

# FINDLAY CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

**REGULAR SESSION**

**March 7, 2017**

**COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

**PRESENT:** Frische, Harrington, Hellmann, Klein, Monday, Niemeyer, Russel, Shindledecker, Watson

**ABSENT:** Wobser

President Pro-Tem Monday opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silent prayer.

## **ACCEPTANCE OR CHANGES OF MINUTES AND PUBLIC HEARINGS:**

Councilman Harrington moved to accept the February 21, 2017 Regular Session City Council meeting minutes. Councilman Shindledecker seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried. Filed.

**ADD-ON/REPLACEMENT/REMOVAL FROM THE AGENDA:** - none.

**PROCLAMATIONS:** - none.

**RECOGNITION/RETIREMENT RESOLUTIONS:** - none.

**PETITIONS:** - none.

**WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS:** - none.

## **REPORTS OF MUNICIPAL OFFICERS AND MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENTS:**

**City Income Tax Monthly Collection Report – February 2017.**

Discussion:

City Auditor Staschiak noted that the numbers from the last couple of months came in unexpectedly low in the Withholders and Individuals areas. He does not have an explanation for it, but will monitor it. He is not concerned at this point. Council should be aware that the receipts are not coming in like he would expect them to at this point in time. Filed.

President Pro-Tem Monday introduced Blake Greer in the audience. He is with Troop 319. His sponsor is St. Michael's Church. He is working on his citizenship in the community badge. Filed.

President Pro-Tem Monday also introduced Jerry Williamson in the audience. He is the newest member of the Shade Tree Commission. Filed.

### **Service-Safety Director Paul Schmelzer - 0 Blaine St property**

The owner of 0 Blaine Street has agreed to sell the property to the City for the price of its taxable appraised land value of four thousand five hundred thirty dollars (\$4,530.00) as appraised by the Hancock County Auditor. In order to do so, Council will need to authorize the Mayor to purchase said property. The purpose of purchasing said property is to further protect and/or expand its Airport operations and facilities now and into the future. Legislation to authorize the Mayor to purchase said property, and to appropriate funds is requested. Ordinance No. 2017-015 was created.

FROM: CIT Fund – Capital Improvements Restricted Account  
TO: 2017 Airport Land Purchase (35276800)

\$ 4,530.00  
\$ 4,530.00

Filed.

### **Service-Safety Director Paul Schmelzer – Dorney Plaza**

The Community Foundation has committed two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000.00) to the Dorney Plaza project. The County scaled back their initial commitment of two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000.00) down to seventy-five thousand dollars (\$75,000.00), so the project scope needed to be changed. It is still in the design phase. This has put the project behind schedule, but we think we can make it up. The City will start demolition with help from the County, so that the work can be done by the time the bids are received. This project was part of the 2016 Capital Plan. Thirty-five thousand dollars (\$35,000.00) has already been appropriated toward the capital commitment of two hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$250,000.00). Legislation to move the remainder into the project so that when bids are received, the project can be started. This project will be a lasting improvement to our civic arena. Service-Safety Director Schmelzer will keep Council informed on the plans and schedule of this project. Ordinance No. 2017-016 was created.

FROM: Capital Improvement-CIT  
TO: Dorney Plaza Project #319648

\$ 215,000.00  
\$ 215,000.00

Discussion:

Councilwoman Frische requested that this letter be read. The Council Clerk read the letter in its entirety. Filed.

**Service-Safety Director Paul Schmelzer – Computer Services**

During the evaluation of pay ranges for Computer Services positions during the last hire, the Computer Services Manager pay rate was evaluated. When Brent took over the Supervisor position, the Administration agreed to an annual salary of approximately seventy-one thousand dollars (\$71,000.00). He has received a portion of this raise.

Recent changes in the payroll ordinance require the Administration to inform Council of any raise above eight percent (8%). A resolution has been requested for an additional five percent (5%). This would take his annual salary to seventy-one thousand two hundred dollars (\$71,200.00). Brent has been a good manager since taking the position. He has helped coordinate projects and has been diligent with his support staff, and has made sure the right employees are in place to support the City's operations.

No appropriation is required at this time. For your reference, salary research resources place IT Managers in Ohio in an average salary range of ninety-six thousand dollars (\$96,000.00) per year. Ordinance 2017-017 was created.

**Discussion:**

Councilwoman Frische requested that this letter be read. The Council Clerk read the letter in its entirety.

Councilman Russel has had the opportunity to work with Brent on a few occasions and has found him to be a fantastic employee who is very knowledgeable about everything in IT. The fact that the IT Department consists of only three (3) employees who run the City operations is stupendous. This pay increase is well deserved. He appreciates the services that Brent provides to the City. Filed.

**City Engineer Brian Thomas – Clearwell Retaining Wall, Project No. 35756300**

By authorization of Ordinance No. 2017-006, a bid opening was held for this project on February 22, 2017. Bids were received from three (3) potential contractors with bid amounts ranging from \$151,475 to \$218,389.65. The lowest and best bid was received from Mosser Construction, Inc. of Fremont, Ohio. This project is included in the 2017 Capital Improvements Plan and the total estimate is within the budgeted amount. No money has been previously appropriated to the project. At this time, an appropriation for construction, inspection and contingency is needed to complete the project. Legislation to appropriate funds is requested. Ordinance No. 2017-018 was created.

FROM: Water Fund	\$ 179,173.00
TO: Clearwell Retaining Wall Project No. 35756300	\$ 179,173.00

Filed.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS: - none.**

**LEGISLATION:**

**RESOLUTIONS**

**RESOLUTION NO. 007-2017** *(bicycle routes)*

**third reading                      adopted**

A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FINDLAY, OHIO EXPRESSING IT'S APPROVAL AND SUPPORT FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF STATE AND US BICYCLE ROUTES, AND REQUESTS THAT THE APPROPRIATE OFFICIALS SEE TO IT THAT THE ROUTE IS OFFICIALLY DESIGNATED BY AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF STATE HIGHWAY AND TRANSPORTATION OFFICIALS AND THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Councilman Russel moved to adopt the Resolution, seconded by Councilman Hellmann. Ayes: Frische, Harrington, Hellmann, Klein, Monday, Niemeyer, Russel, Shindledecker, Watson. The Resolution was declared adopted and is recorded in Resolution Volume XXXIII, and is hereby made a part of the record.

**ORDINANCES**

**ORDINANCE NO. 2017-012** *(Rowmark Rd Improvements (Ohio 629)*

**second reading**

AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING FUNDS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Second reading of the Ordinance.

**ORDINANCE NO. 2017-015** *(City purchase 0 Blaine St)*

**first reading                      adopted**

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF FINDLAY, OHIO TO PURCHASE REAL PROPERTY LOCATED AT 0 BLAINE STREET, FINDLAY, OHIO, HANCOCK COUNTY PARCEL #600001008704, FOR THE SUM OF FOUR THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED THIRTY AND 00/100 DOLLARS (\$4,530.00), AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Councilman Harrington moved to suspend the statutory rules and give the Ordinance its second and third readings, seconded by Councilman Klein. Ayes: Harrington, Hellmann, Klein, Monday, Niemeyer, Russel, Shindledecker, Watson Frische. The Ordinance received its second and third readings. Councilman Harrington moved to adopt the Ordinance, seconded by Councilman Klein. Ayes: Hellmann, Klein, Niemeyer, Russel, Shindledecker, Watson Frische, Harrington. Abstain: Monday. The Ordinance was declared adopted and is recorded in Ordinance volume XX, Page 2017-015 and is hereby made a part of the record.

**ORDINANCE NO. 2017-016** (*Dorney Plaza project*)  
AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING FUNDS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

first reading

First reading of the Ordinance.

**ORDINANCE NO. 2017-017** (*Computer Services Mgr pay rate*) first reading adopted  
AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND/OR SERVICE-SAFETY DIRECTOR OF THE CITY OF FINDLAY, OHIO TO GRANT AN ADDITIONAL FIVE PERCENT (5%) SALARY INCREASE FOR THE CURRENT COMPUTER SERVICES MANAGER POSITION, WHICH WOULD EXCEED THE ALLOTTED EIGHT PERCENT (8%) OF CURRENT CODIFIED ORDINANCE NO. 2016-108 OF THE CITY OF FINDLAY, OHIO, KNOWN AS THE SALARY ORDINANCE, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

**Discussion:**

Councilman Russel asked if the Computer Services Manager pay rate is determined by the date this ordinance is passed, or if it would be retroactive to a specific date. Law Director Rasmussen replied it is the intent to take it back to the first part of the year. It is an expense that is in the budget as a budgeted expense, but is beyond the allotted eight percent (8%) per the salary ordinance.

Councilman Watson moved to suspend the statutory rules and give the Ordinance its second and third readings, seconded by Councilman Shindledecker. Ayes: Klein, Monday, Niemeyer, Russel, Shindledecker, Watson Frische, Harrington, Hellmann. The Ordinance received its second and third readings. Councilman Harrington moved to adopt the Ordinance, seconded by Councilman Russel.

**Discussion:**

Councilwoman Frische asked if the salary range for this position was decreased due to his lack of experience when Council changed the salary ordinance. Service-Safety Director Schmelzer replied he does not remember. Law Director Rasmussen replied that he was put into the pay range. Councilwoman Frische asked if the pay range was changed for the position. Law Director Rasmussen replied that is correct. The pay range was changed and Brent was put into the range. Once he was put into the range, he could not get an eight percent (8%) increase without Council's approval. Councilwoman Frische noted that Council decreased the range he was put in and now an increase is requested. He received a two percent (2%) increase at the beginning of the year. She asked if he will receive a total of eight percent (8%) or what total percent increase he will be receiving. Service-Safety Director Schmelzer replied that he does not recall taking him backwards on pay. He replaced someone that the City had to let go. He did it on an interim basis to make sure that he was capable of leading a department. Councilwoman Frische noted that Council changed the salary in Computer Services by decreasing it. She is just trying to understand what took place and what is being requested now before she agrees to this ordinance. She asked if he is receiving an eight percent (8%) increase in total. Service-Safety Director Schmelzer replied it is a total of thirteen percent (13%).

Ayes: Monday, Niemeyer, Russel, Shindledecker, Watson, Harrington, Hellmann, Klein. Nays: Frische. The Ordinance was declared adopted and is recorded in Ordinance volume XX, Page 2017-017 and is hereby made a part of the record.

**ORDINANCE NO. 2017-018** (*Clearwell Retaining Wall project*)  
AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING FUNDS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

first reading

First reading of the Ordinance.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

**OLD BUSINESS:** - none.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Councilman Harrington acknowledged that former Councilman Bob Kuhlman recently passed away in Florida. He acknowledged his public service to the community and offered his condolences to his family.

Councilman Hellmann appreciates the 2016 Hancock Public Health report that has been provided to Council. It is well put together and very informative. Mayor Mihalik added that they have done a phenomenal job as a combined merged department. This report is a great document that shows what the Health Department is doing and what they are focusing on which is important to the overall health of the community.

Councilman Russel made a motion to excuse the absence of President J. Slough and Councilman Wobser. Seconded by Councilman Harrington. All were in favor. Filed.

Councilman Niemeyer asked if Japanese Cherry Blossom trees are going in for the Dorney Plaza project. He has received some concerns from constituents about them attracting Japanese beetles. Service-Safety Director Schmelzer replied that an Arborist can discuss it with the Shade Tree Commission to take whatever proactive measures are needed to keep the beetles off the trees. In addition to the review of the Dorney Plaza plans by the Shade Tree Commission, they are also getting ready to undertake some of the largest tree planting projects that the City has seen with the revamp of the Neighborhoods Projects. They are doing an outstanding job. Councilman Russel asked where they are going to be this year. Service-Safety Director Schmelzer replied he does not know, but will get back to him. Councilman Niemeyer pointed out that one of the Shade Tree projects is in the West Park area and the other is out south on Marilyn Drive. In that new subdivision, there are not many trees. Service-Safety Director Schmelzer asked how many trees will be planted there. Councilman Niemeyer replied twenty-six (26) trees total.

Councilman Harrington thanked the City for opening up the green waste site due to the amount of properties that were affected by the high winds and many may be affected by the upcoming windstorm. It normally would not be open this time of year and might have caused some overtime, but is money well spent.

Council President Pro-Tem Monday noted that Councilman Klein is not able to attend the Tax Incentive Review Council that is scheduled to meet on March 15, 2017 at 10:00am in the third floor conference room. Law Director Rasmussen informed him that he has the authority to appoint someone in Councilman Klein's absence. He asked Council if anyone would like to do so. Councilwoman Frische volunteered. She is appointed to go in Councilman Klein's place.

Council President Pro-Tem Monday, on behalf of Council President Slough, asked Council what they want to do on the Green Energy request to meet with the Committee of the Whole. Councilman Harrington would like to invite them to a Council meeting where they would provide a brief overview of what they are proposing and possibly some handouts and then Council can determine if it is a viable reason to get together as a Committee of the Whole.

President Pro-Tem Monday adjourned Council at 7:49pm.

  
CLERK OF COUNCIL

  
PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL PRO-TEM