

FINDLAY CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
REGULAR SESSION MAY 5, 2020 COUNCIL CHAMBERS

ROLL CALL of 2020-2021 Councilmembers:

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

ABSENT: none

President of Council Harrington opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence.

ACCEPTANCE/CHANGES TO PREVIOUS CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES:

Councilman Slough moved to accept the April 21, 2020 Regular Session City Council meeting minutes, Councilman Palmer seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried. Filed.

ADD-ON/REPLACEMENT/REMOVAL FROM THE AGENDA:

Councilman Russel moved to add-on, replace, and remove the following from tonight's agenda, seconded by Councilman Slough. All were in favor. Motion carried. Filed.

ADD-ONS:

- AEP COVID-19 rates (*WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS section*)
- Email and attachments from Mayor Muryn – City of Findlay operations budget (*REPORTS OF MUNICIPAL OFFICERS AND MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENTS section*)
- Letter from Service Director/Acting City Engineer Thomas – CARES Act grant offer for Findlay Airport (*REPORTS OF MUNICIPAL OFFICERS AND MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENTS section*)
- Letter from Mayor Muryn – waving of sidewalk café permit fees (*REPORTS OF MUNICIPAL OFFICERS AND MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENTS section*)
- Ordinance No. 2020-050 – CARES Act grant offer for Findlay Airport (*LEGISLATION section*)

REPLACEMENTS:

- Exhibit A for Resolution No. 014-2020 (*LEGISLATION section*)
 - Added last item to Exhibit A: Tyler Technologies Inc voucher #213471

REMOVALS:

- Letter from Service Director/Acting City Engineer Thomas - Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) NatureWorks Grant (*REPORTS OF MUNICIPAL OFFICERS AND MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENTS section*)
- Ordinance No. 2020-049 - Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) NatureWorks Grant (*LEGISLATION section*)

PROCLAMATIONS: none

RECOGNITION/RETIREMENT RESOLUTIONS: none

PETITIONS: none

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS: none

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS:

American Electric Power (AEP) – COVID-19 rates

Discussion:

President of Council Harrington noted that he received this via the Council Office. It is for Councilmembers to have available if any of their constituents contact them on it. Filed.

REPORTS OF MUNICIPAL OFFICERS AND MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENTS:

City Planning Commission agenda – May 14, 2020 (revised). Filed.

Service Director/Acting City Engineer Thomas – Runway 7/25 Rehab (35293200) and Rehabilitate Taxiway A (35293400)

The Engineering Department would like to submit a grant application to the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) Aviation Department for these projects. The City's FAA allocation will be paying for ninety percent (90%) of the projects. The ODOT Aviation Grant would pay for an additional five percent (5%) of the project which would reduce the City's funds to only five percent (5%) of the construction costs. Legislation authorizing the Mayor or Service Director to apply for the grant and sign any applicable grant agreements or documents that will be required if the City is awarded the grant is requested. Ordinance No. 2020-047 was created. Filed.

Service Director/Acting City Engineer Thomas – Bright Road Pump Station

The existing pumps for the Bright Road Pump Station are in need of repair work. One of the pumps has already been repaired by the Sewer Department, but now a second pump is in need of repairs. Due to the size of the second pump, the repairs are expensive. The Sewer Department budgets for repairs to the various pump stations annually, so there is enough funds in their budget for repairs, but the cost to repair the second pump will take the total cost above the bidding threshold. Since the pump station currently only has two (2) of the three (3) pumps working and the pump station services the east side of the City, so it is very critical to get the pump repaired as soon as possible. For these reasons, a request to waive advertising and bidding requirements is requested so that the City can enter into a contract and replace the pump. Legislation authorizing the Service Director to enter into a contract with Buckeye Pumps for repairs and/or a replacement pump, waiving formal advertising and bidding requirements, and declaring an extreme emergency is requested. Per law, this requires a 2/3 passage vote. Ordinance No. 2020-048 was created. Filed.

Mayor Muryn – 1st qtr 2020 Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)

The first quarter Key Performance Indicators or "KPIs have been compiled and a reformatted summary report has been prepared. They are the performance measurements that are monitored for each department on a continuous basis. The full KPI document "Findlay Performs" can also be found on the City website: <https://www.findlayohio.com/performance>.

These KPIs are a critical tool used to measure service delivery and operational effectiveness of the City. They indicate the progress towards goals set for continuous improvement. Filed.

Mayor Muryn – additional public parking

It is an expectation and focus of the City of Findlay to collaborate towards common goals with public and private sector partners. Additional public parking is a continued effort that is underway. There is an unpaved stone lot just south of the Findlay-Hancock County Public Library that is owned by the County that has been an unusable space for some time. That area was identified last summer as another prime location for public parking, especially in light of discussions regarding court expansion and the impacts to parking on the south side of West Main Cross. Discussions between the City, Hancock County Commissioners and the Findlay-Hancock Public Library on improving this area to provide a safer space and be better utilized took place resulting in the signing of the attached Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) as a collaborative effort to improve the sidewalk and paving in that area. The City of Findlay Public Works Department will be doing the paving with the County and Library covering the cost of materials. Goal is to finish paving prior to City crews obligations to other street maintenance work. It was and is the City Law Director's opinion that the MOU is the only needed documentation for this project to be completed. There is no capital funding required for this collaborative effort. As Findlay and the Nation come back from the impacts of the pandemic, it is anticipated that parking will once again become a public need. This collaborative work between the City of Findlay, Hancock County, and the Findlay-Hancock County Public Library is a continued effort in improving the community. Filed.

Mayor Muryn – City of Findlay operations budget

Mayor Muryn provided the following:

- Summary of updated City of Findlay operations
- City Council portions of the operations budget
- First pass at decreasing Capital Projects as previously shared. Currently reviewing the Capital budget further and prioritizing for additional cuts
- Currently working with department heads to review and modify restricted funds as needed

Discussion:

Councilman Russel noted that City Council's budget that is attached has not been revised as of yet. He sees some areas where there could be some savings made. He asked how Council should go about changing it. For example, the Professional Services amount could be changed in light of not moving forward with Strategic Planning, as well as some other endeavors. Council's budget has some areas that could be trimmed. He asked if there is a process of doing so.

President of Council Harrington replied that there are a couple of ways to go about it. One is to make recommendations to the Mayor in writing. Another is that an Ad Hoc Committee could be formed with a committee report submitted with any recommendations the committee has. Or, could just leave the budget as is with the understanding that any unused amounts would be carried over. It is up to Council which, if any, they want to go with. Mayor Muryn replied that since Strategic Planning is not moving forward, that is an area in the budget where funds could be cut back on. She can work with President of Council Harrington and Clerk of Council DeVore and make some recommendations to send back to Council for review.

City Auditor Staschiak noted that any adjustments to budgets usually go through the APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE where potential changes to the budget would be discussed then. He notified Council that the State is looking at a three billion dollar (\$3,000,000,000) budget deficit which means that local government funds, as well as some state subsidies will be looked at pretty hard. Initially, he was going to decrease the state reimbursements by twenty percent (20%) based on the current situation, but after re-evaluating that, the three billion dollars (\$3,000,000,000) is comparative to the budget deficit the State looked at when the Kasich Administration took office and had to do some dramatic things to balance the budgets, so he might instead revise the reimbursement amounts from the State. There is a bright spot to the budgets. The push the Federal Government did through the CARES Act protected payroll in that there has not been a drop in W2 withholding income that happened during the recession. A large portion of that is contributed to the fact that companies are being incentivized not to lay off or fire employees and instead keep them with the hope or promise that their salaries may be fully reimbursed. They found a new way to provide unemployment benefits in a way that not only incentivizes individuals and companies, but also benefits local Ohio governments to live off the income tax. The downside is that there have been many working from home that have filed some lawsuits. The City will have to carefully monitor what happens with the income tax coming in as it may be subject to refunds next calendar year depending on the outcome of the court cases. Revenues may end up looking larger than expected this year, but if the court cases move forward and the Plaintiffs win, the City could end up with a lot less revenue through the process next year.

Councilman Russel asked if the court cases are related to those paying income tax that would normally be driving into Findlay and working here and are charged one percent (1%), but are currently not driving into Findlay right now so there is not a need to pay that one percent (1%) to Findlay. City Auditor Staschiak replied that is exactly what is going on. The State Legislative Branch in Columbus refers to it as being paid by corporations as "brick and mortar" rule because the facility where someone works is who is going to pay the tax. The court cases are specifically about whether or not someone works from home and not their work facility. There are some risks, but he remains optimistic because some of the Federal Government responses have been positive. He predicts some major hits through the Findlay Municipal Court and some other areas that will affect the General Fund. He will work with the Administration and will finalize the numbers.

Councilman Russel pointed out that on page 3 "updated 2020 City of Findlay operational budget" most of the departments have taken budget cuts, but some have not. He asked if there have been any discussion with the departments that have not cut their budgets. He asked what the status is on those departments. Mayor Muryn replied that while she cannot speak on what cuts will be recommended, she wanted to provide this information as a starting point and will continue to evaluate budgets. She suspects that those that have not cut their budgets will still be doing so. She will provide updates as they come. City Auditor Staschiak added that none of the budgets have been cut so far. Council has fully appropriated the budget and is leaving it to the Administration and the department heads to not spend what Council has given them. So, the status of budget cuts is that no budgets have been cut so far and departments still have the authority to spend the full amount allotted to them. With that said, he is certain that every elected official and every department are looking closely at their budgets. The process should be that the individual departments, from an elected point of view, the Auditor's Office, the courts, Civil Service, and Council should make a decision through a de-appropriation. Should departments want any de-appropriations, it should be through Council through an APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE recommendation and then passed through legislation. At that point, budget cuts can take place. He reiterated that no budgets have been cut at this point from a technical legislative point of view.

Councilman Wobser asked Mayor Muryn if she would prefer to have budget cuts written up as legislation or run it through the APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE and then Council will vote on it through legislation. Mayor Muryn replied she had spoken with the City Auditor and Councilman Wobser on this last week when it was mentioned that as updated revenue projections are received and the City Auditor files his report, action will then need to be taken to abide to legal requirements on what is allowed to be submitted. At this point, no de-appropriations have been requested. This is the plan and this is the strategy. If it moves through, then de-appropriations will be requested as necessary. At this point, the Administration needs a little more time to determine what it needs to look like and will bring it back to Council when she has a more solid plan of what it needs to look like. Councilman Wobser asked if the Mayor has had any conversations with the Findlay Municipal Court and other departments that have not provided cuts in their budget, or if Council needs to take care of those. Mayor Muryn replied that Findlay Municipal Court is looking at their budget and she will be speaking with them later this week to discuss what their budget looks like and what they are offering to cut. Their operations are mandated by the State. She will follow up with the other Departments who will send their budget cuts to the Auditor's Office to be updated in MUNIS. Filed.

Service Director/Acting City Engineer Thomas – CARES Act grant offer for Findlay Airport

Funds were set aside as part of the CARES Act to help maintain safe and efficient airport operations. Based upon the size (category) of the Findlay Airport, the City can receive sixty-nine thousand dollars (\$69,000) to be used for operational expenses such as payroll, utility bills, or payment of debt service. In order to receive the funds, Council will need to authorize the Service Director to sign the grant agreement and be returned no later than May 18th in order for the grant to be valid. Legislation authorizing the Service Director to sign any applicable grant agreements or documents in order for the City to receive grant funds. [Ordinance No. 2020-050 was created.](#)

Discussion:

Councilman Russel asked Service Director/Acting City Engineer Thomas to explain what this about. Service Director/Acting City Engineer Thomas replied that through the CARES Act, funds were set aside to assist airports. It was known this was going to happen, but it was not known when or how much. He received an email from the FAA yesterday afternoon. The amount allocated is based on the size of airport. They are offering the City of Findlay up to sixty-nine thousand dollars (\$69,000). In order for the City of Findlay to accept the grant money, authorization from Council is needed for him to sign the agreement and accept the funds. He received an email yesterday afternoon stating that the agreement needs to be signed and returned by May 18th which is before the next City Council meeting which is why he added this request on to tonight's agenda and is asking Council to consider suspending the statutory rules and give it all three (3) readings tonight. The funds will be used to offset payroll, utility bills, any debt service. It will be set up like a project. After the City's application for the grant is accepted, he will upload the payroll reports and they will then electronically give the City the money. The City has up to a year to use up the full sixty-nine thousand dollars (\$69,000). The City does not provide any funds for this. It is to reimburse the City of documentation we already have. Filed.

Mayor Muryn – waiving of sidewalk café permit fees

The City of Findlay Administration will be waiving applicable sidewalk café permit fees for calendar year 2020, as well as refund any fees that have already been paid for 2020. In light of the current restrictions being placed on local restaurants by the State of Ohio, it is prudent of the City of Findlay to reduce barriers for businesses wherever locally possible. Though fees are just two hundred dollars (\$200) for an initial application and fifty dollars (\$50) for renewal applications, they can be a large expense for a business already struggling to maintain operations. It will also allow businesses that have not done so in the past to provide outdoor seating options. Businesses will still be required to file a sidewalk café permit, as well as meet all requirements for approval. The full application, rules and regulations can be found at <https://www.findlayohio.com/Home/ShowDocument?id=2634>.

Discussion:

Councilman Wobser asked if permits will still be required to be submitted. Mayor Muryn replied yes. All the permitting, application process, and rules and regulations associated with having an outdoor sidewalk café will still have to be followed. The only change is that they will not have to pay the permit fee. With the Corona virus, indoor dining will continue to be limited, so this is an attempt to help them serve more public and generate revenue in order to be here long-term. Councilman Wobser asked how much money was generated from these permits last year. Mayor Muryn replied that she did not obtain those figures, but will do so and let Council know. With the limited number of downtown businesses that could have these outdoor sidewalk cafés, she anticipates it would have been up to a couple of thousand dollars.

Councilman Russel asked if this is an administrative function or if it requires City Council's action. Mayor Muryn replied that it is the opinion of the Law Director that it does not need Council's approval, but that it would be beneficial for Council to show their support.

Councilman Russel moved to support the waiving of 2020 sidewalk café permit fees, as well as reimburse those that have already paid, seconded by Councilman Haas. All were in favor. Mayor Muryn noted that the DFID is meeting tomorrow so she will share this with them. Filed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

The **STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE** met on April 21, 2020 to discuss the City's General Fund.

We recommend the following:

- Discussion of new scope of work draft that will be sent back to Baker-Tilley.
- Tom concerned with lack of brick and mortar projects, however, this is covered in Article V.
- Mayor concerns with using BT for the financial. Would prefer to work more on economic development.
- Auditor mentioned 2 areas that we cannot stop doing – planning and training.
- Mayor, Auditor and Chairman to meet and discuss the scope of work further and discuss with BT and report back to committee.

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

LEGISLATION:

RESOLUTIONS:

RESOLUTION NO. 014-2020 (*no PO*) **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 Slough moved to adopt the Resolution, seconded by Councilman Palmer. Ayes: Greeno, Haas, Hellmann, Niemeyer, Palmer, Russel, Shindledecker, Slough, Warnecke, Wobser. The Resolution was declared adopted and is recorded in Resolution Volume XXXIV, and is hereby made a part of the record.

ORDINANCES:

ORDINANCE NO. 2020-033 (*Airport hanger lease agreement*) **requires three (3) readings**

tabled after second reading on 4/7/20

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF FINDLAY, OHIO, TO NEGOTIATE AND ENTER INTO A NEW LAND LEASE AGREEMENT WITH THE BLANCHARD VALLEY PORT AUTHORITY FOR PURPOSES OF CONSTRUCTING A PROPOSED HANGER FACILITY AT THE FINDLAY AIRPORT FOR USE AND OPERATION BY MARATHON PETROLEUM CORPORATION.

ORDINANCE NO. 2020-039 (*229 Howard St 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 229 HOWARD STREET REZONE) WHICH PREVIOUSLY WAS ZONED "R2 SINGLE FAMILY MEDIUM DENSITY" TO R4 DUPLEX/TRIPLEX.

Councilman Slough moved to adopt the Ordinance, seconded by Councilman Shindledecker. Ayes: Haas, Hellmann, Niemeyer, Palmer, Russel, Shindledecker, Slough, Warnecke, Wobser, Greeno. The Ordinance was declared adopted and is recorded in Ordinance Volume XXI, Page 2020-039 and is hereby made a part of the record.

ORDINANCE NO. 2020-045 (*701-807 Adams St/700-714 Putnam St rezone*) **requires three (3) readings**

second reading

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 1100 ET SEQ OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF FINDLAY, OHIO, KNOWN AS THE ZONING CODE BY REZONING THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED PROPERTY (REFERRED TO AS 701-807 ADAMS STREET, AS WELL AS 700-714 PUTNAM STREET REZONE) WHICH PREVIOUSLY WAS ZONED "M2 MULTIPLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT" TO R4 DUPLEX/TRIPLEX HIGH DENSITY RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT.

Second reading of the Ordinance.

ORDINANCE NO. 2020-046 (*Blanchard St & Lincoln St bike lane/shared lanes*) **requires three (3) readings**

second reading

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

Second reading of the Ordinance.

ORDINANCE NO. 2020-047 **requires three (3) readings**

first reading - adopted

(*Runway 7/25 Rehab (35293200) and Rehabilitate Taxiway A (35293400)*)

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND/OR THE SERVICE DIRECTOR OF THE CITY OF FINDLAY, OHIO TO APPLY WITH THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AVIATION AIRPORT GRANT PROGRAM, AND IF AWARDED, ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT OR AGREEMENTS FOR THE RUNWAY 7/25 REHAB, PROJECT NO. 35293200, AS WELL AS THE REHABILITATE TAXIWAY A, PROJECT NO. 35293400, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Councilman Russel moved to suspend the statutory rules of Council and give the Ordinance its second and third readings, seconded by Councilman Greeno. Ayes: Hellmann, Niemeyer, Palmer, Russel, Shindledecker, Slough, Warnecke, Wobser, Greeno, Haas. The Ordinance received its second and third readings. Councilman Slough moved to adopt the Ordinance, seconded by Councilman Palmer. Ayes: Niemeyer, Palmer, Russel, Shindledecker, Slough, Warnecke, Wobser, Greeno, Haas, Hellmann. The Ordinance was declared adopted and is recorded in Ordinance Volume XXI, Page 2020-047 and is hereby made a part of the record.

ORDINANCE NO. 2020-048 (*Bright Rd pump station*) **requires one (1) reading with a 2/3 passage vote**
Per law, this requires a 2/3 passage vote

first reading - adopted

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SERVICE DIRECTOR OF THE CITY OF FINDLAY, OHIO, TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH BUCKEYE PUMPS FOR REPAIRS AND/OR A REPLACEMENT PUMP, FOR THE BRIGHT ROAD PUMP STATION, WITHOUT THE NEED FOR FORMAL BIDDING AND ADVERTISING PURSUANT TO OHIO REVISED CODE §735.051, AND DECLARING A REAL AND PRESENT EMERGENCY.

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

Discussion:

Councilman Russel asked why the City is going with Buckeye Pumps. Service Director/Acting City Engineer Thomas replied because they have always repaired all of the City's pump stations, they do good work, are a licensed contractor, and are the closest. The company where the pumps were purchased from do not have a place to fix them, so the broken pump would have to be shipped to Washington for repairs. The City has utilized Buckeye Pumps before. The only issue in the past were with the power boards which caused an issue with the pumps. Due to the size of the pumps, it costs a lot more to fix them. To fix the two (2) broken pumps, it will be over the fifty thousand dollar (\$50,000) allotted threshold. This ordinance will allow the pumps to be fixed without putting it out to bid. To fix them, they have to be taken apart to figure out what is wrong with them, so the pumps have to be sent there, taken apart to determine what needs repaired and then provide a quote to fix them. Right now, it is in pieces and he has received the quote to fix it, but since it is over the threshold, legislation was needed to fix them. It would be his preference not to have to pick up the parts and take them somewhere else to have it put back together.

Councilman Hellmann asked what the cost is to fix it. Service Director/Acting City Engineer Thomas replied that he does not know what the cost is for this one to be repaired. The other pump has already been repaired this year that cost approximately thirty thousand dollars (\$30,000) to fix it. He is unsure if this pump needs the same type of repairs or what repairs it needs, but knows that it will take the total amount for the year over the fifty thousand dollar (\$50,000) threshold.

Councilman Wobser asked if Council is essentially approving a blank check. Service Director/Acting City Engineer Thomas replied no because the money is still going to have to come out of the Sewer Department's fund. That department knows what the cost is. He was told it will total over fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) for the year in which the Auditor's Office agreed that this ordinance will work from an accounting/audit standpoint. Councilman Wobser asked what will happen if it is determined the pump will have to be scrapped. This ordinance will give the Service Director the ability to do whatever he needs to do.

City Auditor Staschiak noted that the repair for this pump is in the thirty thousand dollar (\$30,000) range. The Auditor's Office recommended that this be included in the annual vendor bidding so that a pump does not end up being down at a place of being torn apart with this type of expense and not have the opportunity to bid labor rates.

Councilman Greeno asked that with this being torn apart right now if that enables Buckeye Pumps to have the ability to work on it quickly. He asked what the timeframe on completing the work is if Council approves this tonight. Service Director/Acting City Engineer Thomas replied that he did not ask that and is unsure if they will have to order parts. Councilman Russel asked if the Service Director/Acting City Engineer will come back to Council if this ends up being more expensive to fix/replace than originally expected or if this is a situation that it has to be fixed regardless of cost. Service Director/Acting City Engineer Thomas replied it has to be fixed regardless. If the pumps go out and there is not another pump to put in there, nothing will be able to drain to that pump station on the east side of town. It has to be fixed. There has to be a pump there.

Councilman Greeno added that this is a very critical pump that keeps the sewage on the east side of Findlay flowing into that pump station. With the other pump already down, if another pump would go down, it would be a critical situation where a temporary above-ground pump would have to be used. The City has used Buckeye Pump for twenty plus (20+) years. Buckeye Pumps is in Galion, Ohio. They are a very reputable company that has repaired pumps for the City for a number of years. Turnaround time for repairs is decent. This pump is a very critical piece of equipment that needs to be fixed now.

Councilman Hellmann asked if pumps are ever stock-piled. Councilman Greeno replied there are four (4) pumps there, one (1) being a redundant pump. Two (2) of the pumps are currently not working and need repaired, so it is now at a critical point that the two (2) broken pumps be repaired as soon as possible. Under normal operating procedures, three (3) of the pumps would be working and the fourth (4th) pump would be an extra pump. Timing has been bad with two (2) pumps down at the same time.

Ayes: Russel, Shindledecker, Slough, Warnecke, Wobser, Greeno, Haas, Hellmann, Niemeyer, Palmer. The Ordinance was declared adopted and is recorded in Ordinance Volume XXII, Page 2020-048 and is hereby made a part of the record.

ORDINANCE NO. 2020-050 (CARES Act grant for Findlay Airport) requires three (3) readings

first reading - adopted

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SERVICE DIRECTOR OF THE CITY OF FINDLAY, OHIO TO ENTER INTO ALL REQUIRED AGREEMENTS OR DOCUMENTS IN ORDER TO RECEIVE CARES ACT GRANT FUNDS TO BE UTILIZED AT THE CITY OF FINDLAY AIRPORT, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Councilman Russel moved to suspend the statutory rules of Council and give the Ordinance its second and third readings, seconded by Councilman Niemeyer. Ayes: Shindledecker, Slough, Warnecke, Wobser, Greeno, Haas, Hellmann, Niemeyer, Palmer, Russel. The Ordinance received its second and third readings. Councilman Hellmann moved to adopt the Ordinance, seconded by Councilwoman Warnecke. Ayes: Slough, Warnecke, Wobser, Greeno, Haas, Hellmann, Niemeyer, Palmer, Russel, Shindledecker. The Ordinance was declared adopted and is recorded in Ordinance Volume XXII, Page 2020-050 and is hereby made a part of the record.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

OLD BUSINESS:

Councilman Russel: **PLANNING & ZONING COMMITTEE** meeting on May 14, 2020 at 12:00pm is now rescheduled for 11:00am due to the inability to host it at 12:00pm because another meeting is scheduled then. It will be a virtual meeting.

agenda: 0 Midland Ave rezone (parcel #610000330200)

Councilman Slough reminded Council that the bike lane via Ordinance No. 2020-046 will be up for its third (3rd) reading next City Council meeting. He asked if there are any concerns with that project due to funding issues with the State of Ohio. Mayor Muryn replied that project will not be an issue. The Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) NatureWorks grant application request was removed from tonight's agenda because they have suspended that program. They are going through many of their grants and not issuing any funds for some of them this year, but will start the application process for them next year based off of funding. The Blanchard Street and Lincoln Street bike lane/shared lanes project is going forward.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mayor Muryn requested Councilmembers fill out the template form she emailed to them and submit it back to Council on the various boards and committees they serve on as an update on what is going on during those meetings.

Mayor Muryn has not checked this week to see if the State has updated their website with unemployment figures. It is a great resource they have made available. They will be updating that on a more regular basis which will be more beneficial.

Mayor Muryn noted that the Treasury Department's funding originally was just going to be utilized for reimbursable COVID direct expenses in which the City has had minimal expenses. Last night, the Treasury issued that they are being more lenient on that and are continuing to expand it. She spoke with Senator Portman's office and also the Ohio Mayor's Alliance today who both provided information indicating the City may be able to utilize funds towards payroll expenses related to Police, Fire, and emergency services. Hancock Public Health will also be receiving some of those funds. There is an opportunity to provide funds to small businesses that were shut down during the State order. As she obtains additional information on it, she will provide that to Council.

She has been frequently talking with the Alliance and has found out that down businesses will be receiving some resources both from Hancock Public Health, some local banks, and other organizations that are trying to step up to ensure that businesses bounce back as fast as possible and that they are doing everything they can to be creative and work with them. While Federal funding will provide some help, we will step up locally to do what we can as well.

She was on a phone call with Senator McColley and missed a call from Representative Cross who were both working late. In the Senate, they are proposing that local the government funds formula be used to distribute the three hundred fifty million dollars (\$350,000,000) that the State will be receiving that is earmarked for local governments. It is unknown at this time what specific amount Findlay will receive. When she obtains firmer figures, she will let Council know how to move forward and how those funds will be used.

Mayor Muryn noted that she is going through the restricted accounts to provide updated budgets and will provide that to Council once they are finalized.

Mayor Muryn will forward articles about the lawsuits that City Auditor Staschiak mentioned earlier. It is an interesting read. The lawsuits originated out of Cleveland.

Mayor Muryn informed Council that they received information on the Library parking lot. The Administration is always looking for ways to improve downtown parking, so this is a good win for that initiative. Pavement will be put down as soon as it warms up enough to do so. She is pleased to see a collaboration like this between the City, County, and Library.

Last week, she sent out a letter to churches informing them that churches and religious gatherings have been exempt from the State virus mandate. Freedom of religion is important, so those gatherings have not been restricted, but that she reached out to them back in March requesting that they limit their services in an order to keep the community safe until it is known more how the pandemic will go. Thankfully, Findlay has not seen the impact locally that was predicted, so local government wanted to provide some guidance to them. She sent out a letter letting them know that she appreciated them doing their part and not having interactions and finding new ways to connection with their congregations and that if they did chose to meet over the next couple of weeks, that local government has some recommendations of how to help keep their congregations safe. Each church has the ability to enforce or not enforce the recommendations. She has spoken with many churches already. Some will continue to be closed, especially larger ones. There has been a lot of confusion around this. What she provided were recommendations in an attempt to keep people safe and to try to get life back to normal as possible. It is the hopes that will happen over the next couple of weeks.

Councilman Hellmann asked who will maintain the public parking lot that will be shared by the City, County and Library. Mayor Muryn replied that it is the County's parking lot, so they are responsible for maintaining it. That area is where a building was torn down a couple of years ago and has been a gravel lot since then. It has been underutilized and has started to get potholes and the sidewalks in that area have become uneven and dangerous, so this became an opportunity for everyone to collaborate on. The City Auditor has a couple of concerns about it that will be addressed. From the legal perspective with the City and County, the project is in good shape and will work through any concerns the City Auditor has. Councilman Wobser noted that City workers are doing work on County property, but the City Law Director made a ruling that was okay and asked where the City's responsibilities end. Mayor Muryn replied that the Administration will review issues as they come up. The City does not have a lot of expense in this. The City works with citizen concerns they have with their sidewalks. There are no hard or fast rules on it and she is open to having conversations about it. These types of projects are few and far between. Safety Director Schmelzer added that private property is not improved by public employees. This is public property. The cost associated with it is at a very low threshold, maybe two (2) days' worth of work. Benefits to the public are enormous. There are two (2) other public partners in this: the Library and the Commissioners who were both willing and ready to pay for all of the materials. So instead of wasting time and money putting this out to bid, they decided to collaborate the work. To him, it was a no-brainer in that motorists continually request downtown parking, so this will provide more parking. With the assurance that all the materials will be paid for, the City Administration put all their resources to work. The City's cost is at a very low threshold that involves public partners on public property to benefit the public. Councilman Wobser replied that he wasn't asking as a cost or need issue, but just a question about City employees doing work on non-city property. Safety Director Schmelzer replied that since it's a public partnership that requires a very low threshold of City work, that it is the kind of collaboration that taxpayers expect. The average taxpayer would find it laughable if the City held off the project to figure out what the Workers' Compensation claim would be to do the project. The City would like to collaborate with the County and the Library on this project as they are good partners. Councilman Russel added that he also appreciates the software collaboration between the Findlay Police Department and the Hancock County Sheriff's Office. He would like the City to take a little extra time to look at both parking lots as one to see if they will work in an efficient manner, look at the egress of the parking lots onto Cory, especially now that it is back to a 2-way street to figure out the best way and if that includes stripping, what the cost would be to do so. He is in favor of moving forward with this project, just would like to involve an Engineer and/or Architect to make sure the parking lot will function as best as it can. Mayor Muryn replied that they did review the functionality of it due to the formatting and some of the barriers in the parking lot and that it didn't make sense to do that right now with the potential development down the road.

Mayor Muryn mentioned that the census is still going on. It is ahead of where it was at in 2010. She suspects that once some of the group housing quarters enumerates that it will exceed her goal of ninety percent (90%) or higher. It currently is right around seventy-five percent (75%). She asked Councilmembers to continue to spread the word.

Mayor Muryn informed Council that there will be a flyover of some Army National Guard F16s over Findlay on Thursday, May 7, 2020 between 1:45pm-2:05pm to support frontline workers. This information has been released to the public.

Councilman Niemeyer moved to adjourn, seconded by Councilman Slough. All were in favor. Meeting adjourned at 7:56 pm.

CLERK OF COUNCIL

COUNCIL PRESIDENT