

UHRICHSVILLE CITY COUNCIL
Thursday, November 23, 2020

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

ROLL CALL showed the following members present: Mr. Zucal-no; 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.

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

Council President Robert Cottrell asked for a motion to accept the Council Meeting Minutes from November 12, 2020. A motion was made Mr. Miller, seconded by Ms. Myers. ROLL CALL: Mr. Miller yes; Ms. Myers-yes; Mr. Harmon-yes; Mr. Huff-yes; Mr. Fox-yes; Mr. Baker-yes.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

Mayor Mark Haney:

- Mayor Haney was participating at home via Zoom with a high temperature and awaiting the results of a COVID test.
- Mill Township has chosen to go with Dennison for fire service as has Union Township. We gave Mill Township five proposals, which we felt were all fair proposals.
- Two firemen are out with COVID. One will be back Friday. There is also a police officer out. • The gazebo is in. Thanked the Street Department for doing the groundwork and thanked Mr. Michels for all the hard work they did on it.
- There are a lot of safety forces working for Thanksgiving. He talked to Ms. Pearch and asked Jen Wright to order meat and cheese trays from Mako's for the workers. There are 10-12 workers.
- There will be no Christmas party this year, unless there is a significant change in circumstances. • Car for the Police Department will be here next week. It is being outfitted. It is a 2021 and came straight from the factory.
- Found an ambulance and would like Council's approval to spend up to \$30,000.00 out of the equipment fund to cover the additional costs. They priced it with wrapping. We are going to have one of our local paint shops wrap it instead at less of a cost. We are getting estimates and that cost will come out of the equipment fund also. A Motion was made by Mr. Miller to spend up to \$30,000.00 out of the equipment fund for the purchase of an ambulance, seconded by Mr. Huff. ROLL CALL: Mr. Miller-yes; Mr. Huff-yes; Mr. Harmon-yes; Ms. Myers-yes; Mr. Fox-yes; Mr. Baker-yes.
- Asked Council for approval to spend up to \$30,000.00 to buy a power cot and load system for the new EMS unit when it comes. The Village of Sherrodsville is taking bids on one. He doesn't think it will cost that much, but would like approval on that amount just in case it does. Chief Edwards explained that it helped to reduce back injuries, the power cot does the lifting. Sherrodsville Fire Department has gone out of business and is selling theirs that is a couple years old. There are also refurbished ones available at around \$25,000.00. New ones are around \$50,000.00. Ms. Pearch reported that there were more than adequate funds in the equipment fund to cover those costs. A Motion was made by Mr. Huff, seconded by Mr. Baker to spend up to \$30,000.00 out of the

equipment fund for a power cot and load system. Mr. Fox asked where the money was coming from, and it is coming from the equipment fund and Ms. Pearch reported there is money available. Mayor Haney and Chief Edwards discussed further. He also asked if we would be looking to buy another one in a year or more. Chief Edwards said we are looking to buy another one for the other vehicle. ROLL CALL: Mr. Huff-yes; Mr. Baker-yes; Mr. Fox-no; Mr. Miller-yes; Mr. Harmon-yes; Ms. Myers-yes.

- Reminded everyone that November 30 is the Christmas Parade at 6:00 p.m. on 12th Street by the Water Park. Thanked the Claymont Lion's Club and Jen Wright.
- Food Drive goes until December 4 and still collecting donations.
- Sent an email today to Council regarding meetings during COVID. All of the equipment is there for Josh to put in Council chambers. It may not be done by the next council meeting. Also talked about the public attending meetings. A lot of cities will not allow Zoom guests because you can't mute them or block them. New Philadelphia and Dover allow people in the building in a waiting area and one person can come in at a time to speak to Council for two minutes. They are not allowing guests to Zoom.
- Street Department is picking up leaves. If anyone has leaves, call the City Building. Will be at the Water Park in the next week. Borrowing small boom truck from New Philadelphia to get in to fix all the lighting. The outdoor lighting has been out for over 1 ½ years. Will probably convert all overhead to LED and get the timer up.
- Ms. Myers asked if the car for the police department was the undercover car. It is and is in the process of getting the inside lights done and should be done in the next week or so. It was \$18,300.00. She asked the total on the ambulance. Chief Edwards reported \$186,000.00 including \$8,000.00 for wrapping and \$4,000.00 for striping. We are removing those amounts and will have it done locally for around \$6,000.00. The total on the ambulance is \$172,834.00 plus \$6,000.00 for wrapping and striping. She asked if the power cot came with the new ambulance. Chief Edwards reported it could have been included in the purchase but it wouldn't have been as fiscally responsible and they would have had a hard time finding it.
- Mayor Haney talked to Mill Township by phone today and talked about what to do with their equipment. If it is going to be kept there it is going to have to be signed over to the City of Uhrichsville because we will become liable for it. The brush truck will probably be moved to Mill Township to store unless they pay us to store it there. They aren't sure what to do with the big engine. We will probably end up with that big truck. He doesn't know what Union Township is doing with the tanker truck, and hasn't had any discussion with them. Ms. Myers asked about the equipment. Mill Township has purchased a 1996 engine, and a 2007 brush truck.

City Services Director Belle Everett:

- Absent. Mayor Haney spoke about the Clinical Affiliation Agreement that Ms. Everett had emailed to Council. There is a program to train new paramedics and EMTs through Eastern Gateway Community College in Steubenville. Chief Edwards said some of their students had requested ride alongs. Mr. Ong and the insurance company had reviewed the agreement and approved it. Asked Council for approval to sign the agreement. A Motion to allow Chief Edwards to sign the agreement was made by Mr. Huff, seconded by Mr. Baker. ROLL CALL: Mr. Huff yes; Mr. Baker-yes; Mr. Fox-yes; Mr. Miller-yes; Mr. Harmon-yes; Ms. Myers-yes.

Law Director James J. Ong:

- Absent.

Auditor, Julie Pearch:

- Asked if the Resolution was prepared for the renewal of the levy and it was not. •

Emailed financials for October and asked if there were questions and there were none.

Treasurer, Bob Michels:

- Absent.

Correspondence:

- Received from the Ohio Ethics Commission the annual Request for updated List of City Elected Officials. Council Clerk checked with all to make sure their terms and addresses were correct. All was correct and it will be forwarded to the Ohio Ethics Commission.

Committee Reports

Mr. Fox – Nothing to report.

Mr. Huff – Nothing to report.

Ms. Myers- Read the Finance Committee report from November 17, 2020 that had been emailed to Council. A motion was made by Mr. Miller, seconded by Mr. Huff to approve the Finance Committee report. ROLL CALL: Mr. Miller-yes; Mr. Huff-yes; Mr. Harmon-yes; Ms. Myers-yes; Mr. Fox-yes; Mr. Baker-yes.

The next Finance Committee meetings are December 15, 2020 at 6:00 p.m., January 11, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. and January 26, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. by Zoom. Reminded the administration that the Finance Committee needs their wish list and suggestions to cut costs as soon as possible.

Mr. Harmon – Read the Economic Development Committee report from November 18, 2020 that had been emailed to Council. A motion was made by Ms. Myers, seconded by Mr. Miller to approve the Economic Development Committee report. ROLL CALL: Ms. Myers-yes; Mr. Miller-yes; Mr. Huff-yes; Mr. Fox-yes; Mr. Baker-yes; Mr. Harmon-yes.

Mr. Miller – Nothing to report.

Mr. Baker- Nothing to report.

Mr. Zucal – Absent.

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 – Absent.

New Business

Mr. Fox – Nothing to report.

Mr. Huff – Nothing to report.

Ms. Myers – Thanked the street department for setting up the Christmas lights. They look very nice.

Mr. Harmon – Nothing to report.

Mr. Zucal – Absent.

Mr. Miller – Nothing to report.

Mr. Baker – Nothing to report.

Visitors:

None in person. Visitors that were watching by Zoom were not able to participate.

ORDINANCES/RESOLUTIONS:

**ORDINANCE 38-20
AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING RULES FOR PLACEMENT OF A
MOBILE HOME ON A LOT LOCATED IN THE MUNICIPALITY,
AND RESCINDING CHAPTER 1317 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES
OF THE CITY OF UHRICHSVILLE
Second Reading**

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS:

Council President Cottrell read a statement regarding Mayor Haney hiring a lawyer to investigate the agreement that Uhrichsville Council had entered into with the Village of Dennison and the Claymont School Board in 1998 regarding income taxes generated from the high school. The statement said that all actions were not known by or approved by Council. Uhrichsville Council, not the Mayor is responsible for entering into these contracts. He thinks the income tax should be sent to the Village of Dennison until further review. He assigned the matter to the Finance Committee for review anticipating that the Finance Committee would need to work with the City Auditor and possibly the lawyer that Mayor Haney hired without approval. He asked that the Finance Committee report back next month.

Other Discussions:

Mayor Haney had sent out two emails to Mr. Zucal regarding setting up an insurance committee meeting and not got a reply. He needs the meeting in the next week or so. Council President Cottrell will call Mr. Zucal.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:42 p.m.



Trisha Addison
Clerk of Council



Robert Cottrell
Council President

**STATEMENT ON AGREEMENT WITH VILLAGE OF DENNISON FOR SHARING OF
INCOME TAX FROM THE CLAYMONT HIGH SCHOOL BUILDING**

Council was caught completely off-guard by Mayor Haney at our last Council meeting.

Council learned at the last meeting that Mayor Haney had hired a lawyer to investigate the agreement that Uhrichsville Council entered into with the Village of Dennison and the Claymont School Board back in 1998 for sharing of income taxes generated from the high school.

Uhrichsville Council entered into the agreement so as to ensure that it would receive income taxes in the event the high school were built in Dennison.

Council learned at the last meeting that Mayor Haney had previously ordered the City Auditor to stop sending Dennison its share of the income tax collection.

Council learned at the last meeting that Mayor Haney ^{IS SENDING} ~~had sent~~ a letter to Dennison's Mayor to advise that ^{CURRENT AND} all future amounts would not be sent out by Uhrichsville to Dennison.

All of these actions were done without notice to Uhrichsville Council. All of these actions were done without the approval of Uhrichsville Council.

I have been approached by a number of Council members after our last meeting. I can say that certain Council members are not happy about how these events transpired. Those Council members, and myself, question under what authority did Mayor Haney take these actions.

Uhrichsville Council, not the Mayor, is responsible to enter into contracts. Uhrichsville Council, not the Mayor, decides when to end contracts.

I believe that Dennison's percentage of the income tax should be sent to Dennison, until such time that Council determines that it will seek the ending of the agreement with Dennison.

I am assigning this matter to the Finance Committee for review. I anticipate that the Finance Committee will need to work with the City Auditor and possibly the lawyer that Mayor Haney hired without approval. I would ask that the Finance Committee report back on the matter next month, so that budget arrangements can be made accordingly.

