

## **UHRICHSVILLE CITY COUNCIL**

Wednesday, April 8, 2020

The Meeting was conducted by Zoom, with some members participating by Zoom and others attending at Council chambers.

Council President Robert 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 March 26, 2020. A motion was made by Ms. Myers, seconded by Mr. Fox. ROLL CALL: Ms. Myers-yes; Mr. Fox-yes; Mr. Huff-yes; Mr. Zucal-yes; Mr. Baker-yes; Mr. Miller-yes; Mr. Harmon-abstained.

### **ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:**

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

- Presented Council with agreement with Rush Township and the agreement with New Philadelphia and Arrowhead, which has been signed.
- Will start having Service Department fill out a daily project record to keep track of work and hours and where the work is being done. It has been adopted from the County.
- Needs authorization to do a police test. The list has dwindled and everyone has been hired and with the police grant, will need in place. Those are good for a year from date of test.
- For March of 2020 there were 40 incidents in City, 10 in Mill Township, 10 mutual aid, for 64 total, approximately \$233,000 of property protected. On the ambulance side there were 10 responses in the City with 9 transports, 2 in Mill Township with 1 transport, 1 in Union with 0 transport, and 2 in Dennison with 0 transport for a total of 18 calls with 12 transports. A full report is available in the Mayor's office.
- K-9 FLSA – K-9 officers are to receive approximately four hours of comp time every two weeks for maintenance of the dog. Mayor Haney is looking into it and will present his findings to Council at a future date.
- Street sweeper is at Southeastern. It has some issues and is out of service. He and Belle will discuss further.
- Backhoe was fixed the other day. Instead of taking to Southeastern had Advantech fix at a quarter of the cost. It was nice to have someone local do the work.
- Sent a letter to department heads to cut costs. This does not include cleaning supplies or safety supplies. Any major purchases need run by the Mayor, Julie, or Belle.
- Water park repair is still scheduled for the end of May. Hoping to be open mid-June, depending on what the State says. He has had contact with Brenda Seibert as Manager.
- Has a delinquent debt collection agreement from the Ohio Attorney General. Julie has gone over and is in agreement. This is another way to collect debt owed to the City by entities, citizens residents, where David Yost's office handles the collection. Julie added that this was brought to our attention by Pam at Ohio Billing. Right now, we don't have a good avenue to go after serious delinquent EMS calls. This is not City residents who are soft billed at this time. This would be outside the City and this is free service they provide. With this service, it allows them to garnish state tax returns and a couple other avenues. She feels this would be a good arrangement for the City.

- One of the new firemen has started and the other will start the 13<sup>th</sup>. They will be introduced at a later date
- The building is still closed to the public but is open to all elected officials.
- Can't get into a lot of cleanup notices right now because can't send officers to serve and the Court is pretty much shut down.
- Debbie has been reduced to three days a week and Julie has reduced Jody a little to cut costs.
- Mr. Harmon said that he has been getting several complaints from residents on E. 11<sup>th</sup> Street between the stop sign at stadium and the barber shop. There have been a lot of semi-truck traffic and the semis will pull into the Claymont stadium parking lot and turn around. It's becoming a nuisance for the residents. Two residents said house vibrates when trucks go by. There have been incidents where the trucks turn around in alleys. He doesn't feel it has to do with Eastport Phase II. He feels we may need to look at No Truck signs or have police officers monitor the area. He has also received complaints by Johnson's Auto and there are No Truck signs there. It is happening at all hours of the day, approximately four times a day. JJ felt it might be a GPS routing them wrong. Belle thought it might be trucks going to Circle K and not being able to navigate the turn. Eric has given the residents the Mayor and Police Department phone numbers. JJ recommended that he talk to Chief Beal and have him talk to someone at Circle K. There was further discussion about trucks in the City. President Cottrell agreed to assign the matter to the Safety, Health and Services Committee to look into.
- Julie Pearch asked the Mayor about the police test and the status of the COPS Grant. She heard it might not be until summer of 2021. He has not heard that from the Chief. She thought it might be prudent to wait to give the test because of the money involved since the list is only good for a year. Mayor Haney will get with the Chief. JJ said the Chief has concerns about filling a spot in case we need to replace an officer.
- Ms. Myers asked about street painting and he will talk to the street department about painting crosswalks and lines soon, not right before school start. She asked how the EMS was working out and Mayor Haney has not had any complaints and everything seems to be running smoothly. Chief Edwards said there were 19 calls since taking over on April 1. Thirteen patients have been taken to the hospital and things have been going well.
- A Motion was made to authorize going into the Mutual Aid Agreements with the City of New Philadelphia and Arrowhead Fire District 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.

#### **City Services Director Belle Everett:**

- A letter has been prepared to be emailed regarding spending and expenditures.
- The City is dealing with six grievances from the Service Department and the City has answered all in step one. It is being handled.
- At some point the City may have to respond to the comments made by the coalition, and specifically Mr. Smith of Smith Ambulance and Dennison Council President Greg DiDonato. She doesn't believe people are understanding the Chip Comstock letter. When we were under contract with Smith, we were mentioned as the backup for Smith Ambulance. We are asking for the same option we had before with everyone. Rush wanted to go into the agreement because they were without a contract. The mutual aid agreement does not include EMS. The Arrowhead agreement, when we go into their district we bill. No one has contacted us but Rush Township and Mill Township. It is important that the public realizes that we are doing what is legally obligated by the City, to enter into a contract if we are going to provide backup. Mr. Ong said that that was what Attorney Comstock recommended and the notices went out. It is up to the Mayor and President of Council if they want to issue a reply to the recent newspaper article in the Times

Reporter. Mayor Haney is working on a reply. President Council would like to be involved in the reply.

**Law Director James J. Ong:**

- Asked Mayor Haney if we have a K-9 policy and he said we don't have the FLSA policy. Most give paid time off to care for the dog. Mr. Ong had drafted a K-9 policy for the Village of Dennison with time off for training and exercising the dog. Asked the Mayor to get with him next week and they can put that together.
- Regarding collection of ambulance bills by the Attorney General's office, if they are not going to charge us for them, he is completely in support with having them handle. They will put a hold on any state or federal tax refund. If we handle it, when RITA does the collection, they have to file a lawsuit, then get a judgment, then they have to track them down to garnish wages or bank accounts, but have no ability to garnish tax refunds, but the Attorney General's office would. He would fully support that.

**Auditor, Julie Pearch:**

- Moving forward with the water park refinancing. Going to go with Plan A and have Plan B in place. Emailed everyone copies of the Fiscal Officer Certificates, one is for the notes if we do one year note and one is for if we back into direct placement. She needs a Motion to accept those.
- She has two Ordinances that authorize to go ahead with direct placement and to go ahead with direct placement. We are planning to go ahead with direct placement which is basically a bank loan. If we get favorable rates back and it is the best option then we will go ahead with that. If not, we have the one year note in place. We have been in contact with someone in OMAP office and we're well within the timeline. She would like those passed as an emergency with the pandemic situation being what it is.
- Received notification from OPWC and emailed to all that they are foregoing all loan payments that are due int July which is great. We pay in January and July every year. Everything will be pushed back six months and they will come out with a new amortization schedule so that will be a savings of about \$40,000 that we don't have to spend this July.
- Received notification today from Bureau of Workers Comp. Governor DeWine came out with 1.6 billion packages for business and if it gets approved by board of BWC they are looking to refund the 2018 premiums for any business paid and that should be around \$17,000 to \$18,000.
- She and Chief Edwards registered with FEMA to get reimbursed for any expenses whether it be wages, supplies, that do with the Covid-19. She anticipates a refund from that.
- The pandemic will hurt the City's finances. People are not working and there is no income tax coming in. She applauds the efforts of the Mayor and Service Director watching the finances. She will be looking at revenues coming in, specifically the May income tax coming in. That will show us just how that is going to affect us.
- It is on the website that all the City income tax due in April is not due until July this year.
- A Motion was made authorizing the City Auditor to sign Fiscal Officer Certificate regarding Note 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.
- A Motion was made authorizing the City Auditor to sign Fiscal Officer Certificate regarding Direct Placement 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.

**Treasurer, Bob Michels:**

- Absent.

## **Correspondence:**

- None

## **Committee Reports**

**Mr. Fox** – Landlord agreement may have been misprinted as far as the amount. Mr. Baker will check it out.

**Mr. Huff** – Nothing to report.

**Ms. Myers**- Had emailed everyone the minutes and presented the minutes from the Finance Committee Meeting held on April 6, 2020, and a copy is available upon request. A motion to approve the minutes 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 Finance Committee Meeting is scheduled for April 21, 2020 at 6:00 p.m.

**Mr. Harmon** – Economic Development Committee meeting will be rescheduled. He will be in touch with committee members. Union Cemetery Trustees report was given from the meeting held on April 7, 2020. A motion to approve the report was made by Mr. Harmon, seconded by Mr. Huff. ROLL CALL: Mr. Harmon-yes; Mr. Huff-yes; Ms. Myers-yes; Mr. Fox-yes; Mr. Zucal-yes; Mr. Baker-yes; Mr. Miller-yes.

**Mr. Miller** – Ambulance Committee met March 30 in the fire department bay. Mr. Miller gave the report. A Motion to approve the report 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.

**Mr. Baker**- Ordinances and Codes Committee met March 23, 2020 and he presented the minutes. A copy is available upon receipt. Mr. Zucal thanked Mr. Baker for his hard work, but in his opinion, he feels it should be significantly higher. Landlords are running a business. He feels the goal of the City should be that the income from this tax should fund the ability for the city to hire a Planning Zoning Compliance Officer to bring the City up to the standards of the world that we currently live in. Mayor Haney agreed with Mr. Zucal. The police cannot enforce. Mr. Fox agreed, but not everyone runs it as a business. Mr. Harmon also agreed with Mr. Zucal and would like to hear more. Mr. Ong said there is two separate things being discussed. One is the amount to be charged and it has always been \$25.00 per landlord, committee recommended per parcel. The other issue is the enforcement. It is a question of how to go about enforcing it. This issue is a 365 day per year problem and you have to stay after it. Mayor Warner had someone in place. You do need someone there to do it, without someone there, it is not going to happen. This Ordinance is about the registration of a property. We have other Ordinances in place as far as failure to maintain the property in a certain condition. After extensive discussion it was decided that there would be a second reading of the Ordinance tonight. A Motion was made to approve the report 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.

**Mr. Zucal** – Nothing to report.

## **Old Business:**

**Mr. Fox** – Nothing to report.

**Mr. Huff** – Echoed Amy's comments about voting and reminded everyone that the census is still open and we need a complete and accurate count.

**Ms. Myers** – Reminded everyone to vote and make sure you get your ballots in time. There are three important levies on the ballot for the City of Uhrichsville and the Claymont City levy.

**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.

**Ms. Myers** – Gave a shout out to everyone during this pandemic, those that are on the front line. The doctors, hospital staff, nurses, first responders, pharmacy staff, police, freighters, EMTs, delivery drivers, restaurant workers, truck drivers, roofers, realtors, custodians, aids, postal workers, public health, appraisers, title companies and staff, attorneys and staff and gas station workers.

**Mr. Harmon** – Business that are in need of state or federal assistant, if they need contact information or any assistance please feel free to contact him. They can reach him at 330-556-1368 or at [eharmon@cityofuhrichsville.org](mailto:eharmon@cityofuhrichsville.org) and his contact information is on the city website.

**Mr. Miller** – Nothing to report.

**Mr. Baker** – Wants to revisit the landlord ordinance. The ordinance is not for clean up of property. If you want it for that we will need a different ordinance. If we have 500 properties at \$25.00 per property, that is about \$12,000 per year income per year to the City of Uhrichsville. It is only to register, not to clean up. If you want a clean up ordinance, those are already in place. If you want changes, we will have to redo that Ordinance. Mr. Zucal said the first step is to make sure we have an accurate registration per parcel and make sure landlords are held responsible. Then we move on to the clean ups. He thinks there needs to be more money and instead of per parcel make it per unit.

**Mr. Zucal** – Nothing to report.

### **Visitors:**

Chief Edwards- Regarding the letter that was sent that Belle referred to in her report, it is important to know that we will come. We need to know what is expected of us when we come and how it will affect our finances and resources. To know that we have to have an agreement. Fire Department went door to door then safety director made mention on the City Facebook page regarding the flooding that happened in March. If anyone is affected by that, we are winding down on timeline to get those forms in. We passed out about seventy that day. They also have access to the link on the City's website. The county is attempting to partner with Licking Count to meet a certain number so that there is assistance available to those effected by that flooding. Mr. Miller mentioned in his report, firemen will not be going door to door to promote the levy. It is not safe to do so with the pandemic. That will be handled in other ways. Mr. Fox asked about the fire at Tinwood Tavern in January, he has had someone ask about how long it will take for cleanup. Mr. Edwards recommeded contacting the owner and he felt it was being held by the insurance company. Mr. Ong said we have the ability to pass legislation saying in the event of a fire the insurance company has to coordinate with the City on it. If we don't have something like that, we should pass an Ordinance or Resolution. Chief Edwards wasn't aware of one. Mr. Ong can draft it. President Cottrell asked if it would be at his discretion regarding assistance. Mayor Haney said regarding going to the Villages and Cities with no contracts at our discretion. We put that in the letter that we would go for mass casualties What we are not going to do is every day operations for villages and townships. That's left at Judd's discretion right now and we talked bout how we will handle that situation. He is not going to leave them stranded. Chief Edwards said people believe from what the paper said that we don't want to help and that couldn't be farther from the truth. We just want to make sure that the City's best interests are being protected and make sure that our resources aren't being taken advantage of. We don't want to get into a relationship that is not equal. We have to remember that the word is mutual, mutual aid means that you can help us, we can help you in your time of need. A lot of times those relationships become one=sided and that's not good for either party.

### **ORDINANCES/RESOLUTIONS:**

#### **ORDINANCE 7-20**

**AN ORDINANCE REQUIRING LANDLORDS TO REGISTER RENTAL PROPERTIES  
WITH THE CITY OF UHRICHVILLE, AND REPEALING  
ORDINANCE NO. 9-17**

**Second Reading**

**Mr. Zucal made a Motion to table the Ordinance, seconded by Ms. Myers. Mr. Baker said you can't table the Ordinance, you would postpone it indefinitely.**

**Mr. Ong said that it could be tabled until the next meeting for reading. The Ordinance has not been passed, so it can be amended if need be.**

**Mr. Zucal made the recommendation to wait until Mr. Baker's committee has another meeting and then bring it back before Council for another reading with amendments. Mr. Ong said that is a Motion before Council. Mr. Ong said we should have discussion on it. Mr. Zucal said he wants it to be per unit, not parcel. And the fee of \$12.50 is not enough. He thinks it should be \$25.00 for this year per unit, to be increased as we need to. Ms. Myers asked if there was a penalty for not registering and she feels there should be if not registered by July 1. Mr. Ong said it is a misdemeanor and each time there is an offense it is a higher misdemeanor. The old language said to be done by March, the committee's thinking was there is a deadline of January 1 with no grace period and if not registered they receive the criminal citation plus they still owe the registration fee. The concern was it was never enforced. Mr. Baker said \$12.50 for July 1 to end of year then \$25.00 the next year for the new year. It would be enforced by the Court. No flat fee if they do not comply, since it is a criminal offense. \$50.00 per year was mentioned. The change would be \$25.00 per year per unit for year 2020 due on July 1, 2020. Then for years 2021 and thereafter it will be \$50.00 per unit due by the first day of each year. We need to change the dollar amount and per parcel should be per unit instead of per parcel, that is the suggestion by Mr. Zucal. Mr. Baker asked if we could amend the Ordinance. At the next meeting it can be on its third and final reading, revisions will be made, and council will vote on it then. Mr. Ong will make the revisions.**

**ORDINANCE 8-20**

**AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE ISSUANCE OF SALE OF BONDS,  
OF THE CITY OF UHRICHVILLE, OHIO IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO  
EXCEED \$3,055,000.00 FOR THE PURPOSE OF PAYING COSTS OF  
RECONSTRUCTING, RENOVATING, ADDING TO, ENLARGING,  
FURNISHING, EQUIPPING AND OTHERWISE IMPROVING THE  
MUNICIPAL PARK AND SWIMMING POOL FACILITY AND RELATED  
RECREATIONAL FACILITIES, PROVIDING RELATED OFF-STREET  
PARKING FACILITIES, AND EQUIPPING AND IMPROVING THE SITES  
THEREOF, TOGETHER WITH ALL NECESSARY APPERENANCES  
THERETO (THE IMPROVEMENT), IN ANTICIPATION OF THE ISSUANCE  
OF BONDS, AUTHORIING THE EXECUTION OF A NOTE PURCHASE  
AGREEMENT, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY**

A Motion to Suspend was made by Ms. Myers, seconded by Mr. Harmon. ROLL CALL: Ms. Myers-yes; Mr. Harmon-yes; Mr. Huff-yes; Mr. Fox-yes; Mr. Zucal-yes; Mr. Baker-yes; Mr. Miller-yes.

A Motion to Adopt was made by Mr. Zucal, seconded by Ms. Myers. ROLL CALL: Mr. Zucal-yes; Ms. Myers-yes; Mr. Baker-yes; Mr. Miller-yes; Mr. Harmon-yes; Mr. Huff-yes; Mr. Fox-yes.

**ORDINANCE 9-20**  
**AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE ISSUANCE OF SALE OF BONDS,  
OF THE CITY OF UHRICHVILLE, OHIO IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO  
EXCEED \$3,055,000.00 FOR THE PURPOSE OF PAYING COSTS OF  
RECONSTRUCTING, RENOVATING, ADDING TO, ENLARGING,  
FURNISHING, EQUIPPING AND OTHERWISE IMPROVING THE  
MUNICIPAL PARK AND SWIMMING POOL FACILITY AND RELATED  
RECREATIONAL FACILITIES, PROVIDING RELATED OFF-STREET  
PARKING FACILITIES, AND EQUIPPING AND IMPROVING THE SITES  
THEREOF, TOGETHER WITH ALL NECESSARY APPERENANCES  
THERETO (THE IMPROVEMENT), IN ANTICIPATION OF THE ISSUANCE  
OF BONDS, AUTHORIING THE EXECUTION OF A NOTE PURCHASE  
AGREEMENT, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY**

A Motion to Suspend was made by Ms. Myers, seconded by Mr. Harmon. ROLL CALL: Ms. Myers-yes; Mr. Harmon-yes; Mr. Huff-yes; Mr. Fox-yes; Mr. Zucal-yes; Mr. Baker-yes; Mr. Miller-yes.

A Motion to Adopt 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.

**RESOLUTION 1875**  
**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF UHHRICHVILLE TO  
APPLY FOR, ACCEPT AND ENTER INTO A COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT  
FOR PLANNING, DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION OF THE  
E. 1<sup>ST</sup> STREET STORM SEWER PROJECT BETWEEN THE  
CITY OF UHRICHVILLE AND THE OHIO WATER DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY  
AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY**

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

**RESOLUTION 1876**  
**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF UHRICHVILLE  
TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH RUSH TOWNSHIP  
TO FURNISH EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES TO RUSH TOWNSHIP**

A Motion to approve the Resolution 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.

**COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS:**

Safety, Health and Services Committee – Look into truck issues at E. 11<sup>th</sup> Street between barber shop and stadium and right beside Johnson's Auto by the overhead bridge.

**Other Discussions:**

Committee Meeting notices should be e-mailed to everyone with the date and time of the meeting and the minutes of the meeting should be e-mailed to Council.

Mayor Haney recently talked with Kimble's and they had put in the bill that trash cans are to go on the street, not the curb strip which is causing a lot of structural damage. Kimble's say the trash cans are continuing to be put on the curb strip and not on the streets. May be changing some of the alley routes because of damage.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:46 p.m.

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Trisha Addison  
Clerk of Council

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Robert Cottrell  
Council President