

FINDLAY CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

REGULAR SESSION

November 20, 2018

COUNCIL CHAMBERS

PRESENT: Frische, Harrington, Hellmann, Niemeyer, Ostrander, Russel, Shindledecker, Slough, Watson, Wobser

ABSENT: None

Council President Pro-Tem Russel requested a moment of silence in memory of Judge Allan Davis who passed away today, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silent prayer.

ACCEPTANCE/CHANGES TO PREVIOUS CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES:

Councilman Slough to accept the November 6, 2018 Regular Session City Council meeting minutes. Councilman Watson 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:

Zoning amendment request – Birchaven Lane/Eastern Woods

Blanchard Valley Health Association would like to change the zoning of Lot 2 in the Eastern Woods Subdivision to M2 Multiple Family High Density. It currently is zoned C1 Local Commercial District. Referred to City Planning Commission and Planning & Zoning Committee.

Zoning amendment request – 701-807 Adams St & 700-714 Putnam St

W. Anthony Scanlon on behalf of G&H Enterprises, LLC would like to change the zoning of 701-807 Adams Street as well as 700-714 Putnam Street to M2 Multiple Family Residential District. It currently is zoned R3 Single Family High Density Residential. Referred to City Planning Commission and Planning & Zoning Committee. Filed.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS: - none.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS:

Joy Barger – City Mission 2019 funding

Ms. Barger, Executive Director of the City Mission, is before City Council to request 2019 funding for emergency services. Their mission statement is: The City Mission of Findlay provides emergency help to homeless and hungry people through collaborative efforts to meet physical, spiritual, vocational, mental health needs demonstrating the love of Jesus Christ. They do this with three (3) of their key programs: IHP which is an emergency service, reStart program which is a short term six (6) month transitional service, and food services which addresses hunger needs for the homeless community and for those that are insecure in the community. They are a faith-based organization. Their IHP emergency program is strictly an emergency service. IHP was designed to assist individuals in crisis. It addresses emergency needs for shelter in Findlay and Hancock County. The lack of shelter means their clients are vulnerable to a myriad of threats (i.e. men leaving the jail with no stable housing, families recently evicted, women escaping a dangerous domestic situation, etc.). In recent years, the number of elderly and disabled in need of emergency care has increased. Year-to-date in 2018, they have already surpassed 2017 nights of lodging. They anticipate this year's numbers to be twenty thousand (20,000) nights of lodging which means that more men, women and families are in need of immediate shelter while they seek community resources and build a support system in their efforts to end homelessness. City's Mission's provision of the emergency shelter is an asset to our community in that it reduces the use of emergency services, reduces public health risks, and preventing criminal activity that often occurs with homelessness (i.e. home and business break-ins) for those seeking shelter. The strain of City resources that would be necessary to address the more than seven hundred (700) individuals who are homeless in Hancock County every year is far greater than the solution that the City Mission already provides. The City Mission asks to be given the opportunity to present a full case of support for funding in 2019 that would address not only today's emergency services, but also with those in the future.

Discussion:

Councilwoman Frische asked what dollar amount the City Mission is asking for from the City. Ms. Barger replied fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000).

Councilman Wobser asked if the City Mission is asking for 2019. Ms. Barger replied yes. Councilman Wobser asked Ms. Barger if she realizes that the City is in the middle of approving their 2019 budget. Ms. Barger replied she does.

Councilman Watson asked for information on the independence of the IHP program and how it is kept distinct from the overall faith-based mission of the City Mission. Ms. Barger replied that there is a physical distinction in the building as well as case management. IHP clients have a specific dorm set aside that is on a first come, first serve basis consisting of thirty-nine (39) beds for men, nineteen (19) for women, and five (5) family units. They can check in after 4:00pm. They are not provided case management, but are provided with a cot to sleep on, toiletries, shower, and a safe location to store their things. The case management comes in six (6) months through the reStart program in which all of the IHP clients have the opportunity to apply for it.

Councilwoman Frische asked what the fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) will be used for. She asked how long someone is enrolled in the IHP program and then transitions into the six (6) month reStart program. Ms. Barger replied that the funding that they are asking for is only for IHP overnight stays. They are not looking at funding for food or for any case management programming at this time. In a full presentation, they would present what their budget is (cost per unit for each cot, cost to house an individual per night, etc.). It significantly cheaper for the City Mission to provide these services than it is for someone to be housed in jail. The budget would be broken down into quarters and what the cost would be out of their total budget.

Councilman Wobser asked if Ms. Barger is insinuating that it would cost the City more if they did not fund this. Ms. Barger replied that during her conversation with the Mayor a few weeks ago, it was mentioned that there were over seven hundred (700) individuals that were homeless in 2018. The City Mission is on a very tight budget and are at the brink of potentially cutting back on services offered to the homeless. The City Mission already has a system and facility in place, so the costs to the City to create a program to address the issues is far more than what it would cost the City Mission to maintain those services. Ms. Barger asked the Mayor what it costs to hire a Police Officer and was told it is approximately fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000); forty thousand dollars (\$40,000) salary and ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) to equip. She then asked the Mayor how many Police Officers would need to be hired to address seven hundred (700) individuals sleeping on the streets in a year.

Councilman Hellmann asked if the fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) would plug the shortfall that they are experiencing or if there are additional shortcomings out there. Ms. Barger replied there are additional shortcomings. Their shortfall in this area is around one hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$150,000), so the City of Findlay is not the only entity they are seeking funding from. They are asking major donors as well as individual donors, and are looking at funding from a State level if it is available to them. They are also seeking United Way funding. They are doing their best to diversify their funding sources.

Councilman Wobser asked what the depth of the need is and how much more they need beyond the City's portion. Ms. Barger replied that for this specific program, they are looking at one hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$150,000).

Councilman Watson noted that he understands that there are no faith-based requirements for the program, but asked if there are for the reStart program. Ms. Barger replied that there are no faith-based requirements for anyone using any of their services. They are a faith-based organization that offer those services. For example, they have chapel, bible classes, and discipleship available. Those in their reStart program, which is a six (6) month program, are required to attend their education program, which are five (5) classes a week. Those classes offer biblical classes, but is their choice.

Council President Pro-Tem Russel noted that this topic is generating a lot of questions and Mr. Barger has requested to have further conversations about it, so it might be a good topic for a COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE meeting. Since it has to do with the 2019 budget, it would be more appropriate for a COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE meeting versus an APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE meeting. That can take place either during budget hearings or a separate COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE meeting held prior to the budget hearings. He moved to refer this to the COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE, seconded by Councilman Harrington. All were in favor. Motion carried. Referred to the COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE.

REPORTS OF MUNICIPAL OFFICERS AND MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENTS:

Findlay Police Department Activities Report – October 2018. Filed.

City Auditor Staschiak – summary financial reports

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

- Summary of Year-To-Date Information as of October 31, 2018
- Financial Snapshot for General Fund as of October 31, 2018
- Open Projects Report as of October 31, 2018
- Cash & Investments as of October 31, 2018

Filed.

Board of Zoning Appeals Minutes –August 9, 2018 and September 13, 2018. Filed.

Service Director/Acting City Engineer Thomas – Lima Ave/Western Ave intersection, project #32852900

By authorization of Ordinance No. 2015-010, a bid opening was held for this project on July 11, 2018. Bids were received from two (2) potential contractors with bid amounts ranging from \$258,000 to \$292,975.09. both bids were more than ten percent (10%) over the Engineer's estimate (established by the Ohio Rail Commission) and could not be accepted. The Ohio Rail Commission has committed to increase their reimbursement funding. With the increase in Federal funds for this project, the Engineer's estimate has increased and has been rebid. The second bid opening was held on October 25, 2018 with bids being received from one (1) bidder totaling \$278,434.13 that is within ten percent (10%) of the Engineer's estimate and can be accepted. The lowest and best bid was from U.S. Utility Contractor from Perrysburg, Ohio. Additional funds that were committed by the Ohio Rail Commission need to be appropriated to cover the inspection costs and contingency for the project. Legislation to appropriated funds is requested. Ordinance No. 2018-118 was created.

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| FROM: ORDC | \$ 143,434.13 |
| FROM: CIT Fund – Capital Improvements Restricted Account | \$ 11,500.00 |
| TO: Lima Ave/Western Ave Intersection Project #32852900 | \$ 154,934.13 |

Filed.

Findlay Fire Department Activities Report – October 2018. Filed.

Findlay Municipal Court Activities Report – October 2018. Filed.

Treasurer's Reconciliation Report – October 31, 2018. Filed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

An **AD HOC COMMITTEE** met on November 7, 2018 to continue October 17, 2018 and October 3, 2018 discussions on the Mayor's 2020-2023, City Auditor's 2020-2023, Council President's 2020-2021, and Councilmember 2020-2021 salaries.

We recommend that the committee discussed salary compensation for the elected officials and comparable cities.

Councilman Slough moved to adopt the committee report. Councilman Harrington seconded the motion. All were in favor. Filed.

The **PLANNING & ZONING COMMITTEE** to whom was referred a request from Matthew Klein, RCO Law to rezone the Hengsteler annexation from I-1 Light Industrial and C-2 General Commercial to just I-1 Light Industrial. Said parcel is currently agricultural land that has become landlocked and cut off from other agricultural properties. Said parcel is in an industrial and commercial area in the northwest corner of the City of Findlay.

We recommend to approve as requested. Ordinance No. 2018-115 was created.

Councilman Slough moved to adopt the committee report. Councilman Hellmann seconded the motion. All were in favor. Filed.

The **PLANNING & ZONING COMMITTEE** to whom was referred a request from Barbara and James Dysinger to rezone 606 Howard Street from R2 Single Family Medium Density to O1 Institutions and Offices.

We recommend to approve as submitted. Ordinance No. 2018-116 was created.

Councilman Wobser moved to adopt the committee report. Councilman Shindledecker seconded the motion. All were in favor. Filed.

The **APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE** to whom was referred a request to discuss severance payouts.

We recommend that Council appropriate an additional one million dollars (\$1,000,000) to the Severance Payout Reserve. Also, we recommend that the Severance Payout Reserve funding be reviewed annually prior to budget meetings at an Appropriations Committee meeting. Ordinance No. 2018-119 was created.

Councilman Slough moved to adopt the committee report. Councilman Shindledecker seconded the motion.

Discussion:

Council President Pro-Tem Russel asked what the expected exposure on this fund for 2019 is. City Auditor Staschiak replied it is averaging between two hundred to three hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000-\$300,000) per year expected expenses. The City has a current obligation of approximately two million dollars (\$2,000,000) in severance payouts that they know about. They only know about four (4) out of ten (10). One (1) out of four (4) have told them prior to retiring and prior to the required thirty (30) day notice that they are going to. When the City is in a strong cash position, it is his recommendation that this be funded to a reasonable amount without being excessive in order to prepare for the worst and hope for the best.

Councilman Wobser clarified that by reviewing this fund annually gives Council the ability to either raise or lower the limit. The Committee requested it be funded to one million dollars (\$1,000,000). You cannot ask people if they are going to retire or not, so the amount of severance payout for every individual cannot be estimated because it is not known where else they have served in other parts of government. It is not just their service here at the City, so there are additional liabilities that are unknown. For that reason, the Committee put in these two (2) requests.

Council President Pro-Tem Russel asked if the request is an additional one million dollars (\$1,000,000) or up to one million dollars (\$1,000,000). City Auditor Staschiak replied that the request is for an additional one million dollars (\$1,000,000) which will put the fund at approximately one million three hundred thousand dollars (\$1,300,000) which is about what it was funded to originally when it was put in place by the City. It has been funded twice since then, one being in excess or close to six hundred thousand dollars (\$600,000) and the other was close to four hundred thousand dollars (\$400,000).

All were in favor. Filed.

An **AD HOC COMMITTEE** met on November 15, 2018 to continue November 7, 2018, October 17, 2018, October 3, 2018 discussions on the Mayor's 2020-2023, City Law Director's 2020-2023, City Auditor's 2020-2023, Council President's 2020-2021, and Councilmember 2020-2021 salaries.

We recommend to continue to review the salaries of the positions.

Councilman Slough moved to adopt the committee report. Councilman Hellmann seconded the motion. All were in favor. Filed.

**LEGISLATION:
RESOLUTIONS**

RESOLUTION NO. 027-2018

third reading adopted

(Hengsteler annexation – services City will provide if annexed into City limits) requires three (3) readings

A RESOLUTION STATING WHAT SERVICES THE CITY OF FINDLAY, OHIO WILL PROVIDE TO THE TERRITORY PROPOSED TO BE ANNEXED TO THE CITY OF FINDLAY, OHIO, SITUATED IN MARION TOWNSHIP, COUNTY OF HANCOCK, STATE OF OHIO, AND BEING A PART OF THE SOUTHWEST FOURTH (1/4) OF SECITON 5, T1N, R11E, A TRACT OF LAND CONSISTING OF 36.689 ACRES OF LAND, MORE OR LESS.

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

ORDINANCES

ORDINANCE NO. 2018-068 *(Zoning personnel enforcement rights in right-of-way)* requires three (3) readings

tabled after third reading on 8/7/18

AN ORDINANCE ENABLING THE CITY OF FINDLAY ZONING DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL ENFORCEMENT RIGHTS WITHIN RIGHT-OF-WAY AREAS WITHIN CITY LIMITS, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

ORDINANCE NO. 2018-097 *(credit card policy)* requires three (3) readings

tabled after second reading on 10/2/18

AN ORDINANCE APPROVING THE BANK CREDIT CARD POLICY ATTACHED HERETO AND INCORPORATED HEREIN AS EXHIBIT A.

ORDINANCE NO. 2018-106 *(Production Dr ROW dedication plat)* required three (3) readings

third reading adopted

AN ORDINANCE ACCEPTING THE RIGHT-OF-WAY DEDICATION AS SHOWN ON THE PRODUCTION DRIVE RIGHT-OF-WAY DEDICATION PLAT, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Councilman Harrington moved to adopt the Ordinance, seconded by Councilman Slough. Ayes: Harrington, Hellmann, Niemeyer, Ostrander, Russel, Shindledecker, Slough, Watson, Wobser, Frische. The Ordinance was declared adopted and is recorded in Ordinance Volume XXI, Page 2018-106 and is hereby made a part of the record.

ORDINANCE NO. 2018-107 *(2475 Crystal Ave rezone)* requires three (3) readings

third reading adopted

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 2475 CRYSTAL AVENUE REZONE) WHICH PREVIOUSLY WAS ZONED "C1 LOCAL COMMERCIAL" TO "M2 MULTI-FAMILY".

Councilman Harrington moved to adopt the Ordinance, seconded by Councilman Slough. Ayes: Hellmann, Niemeyer, Ostrander, Russel, Shindledecker, Slough, Watson, Wobser, Frische, Harrington. The Ordinance was declared adopted and is recorded in Ordinance Volume XXI, Page 2018-107 and is hereby made a part of the record.

ORDINANCE NO. 2018-109 *(Binner (Lone Tree Dr) annexation - accept and approve the annexation)* requires three (3) readings

second reading

AN ORDINANCE ACCEPTING AND APPROVING AN APPLICATION FOR ANNEXATION OF TERRITORY SITUATED IN THE TOWNSHIP OF MARION, COUNTY OF HANCOCK, STATE OF OHIO, AND SITUATED IN THE SOUTHEAST FOURTH (1/4) OF SECTION 9, T1N, R11E, A TRACT OF LAND CONSISTING OF 0.2789 ACRES OF LAND FOR PARCEL A, 0.2777 ACRES FOR PARCEL B, AND 0.277 ACRES OF LAND FOR PARCEL C (HEREINAFTER REFERED TO AS THE BINNER (LONE TREE DRIVE) ANNEXATION).

Second reading of the Ordinance.

ORDINANCE NO. 2018-110 *(Binner (Lone Tree Dr) annexation - rezone the 3 parcels)* 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 ZONING THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED PROPERTY AS R1 SINGLE FAMILY LOW DENSITY (HEREINAFTER REFERRED TO AS THE BINNER (LONE TREE DRIVE) ANNEXATION).

Second reading of the Ordinance.

ORDINANCE NO. 2018-113 *(year-end appropriations)* requires three (3) readings

second reading

AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING AND TRANSFERRING FUNDS, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Second reading of the Ordinance.

ORDINANCE NO. 2018-114 (*Hengsteler Annexation – accept & approve the annexation*) requires three (3) readings **first reading**
AN ORDINANCE ACCEPTING AND APPROVING AN APPLICATION FOR ANNEXATION OF TERRITORY SITUATED IN THE TOWNSHIP OF MARION, COUNTY OF HANCOCK, STATE OF OHIO, AND SITUATED IN THE SOUTHWEST FOURTH (1/4) OF SECTION 5, T1N, R11E, A TRACT OF LAND CONSISTING OF 36.689 ACRES OF LAND, MORE OR LESS (HEREINAFTER REFERED TO AS THE HENGSTELER ANNEXATION).

First reading of the Ordinance.

ORDINANCE NO. 2018-115 (*Hengsteler Annexation – rezone*) requires three (3) readings **first reading**
AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 1100 ET SEQ OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF FINDLAY, OHIO, KNOWN AS THE ZONING CODE BY ZONING THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED PROPERTY AS I-1 LIGHT INDUSTRIAL (HEREINAFTER REFERRED TO AS THE HENGSTELER ANNEXATION).

Discussion:

Councilman Hellmann expressed concern that the requested zoning on this is industrial and that it is in a quasi-area with certain permitted uses in that area. He asked if there would be an interim or transitional zoning on it. Acting Law Director Werth replied that would be a valid reason if Council would not want the ordinance to go through. He does not believe the way the annexation is zoned can be split by the way the ordinance is written right now. The ordinance is to annex it with the zoning included. The issue could not be split and move forward and approve it and also want to change it at the same time. Council could move forward and annex it now and wait for a petition to change the zoning of it, but he is unsure if Council would want to approve it right now based on how it is zoned. Councilman Hellmann replied that he cannot imagine the property owner coming back with an amended petition with a different type of zoning classification. Acting Law Director Werth agreed and added that if it is an issue with Council, he does not think it should be approved and then changed because the ordinance specifically states how it would be zoned. It is seeking that zoning designation the way the ordinance is written.

Council President Pro-Tem Russel asked Acting Law Director Werth if he would get Law Director Rasmussen's opinion on approving Ordinance No. 2018-114 and not approve 2018-115. Acting Law Director Werth replied he would do so.

Councilwoman Frische noted that she was under the impression that Council could approve Ordinance No. 2018-114 and continue discussions on Ordinance No. 2018-115. Council President Pro-Tem Russel replied that is what he asked Acting Law Director Werth to get an opinion from Law Director Rasmussen on.

First reading of the Ordinance.

ORDINANCE NO. 2018-116 (*606 Howard Street rezone*) requires three (3) readings **first reading**
AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 1100 ET SEQ OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF FINDLAY, OHIO, KNOWN AS THE ZONING CODE BY REZONING THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED PROPERTY (REFERRED TO AS 606 HOWARD STREET REZONE) WHICH PREVIOUSLY WAS ZONED "R2 SINGLE FAMILY MEDIUM DENSITY" TO "O1 INSTITUTIONS AND OFFICES".

First reading of the Ordinance.

ORDINANCE NO. 2018-117 (*see payroll deductions for HSA*) requires three (3) readings **first reading** **adopted**
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.

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

Discussion:

Councilman Hellmann asked why this is being passed on an emergency basis. Council President Pro-Tem Russel replied that he specifically asked the City Auditor if this was something that needed to be done because it was payroll related and having to do with benefits for next year in which the City Auditor asked that it be passed.

Safety Director Schmelzer noted that he fully supports this legislation. It is consistent with the amounts that we have been running with since this plan was put in place. Premiums are the same as they have been. The health plan continues to operate at or below those premiums that we are setting. The need to pull premiums in December for the next year which makes it prudent to pass it.

City Auditor Staschiak added that they do pull health insurance costs the month before. They pull premiums for January in December. It is regular financial business that Council has consistently done year to year for the last five (5) years. It balances incentive for employees to choose to go into the high deductible plan by helping them fund their deductible. If Council is not willing to do so, he, the Safety Director and the Service Director have a lot of work to do in the next couple of weeks. It is critical that they know that as soon as possible.

Councilman Hellmann asked if employees are allowed to defer some of their own income into this health savings plan (HSA) and if it is tax deferred. City Auditor Staschiak replied that not only are they allowed, but it is encouraged. The Administration and the Auditor's Office jointly, as a requirement for employees to get their health coverage at a reduced cost, coordinate a set of meetings which covers many topics. They also allow employees to deduct for FSAs and pre-tax deductions. Employees are always subject to the IRS rules and if their spouses are doing any kinds of methods.

Ayes: Niemeyer, Ostrander, Russel, Shindledecker, Slough, Watson, Wobser, Frische, Harrington, Hellmann. The Ordinance was declared adopted and is recorded in Ordinance Volume XXI, Page 2018-117 and is hereby made a part of the record.

ORDINANCE NO. 2018-118 (*Lima Ave/Western Ave intersection*) requires three (3) readings
AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING AND TRANSFERRING FUNDS, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

first reading

First reading of the Ordinance.

ORDINANCE NO. 2018-119 (*Severance Payout Reserve Fund*) requires three (3) readings
AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING AND TRANSFERRING FUNDS, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

first reading

First reading of the Ordinance.

ORDINANCE NO. 2018-120 (*broker services for City health insurance*) requires three (3) readings
AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF FINDLAY TO ENTER INTO A RENEWAL CONTRACT WITH FIRST INSURANCE GROUP (PREVIOUSLY KNOWN AS CORPORATE ONE BENEFITS) TO PROVIDE BROKER SERVICES AS IT RELATES TO THE CITY OF FINDLAY HEALTH INSURANCE PLAN, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

first reading

First reading of the Ordinance.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

OLD BUSINESS

Councilwoman Frische asked for an update on where the Water Department is on getting reports out to the community as there are consistent calls coming in on the water quality. Service Director/Acting City Engineer Thomas replied that since the last meeting, they have added a water quality page to the City's website. There is a news release link on the home page that will take you directly to it. Otherwise, it is under the Water Department page. When he talked with the Water Department Supervisor last Friday, they had not received any calls that week. There have been some complaining on Facebook in which they have been directed to call so that the water in that area can be checked, but they have not received any phone calls. The biggest concern seems to be the microsystem, like they had in Toledo. Ever since Findlay started testing for that, the level has not been enough that the equipment will pick it up. There has never been a problem with that. The biggest problem Findlay has had is that the turnover stirred up a lot of organic content at the bottom of the Reservoir. A chart is on the City's website that summarizes the readings the last couple of years. In 2015, the peak was approximately 4.9 units. In 2016, it was approximately 3 units, in 2017 it was approximately 7 units, and as of October 7 of this year, it was approximately 5 units which is about where it has been for the last couple of years. The next day on October 8, 2018, the reading was 45 units, so it jumped nine (9) times in one day. There is quite a bit more organic content to take care of. Carbon is being added at a rate that is four (4) times what we normally do. There have been questions as to why it took so long to adjust it. When tweaking chemicals, it normally does not jump where it has to four (4) times that amount. It is something that is done incrementally, so they have been testing it to see how it is doing. The results of the tests of the water coming out of the plant does not have any organic matters in it, so the water coming out of the plant is fine. If there still is odor or taste problems, those residents need to let the Water Department know. If they do not let them know, there is nothing they can do about it.

Councilman Wobser asked how long it will take for things to settle down out at the Reservoir to get back to the normal treatment routine. Service Director/Acting City Engineer Thomas replied they just have to keep testing it. Councilman Wobser asked if it has started to drop. Service Director/Acting City Engineer Thomas replied it is dropping, but it is unknown how long it will be until it gets back to where it was. Safety Director Schmelzer added that when comparing the way it jumped to what the actual peaks were from the previous years, it was nine (9) times the average level that has occurred for the past three (3) years. It was over a much longer period of time. When looking at when those peaks occurred and how long it took to settle, this issue occurred over the course of three (3) entire weeks and was significantly higher than past peaks. The next question some may ask is what the City is doing to mitigate this, if and when it happens again, which it probably will. The City will put additional redundancy for the carbon pump in the plant and also monitor the situation more closely than they have in the past with the hopes of not getting caught off guard with a nine times multiple like this again.

Councilwoman Frische thanked the Service Director and the Safety Director for the update as there have been some concerns from those on the end of lines that are still tasting and/or smelling abnormalities. She asked how long before those on the end of lines will not be affected. Service Director/Acting City Engineer Thomas replied it depends on the size of the line, how many are on the line, if they call to let the City know so that we can go out and flush the line and check it. There are too many factors involved to say it will be better tomorrow. In his opinion, based on what is there and the amount of time that it has been coming out, they should have it through the system, but is not to say that there is a water line system that still has some water in it. Unless it is known that there is an issue, nothing can be done about it.

Councilman Wobser asked if residents need to call instead of voicing their complaints and concerns on social media so that the City can flush a line and get it taken care of. Service Director/Acting City Engineer Thomas replied that is correct.

Council President Pro-Tem Russel asked if looping lines helps prevent this. Safety Director Schmelzer replied it is a demand issue. If a water line is loped and still has very few users on it, it does not accomplish anything. If there is redundancy where a section of a line goes down or a line breaks, there is always service which is primarily why they like to see water lines looped for flow, but this is a volume question. Even when someone is on an end line with few users or if there are several users on a line, but were on vacation, they would still have the same problem.

Councilwoman Frische noted that she has not only heard the complaints through social media, but also through phone calls. She also chairs the WATER AND SEWER COMMITTEE and has talked with the Water Department who had phone calls yesterday and also just an hour before tonight's City Council meeting. She had a citizen call her that had talked to the Water Department lab who appreciated the communication and were told that the City would come out and test their water. There has been some concern with the construction on several City streets in the area and asked if that could be a factor for some of the water issues. Those questions have been addressed and are not just social media gossip. Service Director/Acting City Engineer Thomas replied he had not talked with the Water Department Supervisor about yesterday or today's complaints. As of Friday when he talked with him, they did not have any complaints last week.

City Auditor Staschiak asked Council what time they would like to start the budget meetings that are currently scheduled for December 12 and December 13. Council President Pro-Tem Russel replied he is out of town that day. There has been some thought to have it just one day. One suggestion was Monday, December 10, 2018 or both December 10, 2018 and December 11, 2018, but those dates do not work for the City Auditor. Since it is Council's budget hearing(s), he asked when they would like to have it/them. Councilman Harrington asked City Auditor Staschiak if both the 10th and 11th are out for him. City Auditor Staschiak replied that the 11th is out for members of his staff. He noted that the 12th and 13th have been promoted publicly. Councilman Harrington asked if the 12th and 13th are both out for Council President Pro-Tem Russel. Council President Pro-Tem Russel replied that is correct. Council President Pro-Tem Russel asked if Council desires to do this on one or two days. By show of hands, majority wished to have the budget meetings on two (2) nights on December 12th and 13th. Acting Mayor Monday asked what time the budget hearings would start. Council President Pro-Tem Russel asked what Council's preference on time is. The majority requested 5:00pm. Acting Mayor Monday asked if there will be an ending time since it will be two (2) nights. City Auditor Staschiak replied that the budget hearings typically last three to four (3-4) hours each night and they have been out of them long before 9:00pm. Acting Mayor Monday noted that if there is an ending time, he does not want to bring department heads in on the first night, and if they do not get to them, then they have to come back the second night. Safety Director Schmelzer replied that his preference would be to outline the schedule in similar timeframes like last year and require only those department heads to show up that night that are on that schedule and Council and the Administration stay there until they are done. He would be surprised if it takes more than four (4) hours. Very good documents have been put together with plenty of time to review ahead of time. Having the budget hearings from 5:00pm until 8:30pm-9:00pm should be safe. Council President Pro-Tem Russel asked if the budget books will be distributed at the next City Council meeting on December 4, 2018. City Auditor Staschiak replied that is correct. Councilman Russel asked when the Administration summary sheets will be distributed. Safety Director Schmelzer replied those are submitted to the Auditor and are included in the budget book.

Council President Pro-Tem Russel: **BUDGET HEARINGS** on December 12, 2018 at 5:00pm and December 13, 2018 at 5:00pm in the third floor conference room of the Municipal Building (CR1).

Councilman Niemeyer asked when the COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE meeting is scheduled. It needs to be held prior to the December 12-13, 2018 budget hearings.

Council President Pro-Tem: **COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE** meeting on November 28, 2018 at 5:00pm in the third floor conference room of the Municipal Building (CR1).

agenda: City Mission 2019 contribution

Discussion:

Councilman Niemeyer asked if someone from the City Mission will be at the meeting. Joy Barger from the audience nodded in agreement.

NEW BUSINESS

Councilman Harrington thanked the City Street Department on their cold patch repair in the West Park area. Some of the streets in that area have been in need of repair.

Safety Director Schmelzer pointed out that he is getting close to working out the details on the Bargaining Unit contracts and should be in a position to present summaries for both Bargaining Unit contracts to Council. He would like to have either a special meeting or an executive session following the next City Council meeting to discuss them. Councilman Hellmann asked how long it would take. Safety Director Schmelzer replied approximately an hour. Council President Pro-Tem Russel asked if it could be done after a COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE meeting. Safety Director Schmelzer requested it be done after the December 4, 2018 City Council meeting. The agenda for the City Council meeting will probably be short that night.

Council President Pro-Tem Russel adjourned Council at 7:51 pm.


CLERK OF COUNCIL


PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL PRO-TEM