



Caucus & Regular Council Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, June 23, 2020
7:00 p.m.

CAUCUS:

The caucus meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm.

ROLL CALL: G. Bellan, S. Barr, S. Scaffide, D. Walker, M. Stauffer, J. McFearin and B. Furey

ABSENT:

ALSO PRESENT: Ted Yates, Mayor
David Maistros, Law Director
Sarah Buccigross, Finance Director
Shannon Collins, Clerk of Council
Mark Gutowski, Senior Communications Administrator

Presentations:

No presentations this evening.

Items for Discussion:

No items for discussion this evening.

Audience Participation:

Pete Metropolis –

Mr. Metropolis spoke regarding the proposed inside millage. He handed out a letter to all of council. He read his letter which asked that council address the sunshine provision and separate the millage into individual pieces of legislation in the respective fiscal years. He also outlined that charging service fees for items such as trash and recycling or EMS is a back-door tax.

No further audience participations this evening.

Pending Legislation:

Ordinance 46-2020 - Appropriations Amendment to decrease in Personnel

Mrs. Buccigross stated this is on second reading tonight and is for reductions in personnel costs.

Ordinance 47-2020 - Establishing Charter Millage for 2021 and 2022

Mrs. Buccigross stated this is also on its second reading and is the two year plan for the implementation of the proposed millage.

Ordinance 48-2020 - 2021 Tax Budget

Mrs. Buccigross stated it is also on its second reading and is the tax budget for tax year 2020, collection year 2021.

Resolution 55-2020 - Similar Use for Pet Grooming in C-2 District

Mr. Finch stated this is a determination from Planning Commission regarding similar use for Pet Grooming to be similar to Barber/Beauty Shop.

Mr. Maistros asked that council pass over this resolution this evening. Typically when Planning Commission grants a similar use it is for that specific district, in this case a C-2. Planning Commission would like to see it in all districts where Barber/Beauty Shops are allowed, which would be C-2, C-3 & C-5. Mr. Maistros stated if council would pass over this tonight and the changes would be made for the next meeting. Mr. Finch stated that it would also include a C-1.

Mr. Scaffide asked for clarification because he thought beauty and barber shops were already allowed in the other districts that is why they were considering C-2.

Mr. Maistros stated they wanted it as anywhere barber and beauty shops were allowed as the Planning Commission intended.

Mr. Bellan confirmed that council was going to pass over it to allow modifications to include the other districts.

Mrs. Walker asked how many pet grooming shops Twinsburg had. Mr. Finch stated the city has two.

Resolution 56-2020 - Declaring Racism as Public Health Crisis

Mr. Maistros stated this is the resolution Mrs. Walker presented at the last meeting. He met with Mrs. Walker and they tailored the legislation to be city oriented. This resolution will set forth a review committee, which would be a recommending committee to council.

Mrs. Walker thanked Mr. Maistros and that she thought it was very well written. She stated she talked to the schools and they are working on a similar program and would like to work with us.

Mr. Bellan asked if this passes would they appoint members at a subsequent meeting. Mr. Maistros confirmed that was correct.

Ordinance 57-2020 - CBA with IAFF Captains

Mr. Maistros stated this is the last of the outstanding contracts. There is only three employees in this contract. It has the same financial parameters as other employees and is a three year contract. The reason for the emergency is because it is retroactive to January 1st.

Miscellaneous:

Mr. Scaffide asked the mayor about the food/beverage trucks that are around town. Mayor Yates stated he has met with Mr. Maistros and Mr. Finch and they are going to start working on regulations for these.

No further miscellaneous this evening.

Meeting adjourned at 7:14 pm.

Regular Council Meeting:

Mr. Bellan called the Regular Council meeting to order at 7:30 pm.

ROLL CALL: G. Bellan, S. Barr, S. Scaffide, D. Walker, M. Stauffer, J. McFearin and B. Furey

ABSENT:

ALSO PRESENT: Ted Yates, Mayor
David Maistros, Law Director
Sarah Buccigross, Finance Director
Shannon Collins, Clerk of Council
Mark Gutowski, Senior Communications Administrator

INVOCATION & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Mr. Bellan bestowed the Invocation and led Council in the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM JUNE 9th REGULAR MEETING AND THE JUNE 17th SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING

Moved by G. Bellan, seconded by D. Walker

Upon roll call motion passed unanimously

AWARDS & PRESENTATIONS:

No awards or presentations this evening.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION:

The Clerk stated that she received an email submission from Ali Martin Scoufield regarding support of Resolution 56-2020 Declaring Racism a Public Health Crisis.

Mr. Maistros stated that due to the restrictions placed on the city to limit the number of residents who can attend the meeting due to the COVID-19 spacing restrictions, the city is allowing residents to email submissions to the clerk to be acknowledged and the included in the minutes. He stated that this is a temporary acceptance until the restrictions are lifted.

Mr. Bellan read a portion of Mrs. Scoufield's email stating they chose Twinsburg for its good school district and appreciation for diversity. Her family is in full support of this resolution.

Kathy Waldron – 1659 Glenwood Drive

Mrs. Waldron spoke in regards to the inside millage. She asked that council take more time to discuss this with the residents and get their feedback. She understands the need for additional revenue but would like options to be explored and considered with additional resident input.

Bruce Baldwin – 3310 Cannon Road

Was wondering what happened to the homes on the property between Dunkin' Donuts and the Square. The land is now vacant with no tax money coming in. Also asked about the signs in the yard that are still there but he had to take his down. Mr. Baldwin also asked if the taxes go up, where will that money go.

Mr. Furey responded to Mrs. Waldron's comments on the inside millage. He stated that the city has not done inside millage in the past whereas the school board has, which Mrs. Waldron was a member of. Mr. Furey stated they have worked on this for years. There have been decreases in staff, two performance audits while he has been on council. The one that was just completed stated there is not much more the city can do besides charge for trash pick-up. He stated the city is 30 out of 30 in the county for income tax. The median income tax for a Twinsburg resident is \$1,600. The city needs to balance the city's portfolio. There are minutes from Mayor Perici stating the city needed to increase inside millage for police and fire pensions. He stated more information on the proposed inside millage the city website has a lot of info.

Mr. Furey also stated that the proposed tax will go to support police and fire pensions and operations. The city has supported the golf course and will be bonding this at a good rate. In the end this building will be an asset to the city. The city is looking at outsourcing the restaurant. They have higher green fees this year.

No further public participation this evening.

COUNCIL COMMUNICATION AND REPORTS

Ms. McFearin – Golf Advisory, Public Safety, ARB, Vol. Fireman

- ARB will meet on 7/1 & 7/2 due to the large amount of agenda items. They will also meet on 7/16, 8/6 and 8/20.
- Nothing to report this evening

Mrs. Walker –Public Safety, Twins Days, Chamber, Community Relations

- Stated the Ribbon Cutting for Ripp Fitness has been cancelled
- Nothing to report this evening

Mr. Scaffide – Planning, Capital Improvement, Parks & Recreation

- Planning Commission met on 6/15. Resolution 55-2020 regarding the Similar Use for Pet Grooming will be passed over tonight but it was discussed at the Planning Commission meeting and they would like it to reflect in all districts where hair salons are permitted. They also heard the final site plan for Mold-Rite which was passed 5-0.
- Nothing further to report this evening

Mr. Barr – Finance, Public Works, Public Safety

- Stated the Finance Committee met earlier this evening. They discussed some adjustments to the capital budget. These have a zero net impact it is just moving money from one area to another. They also went over the performance audit response. They also talked about the COVID-19 reimbursement amounts which are \$270,000 from the state and another \$543,000 from the county. These funds have specific uses for COVID related items. They are still working through some of the guidelines but will be making sure these funds are used as required.
- Nothing further to report this evening

Mrs. Stauffer – Public Works, Environmental, Community Relations

- Nothing to report this evening

Mr. Furey –BZA, Treasury, Finance, Tax Incentive Review

- Went over how residents can find out what their property taxes are. Also spoke about the Homestead Act that some residents may qualify for. This program has income requirements, disable persons or disabled veterans.
- Nothing further to report this evening

Mr. Bellan – Finance, Public Works, Fitness Advisory, Charter Review

- Attended the Finance meeting earlier this evening.
- Nothing further this evening

MAYOR'S REPORT:

- Stated earlier this evening we swore in a new firefighter Hannah August. This was held at the fire station to allow for more to attend and maintain required distancing due to COVID-19.
- The city continues to make modifications for COVID-19 guidelines.
- The playgrounds are open along with having the restrooms open from approximately 7:30am – 8:30pm.
- Youth sports are starting back up. It is great to see kids out enjoying sports again.
- Basketball courts are also opening up
- Thanked the residents for their patience and understanding regarding the pool scheduling process.
- Wished everyone a safe July 4th
- Wished his wife Sharon a Happy 27th Anniversary.
- Nothing further to report this evening

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:

Keith Foulkes – Chief Building Official

- Stated he provided council with the latest statistics from the Building Department.
- Stated they are trying to stay ahead of most of their operations with the staff in place.
- There are two meetings back to back for the ARB with approximately 16 items. Hoping this is an indication that things are starting to pick back up.
- Mold Rite addition along with other commercial projects is also a sign that more people are getting back to work.

Mayor stated that Mr. Foulkes has been doing a great job. Asked for patience as they are down staff and another inspector is out of the office for a few weeks.

Larry Finch – Planning & Economic Development Director

COUCIL AGENDA ITEMS

- Resolution 55-2020 Similar Use for Pet Grooming (similar to barber and beauty shop operations in C-1 thru C-3 and C-5 zoning districts). Reviewed by PC and recommended unanimously on June 15th).

2020 NOPEC EC FUND

Three separate projects have been submitted and approved for funding:

- Fire Station #1 – window replacement (\$22,650)
- Fire Station #1 – garage door replacement (\$26,700)
- Community Center – lighting panel upgrades (\$4,428)
- Total funding requested \$53,719
- Total project costs \$53,778
- City out-of-pocket costs \$ 61

ELECTRIC CHARGING STATION USE DATA

All stations are consistently functioning with availability

Use statistics:

- 258 charging sessions to date
- 1,615 Kwh successfully charged
- 3,164 lbs. of Co2 saved from entering the atmosphere
- 162 gallons of gas saved
- Church St. station most frequently used (3 times City Hall)

DEPARTMENT-WIDE SOFTWARE EVALUATION

Staff is currently evaluating permitting and public access software to enable greater ease and transparency of the building, planning, engineering permit processes and enable remote application submittal, remote payments and electronic plan review.

- Seven different software providers being evaluated
- Short-listing to three for further evaluation and detailed costing
- Goal is for more efficient application processing which will enable current or greater permit activity to be handled by the current reduced staffing levels, while at the same time making the process easier for all applicants.

PENDING REQUESTS FOR LEGISLATION

- Updates to Sign regulations
- Food truck regulations

- ARB intent and procedure language

NEXT TCIC MEETING

- July 8th at 4:30

Derek Schroeder – Parks & Recreation Director

- During the COVID Re-Opening of the TFC, I want to thank my team for going above and beyond to make this all work.
- Due to reduced staffing, Jenn Betenson and I have moved our offices from the Community Center to the Fitness Center.
- June TFC Admittance - ~2,500 visits
June Waterpark Admittance - ~1,500 visits
- TFC has strict COVID guidelines, but the staff and members have responded really well to all the changes. Since opening, we have increased our hours, added a few exercises classes, and re-opened synergy. Soon we will be opening a basketball court and swim lessons. We have received a lot of positive feedback from the members in regards to our cleaning and social distancing guidelines.
- Department Openings:
Pickle ball courts, tennis courts, ballfields, soccer fields, park restrooms, playgrounds, basketball courts.
- Continued closures:
Senior Center, Community Center, Shelters
- Reduced Operations:
The Senior Van will operate at minimal levels, only transporting 10% of our normal users.
- The Department would like to thank Eagle Scout candidate Alex Blyler for his work at the Stone House.

Sarah Buccigross – Finance Director

COVID-19 Relief Funds

- The State of Ohio has released Federal CARES Act funding to Summit County as authorized by SB310/HB481. This funding will be disbursed to communities in Summit County within seven days of its receipt. Twinsburg has provided the necessary documentation to the State and County to participate in this disbursement.
- Summit County will also be providing financial COVID-19 Relief. Twinsburg continues to participate in calls and conversations regarding the proper use of the funds from each program.
- The State of Ohio HB481 funds to be distributed in Round 1 total \$271,303.83. The Summit County Payroll Relief Program funds to be distributed in Round 1 total \$542,945.62.

June 2020 Income Tax Revenues

- June 2020 Income tax receipts total \$1,625,685.50 compared to June 2019 receipts in the amount of \$2,702,155.13. This reflects a decrease of 39.84% or \$1,076,469.63 compared to last year.
- YTD 2020 Income tax receipts total \$11,402,669.03 compared to YTD 2019 receipts in the amount of \$12,410,502.11. This reflects a decrease of 8.12% or \$1,007,833.08 compared to last year.
- Refunds in the amount of \$31,918.10 are included in the June collections.
- The net change in distribution for this month for individual, net profit and withholder collectively is: \$196,670.21.

LEGISLATION

ORDINANCE 46-2020 - AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CURRENT YEAR APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE GENERAL REVENUE ACCOUNT AS ESTABLISHED IN ORDINANCE 16-2020, THE APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF TWINSBURG FOR THE YEAR 2020

Read by S. Collins

ORDINANCE 47-2020 - AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE USE OF CHARTER MILLAGE PURSUANT TO SECTION 6.01 OF THE CHARTER TO BE REFLECTED ON THE 2021 AND 2022 TAX BUDGETS AND SUBMITTING THE SAME TO THE COUNTY AUDITOR

Read by S. Collins

ORDINANCE 48-2020 - AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING THE TAX BUDGET OF THE CITY OF TWINSBURG, OHIO, FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2021, AND SUBMITTING THE SAME TO THE COUNTY AUDITOR

Read by S. Collins

RESOLUTION 55-2020 - A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE PLANNING COMMISSION DETERMINATION THAT "PET GROOMING" IS A SIMILAR USE TO THE USES PERMITTED IN A C-2, COMMUNITY COMMERCIAL DISTRICT

Resolution was passed over this evening.

RESOLUTION 56-2020 - A RESOLUTION DECLARING RACISM A PUBLIC HEALTH CRISIS AND ESTABLISHING A SPECIAL REVIEW COMMITTEE TO DETERMINE HOW BEST TO PROMOTE RACIAL EQUITY IN THE CITY OF TWINSBURG

Read by S. Collins

MOTION: TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 56-2020

Moved by G. Bellan, seconded by D. Walker

Mrs. Walker read part of the legislation regarding the establishment of the committee. If there are residents that want to be a part of the committee please contact city hall.

Mr. Furey thanked Mrs. Walker for bring this legislation to council.

Mayor Yates stated he appreciates all of Mrs. Walker's work on this and also council for their comments at the meeting last week. He stated he has spoken with the Police Chief and also some residents.

Upon roll call motion passed unanimously

ORDINANCE 57-2020 - AN ORDINANCE TO ENTER A CONTRACT WITH TWINSBURG FIRE FIGHTERS LOCAL 3630 INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FIRE FIGHTERS ON BEHALF OF THE FIRE CAPTAINS; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Read by S. Collins

MOTION: TO PLACE ORDINANCE 57-2020 ON THE THIRD AND FINAL READING AND DECLARING AN EMEGENCY

Moved by G. Bellan, seconded B. Furey

Mr. Bellan stated the reason for the emergency is this is retroactive to January 1, 2020.

Upon roll call motion passed unanimously

MOTION: TO ADOPT ORDINANCE 57-2020 AS AN EMERGENCY

Moved by G. Bellan, seconded by J. McFearin

Upon roll call motion passed unanimously

UNFINISHED BUSINESS, NEW BUSINESS, MISCELLANEOUS

Mr. Furey:

- Nothing further this evening

Mrs. Stauffer:

- Thanked those that spoke this evening
- Thanked Derek Schroeder and his staff for all they are doing during this time.
- Nothing further this evening

Mr. Barr:

- Nothing further this evening

Mr. Scaffide:

- Nothing further this evening

Mrs. Walker

- Thanked council for unanimously approving Resolution 56-2020
- Wished Mr. Barr a Happy Birthday
- Nothing further this evening

Ms. McFearin:

- Attended the Finance Committee meeting this evening. Thanked the committee for all their hard work
- Wished everyone a happy and safe Fourth of July
- Nothing further this evening

Mr. Bellan:

- Thanked Mr. Foulkes for his help with resident concerns in his ward. He has been very responsive.
- Thanked Chris Campbell for his help with a residents concerns with Center Valley Trail.
- Congratulated Hannah August on her swearing in as a firefighter.
- Wished everyone a happy and safe Independence Day
- Nothing further this evening

Mayor Yates:

- Nothing further this evening

Mr. Maistros

- Nothing further this evening

Mrs. Buccigross

- Nothing further this evening

Mrs. Collins

- Nothing further this evening

Mr. Bellan stated the Executive Session was held earlier.

ADJOURNMENT:

Meeting unanimously adjourned at 8:19 pm.

Attest:

Greg Bellan
President of Council

Shannon Collins
Clerk of Council