

Regular/Public

October 3, 2016

Council President Baker called the meeting to order. Pastor Marvin Zuercher from Chestnut Ridge Mennonite Church offered the prayer. The Pledge was recited.

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

Corfman moved to approve the minutes of the last regular meeting of September 19, 2016, as posted; Hamsher seconded. Roll call vote; all yeas; motion carried.

Standing Committee Reports No report for Parks and Recreation, Transportation, Planning, Finance – Aspiras: Thank you, Mr. President. Finance Committee did meet this evening just prior to tonight's city council meeting. We met with the rest of council, the administration and the Mayor in regards to the potential lodging tax. This is our second committee meeting that we've had on this. So I've asked the law director to prepare some legislation based on behalf of the committee and the rest of council to introduce legislation. So she'll be drafting that up as far as a 3% lodging tax and the allocation of those funds; we're estimating the first year will be roughly \$34,740 and then bumps up a little each year. Again that's an estimation. So we'll look into allocate those funds at 70% in the general fund and 30% will go into the capital fund. That's all I have this evening. Thank you.

Utilities – Corfman: Thank you, Mr. President. Utilities has not met and there is no report. The conversion to gas is ongoing at the power plant and that's about as eventful as it gets.

Health and Safety – Vance: Thank you, Mr. President. We are receiving a few questions about if our community is planning on doing anything about the legalization of marijuana in Ohio and if Orrville, what our response to that will be. And I just want folks to know we are discussing that. We've not had a committee meeting yet. The Ohio Municipal League is having some training for municipal leaders on October 26, 27 & 28th of this month. I'm taking vacation to go there to get some of that training. And this issue will be addressed there. So we do plan on meeting sometime in November to talk about what our community's response will be. So that is something that we are addressing. So for those folks that have been wondering, we pretty much have this issue in our sights and are going to address it. Thank you. That's all I have.

Ordinance and Personnel – Lorson: We haven't met. I have no report although I would like to just add something that I observed. An email that we all received about the Ohio Municipal League meetings coming up and whatnot there was a note on there that no longer will they be passing out a paper packet at those meetings and it kind of brought up a point that I had mentioned oh, a few months ago while we were in another committee meeting about the possibility of someday moving toward paperless meetings for us as well. And I just want to plant that idea in folks' minds. It might not appear so on camera, but we have large stacks of paper in front of us and there's quite a bit of reading that needs to be done and any time a piece of legislation moves through or budget reports or anything like that. A lot of paper is generated and for the most part a lot of it is looked at once and then filed away and never seen again. So I'd like us to entertain the idea of moving in the direction of going toward a paperless meeting at some point, if that's possible.

Vance: I'm all for that.

Baker: Alright. Thank you. We have no special committee reports this evening. We'll move to administrative reports. Mayor Handwerk.

Administrative Reports:

Mayor Handwerk: Yes, thank you, Mr. President. I was able to attend the AMP and OMEA conference last week in Columbus. That was Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday for me; Mr. Brediger was actually

Regular/Public

October 3, 2016

down there Monday for some other business. I'm continually impressed with the AMP organization and the professionalism that they show in everything that we do with them. It was kind of sad to see John Vantine and also Keith Brooks. John Vantine's been the legal advisor for AMP for 30 years, I think, since the beginning of AMP. And of course there were a lot of stories from the very beginning of how that organization got started and grew to what it is now. But he's retiring and I think we're left in very good hands with the people that they have to take his place. Keith Brooks, also just a few years less than John with AMP and he wasn't actually with AMP, he was actually an advisor as far as concerning things going on at the state legislature and things like that. So, always there to bring information to, I know the OMEA board about what's happening in Columbus and so forth. Both of those fellows are going to be missed, I think, a lot. Had a chance to meet with people quite a bit while we were down there and just a really good person. And so it will be sad not to have him around but there will be someone there to take their place. Also that same weekend, or not weekend but the few days that I was down there and just watching the news that was the time that they had just had over the previous weekend 30 heroin overdoses in Columbus. And they, I think, while I was there, there was 20 more. Two deaths. It's scary just the amount of, if there is any good heroin I don't know, but the bad stuff that is going out there that these people are OD'ing on, and part of the situation is still, I think, the fact that some of these people feel like they've got this safeguard now with the Narcan that's out there they think that, well, if I overdose somebody's going to give me a dose of that and I'll be fine. Well that is true to an extent but if nobody gets there in time, you aren't coming back. Don't know where that's going to go and I don't know how they're every going to get rid of these additional things that they're putting in that people are using that are so high powered that they're sometimes using once and that's it. They're done. Because they don't know what they're doing with it. So, it's a very scary thing and I would just mention to the public, we certainly don't have those kinds of numbers around here but all you have to do is read the paper and see how many there were in Wayne County over the last week or so. It's everywhere. So none of us can feel like well at least we don't have to worry about that. It is everywhere. And we've been saying that for years. But just be on the lookout for things that seem suspicious to you as far as the sellers. I think I have a real disdain for people especially that possibly grew up in Wayne County or grew up in Orrville that come back and then sell to our own people here. To me, you're not welcome in Orrville. You're not welcome in Wayne County at all. But that continues to happen too. So just be on the lookout for things like that that you might see in your neighborhood that look suspicious and by all means if you see those kinds of things report them to our police department. That's why they're here and they feel the same way that we do. We're tired of all of it. We hope we can make some difference here. Thirdly, just wanted to mention that if you've been passed the hotel recently, you can see that there is some visible progress out there. For a while I know it was almost a joke with some people about all there was was an elevator shaft out there. We now have some things surrounding the elevator shaft. It looks like the first floor is pretty well framed in and I think with this week's good weather we should see some other good things. There's plenty of stuff piled out there so they certainly have lots of supplies to work with. Hopefully that will continue to go on schedule and by the first of the year we might be able to benefit from that hotel tax you were talking about Mr. Aspiras. So that's all I have. Thank you.

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

Wheeler: Thank you, Mr. President. Our School Resource Officer, Officer Mitch Zimmerman just returned from a two-week DARE program training. This was completely funded by The Turning Point Coalition, the OneEighty Org., so we look forward to implementing some of those skills into our school system to fight, as the Mayor said, some of these opioids and drugs like that that are prevalent today. West Market Street is scheduled to begin here any day now. We had a preconstruction meeting a week

Regular/Public

October 3, 2016

ago. So they should be out on site over the next couple of weeks getting that project rolling. Dominion is moving along on their project. The two should not interfere with each other based on the logistics of it. We seem to be in good shape to get that project moving along. The concrete replacement project, I'm sure anyone out and about town has seen it in several different locations. They do expect to finish West Church Street, East Oak and North Mill all this week. They'll continue to work on South Crown Hill between Paradise Road and Market Street. Rails to Trails project, you've probably seen them out on Main Street today. They are out in front of Serpentine as well as in front of Goodwill completing those extensions of those projects. Sides of bridges still need installed along with signs and street markings but that project is moving along very well. And that's my report for tonight.

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

Brediger: Thank you, Mr. President. Just have a few informational items. We are continuing with the LED street light conversions. That work seems to be going on, we use that as a kind of fill-in work but we should have all that, all those new lights up by the end of fall of this year. Last week we did return generator 9 back into service. That's following the rewind following the failure on that unit last May. The unit ran most of the day on Friday. We brought it back up this week and we're still shaking out some systems on it. Vibration levels are up a little higher than we would like to see so we're wanting to get a little bit more time on the unit. In the next week, if we don't see those dropping back down into levels that we're more accustomed with, we'll be doing some more detailed diagnostic work on that. Sent out an email last week, boiler 13 ceased operating on coal on September 23rd that's after being in operation since 1969 to allow for that coal to gas conversion that Mr. Corfman mentioned. Demolition started last week and by over this weekend we actually had two of the four burners in place. There's a lot more work that needs to be done but our crews are off to an excellent start on that. We're still expecting to have that work pretty much wrapped up by the end of November. Also today sent out an email, while we're on the subject of natural gas, I did forward an article from one of our trade magazines about the Sierra club ramping up its effort to address natural gas pipelines and natural gas plants and their goal of, and I quote "No new gas plants unopposed." Which will help the club's aspiration to push all coal and gas out and replace it by no later than 2030. And good luck with that. Also wanted to remind everybody as we mentioned last council meeting that the City's natural gas aggregation program is active this month, you can still enroll in that program. The new rate that runs from November through next October of following year will be \$2.97 mentioned that that's about 8% lower than last year. Letters have already been sent out, you should have already received those. If you're already enrolled in the program you don't have to do anything. If you want to opt out and choose a different supplier there's some instructions on that. If you lost your letter just give our office a call and we'll walk you through that process. Couple other items that I wanted to mention the Mayor mentioned that the AMP's annual conference was last week. One of the speakers was our national association's president and CEO and she made an interesting comment that I thought was kind of unique. They told us that a majority of our customers really aren't aware that they're served by public power communities. All of us have lived in this town for a long time and we think we assume that everybody knows that but I wanted to take a couple minutes tonight just to tell a little bit of that story. Just the fact that Orrville has owned and operated its electric system since 1917 and it's something that all of have been very proud of. It's an aspect of our community that provides a lot of benefits to our residents and businesses. The primary focus of that service is to provide reliable and affordable electricity. We're not driven by profit and our power plant, our line workers all of our other employees are like neighbors. It gives us a big strategic advantage. Helps improve the quality of life. And it's critical to our business environment. Public power communities have had a strong track record of reliable service, diversification when it comes to energy

Regular/Public

October 3, 2016

supply, long-term planning, economic development and local decision making. This happens to be public power week. It's a nationally celebrated event. We don't have a parade or a whole lot of fanfare connected with that but it is something that was established by the American Public Power Association and its members in 1986 to identify and kind of bring into light some of the importance of public power. And we're just one of over 2,000 public power communities. So we just wanted to make that announcement for those people that really didn't know who we are or what we do. One of the hallmarks is that local control, those decisions are made right in this room, right in our Utility Boards, we have that control, we're not subject to a lot of rulings and oversight by the State of Ohio and the federal government and that's what made this utility what it has been for coming up on 100 years. Also at the conference we did receive safety commendations for no lost time or no OSHA recordable accidents in the power plant and our distribution department from all of last year. And that amounts to a little bit over 100,000 man hours so that is a huge testament to the training and the skills that we have in our electric personnel. We also received recognition for some mutual aid assistance that we provided to the City of Oberlin about 3 weeks ago when a large storm came through on a Saturday evening. That town was out of power for close to a day and we had crews over to help them out along with several other neighboring communities. I was also reelected to serve another term as the vice chair for the AMP board of trustees. The last note I'll have is last week we had a round of fraud going through our community. We had several of our customers receive phone calls indicating that their utility bills were past due and if they don't pay them promptly that their service was going to be cut off. We did post some information out on our website, out on Facebook and to my knowledge we haven't heard of any calls being received this week. But last week there seemed to be quite a few stemming from about Tuesday all the way through Friday. If you do get one of these calls, do not send any money or anything along those lines. Hang up. Call our office. Speak with one of our account clerks in Ms. Strimlan's office and we will verify any information in your account. But again, do not send any money. If you do by accident please let us know. We would ask you if it has escalated to that level to contact the Orrville Police Department. I think we caught this thing. We had some people call us early enough. We got the word out real quick last week and hopefully nobody fell victim to that. We rarely call customers and tell them that there is a problem. We do on occasion but most of the time there are letters written, there are hangers put on the door knobs let you know there is an issue and to contact our office. But if we are contacting you we are providing a lot of identification and if you suspect anything just call our office and please don't send any money into these people. With that, that would conclude my report tonight, sir. Thank you.

Mayor: Mr. Brediger, we might be able to have a parade for Public Power Week if you just cut the power for a week, I bet we have a long parade.

Brediger: We probably would. It would probably be going in the wrong direction though.

Mayor: A lot of people ever don't stop and think what all things would be like without electricity for a long time. And it's something we've all gotten used to. We sure appreciate all the work those gentlemen and you do. That's all. Thank you.

Baker: Thank you. We'll move to our Finance Director, Ms. Strimlan.

Strimlan: Thank you, Mr. President. Just two quick items this evening. The first is our quarterly investment report that I distributed to you prior to the meeting. This is a recap of all of our investments and associated earnings for the City and the Utilities and this is for the quarter ending September 30. I don't need a motion from council but I do need the minutes to reflect that it was distributed to you for review. The other item was I did also distribute the fund balance report for the period ending August 2016 and I would just ask for a motion to approve that report subject to audit. Vance so moved. Aspiras

Regular/Public

October 3, 2016

seconded. Roll call vote; all yeas; motion carried.

Baker: Thank you. We'll move to our Law Director, Mrs. Kirkbride.

Kirkbride: Thank you, Mr. President. I have no report. I will let you know that I did attend the AMP seminar as well Tuesday and Wednesday of last week. They had a legal component; got to hear some legislative updates and get some good information as well. It's a very, very well run program and I got a lot of good information out of it. And that's all.

Baker: Thank you. I have no report tonight. But I do have a comment. I'm very disappointed to hear that now that we're moving to gas for our power plant that it looks that may be targeted too. Sometimes I wonder what people think when they go along with some of these things.

Brediger: Just keep moving.

Baker: Just keep moving? Where am I going to move to?

Brediger: That's with respect to the target that's on your back.

Baker: Alright. We have no old business scheduled for this evening. We'll move to new business. Mr. Lorson.

New Business:

Lorson moved that Resolution 32-16 be placed on first reading. Vance seconded. Roll call vote; all yeas; motion carried. **Resolution No. 32-16**, A Resolution of the City of Orrville, Ohio for Bridge Inspection Program Services with the Ohio Department of Transportation, including, but not limited to bridge load rating calculations, scour assessments, bridge inspections, and fracture critical plan development, and declaring an emergency.

Baker: Do you have any comment for us, Mr. Wheeler.

Wheeler: Thank you, Mr. President. In 2014 the Ohio Department of Transportation began a program where they went out for bids for inspection of municipal bridges at their cost. That project has been in effect for the last three years. It was a three year program. They've decided to renew it for an additional three years. The City is provided a report once it's completed annually. It gives us an assessment of things that we need to either keep an eye on or maybe give a little TLC to. The project has been very effective. To be honest with you, it's been a great program. It saved the City thousands of dollars annually that we typically had to spend on our own for inspections. I recommend that we continue the program for an additional three years. This resolution does not have to be approved tonight. I apologize for the funky format but that's an Ohio Department of Transportation format on that legislation.

Baker: Anyone have any questions or comments? Yes, sir, Mr. Shupp.

Shupp: I know you probably haven't seen a report recently. How are our bridges looking?

Wheeler: It actually looks good. Nothing jumped out. They do gradings of the various components of the bridge and there isn't anything that jumps out at us. Obviously it was constructed in '95, excuse me, '85 and so it's 31 years old so over the next several years we'll definitely have to keep an eye on it and look at some potential maintenance projects on it. But at this point, so far, so good.

Shupp: Would that also cover inspection of the overpass?

Wheeler: That is for, this is only for the overpass.

Shupp: Oh. Just the overpass? Not for any of the culvert bridges or any of that kind of stuff.

Wheeler: No. Those are maintained by the County and obviously what we call the graffiti bridge is maintained by Norfolk Southern.

Shupp: What about the one on North 57 on the creek.

Regular/Public

October 3, 2016

Wheeler: That one is maintained by the

Shupp: State?

Wheeler: No, I'm sorry, by the County engineer.

Shupp: On the State Route?

Wheeler: Yes.

Shupp: Thank you.

Baker: Anyone else? Mr. Aspiras.

Aspiras: I was going to ask Mr. Wheeler, with a deal like this, is there any way we can get it beyond 3 years?

Wheeler: Well in fairness to them, it's something I think that they're going to look at continuing. The reason I think for the three year period is because that's the time period that they're comfortable with going out for bids. I don't it's necessarily ending in three years I just think that's their bidding process period for whomever they choose as the engineer for the project. I don't know that it's going to end in three years I just think that's their window for their contractual obligations with the engineer they select in the bid.

Baker: Anyone else have any questions, comments?

Lorson moved that the rules, regulations, and statutes requiring the reading of a resolution on three separate days be suspended. Corfman seconded. Roll call vote; all yeas; motion carried. Lorson moved that Resolution 32-16 be adopted as read. Vance seconded. Roll call vote; all yeas; motion carried.

Baker: That completes our new business for this evening. Does anyone have any comments for the good of the order? Yes, sir, Mr. Wilson.

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

Baker: Ladies and gentlemen, thank you for attending our meeting is adjourned.

Council was adjourned 7:59 PM.

Jeanne Feudo, Clerk of Council

Date

Lyle Baker, President of Council