MONDAY, MAY 13, 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	ABSENT
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

MOTION SCHUBERT SECOND ZIRAFI TO EXCUSE COUNCILMAN STANDOHAR FROM THE MEETING OF MAY 13, 2024.

SCHUBERT 1

STANDOHAR Absent

KAY

GRUMLEY
MARTUCCIO
MOLITERNO
ZIRAFI 2
MOTION PASSES 6-0

COMMUNICATIONS

ADDITIONS & DELETIONS

ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA

MOTION SCHUBERT SECOND ZIRAFI TO ACCEPT THE AGENDA OF MAY 13, 2024 AS WRITTEN.

SCHUBERT 1

STANDOHAR Absent

KAY

GRUMLEY MARTUCCIO MOLITERNO ZIRAFI

MOTION PASSES 6-0

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

MOTION MARTUCCIO SECOND KAY TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF APRIL 22, 2024 AS WRITTEN.

SCHUBERT

STANDOHAR Absent

KAY 2

GRUMLEY

MARTUCCIO 1 MOLITERNO

ZIRAFI

MOTION PASSES 6-0

CITIZENS' COMMENTS

REPORT OF OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS OF THE CITY

Mayor: As I mentioned briefly in the caucus about the Appalachian grants, as you all know we got shutout. We have already talked to the Eastgate folks about it. I will keep you posted as to what we find out. A quick question. If anyone is interested in attending the Memorial Day services I need to know tonight. The veterans' committee will put some chairs up on stage for council people that want to attend. Councilman Schubert: What time? Mayor: It is 11 o'clock on Memorial Day. Councilmoman Martuccio: The 27^{th.} Mayor: You're in John? Lily you're in? Martuccio: I'm in. Mayor: Anybody else? Councilman Schubert: I'll let you know in the morning. Mayor: Let me know early tomorrow morning. Call me first thing in the morning. I also want to mention I will be meeting with KO consulting on this 501C3 group in reference to the Wellman Theater on May 3rd. Other than that, that concludes my report Mr. Chairman. COMMENTS:

SAFETY SERVICE DIRECTOR SALVATORE PONZIO PRESENT

Mr. Ponzio: I want to mention a couple of things. Last week we said we were going to ask for legislation for 3 new police cruisers. Brian just informed me that he will be making some minor adjustments to that so it will be ready for the next meeting. Also, we are going to ask for legislation to amend an ordinance that sets wages for part-time paramedics and firefighters. So it's here and Brian is going to help with that also. We did have a preconstruction meeting last Thursday with A.P. O'Horo and the engineers. That was for the two pump stations. Just so you know the pumps have been ordered. Hallelujah. We do not have a date when they are coming yet but they will be done this year I'm told. We also signed contracts, a couple more people have to put their signatures, for the salt barn today so that project is ready to move forward, I think with Miller Builders. They are the contractor for that. That concludes my report.

COMMENTS:

Councilman Grumley: I want like to thank both of you guys for encouraging, enforcing, whatever it needs to be, the grass cutting because it was way out of control. Thanks, because it is starting to make a difference. At least I can see that. **Mayor:** You're welcome.

LAW DIRECTOR BRIAN KREN PRESENT

Attorney Kren: After six long years our class action lawsuit over the traffic cameras, the Trumbull County Court of Common Pleas issued an entry Friday in the city's favor holding that the posted speed limit is still the posted speed limit even though ODOT never got around to changing it. For anybody that was keeping track, that was my original legal opinion at the time. It's good to find out I was right. It's like a marriage. It is 30 days that Marc Dann would have to file that but it is not anticipated, but that is a possibility. May 2nd was the sheriff's sale for the TK Charles property. The property on 15 W. Liberty Street that we had demolished. There was not a minimum bid for the \$95,000 that is expected for the demo cost and back taxes, therefore I filed the city's election to acquire the property. Hopefully a month or two after that works through the court we will get that property free and clear of any taxes or liabilities. Thirdly, I just want to remind council, I know there are discussions going on with the trash,s that there is one levy still that will be set to expire the end of this year. August 7th would be the deadline if council decides to renew it. I just want council to be aware of that with their discussions going forward. That would be an effective loss come next year.

COMMENTS:

Councilman Zirafi: Do we know how much money, the levies are all different years different amounts, do we know how much this levy brings in Julie? **Attorney Kren:** I have it. I don't know off the top of my head. Ms. Coggins: The current one that he is talking about I'm not sure. I would have to go and look at it. **Zirafi**: Could you get that answer for me? **Coggins:** Sure. **Kay:** The trash fund, that's one we would want to renew? Is that what you're saying? Kren: Well that's up to Zirafi: We had a discussion on that already. **Kay:** Well we lose money if we don't? **Schubert:** Right. The money comes out of the general fund. **Zirafi:** But I already pointed out at a utility committee meeting, if we renew these levies over the next five years we have to belly up \$1.3 million in additional cost from the general fund because they are nowhere near able to cover the trash. So, the question comes down how do we want to do this going forward? Do you just want to do that and have the general fund pay for it out of it's current revenues or do you want to do something different and the only different things are pass another levy or get rid of the levies and have the individual households billed by Republic, which Republic said they would do. President of Council Paolone: Food for thought. Zirafi: Yea and sooner or later we have to make a decision. Paolone: Sooner or later we have to make a decision. It is not an easy decision. Tom brought up a very good point that there is going to be a period of years where people are going to be paying a bill and taxes. Zirafi: Yes. Paolone: So, it is going to be very hard to enforce. Very hard. It is going to have to be a very creative way, Mr. Kren, a very creative way of doing it. He didn't hear me. Zirafi: No he didn't. Paolone: Mr. Kren, a very creative way of enforcing that. I think Mr. Kren will probably come up with something creative

for that period of time when they are paying the bill and paying taxes Brian. **Zirafi:** If we go. **Paolone:** If we go that way then. It is going to be very hard to not pick up someone's trash because they are still paying taxes. **Kren:** That is the rough isn't it? **Paolone:** Yes it is. There is the rough. I know. I know that. Believe me I have been through this for twenty years so. It is not easy. It is not easy. But we don't have the money so. **Mr. Ponzio:** I think Tom brought up another good point at the last meeting too about the trash levy being replaced because people are going to be left on their own to make contracts with garbage through Republic. Are they going to be forced to have a contract with Republic? **Zirafi:** Republic would have the contract with the city but instead of the city paying out of levies, they will bill the individual households, but they will enforce it. If you are late they are very generous in a waiting period if you don't pay your bill, but once you get to the end of that waiting period they won't pick it up unless you make them whole. There was more conversation regarding the trash. **Zirafi:** But as the President of Council has pointed out he has been against this for twenty years. **Paolone:** It's just not fair. I hate to use the word wrong, but it's just wrong the way we're doing it. It's wrong. There is no other word to use but wrong. **Grumley:** That is your opinion. **Paolone:** Yes it is. It's wrong. Grumley: As a voting member I say let's move on and we'll figure it out.

AUDITOR JULIE COGGINS PRESENT

Ms. Coggins: Sam, to answer your question I believe it is a \$1.2 mil that is coming up on the next one. I do have the paper. Brian and I just looked at it. Zirafi: Do you know how much that \$1.2 generates? Coggins: No. I don't think I have that. Right under \$68,000. Zirafi: So that's \$68,000 and the total is \$458,000 for all five of them. Coggins: The other thing I had tonight is, I just wanted to briefly explain, I need to ask to establish two funds this evening. The first one is the ambulance service capital project fund and this must be created in accepting the sub award from the county's arpa funds. So it will be a fund with money coming and going directly out. It will fully pay for the ambulance. It has to be established. We can't put it with our arpa funds or any other fund. It has to be on its own. And then I also want to establish an ambulance service fund which I will create all the revenue and expense line items so once the service is up and running or what not everything will be tracked through this fund so you'll see what it brings in and what we are paying out. It will be one line item for everybody to look at.

COMMENTS:

Grumley: Julie, would you be able to provide us with what type of milage it would take to offset the deficit over the next five years in the garbage fund. **Coggins:** I have looked into that already and **Grumley:** For the next meeting. That's fine. **Coggins:** For the next meeting. Ok. That's fine. I do have the answer but I can wait til finance if you'd like. **Grumley:** Yes. That's fine.

TREASURER HENRY SFORZA PRESENT

Mr. Sforza: I gave everyone reports for income tax in April. It's a little late because RITA's website was down for a couple of days and I couldn't get into it. We were up a little bit in April compared to last year so right now we are tracking pretty dog gone close to last year. Less than 1% down so we are going in the right direction at this point.

COMMENTS:

FIRE CHIEF JAMES PETRUZZI PRESENT

Chief Petruzzi: Calls to date 785. Real quick point. The senior watch program has kicked off. Items are in process of being installed. I encourage any resident over 60 years old that lives alone, please contact the Multi-Generational Center and set that up. It's free of charge. COMMENTS:

POLICE CHIEF JOHN NORMAN ABSENT

COMMENTS:

COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCES-MOLITERNO-GRUMLEY-ZIRAFI

Councilman Moliterno: I would just like to ask for caucus time for a finance committee meeting at 6:30 on the 28th prior to our next meeting. **Paolone:** It's Tuesday. **Moliterno:** Yes. I would like to do that and again thanks to the administration. I agree with Tom. What is going on with cutting the grass is really good. It's been a long time coming so, and I think it sends the right message out to the people in the community too.

COMMENTS:

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT-KAY-MARTUCCIO-MOLITERNO

Councilman Kay: No report.

COMMENTS:

BUILDING & GROUNDS-SCHUBERT-STANDOHAR-KAY

Councilman Schubert: No report.

COMMENTS:

HEALTH & SAFETY-GRUMLEY-MOLITERNO-MARTUCCIO

Councilman Grumley: No report. I would just like to thank the men and women that protect us daily

throughout the city.

COMMENTS:

STREETS/SIDEWALKS & EMPLOYEE WELFARE-STANDOHAR-KAY-GRUMLEY

Councilman Kay: I don't know. Has Mark talked to you about streets this year? Are we moving forward? Mayor: Mark talk to us? Kay: Have we had any, put any streets together. Have we looked at last year? Didn't we put last year's somewhere? Are we still thinking about doing some streets this year or are we thinking about maybe not? Paolone: He had to ask. Several members said they did this last meeting. Grumley: So he has asked for a number and I expressed to him that the administration has stated that there is the possibility of some grant matching funds next year. I have spoken to the street commissioner, you know, Tommy Watts, and he was given the service director a list of streets, at the very minimum maybe one or two. I think, you know, we look at them. He felt that he could do repairs to the other streets in town and buy us time. If you remember, we did this ten years ago where we laid off a year, built up the money, pushed the money forward, we were able to get a grant and do a whole bunch of streets. Even some in Parkwood. Kay: I'm not sure why. Never heard of it. So, is that what you guys are thinking, administration wise? Mayor: That is along the line of what we're thinking. I know that there is an OPWC meeting tomorrow that Zach will be attending and that is where we think we can use that money as seed money OPWC grants and that came right from Eastgate advising us to do that. They feel like we have been flushing a lot of money away by using all of our own money when there is grant money available out there. Kay: So you think we could get that next year if we hold off? Mayor: Yea. I mean that's what it appears to be but you know how these programs work, once you settle in on something then they pull it in other places so as of right now that appears to be the direction we are heading. **Grumley:** So when are we, I mean I'd like to speak with Jim, but since he's not here, when do we move forward on getting a price for the two streets that you guys are recommending? You know Tom is recommending and so forth and then it will give us something for the finance committee meeting and then maybe we can pin something down because we don't want to wait until November to try to pave streets. So, at least I can get a consensus and then we can proceed.

COMMENTS:

UTILITIES-ZIRAFI-SCHUBERT-STANDOHAR

Councilman Zirafi: No report

COMMENTS:

ZONING-MARTUCCIO-ZIRAFI-SCHUBERT

Councilwoman Martuccio: I did have a meeting with the mayor and an over the phone meeting with our law director last week on zoning and it is a challenge and my thought is to pick the easiest ordinances to amend and then we can start reviewing ordinances that we have to add or delete or overhaul. That will be my goal for the rest of the summer is to pick some ordinances to amend and I will be asking for one for tonight in our legislation that our law director recommended that I ask for. I want to bring up there is a block watch at the Girard Library on May 23rd and Mark Chapman from Metallico will be the guest speaker talking about their industry and informing the citizens of what they do and how they participate and what goes on with Metallico. So, I found it to be very interesting when I worked with, volunteered with Mark for clean up day. I just found the whole process fascinating so I hope a lot of people can go. Mayor: Lily, excuse me, that is 6 pm at the library? Martuccio: Yes. Yes. It is on the 23rd. Usually it is the third Thursday but this year, this month it will be the 23rd. The city wide yard sale on Facebook they took a vote and they are having it this month. May 24th, 25th and 26th if anybody wants to clear out their garages. That's it for zoning so I will go on to the Wellman.

COMMENTS:

THEATER-MARTUCCIO-MOLITERNO-SCHUBERT

Councilwoman Martuccio: We had a brief meeting tonight. It was administration will work with MS Conultants to proceed with using the arp funds to see what we can get going on. Councilman Moliterno asked that we put a sign in the window that would say what we are doing, that the facility, the Wellman Theater or the theater is owned by the City of Girard and we are currently engaged in projects on it.

COMMENTS:

ORDINANCES

52-16 FIRST READING

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SALE BY INTERNET AUCTION DURING CALENDAR YEAR 2024 OF MUNICIPALLY OWNED PERSONAL PROPERTY WHICH IS NOT NEEDED FOR PUBLIC USE, OR WHICH IS OBSOLETE OR UNFIT FOR THE USE FOR WHICH IT WAS ACQUIRED, PURSUANT TO OHIO REVISED CODE SECTION 721.15(D).

Moliterno: First reading. I'm assuming you have to compile a list and put some things together before unless you want this to move more quickly with. Ok. Just first reading.

NEW LEGISLATION

MOTION ZIRAFI SECOND SCHUBERT TO PREPARE A RESOLUTION OPPOSING DOMINION ENERGY OHIO'S PROPOSED 30% RATE INCREASE.

Mayor: Most communities in the area are doing it. I have a copy of one here. I think this is from Warren. I will hand it off to our law director.

SCHUBERT 2

STANDOHAR Absent

KAY

GRUMLEY

MARTUCCIO

MOLITERNO

ZIRAFI

PASSED 6-0

MOTION SCHUBERT SECOND KAY TO BRING BACK ORDINANCE NO. 8171-18 FOR AMENDMENT, THE PART TIME FIREFIGHTER ORDINANCE.

SCHUBERT 1

STANDOHAR Absent

KAY 2

GRUMLEY

MARTUCCIO

MOLITERNO

ZIRAFI

PASSED 6-0

MOTION GRUMLEY SECOND ZIRAFI TO PREPARE LEGISLATION TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO THE CHIP PARTNERSHIP WITH THE CITIES OF NILES, HUBBARD, AND CORTLAND FOR 2024.

SCHUBERT

STANDOHAR Absent

KAY

GRUMLEY 1
MARTUCCIO
MOLITERNO
ZIRAFI 2
PASSED 6-0

Paolone: I think I brought this up a couple of meetings ago, please write these things down and give them to Brian if you ask for new legislation because nobody is doing it and it's hard for him. He is making phone

calls and trying to do that. If you have something you want hand it to him. Monica has sheets. Just ask her for them and you can fill them out.

MOTION ZIRAFI SECOND MOLITERNO TO PREPARE LEGISLATION TO ESTABLISH AN AMBULANCE SERVICE FUND.

SCHUBERT

STANDOHAR Absent

KAY

GRUMLEY
MARTUCCIO
MOLITERNO 2
ZIRAFI 1
MOTION PASSED 6-0

MOTION ZIRAFI SECOND MOLITERNO TO PREPARE LEGISLATION TO ESTABLISH AN AMBULANCE SERVICE CAPITAL PROJECT FUND.

SCHUBERT

STANDOHAR Absent

KAY

GRUMLEY

MARTUCCIO

MOLITERNO 2

ZIRAFI 1

MOTION PASSED 6-0

MOTION MARTUCCIO SECOND GRUMLEY TO PREPARE LEGISLATION FOR AN AMENDMENT TO UPDATE THE ORDINANCE WITH THE MORATORIUM FROM SINGLE TO DOUBLE HOMES.

SCHUBERT

STANDOHAR Absent

KAY

GRUMLEY 2 MARTUCCIO 1 MOLITERNO

ZIRAFI

MOTION PASSED 6-0

<u>ADJOURNMENT</u>

MOTION ZIRAFI SECOND GRUMLEY TO ADJOURN THE MEETING OF MAY 13, 2024.

SCHUBERT

STANDOHAR

KAY

GRUMLEY

MARTUCCIO

MOLITERNO

ZIRAFI

MOTION PASSES

REYNALD PAOLONE, PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL MONICA URBANIC, CLERK OF COUNCIL