

LANCASTER CITY COUNCIL**LANCASTER, OHIO****REGULAR MEETING**

April 27, 2020

PRAYER**CALL TO ORDER**

President Uhl called the meeting to order at approximately 6:43 p.m., in via Zoom.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President Uhl led Council in the Pledge of Allegiance along with Ethan and Samantha Uhl.

ROLL CALL

The following members of Council were present:

Mrs. Bobbitt, Mrs. Downour, Mr. Hall, Mr. James, Mr. Mattlin, Mr. McDaniel, Mr. Schoonover, Mr. Stoughton, and Mrs. Tener.

President Uhl asked that the record reflect that nine members are in attendance tonight.

READING AND DISPOSING OF THE JOURNAL

The Clerk presented the Regular Meeting Minutes dated April 13, 2020.

Mr. Schoonover made a motion to receive and file the Journal, seconded by Mrs. Bobbitt. After no discussion, the motion carried.

REPORTS OF CITY OFFICIALS

1. Email, dated April 15, 2020, regarding Certified Public Record Training. Submitted by Mr. Stoughton.
2. Email, dated April 15, 2020, regarding Certified Public Record Training. Submitted by Mrs. Downour.
3. Email, dated April 17, 2020, regarding Certified Public Record Training. Submitted by Mrs. Tener.
4. Email, dated April 21, 2020, regarding 1516 Graf Street. Submitted by Mr. Mattlin.
5. Series of emails, regarding Carryover Cash Guidelines. Submitted by Auditor Tricia Nettles.
6. Email, dated April 21, 2020, regarding Carryover Cash Guidelines. Submitted by Mr. McDaniel.
7. Email, dated April 22, 2020, regarding Draft Minutes. Submitted by Mr. Stoughton.

8. Email, dated April 22, 2020, regarding Carryover Cash Guidelines. Submitted by Mr. Mattlin.
9. Email, dated April 22, 2020, regarding 1516 Graf Street. Submitted by Mrs. Tener.
10. Email, dated April 24, 2020, regarding Council and Finance Committee Meeting. Submitted by President Uhl.
11. Email, dated April 24, 2020, regarding COVID-19 Economic and Budgetary Impacts. Submitted by Auditor Tricia Nettles.
12. Email, dated April 26, 2020, regarding Finance Committee Agenda. Submitted by Mrs. Downour.
13. Email, dated April 27, 2020, regarding May Meeting Cancellation. Submitted by Mr. James.
14. Email, dated April 27, 2020, regarding May Meeting Cancellation. Submitted by Stormwater Manager Denise Crews.
15. Email, dated April 27, 2020, regarding LFD Overtime. Submitted by Chief David Ward.
16. Email, dated April 27, 2020, regarding LFD Overtime. Submitted by Mr. Stoughton.
17. Email, dated April 27, 2020, regarding Ohio Municipal League Legislative Bulletin. Submitted by Mr. Stoughton.

Mr. Schoonover made a motion to receive and file the Reports of City Officials, seconded by Mrs. Bobbitt. The motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS

There were no Communications before Council this evening.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION (Awards)

There were no Special Presentations before Council this evening.

PETITIONS & MEMORIALS

There were no Petitions or Memorials before Council this evening.

PERMISSION OF VOTERS AND TAXPAYERS TO ADDRESS COUNCIL

There were no Voters or Taxpayers to address Council this evening.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. Finance Committee minutes for April 13, 2020, submitted by Mrs. Downour.

Mr. Schoonover made a motion to receive and file the Reports of Standing Committees, seconded by Mrs. Bobbitt. The motion carried.

REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES

There were no Reports of Special Committees presented to Council this evening.

PUBLIC HEARING

There were no Public Hearings scheduled before Council this evening.

READING OF RESOLUTIONS

Resolution Temporary 60-20- Second Reading – April 27, 2020

A RESOLUTION TO APPROPRIATE FROM THE UNENCUMBERED BALANCE AND TO AMEND THE CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATIONS WITH THE COUNTY AUDITOR IN THE GENERAL FUND (101)

Mrs. Downour indicated this is the second of three readings

Resolution Temporary 64-20- First Reading – April 27, 2020

A RESOLUTION TO ADOPT CITY OF LANCASTER POLICIES REGARDING FEDERAL GRANTS

Mrs. Downour indicated this is the first of two readings.

Resolution Temporary 65-20- First Reading – Permanent Resolution 68-20

A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE ALL ACTIONS NECESSARY TO ACCEPT A NORTHEAST OHIO PUBLIC ENERGY COUNCIL (NOPEC) 2020 ENERGIZED COMMUNITY GRANT AND TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY

Mrs. Downour made a motion to suspend the rules and waive the second and third readings of Temporary Resolution 65-20, seconded by Mrs. Bobbitt.

President Uhl asked if there is any discussion on the motion to suspend, with none, he requested the Clerk to call the roll. The motion to suspend carried 9-0.

Mrs. Downour made a motion to pass, engross, and enter upon the written record Temporary Resolution 65-20, seconded by Mrs. Bobbitt.

Mrs. Downour indicated this resolution is to authorize the City to enter into a grant agreement with NOPEC. This is an opportunity for the City to receive money from NOPEC in the form of a grant, which is based on the number of subscribers that the City has with NOPEC. As discussed during the Finance Committee, this money will be potentially chartered to be used to replace the boiler at the Lancaster Police Department

President Uhl asked if there is further discussion on the motion to pass, with none, he requested the Clerk to call the roll. The motion to pass carried 9-0.

President Uhl asked if there were any other resolutions to come before Council this evening. With none, we moved on to the next order of business.

READING OF ORDINANCES

Ordinance Temporary 6-20 – Third Reading – April 27, 2020 -----TABLED

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE ZONING MAP FOR THE 12.646 ACRE TRACT, PARCEL NUMBER 0534000700, BEHIND 2535 EAST MAIN STREET

Public hearing to be set at a later date

Mr. McDaniel made a motion to table Ordinance Temporary 6-20, seconded by Mr. Stoughton.

President Uhl stated that this is a privileged motion and there would be no discussion and requested the Clerk to call the roll. The motion to table carried 9-0.

President Uhl asked if there were any further ordinances to come before Council this evening. With none, we moved on to the next order of business.

TABLED LEGISLATION

Ordinance Temporary 32-19 – Third Reading – January 27, 2020 - TABLED

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTIONS 183.012, 183.013 AND 183.02 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF LANCASTER, OHIO, IN ORDER TO PROVIDE FOR THE LEVY OF AN ADDITIONAL FORTY-FIVE HUNDREDTHS OF ONE PERCENT (0.45%) INCOME TAX, EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2021, ON THE SALARIES, WAGES, COMMISSIONS AND OTHER COMPENSATION SUBJECT TO THE MUNICIPAL INCOME TAX WITH ALL SUCH TAX TO BE USED FOR THE PURPOSE OF OPERATING, MAINTAINING, REPAIRING, AND PROVIDING CAPITAL FACILITIES FOR THE FIRE AND POLICE DEPARTMENTS OF THE CITY, AND TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY

Finance (Stoughton/McDaniel) (3 Readings)

Ordinance Temporary 1-20 – Third Reading – February 24, 2020 - TABLED

AN ORDINANCE TO VACATE A PORTION OF LOWELL DRIVE AND ALL OF EMERSON BOULEVARD WITHIN JOHN D. VAN GUNDY'S REVISION OF THE COLONIAL HEIGHTS ADDITION AND TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY

Economic Development (McDaniel/Downour) (3 Readings)

Ordinance Temporary 4-20 – Third Reading – March 23, 2020 -TABLED

Public Hearing set April 13, 2020 at 6:30 p.m.

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE ZONING MAP FOR THE 18.939 ACRE PROPERTY BETWEEN NORTH MEMORIAL DRIVE AND NORTH COLUMBUS STREET/NELSON ROAD PARCEL NUMBERS 0532152400, 0532152600, 0532144900, 0532145000

Economic Development (McDaniel/Downour) (3 Readings)

Ordinance Temporary 5-20 – Third Reading – March 23, 2020-TABLED

Public Hearing set April 13, 2020 at 6:30 p.m.

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE ZONING MAP FOR THE 21.000 ACRE PROPERTY CONSISTING OF THREE PARCELS LOCATED ALONG CAMPGROUND ROAD AND INCLUDING THE EXISTING RESIDENCE ADDRESS 1443 CAMPGROUND ROAD PARCEL NUMBERS 0531004100, 053-1004300, AND 0531004110

Economic Development (McDaniel/Stoughton) (3 Readings)

Resolution Temporary 45-20- Third Reading – April 13, 2020-TABLED

A RESOLUTION TO APPROPRIATE FROM THE UNENCUMBERED BALANCE IN THE PARKS AND RECREATION FUND (212), AND AMEND THE CERTIFICATE WITH THE COUNTY AUDITOR

Service (Tener/Mattlin) (3 Readings)

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

President Uhl spoke briefing in going forward with Finance and Council meetings. Governors Dewine's latest press conference is allowing to slowing reopen Ohio. As it stands now, businesses

that are allowed to operate must operate under certain guidelines and will include those that are opening up May 1st, May 4th, and May 12th. The guidelines continue social distancing and includes that no more than 50% of what is permitted by fire code should be present in the room. Based on our last meeting in City Council Chambers, we were only able to accommodate Council, the administration, and seven people from the public and maxed out the room. There are a number of public hearings that need to be set and would like to discuss how we will conduct those meetings. President Uhl recommends that the May 4th meeting virtual, by May 18th we could attempt to meet in person with no public allowed, the meeting would be streamed so that the public would be able to see and hear the meetings. President Uhl recommends that we hold an in person meeting on June 8th and all public hearings be held at that time. Only one of the public hearings might be protested with several people speaking for and against it. The room will be set to follow the social distancing put in place and continue to be observed. If the crowd grows during this meeting we may need to do crowd control allowing the overflow outside the room, again observing the proper distancing, as a holding area, and be permitted to come in one at a time to speak one at a time. We can decide at the May 4th meeting to place on the schedule the public hearings, allowing the mandatory 30 day notice to all property owners.

Mrs. Downour asked what is behind trying to meet in person on second meeting in May if it is only council she stated she does not see an advantage verses having virtual meeting. The virtual meeting is effective but understands it is not great for the public, but if they wouldn't be in attendance the second meeting in May, why worry about it?

President Uhl responded that that is a great question and it gives us the opportunity to get back to some sort of normalcy before we hold the public hearings. If it is the desire of Council to meet virtually May 18th, we can do that and reduce the opportunity to be near anyone else until we get to the June 8th meeting. President Uhl stated that he does not have an issue with that if that is how Council would like to head. President Uhl asked if there were others that would like to speak on this issue.

Mr. Hall agreed with President Uhl and trying to show the public we are getting back to normalcy. The governor is taking a very good approach and believes the direction President Uhl is going toward is very solid.

President Uhl thanked Mr. Hall and asked if there was anyone else wishing to speak on this issue.

Mr. Mattlin asked if there is the opportunity to find bigger venue for public hearing such as Crossroads, not to allow more people, but to allow larger separation.

President Uhl stated that that would allow us to have more people to meet the six foot guidelines and increase the floor space to allow that to happen. President Uhl asked the Clerk to check into this over the next couple of days.

Clerk Sandy agreed to do check in to availability for the June 8th meeting.

President Uhl asked if there was anyone else that had any suggestions.

Mr. James indicated he is okay with either way. He thinks that somewhat return to normalcy is not a bad idea, and you can always change your mind leading up the May 18th meeting, changing the venue if you need to.

President Uhl indicated the May 18th meeting will not need to be changed, however a decision will need to be made for the June 8th meeting when the public hearing will take place. If Council meets in person on May 18th, it will be done in Council Chambers. Carrie Woody suggested via text that we check OUL as a possible location. President Uhl asked if there was anyone else wishing to speak on this issue.

Auditor Nettles suggested checking with the county on Liberty Center.

President Uhl indicated that the clerk check into. President Uhl suggested that we will play it by ear, and we will meet virtually on May 4th, and we will see next week if there is a potential for a different location for June 8th.

Mrs. Bobbitt suggested checking with Olivedale and is larger than Council Chambers. While she likes Mr. Hall's suggestion and being ready to get out there, and that she will still be working virtually on May 18th.

President Uhl indicated that we may hold that meeting virtually, but will wait and see as we go as we get there. Mrs. Bobbitt's information that she will be working virtually, may affect the way the meeting is held. Whatever decision we make for the May 18th meeting, the public will only be able to access the meeting via Spectrum and online. Please email President Uhl with any questions or thoughts on this or any other issue.

President Uhl asked if there is any other unfinished business this evening, with none, we moved on to the next order of business.

NEW BUSINESS/SPECIAL PRESENTATION

Mrs. Tener thanked the community for coming out for the 2020 graduates and thanked Innerphase. Mayor Scheffler has also uploaded the video on his website. It's a really touching video and glad the community came out because the seniors lost out on prom and graduation. School stopped and they didn't get to say goodbye anyone and it is hard on them

President Uhl indicated it certainly is a challenging year for seniors who are going to miss out on their last of sort of anything.

President Uhl asked if there is any other new business this evening, with none, we moved on to the next order of business.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Next Regular Sessions of Council:

1. May 4th at 6:30 p.m. via Zoom
2. May 18th at 6:30 p.m.

Upcoming Special Meetings:

1. None

Upcoming Committee Meetings for the next 30 days:

1. Finance – May 4th at 6:00 p.m. – via Zoom
2. Water/WPC – May 13th at 8:00 a.m. WPC CR
3. Finance – May 18th at 6:00 p.m. – Council Chambers
4. Safety – May 22nd at 7:30 a.m. – City Hall 1897 CR
5. Code Enforcement & Zoning – June 1st at 8:00 a.m. – City Hall 1897 CR

READING OF BILLS


There were no bills before Council this evening.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

There were no requests for Executive Session this evening.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Schoonover made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mrs. Bobbitt. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at approximately 7:11 p.m.



Teresa Lee Sandy, Clerk of Council