

FINDLAY CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

REGULAR SESSION

NOVEMBER 4, 2014

COUNCIL CHAMBERS

PRESENT: Frische, Harrington, Klein, Monday, Nichols, Russel, Shindledecker, Spence, VanDyne

ABSENT: none.

President J Slough opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silent prayer.

President J. Slough welcomed two (2) individuals in the audience who are with Boy Scout Troop 322 who are working on their Eagle Scout merit badges. Their Scout sponsor is Church of God on Melrose Avenue.

MINUTES:

- Councilman Harrington moved to accept the October 21, 2014 Regular Session City Council meeting minutes as written. Councilman Monday seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried. Filed.

ADD-ON/REPLACEMENT/REMOVAL FROM THE AGENDA:

Councilman Monday moved to add the following to tonight's agenda. Councilman VanDyne seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried. Filed.

- Letter from Fire Chief Thomas Lonyo = 2014 Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) (**REPORTS OF MUNICIPAL OFFICERS AND MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENTS** section).
- Ordinance No. 2014-094 = 2014 Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) (**LEGISLATION** section).

PROCLAMATIONS: – none.

RECOGNITION/RETIREMENT RESOLUTIONS: - none.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS: – none.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS:

Tony Grotrain came before Council stating that he has watched and listened to Council commend City workers and others through proclamations and resolutions for doing a good job. He encouraged Council to continue doing so. He commended Council for some of the actions they have taken in the past on some things that have affected him.

When Council passed Resolution 29-2013 to waive the zoning permit fees as well as water and sewer fees, it made it possible to establish a residential treatment center for those suffering from substance abuse.

He also thanked Council for the warning light system at the crosswalk at West Main Cross and Broadway. Now, many City and County workers, along with citizens have a safer route to take when conducting business at the Hancock County Courthouse, Probate Court, and Findlay Municipal Building.

While some may not think these things are a big deal, they definitely are a big deal to him. He appreciates them and thanked Council.

He extended an invitation to attend the Border Battle Breakfast at Findlay High School Cafeteria on Saturday, November 22, 2014 from 7:00am-12:00pm. All proceeds from this event will benefit the new residential substance abuse treatment program.

PETITIONS: – none.

REPORTS OF MUNICIPAL OFFICERS AND MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENTS:

City Auditor Jim Staschiak – year-end items to transfer/appropriate

The following accounts require an appropriation of funds for this budget year.

FROM: HRC Rehab Debt Service Fund #23060100	\$ 15,000.00
TO: CIT Capital Improvements	\$ 15,000.00

REASON: debt service for the HRC Rehab payment was initially paid with Capital Improvements money for 2014. The annual pledged amount from Huntington Bank has been received. It is the seventh (7th) payment out of the ten (10) pledged. This appropriation allows for the use of the contribution to pay the debt and the reimbursement of CIT Capital Improvements.

FROM: CR 236 TIF Fund	\$ 72,158.63
TO: CR 236 Widening Debt Service #23060300-other	\$ 72,158.63

FROM: CR 236 Widening Debt Service #23060300-other	\$ 72,158.63
TO: CIT Capital Improvements	\$ 72,158.63

REASON: CR 236 debt payments were appropriated and paid initially by Capital Improvements money for 2014. A total of seventy-two thousand one hundred fifty-eight dollars and sixty-three cents (\$72,158.63) in 2014 of TIF revenue has been received. This is to offset a portion of the 2014 debt payment. These appropriations allow the TIF Fund money to be used for the deb and reimburse Capital Improvements.

FROM: County Permissive Fund	\$ 131,305.13
TO: CR 236 Widening Debt Service #23060300-other	\$ 92,847.63
TO: CR 236 Land Debt Service #23060200-other	\$ 38,457.50
FROM: CR 236 Widening Debt Service #23060300-other	\$ 92,847.63
FROM: CR 236 Land Debt Service #23060200-other	\$ 38,457.50
TO: CIT Capital Improvements	\$ 131,305.13

REASON: CR 236 debt payments were appropriated and paid initially by Capital Improvements money for 2014. One hundred fifteen thousand four hundred four dollars and seventy-five cents (\$115,404.75) of County Permissive Fund money was drawn to pay the 2014 debt payments as an allowable use of the money. There is also currently a cash balance in the County Permissive Fund of fifteen thousand nine hundred dollars and thirty-eight cents (\$15,900.38) from money not used and returned from a closed project that originally had County Permissive money appropriated. These appropriations allow the County Permissive money to be used for the debt and reimburse Capital Improvements.

FROM: General Fund	\$ 5,464.64
TO: Special Assessment Sidewalks #28020000	\$ 5,464.64

REASON: the 2010 Sidewalk and Repair and New Construction projects that were completed and assessed to the real estate taxes in the fall of 2012 had their second/last collection year in 2014. Of the twelve (12) properties that had their assessments go to their real estate taxes, six (6) did not pay the 2014 assessment totaling five thousand four hundred sixty-four dollars and sixty-four cents (\$5,464.64). The City had to make the debt payments related to the projects and the fund is in need of reimbursement from the General Fund. If the property owners pay for the assessments in the future or if they property changes hands and the assessments are not written off, the General Fund will be replenished by this appropriation.

FROM: Special Assessments Sidewalks #28020000	\$ 3,769.12
TO: General Fund	\$ 3,769.12

REASON: in 2004, the City made the final debt payment on the 2003 Sidewalk Construction Program, however, there were several assessment deferrals granted at that time in addition to several property owners that had chosen not to pay the assessment. The City had to cover the costs of the debt payment with General Fund money and was to be reimbursed when the property owners finally made payment. The three thousand seven hundred sixty-nine dollars and twelve cents (\$3,769.12) represent the amount of money that was received in 2014 for two (2) of the deferred properties. This money should now be returned to the General Fund. There are still two (2) properties from the 2003 program with outstanding assessments.

FROM: Special Assessments Pavements	\$ 3,802.73
TO: General Fund	\$ 3,802.73

REASON: in 2011, the City made the final debt payment on the Rockwell Avenue Pavement Special Assessment, however, there were several assessment deferrals granted at that time in addition to several property owners that had chosen not to pay the assessments. The City had to cover the costs of the debt payments with General Fund money that will be reimbursed when the property owners made payment. The three thousand eight hundred two dollars and seventy-three cents (\$3,802.73) represents the amount of money currently showing in the Special Assessments Pavements Fund of an accumulation of a few of the deferrals as well as delinquent properties that have now paid. Unless there are outstanding penalties that are still going to be collected by the County, there should not be any more large payments expected for these properties.

FROM: Severance Payout Reserve Fund	\$ 113,000.00
TO: Severance Payout #22090000-personal services	\$ 113,000.00

REASON: several retirements have already occurred and some are scheduled to occur this year that were not included in the original budget because the City did not have written notification of the retirements at the time budgets were developed last fall. Funds need to be appropriated to cover retirement settlements.

Legislation to adopt on an emergency for the above listed items is requested. Ordinance No. 2014-090 was created.

Discussion:

Auditor Staschiak was asked if this should be passed in one or three readings. If Council would like these numbers incorporated into the budget finance book so that the numbers will be more accurate for the budget meeting, the year end appropriations should be passed well in advance of the budget meeting. There is no other urgency to pass the ordinance other than its impact on the numbers that are presented to Council. A couple of the numbers are sizable, so by passing the ordinance tonight, it would give better representation of some of the accounts. Filed.

City Planning Commission agenda – November 13, 2014; minutes – October 9, 2014. Filed.

City Auditor Jim Staschiak – health savings account (HSA)

As part of the implementation of the high deductible component of the City's employee health plan, the Administration determines recommended dollar amounts the City will contribute financially to employee health savings account (HSA) accounts. After review of the health insurance plan, the recommendation has been made at the following levels:

single plan \$720.00	ee + 1 plan \$1,800.00	family plan \$1,800.00
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This has become a regular annual request. Legislation to allow for this distribution as part of the City's 2015 health plan is requested. Ordinance No. 2014-091 was created. Filed.

Service-Safety Director Paul Schmelzer – Sutton Place and Greendale Ave Sanitary Sewer Replacement Project No. 35649900

On October 17, 2014, bids were opened for this project. Five (5) bids were received ranging from one hundred seventy-eight thousand ninety dollars to two hundred forty-three thousand two hundred twenty-five dollars (\$178,090.00 - \$243,225.00). The lowest bid was received from Vernon Nagel of Napoleon, Ohio. An appropriation of funds for construction, contingency, and inspection is needed.

The project was added to the 2014 Capital Improvements Plan on September 2, 2014 when Council adopted Resolution No. 32-2014 which transferred ten thousand (\$10,000.00) for design and project startup funds. Legislation to authorize the Service-Safety Director to sign the contract and appropriate funds is requested. Ordinance No. 2014-092 was created.

FROM: Sewer Fund	\$ 200,000.00
TO: Sutton Place & Greendale Avenue Sanitary Sewer Replacement Project #35649900	\$ 200,000.00

Discussion:

Councilman Russel asked when this will start and how long it will take to complete. Service-Safety Director Schmelzer replied it will take a couple of weeks. He is unsure of the exact start date as it will take some time to get some materials ordered. He anticipates it will start within the next two to three (2-3) weeks. Filed.

Service-Safety Director Paul Schmelzer – E. Melrose Ave Waterline, Project No. 35741300

On October 17, 2014, bids were opened for this project. Nine (9) bids were received ranging from seventy-nine thousand seven hundred eighty-five dollars to one hundred sixteen thousand eighty dollars (\$79,785.00 - \$116,080.00). The lowest bid was received from a new contractor Cash Services LLC of Northwood, Ohio, who is also the contractor for the East Bigelow Avenue Waterline project. The plan is to watch the progress of the Bigelow Waterline project before awarding the contract. An appropriation of funds for construction, contingency, and inspection based on a worst case scenario is needed. Any unused funds will be returned to the Water Fund after the project is complete.

The project is included in the 2014 Capital Improvements Plan. Legislation to appropriate funds is requested. Ordinance No. 2014-092 was created.

FROM: Water Fund	\$ 115,000.00
TO: E. Melrose Avenue Waterline Project #35741300	\$ 115,000.00

Discussion

Councilman Russel asked how the Bigelow waterline project is progressing and asked if the Service-Safety Director is confident with this company. Service-Safety Director Schmelzer replied that project has not started yet, but feels good about awarding the contract to them. There were no issues from the reviews they have received from other clients, but he is not familiar with them, so that is why they will perform the Bigelow Avenue waterline project first, then will award this one. Filed.

Service-Safety Director Paul Schmelzer – farmland leases

The City had farmland located in the vicinity of the Airport (approximately 165 acres), the Reservoirs (approximately 63 acres) and Carlin Street property (approximately 23.9 acres). The land is leased to local farmers for cultivation based on bids received through the formal bidding process. Legislation to authorize the Service-Safety Director to enter into a lease agreement(s) for a period of three (3) years beginning 2015 is requested. Ordinance No. 2014-093 was created.

Discussion:

Councilwoman Spence asked why this is for a period of three (3) years. Service-Safety Director Schmelzer replied there are some things that are bid on a renewable basis on services like this (i.e. WORC contract, materials). The total overall project/cost per acre is not going to vary much, so it is done on a three (3) year basis.

Councilman Harrington asked what the current cash rent per acre is. Service-Safety Director Schmelzer replied that the Airport acreage is two hundred twenty dollars (\$220.00), the Carlin Street property & the Reservoirs is one hundred fifty-two to one hundred fifty-three dollar (\$152.00-\$153.00) range. Councilman Harrington added that in his experience with cash rent properties that he has dealt with in the past, growing seasons overlap, so usually more than one (1) year is needed. A three (3) year agreement would probably give the farmer(s) a good balance on winter wheat, late corn, and early soybean. Everything depends on the weather. Filed.

Fire Chief Thomas Lonyo – Ohio Fire Academy Collaboration

The Ohio Fire Marshal's office, the Ohio Fire Academy and the Findlay Fire Department have collaborated in an effort to share the department's live fire simulator. This newly formed partnership will continue to provide live fire training to not only Findlay and Hancock County Firefighters, but also to emergency responders throughout the state. The department will realize financial benefits by being afforded training courses provided by the Ohio Fire Academy in Reynoldsburg, Ohio. State Fire Marshal Larry Flowers and his representatives will be in attendance during the regularly scheduled Findlay City Council meeting on November 4, 2014 to discuss this unique opportunity.

Discussion:

Larry Flowers from the audience noted that the Ohio Fire Marshal's Office is the oldest in the nation. It was created in April of 1900. They serve seven (7) bureaus in Ohio, many of which are regulatory functions. The Ohio Fire Academy is one the bureaus they run. They touch a lot of lives through training programs at the Ohio Fire Academy in Reynoldsburg. They are doing more and more direct delivery programs or academies close to home where they train people in their own towns, own cities, and own townships. The direct delivery program offers mobile training pieces like the fire blast trailer that Findlay has. They have been working on this for a couple of years. They visited the station and saw the fire blast trailer and talked to Findlay's Fire Chief about how often it was getting used in Hancock County, which isn't a lot. They also talked about a new partnership. They will continue to discuss what training the Findlay Fire Department needs. They will pick up the maintenance agreement on the trailer. There are some things they will need to do to the trailer (i.e. new tires, etc.). They will continue to offer the Findlay Fire Department the training they need with this trailer. With a large tractor, they have the ability to pull the trailer around the state offering the same kind of direct delivery opportunities to Fire Departments all over Ohio. They are excited about this opportunity. Governor Kasich who appointed Mr. Flowers, likes to call this a shared service with an opportunity that the State of Ohio, the Ohio Fire Academy, and Cities work together to make training affordable and close to home. This is an exciting opportunity and partnership that will not only benefit the City of Findlay Fire Department, but also other Fire Departments in the region.

Councilwoman Spence thanked the Findlay Fire Department for their efforts in putting this together. It sounds like a win for not only our community, but also for the state of Ohio.

Councilman Russel asked how many of these units exist in Ohio. Mr. Flowers replied a total of six (6). Councilman Russel then asked if it will stay in the regional area. Mr. Flowers replied it will most likely stay in northwest Ohio, but could go outside of this region depending on where the classes for it are requested. It will definitely be taken to Reynoldsburg for awhile to replace the tires, etc.

Councilman VanDyne is very familiar with the Ohio Fire Marshal's Office's work through the program he runs at the University of Findlay. He knows the effectiveness so he happy to be a part of this.

Councilman Monday asked that since the Ohio Fire Marshal's Office is using the City of Findlay's simulator, if the Ohio Fire Marshal's Office will be providing training at low or no cost to the City of Findlay. Mr. Flowers replied that is correct. Councilman Monday added that this is a win-win for both the Ohio Fire Marshal's Office and the City of Findlay. Filed.

Fire Chief Thomas Lonyo – 2014 Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG)

The 2014 Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) application period has been opened and closes on December 5, 2014. The federal grant program provides funding for replacement of fire equipment. As we have discussed in the past, our inventory of Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) now meets the age eligibility for replacement under the AFG guidelines. The department's inventory was last purchased in 2004 through the same grant.

In the past, the department has requested legislation authorizing the Fire Department to apply for grant funding that will replace their SCBAs, air bottles and masks. Technician Troy Stoner is seeking quotes from the Fire Department's vendor. Legislation allowing for the Fire Department to apply for this grant is requested. An estimate would put the replacement of the Fire Department's current inventory in the neighborhood of four hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$450,000.00) and requires a ten percent (10%) match from the City in addition to any costs not covered by the grant.

The Fire Department is also requesting a turnout gear extractor be added to the request. An extractor costs approximately twelve thousand dollars (\$12,000.00) and is capable of cleaning up to four (4) sets of turnout gear in one washing cycle. A BWC grant was evaluated earlier this year and the extractor did not meet the grant requirements. Ordinance No. 2014-094 was created.

Discussion:

Councilman Russel asked if this is for the 2015 budget or if it has already been planned for. Fire Chief Lonyo from the audience replied it is for 2015 budget.

Councilman Harrington noted that the ordinance that is assigned to this does not mention the ten percent (10%) City match or any additional costs not covered by the grant.

Councilman Nichols thanked Fire Chief Lonyo for spelling out what the abbreviations mean. Many letters that come to Council only have abbreviations and he does not always know what they stand for.

Fire Chief Lonyo from the audience noted that the amount is not known and is not needed at this time for the ordinance. The ordinance for this is to give permission to apply for the grant. If the grant is awarded, then an appropriation of funds would be requested from Council. Filed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: - none.

LEGISLATION:

RESOLUTIONS:

RESOLUTION NO. 039-2014 *(no PO)*

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 Harrington moved to adopt the Resolution, seconded by Councilman Klein. Ayes: Frische, Harrington, Klein, Monday, Nichols, Russel, Shindedecker, Spence, VanDyne. The Resolution was declared adopted and is recorded in Resolution Volume XXXII, and is hereby made a part of the record.

ORDINANCES

ORDINANCE NO. 2014-086 *(2440 Bright Rd rezone)*

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 2440 BRIGHT ROAD REZONE) WHICH PREVIOUSLY WAS ZONED "C2 GENERAL COMMERCIAL" TO "I1 LIGHT INDUSTRIAL".

Second reading of the Ordinance.

ORDINANCE NO. 2014-087 *(325 Emma St rezone)*

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 325 EMMA STREET REZONE) WHICH PREVIOUSLY WAS ZONED "C-2 GENERAL COMMERCIAL" TO "I-1 LIGHT INDUSTRIAL".

Second reading of the Ordinance.

ORDINANCE NO. 2014-090 *(year end appropriations)*
AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING FUNDS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

first reading

adopted during
Old Business

ORDINANCE NO. 2014-091 *(2015 HSA)*
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.

first reading

adopted

Councilman Monday moved to suspend the statutory rules and give the Ordinance its second and third readings. Councilman Klein seconded the motion. Ayes: Harrington, Klein, Monday, Nichols, Shindledecker, Spence, VanDyne, Frische. Nay: Russel. The Ordinance received its second and third readings. Councilman Monday moved to adopt the Ordinance, seconded by Councilman Klein. Ayes: Klein, Monday, Nichols, Russel, Shindledecker, Spence, VanDyne, Frische, Harrington. Ordinance was declared adopted and is recorded in Ordinance Volume VV, Page 2014-091 and is hereby made a part of the record.

ORDINANCE NO. 2014-092
(Sutton Place and Greendale Ave Sanitary Sewer replacement; E Melrose Ave waterline)

first reading

adopted

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SERVICE-SAFETY DIRECTOR OF THE CITY OF FINDLAY, OHIO TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH VERNON NAGEL OF NAPOLEON, OHIO FOR SANITARY SEWER REPLACEMENT FOR SUTTON PLACE AND GREENDALE AVENUE, PROJECT NO. 35649900, AND TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS FOR SAID PROJECT, AS WELL AS THE EAST MELROSE AVENUE WATERLINE PROJECT NO. 35741300, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Councilman Monday moved to suspend the statutory rules and give the Ordinance its second and third readings. Councilman Nichols seconded the motion. Ayes: Monday, Nichols, Russel, Shindledecker, Spence, VanDyne, Frische, Harrington, Klein. The Ordinance received its second and third readings. Councilman VanDyne moved to adopt the Ordinance, seconded by Councilman Russel. Ayes: Nichols, Russel, Shindledecker, Spence, VanDyne, Frische, Harrington, Klein, Monday. Ordinance was declared adopted and is recorded in Ordinance Volume VV, Page 2014-092 and is hereby made a part of the record.

ORDINANCE NO. 2014-093 *(farmland leases)*

first reading

adopted

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE OF THE CITY OF FINDLAY, OHIO, TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS AND ENTER INTO A LEASE AGREEMENT(S) TO FARM APPROXIMATELY ONE HUNDRED SIXTY-FIVE (165) ACRES IN THE VICINITY OF THE AIRPORT, APPROXIMATELY SIXTY-THREE (63) ACRES IN THE VICINITY OF THE RESERVOIR, AND APPROXIMATELY TWENTY-THREE AND NINE TENTHS (23.9) ACRES OF LAND ALL OWNED BY THE CITY, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Councilman Klein moved to suspend the statutory rules and give the Ordinance its second and third readings. Councilman Harrington seconded the motion. Ayes: Russel, Shindledecker, Spence, VanDyne, Frische, Harrington, Klein, Monday, Nichols. The Ordinance received its second and third readings. Councilman Klein moved to adopt the Ordinance, seconded by Councilman VanDyne. Ayes: Shindledecker, Spence, VanDyne, Frische, Harrington, Klein, Monday, Nichols, Russel. Ordinance was declared adopted and is recorded in Ordinance Volume VV, Page 2014-093 and is hereby made a part of the record.

ORDINANCE NO. 2014-094 *(2014 Assistance to Firefighters Grant)*

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 PURCHASE SELF-CONTAINED BREATHING APPARATUS (SCBA), AIR BOTTLES, MASKS, AND A TURNOUT-GEAR EXTRACTOR FOR THE FINDLAY FIRE DEPARTMENT, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Councilman VanDyne moved to suspend the statutory rules and give the Ordinance its second and third readings. Councilman Harrington seconded the motion. Ayes: Spence, VanDyne, Frische, Harrington, Klein, Monday, Nichols, Russel, Shindledecker. The Ordinance received its second and third readings. Councilman VanDyne moved to adopt the Ordinance, seconded by Councilman Klein. Ayes: VanDyne, Frische, Harrington, Klein, Monday, Nichols, Russel, Shindledecker, Spence. Ordinance was declared adopted and is recorded in Ordinance Volume VV, Page 2014-094 and is hereby made a part of the record.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

OLD BUSINESS:

Councilman Nichols asked if there is any need to suspend the rules and adopt Ordinance No. 2014-090 tonight. City Auditor Staschiak replied that the numbers will go into the budget report that is given to Council towards the end of the year. By adopting the ordinance tonight, it will

make the numbers more accurate. Councilman Nichols moved to suspend the statutory rules and give Ordinance No. 2014-090 its second and third readings. Councilman Harrington seconded the motion. The ordinance received its second and third readings. Councilman Nichols moved to adopt the ordinance. Councilman VanDyne seconded the motion. Aye: Frische, Harrington, Klein, Monday, Nichols, Russel, Shindledacker, Spence, VanDyne. Ordinance was declared adopted and is recorded in Ordinance Volume VV, Page 2014-090 and is hereby made a part of the record.

City Auditor Staschiak noted that two waivers of the City's health premium were given which benefits not only the City but also its employees in cost savings on the health plan due to the savings throughout the year. There will be a third waiver. The net savings to the City (City dollars across all funds) for the three (3) waivers of premiums that was done over the last three (3) months is one million eighty-five thousand dollars (\$1,085,000.00) which is significant. It is a credit to all involved (i.e. employees, administration, plan providers). He would like to continue those initiatives to keep things moving forward into next year.

NEW BUSINESS:

Councilwoman Frische received some phone calls this week about leaf pick up. She announced that the green waste site has increased their hours to now be Monday-Friday 10:00am-6:00pm and Saturday from 8:00am-4:00pm for the month of November.

Councilwoman Frische and Councilman Klein have been working on revamping the block watch program in the community with Officer Dill. They will be coordinating a City block watch event in January 2015. It is their hopes to gain some support from the rest of Council and are asking them to go out into the neighborhoods to discuss the program as there are a lot of problems going on that Council is hearing about and are reading about in the newspaper.

Councilman Nichols provided Council with a synopsis on the Arts Partnership. The Arts Partnership Board meets four (4) times a year. Most of the board members are volunteers who work very hard. There are nine (9) officers and fourteen (14) board members. He attended their September 26, 2014 meeting where he listened to their discussions which included what they plan to do in the future, what events they sponsor and what went well and what went wrong at those events and what needs to be done to improve them. They also discussed future ideas for the organization. Their mission is to provide, encourage, and promote quality arts, presentations, education, opportunities, and entertainment that meets the needs of Hancock County and Findlay. They operate and provide programs on a budget of four hundred fifty-six thousand dollars (\$456,000.00) which is a small amount of money for all that they do. They also do a lot of work for city and county schools (i.e. programs, sponsor authors and writers, help teachers prepare lessons that involve the arts, students perform in the youth theaters, and various activities for the youth). Some of the events/fundraisers they put on are: Boogie on Broadway, Art Walk, Wine Festival, Community Entertainment Incorporation who donates money for the Arts Partnership, Performing Arts Series that is a financial sponsor, FAAF organization that donates money to the organization, fundraising membership drive, City government donation through City Council and hotel/motel tax, various grants, and miscellaneous income which all promote the operation of the Arts Partnership. Some of their upcoming events for this year and early next year are: Art Walk, Dueling Pianos, Sandi Paty's Christmas Blessing tour, A Night of Comedy, Findlay First Edition Pantasia, Findlay Light Opera, Findlay Act Academy of Ballet, and Willy Wonka's Kids production. The City is more than just Firefighters, Police Officers, putting blacktop down, and repairing sewers. Council needs to be aware of leisure activities in our community (i.e. the arts, recreation, etc.) which takes effort on the part of the City and a lot of money and backing to sponsor these events.

Councilman Monday noted that at his Council seat tonight was an unsigned document. When he receives unsigned documents at home, he throws them away. This unsigned document is from a group or person who calls themselves the Findlay 912 Project Politics and Activism Cleanup Group. The document makes allegations on how they should be attending Council meetings in which he agrees they should. It also states that there are some issues being considered that will affect the freedom of homeowners, rental property owners, and others. The last sentence says to let your Council person hear from you. While he is not sure who this is or whether or not it is an individual or group, he is certain he/she/they are watching City Council tonight and he asks he/she/they to contact him as he would be glad to talk to them and find out what this is all about and find out if it is factual or not. There are a lot of anonymous allegations made that he would like to discuss with them.

President J. Slough adjourned Council at 8:13pm.


CLERK OF COUNCIL


PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL