

Record of Proceedings
Regular Council Meeting
February 8th, 2024

1 Presiding Officer, Mayor Nicholas Molnar called the February 8th, 2024 regular Council meeting to order
2 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
7

8 **INVOCATION & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

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10 **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

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12 Ms. Brandt moved, second by Mr. Garvas, to **approve the minutes of the regular meeting of January**
13 **25, 2024 as received from the Clerk of Council.** The motion carried by a unanimous voice vote.
14

15 **PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

16
17 ~ **Nordonia High School teachers Heather Dean, Melissa McClelland and National Honors Society**
18 **students Kayla Wonsick, Kyla Geiger and Natalie Putz** came to show appreciation and gratitude to the
19 first responders at the January 27th accident at I-271 and State Route 8. They presented a handmade sign
20 that was signed by Nordonia High School students and brought cookies as a thank you.
21

22 **CORRESPONDENCE:**

23 The Clerk of Council read a letter from a Macedonia resident thanking dispatchers, fire, and police
24 personnel for responding to an emergency his family recently faced. The personnel involved were
25 Dispatch Supervisor Tracy Young, Dispatcher Chad Akins, Captain Rob Lewis, Fire/Medics Matt
26 Snowden, Ed Manney, Rob Searson, Police Officers Nick Szaibel, Terry Schneider and Will Culver.
27

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

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30 **ORDINANCE NO. 7-2024**

31 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE
32 NORTHEAST OHIO PUBLIC ENERGY COUNCIL IN ORDER TO ACCEPT ENERGIZED
33 COMMUNITY GRANT(S) was offered by Mr. Garvas for its **first, second and third readings by title**
34 **only.** Seconded by Ms. Tulley.
35

36 The Mayor stated this is one of the set of grants that has funded the lights at ballfield C in Longwood
37 Park.
38

39 Ms. Brandt added that the more residents are with NOPEC, the more the City receives in return for
40 projects like this.
41

42 Mr. Garvas moved, seconded by Ms. Tulley to **adopt ORD.NO. 7-2024 and post the same according to**
43 **law.** The motion carried by a unanimous voice vote. **ORD.NO. 7-2024 declared and adopted.**
44

45 **ORDINANCE NO. 8-2024**

46 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING A TAX EXEMPTION FOR REAL PROPERTY OWNED BY DDR
47 HD & C, LLC IN THE CITY'S COMMUNITY REINVESTMENT AREA, AND DETERMINING THE
48 TIME PERIOD FOR SAID EXEMPTION was offered by Mr. Garvas for its **first reading by title only.**
49

50 The Mayor stated this is somewhat self-explanatory, but it is a CRA for the B&B Theater renovations.
51
52
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54 **ORDINANCE NO. 9-2024**

55 AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR THE PRESERVATION OF CITY OF
56 MACEDONIA HISTORICAL ITEMS BY THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF OLDE NORTHFIELD
57 was offered by Ms. Tulley for its **first, second and third readings by title only**. Seconded by Mr.
58 Garvas. The motion carried unanimously by a voice vote.

59
60 Ms. Tulley encouraged residents to visit the Historical Society of Olde Northfield and stated the rely on
61 donations, going to each of the communities (Northfield Village, Northfield Center Township, Sagamore
62 Hills and Macedonia) as well as outside sources. She stated the Society is currently asking for \$500 to
63 put towards a dehumidifier and a HEPA vacuum, and that they are very thorough in documenting where
64 the money is going.

65
66 Ms. Brandt clarified for those that do not know, Macedonia was part of what was once called Olde
67 Northfield.

68
69 Ms. Tulley moved, second by Mr. Garvas, to **adopt ORD.NO. 9-2024 and post the same according to**
70 **law**. Motion carried by a unanimous voice vote. **ORD.NO. 9-2024 declared and adopted.**

71
72 **RESOLUTION NO. 10-2024**

73 A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE APPOINTMENT BY THE MAYOR OF KELLY LYN
74 WESTBROOKS JOYCE, M.D., TO THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION was offered by
75 Ms. Brandt for its **first, second and third readings by title only**. Seconded by Mr. Ventura. The motion
76 carried unanimously by a voice vote.

77
78 Ms. Brandt expressed gratitude for Dr. Joyce's willingness to dedicate her time to the Parks & Recreation
79 Commission and stated her background as a pediatrician will provide valuable perspective on ways to
80 serve children in the community.

81
82 Ms. Brandt moved, second by Mr. Ventura, to **adopt RES.NO. 10-2024 and post the same according to**
83 **law**. Motion carried by a unanimous voice vote. **RES.NO. 10-2024 declared and adopted.**

84
85 **RESOLUTION NO. 11-2024**

86 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY ENGINEER TO PREPARE PLANS, BIDS AND
87 SPECIFICATIONS, AND FURTHER AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS,
88 TO RESURFACE WALTERS ROAD was offered by Mr. Ventura for its **first, second and third**
89 **readings by title only**. Seconded by Ms. Tulley. The motion carried unanimously by a voice vote.

90
91 Dir. Gigliotti stated this project would repave a portion of Walters Road and is a shared project with
92 Northfield Center Township. Costs will be split 50/50 between the communities, and a grant from
93 OPWC was received which will pay for 50% of the total cost of the project.

94
95 Mr. Ventura moved, second by Ms. Tulley, to **adopt RES.NO. 11-2024 and post the same according to**
96 **law**. Motion carried by a unanimous voice vote. **RES.NO. 11-2024 declared and adopted.**

97
98 **RESOLUTION NO. 12-2024**

99 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY ENGINEER TO PREPARE PLANS, BIDS AND
100 SPECIFICATIONS, AND FURTHER AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS,
101 FOR CERTAIN IMPROVEMENTS TO THE LONGWOOD PARK DRIVEWAY IN THE CITY OF
102 MACEDONIA was offered by Mr. Garvas for its **first, second and third readings by title only**.
103 Seconded by Ms. Brandt. The motion carried unanimously by a voice vote.

104
105 Dir. Gigliotti stated this project is to repave all the driveways at Longwood Park and the Recreation
106 Center, as well as clean-up some historic drainage issues on those driveways.

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107
108 Mr. Garvas moved, second by Ms. Brandt, to **adopt RES.NO. 12-2024 and post the same according to**
109 **law.** Motion carried by a unanimous voice vote. **RES.NO. 12-2024 declared and adopted.**
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111
112 **MOTIONS / OTHER LEGISLATIVE ACTION:** None
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114
115 **MAYOR'S REPORT**
116

117 ~ Happy Birthday to my wife, whose birthday is tomorrow, and Mr. Ventura, whose birthday was
118 yesterday!
119 ~There was a fatal accident involving a tanker truck with 7500 gallons of diesel fuel on the I-271
120 bridge over State Highway 8. While many details are yet unknown, it was a testament to how
121 well the various agencies reacted to the situation. ODOT would not re-open the roadway if they
122 were not completely safe to drive on, so motorists can be confident. Condolences to the family of
123 the driver.
124 ~B&B Theaters are coming in to the former Cinemark location and are set to begin renovating the
125 interior on March 1 and hope to re-open by August 1.
126 ~Please don't drive distracted—put down the phone and drive your car!
127

128
129 **COMMITTEE REPORTS**
130

131 **Parks & Recreation Commission:** Ms. Brandt thanked Dr. Joyce for applying to be on the Parks &
132 Recreation Commission and Council for approving her appointment. The next meeting, which is open to
133 the public, is on Wednesday, February 21 at the Recreation Center.
134

135 **DEPARTMENT REPORTS**
136

137 **Service Department:** Director Wilson – Credit to the Service Department personnel for their role in the
138 aftermath of the January 27th accident.
139

140 **Engineer:** Director Gigliotti – Thanks to Council for passing Resolutions 11 & 12. Soon there will be
141 contract award recommendations for these two as well as the 2024 road program.
142

143 The Mayor thanked Dir. Gigliotti for also being present and lending help during January 27th even though
144 it is not part of his duties.
145

146 **Parks and Recreation Department:** – Director Chadock – There was recent pump damage resulting in
147 the hot tub being closed for today, but a necessary piece of replacement equipment was available so the
148 hot tub should re-open tomorrow night. A new steam generator has been ordered for the steam room and
149 should be in next week. The new HVAC system for the Recreation Center will be coming sometime this
150 Spring, which will necessitate a two-week shutdown. It is anticipated this will happen in April but may
151 be pushed to May.
152

153 Ms. Brandt asked Dir. Chadock to address the price rates for membership to the Recreation Center, to
154 which Dir. Chadock responded there is a 7.5% overall increase to every membership level. Members can
155 lock in their 2023 rate by the end of this week, and Dir. Chadock noted this is the first rate increase since
156 2018.
157

158 Mr. Ventura asked whether SilverSneakers will still be honored, to which Dir. Chadock replied in the
159 affirmative.

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Finance Department: Director Veres – Residents can file for a RITA refund and the deadline is July 15 unless you have an extension. Information is being gathered to be reimbursed by the trucking company’s insurance for all the hours spent by Macedonia staff tending to the accident.

IT Department: Director Collins – Thanks to the safety forces and Service Department for their handling of the incident on January 27th. Major projects include updates to the front desk of the Recreation Center and in the Police Department.

Building Department: Commissioner Rodic – Absent

HR Department: Director Smith – Making progress on online training setup and working with Dir. Wilson to hire a mechanic for the Service Department.

Fire Department: Chief Ripley – Safety forces plan for events like what transpired on January 27th. Several county-based teams (IMAT, HazMat) assisted. The EPA is overseeing work on Brandywine Creek with fuel runoff. 12 off-duty Fire Department staff came in to help, along with lots of extra help from departments in the region. Thankfully no additional injuries beyond the driver of the tanker truck. Drones were utilized to monitor fires.

Police Department: Chief Yakopovich – Appreciate the mutual aid on January 27th and thanks to the public for patience during traffic issues resulting from the road closures. Officer Chad Redfern will start on February 18, who is replacing retired officer Rizzo.

Law Department: Director Guidetti – No report

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Ms. Tulley thanked Police, Fire, ODOT and the Mayor’s office for continuing to put out updates during and after the January 27th accident.

The Mayor thanked Communications Specialist Christy Young for her work in keeping the public informed.

NEW BUSINESS:

The Mayor thanked Mrs. Dean and the Nordonia National Honors Society students for attending this evening—it means a lot to him and the safety forces.

There being no further business, Ms. Tulley moved, second by Mr. Ventura, to **adjourn the meeting**. The motion passed **unanimously** pursuant to a voice vote and the meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:03p.m.

Date: _____

Attest: _____
Jon Hoover, Clerk of Council

Mayor: _____
Nicholas Molnar