-five cents (\$.45) per capita of populations for each year of the term of this agreement. Said per capita figure is derived from the current official census for the City of Findlay being eighteen thousand five hundred forty dollars and ninety cents (\$18,540.90). Legislation authorizing the Mayor to enter into a contract with the Hancock County Board of Commissioners is requested. Ordinance No. 2021-006 was created. Filed.

Mayor Muryn – KPIs

The fourth quarter 2020 Key Performance Indicators or "KPIs" have been compiled and the summary report has been prepared. These are the performance measurements the City monitors for each department on a continuous basis. The full KPI document "Findlay Performs" can be found on the City's website: <https://www.findlayohio.com/performance>. These KPIs are a critical tool the City uses to measure service delivery and operational effectiveness. They indicate the progress towards goals set for continuous improvement. Any ideas on other valuable KPIs that Council would like to have considered should be emailed to Mayor Muryn or can set up a time to discuss. On the financial summary, General Expense includes the seven hundred thousand dollars (\$700,000.00) transferred to the Severance Fund. Spending in Street/Traffic includes approximately six hundred thousand dollars (\$600,000.00) of capital outlays for equipment. Filed.

City Planning Commission agenda – February 11, 2021. Filed.

City Engineer Thomas – first Capital Improvement appropriation

The first Capital Improvement allocation of the year is to transfer funds to various City departments so that they can order equipment with the focus on long lead times. Startup money is also being requested in order for plans to be completed and projects can go out to bid. Legislation authorizing the Service Director to advertise for bids and enter into contracts for construction, as well as appropriate and transfer funds. Ordinance No. 2021-007 was created.

FROM:	CIT Fund – Capital Improvements Restricted Account	\$ 752,500.00
TO:	Computer Services #21009000-other	\$ 37,500.00
TO:	Dispatch #21015000-other	\$ 45,000.00
TO:	Police #21012000-other	\$ 262,000.00
TO:	Park Maintenance #21034000-other	\$ 29,000.00
TO:	Recreation Functions #21044400-other	\$ 15,000.00
TO:	Streets #22040000-other	\$ 199,000.00
TO:	Traffic Lights #22043200-other	\$ 85,000.00
TO:	Airport #25010000-other	\$ 80,000.00
FROM:	Sewer Fund	\$ 50,000.00
TO:	Sewer Maintenance #25004800-other	\$ 50,000.00
FROM:	CIT Fund – Capital Improvements Restricted Account	\$ 240,000.00
TO:	State and Markle Street Reconstruction (OPWC) #32803300	\$ 20,000.00
TO:	GIS System Functionality 2021 #31912200	\$ 10,000.00
TO:	Band Shell Restoration Structure and Roof #31912400	\$ 70,000.00
TO:	2021 Street Preventative Maintenance #32810400	\$ 100,000.00
TO:	Parker Training Room Remodel #31912000	\$ 40,000.00
FROM:	Sewer Fund	\$ 260,000.00
TO:	Admin Truck Bay & Plant Maintenance Roof Replacement #35611200	\$ 60,000.00
TO:	Water Meter System Replacement #35783300	\$ 200,000.00
FROM:	Water Fund	\$ 200,500.00
TO:	Water Meter System Replacement #35783300	\$ 200,000.00
TO:	Rector Avenue Waterline Replacement #35710100	\$ 500.00

Discussion:

City Auditor Staschiak noted that there are some advantageous reasons for quickly passing Capital projects: pricing and what offers are given to the City. There are two (2) two hundred thousand dollar (\$200,000.00) appropriations for this request, one is for water and one is for sewer. His previous thoughts and comments on those have not changed, but is now bringing up a different point on them that effect two (2) sub Council committees: WATER AND SEWER committee and the APPROPRIATIONS committee and how future appropriations may be considered with administrative processes. A half million dollars (\$500,000.00) was appropriated to this project several months ago. Nothing so far has been spent of that and have rolled 2020 expenses into 2021. This request is to add another four hundred thousand dollars (\$400,000.00) onto that half million dollars (\$500,000.00) that has not been spent. While he is not arguing one way or the other if that is a good or bad idea, but that Council needs to have that discussion. He brought this up now so that Council has time to prepare for it before the next APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE meeting. Council may recall that the meters have never been bid. That brand of meter has not been put out to bid to ensure the City is getting the best pricing available. Since there is already a half million (\$500,000.00) of unspent funds available and with no standing contract in place, at least not that the City Auditor’s Office has signed, it would not be prudent to obligate money until some of the money that is already there is spent. Filed.

City Engineer Thomas – ODOT FY21 Resurfacing Project No. 32801400

As authorized by Ordinance No. 2020-099, a bid opening was held for this project on January 26, 2021. Bids were received from three (3) potential contractors with the bid amounts ranging from \$554,654.90 to \$620,314.30. The lowest and best bid was received from M&B Asphalt Co., Inc. of Tiffin, Ohio. All of the received bids were under the Engineer’s Estimate of \$633,894.25 which is an example of the benefits of bidding early when the contractors are looking for projects to fill their schedule for the year. The low bid was twelve and a half percent (12.5%) below the estimate. This project is included in the 2021 Capital Improvements Plan and grant funding will be used that is received from ODOT annually because the City is one of the largest seven (7) cities that are not part of a MPO. The grant funds can be used to cover eighty percent (80%) of the construction cost up to five hundred thirty-seven thousand five hundred forty-two dollars and sixty cents (\$537,542.60) which is eighty percent (80%) of the Engineer’s estimate). The grant amount of five hundred thirty-seven thousand five hundred forty-two dollars and sixty cents (\$537,542.60) is the amount needed to be appropriated even though the City should end up receiving four hundred ninety-three thousand seven hundred twenty-four dollars (\$493,724.00) based upon the bid amount. Five hundred dollars (\$500.00) was previously appropriated to the project for advertising. An additional appropriation is now needed to cover the City’s portion of the construction cost and provide contingency for the project. Legislation to appropriate and transfer funds for this capital expenditure is requested. Ordinance No. 2021-008 was created.

FROM:	ODOT	\$ 537,542.60
TO:	ODOT FY21 Resurfacing, Project No. 32801400	\$ 537,542.60
FROM:	CIT Fund – Capital Improvement Restricted Account	\$ 167,000.00
TO:	ODOT FY21 Resurfacing, Project No. 32801400	\$ 167,000.00

Discussion:

Councilman Russel asked City Engineer Thomas if this is something he would like to get started soon. City Engineer Thomas replied yes he would. There is a set amount of time where contractors need to be scheduled. In this case, ODOT is involved which narrows that timeframe even more. He always asks Council to consider resurfacing projects early in order to get contracts signed and secure funding. Asphalt contractors are wanting to secure their work for this year and are trying to finalize their schedules. He has obtained good pricing for this year. He would like to schedule ODOT projects as soon as he can in order to take advantage of those good prices. Councilman Russel asked where the City will be resurfacing. City Engineer Thomas replied on Bright Road from 568 to Tiffin Avenue. He previously had thought it would have to be done in two (2) phases because it was anticipated that concrete and curb work would need to be done, but the concrete is in better shape than what was anticipated, so more asphalt work and less concrete work can be done during that phase. Filed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: none

LEGISLATION:

RESOLUTIONS:

RESOLUTION NO. 002-2021 (*advances on County tax settlements*) **requires three (3) readings** **third reading - adopted**

A RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE COUNTY AUDITOR TO MAKE TAX ADVANCES DURING THE YEAR 2021 PURSUANT TO OHIO REVISED CODE §321.34.

Councilman Slough moved to adopt the Resolution, seconded by Councilman Palmer. Ayes: Greeno, Haas, Hellmann, Niemeyer, Palmer, Russel, 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. 005-2021 (*no PO*) **requires one (1) reading** **first reading – adopted**

A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE EXPENDITURES MADE BY THE AUDITORS OFFICE ON THE ATTACHED LIST OF VOUCHERS WHICH EITHER EXCEED THE PURCHASE ORDER OR WERE INCURRED WITHOUT A PURCHASE ORDER EXCEEDING THE STATUTORY LIMIT OF THREE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$3000.00) ALL IN ACCORDANCE WITH OHIO REVISED CODE 5705.41(D).

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

ORDINANCES:

ORDINANCE NO. 2021-005 (*I-75 and County Road 99 Interchange*) **requires three (3) readings** **second reading**

AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING AND TRANSFERRING FUNDS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Second reading of the Ordinance.

ORDINANCE NO. 2021-006 (*emergency management services contract renewal*) **requires three (3) readings** **first reading - adopted**

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SAFETY OF THE CITY OF FINDLAY, OHIO, TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH THE HANCOCK COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY TO DEVELOP AN EMERGENCY OPERATION PLAN THAT WILL ENCOMPASS ALL POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS OF HANCOCK COUNTY, PURSUE A PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT TRAINING PROGRAM, AND COORDINATE THE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES OF ALL THE POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS ACCORDING TO THE DUTIES AND REQUIREMENTS OF SECTION 5502.27 OF THE OHIO REVISED CODE, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Councilman Russel moved to suspend the statutory rules and give the Ordinance its second and third readings, seconded by Councilman Greeno. Ayes: Hellmann, Niemeyer, Palmer, Russel, Shindledecker, Slough, Warnecke, Wobser, Greeno, Haas. The Ordinance received its second and third readings. Councilman Wobser moved to adopt the Ordinance, seconded by Councilman Palmer. Ayes: Niemeyer, Palmer, Russel, Shindledecker, Slough, Warnecke, Wobser, Greeno, Haas, Hellmann. The Ordinance was declared adopted and is recorded in Ordinance Volume XXI, Page 2021-006 and is hereby made a part of the record.

ORDINANCE NO. 2021-007 (*first 2021 Capital Improvement appropriation*) **requires three (3) readings** **first reading**

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SERVICE DIRECTOR AND THE SAFETY DIRECTOR OF THE CITY OF FINDLAY, OHIO, TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS WHERE REQUIRED AND ENTER INTO A CONTRACT OR CONTRACTS FOR CONSTRUCTION OF VARIOUS PROJECTS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE 2021 DEPARTMENT EQUIPMENT LIST, APPROPRIATING AND TRANSFERRING FUNDS FOR SAID CAPITAL EXPENDITURES, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

First reading of the Ordinance.

ORDINANCE NO. 2021-008 (*ODOT FY21 Resurfacing*) **requires three (3) readings** **first reading - adopted**
AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING AND TRANSFERRING FUNDS, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Councilman Russel moved to suspend the statutory rules and give the Ordinance its second and third readings, seconded by Councilman Greeno. Ayes: Palmer, Russel, Shindledecker, Slough, Warnecke, Wobser, Greeno, Haas, Hellmann, Niemeyer. The Ordinance received its second and third readings. Councilman Greeno moved to adopt the Ordinance, seconded by Councilman Shindledecker. Ayes: Russel, Shindledecker, Slough, Warnecke, Wobser, Greeno, Haas, Hellmann, Niemeyer, Palmer. The Ordinance was declared adopted and is recorded in Ordinance Volume XXI, Page 2021-008 and is hereby made a part of the record.

ORDINANCE NO. 2021-009 (*DORA project*) **requires three (3) readings** **first reading**
AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE FINDLAY DESIGNATED OUTDOOR REFRESHMENT AREA (D.O.R.A.), MAKING CERTAIN FINDINGS AND DETERMINATIONS, AND ENACTING REGULATIONS TO THAT EFFECT.

First reading of the Ordinance.

ORDINANCE NO. 2021-010 (*benching/mitigation agreement*) **requires three (3) readings** **first reading**
AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF FINDLAY, OHIO TO ENTER INTO A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH THE HANCOCK COUNTY COMMISSIONERS. A COPY OF SAID MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING IS ATTACHED HERETO AND INCORPORATED HEREIN AS EXHIBIT A.

First reading of the Ordinance.

ORDINANCE NO. 2021-011 (*accept and approve the Amber Waves Development annexation*) **requires three (3) readings** **first reading**
AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF FINDLAY, OHIO TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH RA NIK LTD. WHEREBY RA NIK LTD. SHALL DONATE ALL OF ITS RIGHTS, TITLE AND INTEREST IN AND TO SAID PROPERTY AS SET FORTH HEREIN AND ATTACHED HERETO AS EXHIBIT A.

First reading of the Ordinance.

ORDINANCE NO. 2021-012 (*accept and approve the Amber Waves Development annexation*) **requires three (3) readings** **first reading**
AN ORDINANCE ACCEPTING AND APPROVING AN APPLICATION FOR ANNEXATION OF TERRITORY SITUATED IN THE TOWNSHIP OF MARION, COUNTY OF HANCOCK, STATE OF OHIO, AND BEING A PART OF SECTION 6 SOUTH, T1N, R11E, A TRACT OF LAND CONSISTING OF 8.584 ACRES OF LAND, MORE OR LESS (HEREINAFTER REFERED TO AS THE AMBER WAVES DEVELOPMENT ANNEXATION).

First reading of the Ordinance.

ORDINANCE NO. 2021-013 (*rezone the Amber Waves Development annexation*) **requires three (3) readings** **first reading**
AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 1100 ET SEQ OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF FINDLAY, OHIO, KNOWN AS THE ZONING CODE BY ZONING THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED PROPERTY AS I-1 LIGHT INDUSTRIAL (HEREINAFTER REFERRED TO AS THE AMBER WAVES DEVELOPMENT ANNEXATION).

First reading of the Ordinance.

ORDINANCE NO. 2021-014 (*mobile health unit*) **requires three (3) readings** **first reading**
AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING FUNDS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

First reading of the Ordinance.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

OLD BUSINESS: none

NEW BUSINESS:

Councilman Haas asked for more details on the D.O.R.A. project. Mayor Muryx explained that the application, with the adjustments, have already been discussed with the Ad Hoc Committee which will be available on the City's website starting tomorrow and is also available for review in her office with the City Clerk and Council Clerk (3rd floor of the Municipal Building). She will conduct a virtual public meeting on Monday, February 8, 2021 on this project. She explained that the Designated Outdoor Refreshment Area (D.O.R.A.) is an area designated by City Council where the standard open container laws do not apply in that an individual will have to have a designated cup that is purchased and disposed of prior to entering any other business that has a liquor license within the designated area. It does not negate any of the public intoxication laws, littering, or any other laws. It allows patrons to enter from one establishment to another within the designated area with an open container. This idea has been brought up over the last five to six (5-6) years and has picked up steam over the last year by businesses in the downtown area. Businesses are asking for additional flexibility in supporting their downtown businesses. An example of this would be when Artwalk is going on, businesses would have a sticker on their door stating that someone with an open container is welcome to come in, whether it be a gallery or store, after they have gotten their drink where they would not otherwise be able to walk into another establishment with an open container without a liquor license. One of the reasons that this concept has been brought up is because there are capacity limitations on businesses. If someone does not have a reservation and there is a wait, they currently are not able to purchase a drink and stand outside. She has spoke at length with other communities who already have this, as well as the City of Findlay Police Chief and a couple of City of Findlay Police Officers who are all supportive of it. It is in the application that if issues start to arise, Council can dissolve it at any point in time. It will be beneficial to the downtown and will not turn Main Street into Bourbon Street.

It will provide businesses additional flexibility and will encourage a laid back atmosphere in the downtown. It will give businesses options without causing significant issues. If issues start to arise, they can then be addressed. The boundaries only include the Downtown Findlay Improvement District (DFID) area because of there already being a company in place that cleans and sanitizes that area which is part of the application process that is submitted to the State on what the sanitation plan will be. Part of the discussion was on pedestrians crossing railroad track areas which she is not in favor of. The overall concept is to allow businesses flexibility.

Councilman Russel noted that Tiffin, Bowling Green, and Defiance all have D.O.R.A. in place and have listed details of theirs online. Tiffin has stated that they have had no problems with theirs. The misconception is that this will create a big party area which will not be the case. It will generate more sales for Findlay's business community who have had a tough time in the last year or so.

Councilman Slough asked if trash receptacles will need to be purchased for patrons to dispose of their open containers. Mayor Muryn replied that she does not anticipate needing to purchase any additional trash receptacles. Some of the business will have them right outside or inside their door. She talked with other communities that already have D.O.R.A. in place about getting reusable or biodegradable cups who have stated they do not work out as logistically as it became a sanitation issue with patrons reusing them. She does not anticipate D.O.R.A. will generate the need for additional trash receptacles.

Councilman Greeno asked Mayor Muryn if he is correct that she will be reviewing this with the Police Chief within the first six (6) months of its implementation. Mayor Muryn replied that is correct and will provide reports on it specific to the downtown area. There will be reports made on any incidents. It will not override the public intoxication rule. If patrons start showing up with D.O.R.A. cups and are not obeying the law, they will have the same punishments as they do now.

Councilman Haas noted that he brought this up tonight because he has received a lot of questions on it.

Councilman Wobser asked if a vendor for the D.O.R.A. cups has been determined. Mayor Muryn replied that the Convention and Visitors Bureau has offered to purchase them, so it will be up to them to choose the specific vendor. Anyone that wants to submit a logo design for the cups can submit them to her. The two (2) items that will be an expense to get this set up are the cups and signage. The Convention and Visitors Bureau has volunteered to help with those expenses. Councilman Wobser asked if businesses are paying for the cups. Mayor Muryn replied that they will most likely charge patrons. For example, if someone is finishing dinner and are running late to get to the Marathon Center for the Performing Arts for a show and want to take their drink to the show, they will need a D.O.R.A. cup to be able to walk down the street with it, the restaurant will provide them a cup and may charge them a minimal fee for it.

Councilman Russel: **PLANNING & ZONING COMMITTEE** meeting on Thursday, February 11, 2021 at 12:00pm in-person or via zoom = to be determined.

agenda: 610 South Blanchard Street rezone

Councilman Greeno asked if the County has decided if they will be donating towards the mobile health clinic. Mayor Muryn replied that it was discussed at the County Commissioners meeting today and will be having a meeting with the Township Trustees tomorrow. She asked County Commissioner Pepple, who is in attendance tonight, to speak on behalf of the County. They are hoping to get additional feedback from Council tonight and want to have additional conversations with Health Commissioner Baroudi. They want to go through the process to make sure everyone is on the same page in the overall community before they commit. The County has not made a commitment at this time and are still exploring it.

Councilman Russel asked what the KPIs for the mobile health clinic will look like. He asked how success will be measured to justify the need for City funding. Health Commissioner Baroudi replied there will be KPIs for it. KPIs were discussed because they have never had a mobile health clinic before, so they were unsure how to prove the need. The last data they have is from the health assessment. Health assessments are done every three (3) years that collect data on chronic diseases. According to the last assessment, approximately forty to sixty percent (40-60%) are suffering from one showing that the need is there. KPIs will measure how many visits were made to the clinic, how many communities they reached, how many vaccinations were administered and where they were administered from (mobile health clinic, Hancock Public Health Department, hospital, etc.). The assessments will list what they are trying to achieve and what to improve on where the following assessment will tell them what they have improved on. For example, they may improve on blood pressure checks by a certain percentage, and improved on immunization in schools by five (5%) percent, etc. All of those measures will be provided to City Council, as well as the community.

Councilman Palmer asked what benefits Ada has seen with their mobile health clinic and how that may translate to our community. Health Commissioner Baroudi replied that the KPIs that Councilman Russel mentioned (i.e. how many visits they have done at a county fair, festival or a church, etc.) have been very successful. Ada is run a little different than ours will be ran because theirs is ran by students and is not full-time. Hancock Public Health's mobile clinic is proposed to go full-time and will be ran by a nurse coordinating the schedule of where they are to go every day. The bus will not just stay in front of Hancock Public Health's building. It will go somewhere every day.

Councilman Shindledecker pointed out that it appears that Council is inclined to support this and assumes the County Commissioners are thinking along the same lines. He asked how to get this off the ground and get a commitment from both entities to go ahead with it or turn it down. Mayor Muryn replied that it is good to go through the process and she is glad to hear of Councilman Shindledecker's enthusiasm. She and Health Commissioner Baroudi are supportive of moving forward at whatever pace Council is comfortable with. It is important that the community as a whole believes this to be important and is supportive of it. She does not want to rush it and wants to make sure that the appropriate conversations have taken place and the appropriate information is put out to the public and then take action. While this is a time-sensitive issue due to the significant amount of lead time of purchasing the vehicle and then getting it retro-fitted before it can become active.

As she shared in her prior letter, it will provide broad community benefit. It is something that has been worked on for a number of years prior to the pandemic, but is still time-sensitive, so action is now being taken and the City is getting involved as it has become more imperative than what has been historically seen. The seven hundred thousand dollar (\$700,000.00) number that she included in her letter to Council includes the purchase of equipment, retro-fit, and two (2) years of operations at thirty-five (35) hours per week which is a full-time threshold. Health Commissioner Baroudi has implied that it can be funded through outside sources moving forward and will not be a burden to the community which was important to her to understand how it will fit into the City's scope of services since the City helps fund Hancock Public Health and will not just be something that is added to the City's budget. Health Commissioner Baroudi is the health expert for the community. He has studied the data, has done the research and has determined this to be a valuable tool for Hancock Public Health to have to make a meaningful impact on the community with public health. She has asked a lot of questions on the project to Health Commissioner Baroudi including what the numbers are going to look like, as well as how operations will work. At the end of the day, she trusts him to make the right decision. It is her hopes that after the legislation has had at least two (2) if not all three (3) readings, that Council will be comfortable with it to affirm she and Health Commissioner Baroudi's commitment to it and will see this as a benefit to the community as a whole which would in turn make the dominos fall into place making other entities comfortable to also provide financial support.

Councilman Slough asked Law Director Rasmussen what the City's liability for the purchase and operation of this would be. Law Director Rasmussen (in the audience) replied it would be a shared liability. Mayor Muryn added that the way the program is currently structured is that this would be a contribution, or almost a donation, to Hancock Public Health with Hancock Public Health being the entity responsible for it. The City would just be providing financial support. It would fall under Hancock Public Health's entity for liability as part of the funding breakdown of two hundred thirty-five thousand dollars (\$235,000.00) a year to include operational expenses, insurance, malpractice insurance, personnel, salaries, fringe benefits, etc. Councilman Slough asked if it is known what the yearly maintenance costs will be. Mayor Muryn replied that there is a line item of twenty-five hundred dollars (\$2,500.00) per year built into it. A lot of thought has been put into yearly expenses for it.

Councilman Hellmann noted that he is a supporter of this and encouraged the rest of Council to support it as well. During the last City Council meeting, it was discussed to have either a COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE or an AD HOC COMMITTEE meeting to discuss it. He asked Council if they still feel that is necessary. Councilman Russel replied that he would like to have discussions on it when the most viewers are able to watch and listen to it and is recorded via YouTube so that they are able to play it back. He appreciates an open forum versus a COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE meeting. He appreciates the questions being asked now and the conversations being had and would prefer to continue to discuss it in regular session. Councilman Hellmann asked how many total entities are helping to finance this and asked if the Administration is comfortable with that and if all donations towards the total cost is falling into place. Mayor Muryn replied that as she has talked with other entities and has had group calls to talk through it, there are a number of entities that have stepped up to the plate to fund it at a level that she is comfortable putting City dollars towards. There are a handful of entities that have already committed. The Rotary had put funds towards it last year and are putting funds towards it this year. The hospital has been at the table looking at potential support for this project and there are a couple of community individuals that are providing support. The ADAMHS Board is providing support through mental health staff members. The Community Foundation is looking at possibly supporting it, but have not made a solid financial commitment yet because of their Board schedule. Health Commissioner Baroudi added that the Community Foundation Board has a meeting on the 9th where they will discuss this project. They are very interested in the project and supporting it. There is more need for it now during the pandemic, so more entities are looking to help. The City's support would be part of many partners which will make this a great project. The research that was done for twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000.00) shows that every dollar invested in the mobile unit has a return of twelve dollars (\$12.00) in healthcare costs. It is a good investment. There will be KPIs to show that.

Councilman Niemeyer pointed out that he has received some negative comments on this project. He has a hard time spending an extra one hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$150,000.00) of taxpayer money on this. The City has already spent close to three hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$350,000.00) on the Health Department. It has been asked of him what Findlay citizens get out of it. He's guessing the same individuals also voted the school tax down because they looked at their school tax W2s and are surprised at how much they had given in school tax. All Councilmembers need to look at this hard and determine what should be done with taxpayer's money.

Councilman Slough asked if drivers need any specialized skills or if the City will be helping them to obtain their goal of being able to drive the unit. Mayor Muryn replied that the unit is just like an RV. She is unsure if there are any special requirements to drive it, but if there are, it would be the responsibility of the Health Department to make sure any needed training or licenses are up to date and appropriately managed. She then directed her comments towards Councilman Niemeyer stating that she agrees that when looking at funds or anything that comes before Council, it should be scrutinized which is why everyone is here tonight to answer questions. She can provide whatever specific information or data that Council would like to see and Health Commissioner Baroudi would be happy to come to the next City Council meeting to follow up on any questions that Council may have. Taxpayer dollars invested in this are going to pay dividends that may not be seen right away. One of the largest expenses in the healthcare system are individuals going to the emergency room or urgent care for issues that do not necessarily need to be addressed there. Anything that can be done for prescreening is going to help quality of life, overall health and ability to work and invest in the community. It will also provide a benefit of declined visits to the emergency room for a condition such as a heart attack that could have been prevented if they had been prescreened and had been on the proper medication. She argued that one hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$150,000.00) to benefit the entire community is well worth it with the long-term benefit it will provide on pre-screenings, potential insurance benefits by conducting the screenings at businesses, etc., but agrees that every dollar that is spent should be scrutinized which is why she is before Council tonight to answer any questions and provide any information Council would like on this topic. Health Commissioner Baroudi added that the unit does not require a special driver's license. One of the nurses on board will be driving it.

Councilman Palmer asked how much money currently has been committed to the mobile health unit. Mayor Muryn replied that approximately one hundred twenty-five thousand to one hundred fifty dollars (\$125,000.00-\$150,000.00) is already in the bank for this project with another one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000.00) as verbally potential contributions from the City, Community Foundation and the County.

Councilman Hellmann asked if the County's participation is needed in order for this to be successful. Mayor Muryn replied that from a community perspective, she would like to see the County at the table because this is a County-wide project and do not want the City to be the main funder of it. The County is interested in doing so recognizing that the City is approximately five percent (5%) of the County population, so they want to make sure that the City is also committed to this. The County discussed it today and will discuss it again at the township meeting on Wednesday. She expects they will have a more in-depth conversation the following Tuesday when they meet again. She anticipates having a better feel for the direction the County is going on this at the next City Council meeting and act accordingly.

Councilman Russel pointed out that this project was being discussed prior to COVID being on the horizon. He would like reassurance that the benefits of the unit will extend long after the COVID pandemic is over. Regardless if this receives a second or all three readings, the necessity to have this to do vaccinations for COVID is not high on his list and whether it should or shouldn't happen now is just icing on the cake. He is glad that Council did not do all three (3) readings tonight in order to allow for more discussion. This project is very similar to the STRICT Center that was started by current Fire Chief Eberle and Safety Director Schmelzer that is a benefit to both Police and Fire. It is a County-wide benefit. Volunteer Firefighters are excited for the STRICT Center as they will benefit from it even though many of them do not live in Findlay, but work in Findlay. The STRICT Center is similar to why the City and County Health Departments were combined years ago. The combined Health Department is a more functional unit. If they were still two (2) separate entities, they would have a very difficult time getting through the COVID pandemic. After tonight's discussions, he is more favorable towards the concept of having a mobile health center. It is in line with what the City has done with the STRICT Center, the Findlay formula in cooperating in attacking community health issues. It reassures them that community health does not stop at the border of Findlay and is County/Regional wide. It is a tool that will help attack the problem, so he is now more likely to consider it. He appreciates tonight's conversation on it as it appears to be a good project.

Mayor Muryn provided an update on the Ra Nik property that was discussed in Executive Session last meeting. The City is working with the County to organize the acquisition. It is a critical piece of property to move forward with on the benching project. She met with Santec, County Engineer Wilson, and Commissioner Bechtol who provided an update on it. There will be additional information available within the next couple of months from looking at the design and redevelopment timeline of the area consistent with the flood mitigation regulations. She thanked Council for their action on it and for supporting the legislation as it is great to see it move forward.

Mayor Muryn informed Council that a press release went out for the support of the divergent diamond at the I-75/CR 99 Interchange. There is legislation on tonight's agenda for the four hundred twenty thousand dollars (\$420,000.00) appropriation towards that project. That selection of that design allows it to move forward to be in alignment in order to continue to obtain outside funding. The City will move towards the build grant at the Federal level, the track funding through the State, and the Governor announced yesterday, as part of his operations budget, an additional two million dollars (\$2,000,000.00) towards infrastructure. The City will continue to follow up on that as it would be potential funding for this project. It goes to show that the ODOT continues to be committed to this project, and with the City and County working collaboratively with them, will allow us to pay pennies on the dollar to get this major infrastructure updated on.

Councilman Wobser: **APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE** meeting on February 9, 2021 at 5:00pm in the first floor Council Chambers of the Municipal Building (CC).

agenda: 1. D.O.R.A. project

Councilman Russel moved to adjourn, seconded by Councilman Shindledecker. All were in favor. Meeting adjourned at 8:15pm.

CLERK OF COUNCIL

COUNCIL PRESIDENT