

Record of Proceedings
Regular Council Meeting
April 13th, 2023

1 Presiding Officer, Mayor Nicholas Molnar called the April 13th, 2023 regular meeting to order at
2 7:30p.m.
3

4 **Present:** Council members Jessica Brandt, Dave Finley, Jeff Garvas, Jan Tulley, and Vini J.
5 Ventura. Also present: Law Director Mark Guidetti and Clerk of Council Jon Hoover.
6

7 **INVOCATION & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
8

9 **PROCLAMATION:** The Clerk of Council, on behalf of the Mayor, read a Proclamation declaring April
10 21 to be Arbor Day in the City of Macedonia.
11

12 **RECOGNITIONS:** The Mayor recognized Dispatcher Karen Nelson for her accomplishments in being
13 named the 2022-2023 Dispatcher of the Year by the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Department of Ohio. Ms.
14 Nelson was present to accept the recognition and spoke briefly, emphasizing the success in part is due to
15 the cohesion amongst the dispatchers. The Mayor shared that when he has visited the dispatch center, he
16 is impressed that through all the chaos, the City's dispatchers do a phenomenal job and everyone in the
17 community appreciates the job they do.
18

19 Following Lt. Costello's swearing in, the Mayor read certificates of recognition for both the Nordonia
20 boys and girls bowling teams declaring April 13, 2023 to be Nordonia Knights Boys/Girls Bowling Team
21 Day Day and recognized each team's achievements, including the girls team making history by becoming
22 the first female team from Nordonia to win a state title. In attendance were bowlers RJ Lewis, Bryce
23 Lewin, Drew Kitzmiller, Josh Ware and Aiden Bulanda from the boys team; Hailey Whitten, Kolbey
24 Lewin, Brooke Barnes, Abby Toronski, Grace Bzdafka and Kaitlyn McNutt from the girls team. Also in
25 attendance was Head Coach Ty Lachowski.
26

27 **CEREMONIAL SWEARING-IN:** Christian Costello was ceremonially sworn in as the new Executive
28 Lieutenant of the Macedonia Police Department. In attendance were several family members and
29 colleagues, to which Lt. Costello expressed thanks for their support and patience throughout the
30 promotional process. Chief Yakopovich added that Lt. Costello has the abilities to one day be Chief as
31 well. Chief Ripley shared that in 2022 the ISO, which rates fire departments, rated communications in the
32 Macedonia Fire Department as 10 out of 10, and that is due in large part to the dispatchers.
33

34 **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**
35

36 Ms. Brandt moved, second by Mr. Garvas, to **approve the minutes of the regular meeting of March 23,**
37 **2023 as received from the Clerk of Council.** The motion carried by a majority voice vote. Councilors
38 Brandt, Garvas, Tulley and Ventura in the affirmative. Councilor Finley abstained.
39

40 **PUBLIC COMMENTS:** None
41

42 **CORRESPONDENCE:** The Clerk of Council read a letter from the Twinsburg Fire Department to Chief
43 Ripley, wherein Twinsburg's Chief Timothy Morgan expressed gratitude for the mutual aid received from
44 Macedonia's Fire Department on a recent house fire, which included Captain Dave Chesnik and
45 FireMedics Jim Ferris, Meredith Hurley, Bryan Mitchell and John Schwab.
46

47 The Clerk of Council also read an e-mail Chief Ripley received from Russ and Tricia Mazzola of
48 Northfield Center Township, commending the compassionate and respectful response given by
49 Macedonia's emergency personnel during a recent situation. Those staff members included: Captain
50 Dave Chesnik, FireMedics Mike Jaskolka, Matt Harman, Anthony Lewicki and Bill Rogers from the Fire
51 Department, along with Officers Ashley Barendfeld and Chris Neal of the Police Department.
52
53

54 **INTRODUCTION, READINGS & ADOPTION OF LEGISLATION**

55
56 **ORDINANCE NO. 41-2023**

57 AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING THE MUNICIPAL FUND “RECREATION TRUST FUND 703”
58 FOR CERTAIN PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT REVENUE was offered by Ms. Brandt
59 for **first, second and third readings by title only**. Seconded by Mr. Garvas. The motion carried
60 unanimously by a voice vote.

61
62 Dir. Veres stated there is currently a Spirit of Macedonia fund which allows for contributions and
63 donations towards that event, while this fund would handle all other activities that may receive donations
64 at the Recreation Center.

65
66 Ms. Brandt moved, second by Mr. Garvas, to **amend Section 1 of ORD.NO. 41-2023 to exclude the**
67 **accumulation of any sponsorship funds received by the Parks & Recreation Department concerning**
68 **the Spirit of Macedonia SummerFest**. Motion carried by a unanimous voice vote.

69
70 Ms. Brandt moved, second by Mr. Garvas, to **adopt ORD.NO. 41-2023 and post the same according to**
71 **law**. Motion carried by a unanimous voice vote. **ORD.NO. 41-2023 declared and adopted.**

72
73 **ORDINANCE NO. 42-2023**

74 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE
75 NORTHEAST OHIO PUBLIC ENERGY COUNCIL IN ORDER TO ACCEPT ENERGIZED
76 COMMUNITY GRANT(S) was offered by Ms. Tulley for **first, second and third readings by title**
77 **only**. Seconded by Mr. Finley. The motion carried unanimously by a voice vote.

78
79 The Mayor shared that the City receives dollars from NOPEC to put towards projects like lighting the ball
80 fields at Longwood Park, and this would be the second of three years where the City is utilizing these
81 funds.

82
83 Ms. Tulley moved, second by Mr. Finley, to **adopt ORD.NO. 42-2023 and post the same according to**
84 **law**. Motion carried by a majority voice vote. Councilors Brandt, Finley, Garvas and Ventura voting in
85 the affirmative. Councilor Tulley abstained. **ORD.NO. 42-2023 declared and adopted.**

86
87 **ORDINANCE NO. 43-2023**

88 AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT
89 WITH NATIONS BUS SALES FOR THE PURCHASE OF A 2022 ELDORADO ADVANCE FORD
90 TRANSIT BUS FOR THE CITY OF MACEDONIA SERVICES AND PROGRAMMING WITHOUT
91 THE NECESSITY OF ADVERTISEMENT AND FORMAL BIDDING was offered by Mr. Ventura for
92 **first, second and third readings by title only**. Seconded by Ms. Tulley. The motion carried
93 unanimously by a voice vote.

94
95 The Mayor stated the City has been working to acquire a bus for some time and an opportunity to
96 purchase one has finally come. One of the bus uses would be transporting seniors for various programs.

97
98 Mr. Ventura moved, second by Ms. Tulley, to **adopt ORD.NO. 43-2023 and post the same according**
99 **to law**. Motion carried by a majority roll call vote.

100
101 Roll call vote: Ayes: Councilors Brandt, Finley, Garvas, and Ventura
102 Nays: Councilor Tulley

103
104 **ORD.NO. 43-2023 declared and adopted.**

105
106

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107 **ORDINANCE NO. 44-2023**

108 AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT
109 WITH STATEWIDE FORD, INC. FOR THE PURCHASE OF FIVE (5) FORD EXPLORERS AND
110 OUTFITTING OF VEHICLES FOR THE CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT WITHOUT THE
111 NECESSITY OF ADVERTISEMENT AND FORMAL BIDDING was offered by Mr. Garvas for **first,**
112 **second and third readings by title only.** Seconded by Mr. Ventura. The motion carried unanimously by
113 a voice vote.

114
115 Chief Yakopovich stated this legislation is another step along the way of trying to secure vehicles for the
116 Police Department, adding that orders over the last few years have either been cancelled by the dealer or
117 only partially filled.

118
119 Mr. Garvas moved, second by Mr. Ventura, to **adopt ORD.NO. 44-2023 and post the same according**
120 **to law.** Motion carried by a unanimous voice vote. **ORD.NO. 44-2023 declared and adopted.**

121
122 **ORDINANCE NO. 45-2023**

123 AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AN
124 AGREEMENT WITH HUNTINGTON PUBLIC CAPITAL CORPORATION TO FINANCE THE
125 PURCHASE OF NEW EQUIPMENT FOR THE POLICE DEPARTMENT was offered by Mr. Finley
126 for **first, second and third readings by title only.** Seconded by Ms. Brandt. The motion carried
127 unanimously by a voice vote.

128
129 Dir. Veres stated this legislation is how the City will finance the purchase of the vehicles just approved in
130 ORD. NO. 44-2023. Ms. Brandt asked for clarification on the make and model of the vehicles, to which
131 Dir. Guidetti explained the vehicles are technically known as “Ford Explorer” but are commonly referred
132 to for police purposes as “Interceptor”.

133
134 Mr. Finley moved, second by Ms. Brandt, to **adopt ORD.NO. 45-2023 and post the same according to**
135 **law.** Motion carried by a majority voice vote. Councilors Brandt, Garvas, Tulley and Ventura in the
136 affirmative. Councilor Finley in the negative. **ORD.NO. 45-2023 declared and adopted.**

137
138 **ORDINANCE NO. 46-2023**

139 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A
140 CONTRACT WITH L. CATICCHIO & SON, INC. FOR THE “LONGWOOD PARK MULTIPURPOSE
141 FIELD EXPANSION” PROJECT was offered by Ms. Brandt for **first, second and third readings by**
142 **title only.** Seconded by Ms. Tulley. The motion carried unanimously by a voice vote.

143
144 Mr. Doyle stated this legislation is to approve the best bid received for the pre-planned capital project and
145 weather-permitting, should begin and end in May of 2023. Ms. Tulley asked how many bids were
146 received, to which Mr. Doyle responded three.

147
148 Ms. Brandt moved, second by Ms. Tulley, to **adopt ORD.NO. 46-2023 and post the same according to**
149 **law.** Motion carried by a unanimous voice vote. **ORD.NO. 46-2023 declared and adopted.**

150
151 **ORDINANCE NO. 47-2023**

152 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT FOR THE
153 PURCHASE AND INSTALLATION OF A FIRE ALARM SYSTEM FOR CITY HALL IN AN
154 AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$150,000 was offered by Ms. Tulley for **first, second and third readings**
155 **by title only.** Seconded by Mr. Ventura. The motion carried unanimously by a voice vote.

156
157 Dir. Collins explained this legislation is to replace the fire alarm system in the building. Communication
158 cards for the current system are no longer supported by the manufacturer and have been failing for the
159 past 5-6 years.

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160
161 Ms. Tulley moved, second by Mr. Ventura, to **adopt ORD.NO. 47-2023 and post the same according**
162 **to law.** Motion carried by a unanimous voice vote. **ORD.NO. 47-2023 declared and adopted.**
163

164 **ORDINANCE NO. 48-2023**

165 AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR TO
166 PARTICIPATE IN THE ODOT ROAD SALT CONTRACTS AWARDED IN 2023 was offered by Mr.
167 Ventura for **first, second and third readings by title only.** Seconded by Mr. Finley. The motion carried
168 unanimously by a voice vote.
169

170 Dir. Wilson shared this is a housekeeping piece of legislation which allows the City to participate in the
171 ODOT road salt contracts for the 2023-24 winter season. The amount has been scaled back slightly from
172 the previous year of 4,000 tons to 3,000.
173

174 Mr. Ventura moved, second by Mr. Finley, to **adopt ORD.NO. 48-2023 and post the same according to**
175 **law.** Motion carried by a unanimous voice vote. **ORD.NO. 48-2023 declared and adopted.**
176

177 **RESOLUTION NO. 49-2023**

178 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE DISPOSITION OF CERTAIN MUNICIPAL PROPERTY BY
179 THE CITY OF MACEDONIA POLICE DEPARTMENT IN ACCORDANCE WITH CITY OF
180 MACEDONIA CODIFIED ORDINANCE § 121.05 AND OHIO REVISED CODE § 721.15 was offered
181 by Mr. Finley for **first, second and third readings by title only.** Seconded by Mr. Garvas. The motion
182 carried unanimously by a voice vote.
183

184 Chief Yakopovich stated these three vehicles have reached the end of usefulness for the Police
185 Department.
186

187 Mr. Finley moved, second by Mr. Garvas, to **adopt RES.NO. 49-2023 and post the same according to**
188 **law.** Motion carried by a unanimous voice vote. **RES.NO. 49-2023 declared and adopted.**
189

190 **ORDINANCE NO. 50-2023**

191 AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR SUBMISSION TO THE ELECTORS OF THE CITY OF
192 MACEDONIA A PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO SECTION 11.01 OF THE CHARTER REGARDING
193 THE COMPOSITION OF THE BOARD OF ZONING AND BUILDING CODE APPEALS was offered
194 by Mr. Garvas for **first reading by title only.**
195

196 Mr. Garvas shared this ordinance is one of two coming before Council tonight as a result of Charter
197 Review Commission meetings. The Building Commissioner and members of the BZA had brought this
198 up for review, with the idea of having two “alternate” members on the BZA to fill in in the event of
199 vacancy or known absence to try and maintain 5 members present at each meeting of that body. Mr.
200 Garvas further stated this ordinance is only to put the issue on the ballot, as Charter language cannot be
201 amended solely by Council action.
202

203 **ORDINANCE NO. 51-2023**

204 AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR SUBMISSION TO THE ELECTORS OF THE CITY OF
205 MACEDONIA A PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE XIII OF THE CHARTER REGARDING
206 PARKS AND RECREATION was offered by Mr. Garvas for **first reading by title only.**
207

208 Mr. Garvas stated this issue was brought to the Charter Review Commission for advisement from the
209 Parks and Recreation Director. The goal is to clean up the language in the article to reflect how the City
210 operates currently. Mr. Garvas also shared that like the previous ordinance, if Council passes it will
211 appear on the November ballot.
212

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MOTIONS / OTHER LEGISLATIVE ACTION:

Mr. Ventura moved, second by Ms. Brandt to **cancel the June 8, July 27 and August 10 Council meetings for summer recess.** Motion carried by a unanimous voice vote.

MAYOR’S REPORT

- ~Mayor’s Court revenue for March of 2023 was \$48,936
- ~Celebrate telecommunicators (i.e. dispatchers)
- ~Happy Birthday to Law Director Mark Guidetti!
- ~Congratulations to Junior Council member Vini Milianta for his acceptance to South Florida University
- ~Don’t drive distracted – put down the phones and drive the car!

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Parks & Recreation Commission: Ms. Brandt reported the Parks & Recreation Commission will meet next on April 19 at 6pm in the upstairs meeting room of the Recreation Center.

Charter Review Commission: Mr. Garvas reported the Charter Review Commission will likely have its last meeting on April 19, and encouraged anyone with suggestions for the Commission to review to let him know prior to that meeting.

Finance Committee: Mr. Ventura reported there will be a meeting on July 13 prior to the Council meeting, with timing to be determined.

Cemetery Board: Ms. Tulley reported the Board will have its annual meeting in Council chambers at a time to be determined.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Service Department: Director Wilson – Commended the Service staff for the job they’ve done on the first floor hallway in the City Center. Looking into bulletproof glass for the Court area. Spring restoration is taking place, particularly areas that may have been damaged by plows. Proactive maintenance happening on snow and leaf machines.

Engineer: Director Gigliotti – Work on the emergency driveway improvements at the City Center are scheduled to begin later this month. Road paving is scheduled to begin in late May, and all affected residents on those roads will be alerted via mail ahead of time.

Parks and Recreation Department: Supervisor John Doyle – Spring soccer starts this weekend, with ongoing field and trail maintenance taking place. April 22 is SpringFest, which will include Earth Day cleanup and a celebration of Arbor Day. Dumpsters were delivered in front of the City Center for residents to use over the next two weeks. Residents are encouraged to visit macrec.com to see cleanup volunteer opportunities.

Finance Department: Director Veres – Macedonia resident RITA refunds are currently being processed, with the deadline of July 17 unless you have been granted an extension.

Fire Department: Chief Ripley – Hydrant cleaning will begin on Monday. Congratulations to Lt. Costello!

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265 **Police Department:** Chief Yakopovich – Looking forward to working with Lt. Costello, and
266 congratulations to Dispatcher Karen Nelson. It's good to make sure the dispatchers know they are
267 appreciated, and their ISO assessment score is remarkable.
268

269 **HR Department:** Director Smith – Absent
270

271 **Building Department:** Commissioner Rodic – Absent
272

273 **IT Department:** Director Collins – Closed 32 help desk tickets since the last Council meeting. Major
274 projects include a new link between the Recreation Center and the press box, extending wi-fi coverage
275 into the park, as well as purchasing and setting up new desks in the Police Department following changes
276 within that department. Happy Birthday to Dir. Guidetti!
277

278 **Law Department:** Director Guidetti – If Council passes the proposed Charter Amendments to appear on
279 the November 7 ballot, the deadline to submit to the Board of Elections is 60 days prior to the election.
280 Prior to that, notice will go out which will include full language of the amendment and can also be found
281 in the Clerk of Council's office.
282

283 Ms. Tulley also wished Dir. Guidetti a happy birthday.
284

285 **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** None
286

287 **NEW BUSINESS:**
288

289 Ms. Brandt thanked the Mayor, Police and Fire Departments for making sure the City keeps its dispatch
290 operations local and not outsourcing or consolidating to a regional dispatch center. Ms. Brandt also
291 shared that NOPEC information should be arriving in the mail regarding energy rates and what NOPEC
292 provides for residents. There will be an informational meeting in the Community Room on April 17 at
293 4pm, as well as virtual meetings that can be found on nopec.org for April 18, 22 and 27. Ms. Brandt
294 explained that not only does NOPEC help residents save money on energy costs, but they give back to
295 communities in the form of grants that Macedonia has used for lighting ball fields and the City Center.
296

297 The Mayor further shared that more information on NOPEC is posted on the City website, and explained
298 that NOPEC is the only energy non-profit out there.
299

300 Ms. Tulley briefly explained what an energy aggregator does, and the Mayor added that the opt-out
301 residents will receive in the mail is by law, but that one does not have to opt-out.
302

303 Ms. Tulley then turned to ask Chief Yakopovich whether motorists can pass a driver going the speed limit
304 in a residential neighborhood, to which Chief Yakopovich responded they cannot for several reasons. Ms.
305 Tulley and Chief Yakopovich shared recent comments received from individuals where they noted seeing
306 a police presence along Route 82 to enforce traffic laws.
307

308 Mr. Ventura offered kudos to both Chiefs for fighting a regional dispatch system from absorbing
309 Macedonia into their system and detailed the benefits of having dispatchers serving the local community.
310

311 There being no further business, Ms. Brandt moved, second by Mr. Finley, to **adjourn the meeting**. The
312 motion passed **unanimously** pursuant to a voice vote and the meeting was adjourned at approximately
313 8:23p.m.
314

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316

316 **Date:** _____

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Attest: _____
Jon Hoover, Clerk of Council

Mayor: _____
Nicholas Molnar