

**MONDAY, JUNE 24, 2024
REGULAR MINUTES/JOURNAL**

PLEDGE

ROLL CALL

PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL	MR. REYNALD J. PAOLONE	PRESENT
FIRST WARD COUNCILMAN	MR. KEITH SCHUBERT	ABSENT
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

MOTION MOLITERNO SECOND GRUMLEY TO EXCUSE COUNCILMAN SCHUBERT FROM THE JUNE 24, 2024 MEETING.

SCHUBERT Absent
STANDOHAR
KAY
GRUMLEY 2
MARTUCCIO
MOLITERNO 1
ZIRAFI
MOTION PASSED 6-0

COMMUNICATIONS

ADDITIONS & DELETIONS

ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA

MOTION KAY SECOND ZIRAFI TO ACCEPT THE AGENDA OF JUNE 24, 2024 AS WRITTEN.

SCHUBERT Absent
STANDOHAR
KAY 1
GRUMLEY
MARTUCCIO
MOLITERNO
ZIRAFI 2
MOTION PASSES 6-0

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

MOTION GRUMLEY SECOND KAY TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF JUNE 10, 2024, AS WRITTEN.

SCHUBERT Absent
STANDOHAR
KAY 2
GRUMLEY 1
MARTUCCIO
MOLITERNO
ZIRAFI
MOTION PASSES 6-0

CITIZENS' COMMENTS

Tom Smith, 905 Beechwood Dr.: I just wanted to come and update you on things and also to say thank you to everyone who donated for the Don Rex Memorial we are going to do down there. On July 13th we are going to have a little ceremony at 10 a.m. Just a short little ceremony just to basically say that it is now the Don Rex Memorial Kayak Launch. I talked to the mayor and he will be there. He had something

else going on today. Also, we had a little setback. I don't know if you all heard but somebody ran into the rock but we did get it engraved today. He was able to engrave it, the one that does it from Blackstones, he was able to engrave it today so we will work with the street department or the water dept again to remove it and reposition it and hopefully it will be ready for July 13th and anyone that can make it we would appreciate having you there. July 13th, 10:00 am. **President of Council:** Thank you very much for all you have done. We appreciate it. Don would appreciate it.

Randy Emery 102 W. Liberty St., Girard: First of all I want to thank the administration. Mr. Zuppo is not here but I'd like to thank you guys for permitting us to use the street downtown. I knew I would spot one councilman there. I don't know if anybody else filtrated down there, but 100s and 100s and 100s of people downtown Girard. Boy what a shot in the arm not only for us but Royal Gardens. The other part of that was it is all private investment. We had \$1000s to cover. The band, staging we got lights, we got sound, we have police you know and fortunately it went really well. So, I just want to thank everybody that was involved. I do want to go on record to thank the Royal Gardens and Griffith Insurance for teaming up with us and you know when you come together like that, boy it makes things a lot smoother and when I said teaming up with us, the city teamed up with us too. The street department dropping stuff off and like I said when you organize something and everything goes as planned it's a good thing so I did want to bring that to the attention. Also, I came in a late little late for the finance meeting but I'm hearing \$300,000 has been granted. It still has to go through the process I guess for the Wellman Theater. Obviously, downtown is a big concern of mine and I am going to ask probably for the 7th or 8th time, what is the plan? Ok. Also I want to thank Monica for providing me minutes for meetings. Is it up online yet or not? I don't find it anywhere, but I do run the Girard Grit Facebook page. People have been receptive of me taking them and at least putting them on there. I do it voluntarily. I don't make any money on anything like that. I just do it as public service, but it shouldn't be me doing that. I don't know where the website is or what is going on with that. **Paolone:** Monica said he is still working on that. It hasn't gone up yet. It is .gov it is not .org. **Emery:** Right. Right. I have seen the new website, but the minutes aren't on there that I know of. **Paolone:** No. No they're not. **Emery:** If we can continue at least. **Paolone:** He's trying. We're trying. **Emery:** I don't know if you could put them on the Facebook page that you have. You know. **Paolone:** No. We don't have, that's not the city. That is a private. (There was discussion between the clerk and president and it was established that there is a city Facebook page.) **Emery:** There is a city Facebook page. I promoted it. I don't know who is running it. **Sal Ponzio:** It is the guy who runs the website. Anything put on Facebook automatically goes to the city page and vice versa. **Emery:** Right because I have seen events posted. **Ponzio:** The minutes will be posted on there in the future. That's part of our plan. **Emery:** That was my only other thing besides the theater update. **Paolone:** Thank you too for everything you do. That was very nice of you.

Mike Scoville, 23 Gordon Street, Girard: I am currently the superintendent at water/wastewater and I just wanted to let everybody know that we have a survey coming out for our lead in service lines. It is part of the EPA requirement that we have. On the actual survey there are three different ways you can do it. One, you can either fill it out and mail it in, you can do that through the mail, through email or there is also a qr code that you click on that and it takes you right to the website and fill out the information. What it is is we want to know what your service line is. You just take a penny or something and you just scrape a line there and whatever color shows up we have the different colors showing you what they are and then you mark what it is. So anything that can help us with that we greatly appreciate it. We need to do all of that in every single home in the city. I just wanted to let you guys know that Sal did a wonderful job negotiating a really good deal for these surveys and we appreciate everyone's help. **Councilman Grumley:** So they just scrape it where it comes into the meter? **Scoville:** Yes. Where the pipe is. So where the pipe comes into the meter you just scrape that pipe on there. Some people might have paint and stuff like that so it might not work with a penny sometimes, but most times a penny will work or you might have to go with a knife or something to scrape off the paint. It either is going to be galvanized, it will be lead or it will be it will plastic, lead, galvanized or copper, but we are looking to see most of them you can tell right away if it is plastic, but we just need to know what type of metal it is. There are a few other questions on there that we need you to fill out. If you could just do that it would be greatly appreciated. If anybody is interested in also if you do have lead service if you want to contact me my number is on the website. We do have a few things going on there. I will be doing more education with the water and wastewater too on our website as we are getting it developed. What was on our old website we lost all of that. Just be patient with it and everything is going to be alright.

REPORT OF OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS OF THE CITY

MAYOR

MARK ZUPPO

ABSENT

COMMENTS:

SAFETY SERVICE DIRECTOR

SALVATORE PONZIO

PRESENT

Mr. Ponzio: I wanted to let everybody know, speaking of the Wellman Theater, we are getting bids, we got three bids for asbestos abatement. All of them came in under \$50,000. I will be reviewing the bids with the engineers to see who has the best bid and I will let you guys know as soon as we find out. We did get good news that in addition to the \$150,000 that you have earmarked from the arp money, Sandra O'Brien called me the other day and she was excited that she got \$300,000 for the Wellman Theater. Lily thank you for the report. Hopefully, I think that we will move forward at your discretion. The engineers are telling me that after the asbestos abatement what the next project should be and I will bring that to you and we will do what we can with the money we have so far so we are moving forward. **Councilman Zirafi:** Is there any restrictions on the \$300,000 we are getting? **Ponzio:** There is not. We can use it for anything to improve. The end game is to have a theater there at some point. We have a plan. It is going to take time. There are some fundamental problems with the building. We asbestos, roofing, hvac, electrical, restrooms that all need to be addressed before we can make it into a beautiful theater. Also, I am waiting, apparently engineers go on vacation too, so I am still waiting on the estimates for the street projects. They should be coming up soon. I just want to reiterate what Mike said that the Ohio EPA is mandating us to do this lead line survey. We were fortunate enough to obtain a grant for \$50,000 which is going to help us cover, I hope, most of the survey cost. The deadline is coming up in October so we are kind of running behind the 8 ball because it has been going on for years, so we are trying to catch up to what the EPA is mandating. The bottom line is they want to know who has lead service lines so we can eventually remove the danger of lead service lines and have people have safe drinking water throughout the community, so that is the whole goal behind this program. The hope is that the government is going to come up with funding to help us with this very expensive project removing thousands of lead service lines. We have Liberty Township to worry about too and Girard. I will let the safety committee talk about a meeting we had, but I just wanted to let you know we are having a meeting with Eastgate, the transportation part of Eastgate. Apparently, they want to help us with some funding. I think we want to do some signal studies in Girard and there is money available for that, so I just wanted to bring that to your attention. We are meeting with them in a week or so, so we'll see what they can do for us.

COMMENTS:

Councilman Moliterno: The lead service lines, are they age, specifically aged homes? Prior to 1970? Prior to 1980? Which ones are more apt to have them? **Ponzio:** I was told that in the mid 80s there were laws that passed they weren't supposed to use lead anymore. So, most likely, if your home was built after '88 you do not have lead service lines. It's more complicated than that, there are other things in the system like galvanized also, but that is part of why we are doing the surveys so we can actually identify. I did mine already. My house was built in the 60's and I have copper lines so it doesn't mean just because your house was built awhile ago that you have lead. The idea is to make the drinking water as safe as possible.

LAW DIRECTOR

BRIAN KREN

ABSENT

COMMENTS:

AUDITOR

JULIE COGGINS

PRESENT

Ms. Coggins: Nothing further from finance.

COMMENTS:

TREASURER

HENRY SFORZA

PRESENT

Mr. Sforza: Nothing further from finance.

COMMENTS:

FIRE CHIEF

JAMES PETRUZZI

PRESENT

Chief Petruzzi: Calls to date 1,027. And the only other think I have is we are expecting both ambulances to be delivered within the next 1 1/2 or 2 weeks.

COMMENTS:

Zirafi: Both ambulances? The new one also we just got? **Petruzzi:** Yes. **Grumley:** How is the applications coming in for part-time? **Petruzzi:** Last number was 26 applications. **Moliterno:** Is that good Chief?

Were you expecting more? Less? **Petruzzi:** That's outstanding. I was hoping to be there or higher. Very happy. I'm sure the newness will wear off so hopefully that will give us some room to plateau and still have a good bulk of part-time. **Ponzio:** Chief, can you just let people know the good news about we went to Trumbull County? I thought you could say that. To pick up the check. **Petruzzi:** Sure. Safety Director Ponzio and I did go to Trumbull County last Friday and picked up the check that they cut to the city for the funding of the ambulance.

POLICE CHIEF

JOHN NORMAN

ABSENT

COMMENTS:

COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCES-MOLITERNO-GRUMLEY-ZIRAFI

Councilman Moliterno: We had a finance meeting this evening. A lot of good information. Obviously, it is still June. We will look at it a lot more closely when we come back from break in September, but you know we got some great information today from both our treasurer and our auditor. We will pay close attention to it.

COMMENTS:

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT-KAY-MARTUCCIO-MOLITERNO

Councilman Kay: I have no report. I am just happy to hear that we have some funding coming in for the Wellman theater. Hopefully, it is not the end of the funding but it is nice to hear that something is coming towards us so nice job.

COMMENTS:

BUILDING & GROUNDS-SCHUBERT-STANDOHAR-KAY

Councilman Standohar: No report.

COMMENTS:

HEALTH & SAFETY-GRUMLEY-MOLITERNO-MARTUCCIO

Councilman Grumley: We met last Thursday with the safety service director and the mayor and we discussed the study for the traffic light on the corner of Davis and Trumbull. It is good to hear we may be able to do a few more traffic lights throughout the city with some support of Eastgate so I look forward to working together on that so thanks. We did discuss the loitering ordinance and after our meeting I spoke with the law director and he is going to bring some recommendations to the committee how we can beef up that ordinance. **Kay:** What was it again? **Grumley:** Loitering. **Paolone:** Traffic lights. What are you doing with them? **Grumley:** We are doing a study on repair, replacement and other options. **Moliterno:** One of the other things we talked about at committee, Tom is going to look into it a little further as chair, is parking on sidewalks. That's been problematic especially on 422 which is the main street through the city. I mean I saw, I drove through today and saw it happen more than once. Motorcycles parked on the sidewalk in front of at least two different establishments today and I only went down a couple blocks in the city. **Grumley:** The law director is going to bring that forward too. We should have a solid piece of legislation to look at hopefully by next meeting. Before we go on recess. We are going to involve the safety service director and the police chief once we pull all of this together and we will meet again as a committee with everyone and we all have the same concerns so we are going to address them.

COMMENTS:

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

Councilman Standohar: Just a couple of questions. One for the auditor. Are we still, anything changed as far as the budget goes for the street paving? **Auditor:** No. No changes. **Standohar:** Still maximum about \$200,000? **Auditor:** Yea. **Standohar:** Sal, everything is going to be done in the second ward only? (laughter and several comments) **Ponzio:** No comment. **Standohar:** Did you have a chance to take a look at my suggestion though? **Ponzio:** They did. I had the engineers take a look at it. Yes.

COMMENTS:

UTILITIES-ZIRAFI-SCHUBERT-STANDOHAR

Councilman Zirafi: No real report. I was going to ask the safety service director about the water situation in Niles but that has already been discussed so that's it. I'm done.

COMMENTS:

ZONING-MARTUCCIO-ZIRAFI-SCHUBERT

Councilwoman Martuccio: I started looking up the Ohio Revised Code 3780 which deals with recreational marijuana in the State of Ohio so I know there are some parameters that we will be looking at when we get applications. I just want to make sure that council, if there is anything else that we need to look at and/or approve this is all new for us. I ask everybody to check into that.

COMMENTS:

THEATER-MARTUCCIO-MOLITERNO-SCHUBERT

Councilwoman Martuccio: With the theater I will repeat what I said earlier. I spoke with Senator O’Brien’s office this morning and they stated that the \$300,000 hopefully will be approved by the House and the Senate and then the governor and then we will be getting the \$300,000 grant monies and then it is a 90 day waiting period for release of funds.

COMMENTS:

Paolone: For your information, I don’t know if you were here, we passed a parameters ordinance.

Martuccio: For the medical marijuana. **Paolone:** Ok but you may be able to use that. **Martuccio:** I don’t

think it included recreational marijuana. **Paolone:** Ok. I know Mark has a copy of it. **Martuccio:** Ok.

ORDINANCES

52-17

THIRD READING

AN ORDINANCE CREATING A LIMITED TEMPORARY MORATORIUM ON ISSUANCE OF TWO-FAMILY AND MULTIPLE DWELLING CONSTRUCTION AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

MOTION MOLITERNO SECOND ZIRAFI FOR PASSAGE OF ORDINANCE NO. 52-17.

SCHUBERT Absent

STANDOHAR

KAY

GRUMLEY

MARTUCCIO

MOLITERNO 1

ZIRAFI 2

MOTION PASSES 6-0

52-26

FIRST READING

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE COMPENSATION OF THE WATER & WASTEWATER SUPERINTENDENT OF THE CITY OF GIRARD, OHIO.

COMMENTS:

Grumley: Would it be possible that we send that to committee before we bring the second reading forward so that they can give us the basis on how that contract stands up to the rest of the valley and what we are looking and so forth? **Moliterno:** The contract is in here. Tom is asking some specific questions I think that Sal could put those answers together for us. **Grumley:** Could we do it through,

Mark do you want to do it through the employee welfare committee, or through utilities or finance?

Paolone: It could probably be any one of the three. **Grumley:** Who wants it? Sam you want it? Mark you want it? **Zirafi:** I’ll take it. **Grumley:** Thanks Sam.

52-27

FIRST READING

AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING AN ALTERNATIVE TAX BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF GIRARD, OHIO FOR THE FISCAL YEAR COMMENCING JANUARY 1, 2025, AND SUBMITTING COPIES OF SAME TO THE TRUMBULL COUNTY BUDGET COMMISSION.

NEW LEGISLATION

MOTION GRUMLEY SECOND ZIRAFI TO PREPARE A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE LAW DIRECTOR AND THE ADMINISTRATION TO SIGN A SETTLEMENT FOR OUR INSURANCE CARRIER TO SETTLE A LAWSUIT OVER A MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENT.

SCHUBERT Absent

STANDOHAR

KAY

GRUMLEY 1

MARTUCCIO

MOLITERNO
ZIRAFI 2
MOTION PASSES 6-0

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION KAY SECOND GRUMLEY TO ADJOURN THE MEETING OF JUNE 24, 2024.

SCHUBERT Absent

STANDOHAR

KAY 1

GRUMLEY 2

MARTUCCIO

MOLITERNO

ZIRAFI

MOTION PASSES 6-0

REYNALD PAOLONE, PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL

MONICA URBANIC, CLERK OF COUNCIL