

Record of Proceedings
Regular Council Meeting
September 28th, 2023

1 Presiding Officer, Mayor Nicholas Molnar called the September 28th, 2023 regular Council meeting to
2 order at 7:30p.m.
3

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

6 **Absent:** Council member Dave Finley
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8 **INVOCATION & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
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10 **PRESENTATION:**
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12 Dominic Basile, Director of Real Estate Appraisal for the Summit County Fiscal Office, stated that in
13 2023 an ‘update reappraisal’ was performed as part of the 6-year cycle. Essentially what is being done is
14 updating the values from what they were originally set in 2020. In discussing with Summit County
15 residents, many do not realize how involved the State is from start to finish. The State not only orders the
16 County on when to perform reappraisals, but how much to increase the appraisal by property class. For
17 residential, the County was instructed to increase by 34%. After going back to the State, the County was
18 able to lower that to 31.4% countywide on average. If residents are not satisfied with their 2023 value
19 they have until 4pm on Friday, September 29 to have the County review. After the State certifies these
20 new values, residents can move forward with a more formal dispute to the Board of Revision.
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22 Ms. Brandt questioned whether the County hears appeals, to which Mr. Basile stated if residents are not
23 happy with the County’s ruling, they can appeal to the State level Board of Revision.
24

25 The Mayor asked about attempts to delay impact of the reappraisals, but the State went ahead. Mr. Basile
26 shared that the State in 2020 changed the period of sales data used to determine values, going from
27 looking at sales data from the previous three years to just the year immediately prior. The Mayor further
28 stated the County is just doing their job after the State put them in a tough spot. Mr. Basile reminded
29 residents that even though property valuation has increased, the taxes are not going up commensurate to
30 that.
31

32 Mr. Garvas asked about the timing of these reappraisals as they relate to potential future levies.
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34 Ms. Brandt clarified that if a resident’s property value increased as a result of this reappraisal, the impact
35 will be seen on the first tax bill of 2024.
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37 Ms. Tulley thanked the Fiscal Office staff for coming, and Mr. Basile shared that property owners can file
38 a dispute with the Board of Revision between January 1-March 31 of 2024.
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40 **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**
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42 Ms. Brandt moved, second by Mr. Garvas, to **approve the minutes of the regular meeting of**
43 **September 14, 2023 as received from the Clerk of Council.** The motion carried by a majority voice
44 vote. Councilors Brandt, Garvas and Ventura voting in the affirmative. Councilor Tulley abstained.
45

46 **PUBLIC COMMENTS:**
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48 ~ **Ellen Bertel, 319 W Highland Road**, informed Council of the Historical Society of Olde Northfield’s
49 (HSON) wishes to utilize funds the Council had appropriated for the purpose of purchasing a new
50 flagpole and mannequin to display the uniform of a local World War II veteran. Ms. Bertel further
51 updated Council that with all four communities supporting HSON, not only were they able to meet their
52 budget, they have an additional \$1,000 to put towards capital improvements. The HSON recently traded
53 artifacts with Longwood Manor.

54
55 Ms. Tulley moved, second by Mr. Ventura, to **approve the Historical Society of Olde Northfield**
56 **purchasing a mannequin in the amount of \$200 plus shipping costs, as well as a new flagpole in the**
57 **amount of \$237 plus shipping costs, not to exceed the donated amount of \$500.** Motion carried by a
58 unanimous voice vote.

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60 **CORRESPONDENCE:** None

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

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64 **RESOLUTION NO. 87-2023**

65 A RESOLUTION OPPOSING H.R. 3372, A U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES BILL TO AMEND
66 TITLE 23 OF THE U.S. CODE TO ESTABLISH A PILOT PROGRAM CONCERNING CERTAIN 6-
67 AXLE VEHICLES OPERATING ON THE INTERSTATE HIGHWAY SYSTEM remained at second
68 reading.

69
70 **ORDINANCE NO. 90-2023**

71 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 161.18 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY
72 OF MACEDONIA RELATIVE TO CERTAIN EMPLOYEE BENEFITS was offered by Mr. Garvas for
73 **second reading by title only.**

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75 **MOTIONS / OTHER LEGISLATIVE ACTION:** Ms. Tulley moved, second by Ms. Brandt, to **issue**
76 **written notice, pursuant to City Codified Ordinance 1385.11, to the owner of 1250 Twinsburg**
77 **Road, and to the owner of 8334 Shepard Road, of the City’s intent to demolish the buildings located**
78 **on the respective properties.** Motion carried by a unanimous voice vote.

79
80 Commissioner Rodic shared that the buildings on these properties have been identified as a public
81 nuisance, and an administrative search warrant was obtained to verify. An order was issued in August to
82 the property owners, giving them ten days to appeal and 30 days to complete the demolition on their own.
83 Both owners have failed to do so, and the next step is for Council to order and issue an intent to demolish.

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85 **MAYOR’S REPORT**

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87 ~TJ Maxx is opening on November 5
88 ~Sephora and Nordstrom Rack are still coming
89 ~The Service Building is moving along. Many steps and more details to come in the future.
90 ~The State of the Communities address was recently given, and video of that can be found on the
91 City website
92 ~If residents have a problem or concern, don’t take it to Facebook or other social media. Rather,
93 bring it to the attention of the City either by calling or visiting the City website. The City does
94 not monitor random Facebook pages, so one should call the City for the most accurate answer
95 ~Please don’t drive distracted—put your phones down and drive your car! The new law goes into
96 effect next month and Macedonia will be a zero-tolerance community.

97
98 **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

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100 **Parks & Recreation Commission:** Ms. Brandt stated the commission met last week on September 20
101 and met the new pool supervisor, Jim Clark, as well as discussing what has taken place in the parks over
102 the Summer and plans for the Fall. The next meeting, rather than on the usual third Wednesday of the
103 month, will be on Monday, October 16 at 6:00pm upstairs in the Recreation Center.

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105 **Finance Committee:** Mr. Ventura shared that the Finance Committee will meet before the Council work
106 session on October 26 to go over the 5-year plan, with additional meetings later this year.

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DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Service Department: Director Wilson – Fall flower hanging baskets are being put up around town, while the flowers from Summer are being taken down for composting. The Service Department employees have been undergoing CPR and first aid training, with the help of the Fire Department and Assistant Chief Celinski. The Service employees, along with several other City staff worked hard to make a great FallFest.

The Mayor reminded everyone with the upcoming leaf season starting on October 16, to not place leaves in the roadway—they must be on your property.

Engineer: Director Gigliotti – The Iroquois Trail drainage project is set to begin the week of October 19, and residents are being notified by mail.

Parks and Recreation Department: – Director Chadock – FallFest was a success, special thanks to Sam Edgar for help organizing along with the Service, Police and Fire Departments. Several food and beer vendors sold out of their product. Jim Clark has come on board as the new Aquatics & Fitness Supervisor.

The Mayor added that FallFest was a great event that landed on a perfect Fall day.

Finance Department: Director Veres – Happy Birthday to Chief Ripley and looking forward to him coming back.

IT Department: Director Collins – 42 help desk tickets have been closed since the last Council meeting. Major projects include setting up new user computers, hard drive replacements and new microphones in Council chambers.

Building Department: Commissioner Rodic – Permits have been issued at Nordstrom Rack for the exterior façade and interior buildout. Thanks for passing the motion earlier, which is the next step in getting these nuisances resolved.

HR Department: Director Smith – Biometric and flu shots are scheduled on-site for October 27 from 7-10am. Virtual health fair will start that same day, and the site will be left open an additional 30 days for those employees unable to attend the live portion.

Fire Department: Assistant Chief Celinski – Happy Birthday to Chief Ripley! Thanks to Dir. Wilson for his commitment to CPR and First Aid training. On October 10 from 5-8pm, the Fire Department will host their annual Fire Prevention open house, held in conjunction with National Fire Prevention Week. There will be fire extinguisher and safety drone demonstrations, along with a fire trailer and touch-a-fire truck for kids.

Police Department: Chief Yakopovich – New SRO Jon Wright started this past Monday and participated in multi-agency training at the high school. A civil service entrance exam for dispatchers was held on September 27, and the Civil Service Commission will be meeting on October 3 to certify the results and produce an eligibility list.

Law Department: Director Guidetti – No report

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

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159 Ms. Tulley asked Commissioner Rodic about the new Chase Bank location at Golden Link, to which Mr.
160 Rodic responded with the belief that they will be under construction for the next 4-5 months.

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162 The Mayor clarified that while the location of the Chase Bank falls within the JEDD, it is in Northfield
163 Center Township.

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165 **NEW BUSINESS:**

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167 The Mayor wished the Nordonia football team well at their next game.

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169 There being no further business, Mr. Garvas moved, second by Ms. Tulley, to **adjourn the meeting**. The
170 motion passed **unanimously** pursuant to a voice vote and the meeting was adjourned at approximately
171 8:07p.m.

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173 **Date:** _____

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176 **Attest:** _____
177 Jon Hoover, Clerk of Council

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180 **Mayor:** _____
181 Nicholas Molnar

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