

Record of Proceedings
Regular Council Meeting
January 23, 2020

1 Presiding Officer, Mayor Nicholas Molnar called the January 23 regular meeting to order at 7:30PM.

2
3 **Present:** Council members Jessica Brandt, Dave Finley, Jeff Garvas, Jan Tulley and Vini J.
4 Ventura; Law Director Mark Guidetti and Council Clerk Josephine Arceci.

5 **Absent:**

6
7 **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE & INVOCATION** by City Chaplin Tom O'Brien of Nordonia Hills
8 American Legion #801

9
10 **SPECIAL RECOGNITION**

Declaring January 23, 2020

Nordonia High School's Girl's Varsity Basketball Day

11 Varsity team members: Hallie Majoros, Lissie Imrie, Madison McMillan, Ella
12 Gorta, Kennedy Syllaba, Dominique Evans, Madison Cluse, Taylor Root, Danae
13 Willams, Carmella Hack, DeeDee Adkins and Mary Bella Dunlap.

14
15 Varsity staff members: Head Coach Julie Buckler and Assistant Coaches Ryan
16 Finn, Matt Spellman and Sandra Spellman

17
18 **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

19
20 ~ **James Natali on behalf of the Spruce Hill Crossings HOA** stated that the Board of Trustees of
21 Spruce Hill Crossings unanimously opposes sidewalks that have been proposed for front lots in Phase III
22 of Spruce Hills. Sidewalks in the front lots of each unit would be inconsistent with the existing plan
23 layout of Phases I and II. Additionally the sidewalks would be made the front lots aesthetically
24 unappealing as the tiny lots would then be made up of fifty percent concrete. The extra stretch of
25 sidewalk would also create an unnecessary expense for the HOA from a maintenance standpoint. Mr.
26 Natali requested Council consider the HOA's request to eliminate sidewalks across the front lots as well
27 as the Planning Commission's recommendation in this same regard. Sidewalks across the side yard of
28 the lots are not at issue Mr. Natali added.

29
30 ~**Jim Filisky, Sagamore Hills resident and a member of the Board of Trustees of the NHAA**
31 (Nordonia Hills Athletic Association established in 1958) as well as **Dan Jasko, Macedonia resident**
32 **and Mark Sprang, treasurer for the NHAA** expressed the trustee's frustration with the City's position
33 regarding fees/costs charged to NHAA and scheduling of field use. Mr. Filisky stated it's the opinion of
34 NHAA trustees that the City could be more fair with the NHAA and acquiescence to its scheduling needs
35 as it's a community based organization serving children and families of Nordonia Hills. NHAA members
36 feel Mr. Filisky stated that the organization has been good to Macedonia over the years particularly in
37 regards to maintaining the fields and having donated at least \$10,000 worth of equipment to the City.
38 Mr. Filisky mentioned that the 2020 fees discussed and approved in October 2019 in subsequent
39 correspondence is not consistent with the amount agreed upon nor is there any longer the opportunity for
40 optimum scheduling times. It is particularly disturbing to the board of the NHAA Mr. Filisky added that
41 an outside organization is receiving preferential treatment with regards to the use of the fields over the
42 NHAA.

43
44 Mayor Molnar expressed disappointment he told Mr. Filisky that after supporting the NHAA as
45 Macedonia has done for years that Mr. Filisky felt the need to address recent concerns at a Council
46 meeting, which the Mayor added is an inappropriate venue as the functions, programming, scheduling and
47 fee structure of Longwood Park is under the purview of the Parks and Recreation Department and the
48 office of the Mayor. Mayor Molnar also told Mr. Filisky the outside organization for which Mr. Filisky

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49 refers is comprised of local children. The families of these children have chosen to move from the
50 NHAA to the other organization for a variety of reasons. The City of Macedonia has invested heavily
51 into the ball fields Mayor Molnar told Mr. Filisky. Therefore it is incumbent on the administration on
52 behalf of the residents and taxpayers that the high cost of upgrades is not overlooked. That costs must be
53 recouped reasonably going forward. It is not the intent of Macedonia to bankrupt NHAA as the trustees
54 have implied Mayor Molnar stated. Mayor Molnar added that the NHAA has always had exclusive rights
55 for use of Sugar Brush Park. Mayor Molnar added there is not exclusivity with regards to the use of the
56 fields at Longwood Park. Other local organization(s) have approached the City for use of the fields which
57 in fairness the Mayor stated has to be considered. Mayor Molnar suggested to Mr. Filisky that a meeting
58 be scheduled with NHAA trustees to resolve recent misconceptions.

59
60 Director Manley interjected that many of the dates in June for example are blocked dates due to other
61 community events primarily because there is just not enough parking to accommodate multiple activities
62 at Longwood on the same day.

63
64
65 ~John Cassmer, Macedonia resident and president of the LMHS welcomed Councilors Garvas and
66 Finley to City Council. Mr. Cassmer announced that the first holiday craft show held at the Manor House
67 on December 14th was successful. The next open house of the Manor House is Sunday, January 26 from
68 1-4PM. The Manor House will be closed the month of February with meetings and activities resuming in
69 March. Mr. Cassmer mentioned that the LMHS applied for a beautification grant relative to historic
70 structures from the Ohio Gardening Association. The grant will provide bushes and about one hundred
71 native plants for planting around the Manor House. Mr. Cassmer expressed appreciation for the new
72 outdoor light that now illuminates the parking lot to which Mayor Molnar explained the light is a result a
73 NOPEC grant. The Mayor added the LMHS/Manor House will receive another \$1,000 NOPEC grant
74 which can be applied towards an energy efficiency endeavor.

75

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

77

78 **RES. NO. 3 – 2020**

79 A RESOLUTION AMENDING RESOLUTION NO. 3-2016 RELATIVE TO THE
80 COMPENSATION OF THE LAW DEPARTMENT was **offered** by Ms. Tulley and moved
81 Council waive the requirement that it be read by title on three different days, instructing the
82 Clerk to read it by **title only for all three readings**. Second by Mr. Ventura carried unanimously
83 on a voice vote.

84

85 Ms. Tulley moved, Mr. Ventura seconded, motion carried unanimously on a voice vote **to adopt**
86 **RES. NO. 3-2020** and post according to law. **RES. NO. 3-2020 declared adopted.**

87

88 Relative to RES. NO. 3-2020, Law Director Guidetti explained that the amount of the retainer has not
89 increased, the amount was simply reallocated. The net in the reallocation resulted in a reduction in
90 pensionable funds which benefits Macedonia Mr. Guidetti added.

91

92 **RES. NO. 4-2020**

93 A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE REAPPOINTMENT BY THE MAYOR OF
94 ANTHONY COX TO THE CITY PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION was **offered** by
95 Mr. Finley and moved Council waive the requirement that it be read by title on three different

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96 days, instructing the Clerk to read it by **title only for all three readings**. Second by Ms. Brandt
97 carried unanimously on a voice vote.

98

99 Mr. Finley moved, Ms. Brandt seconded, motion carried unanimously on a voice vote **to adopt**

100 **RES. NO. 4-2020** and post according to law. **RES. NO. 4-2020 declared adopted.**

101

102 **RES. NO. 5-2020**

103 A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE REAPPOINTMENT BY THE MAYOR OF JOE
104 SCHIAVONE TO THE CITY PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION was **offered** by Mr.
105 Finley and moved Council waive the requirement that it be read by title on three different days,
106 instructing the Clerk to read it by **title only for all three readings**. Second by Ms. Brandt carried
107 unanimously on a voice vote.

108

109 Mr. Finley moved, Ms. Brandt seconded, motion carried unanimously on a voice vote **to adopt**

110 **RES. NO. 5-2020** and post according to law. **RES. NO. 5-2020 declared adopted.**

111

112 **RES. NO. 6-2020**

113 A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE REAPPOINTMENT BY THE MAYOR OF PATRICK
114 VELOTTA TO THE CITY PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION was **offered** by Mr.
115 Finley and moved Council waive the requirement that it be read by title on three different days,
116 instructing the Clerk to read it by **title only for all three readings**. Second by Ms. Brandt carried
117 unanimously on a voice vote.

118

119 Mr. Finley moved, Ms. Brandt seconded, motion carried unanimously on a voice vote **to adopt**

120 **RES. NO. 6-2019** and post according to law. **RES. NO. 6-2020 declared adopted.**

121

122 **RES. NO. 7-2020**

123 A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE REAPPOINTMENT BY THE MAYOR OF KEVIN
124 WESTBROOKS TO THE CITY PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION was **offered** by
125 Mr. Finley and moved Council waive the requirement that it be read by title on three different
126 days, instructing the Clerk to read it by **title only for all three readings**. Second by Ms. Brandt
127 carried unanimously on a voice vote.

128 Mr. Finley moved, Ms. Brandt seconded, motion carried unanimously on a voice vote **to adopt**

129 **RES. NO. 7-2019** and post according to law. **RES. NO. 7-2020 declared adopted.**

130

131 **RES. NO. 8-2020**

132 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE DISPOSITION OF CERTAIN MUNICIPAL
133 PROPERTY BY THE SERVICE DEPARTMENT OF THE CITY OF MACEDONIA IN
134 ACCORDANCE WITH CITY OF MACEDONIA CODIFIED ORDINANCE SECTION 121.05
135 AND OHIO REVISED CODE SECTION 721.15 was **offered** by Mr. Ventura and moved
136 Council waive the requirement that it be read by title on three different days, instructing the
137 Clerk to read it by **title only for all three readings**. Second by Ms. Tulley carried unanimously
138 on a voice vote.

139

140 Mr. Ventura moved, Ms. Brandt seconded and motion carried unanimously on a voice vote to **amend**

141 **Exhibit A of RES.NO, 8-2020 to conform with Exhibit A presented this evening to Council.**

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142
143 Mr. Ventura moved, Ms. Tulley seconded and motion carried unanimously on a voice vote **to adopt**
144 **RES. NO. 8-2020 as amended** and post according to law. **RES. NO. 8-2020 declared adopted as**
145 **amended.**

146
147 **RES. NO. 9-2020**

148 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY ENGINEER TO PREPARE PLANS, BIDS
149 AND SPECIFICATIONS AND FURTHER AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ADVERTISE
150 FOR BIDS FOR VARIOUS ROADWAY IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS FOR THE 2020
151 ROAD IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM was **offered** by Ms. Tulley and moved Council waive the
152 requirement that it be read by title on three different days, instructing the Clerk to read it by **title**
153 **only for all three readings.** Second by Ms. Brandt carried unanimously on a voice vote.

154
155 Ms. Tulley moved, Mr. Ventura seconded and motion carried unanimously on a voice vote **to adopt**
156 **RES. NO. 9-2020** and post according to law. **RES. NO. 9-2020 declared adopted.**

157
158 Relative to RES. NO. 9-2020, Engineer Gigliotti announced the roads in this year's improvement
159 program include: Broadmoor, Broadledge, Ledgeview, Navajo Trail, North Chinaberry Circle and South
160 Bedford from SR82 south to the bend in road at the address 8329. Mr. Gigliotti added preventative
161 maintenance and miscellaneous are also included in year's road program and they consist of asphalt spot
162 repairs, cracking sealing, road drainage repairs, all at various locations throughout the city.

163
164 **RES. NO. 10 -2020**

165 A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE CONDITIONAL ZONING CERTIFICATE ISSUED
166 BY THE PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION TO PETROS HOMES FOR A
167 PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENT KNOWN AS NORTHWOODS PHASE II was **offered**
168 was **offered** by Mr. Finley and moved Council waive the requirement that it be read by title on
169 three different days, instructing the Clerk to read it by **title only for all three readings.** Second
170 by Ms. Brandt carried unanimously on a voice vote.

171
172 Mr. Finley moved, Ms. Brandt seconded and motion carried unanimously on a voice vote **to adopt**
173 **RES. NO. 10-2020** and post according to law. **RES. NO. 10-2020 declared adopted.**

174
175 **RES. NO. 11-2020**

176 A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE PLANNING COMMISSION'S APPROVAL OF A FINAL
177 DEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR THE PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENT KNOWN AS SPRUCE HILL
178 CROSSING PHASE III FOR WHICH A CONDITIONAL ZONING CERTIFICATE WAS
179 PREVIOUSLY ISSUED BY THE PLANNING AND APPROVED BY COUNCIL was **offered** by Mr.
180 Finley for its **first reading by title only.** A second not required.

181
182 Relative to RES. NO. 11-2020, Law Director Guidetti explained that although Council previously
183 approved the Conditional Use Zoning Certificate that was also recommended by the Planning
184 Commission. The CUZC was conditioned upon a variance that was not forthcoming from the Board of
185 Zoning Code Appeals. Thus the applicant filed an appeal with the Court of Common Pleas. As a result
186 the Planning Commission has since reconsidered its prior action and has approved the final site plan with
187 no variance conditions.

188

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189 **ORD. NO. 12-2020**

190 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 85-2019 RELATIVE TO THE POSITION
191 OF SERVICE DEPARTMENT SUPREVISOR WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC
192 SERVICE ONLY AS TO THE PARY GRADE AND FLSA STATUS was **offered** Ms. Brandt
193 and moved Council waive the requirement that it be read by title on three different days,
194 instructing the Clerk to read it by **title only for all three readings**. Second by Mr. Ventura
195 carried unanimously on a voice vote.

196
197 Ms. Brandt moved, Mr. Ventura seconded and motion carried unanimously on a voice vote **to adopt**
198 **ORD. NO. 12-2020** and post according to law. **ORD. NO. 12-2020 declared adopted.**

199
200 **ORD. NO. 13-2020**

201 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 69-2019 RELATIVE TO THE
202 COMPENSATION SCHEDULE FOR THE NON-UNION CITY EMPLOYEES OF
203 MACEDONIA was **offered** Ms. Brandt and moved Council waive the requirement that it be read
204 by title on three different days, instructing the Clerk to read it by **title only for all three**
205 **readings**. Second by Mr. Ventura carried unanimously on a voice vote.

206
207 Ms. Brandt moved, Mr. Ventura seconded and motion carried unanimously on a voice vote **to adopt**
208 **ORD. NO. 13-2020** and post according to law. **ORD. NO. 13-2020 declared adopted.**

209
210 **ADDITION TO AGENDA**

211
212 Mr. Garvas moved, Mr. Ventura seconded and motion carried unanimously on a voice vote to **add to the**
213 **agenda RES. NO. 14-2020: A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE APPOINTMENT BY THE**
214 **MAYOR OF SAM PILATO TO THE CITY OF MACEDONIA BOARD OF ZONING CODE**
215 **APPEALS and waive the 48-Rule.**

216
217 Mr. Garvas **offered RES. NO. 14-2020** and moved Council waive the requirement that it be read by
218 title on three different days, instructing the Clerk to read it by **title only for all three readings**.
219 Second by Ms. Brandt carried unanimously on a voice vote.

220
221 Mr. Garvas moved, Ms. Brandt seconded and motion carried unanimously on a voice vote **to adopt**
222 **RES. NO. 14-2020** and post according to law. **RES. NO. 14-2020 declared adopted.**

223
224 **MOTIONS / OTHER LEGISLATIVE ACTION**

225
226 **CORRESPONDENCE:** None

227
228 **MAYOR'S REPORT**

229
230 ~Mayor Molnar announced the 20-Year Anniversary of the Macedonia Family Recreation Center.
231 The Center is a 55,000 square foot building supports the use of a variety of fitness programs, activities
232 and classes all of which are offered seven days a week. In honor of the anniversary the Recreation
233 Department is hosting an Open House on Sunday February 23 from 9AM to 5PM.

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235 ~Mayor Molnar commended the work of Macedonia's finance department; Director John Veres
236 and staff members Andrea Maye, Patty Kurcsak, Lisa Hamrick and Laura Welsh. The department strives
237 for effectiveness and efficiency and its motto is a department for others.
238

239 ~ The Mayor announced that the city will receive two (2) \$1,000 grants from NOPEC this year;
240 one to be applied to the Manor House as previously mentioned and the other to the Veteran Memorial
241 Park.
242

243 ~The Mayor reminded motorists as he continues to do; that they please do not drive distracted, that
244 they keep their phones down, that they do not text and drive.
245

246 **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**
247

248 **Parks & Recreation Commission** Ms. Brandt announced the first P&RC meeting of 2020 was held
249 January 15th at which time the Commission discussed its yearly schedule and forthcoming attendance
250 plan.
251

252
253
254
255
256 **DEPARTMENT REPORTS**
257

258 **Service Department** Director Hnottavange reported this last weekend was a weather mix of snow,
259 sleet and rain followed by more snow. The only weather condition missing was fog. The director
260 commended the service crew for keeping Macedonia roads clear and passable over the three day period.
261 Mr. Hnottavange mentioned that reports of plow vehicles driving over the speed limit or not plowing a
262 certain area are unfounded as the action of each truck and driver is verified by GPS. The director
263 explained that the roads are cleared in priority order; the main arterial roads first followed by the
264 secondaries then the subdivisions. The director mentioned that three years ago 11 tons of road material
265 was used for pothole patching. This year only 2 tons has been used which is a testament to the finally
266 having a structured road program. Mr. Hnottavange reminded residents to make sure their mailboxes are
267 secure to avoid damage to weight of the snow being thrown from truck knocking them done. Information
268 about securing mailboxes as well what to do if their mailbox had been downed is on the city's website.
269

270 **Building Commissioner** Commissioner Monoco was not present.
271

272 **Engineer** Mr. Gigliotti announced the bid opening for the Ledgeview water main project is Friday,
273 February 7 at noon. This project is being wholly funded by Cleveland Water added Mr. Gigliotti. The
274 award should be on the February 13th agenda.
275

276 **Recreation Department** Ms. Manley reiterated that the Open House is recognition of the 20-Year
277 Anniversary of the Macedonia Recreation Center is Sunday, February 23 from 9AM-5PM. The Rec
278 Center was officially opened on February 7, 2000. During the Open House the general public is invited
279 to participant in all activities; swimming, fitness classes, games and give-aways. The plan for this year
280 Ms. Manley said is that anniversary is going to be celebrated throughout the year with variety of events
281 and activities planned towards that end.
282

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283 **Finance Department** Director Veres reiterated the WM&E special assessment of \$20.80 (annual
284 amount) now appears on residential property tax bill. Several residents have called because they have
285 notified, perhaps for the first time, another fee on their tax duplicate believing it's another City based fee
286 but it is not Mr. Veres stated. The other fee is the County's charge for maintenance of sanitary sewers.
287

288 **Fire Department** Chief Ripley reiterated Mayor Molnar's passion about distracted driving and the
289 serious ramifications of using a cell-phone while driving. Year to date the chief stated seven safety
290 officers have been fatality injured by motorist driving distracted. Macedonia is not isolated from this
291 problem, two of its police officers struck by motorist within the last 12 months. Fortunately neither
292 incident was fatal but both officers were nonetheless injured. The Chief reminded residents to keep
293 hydrants located on their properties clear of snow. If residents are unable to do so they need only call the
294 fire department for help.
295

296 **Police Department** Chief Golden announced the passing of former Police Chief Pete McRitchie. Mr.
297 McRitchie who was 91-years old was a long time resident of Macedonia, his family living here for over
298 100 years the chief stated. The chief read aloud a history of the police department written by former
299 Macedonia Police Sergeant Ken Turley in which the sergeant expounded not only the history of
300 Macedonia's police department but on Pete McRitchie's legacy as being instrumental in the formation of
301 the Macedonia police department as it is known today.
302

303 **Law Department** Mr. Guidetti advised Council regarding the Our Lady of Guadalupe retention basin
304 that the Cleveland Catholic Diocese did not acquiescence to waiving the appraisal process however the
305 diocese agreed to share the cost of the appraisal equally with Macedonia. The estimated turn-around of
306 the appraisal is three weeks Mr. Guidetti added. Regarding the SR8- RI/RO project at The Crossings at
307 Golden Link, the BZA will be hearing an appeal from the owner of the property adjacent to Culvers the
308 law director said. The hope he added is that the BZA processes the issue quickly so the subsequent steps
309 in the statutory assessment process can be forthcoming.
310

311 Council President Tulley asked if the appraiser will be walking the back properties of the Berkshire
312 residences to which Mr. Guidetti answered most probably.
313

314 **Unfinished business** Council President Tulley mentioned as a charter member of the committee
315 promoting the Macedonia Recreation Center along with Glenn Boros who passed away and former
316 Recreation Director John Houser that the development of the Rec Center was originally planned in three
317 phases. The first phase of the project is the only phase that has come to fruition. The public was wary of
318 the proposal in the beginning, in fact, the levy to fund the project only passed by a slim margin Ms.
319 Tulley stated. But the public has since come to recognize and support the facility and all it offers and has
320 also come to realize what an asset is it to the community. The Parks and Recreation Commission and the
321 department head continue to examine ways to add and improve the facility and its offerings. Regarding
322 another matter, Ms. Tulley reminded residents to be mindful of stop signs. Way to often motorists just
323 blow through the signs, one almost hitting her today she said at Shepard Road and SR82.
324

325 Regarding another topic, Councilor Brandt mentioned that she along with other community leaders meet
326 with Nordonia Hills School Board members to discuss current school and community matters. One area
327 of discussion pertained to the increase property tax bills attributed to the increase in millage to the schools
328 residents will realize in their tax bills this year. While Nordonia has not officially received funds from
329 the tax increase yet some of the work that was promised during the levy drive has already been done Ms.
330 Brandt added.
331

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332 **New business**

333

334 Council President Tulley announced the retirement of Ms. Arceci on March 31, 2020. Council will be
335 actively pursuing applications until February 7th for Mrs. Arceci's replacement. The notice for the
336 position has been posted in numerous locations including social media. The plan Ms. Tulley said is to
337 make the appointment by end of February to afford a month of training for the new clerk.

338

339 There being no further business before Council, the meeting was adjourned unanimously on voice vote at
340 9:50PM.

341