

## UHRICHSVILLE CITY COUNCIL

Thursday, March 12, 2020

Council President Buck Cottrell called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL showed the following members present: Mr. Zucal-yes; Mr. Baker-yes; Mr. Miller-yes; Mr. Harmon-yes; Ms. Myers-yes; Mr. Huff-yes; Mr. Fox-yes.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Council Clerk Trisha Addison.

Council President Robert Cottrell asked for a motion to accept the Council Meeting Minutes from February 27, 2020. A motion was made by Mr. Harmon, seconded by Mr. Miller. ROLL CALL: Mr. Harmon-yes; Mr. Miller-yes; Ms. Myers-yes; Mr. Huff-yes; Mr. Fox-yes; Mr. Zucal-yes; Mr. Baker-yes.

### **ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:**

#### **Mayor Mark Haney:**

- Came to the conclusion today to lock down the City Building to protect the health of the safety forces. A letter explaining was given to Council. A notice will be posted on the door. Mr. Miller asked how long and it will be as long as needed. Mr. Ong explained that people have access to the building, but will have to call first through the box.
- Had a phone conference with Maxim last night and handed out a quote for work to be done at the water park. Not on the quote is the decking that is cracked, he will get a cost. There is a possibility of not opening by Memorial Day if it is not on their schedule. Mr. Haney explained details of the quote. He would like to get him on the schedule as soon as possible. He will redo the cone buckets while he is here. They will look at the broken parts on the play area. He will either try to order parts or will possibly repair them while he's here which will give us about five more years. He's saying this coating will be good for five years and can be reapplied up to five times on top of what is already there. He will go over with our guys how to properly clean at the end of the year while he is here. He came well recommended. The price is \$49,500.00 for deck repair. There is also a quote to replace the locks on the lockers for \$1,500.00 on all lockers. Also has a quote to replace three umbrellas for around \$6,000.00. There was a discussion about details of the work to be done. The work will include a five-year warranty. A Motion to approve spending \$48,500.00 for repair of the water park was made by Mr. Harmon, seconded by Ms. Myers. ROLL CALL: Mr. Harmon-yes; Ms. Myers-yes; Mr. Huff-yes; Mr. Fox-yes; Mr. Zucal-yes; Mr. Baker-yes; Mr. Miller-yes.
- Presented Council with a list of paving bids with prices for each street. The streets are:
  - E. 6<sup>th</sup> Street from N. Water to Gorley
  - W. 11<sup>th</sup> Street from dead end to Water Street
  - N. Dawson Street from Eastport to the Railroad tracks past Zifaro's
  - Gorley Street from Shamel Street to Park Street
  - E. 9<sup>th</sup> from Eastport to the dead end
  - E. 1<sup>st</sup> from bridge to Water Street – will be discussed with Water Dept. pending their project
  - Maple Street
  - Orchard Street from Franklin Street to Holiday Avenue
  - Holiday Avenue from Railroad tracks to Jaycee Drive
  - N. Lake Street was taken off the list after he met with the county engineer, He recommended grinding it up and packing it.

- S. Wardell was not talked about. Going to meet with ODNR about the mine water issue. The engineer made a couple recommendations. Mr. Harmon has contacted the EPA and hasn't heard anything back from them. He sent a letter, but will follow up about the water issue. Mayor Haney has a call in to ODNR and will have to meet with them regarding the mine runoff. If there is leftover funding he might do S. Wardell to Trenton to the tracks.

- W. 10<sup>th</sup> was not on the letter he sent out,

- E. 8<sup>th</sup> from Water St.

There was discussion regarding the paving list bids and the costs. Mr. Zucal reminded everyone that the fuel tax increase was for paving only. There was discussion. Ms. Pearch thinks it can also be used for street repair. Mr. Ong will look into the wording and get back to Ms. Pearch. Mayor Haney has until March 27 to turn in his list. Right now, he has nine streets and approximately \$250,000 counting W. 10<sup>th</sup> and E. 8<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Pearch is comfortable with that number just with the Street Paving Levy monies.

- Mr. Harmon asked the mayor about properties to look into. 1112 N. Water Street, there is trash scattered around the house. 129 W. 10<sup>th</sup> Street, behind the house near the alley there is a junk vehicle with tires scattered in the back alley. There is a cable from the power line that is sitting in someone's yard but still connected to the pole. Mr. Crouse said if it was a cable the homeowner has to call. It is possibly cable from a television. The issue on N. Main, the administration had sent a letter to cease and desist. This is the property with two trailers and a modular. One trailer has been removed. Mayor Haney asked that he be patient with him. He met with the owner the other day.
- The firemen were at 539 E. 1<sup>st</sup> the other night for a call of a porch falling over. He ordered the service department to come out and take care of it. Mayor Haney contacted the sheriff's department and they went to talk to the owners in Tusky. They weren't home but a notice was left for them. A bill will be sent to the homeowners for manpower and equipment that was there. He did make contact with them. The house is not livable. The Landlord Ordinance needs moved on. We're running into landlords that don't care. The Landlord Ordinance needs some enforcement for the registration. They are working on a computer program, ESC is coming in to work on that. The current ordinance allows a landlord to register all of his properties for \$25.00. We have a lot of good landlords, but we have a lot of landlords that don't care about the City of Uhrichsville. Mayor Haney discussed the problems involved. Mr. Fox commented that it's a shame that it's been on the books since 2017 to register a property and hasn't been enforced and that the City could have been bringing in money. The Ordinance Committee felt it was too late in the year to try to enforce the current ordinance, then change the Ordinance for the first of the year. It was discussed to change the Ordinance in the fall and residents would be allowed "x" amount of time to be registered. Mayor Haney said the fire department and police department have to know who owns the property and who is living there for their safety and so they are not running around trying to figure it out when something happens like Friday night. Council discussed that the Ordinance has to be enforced. The Ordinance should say the landlord pays \$25.00 per property. There was discussion. Chief Beal said in the past we had an employee that inspected rentals every time a new person moved in. That person's pay was based on the money collected. This would be a huge undertaking. You might consider the money going towards a part time employee that that is their job and deals with this exclusively. Otherwise it is undoable. Until you have someone looking at each individual house, then this Ordinance has no teeth to it, because you have no enforcement. The police department does not have the time or the resources to do it. Dennison has Dan Shaver as a Code Enforcement Official. President Cottrell is going to reassign it to the Ordinance Committee to look at the \$25.00 issue, if it should be more, and also look at the property issue, if it should be per property, and report back to Council.

- President Cottrell asked about the Eastport project. Mayor Haney is going to meet with ODOT about phase two. There will definitely be some changes to the intersection in question. There will probably be a cost change.

**City Services Director Belle Everett:**

- Absent.

**Law Director James J. Ong:**

- Belle has a number of properties that she will be addressing with Council at the next meeting. She would like to seek the ability to work on a demolition program and sell off some other properties.
- Park Committee will present their proposed Ordinances for the wages.
- Capital Asset Policy was passed previously, but we need a Resolution to adopt that for purposes of the Auditor.

**Auditor, Julie Pearch:**

- Audits are ongoing, annual GAAP audit and the two-year state audit. Hopefully they will wrap that up the first of May.
- She reached out to the bank about refinancing of the water park. She has given them multiple options. We can not stay in notes and have to go back to bonds by 2027 or go to a direct placement loan or a public offering.
- Ordinances regarding water park wages have been discussed in Park Committee. They are emergencies so lifeguards can be hired, they are having a hard time. This gives her the ability to go to schools and show the incentive. We do this every year as far as setting the wages.
- Election Day is Tuesday and she hopes everyone goes out and supports the two levies for our safety forces. One is the EMS renewal for EMS Service, whether it is private or city run, that levy money is still needed to fund the service. The other is a fire truck and new equipment levy. We definitely need that. We purchased the ladder truck with a \$500,000 grant, but we still had a \$381,000.00 payment. A good portion of that levy goes towards making that payment on the fire truck. She hopes the public comes out and supports those two levies.
- Mr. Harmon thanked Julie. She does an excellent job managing the water park debt and that is something that is very important. The sooner we get the monkey off our back the sooner we can spend on roads and cleaning up the town. The water park is a good thing, unfortunately in the reduction in state funding, back when the water park was built we were getting close to \$300,000.00 a year. Right now, we will get \$138,000.00 this year which is an increase. Mr. Harmon said it had been cut since 2010, but this year has been maybe the second budget they haven't cut it. The Governor recommend 10% increase towards the LGF and that 10% was retained in the House. Unfortunately, the Senate took it down to 1.68% increase. He testified on that over the summer and his selling point to the Senate Finance Committee is that he appreciates them not cutting it anymore. That seems to be the message from other people in local government Those cuts have definitely hurt local governments in Ohio. He thinks there is hurt in rural and eastern Ohio.

**Treasurer, Bob Michels:**

- Absent.

**Correspondence:**

- None.

**Committee Reports**

**Mr. Fox** – Thanks Mayor Haney for looking at the topcoat and getting estimates. It was a bit of an eye opener and is something we will have to look at. Hopefully the weather cooperates. Mr. Fox read the report of the Parks and Rec Committee. A Motion to accept the report was made by Mr. Harmon, seconded by Mr. Miller. ROLE CALL: Mr. Harmon-yes; Mr. Miller-yes; Ms. Myers-yes; Mr. Huff-yes; Mr. Fox-yes; Mr. Zucal-yes; Mr. Baker-yes.

**Mr. Huff**- Nothing to report.

**Ms. Myers**- Finance Committee will meet March 24, 2020 at 10:00 a.m.

**Mr. Harmon** – Economic Development Committee met March 10, 2020 and a report was given. A Motion to accept the report was made by Mr. Zucal, seconded by Mr. Harmon. ROLL CALL: Mr. Zucal-yes; Mr. Harmon-yes; Mr. Baker-yes; Mr. Miller-yes; Ms. Myers-yes; Mr. Huff-yes; Mr. Fox-yes. The next Economic Development Committee meeting will be April 2, 2020 at 6:00 p.m.

**Mr. Miller** – Nothing to report.

**Mr. Baker**- Nothing to report.

**Mr. Zucal** – Nothing to report.

### **Old Business:**

**Mr. Fox** – Nothing to report.

**Mr. Huff** – Nothing to report.

**Ms. Myers** – Nothing to report.

**Mr. Harmon** – Nothing to report.

**Mr. Miller** – Nothing to report.

**Mr. Baker** – Nothing to report.

**Mr. Zucal** – Nothing to report.

### **New Business**

**Mr. Fox** – Nothing to report.

**Mr. Huff** – Nothing to report.

**M. Myers** – Nothing to report.

**Mr. Harmon** – There is a bill in the Ohio Senate that is an economic development bill. Just passed the Senate Ways and Means Committee and just passed the overall Senate. The bill will allow municipalities to create and establish neighborhood development areas. The town can establish what exactly the area is, and there is a joint partnership between the City and the local school board. From there, any property owners under this Bill, if they invest \$10,000.00 in fixing up their property, they can apply for full or partial tax exemption from the local school board. Once it is granted, they get it for a period of five years. Some of our residents are lower income and this would give them the ability and flexibility to invest in their property and keep up with maintenance at a lower cost. The bill now goes to the House and he will report on it in the future.

**Mr. Miller** – Nothing to report.

**Mr. Baker** – Nothing to report.

**Mr. Zucal** – In our partnership with Twin City Water & Sewer District, in some communities there is the ability to add community notes to the bills and most people look at those. His geography background tells him that we all need to be counted for the Census so that the City gets counted correctly. Its very important to keep that City status. Could the Mayor have a discussion with Donnie Fawcett, when there are important items that come up, we can reach out through the billing? Mr. Ong said they have the ability to do that, and Kimble does as well. We all have ideas and want to share it with the community. He talked to Eric, can we petition or request to work with the Tuscarawas County Litter Prevention and Litter Control Office? It's a passion of his and he'd be glad to help. The corridors of the City need to be kept clean We have a huge litter situation on many of our corridors and although that may be outside the City, he encourages everyone to look at US 250 and US 36 within the City limits. He knows the administration is busy, but its not only what's in the legislation, but what teeth the legislation has. We would request of that group that there be scheduled clean up with Community Service workers and if they

could respond to us when that would be done. It is important to clean up in the spring and make your corridors look nice. It's a step in the right direction and if you pay attention, the litter this year is horrible. He would like a letter petitioning the county group to provide the service to clean up in the area of Uhrichsville. Mr. Ong suggested it should come from the Mayor's office and he should coordinate with the Community Service Program at Tuscarawas County Court. Mayor Haney said his office will handle it.

**Visitors:**

Amanda Miller – She is running for Judge of the Tuscarawas County Juvenile and Probate Court. She gave a presentation to Council and would appreciate their support.

Nathan Crouse – The Fire Department started training with the house on West 4<sup>th</sup> Street and will be there a lot over the next couple weeks.

Chief Beal – COPS grant has been applied for and appreciates Council passing the legislation. For the month of February, the police calls were over 600, fire calls were around 60.

**ORDINANCES/RESOLUTIONS:**

**RESOLUTION 1874  
ADOPTING AND APPROVING A  
CAPITAL ASSET POLICY AND  
PROCEDURE MANUAL**

A motion to adopt the Resolution was made by Mr. Harmon, seconded by Mr. Baker. ROLL CALL: Mr. Harmon-yes; Mr. Baker-yes; Ms. Myers-yes; Mr. Huff-yes; Mr. Fox-yes; Mr. Zucal-yes; Mr. Miller-yes.

**ORDINANCE 3-20**

**AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING THE RATE OF PAY FOR THE  
UHRICHSVILLE WATER PARK MANAGER,  
RESCINDING ORDINANCE NO. 4-17, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY**

A motion to suspend the Ordinance was made by Ms. Myers, seconded by Mr. Huff. ROLL CALL: Ms. Myers-yes; Mr. Huff-yes; Mr. Fox-yes; Mr. Zucal-yes; Mr. Baker-yes; Mr. Miller-yes; Mr. Harmon-yes.

A motion to adopt the Ordinance was made by Mr. Fox, seconded by Ms. Myers. ROLL CALL: Mr. Fox-yes; Ms. Myers-yes; Mr. Zucal-yes; Mr. Baker-yes; Mr. Miller-yes; Mr. Harmon-yes; Mr. Huff-yes.

**ORDINANCE 4-20**

**AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING THE RATES OF PAY FOR THE  
EMPLOYEES OF THE UHRICHSVILLE WATER PARK,  
AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY**

A motion to suspend the Ordinance was made by Ms. Myers, seconded by Mr. Huff. ROLL CALL: Ms. Myers-yes; Mr. Huff-yes; Mr. Fox-yes; Mr. Zucal-yes; Mr. Baker-yes; Mr. Miller-yes; Mr. Harmon-yes.

A motion to adopt the Ordinance was made by Mr. Huff, seconded by Ms. Myers. ROLL CALL: Mr. Huff-yes; Ms. Myers-yes; Mr. Fox-yes; Mr. Zucal-yes; Mr. Baker-yes; Mr. Miller-yes; Mr. Harmon-yes.

**ORDINANCE 5-20**

**AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY AUDITOR  
TO PAY A STIPEND TO LIFEGUARDS SERVING AN ENTIRE WATER PARK SEASON,  
REPEALING RESOLUTION 1827, AND  
DECLARING AN EMERGENCY**

A motion to suspend the Ordinance was made by Ms. Myers, seconded by Mr. Huff. ROLL CALL: Ms. Myers-yes; Mr. Huff-yes; Mr. Fox-yes; Mr. Zucal-yes; Mr. Baker-yes; Mr. Miller-yes; Mr. Harmon-yes. A motion to adopt the Ordinance was made by Ms. Myers, seconded by Mr. Zucal. ROLL CALL: Ms. Myers-yes; Mr. Zucal-yes; Mr. Huff-yes; Mr. Fox-yes; Mr. Baker-yes; Mr. Miller-yes; Mr. Harmon-yes.

**COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS:**

Ordinance Committee to review the Landlord Ordinance.

**Other Discussions:**

Mayor Haney received the Storm Sewer Assessment and we are owed between \$50,000.00 and \$80,000.00 in back assessment. He's approached Jeff Mamarella for advice. Mr. Ong says he believes it is \$69,000.00 and we reached out to the City Treasurer as well and there will be a meeting between the City Treasurer and the County. This will be a foreclosure action. The City would have to initiate the foreclosure on some of these delinquencies. He thinks one of the properties is around \$21,000.00 and is owned by nine different people. The Mayor also reported that at the next meeting there will be an Ordinance or Resolution regarding hiring two part-time college students for the summer, for probably twelve weeks of work. He has asked AEP about another pick up truck. He will be looking for one around \$4,000.00 to \$5,000.00 out of the street funding.

Mr. Baker said the April 9 meeting is Maundy Thursday. He suggested moving the meeting to Wednesday April 8. A Motion to move the April 9 meeting to April 8 was made by Ms. Myers, seconded by Mr. Huff. ROLL CALL: Ms. Myers-yes; Mr. Huff-yes; Mr. Fox-yes; Mr. Zucal-yes; Mr. Baker-yes; Mr. Miller-yes; Mr. Harmon-yes.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

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Trisha Addison  
Clerk of Council

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Robert Cottrell  
Council President