

FINDLAY CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

REGULAR SESSION

November 17, 2015

COUNCIL CHAMBERS

PRESENT: Harrington, Klein, Monday, Nichols, Niemeyer, Russel, Shindledecker, Spence, Van Dyne

ABSENT: Frische

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

MINUTES:

- Councilman Harrington moved to accept the November 3, 2015 Regular Session City Council meeting minutes as written. Councilman Niemeyer seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried. Filed.

ADD-ON/REPLACEMENT/REMOVAL FROM THE AGENDA:

Councilman Monday moved to add-on/replace the following on tonight's agenda. Councilman Van Dyne seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried. Filed.

ADD-ONS:

- Letter from Health Dept – Home Visitor Training (*REPORTS OF MUNICIPAL OFFICERS AND MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENTS section*)
- Letter from Health Dept – Findlay Area Safe Kids (*REPORTS OF MUNICIPAL OFFICERS AND MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENTS section*)
- Ordinance No. 2015-105 – MARCS user fees appropriation (*LEGISLATION section*).
- Agenda stated this was Ordinance No. 2015-103
- Ordinance No. 2015-106 – Health Dept Home Visitor training; Findlay Area Safe Kids donations (*LEGISLATION section*)

REPLACEMENTS:

- Ordinance No. 2015-100 – salary ordinance
- Section numbers changed
- Ordinance No. 2015-104 – Health Dept merger (*REPORTS OF MUNICIPAL OFFICERS AND MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENTS section*)
- Dollar amount should be been \$550,000

PROCLAMATIONS: - none.

RECOGNITION/RETIREMENT RESOLUTIONS: - none.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS:

Residents of Hobart Avenue – S Main Street/Western Ave Improvements

As residents of West Hobart Avenue, we wish to take this opportunity to call attention to the City of Findlay certain improvements that we feel are needed an necessary on our street between South Main Street and Western Avenue.

West Hobart Avenue is a heavily traveled street which serves as a route for those needing to go from Western Avenue to South Main Street for access to Blanchard Valley Hospital facilities and the many physicians' offices and residences in that area. The street is in of curbing and changes in the storm drainage system to remove storm water more effectively.

In addition, due to the width of the street and no parking provisions, there are times when vehicles parked on the street, or in unpaved areas adjacent to the street, create a potential safety issue. This potential problem is most severe during the nighttime. Thus, we feel a widening of the street should also be considered.

We are requesting that the City address these concerns and move forward with solutions and improvements as quickly as possible.

Discussion:

Councilman Harrington met with these residents and feels their concerns do warrant some study. The traffic pattern there is heavier than what some may think because those coming off of Western Avenue and Lima Avenue their first opportunity to turn left towards the hospital is Sixth Street and then Hobart, so motorists are using this as a secondary street to go to the hospital which makes the traffic count higher than what might be expected for residential areas.

Councilman Nichols noted that the normal procedure for when there is an unimproved street and someone is asking for curbs or the street to be brought up to standards, they are to petition for that to happen, then all the landowners are assessed to cover the costs. Filed.

Council President Slough introduced Boy Scout Troop 302. They are sponsored by Faith Presbyterian Church. They are working on their citizenship merit badges.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS:

Pam Hardy – Trucks using Bright Rd to cut through to 23/15 or to Tall Timbers & CR 99

Ms. Hardy communicated with the City's Street Department a year or so ago about trucks coming through Bright Road. That Supervisor called her back and told her he would see what they could do. She was told today that there have never been signs there, but she is certain there have been signs as one was put up but came down a couple of days later. She contacted the Service-Safety Director and one of the Councilmembers, but has not heard back from either of them which upset her so she wrote a letter to the Editor. She is concerned about safety, especially with children riding their bicycles and crossing the street to go to the pool, school, church, etc. There are residents of the nursing home and senior towers that cross the street in their wheelchairs. It is a very busy street. Trucks are using it continually to cut back and forth between Tall Timbers Distribution Center and 180 to 23 and 15. She fears there will be a bad accident and/or fatality. She is upset that she was not told that this has to go through the Traffic Commission. She was made aware of this when she called this morning and found this out and was told that they just met yesterday and the next meeting is not until December 21, 2015. She would like to see something done before then. She does not want to wait until a child is killed. She feels this situation has been ignored. She has also witnessed oversized trucks and transport trucks doing this because they do not want to go around. 236 is also getting bad with kids coming from Lakeview and Forest Lake to go to the pool or to school. Ms. Hardy crosses at Saratoga and Bright Road which is one of the worst places in the City for traffic. You cannot see around the curve.

Councilman Klein asked if a sign has to be posted in order for tickets to be issued. Service-Safety Director Schmelzer replied something would have to be put up for a major thoroughfare like Bright Road (i.e. no thru trucks). It is an issue for the Traffic Commission. Ms. Hardy noted that there is one of these signs on Manor Hill and asked why Bright Road does not have one. Motorists are not able to see the sign until they have already turned.

Councilman Nichols noted that the same problem happened on Melrose where you do not know if a truck is making a delivery or not. Ms. Hardy replied that most are not stopping for deliveries. They continue onto 180. Filed.

Councilman Monday adjourned into executive session to discuss Firefighters labor contract at 7:40pm. Seconded by Councilman Van Dyne. All were in favor. Councilman Monday made the motion to adjourn out of executive session and back into regular session at 8:01pm. Councilman Klein seconded the motion. All were in favor. Filed.

PETITIONS: - none.

REPORTS OF MUNICIPAL OFFICERS AND MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENTS:

Findlay Police Department Activities Report – October 2015. Filed.

Findlay Municipal Court Activities Report – October 2015. Filed.

City Income Tax Monthly Collection Report – October 2015. Filed.

City Auditor Jim 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, 2015
- Cash & Investments as of October 31, 2015
- Open Projects Report as of October 31, 2015
- Financial Snapshot for General Fund as October 31, 2015

Filed.

N.E.A.T. Departmental Activity Report – October 2015. Filed.

Findlay Fire Department Activities Report – October 2015. Filed.

Officer/Shareholders Disclosure Form from the Ohio Department of Commerce Division of Liquor Control for Hancock County Performing Arts Center, dba Marathon Center for the Performing Arts, located at 200 West Main Cross Street, Findlay, Ohio for a D5H liquor permit. This requires a vote of Council.

Gregory R. Home, Chief of Police – for Hancock County Performing Arts Center, dba Marathon Center for the Performing Arts, located at 200 West Main Cross Street, Findlay, Ohio. A check of the records shows no criminal record on the following:

Edward Reading
Ann Buis
Paul Smith
Rodney Walton
Wenda Quanrud

Councilman Nichols moved for no objections be filed. Seconded by Councilman Van Dyne. 8 Council members in favor, 1 opposed. Filed.

Council President Pro-Tem R. Ronald Monday – Ad Hoc Committee to review Council rules

Pursuant to "RULES OF PROCEDURE 2014-2015 COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FINDLAY, OHIO" , I am appointing the following to an Ad Hoc Committee to review the Rules of Council and appoint members to the various committees, commissions, and boards for the 2016-2017 term.

R. Ronald Monday, Chairman
Robert Nichols
Randy Van Dyne
Grant Russel

Filed.

Treasurer's Reconciliation Report – October 31, 2015. Filed.

Board of Zoning Appeals Minutes – October 8, 2015. Filed.

Service-Safety Director Paul Schmelzer – MARCS Radio Fees

In July 2009, the City of Findlay entered into an agreement with the Department of Administrative Services, Ohio Office of Information Technology, Multi-Agency Radio Communications System Program Office (MARCS), with the purpose of solidifying the responsibilities of both MARCS and the City of Findlay. This agreement was drawn up and signed by the previous City Administration. In the fall of 2013, the City of Findlay began having discussions with MARCS about this agreement in the wake of the City moving to MARCS 7.X platform.

Prior to the City of Findlay joining MARCS, the City maintained a standalone 800 MHz radio system that was equipped with six (6) radio frequencies. In joining MARCS, the City of Findlay agreed to allow MARCS to use five (5) of those frequencies for the Hancock County area. In the Radio Use Agreement, it states that the five (5) frequencies are valued at \$325,000.00. Based on that value, the City of Findlay was granted a "credit" for subscriber user fees on the MARCS system. The City was advised that the credit for radio user fees had been fully utilized. To date, the Service-Safety Director has been withholding payment while radio operability issues were addressed. He feels comfortable enough with the level of service at this point to make that payment.

The Police Department budget is a logical place to pass through the fees. Sgt. Swope has done a fine job handling the radio project. The total appropriation needed to pay the past user fees is approximately \$100,000.

As a side note, MARCS has cut the normal use fee amount from \$240 to \$120/year/radio which should save the City approximately \$20,000 in 2015 and \$50,000 in 2016 when compared to prior budgeted amounts. Legislation to appropriate funds is requested. The Department of Administrative Services would like to have this paid before the end of the year. Ordinance No. 2015-105 was created. Referred to the Appropriations Committee.

FROM: General Fund	\$ 100,000.00
TO: Police Department #21012000-other	\$ 100,000.00

Filed.

Mayor Lydia Mihalk – Income Tax Ordinance No. 2015-101

In December of last year, the 130th Ohio General Assembly enacted sweeping changes to Ohio's Municipal Income Tax System. A major component of this legislation requires that each municipality amend or adopt an income tax ordinance that is consistent with the new provisions of Chapter 718 of the Ohio Revised Code. Section 718.04 states that "a municipal corporation may levy a tax on income and a withholding tax if such taxes are levied in accordance with the provisions and limitations specified in this chapter." This section specifies six (6) other requirements that must be addressed in each municipality's ordinance.

To assist the municipalities in the daunting task of complying with these and other new provisions of House Bill 5, the Ohio Municipal League assembled a team of Law Directors and Tax Administrators to draft a model income tax ordinance. During the July 1st City Council Committee of the Whole meeting, Andrew Thomas referred to the then impending model ordinance which he was scheduled to obtain days later during the OML Income Tax Conference.

Under my supervision and the Law Director's, and beginning with the Ohio Municipal League's model made available to us July 10th, Mr. Thomas drafter Chapter 194 of Title Nine of the City's Administrative Code. Given the time restraints imposed by the Ohio Legislature and to ensure we implement the costly and time-consuming provisions with as little disruption to the Tax Department's operations as possible, the goal from the onset, clearly, was to introduce an Income tax ordinance to you that is consistent with existing provisions of the City's current ordinance to the extent allowable by the new state law. During the drafting process, the Mayor encouraged and enabled the City's Tax Administrator to attend as many relevant municipal tax meetings and conferences as necessary so that we would be exposed to as much feedback as possible on the model ordinance. The culmination of this work is before Council tonight. Aside from the intended exception discussed below, Law Director Rasmussen, Tax Administrator Thomas and the Mayor have adhered to the aforementioned goal in exceptionally good faith.

In anticipation of this major project, Mr. Thomas reiterated during the May Income Tax Board meeting the need to address a miscue in the existing tax ordinance regarding the perceived "mandatory filing" requirement for residents, which is limited to those who have income "subject to the tax." The constraints of the existing filing requirement have resulted in several counterproductive situations that have even unduly impacted Findlay Municipal Court, the Court's mediation program, both of the City's collection attorneys, and the Hancock County Sheriff's Office, let alone the taxpayers.

The problem was easily correct by simply adopting language presented in the OML model ordinance specific to the topic of mandatory filing, which effectively removes the "subject-to-the-tax" barrier. The mend remains consistent with the age at which our residents' income is taxable-sixteen. Individuals have been subject to Findlay tax at age sixteen since July 1, 1987 (Ordinance No. 1987-25). The Tax Department administers the existing filing requirements in conjunction with information they obtain from the Ohio Department of Taxation and will continue this common practice in very much the same was as before, if not exactly. As a result, there was absolutely, positively no increase in risk that any resident individual sixteen or seventeen years of age would have been contact or pursued unnecessarily or without reasonable cause. Nonetheless, to end any misconception, I asked that paragraph (c) be added to Section 194.091 (A)(3) to limit the filing requirement of resident individuals who are sixteen and seventeen years of age to those who have income that is subject to the tax (See page 58).

Historically, City Council adopted a tempered version of mandatory filing for resident individuals beginning with tax year 1993. Because of the aforementioned 1987 ordinance that imposes tax on individuals when they reach age sixteen, the filing requirement already extends to these young adults. Since its inception though, and as a courtesy, the Tax Administrator did not enforce the filing requirement until the residents reached age eighteen. Beginning with tax year 2011 however, in anticipation of the Ohio Municipal Tax Reform and a foreseen opportunity to later strengthen Findlay's filing procedures, the Tax Administrator ended this long-standing reprieve and enforced the mandatory filing to the inhibited extent the existing Ordinance provides. Four (4) filing seasons have passed since the change. The Tax Department implemented the new policy seamlessly and with no known negative feedback. We expect the true mandatory filing provisions of the new ordinance to be administered just as effectively, responsibly, and respectfully. Attached are copies of the 1993 filing instructions and page one of the February 16, 2012 Income Tax Department Practitioner Newsletter for your reference.

The new ordinance also includes a change to the allocation of funds that we believe is consistent with previous administrative and legislative discussions on this topic. The allocation of funds was included in the OML model and has been a section of Findlay's income tax ordinance since the tax was originally enacted. (Ordinance Number 1966-63.5). Ordinance No. 2015-101 was created. Filed.

Hancock Regional Planning Commission Director Matt Cordonnier – Amendment to the proposed Findlay Zoning Code changes
Hancock Regional Planning Commission submits the following amendment to Ordinance 2015-098. The amendment corrects wording in the billboard section from "either" to "same". This is in reference to the method of measuring the required distance between billboards.

4. required distance between billboard signs

Locations for off premise signs shall be spaced no closer than 500 feet apart on the same either side of a street right of way.

6. distance between Digital Billboards

Digital Billboard or non-digital billboards shall not be placed within 1,000 feet of another Digital Billboard or non-digital billboard on the same either side of a roadway.

Filed.

Findlay W.O.R.C. Financial Analysis Report – January 1, 2015 through October 31, 2015. Filed.

Service-Safety Director Paul Schmelzer – Health Dept merger

As you are aware, we continue efforts to combine the City and County Health Departments. The new Hancock General Health District, will operate under the same accounting rules as the existing County Health Department. The Health District will maintain a carry-forward balance annually for operations. The carry-forward is contractually obligated under the combination agreement signed earlier this year.

The amount is calculated by taking the year end carry-forward from the County Health Department and calculating the City's share based on 57.5% of the total balance. The percentages were based on population.

I had estimated earlier in the year that the City's responsibility would be around \$500,000. Based on the projected year end County Health Department fund balance, the City's share would be \$551,000. The City has already placed \$86,250 into a project to help cover costs related to combination. I am requesting legislation in the amount of \$550,000 to be referred to the appropriations.

This amount will be transferred into the current project and submitted to the County before year end so that they are prepared for 2016. I am pleased with the progress made on the combination project. The new Board, along with Will McHugh, have been meeting regularly and both the City and County staff have worked hard on the implementation plan. I am confident that our community, and the County as a whole, will benefit significantly from this combined effort in the years to come.

FROM: General Fund	\$ 550,000
TO: Health Department Merger project #31947200	\$550,000

Future appropriations to the Health Department will be done per contract as part of the normal budget operation. We are planning on approximately \$360,000 for next year's budget.

Please give this a reading and refer to appropriations. Once the final year end numbers are determined with regard to inventory, we will complete a financial summary for Council. I will invite Will McHugh to the appropriation meeting and the subsequent Council meeting so he can address any questions you have regarding our vision for the General Health District.

Ordinance No. 2015-104 was created. Referred to the Appropriations Committee. Filed.

Health Department Health Commissioner Stephen Mills – Home Visitor training

The Findlay City Health Department has been awarded a small grant from the Hancock County ADAMHS Board in the amount of \$1,750.00 for the purpose of furthering the mission to make Findlay and Hancock County a Trauma Informed Community. The money will be used to provide trauma informed training to community organizations that provide home visiting services in this county.

Trauma Informed Care involves understanding, recognizing, and responding to the effects of all types of trauma. It also emphasizes physical, psychological and emotional safety for both consumers and providers, and helps survivors rebuild a sense of control and empowerment.

An appropriation of \$1,750.00 to project #319558 to provide the necessary speaker and materials is requested. The check has already been deposited with the Auditor's Office. Ordinance No. 2015-106 was created. Filed.

Health Department Health Commissioner Stephen Mills – Findlay Area Safe Kids

The Findlay City Health Department is currently serving as fiscal agent and coordinator for the Findlay Area Safe Kids Chapter, special project #319242.

Safe Kids is a nationwide organization dedicated solely to the prevention of unintentional childhood injuries. Over the course of the last year, they have received \$2,474.00 in donations for their program that has not been appropriated. These donations allow them to provide educational programs along with safety equipment such as bike helmets and car seats at various events throughout the year.

In order for the Health Department to continue this work, an appropriation of \$2,474.00 to project #319242 to be used to further their mission of preventing childhood injury is requested. The check has already been deposited with the Auditor's Office. Ordinance No. 2015-106 was created. Filed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

The **APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE** to whom was referred a request from the City Auditor to discuss 2016 life insurance rates. *We recommend pass the information on to the Director of Human Resources for consideration.*
Councilwoman Spence moved to adopt the committee report. Councilman Russel seconded the motion. All were in favor. Filed.

A **COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE** meeting was held on Tuesday, November 10, 2015, to discuss amendments to the Findlay Zoning Code. Councilman Harrington moved to adopt the committee report. Councilman Shindledecker seconded the motion.

Discussion:

Councilwoman Spence thanked Matt Cordonnier for explaining the changes that are being made. All were in favor. Filed.

The **PLANNING & ZONING COMMITTEE** to whom was referred a request from Daniel Monday to vacate the six feet (6') of right-of-way at 401 Oakland Avenue.

We recommend approve as requested.

Councilman Harrington moved to adopt the committee report. Councilman Van Dyne seconded the motion. Ayes: Harrington, Klein, Nichols, Niemeyer, Russel, Shindledecker, Spence, Van Dyne. Abstain: Monday. Filed.

LEGISLATION:

RESOLUTIONS: - none.

ORDINANCES:

ORDINANCE NO. 2015-093 (601 N Main St rezone)

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 601 NORTH MAIN STREET REZONE) WHICH PREVIOUSLY WAS ZONED "C-2 GENERAL COMMERCIAL" TO "R-4 MULTI-FAMILY".

Councilman Nichols moved to adopt the Ordinance, seconded by Councilman Russel. Ayes: Nichols, Niemeyer, Russel, Shindledecker, Spence, Van Dyne, Harrington, Klein, Monday. Ordinance was declared adopted and is recorded in Ordinance Volume VV, Page 2015-093 and is hereby made a part of the record.

ORDINANCE NO. 2015-094 (301 & 305 E Lima Ave rezone)

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 301 AND 305 EAST LIMA STREET REZONE) WHICH PREVIOUSLY WAS ZONED "R-2 SINGLE FAMILY" TO "M-2 MULTI-FAMILY".

Councilman Harrington moved to adopt the Ordinance, seconded by Councilwoman Spence. Ayes: Niemeyer, Russel, Shindledecker, Spence, Van Dyne, Harrington, Klein, Monday. Ordinance was declared adopted and is recorded in Ordinance Volume VV, Page 2015-094 and is hereby made a part of the record.

ORDINANCE NO. 2015-096 (W.O.R.C. Program contract staffing)

third reading

adopted

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

Councilman Russel moved to adopt the Ordinance, seconded by Councilman Nichols. Ayes: Russel, Shindledecker, Spence, Van Dyne, Harrington, Klein, Monday, Nichols, Niemeyer. The Ordinance was declared adopted and is recorded in Ordinance volume VV, Page 2015-096 and is hereby made a part of the record.

ORDINANCE NO. 2015-097 (Municipal Building network rewiring)

second reading

adopted

AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING FUNDS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Councilman Monday moved to suspend the statutory rules and give the Ordinance its third reading. Seconded by Councilwoman Spence. Ayes: Shindledecker, Spence, Van Dyne, Harrington, Klein, Monday, Nichols, Niemeyer, Russel. The Ordinance received its third reading. Councilwoman Spence moved to adopt the Ordinance, seconded by Councilman Monday. Ayes: Spence, Van Dyne, Harrington, Klein, Monday, Nichols, Niemeyer, Russel, Shindledecker. The Ordinance was declared adopted and is recorded in Ordinance volume VV, Page 2015-097 and is hereby made a part of the record.

ORDINANCE NO. 2015-098 (zoning code)

second reading

AN ORDINANCE REPEALING THE CURRENT ZONING CODE, CHAPTER 1101 ET SEQ OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF FINDLAY, OHIO, AND IN ITS PLACE, ENACTING A NEW CHAPTER 1101 ET SEQ OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF FINDLAY, OHIO; TO BE KNOWN AS "CITY OF FINDLAY ZONING ORDINANCE"; ADOPTING, APPROVING, AND INCORPORATING THE CURRENT ZONING MAP, ALONG WITH THE ENTIRE TEXT OF NEW CHAPTER 1101 ET SEQ OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF FINDLAY, OHIO AS IF FULLY REWRITTEN HEREIN.

Second reading of the Ordinance.

ORDINANCE NO. 2015-100 *(salary ordinance)*

first reading

AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING JOB CLASSIFICATIONS, PAY RANGES, SALARY SCHEDULES AND OTHER MATTERS THAT MAY AFFECT PAY, FOR ALL NON-ELECTED OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE CITY OF FINDLAY, OHIO, AN REPEALING ORDINANCE NO. 2015-007 AND ALL OTHER ORDINANCES AND/OR PARTS OF ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HEREWITH, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

First reading of the Ordinance.

ORDINANCE NO. 2015-101 *(income tax ordinance)*

first reading

AN ORDINANCE ENACTING CHAPTER 194 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF FINDLAY ENTITLED "CHAPTER 194, INCOME TAX."

First reading of the Ordinance.

ORDINANCE NO. 2015-102 *(FFD contract renewal)*

first reading

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF FINDLAY, OHIO, TO ENTER INTO A THREE (3) YEAR CONTRACT WITH THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FIRE FIGHTERS, LOCAL 381, AFL-CIO, EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2016, EXPIRING DECEMBER 31, 2018, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

First reading of the Ordinance.

ORDINANCE NO. 2015-103 *(401 Oakland Ave ROW vacation)*

first reading

AN ORDINANCE VACATING A CERTAIN PORTION OF RIGHT-OF-WAY (HEREINAFTER REFERED TO AS 401 OAKLAND AVENUE VACATION) IN THE CITY OF FINDLAY, OHIO.

First reading of the Ordinance.

ORDINANCE NO. 2015-104 *(Health Dept merger)*

first reading

AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING FUNDS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

First reading of the Ordinance.

ORDINANCE NO. 2015-105 *(MARCS radio fees)*

first reading

AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING FUNDS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

First reading of the Ordinance.

ORDINANCE NO. 2015-106 *(Health Dept – Home Visitor training; Findlay Area Safe Kids)*
AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING FUNDS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

first reading

First reading of the Ordinance.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

OLD BUSINESS:

City Auditor Staschiak thanked Andrew Thomas for answering all of the questions he had. The income tax report in tonight's Council packet projects that income tax receipts are going to come in between 3.9-4% above the expected amount which is just under a million dollars and is more than what was expected, which is positive.

City Auditor Staschiak thanked Carolyn Ehmschwender for her work on the salary ordinances the past twenty (20) years.

NEW BUSINESS:

Councilwoman Spence pointed out that Denise Ziebold is in the audience tonight. She came before Council during the last meeting about her family's urban farm. Councilwoman Spence went out to the Ziebold's farm to see how the animals are taken care of. She was extremely impressed with what she saw. She confided with Ms. Ziebold that she felt that twenty (20) chickens and three (3) goats were a lot of animals in city limits, but found out that they are well taken care of. She could not smell any negative odors. She recommended that if any further discussions on farm animals in city limits takes place to talk with Ms. Ziebold and/or visit her farm before making any decisions.

Councilwoman Spence announced that tonight will be her final City Council meeting. She will provide a formal letter of resignation to the Administration, City Council, and to the Republican Party Board of Elections tomorrow. She has accepted a position with the Auditor of State's Office. She thanked the citizens of Findlay for allowing her the opportunity to serve. It has been a wonderful four (4) years. She extended her best wishes to all the elected officials in the community. Councilman Harrington thanked Councilwoman Spence for her service.

Councilman Shindledecker and his wife were in an automobile accident this past weekend. He thanked the Findlay Police Department, the Fire Department, Hanco Ambulance, and the Blanchard Valley Emergency Room staff for their assistance. Their response time was outstanding. They were courteous, helpful and confident in everything they did.

Councilman Nichols attended a ground-breaking ceremony for the Miracle Field baseball field and playground for children at the CUBE last Friday. It is a wonderful project. Both the Mayor and Service-Safety Director, who spearheaded and organized the project, also attended. It would not have happened without their leadership.

Councilman Harrington made a motion to excuse the absence of Councilwoman Frische. Seconded by Councilman Niemeyer. All were in favor.

Councilman Monday referred the City Mission FYI letter to the Water and Sewer Committee since it refers to permit fees that they have paid to the City, and some yet to be paid.

Councilman Harrington noted that during the Written Communications portion of tonight's meeting, the letter from the five (5) Hobart Avenue residents was read. After it was read, no comments or referrals were given. He asked if it should be referred to a committee for further study and give them a chance to state their case. Mayor Mihalik replied that the Administration will communicate with the residents to let them know where their project could fall, if at all, in the Capital Plan (if their street fits in the resurfacing schedule), and will communicate that with them, as well as explain to them the opportunity for an assessment as Councilman Nichols had mentioned. Councilman Harrington added that street would require extensive re-engineering and did not know if it is a feasible project at this point in time. Councilman Monday added that there was a similar project years ago on West Yates Avenue where the sewers and curbing work was done as an assessment.

City Auditor Staschiak's office has been working with the State Treasurer's Office and the Financial System Provider on the upgrade to the financial system and now knows the best way to provide the information on the transparency issue to the public. He will place the expenses online and will also post revenues in a way that solves a critical issue with confidentiality in the way the information is put forward. He sent an update email to Council a couple of months ago on a major server migration for the finance system, along with a major and needed upgrade to the finance system. His office will continue to work with the State Treasurer's Office to look for the best way to link the information to them as well as a large group of Ohio users on the same finance system that we use, not just cities, but also counties and other groups (i.e. schools). He will provide more information as it becomes available. He anticipates moving forward with this in the very near future. He will work with the Mayor and the public to make sure everyone is aware of it at the proper time.

Council President Slough: COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE meeting on November 23, 2015 at 4:00pm in the third floor conference room of the Municipal Building (CR1).

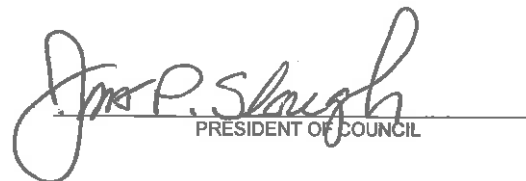
- agenda: 1. income tax ordinance
2. salary ordinance

Councilman Monday: WATER AND SEWER COMMITTEE meeting on November 23, 2015 at 3:00pm in the third floor conference room of the Municipal Building (CR1).

- agenda: 1. Rotary policy
2. City Mission permit fees

President J. Slough adjourned Council at 8:40 pm.


CLERK OF COUNCIL


PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL