

**MONDAY, MARCH 25, 2024  
REGULAR MINUTES/JOURNAL**

**PLEDGE**

**ROLL CALL**

PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL	MR. REYNALD J. PAOLONE	PRESENT
FIRST WARD COUNCILMAN	MR. KEITH SCHUBERT	PRESENT
SECOND WARD COUNCILMAN	MR. MARK STANDOHAR	PRESENT
THIRD WARD COUNCILMAN	MR. JEFF KAY	PRESENT
FOURTH WARD COUNCILMAN	MR. THOMAS GRUMLEY	PRESENT
COUNCILMAN-AT-LARGE	MS. LILY MARTUCCIO	PRESENT
COUNCILMAN-AT-LARGE	MR. JOHN MOLITERNO	PRESENT
COUNCILMAN-AT-LARGE	MR. SAM ZIRAFI	PRESENT

**COMMUNICATIONS**

**ADDITIONS & DELETIONS**

**52-15**

**FIRST READING**

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH AP O’HORO COMPANY OF YOUNGSTOWN, OHIO, FOR THE CHURCHILL AND TIBBETTS WICK BOOSTER PUMP STATIONS PROJECT FOR A PRICE NOT TO EXCEED ONE MILLION SIXTEEN THOUSAND ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$1,016,100.00).

**MOTION MOLITERNO SECOND ZIRAFI TO ADD 52-15 TO THE AGENDA OF MARCH 25, 2024.**

SCHUBERT  
STANDOHAR  
KAY  
GRUMLEY  
MARTUCCIO  
MOLITERNO 1  
ZIRAFI 2  
MOTION PASSES 7-0

**ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA**

**MOTION ZIRAFI SECOND SCHUBERT TO ACCEPT THE AGENDA OF MARCH 25, 2024 AS AMENDED.**

SCHUBERT 2  
STANDOHAR  
KAY  
GRUMLEY  
MARTUCCIO  
MOLITERNO  
ZIRAFI 1  
MOTION PASSES 7-0

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

**MOTION GRUMLEY SECOND SCHUBERT TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF MARCH 11, 2024 AS WRITTEN.**

SCHUBERT 2  
STANDOHAR  
KAY  
GRUMLEY 1  
MARTUCCIO  
MOLITERNO  
ZIRAFI  
MOTION PASSES 7-0

**CITIZENS’ COMMENTS**

David Thomas, 532 Heritage Square, Jefferson, Ohio. **Mr. Thomas:** My name is David Thomas, currently the county auditor for Ashtabula County. After this past Tuesday's election I will be your state rep. for the 65<sup>th</sup> District, the district covering Hubbard, Girard, all the way to Geneva and Kingsville in Ashtabula. So, I am going around to different city council meetings just to say hello, school board meetings. I haven't met you guys yet until now so it's nice to make it official. I have cards to give you have the meeting, but I just wanted to say hello. Introduce myself. I already know Councilman Jeff from some night at the races events and I've already met the mayor as well just to say hello and learn more about the city. I'm just here to say hi and hear what is going on here in the City of Girard. **President of Council:** Thank you for coming. Appreciate that.

### REPORTS OF OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS OF THE CITY

#### **MAYOR**

#### **MARK ZUPPO**

#### **PRESENT**

**Mayor Zuppo:** The addition to the agenda we would appreciate suspending the rules and passing that this evening. We consider that an emergency. Remind you of the Easter egg hunt this Saturday from 11-1 down at Tod Park ages 1-whatever. Jeff you're a little too old. There will be donuts and hot chocolate and coffee for the adults, etc. We have over 2000 eggs filled so that should be interesting. I want to point out that we did a walk through with the fire department of the Wellman Theater and with that in mind, we are going to be sending a letter to the occupants. It is unsafe for people to be having, holding church services in there at this point. I have already called them and talked to them. I've been working with the church group that meets every Wednesday. It is all of the churches in the community. They meet every Wednesday morning for breakfast. My wife goes to those meetings every Wednesday and fills me in. I have gone to one or two and they are going to try to help find those people, they are going to let them use their facilities, rotate to let them hold their services. I believe that is a really Christian move on their part. Pending your questions that concludes my report.

#### **COMMENTS:**

#### **SAFETY/SERVICE DIRECTOR**

#### **SALVATORE PONZIO**

#### **PRESENT**

**Salvatore Ponzio:** I want to start out with a public thank you to the Trumbull County Commissioners and to our fire chief for providing quick data that allowed us to get a grant from the Trumbull County Commissioners for 100% of a brand new ambulance. I want to especially thank Maura Cantalamessa who at the meeting that the chief and I attended Girard was only on a maybe list and there were some miscommunications I think with the other commissioners and so he cleared it up immediately and got us to the top of the list. Their lawyers said that we had a really good grant proposal that should provide the data for expressing the need, why we were asking for the money. So that is going to be in Jim's report and he can give more details on that, but I just wanted to let the commissioners know that we are truly grateful for their generosity. Along those lines, they also provided us with two letters of support. One for a half million dollars from Sherrod Brown and one for a half million dollars from Congressman Joyce and these are for anticipated expenses at the dam. So, we are trying to get ahead of the game here and seek appropriations from our grant writing team. So, those have already been submitted and the commissioners wrote very nice letters of support explaining how important it is to Trumbull County, especially the need for new houses that need to be built in this area according to the from Sandra O'Brien our state senator for the same project. So, we hope that we have good results with those asks too. The other thing that Mark had mentioned, we did have bid opening on March 14<sup>th</sup> for the pumpstations. We bid it all as one. There are two pumpstations that we are going to replace and A.P. O'Horo was the winning bidder and so Mark is correct and I would reiterate that I believe this is an emergency to pass it so we can get the pumps ordered and get the contractors started on those projects. That's all I have today.

#### **COMMENTS:**

**Councilman Schubert:** Do we have the results of the dam back yet? **Mr. Ponzio:** That's a good question. I asked today. The latest is we have the results are in but the complete analysis has not been given to Dennis Meek yet. However I think soon he is going to supply that to ODNR, they need to review it and approve it and immediately after that is done the second phase of engineering will be done that will tell us exactly what kind of spillway we need to put in, what kind of repairs to the funnel need to happen and at that time we will have a really good understanding of what the cost is going to be.

**Councilman Zirafi:** This money for the ambulance, is there a timeframe it has to be spent in? Is it openended? **Ponzio:** We don't spend anything. They directly pay 100% of the squad. So, we got a bid from PennCare for a complete ambulance, including all of the equipment inside. They gave us 100% of the ask so there is no match for the City of Girard. Regardless of what happens, the squad can be useful

for all of our community for emergency transportation. **Zirafi:** So you can order it and they will pay it? **Ponzio:** Yes, they are using their leftover ARP money. They gave I think four fire departments money and we were one of the ones that got 100% paid so it won't cost the City of Girard anything for a brand new ambulance.

**Councilman Moliterno:** My question is a follow up to what Keith asked about the dam. Do we expect to have to deal with this in 24? It has been about a year and a half of going through this now. **Ponzio:** The timeline that I saw I think had things being completed sometime in 2025. **Moliterno:** I don't mean complete. We may not get a response back from ODNR til the end of this year. I mean it took almost a year and a half to get the last response. **Ponzio:** I think the response when they look at the engineering study that was just done on the building of the dam, I think they will work a little quicker on that because they are the ones telling us that it is a high hazard dam. People's lives are at stake. So I hope they don't wait a year to get back to us. **Moliterno:** I don't either. My only point is the clock will really start running then. So it would give us some idea of when we are going to have to come up with whatever dollars we have to if we are not able to **Ponzio:** We need to get that second engineering study and that will tell us. We have ideas of what it is going to be but until we have an actual engineering study done currently. **Mayor:** The preliminary, the dam itself, preliminary results are good. It's the spillway. We knew that kind of ahead of the game. The other point I want to make and forgot to mention that the commissioner's meeting last week, the chief and I did attend and I stuck around through all of the antics just so I could say thank you publicly and then I went up and personally thanked, well at least two of them that would accept my thanks. The other wouldn't look at me, but they know we appreciate it and they really want to work with us. Good job Chief and Sal. **Zirafi:** Who pays for second engineering study? **Ponzio:** FEMA will give us 65%. We have to come up with the rest. I don't know what it is going to cost yet. My hope is that FEMA is going to cover 65% of all of the repairs also. That is what I have been told at this point. We are hoping to get our grant money to pay for what would be Girard's share.

**LAW DIRECTOR** **BRIAN KREN** **ABSENT**

**COMMENTS:**

**AUDITOR** **JULIE COGGINS** **ABSENT**

**COMMENTS:**

**TREASURER** **HENRY SFORZA** **PRESENT**

**Mr. Sforza:** No report.

**COMMENTS:**

**FIRE CHIEF** **JAMES PETRUZZI** **PRESENT**

**Chief Petruzzi:** Calls to date have increased since I left the office, but it was 478 when I left. First and foremost, I would like to thank everybody that made it to the polls and voted yes to pass our levy renewal. That will help us continue the service we provide to the community every day. The second item has already been mentioned. The county commissioners voted unanimously to award the City of Girard \$225,842.00 for a new ambulance. As was mentioned they covered the entire expense. Not a penny from the city will need to go into this vehicle.

**COMMENTS:**

**Zirafi:** What is the lead time on getting an ambulance? **Petruzzi:** The last report I got was roughly nine months. Nine and a half.

**POLICE CHIEF** **JOHN NORMAN** **ABSENT**

**COMMENTS:**

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

##### **FINANCES-MOLITERNO-GRUMLEY-ZIRAFI**

**Councilman Moliterno:** We did have a short finance committee meeting tonight. The meeting was short because our auditor is on vacation. We had an extensive conversation about where we are at, what some of our needs are, one of them specifically about 52-15 which we will deal with in a couple minutes and how important it is to get that out and get that put away this evening so we can start that process that

we know is a dire need for the city. We will get into a little more detail with some of the other items as we move into the April and May meetings. **Paolone:** Next meeting the 22<sup>nd</sup>? **Moliterno:** Yes. **Paolone:** 6:30? **Moliterno:** Uh huh.

**COMMENTS:**

#### **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT-KAY-MARTUCCIO-MOLITERNO**

**Councilman Kay:** No report.

**COMMENTS:**

#### **BUILDING & GROUNDS-SCHUBERT-STANDOHAR-KAY**

**Councilman Schubert:** Just a few comments. With the weather getting nicer, with the extra help that we have now in the parks and the recreation department things will be looking nice. I drove by today and Tod Park was packed so that was nice to see. That's it.

**COMMENTS:**

#### **HEALTH & SAFETY-GRUMLEY-MOLITERNO-MARTUCCIO**

**Councilman Grumley:** We met this evening with the chief and the mayor and the service director. The committee met and we were updated on the fire and first responder calls being transferred to the county 911 center. It does not require any councilmatic action but we gave them the support of the committee to move forward with it. It is going to benefit all of the residents and also the safety of the department on calls in the future. Also, I would like to thank everybody for their work and effort into getting the fire levy passed. There was a lot of effort from everybody and the response really showed how much the department needs this community. Other than that, that is all I have this evening.

**COMMENTS:**

#### **STREETS SIDEWALKS & EMPLOYEE WELFARE-STANDOHAR-KAY-GRUMLEY**

**Councilman Standohar:** No report other than just to state that I will be getting and update from the auditor if there is any adjustment on our budget for a proposed pavement program.

**COMMENTS:**

#### **UTILITIES-ZIRAFI-SCHUBERT-STANDOHAR**

**Councilman Zirafi:** Just a reminder that on April 9<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 I am having a meeting. Utilities meeting and it is going to touch on a few issues that will have to be addressed in the future. **Paolone:** 6:30? **Martuccio:** Tuesday, April 9<sup>th</sup>.

**COMMENTS:**

#### **ZONING-MARTUCCIO-ZIRAFI-SCHUBERT**

**Councilwoman Martuccio:** I did receive some zoning requests and things to look at from the zoning department so I will let my zoning committee know what those things are and call for another zoning committee and council meeting within a month or six weeks, like maybe, probably in May, beginning of May so that will give us some time to maybe look at other ordinances that we can compare to and see how we can improve our zoning ordinances. Girard cleanup day is scheduled for Saturday April 13<sup>th</sup> from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. with a makeup date on April 20<sup>th</sup>. The three locations that we've selected are Girard Free Library, Stambaugh Park and Tod Park. The students at the high school have their scan code to sign up so they can determine where they are going to show up. I want to thank Metalicco Youngstown, Inc. and Geauga Geauga Solid Waste Management District for providing shirts and gear for us. That's it. Stay tuned. April 9<sup>th</sup> we'll have an update on this.

**COMMENTS:**

#### **THEATER COMMITTEE-MARTUCCIO-MOLITERNO-SCHUBERT**

**Councilwoman Martuccio:** With the review from fire department and the unhabitability of it I think we'll look at that in the next couple of weeks when it's vacant and see how we want to approach the theater and to hopefully maybe get some grant monies by then or some hints of them.

**COMMENTS:**

#### **RULES-GRUMLEY-STANDOHAR-SCHUBERT**

**MOTION GRUMLEY SECOND ZIRAFI TO PASS THE RULES FOR THE 52<sup>ND</sup> COUNCIL.**

SCHUBERT

STANDOHAR  
KAY  
GRUMLEY 1  
MARTUCCIO  
MOLITERNO  
ZIRAFI 2  
MOTION PASSES 7-0

**MOTION GRUMLEY SECOND ZIRAFI TO REMOVE THE RULES COMMITTEE FROM THE AGENDA.**

SCHUBERT  
STANDOHAR  
KAY  
GRUMLEY 1  
MARTUCCIO  
MOLITERNO  
ZIRAFI 2  
MOTION PASSES 7-0

**COMMENTS:**

**ORDINANCES**

**52-10** **SECOND READING**

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 7069-99 TO ADJUST THE HOURS AND COMPENSATION OF THE PARKS AND RECREATION DIRECTOR OF THE CITY OF GIRARD, OHIO.

**52-13** **FIRST READING**

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH MILLER BUILDERS, LLC, FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE CITY'S SALT BARN FOR A PRICE NOT TO EXCEED THREE HUNDRED THIRTY THOUSAND SEVEN HUNDRED EIGHTY DOLLARS (\$330,780.00).

**Moliterno:** I would defer to the administration to see how you want us to move forward on this. **Ponzio:** Speaking with the project manager they would like to do this sooner than later so they can schedule the delivery of the actual dome from ClearSpan. If we have a date then they can go ahead and set up the production schedule. They are hoping to get something started as early as June.

**MOTION MOLITERNO SECOND ZIRAFI TO SUSPEND THE SECOND AND THIRD READINGS OF ORDINANCE NO. 52-13.**

SCHUBERT  
STANDOHAR  
KAY  
GRUMLEY  
MARTUCCIO  
MOLITERNO 1  
ZIRAFI 2  
MOTION PASSES 7-0

**Mayor:** I just want to say that I look forward to the day when we don't have to hear the salt barn talked about on council floor. Four years is long enough.

**MOTION MOLITERNO SECOND ZIRAFI FOR PASSAGE OF ORDINANCE 52-13.**

SCHUBERT  
STANDOHAR  
KAY  
GRUMLEY  
MARTUCCIO  
MOLITERNO 1  
ZIRAFI 2  
MOTION PASSES 7-0

**52-14** **FIRST READING**

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE SALARY AND HOURS FOR THE POSITIONS OF PART-TIME RENTAL/ZONING INSPECTORS.

**52-15** **FIRST READING**

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH AP O'HORO COMPANY OF YOUNGSTOWN, OHIO, FOR THE CHURCHILL AND TIBBETTS WICK BOOSTER PUMP STATIONS PROJECT FOR A PRICE NOT TO EXCEED ONE MILLION SIXTEEN THOUSAND ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$1,016,100.00).

**MOTION MOLITERNO SECOND ZIRAFI TO SUSPEND THE SECOND AND THIRD READINGS OF ORDINANCE 52-15.**

SCHUBERT  
STANDOHAR  
KAY  
GRUMLEY  
MARTUCCIO  
MOLITERNO 1  
ZIRAFI 2  
MOTION PASSES 7-0

**MOTION MOLITERNO SECOND ZIRAFI FOR PASSAGE OF ORDINANCE NO. 52-15.**

SCHUBERT  
STANDOHAR  
KAY  
GRUMLEY  
MARTUCCIO  
MOLITERNO 1  
ZIRAFI 2  
MOTION PASSES 7-0

**President of Council:** Remember the next meeting is not the 8<sup>th</sup>. It is April 9<sup>th</sup>. It's Tuesday.

**NEW LEGISLATION**

**MOTION GRUMLEY SECOND ZIRAFI TO PREPARE LEGISLATION ACCEPTING THE ARP FUNDS FROM THE TRUMBULL COUNTY COMMISSIONERS FOR THE PURCHASE OF AN AMBULANCE.**

SCHUBERT  
STANDOHAR  
KAY  
GRUMLEY 1  
MARTUCCIO  
MOLITERNO  
ZIRAFI 2  
MOTION PASSES 7-0

**Paolone:** He is not here, before we adjourn, Brian is not here but he said something to me about we don't write things down for him and he's calling Monica and he's calling Sal and he's calling council. If you have a request for legislation just jot it down and give it to Monica or give it to him if he is at the meeting.

**Grumley:** Tell him to give us the green papers we used to get. **Paolone:** We used to get the green papers that is true. **Clerk:** I have the green papers. (she handed some to Councilman Grumley) There was some more discussion among council.

**Mayor:** I just wanted to point out that Jason Johnson from the high school called me and he is throwing out the day of April 26<sup>th</sup> for Civic's Day. Girard Civic's Day. You might want to mark your calendars. It's a Friday. Thank you.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION SCHUBERT SECOND ZIRAFI TO ADJOURN THE MEETING OF MARCH 25, 2024.**

SCHUBERT 1  
STANDOHAR  
KAY  
GRUMLEY  
MOLITERNO  
MARTUCCIO  
ZIRAFI 2

MOTION TO ADJOURN PASSES 7-0

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**REYNALD PAOLONE, PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL**

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**MONICA URBANIC, COUNCIL CLERK**