

Council Chambers
Regular Meeting
August 10, 2015
7:30 p.m.

Council met in regular session with the following eight members present: Ames, Corcoran, Fleurima, Gray, Neal, Patrick, Tatman and Trutschel. (Mr. Proehl absent.) There were one media representative and nine other visitors present, in addition to Mayor Everson, City Law Director Rutherford and City Auditor Feeney.

Pres. Eallonardo led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Mrs. Corcoran moved and Mrs. Neal seconded that the minutes for the legislative review session of July 27, 2015, and the minutes for the regular meeting of July 27, 2015, be accepted and approved, as submitted by the Clerk. All members present voted “yea”, and Pres. Eallonardo declared the motion adopted by a vote of 8-0.

Mrs. Ames moved and Mrs. Patrick seconded that Council go into an executive session pursuant to Council Rule 24 (a) (2) for the sole purpose of conferring with City Law Director Rutherford and her duly authorized Special Counsel, Pat Kasson, concerning disputes involving the City of Chillicothe that are the subject of pending court action. All members present voted “yea” and Pres. Eallonardo declared the motion adopted by a vote of 8-0.

Mr. Proehl arrived at 7:32 p.m.

At 7:32 p.m., all nine members of Council, Pres. Eallonardo, Mayor Everson, City Auditor Feeney, City Law Director Rutherford and Special Counsel Kasson removed to the large conference room down the hallway from Council Chambers, whereupon the executive session was conducted for the stated purpose.

At 8:05 p.m., Council returned to Council Chambers. Mrs. Ames moved and Mr. Trutschel seconded that Council go out of the executive session and resume the regular meeting. All members present voted “yea” and Pres. Eallonardo declared the motion adopted by a vote of 9-0.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Human Resources Committee:

Ms. Gray said that the Human Resources Committee has nothing on tonight’s agenda. However, she stated that after the last regular meeting, it was discovered that Ordinance No. 76-15, passed unanimously, needed to be further amended in order to specify that \$7,000.00 of the money appropriated for the hiring of two additional police officers was to go towards uniform allowance. In order to do this tonight, she said that she would first be making a motion to reconsider passage of the ordinance pursuant to Council Rule 9, then a motion to amend it, and lastly a motion to pass it again, as amended. Ms. Gray moved and Mrs. Ames seconded that Council reconsider the passage of Ordinance No. 76-15. All members present voted “yea”, and Pres. Eallonardo declared the motion adopted. Ms. Gray moved and Mr. Trutschel seconded that Ordinance No. 76-15 be amended, in the title thereof, by changing it to read, after the word appropriating, “\$77,237.46 for salary, fringes and uniforms”; and by making the same change in Section 2 thereof; and by changing the amount for “To: Police-Regular Salaries-Hourly 010-100-7101” from \$77,237.46 to \$70,237.46, in Section 2 thereof; and by also adding, in Section 2 thereof, the following: “To: Police-Uniform Allowance 010-100-7616” with the sum of “\$7,000.00” in the right hand column. All members present voted “yea” and Pres. Eallonardo declared the motion adopted. Ms. Gray then moved and Mrs. Ames seconded that Ordinance No. 76-15, as so amended, be passed. All members present voted “yea” and Pres. Eallonardo declared **Ord. No. 76-15** authorizing the administration to hire two additional police officers, appropriating \$77,237.46 for salary, fringes and uniforms, and declaring an emergency adopted. Ms. Gray concluded her report by indicating that she has been made aware that the Chillicothe Civil Service Commission will be seeking an appropriation of an additional \$20,000.00 in order to establish needed eligibility lists to cover the costs of testing, advertising, physicals and other related expenses. She indicated that the legislation will probably need to be passed on an emergency basis under suspension of the three

reading rule so that the city can proceed with hiring as quickly as possible in order to fill vacant positions.

Utilities/Transit Committee:

Mrs. Patrick reported on Item #1 to appropriate \$20,000.00 for the extension of an eight inch water main to the east side of North Bridge Street at Hopetown Road, on tonight's agenda for its third reading. She stated that City Utilities Director Richard Johnson, P.E., has not yet affirmed to her that he has received the letters and other documents from the landowners concerning their commitment to annex their properties into the city once they are contiguous. For that reason, she indicated that this ordinance should not be voted on tonight. Mrs. Patrick moved and Ms. Gray seconded that Item #1 not be read tonight. All members present voted "yea" and Pres. Eallonardo declared the motion adopted. Mrs. Patrick reported on Item #4 to appropriate \$43,770.00 for coating the clarifier weirs and interior at the Wastewater Treatment Plant, on tonight's agenda for its second reading. Mrs. Patrick reported on Item #5 to appropriate \$50,000.00 to rehab water wells #20 and #22, on tonight's agenda for its second reading. Mrs. Patrick concluded her report with an update on the emergency repairs to the sanitary sewer line made necessary as a result of the collapse that occurred at the intersection of East Water Street and Poplar Street. She said that the entire line needing repair has now been cleaned out and televised with the city's new equipment purchased for that purpose, and that we are now awaiting the estimates to proceed with the repairs from the contractor.

Safety Services/Technology Committee:

Mr. Proehl reported on Item #2 to appropriate funds for the implementation of an off-site data backup solution for the City Income Tax Department, on tonight's agenda for its third reading. Mr. Proehl moved and Ms. Gray seconded that Item #2 not be read tonight. All members present voted "yea" and Pres. Eallonardo declared the motion adopted.

Parks and Recreation Committee:

Mrs. Corcoran reported on Item #6 to accept a donation of materials from Lowe's for use during the "Day of Caring" event in Yoctangee Park, on tonight's agenda for its first reading. She expressed her thanks to Lowe's for their generous donation.

Engineering Committee:

Mr. Tatman reported on Item #3 to establish new traffic lane patterns and to implement angle parking on South Paint Street between Main Street and Fifth Street, on tonight's agenda for its second reading. Mr. Tatman reported on Item #7 to name the City of Chillicothe's appointee to the District 15 Public Works Integrating Committee, on tonight's agenda for its first reading. He said that, as indicated in the resolution, City Engineer Tom Day is being named as the city's appointee, and that because this is time sensitive, he will seek to pass this item tonight.

REPORTS OF OFFICIALS

Report of Mayor Everson:

Mayor Everson said that last Tuesday he and City Auditor Feeney met with the various department heads in order to get the process of putting together the 2016 city appropriations budget underway. He said that the department heads will be preparing their spreadsheets and that this information should be ready to present to Council for review by the end of September. Mayor Everson indicated that the local Heroin Partnership Project representatives met today at the Joint Chillicothe Ross County Law Enforcement Complex to again discuss the plan to hire a coordinator. He said that whoever is hired will head up the various sectors and be responsible for grant writing to seek additional funding. He said that he will continue to keep Council updated on this.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Phillip Butcher of 5 Bearce Rd. spoke to Council about the City Park, and particularly the floodwall area, stating that these areas have been used for many years by him and his family. However, he stated that he has never seen the floodwall in worse shape than it is now, especially to the east of U.S. Route 23. He said that the city should be taking care of this, as that is the city's legal responsibility. Mr. Butcher said that he has been told that the city is having issues with its mowers, but he stated that in his opinion that is no excuse for the conditions that exist. He concluded by stating that the city must either get its mowers fixed, or get them replaced.

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Trutschel said that during the last regular meeting, of July 27th, he mentioned that every effort must be made to get the Hesswood Hills paving project underway during the remainder of 2015. He said that the people of Hesswood expect this project to be done this year. Mr. Trutschel announced that there will be a rally/block party on Sunday, September 6, 2015, between the hours from 3:00 to 7:00 p.m., in the area of 38 Timberlane. Mr. Trutschel said that he expects all members of City Council, and administration officials, to attend this rally in support of this paving project. He reminded those who are seeking to be elected or re-elected this November that they need to throw their support behind this street improvement project, as these people do vote. He said that the streets have already been marked with paint to designate where the underground lines are for gas, electric, cable, water, sewer and whatever else might be down there. He stated that these residents are very excited about getting their streets paved as they have been waiting for years for these improvements, and he urged everyone to do their part to get this done now.

Mr. Trutschel also commented on the need for a new mower for the floodwall, stating that Mrs. Corcoran has an assignment on this in the Parks and Recreation Committee. He said that the old mower used in the past for the floodwall is in very bad shape, and only lasted two hours after being repaired last week before again breaking down. When it is working, he said it takes about five days to mow the floodwall, but that the existing mower is 25 years old and that parts are hard to get for it. Mr. Trutschel said that the City of Chillicothe is close to being cited by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers because it is the city's legal obligation to maintain the integrity of the floodwall, including the duty to keep it mowed. He said that the estimated cost for a new, suitable mower is about \$39,000.00, and that the biggest stumbling block is which department is going to pay the cost of the mower, whether it be Parks and Recreation, Engineering, or the Service Department. Mr. Trutschel said that he feels that all three departments should share in the cost, and that the purchase must be made now.

Mr. Trutschel next made note of the fact that a new clock has been installed prior to tonight's meeting here in Council Chambers, and he pointed to the old clock that he took down, saying that it is just junk. He said that it needs to be disposed of, but that this leads him to the subject of the scheduling of an auction next year for the legal disposal of all of the city's surplus or unneeded property, from paper clips to bulldozers. He suggested that this be scheduled for the second Saturday of June every year in the future for all departments of the city, saying that he believes that somebody in this room will be the mayor of the city after the first of the year, and that regardless we should work together now to get the scheduling of annual auctions started.

PETITIONS AND CORRESPONDENCE

The clerk reported on receipt of a 2016 City Funding Proposal from Melody Young, Executive Director of the Ross-Chillicothe Convention & Visitors Bureau, in which it is suggested that the City of Chillicothe consider renewing the practice of contributing a portion of its share of the annual lodging tax receipts to the Bureau. The clerk indicated that copies of the proposal have been distributed to all members of Council and to all other city officials.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Proehl said that recently he has had a number of people come up to him to inquire about any plans by the city to fund a proposed widening project for Western Avenue from Brewer Heights out to the Veterans Memorial Parkway intersection with U.S. Route 50 West. Mr. Proehl stated that he wants to assure the citizens of Chillicothe that no part of the revenue generated by the recently passed street improvement income tax levy will go toward any such project on that state and federal funded highway. Mayor Everson agreed, stating that the recent article appearing in the *Chillicothe Gazette* on that subject was the biggest non-news item that he has ever seen in the

Gazette, and he has no idea where it came from. He confirmed that no part of the street improvement income tax levy monies will be used for any such project if it ever comes to fruition, and that the city had no part in that article.

READING AND PASSAGE OF LEGISLATION

An ordinance establishing new traffic lane patterns and implementing angle parking on South Paint Street between Main Street and Fifth Street was read for the second time by title only.

An ordinance appropriating \$43,770.00 for coating the clarifier weirs and interior at the Wastewater Treatment Plant, and declaring an emergency was read for the second time by title only.

An ordinance appropriating the sum of \$50,000.00 to rehab water wells #20 and #22, and declaring an emergency was read for the second time by title only.

An ordinance accepting a donation of material from Lowe's for use during the "Day of Caring" event in Yoctangee Park, and declaring an emergency, was read for the first time by title only.

Res. No. 9-15 naming the City of Chillicothe's appointment to the District 15 Public Works Integrating Committee, and declaring an emergency, was read for the first time by title only. Mr. Tatman moved and Mr. Fleurima seconded that the three reading rule be suspended, placing this item on final passage. All members present voted "yea" and Pres. Eallonardo declared the rule suspended. All members present then voted "yea" on the item itself, and Pres. Eallonardo declared Resolution No. 9-15 adopted.

Ms. Gray moved and Mrs. Neal seconded that the regular meeting be adjourned. All members present voted "yea" and Pres. Eallonardo declared the motion adopted. Adjourned at 8:37 p.m.

Clerk of Council

President of Council