

## Regular/Public

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Council President Baker called the meeting to order. Pastor John Grandy from the Living Water Church offered the prayer. The Pledge was recited by all.

Roll call: Shupp, Wilson, Vance, Hamsher, Corfman and Lorson were present.

Excused: Aspiras

Vance moved to adopt the minutes of the last regular meeting of March 7, 2016. Corfman seconded. Roll call vote; Wilson and Hamsher abstained; all remaining yeas; motion carried.

Vance moved to adopt the minutes of the special meeting of March 14, 2016. Lorson seconded. Roll call vote; Hamsher and Wilson abstained; all yeas; motion carried.

### **Public Comment** None

### **Standing Committee Reports:**

No reports for Finance, Parks and Recreation, Transportation, Planning or Ordinance and Personnel.

Utilities – Corfman – Thank you, Mr. President. I have no report. However, we should take note that the Utilities Department did get a special award for reliability. I believe Director Brediger can elaborate on that. But it is an accomplishment under just good management and good work ethic and just plain good planning to have a system that works so reliably and we're lucky for that. And I'm glad that they got recognized.

Health & Safety – Vance – Thank you, Mr. President. I think I'll just take a moment and just clarify an article that was in the paper after our last meeting. I think the headline looked like Orrville City Council Plans to Combat the Zika Virus or something. It was just a misunderstanding. We were receiving a report of last year's mosquito control program and a councilmember who will remain nameless, we can pick on him because he's not here, asked if the Zika virus was a concern here. And I just wanted to clarify that the Zika mosquito does not live in this part of the country so, if you're bit by a mosquito you don't have to worry that you're going to contract the Zika virus. So just I think there's not a lot of information out there right now so everybody's just kind of wondering what our concern level needs to be. So there's theoretically a way if a mosquito larvae was to be transported from the south somehow here to Orrville or something. But I think so far it's not an item for concern. Obviously we take our mosquito control program very seriously. But I didn't hear anything that sounded any different than any other year. Just the standard mosquito control procedures. So just wanted to clarify that for what's it's worth. Thank you.

### **Special Committee Reports:** None

### **Administrative Reports:**

Mayor Handwerk: Thank you, Mr. President. Mr. Corfman touched on it a little bit but I also wanted to congratulate our Utilities Department for the award from the APPA conference on their excellence of reliability. And again, I will not, either, take the thunder away from Mr. Brediger; I'm sure he's going to talk a little bit more about that. I'll also mention in the same breath though, our Finance Department, once again this year, received their excellence award for the way they handle finances this year after the audit from last year. So that's one that we've almost come to take for granted because they receive that just about every year. But you know all it takes is one or two years not to get that and all of a sudden you wonder what's going on. We certainly appreciate all the work that all those folks do. Just briefly wanted to mention those of you that came in tonight for the meeting, our City Hall renovation work is continuing to progress. We had a little bit of a lull this past week. The dry wall people got finished actually a little earlier than we thought they would so that part's all done. The sanding and refinishing of the wood rails all the way up and down both staircases is finished. Actually they just finished about an hour before you guys got here tonight. So that's done. The painting will begin tomorrow. So that will get started and the stonework to come still along with that and after that whichever those two worked out. So it's coming along and another couple weeks we should be done and should be all finished. And that's all I have.

Baker: Thank you, Mayor. We'll move to our Safety Service Director Mr. Wheeler.

Safety Service Director Wheeler: Thank you, Mr. President. Believe it or not high school baseball and softball actually starts this week so our public service department has been hard at work getting the fields ready. Also a reminder that starting Wednesday April 6, the Orrville compost center will be open. The

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hours of operation are Wednesdays from 7:30 a.m. to 11:15 a.m.; 12:15 p.m. to 3:15 p.m.; and Saturdays from 8 a.m. to noon. Items accepted include materials that will compost, obviously, leaves, grass, branches, shrub trimmings and trees, excludes stump and roots. Also, yesterday started Ohio's severe weather awareness week. That runs through March 26. Thunderstorms affect Ohio the most during the Spring and Summer months. Storms can produce heavy rainfall, flash flooding, damaging wind, hail and tornados. To keep our citizens aware of these hazards there will be a statewide tornado drill this Wednesday at 9:50 a.m.; this is an annual drill. Wooster, Rittman and Orrville will be sounding tornado sirens throughout the county at 9:50 a.m. Please be aware that this is only a test. And that is my report for tonight.

Baker: Thank you. We'll move to our Utility Director. Mr. Brediger.

Brediger: Thank you, Mr. President. Just a couple of items of interest. As you're aware every year our state association AMP does host a couple of scholarships. And we do have one of our student's made it to the semi-finalist list and that is Elizabeth Birkbeck, that's Captain Matt Birkbeck's daughter. So she'll be proceeding through to the final round of that scholarship application opportunity. There will be a total of 8 scholarships that will be offered this year so we wish her the best of luck. A couple weeks ago myself and probably about 40 other AMP personnel attended the APPA legislative rally in Washington DC. I did pass out a handout that had some information in there you can look at that at your pleasure. We did address several resolutions during the business portion of that effort. One of those had to deal with the hydro power licensing process. If you recall over the past several years when we have been providing updates on our hydro projects, we've mentioned some of the delays that have resulted in some huge additional costs for us and a lot of these delays were due to the Army Corp of Engineers permitting process. And when I mean about delays, these have been delays in excess of a year and a half on all four of our projects. So the one particular resolution offered several solutions to help us streamline that process so future public power entities can hopefully glide through that process a little easier. While we were there we did have an opportunity to meet with Congressman Renacci and Senator Brown's staff. But we were very fortunate to have a face-to-face meeting with Senator Rob Portman. We focused a lot of our discussions on some of the problems that we're having in the electric energy markets. We discussed the need to continue our effort to retain tax-exempt financing every time Congress is looking at coming up with budget changes, our major financing tool that not only finances a number of utility projects but also City projects, and schools, come up for possible federal cuts. And we also reiterated the impact that the past couple of sequestrations have had on us and that has, it will cost us millions of dollars in financing our Prairie State and our hydro projects. As is already been mentioned, we did receive American Public Power Association's reliability award for outperforming the electric industry's national averages when it comes to number of outages per customer and the duration of those outages. On average, our minutes of interruption and interruption per customer have been lower than AEP and First Energy. That should come to no surprise. Our time that our customers were receiving power in 2015 was at 99.992%. So that's not too bad but it does speak to the testament of the effort that mainly our distribution department addresses our tree trimming program and the variety of other functions on our distribution and our transmission line. And you will notice, or if you get on our website, our state association's website, you will see a number of our AMP communities receive that award. Those are some of the distinctions that really separate us from a lot of the investor owned utilities. The 2016 building season is off to a good start. We have a number of projects that most of you are aware of but I thought I would just bring those to your attention because it seems like every couple weeks we have another one added to the list. But we do have the Smucker project with the new office and R&D building, Venture Products is planning another expansion, Bekaert is planning another expansion and they're also selling their two facilities on Pine Street so part of their expansion will be consolidating those two operations on Pine Street. So if you are aware of somebody that has possible interest in some good industrial sites, contact Mike Hedberg about that. Jarrett has a couple warehouses going. Certainly the long awaited hotel, the Cobblestone Hotel. PFI, those are the folks that have the warehouse on the corner of Main and Collins Blvd. are expanding their warehouse. Orrville Chick Hatchery and plaza. So already we're not even through March and we have a number of positive expansions going on in our industrial and our commercial areas. And with that, that's all I have this evening, sir. Thank you.

Baker: Thank you, Mr. Brediger. Our Finance Director. Ms. Strimlan.

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Finance Director Strimlan: Thank you, Mr. President. The Finance Committee held a workshop last Monday to review the 2016 final appropriations in detail. I believe we were able to answer any questions or concerns that you had. Total appropriations for 2016 are \$65.7 million with \$50 million being allocated for the utilities, \$15.6 million for the tax supported funds and \$7.8 million for the general fund which also is tax supported. And the final reading of that legislation is on the agenda tonight. That's all I have.

Baker: Thank you. Mrs. Kirkbride, our Law Director.

Law Director Kirkbride: Thank you, Mr. President. I have no report this evening.

Baker: Thank you. I also would like to commend the utility department, the electric division for their winning an award. If you've been in Orrville recently you know that our power is very reliable. If you have lived other places, I've been around many different towns, electricity, we come to take it for granted. Everyone else, usually electricity is fairly reliable but Orrville's electric power is far and away one of the best that I've ever been around. So congratulations, Mr. Brediger and make sure that all your people realize the great job that they do.

Brediger: Thank you.

Baker: We'll move to Old Business, Mr. Lorson.

**Old Business:**

Lorson moved that Resolution 7-16 be placed on third reading. Hamsher seconded. Roll call vote; all yeas; motion carried. **Resolution No. 7-16**, A resolution to make appropriations for current expenses and other expenditures of the City of Orrville, State of Ohio, during the fiscal year ending December 31, 2016, and declaring an emergency.

Baker: We had a workshop last week and we've talked about this quite a few times. Does anyone have any further questions or comments? I see none.

Lorson moved that Resolution 7-16 be adopted as read. Corfman seconded. Roll call vote; all yeas; motion carried.

Baker: That completes our Old Business. We'll move to New Business. Mr. Lorson.

**New Business:**

Lorson moved that Resolution 8-16 be placed on first reading. Vance seconded. Roll call vote; all yeas; motion carried. **Resolution No. 8-16**, A Resolution authorizing the Board of Control to enter into a contract and/or contracts for a period not to exceed three (3) years, without bidding, for selected insurance needs of the City of Orrville, Ohio, and declaring an emergency.

Baker: Mr. Wheeler.

Wheeler: Thank you, Mr. President. This is a resolution that we've been doing every three years. Just allows us not to have to go out for formal bids for our casualty vehicles and property insurance. We do go through an agent so they do get quotes for us so we do actually get comparisons but do not have to go through the formal bidding process. We've done it this way from my understanding for a number of years now. It's just very difficult to get apples to apples quotes when they did attempt to do so. So this is sort of tri-annual maintenance type resolution.

Baker: Does anyone have any questions for Mr. Wheeler? No.

Lorson moved that the rules, regulations, and statutes requiring the reading of a resolution on three separate days be suspended. Shupp seconded. Roll call vote; all yeas; motion carried.

Lorson moved that Resolution 8-16 be adopted as read. Hamsher seconded. Roll call vote; all yeas; motion carried.

Lorson moved that Ordinance C-16 be placed on first reading. Corfman seconded. Roll call vote; all yeas; motion carried. **Ordinance No. C-16**, An Ordinance approving the editing and inclusion of certain Ordinances as parts of the various Component Codes of the Codified Ordinances of Orrville, Ohio, and declaring an emergency.

Baker: Mr. Wheeler.

Wheeler: Thank you, Mr. President. This too is an annual ordinance. This is actually, if I can say this without making it sound too confusing, we're actually just approval to codify the ordinances that were

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approved by Council in the prior year. So the ordinances have already been approved now this is just the codification into the formal City code.

Baker: Thank you. Any questions. No.

Lorson moved that the rules, regulations, and statutes requiring the reading of an ordinance on three separate days be suspended. Shupp seconded. Roll call vote; all yeas; motion carried.

Lorson moved that Ordinance C-16 be adopted as read. Corfman seconded. Roll call vote; all yeas; motion carried.

Lorson moved that Resolution 9-16 be placed on first reading. Corfman seconded. Roll call vote; all yeas; motion carried. **Resolution No. 9-16**, A Resolution authorizing the Board of Control to enter into an agreement and/or agreements without bidding, to purchase nineteen (19) APX4000 portable Motorola Radios, and associated equipment through Motorola Solutions for the Fire Department of the City of Orrville, Ohio, and declaring an emergency.

Baker: Mr. Wheeler.

Wheeler: Thank you, Mr. President. As I mentioned in the last council meeting, the state Fire Marshall did approve our fire department for a grant of just under \$50,000. So tonight we come before you to seek permission to make that purchase with that grant money. So it won't cost the City anything. It's just simply moving forward with the purchase through the grant.

Baker: Any questions? Mr. Vance.

Vance: How many more radios will need to be purchased?

Wheeler: I'm glad you asked that. We are still in need of 11 mobiles and 19 more portables. We actually have grants out there still for those purchases. In fact one was just applied for in cooperation with the City of Wooster Saturday to purchase most of the remainder. So we're still hopeful that the remainder will be able to be purchased with grant dollars.

Baker: Any other questions? Mr. Vance.

Vance: And will these radios be put into service right away and be used in conjunction with the other radios? 'Cause the technology is completely different right?

Wheeler: Technology in regards??

Vance: The two radio technologies, our existing radios and these, are completely different. So will they be in service at the same time?

Wheeler: We'll transition over to these once the WARCOG is up and operational. That is the plan to be on the MARCS radios with the WARCOG.

Vance: And I would just make the comment that all these purchases are being done in conjunction with other municipalities. Everybody's working together to come on to the same system and that's how we're eligible for this grant money. And we're going to have overall a significant, one of the best improvements probably in our Safety Services in a long time.

Wheeler: Absolutely. If you read in the paper I think it was over the weekend, the County's done some significant upgrades to some of our antennas and those kinds of things which made it a bit critical and its going to make this MARCS radios head and shoulders above what we have now.

Baker: Any other comments?

Lorson moved that the rules, regulations, and statutes requiring the reading of a resolution on three separate days be suspended. Wilson seconded. Roll call vote; all yeas; motion carried.

Lorson moved that Resolution 9-16 be adopted as read. Hamsher seconded. Roll call vote; all yeas; motion carried.

Baker: Ladies and Gentleman that finishes our New Business for this evening. We now have a chance to listen to Chief Ballentine present the annual report for the Fire Department.

Fire Department Chief Robert Ballentine presented his annual report. (Copy on file.)

Baker: Chief Ballentine thank you for that report. That finishes our regular business for this evening. Does anyone have anything for the Good of the Order this evening? We'll let the mayor go first.

Mayor: I do have one thing. We've mentioned the WARCOG several times tonight and since our Fire Chief just gave his report, I'd like to just publicly thank the Police Chief, Captain Birkbeck, Chief Ballentine for all the help they've been to Mr. Wheeler and I this year going through this WARCOG process. Because you can't beat experience and we've got a lot of that with those three guys. And they've certainly helped in

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other areas of the county too as far as explaining things and with the whole radio process. I don't use radios every day. I don't know whether they're having trouble or not. So the experience that we got from those three was tremendous and I just wanted to thank them.

Vance: Once comment. If people have a chance they ought to stop by Heartland Point and see the work of one of our own Councilmembers John Lorson who's got a photography exhibit on display there called Shops Along the Way. It's a good opportunity to see some good local nature and wildlife photography and I'm sure some of those are for sale as well. That always helps the cause. Anyway if you haven't had a chance to see his work, it's a good opportunity to do so through March at Heartland Point.

Baker: Thank you. Anyone else?

Corfman moved to adjourn the council meeting and Wilson seconded. Roll call vote; all yeas; motion carried.

Baker: Thank you every one. Ladies and Gentleman our meeting is adjourned.  
Council was adjourned 8:213 PM.

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Jeanne Feudo, Clerk of Council

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Date

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Lyle Baker, President of Council