

**City of Aurora, Ohio
CITY COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
March 25, 2019**

The Council of the City of Aurora, Ohio met in Council Chambers at City Hall on Monday, March 25, 2019 for holding a regular public meeting. Council President George Horvat called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with the Pledge to the Flag of the United States of America.

ROLL CALL

Present: Kathi Grandillo
Harold Hatridge
George Horvat
Dennis Kovach
John Kudley, Jr.
Amy McDougald Eckard
James Vaca

Absent: Reva Barner
Scott Wolf

Also Present: Ann Womer Benjamin, Mayor
Dean DePiero, Law Director
Kris Allen, Executive Assistant to the Mayor
Harry Stark, Director of Public Services
Robert Hagquist, Police Lieutenant
Donna Hawks, Clerk of Council
April Secura, Deputy Clerk of Council

Consideration of Minutes

MOTION: Approval of the March 11, 2019 meeting minutes

Mr. Hatridge moved; Ms. Grandillo seconded. The motion carried on a 7-2 roll call vote.

AYES: Grandillo, Horvat, Hatridge, Kudley, McDougald Eckard, Vaca

NAYS: None

Mayor's Report

(Attached)

Mayor Womer Benjamin provided a brief recap of those she met with and functions that she attended since the last meeting of Council.

Law Director's Report

(Attached)

Mr. DePiero did not read his report.

Council President's Report

(Attached)

MOTION: To amend the agenda by adding Ordinance 2019-042 thru 2019-045

Ms. Grandillo moved; Ms. McDougald Eckard seconded. The motion carried on a unanimous voice vote.

Citizens Comments – Legislation

Ms. Deb Conti, S. Chillicothe Road, commented on Ord. 2019-042 – she said she would like to see a list of the residences in the CRA3 district. She said she would like to know if it would show on the county's website if a property received an abatement. Ord. 2019-045 – she said she would like to know the age of the excavator coming to Parks & Rec. and the hours of use on the excavator in 2018. She said in the past the city only had one excavator and would like to know if the departments shared it.

Councilman Remarks – Legislation

There were no remarks.

Legislation**Ordinance 2019-024**

AN ORDINANCE ACCEPTING THE PROPOSAL OF, AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH, CHAGRIN PET, GARDEN & POWER EQUIPMENT SUPPLY INC. IN THE AMOUNT OF \$13,327.31, THROUGH STATE PRICING, FOR THE PURCHASE OF A 2019 JOHN DEERE GATOR, TAKING THE NECESSARY FUNDS FROM THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND (#60), AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY SO THE EQUIPMENT CAN BE READY TO USE BY THE SUMMER SEASON

MOTION: To adopt Ordinance 2019-024

Mr. Kovach moved; Ms. Grandillo seconded. The motion carried on a 7-0 roll call vote.

AYES: Grandillo, Horvat, Hatridge, Kudley, McDougald Eckard, Vaca

NAYS: None

Ordinance 2019-028

AN ORDINANCE ACCEPTING AN EASEMENT, SUBSTANTIALLY IN THE FORM ATTACHED HERETO, FROM PROGRESSIVE AURORA REAL ESTATE, LLC FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONSTRUCTING A PORTION OF A SIDEWALK IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CITY'S CONNECTIVITY PLAN

To third reading.

Ordinance 2019-029

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF A 2019 FORD F-150 FROM LIBERTY FORD FOR USE BY THE SERVICE DEPARTMENT, AT A COST OF \$31,773.62, LESS THE TRADE IN ALLOWANCE OF \$2,500.00 FOR (1) 2008 TRUCK CURRENTLY OWNED BY THE CITY, FOR A NET COST OF \$29,273.62, TAKING THE NECESSARY FUNDS FROM THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND (#60) AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY IN ORDER TO PURCHASE THE VEHICLE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AS DELIVERY USUALLY TAKES 6 WEEKS

To third reading.

Ordinance 2019-030

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF A 2019 FORD F-350 FROM LIBERTY FORD FOR USE BY THE SERVICE DEPARTMENT, AT A COST OF \$35,271.74, LESS THE TRADE IN ALLOWANCE OF \$2,500.00 FOR (1) TRUCK CURRENTLY OWNED BY THE CITY, FOR A NET COST OF \$32,771.74, TAKING THE NECESSARY FUNDS FROM THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND (#72) AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY IN ORDER TO PURCHASE THE VEHICLE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AS DELIVERY USUALLY TAKES 6 WEEKS

MOTION: To amend by replacing with proposed legislation provided by the Law Department to correct a typographical error (changing Fund 72 to Fund 60).

Mr. Vaca moved; Ms. Grandillo seconded. The motion carried on a unanimous voice vote.

To third reading

Ordinance 2019-033

AN ORDINANCE ACCEPTING THE PROPOSAL OF, AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH AMERICAN FIREWORKS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$20,000.00 TO PERFORM THE CITY'S JULY 4TH FIREWORKS PROGRAM, TAKING THE NECESSARY FUNDS FROM THE RECREATION FUND (#78)

To third reading

Ordinance 2019-042

A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE ATTACHED WRITTEN RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE TAX INCENTIVE REVIEW COMMITTEE ("TIRC") AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY AS THE REPORT MUST BE FILED WITH THE STATE OF OHIO BY MARCH 31, 2019

MOTION: To suspend the rule that requires an ordinance be read on three separate occasions

Mr. Kovach moved; Ms. Grandillo seconded. The motion carried on a unanimous voice vote.

Mr. Clymer said the list of all CRA abatements are available as they are public record. He said anyone that is interested should contact him in the Finance Department. He said the Portage County website should show the abated values for existing abatements.

MOTION: To adopt Ordinance 2019-042

Mr. Kovach moved; Ms. McDougald Eckard seconded. The motion carried on a 7-0 roll call vote.

AYES: Grandillo, Horvat, Hatridge, Kudley, McDougald Eckard, Vaca

NAYS: None

Ordinance 2019-043

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF A 2019 FORD EXPLORER FROM LIBERTY FORD, AT A COST OF \$30,843.50, APPROPRIATING THE NECESSARY FUNDS FROM THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND (#60) AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY TO REPLACE A POLICE VEHICLE THAT WAS DAMAGED IN A COLLISION CAUSED BY ANOTHER DRIVER

MOTION: To suspend the rule that requires an ordinance be read on three separate occasions

Mr. Kovach moved; Ms. Grandillo seconded. The motion carried on a unanimous voice vote.

MOTION: To adopt Ordinance 2019-043

Mr. Kovach moved; Mr. Hatridge seconded. The motion carried on a 7-0 roll call vote.

AYES: Grandillo, Horvat, Hatridge, Kudley, McDougald Eckard, Vaca

NAYS: None

Ordinance 2019-044

AN ORDINANCE ACCEPTING THE PROPOSAL OF, AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH HALL PUBLIC SAFETY CO. IN THE AMOUNT OF \$23,799.75 TO INSTALL NEW AND USED EQUIPMENT IN THREE (3) NEW POLICE VEHICLES, TAKING THE NECESSARY FUNDS FROM THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND (#60) AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY IN ORDER TO PROPERLY EQUIP NEW POLICE VEHICLES

MOTION: To suspend the rule that requires an ordinance be read on three separate occasions

Mr. Kovach moved; Mr. Vaca seconded. The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

MOTION: To adopt Ordinance 2019-044

Mr. Hatridge moved; Mr. Vaca seconded. The motion carried on a unanimous voice vote.

AYES: Grandillo, Horvat, Hatridge, Kudley, McDougald Eckard, Vaca

NAYS: None

Ordinance 2019-045

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF A MINI-EXCAVATOR FROM OHIO CAT AT A COST OF \$49,987.03, TAKING THE NECESSARY FUNDS FROM THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND (#60) AND THE PERPETUAL CARE FUND (#77) AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY TO HAVE THE EQUIPMENT AVAILABLE FOR USE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE

MOTION: To suspend the rule that requires an ordinance be read on three separate occasions

Mr. Hatridge moved; Ms. Grandillo seconded. The motion carried on a unanimous voice vote.

Mr. Stark said he believes the excavator is a 2007. He said he does not know the hours. He said the Parks & Rec. Department was utilizing theirs. He said with the new one his department will be able to utilize it the way they need to.

Mr. Kovach asked where they would be stored.

Mr. Stark said they would be stored at the Service Department.

MOTION: To adopt Ordinance 2019-045

Ms. McDougald Eckard moved; Mr. Hatridge seconded. The motion carried on a 7-0 roll call vote.

AYES: Grandillo, Horvat, Hatridge, Kudley, McDougald Eckard, Vaca

NAYS: None

Citizens Comments

There were no comments.

Council member and Committee Remarks

Mr. Vaca said they started the California Street reconstruction project. He said he believes it will go on for three months.

Mr. Kudley said he participated in a conference call with the Service Transportation Board in Washington, D.C. regarding the Norfolk Southern abandonment of the railway. He said Norfolk Southern is seeking the request to be able to abandon the track. He said one of the things Norfolk is going to be required to provide for historic markers in the train district area working with the Ohio Historic Connection in Columbus with their marker program. He said there are already five historic markers in Aurora and the Landmark Commission and the Historical Society were not happy that they were not included in what goes on the markers. He said he indicated as far as the wording and the history who would know better about it than the Historical Society here in Aurora and the Landmark Commission. Mr. Kudley said the Service Transportation Board agreed that would become part of the memorandum and agreement. He said he also made a request to extend the preservation of the track in front of the train station another 50 feet. He said the Transportation Board does not have the authority to take someone's property and decide what he or she can do with it, but can make a request or pass it on to Norfolk Southern. He explained it would take the existing track halfway through the back of the station and extend it to the wood line.

Ms. McDougald Eckard said many people have mentioned the coyote presence is out there. She asked if here is anything people could do or should know.

Mayor Womer Benjamin said that periodically there is information posted on the website. She said last year, the City hired someone to track and try to trap some. She said it is very difficult to do this as they have a wide travel area. She said if anyone knows of something specific that is causing a problem to let her know.

Ms. Grandillo said Mr. Kudley and Ms. Holman are speakers at the April 3 meeting of the Rotary Club at the Aurora Inn at 7:00 a.m. She said anyone can come as a guest and breakfast is free.

Adjournment

MOTION: To adjourn

Mr. Vaca moved; Ms. Grandillo seconded. The motion carried on a 7-0 roll call vote.

AYES: Grandillo, Hatridge, Horvat, Kudley, McDougald Eckard, Vaca

NAYS: None

The meeting adjourned at 7:19 p.m.

George Horvat, Council President

Donna Hawks, Clerk of Council