

MINUTES OF A REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
JANUARY 4, 2021 – 7:30p.m.

Council of the City of Berea, Ohio, met in regular session via Zoom in the Council Chamber on January 4, 2021 and the meeting was called to order by Council President Jeff Dettmer at 7:30p.m. Present: Bill DeVito, Leon Dozier, Jim Maxwell, Chris McManis, Rick Skoczen and Kim Smith. Absent: Gene Zacharyasz. Also present: Mayor Cyril M. Kleem, Director of Public Service Paul Anzalone and Director of Law and Public Safety Barb Jones.

The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

This meeting was held in compliance with all legal requirements including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code and Chapter 109 of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Berea. The certificate of compliance is on file in the Clerk's office.

Moved by Mr. Skoczen, seconded by Mr. McManis, that the minutes from the December 21, 2020 Public Hearing be approved. Vote on the motion was all ayes and no nays. Mr. Maxwell was having technical difficulties and did not cast a vote. The motion carried and the minutes were approved.

Moved by Mr. Dozier, seconded by Mrs. Smith, that the minutes from the December 21, 2020 Regular Meeting be approved. Vote on the motion was all ayes and no nays. Mr. Maxwell, once again, did not cast a vote. The motion carried and the minutes were approved.

MAYOR'S ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT AND COMMENTS

Mayor Kleem did not have a report, but in response to an inquiry from Mr. Dettmer, he stated that construction on the senior living complex on Sheldon Road is underway and will likely open between the Spring and Fall of 2022.

REPORT AND COMMENTS BY THE OFFICERS OF THE ADMINISTRATION:

Andrea Morris – Director of Finance:

Mrs. Morris was not present.

Barb Jones – Director of Law & Public Safety:

Mrs. Jones announced that the Swearing-in Ceremony for the incoming Fire Chief, Assistant Fire Chief and two new Fire Lieutenants will be held on Friday, January 15, 2021 at 11:00a.m. at the Berea Recreation Center. Normally the event would be open to the public, but given the current environment and the fact that a large number of family members will be attending, the event is by invite only. Mrs. Jones stated that she is very proud to enter the next phase in the Berea Fire Department.

Paul Anzalone – Director of Public Service:

Mr. Anzalone wished everyone Happy New Year before announcing that, with regard to trash collection, 46 houses were not picked up today, but will be collected tomorrow morning.

Mr. Anzalone then informed Council that the outdoor wi-fi installation has begun and will be fairly non-invasive as most of the work will be done indoors throughout the winter months.

Mr. Anzalone next referenced the earthen dam project and repair, stating that work will begin tomorrow and likely take a week to complete. He cautioned that the Coe Lake water level will be intentionally reduced.

Mr. Skoczen stated that a resident in his Ward was concerned about the amount of bulk trash that some people have been placing out for collection, and wondered if the City will be billed an additional amount if bulk exceeds a certain weight. Mr. Anzalone responded that the City has a fixed price in the contract, unless special assistance is requested.

Mr. Skoczen then asked about the new traffic lights, with surrounding block, being installed in some neighboring Cities, and wondered if Berea's will be replaced, as well. Mr. Anzalone said that he is in discussions with the Engineering Department, but no determination has been made.

In response to an inquiry from Mrs. Smith, Mr. Anzalone stated that he will check to see if there is a discounted snowplow price for Seniors who do not qualify for City assistance.

Mrs. Smith next referenced the Huntington Bank parking lot and the additional drive through traffic. She stated that the turnaround has been blocked, and wondered if signage could be installed to ask motorists not to block the drive. Mr. Anzalone responded that this issue will be addressed by week's end.

Mr. McManis wondered if the problems with Kimble trash collection are simply because they are new to the City, or if there is a more serious issue. If it is the latter, he questioned whether the City has any recourse identified in the contract. Mr. Anzalone stated that Kimble employees work within a certain timeframe, and while the City has spoken to them about this, the salient issue is driver turnover. He did not think there was any clause in the contract that dealt with current collection issues.

Mayor Kleem added that, under Republic, there were times the City did negotiate a reduction on bills because of extreme collection issues. There were situations where entire neighborhoods were missed for weeks in a row. With Kimble being in the City every day of the week, it is much easier for them to return to an area they may have neglected. Mr. Anzalone stated his agreement with the Mayor, noting that the Service Department handles a lot of complaints and this transition has gone so much smoother than the last. There is a learning curve for new drivers, but he is confident that the problems will be worked through and resolved.

Mr. Dettmer inquired about the temporary road patches, and Mr. Anzalone explained that the Service Department focuses on the mains, especially large holes that could potentially damage vehicles. Repairs are conducted there first, after which individual complaints are addressed. Crews head out once the melt has gone away, but they will fill holes with water, if need be, to lessen the potential for vehicle harm. Mr. Dettmer referenced a couple areas of concern, primarily the intersection of Emerson and Front Street, and Mr. Anzalone stated that it will be addressed tonight.

In response to a question from Mr. Skoczen, Mr. Anzalone concluded by stating that if residents have concerns, they can go to the website to log a complaint, or email the Service Department directly.

Marty Compton – Director of Recreation:

Mr. Compton was not present.

COMMENDATIONS: NONE

PETITIONS: NONE

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION: NONE

COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS: NONE

LEGISLATION – THIRD READING:

ORDINANCE NO. 12-1: AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A COMMUNITY REINVESTMENT AREA (“CRA”) AGREEMENT WITH JOYCE MANUFACTURING CO. AND RAM REAL ESTATE, LLC., AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

The Clerk read the title of the Ordinance.

Moved by Mr. Maxwell, seconded by Mr. Skoczen, that Ordinance No. 12-1 be adopted. Vote on the motion was ayes: DeVito, Dozier, Maxwell, McManis, Skoczen and Smith. Nays: None. The motion carried.

LEGISLATION – SECOND READING:

ORDINANCE NO. 12-3: AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS AND ENTER INTO ONE OR MORE CONTRACTS FOR PAVEMENT MARKINGS THROUGHOUT THE CITY, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

The Clerk read the title of the Ordinance.

Proposed Ordinance No. 12-3 stands on second reading.

LEGISLATION – FIRST READING: NONE

REPORT AND COMMENTS BY THE PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL

Mr. Dettmer had no report.

REPORTS AND COMMENTS BY THE MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

Mr. DeVito had no report.

Mr. Dozier had no report.

Mr. Maxwell had no report.

Mr. McManis had no report.

Mr. Skoczen wished everyone a happy and healthy New Year!

Mrs. Smith referenced an email she had received from a resident with regard to a Shade Tree discussion. Mr. Dettmer stated that while he had not yet seen the email, he will take a look and reach out to the resident directly in order to find the best way to proceed.

Mr. Zacharyasz was not present.

CORRESPONDENCE

The December 17, 2020 – December 30, 2020 Correspondence is available in the Clerk's office.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Mrs. Esson wished everyone a happy and healthy New Year!

Moved by Mr. Skoczen, seconded by Mr. DeVito, that the January 11, 2021 Work Session be cancelled. Vote on the motion was ayes: DeVito, Dozier, Maxwell, McManis, Skoczen and Smith. Nays: None. The motion carried.

There being no further business before Council, it was moved by Mr. Maxwell, and seconded by Mr. McManis, that the Regular Council Meeting be adjourned. Vote on the motion was all ayes and no nays. The motion passed and President Dettmer wished everyone a Happy New Year and then declared the meeting adjourned at 7:57p.m.

Jeff Dettmer
President of Council

Alycia Esson
Clerk of Council

CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE

The regular meeting of Council of the City of Berea, Ohio, held on the 4th day of January, 2021, was conducted in compliance with Codified Ordinances Section 109 and Ohio Revised Code Section 121.22.

Alycia Esson, Clerk of Council