

FINDLAY CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

REGULAR SESSION

DECEMBER 7, 2021

COUNCIL CHAMBERS

ROLL CALL of 2020-2021 Councilmembers:

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

ABSENT: Warnecke

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

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 November 16, 2021 Regular Session City Council meeting minutes, seconded by Councilman Palmer. All were in favor. Motion carried. Filed.
- Councilman Slough moved to accept the November 16, 2021 Public Hearing minutes to rezone Tela, Inc. (Park Street and Oakland Avenue) via Ordinance No. 2021-106, seconded by Councilman Shindledecker. All were in favor. Filed.

ADD-ON/REPLACEMENT/REMOVAL FROM THE AGENDA:

Councilman Russel moved to add-on the following on tonight's agenda, seconded by Councilman Palmer. Filed.

ADD-ONS:

1. Letter from Fire Chief Eberle – FY2021 Assistance to Firefighter Grant (AFG) to replace 65 sections of fire hose and 7 mobile radios on fire apparatus (**REPORTS OF MUNICIPAL OFFICERS AND MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENTS section**)
2. Ordinance No. 2021-121 – FY2021 Assistance to Firefighter Grant (AFG) to replace 65 sections of fire hose and 7 mobile radios on fire apparatus (**LEGISLATION section**)

PROCLAMATIONS: none

RECOGNITION/RETIREMENT RESOLUTIONS: none

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS: none

PETITIONS:

Zoning amendment request - 0 South Main Street

Alley vacation request – Findlay Commerce Park 4th Addition Heartland Court Right-of-Way

Phillip Rooney, on behalf of the petitioner, KGD Properties, Ltd is requesting a vacation of the entire length of Heartland Court (Lots 5,6,8, and 9). Referred to City Planning Commission and Planning & Zoning Committee. Filed.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS: none

REPORTS OF MUNICIPAL OFFICERS AND MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENTS:

Board of Zoning Appeals minutes – October 14, 2021. Filed.

Service-Safety Director Martin – Airport fuel budget appropriation

Due to the high volume of jet fuel sales at the Findlay Airport, an additional appropriation of twenty-one thousand dollars (\$21,000.00) is requested to supplement the Airport's budget through year end. These additional funds allow for the Airport to continue to purchase fuel for resale. Higher than usual cargo operations at the Airport have driven the need to have adequate jet fuel volume on hand to ensure they meet the demand. Legislation to appropriate funds is requested. Ordinance No. 2021-119 was created.

FROM:	Airport Fund	\$ 21,000.00
TO:	Airport Operations Budget #25010000-other	\$ 21,000.00

Discussion:

Councilman Wobser asked if there is enough fuel in stock to get through until the next City Council meeting on December 21, 2021 of if this Ordinance needs to be adopted tonight. Service-Safety Director Martin replied there is enough fuel to get through until the next City Council meeting, but would prefer that Council adopt the legislation at the next City Council meeting so that there is enough to get through the end of the year into the first of next year. Cargo is up which means jet fuel sales are up, which is a good thing. It is a governmental accounting practice that the City has to go through. Councilman Wobser asked if the City makes money from this. Service-Safety Director Martin replied yes. The City averages about four (4) cargo shipments a week that are coming in off hours, which is a good thing. Filed.

Service-Safety Director Martin – transfer of funds for tornado siren repair

Earlier this year, the tornado siren on Township Road 237 was struck by a car. The insurance settlement was thirteen thousand two hundred ten dollars and seventy-five cents (\$13,210.75). The City was notified by the vendor that the costs to repair the equipment have increased to be a final repair cost of fourteen thousand one hundred twelve dollars and eighty-one cents (\$14,112.81) which is insufficient to complete the repair. A transfer of one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) is being requested from the Police Department budget to the Disaster Service budget to complete the repair. Legislation to transfer funds is requested. Resolution No. 022-2021 was created.

FROM: Police Department Budget #21012000 \$ 1,000.00
TO: Disaster Services Budget #21013000 \$ 1,000.00

Discussion:

Councilman Wobser asked if the insurance payment back to the City could be increased. Service-Safety Director Martin replied that the insurance claim was filed which is the dollar amount the insurance gave to the City, but the timeline caused this expense with the supply chain to actually exceed what was budgeted. Filed.

Officer/Shareholders Disclosure Form from the Ohio Department of Commerce Division of Liquor Control for Speedway LLC dba Speedway 8502, 3730 Speedway Drive, Findlay, Ohio for C1, C2, and D6 liquor permits. This requires a vote of Council.

Robert K. Ring, Chief of Police – Speedway LLC dba Speedway 8502, 3730 Speedway Drive, Findlay, Ohio. A check of the records shows no current criminal record on the following:

- Timothy T. Griffith
- Glenn M. Plumby
- David E. Ball
- Carina Eckard Duffy

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

Officer/Shareholders Disclosure Form from the Ohio Department of Commerce Division of Liquor Control for Speedway LLC dba Speedway 1217, 1415 South Main Street, Findlay, Ohio for C1, C2, and D6 liquor permits. This requires a vote of Council.

Robert K. Ring, Chief of Police – Speedway LLC dba Speedway 1217, 1415 South Main Street, Findlay, Ohio. A check of the records shows no current criminal record on the following:

- Timothy T. Griffith
- Glenn M. Plumby
- David E. Ball
- Carina Eckard Duffy

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

Officer/Shareholders Disclosure Form from the Ohio Department of Commerce Division of Liquor Control for Speedway LLC dba Speedway 5282, 752 Trenton Avenue, Findlay, Ohio for C1 and C2 liquor permits. This requires a vote of Council.

Robert K. Ring, Chief of Police – Speedway LLC dba Speedway 5282, 752 Trenton Avenue, Findlay, Ohio. A check of the records shows no current criminal record on the following:

- Timothy T. Griffith
- Glenn M. Plumby
- David E. Ball
- Carina Eckard Duffy

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

Discussion:

Councilman Hellmann noted that there have been a lot of liquor permit requests from gas stations at each City Council meeting lately and asked if that is a trend across the state or across the country. He asked if there is a reason for all the liquor permits recently. Councilman Russel replied that these are just renewals. Mayor Muryn added that these are the renewals that they have to do every so often. They are making sure that they are in compliance and that there is no criminal activity occurring. They are routine renewals. President of Council Harrington noted that Marathon sold the Speedway division that is now owned by 7eleven and asked if that would require new applications. Mayor Muryn replied no, that is not how liquor control licenses are handled. All were in favor. Filed.

Council President Harrington – Local Board of Tax Review appointments

Pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 718.11 (A)(2)(HB5), the legislative authority of any municipal corporation that imposes tax on income shall maintain a Local Board of Tax Review of which members shall be appointed by the legislative authority of that municipal corporation. Ohio Revised Code Section 71811 (A)(3) further states that the term for members of the Local Board of Tax Review appointed by the legislative authority of the municipal corporation shall be for two (2) years. Council President Harrington’s appointments are Douglas Huffman and Patrick Sadowski to serve on this committee beginning January 1, 2022. They are practicing attorneys in Findlay and have indicated a willingness to serve in this capacity. Their term will end December 31, 2023. These appointments require confirmation by Council.

Discussion:

Councilman Slough moved to confirm these appointments, seconded by Councilman Hellmann. All were in favor. Filed.

City Engineer Kalb – HAN-Greenway Trail Phase II PID109009 Project No. 31993800

As part of the Greenway Trail Phase II project, a right-of-way acquisition consultant is needed to perform the necessary steps required by ODOT in order to obtain the temporary and permanent right-of-way that is needed to complete the project. The Professional Services line item within the Engineering operating budget has adequate funds to cover the cost of the consultant’s fees. Legislation to transfer appropriated funds from the Engineering operating budget to the Greenway Trail Phase II project is requested to ensure that project costs are accurately accounted for. Resolution No. 023-2021 was created.

FROM: Engineering #2102000-Other \$ 40,000.00
TO: HAN-Greenway Trail Phase II PID109009 Project No. 31993800 \$ 40,000.00

Filed.

City Engineer Kalb – ODOT FY22 Resurfacing (Bright Rd Phase II) Project No. 31993800

The City of Findlay Engineering Department is finishing up plans for ODOT FY22 Resurfacing. This project will be the resurfacing of Bright Road from Tiffin Avenue to Fostoria Avenue. Construction for this project will not be until the 2022 construction season, but the City of Findlay Engineering Department would like to bid the project as soon as the plans are completed. Legislation authorizing the Service-Safety Director and/or City Engineer to advertise for bids, enter into contracts for construction, and appropriate and transfer funds is requested. Ordinance No. 2021-120 was created.

FROM: CIT Fund – Capital Improvements Restricted Account \$ 1,000.00
TO: ODOT FY22 Resurfacing (Bright Road Phase II) Project No. 31993800 \$ 1,000.00

Filed.

City Income Tax Monthly Collection Report – November 2021. Filed.

Findlay Fire Department Activities Report – November 2021. Filed.

City Planning Commission agenda – November 10, 2021, December 9, 2021; minutes –October 14, 2021. Filed.

Mayor Muryn – various boards and commission appointments

Mayor Muryn is requesting appointments to the following boards and commission:

Blanchard Valley Port Authority – requires Council’s confirmation

Kirby Overton (filling the unexpired term of Amy Hackenberg)

Term will expire on June 30, 2022

Councilman Slough moved to approve these appointments, seconded by Councilman Hellmann. All were in favor. Filed.

Board of Zoning Appeals – requires Council’s confirmation

Kerry Trombly, Blaine Wells

Term will expire December 31, 2025

Alex Treece – Alternate 1, Brody Yingling – Alternate 2

Term will expire December 31, 2024

Councilman Russel moved to approve these appointments, seconded by Councilman Wobser. Ayes: Greeno, Haas, Hellmann, Niemeyer, Palmer, Russel, Shindledecker, Wobser. Abstain: Slough. Filed.

Downtown Design Review Board – requires Council’s confirmation

Charles Gerringier, Eric VanRenterghem, Tim Mayle, Heather Clow

Term will expire December 31, 2024

Councilman Russel moved to approve these appointments, seconded by Councilman Greeno.

Discussion:

Councilman Wobser asked if there are any concerns with Tim Mayle being on this board given his position with the Alliance. Mayor Muryn replied no. He has already been serving on this board. The purpose of this board is to make sure that the businesses within the downtown district are continuing to meet the aesthetics and overall standards that the City would like for the downtown to have. It is important to have someone that is tasked with the responsibility of making sure that downtown is vibrant and one of their core competencies, as well as businesses and stakeholders of the community. Tim is an appropriate fit for this position and he did express his willingness to continue to serve and is an asset to the board. All were in favor. Filed.

Hancock Regional Planning Commission – requires Council’s confirmation

Dan Seman, Tristin Kilgallon

Term will expire on December 31, 2023

Councilman Russel moved to approve these appointments, seconded by Councilman Hellmann. All were in favor. Filed.

Revolving Loan Fund Board – requires Council’s confirmation

Blair Lane, Joe Mayberry, Chris Keller, Matthew Klein

Terms will expire on December 31, 2023

Councilman Wobser moved to approve these appointments, seconded by Councilman Hellmann. All were in favor. Filed.

Mayor Muryn – various boards and commission appointments

Mayor Muryn is requesting appointments to the following boards and commission:

Airport Advisory Board – does not require Council's confirmation

Gary Junker

Term will expire on December 31, 2024

Civil Service Commission – does not require Council's confirmation

Jeff Fort

Term will expire on December 31, 2027

Local Board of Tax Review – does not require Council's confirmation

John Pinski

Term will expire on December 31, 2023

Parks and Recreation Board – does not require Council's confirmation

Jim Seebald

Term will expire on December 31, 2024

Shade Tree Commission – does not require Council's confirmation

Kellie Bibler (filling unexpired term of Jennifer Pullen)

Terms will expire on December 31, 2022

Filed.

President of Council Harrington – Council Representative appointment for Hancock Regional Planning Commission Board

President of Council Harrington is appointing Luke Siefring to the Hancock Regional Planning Commission Board. His appointment will fill the expired term of Robert Nichols whose term expires the end of this year. Luke's appointment will be effective through December 31, 2023. This appointment requires Council's confirmation.

Discussion:

Councilman Russel moved to accept the appointment, seconded by Councilman Shindledecker. All were in favor. Filed.

Findlay Police Department Activities Report – November 2021. Filed.

Hancock Regional Planning Commission Grant Administrator Essinger – CDBG Fair Housing & Administration update of agreements

The Hancock Regional Planning Commission (HRPC) is preparing the annual Fair Housing and Administration contracts for the Findlay Hope House and Hancock Regional Planning Commission respectively. Both the Fair Housing Program services and administration services are requirements under the Ohio Department of Development's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program. HRPC will be preparing the yearly Fair Housing and Administration contracts and submitting them to Mayor Muryn for approval. Legislation authorizing the Mayor to execute an agreement with Findlay Hope House and an agreement with HRPC to provide services related to the CDBG projects for program years 2022 and 2023 is requested. Resolution No. 025-2021 was created. Filed.

Fire Chief Eberle – FY2021 Assistant to Firefighters Grant

The application period for the FY2021 Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) is open until December 18, 2021, therefore, authorization to submit an application to replace sixty-five (65) sections of fire hose and seven (7) mobile radios for Fire Department fire apparatuses is requested. The AFG program is a very competitive grant that the City of Findlay has been fortunate to receive funding numerous times in the past. There are no guarantees of funding with awards not expected to be announced until mid-year 2022. The local match for any application is ten percent (10%) of the total cost. Approximate cost of the fire hose is fifteen thousand five hundred dollars (\$15,500.00) and the radio request is forty-four thousand dollars (\$44,000.00) for a total application request of fifty-nine thousand five hundred dollars (\$59,500.00). If awarded, the City's financial responsibility would be approximately five thousand nine hundred fifty dollars (\$5,950.00). Due to the application deadline, Council's approval is requested during tonight's meeting in order to submit the application. No allocation of funds is needed at this time. Once the grant is received, it can then be determined if the local match should come from the Fire Department operational budget or from Capital Improvement Funds. Legislation to apply for said grant is requested. Ordinance No. 2021-121 was created. Filed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

An **AD HOC COMMITTEE** met on November 29, 2021 to review Council's Rules of Procedures for the 2022-2023 Council term.

We recommend to remove the Parking Authority if necessary from Council's Rules of Procedure and to continue discussion on assignments with individual members.

Councilman Russel moved to adopt the committee report, seconded by Councilman Greeno. All were in favor. Filed.

LEGISLATION:

RESOLUTIONS:

RESOLUTION NO. 022-2021 (*tornado siren repair*) **requires three (3) readings**

first reading - adopted

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

RESOLUTION NO. 023-2021 (*HAN-Greenway Trail Phase II PID109009*) **requires three (3) readings**

first reading - adopted

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

Discussion:

Councilman Russel noted that City Engineer Kalb desires to have this taken care of tonight so that part of this project can continue and be set for 2022.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 024-2021 (*no PO/over PO amount*) **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 Wobser moved to adopt the Resolution, seconded by Councilman Palmer. Ayes: Palmer, Russel, Shindledecker, Slough, Wobser, Greeno, Haas, Hellmann, Niemeyer. The Resolution was declared adopted and is recorded in Resolution Volume XXXIV, and is hereby made a part of the record.

RESOLUTION NO. 025-2021 (*CDBG – fair housing services agreement*) **requires three (3) readings**

first reading - adopted

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF FINDLAY, HANCOCK COUNTY, STATE OF OHIO TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT WITH FINDLAY HOPE HOUSE FOR THE HOMELESS, INC. TO PROVIDE FAIR HOUSING SERVICES FOR RESIDENTS OF THE CITY OF FINDLAY BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2022.

Discussion:

Councilman Russel noted that this is to authorize the Mayor to enter into the agreement for this and that there will be no money moving around.

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

ORDINANCES:

ORDINANCE NO. 2021-107 (*Hancock Public Health Combined Services contract renewal*) **requires three (3) readings**

third reading - adopted

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.

Councilman Slough moved to adopt the Ordinance, seconded by Councilman Greeno. Ayes: Slough, Wobser, Greeno, Haas, Hellmann, Niemeyer, Palmer, Russel, Shindledecker. The Ordinance was declared adopted and is recorded in Ordinance Volume XXI, Page 2021-107 and is hereby made a part of the record.

ORDINANCE NO. 2021-109 (*dissolution of the Parking Authority*) **requires three (3) readings**

third reading - adopted

AN ORDINANCE REPEALING CURRENT CHAPTER 147 ET SEQ OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF FINDLAY, OHIO AND DISSOLVING THE PARKING AUTHORITY.

Councilman Russel moved to adopt the Ordinance, seconded by Councilman Niemeyer.

Discussion:

Councilman Wobser noted that there were some questions brought up about this in a past meeting and asked if Councilmembers are comfortable with dissolving the Parking Authority given the concerns that were raised earlier. No response given from other Councilmembers.

Ayes: Greeno, Haas, Hellmann, Niemeyer, Palmer, Russel, Shindledecker, Slough. Nays: Wobser. The Ordinance was declared adopted and is recorded in Ordinance Volume XXI, Page 2021-109 and is hereby made a part of the record.

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

Councilman Wobser moved to adopt the Ordinance, seconded by Councilman Slough. Ayes: Greeno, Haas, Hellmann, Niemeyer, Palmer, Russel, Shindledecker, Slough, Wobser. The Ordinance was declared adopted and is recorded in Ordinance Volume XXI, Page 2021-110 and is hereby made a part of the record.

ORDINANCE NO. 2021-115 (*Information Systems Mgr pay rate*) **requires three (3) readings** **third reading - adopted**
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.

Councilman Hellmann moved to adopt the Ordinance, seconded by Councilman Slough. Ayes: Haas, Hellmann, Niemeyer, Palmer, Russel, Shindledecker, Slough, Wobser, Greeno. The Ordinance was declared adopted and is recorded in Ordinance Volume XXI, Page 2021-115 and is hereby made a part of the record.

ORDINANCE NO. 2021-116 (*salary ordinance*) **requires three (3) readings** **second reading**
AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING JOB CLASSIFICATIONS, PAY RANGES, SALARY SCHEDULES AND OTHER MATTERS THAT MAY AFFECT PAY, FOR ALL NON-ELECTED OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE FINDLAY, OHIO, AND REPEALING ORDINANCE NO. 2020-121, ORDINANCE NO. 2021-042, ORDINANCE NO. 2021-068, ORDINANCE NO. 2021-097 AND ALL OTHER ORDINANCES AND/OR PARTS OF ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HEREWITH, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Second reading of the Ordinance.

ORDINANCE NO. 2021-117 (*ee payroll deductions for HSA*) **requires three (3) readings** **second reading**
AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE AUDITOR TO MAKE PAYROLL DEDUCTIONS FOR THOSE EMPLOYEES WHO HAVE ELECTED TO ENROLL IN THE HEALTH SAVINGS ACCOUNT (HSA) PLAN AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Second reading of the Ordinance.

ORDINANCE NO. 2021-119 (*Airport fuel budget appropriation*) **requires three (3) readings** **first reading**
AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING FUNDS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

First reading of the Ordinance.

ORDINANCE NO. 2021-120 (*ODOT FY22 Resurfacing (Bright Rd Phase II)*) **requires three (3) readings** **first reading**
AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SERVICE-SAFETY DIRECTOR AND/OR CITY ENGINEER OF THE CITY OF FINDLAY, OHIO, TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS AND ENTER INTO CONTRACTS FOR CONSTRUCTION COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FY22 RESURFACING (BRIGHT ROAD, PHASE II) PROJECT NO. 31993800, APPROPRIATING AND TRANSFERRING FUNDS, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

First reading of the Ordinance.

ORDINANCE NO. 2021-121 (*FY21021 Assistant to Firefighters Grant*) **requires three (3) readings** **first reading – adopted**
AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SERVICE-SAFETY DIRECTOR OF THE CITY OF FINDLAY, OHIO TO FILE AN APPLICATION FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY ASSISTANCE TO FIREFIGHTER’S GRANT (AFG), ALONG WITH THE CITY OF FINDLAY’S TEN PERCENT (10%) MATCH, TO REPLACE SECTIONS OF FIRE HOSE AND MOBILE AND PORTABLE RADIOS FOR THE FINDLAY FIRE DEPARTMENT, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Discussion:

Councilman Russel noted that Council does not generally like to suspend the statutory rules and give legislation its second and third readings for add-on legislation, but that this is an application for a grant that allows for the ability of the City to receive back on their investment, and because the application deadline is December 18, 2021 which is before the next City Council meeting.

Councilman Russel moved to suspend the statutory rules and give the Ordinance its second and third readings, seconded by Councilman Shindledecker. Ayes: Hellmann, Niemeyer, Palmer, Russel, Shindledecker, Slough, Wobser, Greeno, Haas. The Ordinance received its second and third readings. Councilman Greeno moved to adopt the Ordinance, seconded by Councilman Russel. Ayes: Niemeyer, Palmer, Russel, Shindledecker, Slough, Wobser, Greeno, Haas, Hellmann. The Ordinance was declared adopted and is recorded in Ordinance Volume XXI, Page 2021-121 and is hereby made a part of the record.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

OLD BUSINESS:

City Auditor Staschiak reminded Council of what was brought up about a month and a half ago, that at the next City Council meeting, there will be a fiscal cleanup ordinance to comply with all statutory laws and rules that the City Auditor has to follow up on. That ordinance will need to pass at that next City Council meeting in order to keep the books clean and keep the City in order and proper for audit.

City Auditor Staschiak informed Council that the budget book was distributed tonight to Councilmembers and that he will be working on the digital form of the budget presentation book tomorrow and that it should be posted by the end of business tomorrow. City departments will be returning approximately two million four hundred thousand dollars (\$2,400,000.00) in unused funds from their budgets that will be added to the current projected unappropriated balance, along with the income tax receipts appropriation ordinance that was passed tonight, bringing it to an approximate total of nineteen thousand seven hundred dollars (\$19,700.00) as a carry-forward balance beginning next year which is a good start with twenty-six million seven hundred thousand dollars (\$26,700,000.00) in revenue. After taking into an account of all potential retirements for this budget cycle, there will be approximately forty-five million dollars (\$45,000,000.00) in resources going into next year which is the largest amount of resources the City has ever had. A large part of that is due to the Federal Government's packages that have been passed and money that they have provided to the City, as well as the Bureau of Workers Compensation. The City is walking into a strong position as expected. He looks forward to Council's budget hearings next week to see the rest of the details.

NEW BUSINESS:

Councilman Russel noted that there will not be a PLANNING & ZONING COMMITTEE meeting in December this year. The next meeting will be in January 2022.

Mayor Muryn thanked City Auditor Staschiak for pointing out the wonderful work City departments have done and are grateful for the Federal support that the City will put those dollars to use. The two million four hundred thousand dollars (\$2,400,000.00) that will be added to the cash balance is due to the hard work that City employees do each and every day. She is very proud of them. Her letter in the budget book specifically calls that out. The City is presenting a deficit budget, but continue to manage the City's finances and adjust as the year goes by. The City always ensures that they are operating at the level that citizens deserve and expect, and adjust as needed by trusting the expertise and management of the City's department heads. The Administration went through the preparation of next week's budget hearing with the team today and she is excited to share with Council all that was accomplished this past year. The multitude of projects and plans that have been set for 2022 have been a rough almost two (2) years, but are excited and well positioned to move the City forward.

Mayor Muryn noted that the City of Findlay, along with the Maumee Watershed Conservancy District, who has been acting as a leader for flood mitigation efforts in conjunction with the County and City, have received seven million one hundred thousand dollars (\$7,100,000.00) from the Federal Government through the Raise Grant Program. Findlay was the only funded project in the State of Ohio through the infrastructure dollars to do improvements to the Norfolk Southern Railroad bridge that poses a significant impact during flood events. Once that railroad bridge is improved (raise it, expand it and move it out of the waterway), the City will have received over a half foot of benefit in a hundred-year storm event. While this is referenced as a one hundred (100) year storm event, it is actually more significant in smaller events. This is an exciting event that the City is very grateful for all the support from the City's corporate partners calling and showing their support, written letters from the Federal Government, State Representatives, State Senators, and local entities that supported the effort. It was a team action who got it done. She is very excited for what that means for the community. The City of Findlay also put out a request for qualifications (RFQ) for a firm to assist with designing what amenities and benefit that can be put within the benching area. The City of Findlay has acquired and demolished a number of projects along the northeast side of the Blanchard River and Main Street. That area is primarily held for flood mitigation, so by having this expansive space, some amenities can be added that may look like an amphitheater, walking paths, splash pads, etc. It will be a number of things compliant with the deed restrictions on those properties and want to make sure it is usable space in the heart of downtown. The City is looking for a firm to assist in brainstorming on what that can look like within the parameters formed and move forward.

Mayor Muryn pointed out that there were a lot of Boards and Commissions appointments on tonight's agenda. She received a great response from the community and was a different way going about it seeking individuals that wanted to serve on a board or commission. There were approximately fifty (50) individuals that applied, so not everyone could participate which is disappointing, but she did follow up with them and shared with them that there are other ways for them to get involved with the opportunity to be on the Community Outreach Team for the Strategic Plan. The Community Outreach Team application is available on the City's website to either be completed via hard copy, or digital completion via a Google form. That application is due next Monday, December 13, 2021. She asked STRATEGIC COMMITTEE members to share it with their networks (i.e. church groups, Kiwanis, etc.) to have them complete it and submit it. A diverse representation of the community is desired, based off of geography age, demographics, gender, etc. to ensure that all voices in the community are heard. All of the individuals who were not able to serve on a board or commission were invited to participate on the community outreach team. The next STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE meeting will be on January 11, 2022 with planning NEXT to discuss next steps. They will be in town to meet with a number of businesses, along with the STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE, to have a discussion with the majority of the committee and then have follow up discussions with Councilmembers. It is still at the front-end of the STRATEGIC PLANNING process. She asked committee members to indicate if they will be able/unable to attend. There is a number of things that they have asked the City to coordinate for them. They will meet with the STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE that afternoon and then will be meeting with various departments and other community organizations while they are in town.

Mayor Muryn noted that there was legislation on tonight's agenda related to an accident on CR 237. The City is working with ODOT on improvements at the intersection of 237/224. Even though that is not in the City limits, it is a problem area in the community that ODOT recognizes and is partnering with the City and coordinating with Blanchard Valley for improvements in that area. Councilman Slough asked if the improvement will include a traffic light. Mayor Muryn replied it will.

Mayor Muryn informed Council that the State Governor's Office announced that there will be State Grant funding in the amount of two hundred fifty million dollars (\$250,000,000.00) for safety services and first responders. The City will be applying for those funds locally. Information on it is available in the newspaper and WFIN.

Mayor Muryn pointed out that today is December 7th (Remembrance Day). It is the eightieth (80th) anniversary of the attacks on Pearl Harbor where two thousand three hundred four (2,304) U.S. citizens were killed that day. She asked Council to join her for a moment of silence in remembrance for those individuals whose lives were lost. It was a dark day in our Country's history and is a time to remember how history plays a part in our future.

Councilman Wobser reiterated what Mayor Muryn stated about both City Council and the Administration to send out the link to get people involved with the application for the STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMUNICATIONS group that will play a vital role in the process. Twenty-nine (29) individuals have applied. It was not the most optimal time to start this as it was Thanksgiving time and now Christmas is fast approaching. He asked Councilmembers to send information out to email lists and to get involved with their groups. He recommended putting the information out to social media groups to obtain diversity and age. He extended the January 11, 2022 meeting with planning Next to all of City Council even though it is designated for the STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE to come and ask questions. It will be an informative meeting to kick off the process.

Councilman Hellmann congratulated Mayor Muryn on her recognition that was mentioned in today's newspaper on the U.S. Global Leadership Coalition honoring her for the work she has done in advocating for leadership and her help with strengthening communities.

President of Council Harrington reminded Councilmembers that they need to be sworn-in prior to the first meeting of next year. Mayor Muryn has agreed to swear anyone in that wants to be prior to the next City Council meeting on December 21, 2021. Those that will not be doing so will need to make their own arrangements to get that done elsewhere.

President of Council Harrington expressed Council's condolences on the death of City Auditor Staschiak's and Council Clerk DeVore's fathers.

President of Council Harrington informed Council that on the desk in the Council Office are a couple of documents that Councilmembers need to review and sign. One of the documents lists each Councilmember's information including the school district they live in. The other is for the Ohio Sunshine Law training that is to be completed each City Council term. This form is to be signed by each Councilmember designating Councilman Russel to take the online training on their behalf.

President of Council Harrington complimented Dorney Plaza's Christmas tree. It is the nicest Christmas tree that he has seen. Mayor Muryn added that the Davis family donated the tree from their property right outside of McComb in which case Mrs. Davis's father was the City Auditor at one point in time. The blue spruce tree is approximately forty-five feet (45') tall. It was actually taller, but had to be trimmed down because the base was too big for the City's system in the courtyard. The City's Public Works team put the tree up and put sixty thousand (60,000) lights on it. The City's Computer Services team created a time lapse video by downloading footage of it being brought in, decorated and lit. While it was a lot of fun, it was a little stressful for her to watch from her office window. Latham Courtyard also started putting up lights this week to add some pizzazz to downtown given that Santa is not making himself available this year in downtown Findlay, nor the carriage rides with some business issues that occurred there. There is a nice walkway through Latham Courtyard thanks to owner Mr. Heck allowing the City to decorate some trees in that area. Councilman Wobser added that the Millstream students made the star that is on the top of the Christmas tree. Mayor Muryn added that the diameter of the toper is forty inches (40") and weighed approximately forty pounds (40#) when it was constructed, but that they attached it to a six foot (6') steel pole to be fastened to the tree and ended up weighing two hundred pounds (200#).

Councilman Wobser moved to adjourn, seconded by Councilman Slough. All were in favor. Meeting adjourned at 7:52pm.

CLERK OF COUNCIL

COUNCIL PRESIDENT