

FINDLAY CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

REGULAR SESSION

NOVEMBER 2, 2021

COUNCIL CHAMBERS

ROLL CALL of 2020-2021 Councilmembers:

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

ABSENT: none

President of Council Harrington opened 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 October 19, 2021 Public Hearing meeting minutes to rezone Findlay Commerce Park (Technology Drive) via Ordinance No. 2021-094, seconded by Councilman Palmer. All were in favor. Motion carried. Filed.
- Councilman Slough moved to accept the October 19, 2021 Regular Session City Council meeting minutes, seconded by Councilman Palmer. All were in favor. Motion carried. Filed.

ADD-ON/REPLACEMENT/REMOVAL FROM THE AGENDA:

Councilman Russel moved to replacement the following on tonight's agenda, seconded by Councilman Slough. Filed.

1. Ordinance No. 2021-115 – Computer Svcs Information Systems Mgr pay rate (**LEGISLATION section**)
 - a. Changed "~~Computer Services Manager~~" to now be "Information Systems Manager"

Discussion:

Councilman Hellmann = unable to hear the audio livestream of this to transcribe into the minutes.

Councilman Russell = unable to hear the audio livestream of this to transcribe into the minutes.

Service-Safety Director Martin = unable to hear the audio livestream of this to transcribe into the minutes.

All were in favor. Motion carried.

PROCLAMATIONS: none

RECOGNITION/RETIREMENT RESOLUTIONS: none

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS: none

PETITIONS:

Zoning amendment request –116 Laquineo Street

Chrissy Montgomery on behalf of Women's Resource Center of Hancock County, would like to change the zoning of 116 Laquineo Street to O1 Office/Institutions. It is currently zoned as R3 Small Lot Residential. Referred to City Planning Commission and Planning & Zoning Committee.

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 The Midwest Incorporated dba Turkey Hill, 1705 Tiffin Avenue, Findlay, Ohio for C1 and C2 liquor permits. This requires a vote of Council.

Robert K. Ring, Chief of Police – The Midwest Incorporated dba Turkey Hill, 1705 Tiffin Avenue, Findlay, Ohio. A check of the records shows no criminal record on the following:

George R. Fournier
Caroline E. Taitelbaum
Nicholas M. Unkovic

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

Officer/Shareholders Disclosure Form from the Ohio Department of Commerce Division of Liquor Control for NND LLC dba Another Wolfies, 8013 CR 140, Findlay, Ohio for C1 and C2 liquor permits. This requires a vote of Council.

Robert K. Ring, Chief of Police – NND LLC dba Another Wolfies, 8013 CR 140, Findlay, Ohio. A check of the records shows no criminal record on the following:

Mahesh P. Lalji

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

Officer/Shareholders Disclosure Form from the Ohio Department of Commerce Division of Liquor Control for NND LLC dba Cigars N Stuff, 710 South Blanchard Street, Findlay, Ohio for C1 and C2 liquor permits. This requires a vote of Council.

Robert K. Ring, Chief of Police – Cigars N Stuff, 710 South Blanchard Street, Findlay, Ohio. A check of the records shows no criminal record on the following:

Mahesh P. Lalji

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

Discussion:

Councilman Russel moved for no objections be filed for the remaining liquor license requests on tonight's agenda, seconded by Councilman Palmer:

- NND LLC dba Cigars N Stuff @ 710 South Blanchard Street
- NND LLC dba Cigars N Stuff @ 1406 North Main Street
- NND LLC dba Westside Carryout @ 1132 Logan Avenue

All were in favor. Filed.

Officer/Shareholders Disclosure Form from the Ohio Department of Commerce Division of Liquor Control for NND LLC dba Cigars N Stuff, 1406 North Main Street, Findlay, Ohio for C1 and C2 liquor permits. This requires a vote of Council.

Robert K. Ring, Chief of Police – Cigars N Stuff, 1406 North Main Street, Findlay, Ohio. A check of the records shows no criminal record on the following:

Mahesh P. Lalji

See discussion above (NND LLC dba Cigars N Stuff, 710 South Blanchard Street, Findlay, Ohio). Filed.

Officer/Shareholders Disclosure Form from the Ohio Department of Commerce Division of Liquor Control for NND LLC dba Westside Carryout, 1132 Logan Avenue, Findlay, Ohio for C1 and C2 liquor permits. This requires a vote of Council.

Robert K. Ring, Chief of Police – Cigars N Stuff, , 1132 Logan Avenue, Findlay, Ohio. A check of the records shows no criminal record on the following:

Mahesh P. Lalji

See discussion above (NND LLC dba Cigars N Stuff, 710 South Blanchard Street, Findlay, Ohio). Filed.

Service-Safety Director Martin – insurance payment from an accident from the other party's insurance (correct appropriation Ordinance No. 2021-076)
The City of Findlay received payment for the repair and/or replacement of a hazard siren pole, battery box, batteries, wiring, etc. that was damaged from an accident. Payment was received from the other party's insurance company in the amount of thirteen thousand two hundred ten dollars and seventy-five cents (\$13,210.75). Ordinance No. 221-076 appropriated the proceeds to the Police Department budget, but should have been request to be appropriated to the Disaster Services budget. Legislation to correct this appropriation is requested. Resolution No. 020-2021 was created.

FROM:	Police Department #21012000-other	\$ 13,210.75
TO:	Disaster Services #21013000-other	\$ 13,210.75

Filed.

Service-Safety Director Martin – Hancock Public Health Combined Services contract renewal

The current five (5) year Hancock Public Health Combined Services contract expires on December 31, 2021. Over the recent months, the Mayor, Health Commissioner and Service-Safety Director have been discussing the plan for a new contract for a five (5) year term for calendar years 2023-2027. Due to the Pandemic and other uncertainties over the last couple of years, the Health Commissioner has requested the current contract remain in place for an additional year. The City's financial obligation for shared services would remain the same which is an annual commitment of three hundred forty-nine thousand three hundred twelve dollars and fifty cents (\$349,312.50). In 2022, the District Advisory Council for Hancock Public Health will reconvene to draft a contract for the upcoming five (5) year term. Legislation to extend the current contract through December 31, 2022, as well as to pay the City's portion for provided health services of three hundred forty-nine thousand three hundred twelve dollars and fifty cents (\$349,312.50) in 2022 to the Hancock Public Health is requested. Ordinance No. 2021-107 was created.

Discussion:

Councilman Wobser = *unable to hear the audio livestream of this to transcribe into the minutes.*

Service-Safety Director Martin = *unable to hear the audio livestream of this to transcribe into the minutes.*

Councilman Wobser = *unable to hear the audio livestream of this to transcribe into the minutes.*

Service-Safety Director Martin = *unable to hear the audio livestream of this to transcribe into the minutes.*

Mayor Muryrn = *unable to hear the audio livestream of this to transcribe into the minutes.*

Filed.

Service-Safety Director Martin – 2022 Police training grant

On October 19, 2021, Police Chief Ring received notice from Attorney General Yost's Office of an education grant funding opportunity for 2022. The State is mandating that Officers take twenty-four (24) hours of training in 2022. The grant from the State will cover half (1/2) of the salaries for each Officer for the twenty-four (24) hours of training. Based on the wage projections for 2022 and if this grant is awarded, there would be a cost savings of over twenty-four thousand dollars (\$24,000.00). There is no match for this grant. Legislation for the Findlay Police Department to apply for this grant and to receive funds provided through this grant opportunity is requested. Ordinance No. 2021-108 was created. Filed.

Mayor Murn – KPIs

The third quarter 2021 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 Murn or can set up a time to discuss. Filed.

Board of Zoning Appeals minutes – September 9, 2021. Filed.

Ward 6 Councilman Niemeyer/Ward 4 Councilman Slough/At-Large Councilman Russel – dissolution of the Parking Authority

Legislation is being requested by Ward 6 Councilman Niemeyer, Ward 4 Councilman Slough, and At-Large Councilman Russel to repeal Chapter 147 – Parking Authority of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Findlay. The Parking Authority has not met in years and as a result has not submitted quarterly reports to Council as required per Chapter 147.04. Representatives from all groups who make up the membership of the Parking Authority, including Mayor Murn, support the dissolution of the Parking Authority. Legislation to dissolve the Parking Authority is requested. Ordinance No. 2021-109 was created.

Discussion:

Councilman Wobser asked where the responsibilities go if this is dissolved. Councilman Russel replied that council committee requirements would be discussed in a STREET, SIDEWALKS, AND PARKING COMMITTEE meeting. The downtown parking garage was a very unique construction that the City no longer owns. This committee also looked at downtown parking. If a need were to come up for this committee, then an Ad Hoc Committee of Council would be assigned or it would go to the STREET, SIDEWALKS, AND PARKING COMMITTEE.

President of Council Harrington asked for the letter to be read.

Councilman Hellmann moved to have the letter read, seconded by Councilman Greeno. All were in favor. The Council Clerk read the letter in its entirety.

City Auditor Staschiak asked for a point of order in that this should be referred to the Parking Authority which is the committee that is a better informed authority to make that decision than Council would be. The role of the Parking Authority in the past was more than just the parking garage. The ordinance states that it is there to prepare specific site plans for staged development for additional off-street spaces within the downtown area, and they are to review and develop policies on usage and operation of parking facilities for both public and private within the downtown area. They are to develop policies necessary to promote privatization of parking facilities within the downtown area and explore means of increasing the private sector role in parking development management and encourage investment, and recommend input on courses of action on parking rates of off-street parking facilities, enforcement of parking regulations, methods of parking facilities, use of program revenues and other matters relating to the total parking program. As the City’s Fiscal Officer, one of his concerns is that just because the Parking Authority has not met, does not mean their role is not important. The budgeting that is done with parking has been subsidized by the General Fund which is the same fund that pays for Police, Fire and general operations that are impacted by what happens with parking. Council should have overridden the request to sell the lot behind the Argyle property. The Parking Authority’s role is specified in the City’s Ordinances who should tell Council how to vote or what to do. He encouraged Council to give this more consideration. According to the Ordinance, six (6) of the nine (9) members of the Parking Authority are from the public and are not Council Representatives, so if Council dissolves the Parking Authority, it will take away the three (3) Council Representatives votes of a nine (9) member board by eliminating a board that is a public/private partnership. The Ordinance he is referencing to is Codified Ordinance 147.03. He reminded Council that there are a lot of Ordinances that have not been followed over the years. What Council does now and how it is approached deserves more diligence than it has so far. In this case, history is important.

Councilman Hellmann asked where the other six (6) members of this board were during the meeting where it was voted on. Councilman Russel replied that all were in favor of abolishing the board. He talked with two (2) of the three (3) County Commissioners, and with Tim Mayle who is with Economic Development, but he did not talk with anyone from the Downtown Findlay organization because that organization no longer exists. He talked with Mayor Murn and current members of the Parking Authority who were in favor of it being abolished.

City Auditor Staschiak noted that he was not expecting to hear what Councilman Russel just stated because it is a voting board of nine (9) members and one (1) ex officio who is the Service-Safety Director. It is concerning to him because it happened by phone and not in a public meeting setting. The City needs to be cautious about polling its members for their votes prior to making decisions that they are making and moving forward with recommendations. It should happen in open meetings with public records and public announcements for the public to be present. Filed.

City Auditor Staschiak – income tax receipts appropriation

One of the primary roles of the City Auditor is to monitor receipts and appropriations throughout the year to ensure the City complies with State Budgetary Law. Year-to-date income tax receipts are coming in higher than expected and projected for 2021, primarily due to a large influx in business net profit tax receipts. This increase in revenue necessitates an appropriation of money within the City Income Tax Administration Fund to the General Fund. This appropriation will have the effect of increasing the transfer and will increase the projected General Fund year-end balance by the amount below and has not impact on CIT operations. Legislation to appropriate funds with the emergency clause so that it is effective upon passage is requested. Ordinance No. 2021-110 was created.

FROM:	CIT Administration Fund	\$ 6,000,000.00
TO:	CIT Administration #27047000-other	\$ 6,000,000.00

Filed.

Mayor Muryn – Hometown Hero Program banners

The City of Findlay ordered banners for the Hometown Hero Program to be hung from November 2021 through January 2022. Participants in the program paid a fee to the City to cover the costs of the banners which has been deposited into the General Fund. An appropriation of these funds is requested at this time. Ordinance No. 2021-112 was created.

FROM: General Fund \$ 2,600.00
TO: Mayor’s Office #21002000-other \$ 2,600.00

Filed.

City Engineer Kalb – Spring Lake sanitary upgrade project no. 35611600

The Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (OEPA) has recently awarded the City of Findlay a six hundred thousand dollar (\$600,000.00) grant through the H2Ohio Wastewater Grant. This was discussed in the previous Council meeting, as well as the Water & Sewer Committee meeting. This grant will cover all of the costs associated with the permitting and construction of the Spring Lake Pump Station. The design for this project was previously funded by an OEPA H2Ohio Wastewater Grant that was awarded to the City in May of 2021. At this time, the City of Findlay is finalizing the construction plans and continuing to work on all the necessary permits. With the current schedule, construction of the project is anticipated to start first quart 2022. The City will not be committing to future project by entering into this agreement as this will solely be for the construction of the Spring Lake Pump Station that will discharge into the City’s sewer system. Legislation authorizing City Representatives to execute the necessary grant agreement(s) and appropriate funds is requested. Ordinance No. 2021-113 was created.

FROM: OEPA H2Ohio Wastewater Grant \$ 600,000.00
TO: Spring Lake Sanitary Upgrade Project No. 35611600 \$ 600,000.00

Filed.

Service-Safety Director Martin – Information Systems Manager pay

During a review of pay ranges for several City positions, it was discovered that the Information Systems Manager’s pay falls far below the market in both the private and public sectors. Through research online and reaching out to other municipalities a range of \$95,000-\$105,000 is where this position is being pad at. The current pay for the Information Systems Manager is \$76,523.20. Over the last five (5) years, the Computer Services Department has accomplished the following:

- Implemented network security equipment
- Standardized desktop computer systems and implemented proper update schedule
- Streamlined and user desktop support with ticket system to track issues
- Complete re-wire of archaic ethernet in municipal building
- Complete replacement of patched together consumer grade network equipment with enterprise grade gear
- Virtualization of all City servers
- Implemented multiple layers of redundancy for City servers
- Implemented proper backup solution surpassing minimum standards for data storage
- Upgraded outdated server operating systems to standard
- Directed the deployment of fiber optic cables to all City Buildings
- Implemented end-user phishing/security training
- Replaced antiquated non-functional security camera system with IP, enterprise grade fully expandable system to Municipal building
- Complete replacement of analog phone system with Volp

The payroll ordinance requires Council to approve any increase above eight percent (8%). Administration request Council approval for an eighteen percent (18%) for the Information Systems Manager to increase the salary to \$90,297.00. Ordinance No. 2021-115 was created. Filed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

The **STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE** met on October 19, 2021 to make a final decision from the Request for Proposals (RFP) presentations. *We recommend that Planning NEXT be contracted as consultants in the strategic planning process.* Ordinance No. 2021-111 was created.

Councilman Russel moved to adopt the committee report, seconded by Councilman Shindledecker.

Discussion:

Mayor Muryn pointed out that Councilman Wobser, Chair of the committee, was present and did not indicate his vote on the report. Councilman Wobser replied that he was present during that committee meeting and voted in favor of the recommendation.

All were in favor. Filed.

The **WATER AND SEWER COMMITTEE** met on October 28, 2021 to discuss the Spring Lake sewer system.

We recommend to sign the agreement for \$600,000 from the H2O grant for the install of a new pump station and piping from the pump station to the exiting City system. Ordinance No. 2021-113 was created.

Councilman Russel moved to adopt the committee report, seconded by Councilman Palmer.

Discussion:

Councilman Greeno informed Council that the City was already given twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000.00) for the designing of the pump station and the force main. Now, the EPA is giving the City six hundred thousand dollars (\$600,000.00) for the construction of this project which will be to install a new pump station and the force main that will hook in to the southeast interceptor. This committee report indicates it is the southwest inceptor, but is actually for the southeast inceptor. This is something the EPA has pushed for several years, so they are now providing funds for it to get it done. This six hundred thousand dollars (\$600,000.00) is strictly for the pump station and the force main that will hook onto the City's sewer.

Councilman Slough asked if this project will alleviate the flooding there as there is a lot of flooding in that area. He asked if this project will have any impact on it. Councilman Greeno replied that this is just for sanitary sewer which does not help with flood improvements as it is storm water. There are some lagoons in the woods by the Southside Restaurant that this will be decommissioned which is something the EPA wants to have done.

Councilman Russel noted that it does help with flooding in that when the lagoons are full with water, sewage goes down the creek that is in the waterways. By decommissioning those lagoons that are failing, it opens them up when it floods. It will not lower water levels of floods, but will help take out one of the major pollutants in that waterway.

Councilman Hellmann asked how many more private or independent systems are out there around the City. City Engineer Kalb replied that this is the only one within city limits. More than likely, there are more that are outside city limits that they would tie into the City's public system if that is available. Councilman Hellmann added that he does not want to set a precedent where the City is encouraging or accepting those kinds of systems and then when they go bad (i.e. age), the City takes them over. City Engineer Kalb replied that he does not want the perception that City will accept those systems. The EPA approached the City with a design phase and then a construction phase where the City will not accept any kind piping or system until it is one hundred percent (100%) to the City's liking. The City has been very vocal with them about that and they are very understanding of it. The City will not accept a system that is already in a failing state.

Councilman Greeno noted that this is not money that the City asked for. The EPA provided it without the City having to obtain a grant or anything which is how badly the EPA wants to get the system fixed.

Councilman Russel noted that this subdivision did not build a utility to handle it, so their only choice is to connect onto an existing system that is close which is the City's system. The only other choice is to shut Spring Lake Subdivision down that the residents there would not be in favor of. It is to the watershed's benefit that this gets resolved. On behalf of the watershed, the State of Ohio is paying for it. If a private system was available just outside of city limits, the same result would probably happen. This is for Ohio EPA to offer assistance and eventually tie into the nearest sanitary sewer which is the City's. It is a common issue in other states with subdivisions that were created with private sanitary systems that twenty-five (25) years later and are obsolete, therefore the subdivision is unusable or unlivable.

Councilman Hellmann added that these are built and when they go bad, there is no other choice but to connect into an existing system. Subdivisions should not be built if they do not have a decent system as the City does not encourage other developers to be doing something similar to this.

All were in favor. Filed.

LEGISLATION:

RESOLUTIONS:

RESOLUTION NO. 020-2021 requires three (3) readings

first reading - adopted

(correct Ordinance No. 2021-076 (insurance payment for repair and/or replacement of a hazard siren pole, battery box, batteries, wiring, etc (FPD))

A RESOLUTION TRANSFERRING FUNDS WITHIN APPROPRIATED FUNDS, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Councilman Russel moved to suspend statutory rules and give the Resolution its second and third readings, seconded by Councilman Niemeyer. Ayes: Greeno, Haas, Hellman, Niemeyer, Palmer, Russel, Shindledecker, Slough, Warnecke, Wobser. Councilman Greeno moved to adopt the Resolution, seconded by Councilman Shindledecker. 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. 2021-097 (*Juneteenth holiday*) requires three (3) readings

third reading - adopted

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF CODIFIED ORDINANCE NO. 2020-121 OF THE CITY OF FINDLAY, OHIO KNOWN AS THE SALARY ORDINANCE TO ADD THE NEW HOLIDAY KNOWN AS JUNETEENTH, EFFECTIVE ON OR BEFORE JANUARY 1, 2022, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Councilman Wobser moved to adopt the Ordinance, seconded by Councilman Greeno.

Discussion:

City Auditor Staschiak asked for clarification on what is meant by this Ordinance stating it is to become effective on or before January 1, 2022. He asked if it was intended to be effective in 2021. He asked for clarification so that there is no ambiguity in the future should there be a challenge by an employee in the future. Mayor Muryn replied that is correct.

Ayes: Hellmann, Niemeyer, Palmer, Russel, Shindledecker, Slough, Warnecke, Wobser, Greeno, Haas. The Ordinance was declared adopted and is recorded in Ordinance Volume XXI, Page 2021-097 and is hereby made a part of the record.

ORDINANCE NO. 2021-099 (*5th Capital Improvement appropriation*) **requires three (3) readings** **second reading**
AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SERVICE-SAFETY DIRECTOR AND/OR CITY ENGINEER OF THE CITY OF FINDLAY, OHIO TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS, WHERE REQUIRED, AND ENTER INTO CONTRACTS FOR VARIOUS PROJECTS, APPROPRIATING AND TRANSFERRING FUNDS FOR SAID CAPITAL EXPENDITURES, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Second reading of the Ordinance.

ORDINANCE NO. 2021-100 (*Bittersweet Dr/Bluebonnet Dr sanitary sewer project*) **requires three (3) readings** **second reading**
AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING FUNDS AND TRANSFERRING FUNDS, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Second reading of the Ordinance.

ORDINANCE NO. 2021-102 (*Attorney for Municipal Court's legal services*) **requires three (3) readings** **second reading**
AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF FINDLAY, OHIO TO WAIVE FORMAL ADVERTISING AND BIDDING REQUIREMENTS AND ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH SCOTT BASINGER TO CONTINUE TO PROVIDE LEGAL SERVICES OF FILING GARNISHMENTS ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF FINDLAY INCOME TAX DEPARTMENT IN FINDLAY MUNICIPAL COURT, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Second reading of the Ordinance.

ORDINANCE NO. 2021-103 (*IAFF (FFD) contract renewal 2022-2024 (3) years*) **requires three (3) readings** **second reading - adopted**
AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF FINDLAY, OHIO, TO ENTER INTO A THREE (3) YEAR CONTRACT WITH THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FIRE FIGHTERS, LOCAL 381, AFL-CIO, EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2022, EXPIRING DECEMBER 31, 2024, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Discussion:

Councilman Wobser noted that there have been considerable conversations around these contracts and asked Councilmembers if they have any additional questions that would need to be answered in executive session. If not, and if all Councilmembers are satisfied with the contracts as they are, he will make a motion to waive the third reading and adopt this Ordinance tonight. No comments given by the rest of Council.

Councilman Wobser moved to suspend the statutory rules and give the Ordinance its third reading, seconded by Councilman Haas. Ayes: Niemeyer, Palmer, Russel, Shindledecker, Slough, Warnecke, Wobser, Greeno, Haas, Hellmann. The Ordinance received its third reading. Councilman Wobser moved to adopt the Ordinance, seconded by Councilman Greeno.

Discussion:

City Auditor Staschiak noted that he was not aware that the third reading might be given tonight and that Council might push this through as an emergency. The Auditor's Office reviews what programming issues might arise in these contracts which is a large portion of the agreements. They have already identified one or two areas where there will have to be memorandums of understanding to the contract that the details are not provided. He had assumed there would be an executive session to discuss some of those things in which it was the intent to be prepared to get everything over to the Service-Safety Director sometime within the next week so that the Administration would have it ready before the next City Council meeting. The City Auditor's Office was not involved and did not see the agreements until a couple of weeks before they came to City Council.

Councilman Wobser noted that from conversations with the Service-Safety Director this week and because Council is satisfied that there are no additional major changes in the contract on material or financial matters beyond the main portions, so he is still satisfied with where these contracts sit today.

Ayes: Palmer, Russel, Shindledecker, Slough, Warnecke, Wobser, Greeno, Haas, Niemeyer. The Ordinance was declared adopted and is recorded in Ordinance Volume XXI, Page 2021-103 and is hereby made a part of the record.

ORDINANCE NO. 2021-104 (*OPBA (FPD) contract renewal 2022-2024 (3) years*) **requires three (3) readings** **second reading - adopted**
AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF FINDLAY, OHIO, TO ENTER INTO THREE (3) YEAR CONTRACTS WITH THE OHIO PATROLMANS BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION ON BEHALF OF THE DIVISIONS OF DISPATCH, PATROL OFFICERS, SERGEANTS AND LIEUTENANTS IN THE FINDLAY, OHIO POLICE DEPARTMENT, EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2022, AND EXPIRING DECEMBER 31, 2024, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Discussion:

Councilman Wobser asked if there are any additional questions that would need to be answered in executive session about the Police contracts for this. If not, and if all Councilmembers are satisfied with the contracts as they are, he will make a motion to waive the third reading and adopt this Ordinance tonight. No comments given by the rest of Council.

Councilman Wobser moved to suspend the statutory rules and give the Ordinance its third reading, seconded by Councilman Haas. Ayes: Russel, Shindledecker, Slough, Warnecke, Wobser, Greeno, Haas, Hellmann, Niemeyer, Palmer. The Ordinance received its third reading. Councilman Wobser moved to adopt the Ordinance, seconded by Councilman Greeno. Ayes: Shindledecker, Slough, Warnecke, Wobser, Greeno, Haas, Hellmann, Niemeyer, Palmer, Russel. The Ordinance was declared adopted as amended and is recorded in Ordinance Volume XXI, Page 2021-104 and is hereby made a part of the record.

ORDINANCE NO. 2021-105 (*Londonderry Dr vacation*) **requires three (3) readings** **second reading**
AN ORDINANCE VACATING A CERTAIN PORTION OF A CERTAIN ROAD RIGHT-OF-WAY (HEREINAFTER REFERRED TO AS THE LONDONDERRY DRIVE VACATION) IN THE CITY OF FINDLAY, OHIO.

Second reading of the Ordinance.

ORDINANCE NO. 2021-106 (*Park St/Oakland Ave 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 THE TELA, INC. PARK STREET AND OAKLAND AVENUE REZONE) WHICH PREVIOUSLY WAS ZONED "I-1 LIGHT INDUSTRIAL" TO "R-4 DUPLEX/TRIPLEX, HIGH DENSITY".

Second reading of the Ordinance.

ORDINANCE NO. 2021-107 (*Hancock Public Health Combined Services contract renewal*) **requires three (3) readings** **first reading**
AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE-SAFETY OF THE CITY OF FINDLAY, OHIO TO EXTEND THE CURRENT CONTRACT FOR SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE COMBINATION OF THE HANCOCK COUNTY GENERAL HEALTH DISTRICT AND THE CITY OF FINDLAY HEALTH DEPARTMENT UNTIL DECEMBER 31, 2022, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

First reading of the Ordinance.

ORDINANCE NO. 2021-108 (*2022 Police training grant*) **requires three (3) readings** **first reading - adopted**
AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SERVICE-SAFETY DIRECTOR OF THE CITY OF FINDLAY, OHIO TO EXECUTE THE NECESSARY GRANT APPLICATION AND/OR AGREEMENT TO RECEIVE GRANT FUNDS FROM THE OHIO ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE TO FUND STATE MANDATED POLICE OFFICER TRAINING, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Councilman Russel moved to suspend the statutory rules and give the Ordinance its second and third readings, seconded by Councilwoman Warnecke. Ayes: Slough, Warnecke, Wobser, Greeno, Haas, Hellmann, Niemeyer, Palmer, Russel, Shindledecker. The Ordinance received its second and third readings. Councilman Russel moved to adopt the Ordinance, seconded by Councilman Greeno. Ayes: Warnecke, Wobser, Greeno, Haas, Hellmann, Niemeyer, Palmer, Russel, Shindledecker, Slough. The Ordinance was declared adopted and is recorded in Ordinance Volume XXI, Page 2021-108 and is hereby made a part of the record.

ORDINANCE NO. 2021-109 (*dissolution of the Parking Authority*) **requires three (3) readings** **first reading**
AN ORDINANCE REPEALING CURRENT CHAPTER 147 ET SEQ OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF FINDLAY, OHIO AND DISSOLVING THE PARKING AUTHORITY.

First reading of the Ordinance.

ORDINANCE NO. 2021-110 (*income tax receipts appropriation*) **requires three (3) readings** **first reading**
AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING FUNDS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

First reading of the Ordinance.

ORDINANCE NO. 2021-111 (*Strategic Plan Project*) **requires three (3) readings** **first reading**
AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND/OR SERVICE-SAFETY DIRECTOR OF THE CITY OF FINDLAY, OHIO TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH PLANNING NEXT TO PROVIDE CONSULTING SERVICES AND IMPLEMENTING A STRATEGIC PLAN FOR THE CITY OF FINDLAY, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THERETO, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

First reading of the Ordinance.

ORDINANCE NO. 2021-112 (*Hometown Hero Program*) **requires three (3) readings** **first reading**
AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING FUNDS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. **adopted DURING OLD BUSINESS**

ORDINANCE NO. 2021-113 (*Spring Lake Sanitary upgrade Project No. 35611600*) **requires three (3) reading** **first reading**
AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SERVICE-SAFETY DIRECTOR AND/OR CITY ENGINEER OF THE CITY OF FINDLAY, OHIO TO SIGN AND EXECUTE A GRANT AGREEMENT(S) WITH THE OHIO ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO THE SPRING LAKE SANITARY UPGRADE, DESIGN GRANT, PROJECT NO. 35611600, TO ACCEPT ANY AND ALL FUNDS ASSOCIATED WITH SAID GRANT, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THERETO, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

First reading of the Ordinance.

ORDINANCE NO. 2021-114 (*BRWP Riverside Dam project*) **requires three (3) readings** **first reading**
AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING FUNDS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

First reading of the Ordinance.

ORDINANCE NO. 2021-115 (*Information Systems Mgr pay rate*) **requires three (3) readings** **first reading**
AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND/OR SERVICE-SAFETY DIRECTOR OF THE CITY OF FINDLAY, OHIO TO GRANT AN ADDITIONAL EIGHTEEN PERCENT (18%) SALARY INCREASE FOR THE CURRENT INFORMATION SYSTEMS MANAGER POSITION, WHICH WOULD EXCEED THE ALLOTTED EIGHT PERCENT (8%) OF CURRENT CODIFIED ORDINANCE NO. 2020-121 OF THE CITY OF FINDLAY, OHIO, KNOWN AS THE SALARY ORDINANCE, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Discussion:

Councilwoman Warnecke noted that she read through this ordinance and came to the conclusion based on list of things the employee has done prompting the fact that he should be paid more and that research was done to come to that conclusion of what salary ranges for this type of positions is elsewhere by implying that the City wants to pay him more so that he doesn't go somewhere else, but that she was surprised at the number the City arrived at which isn't up to that range. Service-Safety Director Martin replied that the employee is very talented and Information Technologies is a very crucial part of City Government. The salary range is what was found in market research for municipalities. The reason he is not currently in that range is because, at the time, it was a good starting point, but with wage adjustments throughout the upcoming years, he was not in that range. Councilwoman Warnecke asked how long he has been employed by the City. Service-Safety Director Martin replied that this discussion came up with the same individual back in 2017, so he has been here at least four (4) if not five (5) years.

First reading of the Ordinance

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

OLD BUSINESS:

Councilman Russel moved to reconsider Ordinance No. 2021-112 (*Hometown Hero Program*), seconded by Councilman Wobser. Ayes: Wobser, Greeno, Haas, Hellmann, Niemeyer, Palmer, Russel, Shindledecker, Slough, Warnecke. Councilman Russel moved to suspend the statutory rules and give the Ordinance its second and third readings, seconded by Councilman Greeno. Ayes: Greeno, Haas, Hellmann, Niemeyer, Palmer, Russel, Shindledecker, Slough, Warnecke, Wobser. The Ordinance received its second and third readings. Councilman Greeno moved to adopt the Ordinance, seconded by Councilman Slough. Ayes: Haas, Hellmann, Niemeyer, Palmer, Russel, Shindledecker, Slough, Warnecke, Wobser, Greeno. The Ordinance was declared adopted and is recorded in Ordinance Volume XXI, Page 2021-112 and is hereby made a part of the record.

Councilman Hellmann asked if there is anything else that the City is obligated to do besides what City Auditor Staschiak mentioned during the discussion of Ordinance No. 2021-109 (*dissolution of the Parking Authority*) to inform all members of the Parking Authority of their responsibilities that they have so that they are fully aware of what City Auditor Staschiak made Council aware of before dissolving that authority. Mayor Muryn replied that all the members of the Parking Authority are well aware of their responsibilities and are covered by other areas, but there will be more than one reading on the legislation that will allow for additional conversations on it. From an auditing standpoint, it more convenient to have a report from the Parking Authority than to dissolve it. It would not be difficult to have the Parking Authority get together for a brief meeting to dissolve the organization and move forward with it because there have been conversations about it no longer being needed in the eyes of the organizations that have previously been involved.

Councilman Wobser noted that he looks forward to approving the Resolution to fund Planning NEXT as the City's Strategic Planning partner as it a good choice. They are a great group. The City is moving forward on conversations on planning for Strategic Planning in another week.

Councilman Wobser thanked Service-Safety Director Martin, Mayor Muryn, and Law Director Rasmussen for their hard work coming to an agreement with the approval of the Fire and Police union contracts. It is never an easy process. How the finances worked out was very difficult. One of the reasons Council suspended the rules and approved the contracts early was to let the Firefighters and Police Officers know how much they are appreciated in that they protect our city. By approving the contracts, it shows the City's commitment, and citizens commitment, to those two (2) organizations.

Mayor Muryn requested Lauren Sandu, Coordinator for the Blanchard River Watershed Partnership (BRWP) speak to Council tonight for a few minutes about the project and the reason for the appropriation request. The legislation on it (Ordinance No. 2021-114) was up for its first reading tonight in support of allocating eighty thousand dollars (\$80,000.00) from the ARPA Funds towards the Blanchard River Watershed dam project.

Lauren Sandu introduced herself and reminded Council that the project for the Riverside Dam at Riverside Park in the City of Findlay has built up quite a bit of sediment behind the dam over time. It has been proposed that the sediment be removed and that the dam be modified to allow for fish passage. The sediment has created a water quality issue, so the depth of that area of the river, which is right around the boat launch, is run by the Hancock Park District boating. Recreational activities have been affected because of the sediment buildup. It has decreased the water depth. Sediment creates a water quality issue that affects fish, fishing, and recreational activities. It can also potentially cause problems for water treatment. Excess water sediment can be difficult to get rid of and can increase costs for water treatment. It can cause issues with odor and taste in the water and is a significant problem with water quality. Back in 2016, the engineering firm, Hall & Associates had evaluated the problem behind the Riverside dam, and tested the sediment to see if any pollutants or anything like that was present. At that time, there weren't any pollutants or anything toxic in the sediment to be concerned about. Over the last few years, the BRWP has been working to get this project off the ground. One of the roadblocks has been that a lot of the grants that have been pursued to get the project done will not fund an engineering study. In order for this project to take place in a correct manner, a detailed engineering study is needed to evaluate if and how that sediment build up behind the dam in the old reservoir area should be dealt with, as well as, if and how the Riverside dam should be modified. They have received feasibility estimates from several engineering firms and feel that Hall & Associates feasibility study and estimate is the most appropriate one to go with. Their cost is eighty thousand dollars (\$80,000.00). The BRWP is entirely grant funded, so a lot of the grants that the BRWP has attempted to apply for do not fund an engineering studies, so they came to the City to see if an engineering study could be funded with City funds.

Upon Hall & Associates completing the engineering study, there would then be some type of wrap up meeting with the BRWP and the City of Findlay to see how the project should proceed and if it even should proceed. If Hall & Associates reveals that there are any issues, or structural issues with the dam that are unforeseen, all of it would be revealed with the engineering study.

Mayor Muryn added that this was discussed in the APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE meeting prior to that. She also discussed this with Councilman Wobser, Commissioner Pepple, and a number of others that are involved with the BRWP to look into what additional funding would need to occur in order to make this move forward. If ARPA dollars will be used, this will not be asked to move forward as the City Auditor is working through a process of modifying the certificate which will allow the City to use those funds. There are also conversations going on with the County for them to also put in eighty thousand dollars (\$80,000.00) potentially from the ARPA dollars to do the engineering and the pre-construction so that it is ready to be eligible and ready for grants. Conversations have been taking place with the County for them to contribute to this project.

Councilman Hellmann asked if something in writing is needed from City Council before an official action is taken on this. Mayor Muryn replied that Ordinance No. 2021-114 on this was up for its first reading tonight and Ms. Sandu came tonight to provide some background on it. It is anticipated that action to adopt it would most likely be taken at one of the upcoming meetings. The APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE did recommend approval of the legislation.

City Auditor Staschiak informed Council that the City received the certificate back from the County today. There are two (2) pieces of legislation that received their first readings tonight, one being this project and the other is to update and appropriate the Income Tax Fund, so both of them can go forward.

NEW BUSINESS:

Councilman Russel: **PLANNING & ZONING COMMITTEE** meeting on Wednesday, November 10, 2021 at 11:00am in the first floor Council Office of the Municipal Building (CO). *NOTE: the usual meeting date of November 11, 2021 (Thursday) is the Veteran's Day holiday, so the meeting is scheduled for the day before. There is conflict with the usual meeting time of 12:00pm, so it will be at 11:00am instead.*

agenda: 116 Laquino St rezone

Mayor Muryn thanked Service-Safety Director Martin, Fire Chief Eberle, Police Chief Ring, Union Representatives and individuals that were involved in the negotiations of the new contracts. Negotiating the contracts for Police, Fire and Dispatch is not an easy task, but were very fortunate to have the Administration and the involvement of Council in order to move forward, building a respect level. The negotiations provided a conversation on how to best move forward in finding common ground to both compensate City employees appropriately, as well as continue to ensure the City is in a strong financial position. The structure the union agreements have is very unique and very well positioned in order to continue to be a strong community from a financial standpoint and an overall compensation of City employees, which speaks volumes. She thanked Council for supporting the union contracts.

Mayor Muryn reminded Council that the Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) summary is available online. It is great to see how the City is performing and how the City measures and tracks itself, holding themselves accountable which is unusual for government. She asked Council to let her know of any other feedback that they might want to see indicators on.

Mayor Muryn informed Council that the Veteran's Day parade is this Sunday, November 7, 2021 at 2:00pm. Councilmembers are welcome to participate in it.

Mayor Muryn noted that budgets are going well and will be sharing them with Council in the near future.

Mayor Muryn announced that the City of Findlay received one million eight hundred thousand dollars (\$1,800,000.00) from the Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Grants through the State of Ohio which will be a significant investment in Capital projects that are planned over the next couple of years which will better position the City. She thanked Service-Safety Director Martin, City Engineer Kalb, and Water Treatment Superintendent Phillips for making it happen and getting it submitted.

Mayor Muryn announced that the City received seven hundred fifty-five thousand four hundred dollars (\$755,400.00) from the State of Ohio towards the STRICT center. All of the funds needed have been received to be able to move forward with construction next year. Both the private and public support received for this project is appreciated. It will be a game changer for local safety services. Support has been received from local corporations, businesses, from the local volunteer firefighter community, local Firefighters, as well as the State of Ohio. There will be another announcement on it from another entity in the next couple of days. It will now be well-positioned to get that project completed, moving forward, and fully operational to serve the community. The City is always watching for grant opportunities to leverage dollars and the cash position of matching funds to be able to put some of the City's own skin in the game is truly important. Council will continue to see some of those dollars coming in as the City makes investments and leverage those dollars that are coming down from the State and Federal Government.

Councilman Russel moved to adjourn, seconded by Councilman Niemeyer. All were in favor. Meeting adjourned at 8:00pm.

CLERK OF COUNCIL

COUNCIL PRESIDENT