



City of Hudson, Ohio

Meeting Minutes - Draft

City Council

Craig A. Shubert, Mayor

William D. Wooldredge, President of Council (At-Large)

Beth A. Bigham, Council Member (Ward 4)

Hamilton DeSaussure, Jr., Council Member (At-Large)

Christopher W. Foster, Council Member (Ward 2)

Nicole V. Kowalski, Council Member (At-Large)

Katherine R. Schlademan, Council Member (Ward 1)

Skylar J. Sutton, Council Member (Ward 3)

Jane Howington, City Manager

Matthew J. Vazzana, City Solicitor

R. Todd Hunt, Special Counsel

Elizabeth A. Slagle, Clerk of Council

Tuesday, April 6, 2021

6:30 PM

Town Hall
27 East Main Street

Special Workshop & Regular Meeting

Special Workshop:

1. Call to Order

President of Council Wooldredge called to order the workshop of Hudson City Council at 6:35 p.m., in accordance with the Sunshine Laws of the State of Ohio, O.R.C. Section 121.22.

Present: 7 - Mrs. Bigham, Mr. DeSaussure, Mr. Foster, Mrs. Kowalski, Ms. Schlademan, Mr. Sutton and Mr. Wooldredge

Staff in Attendance: Ms. Howington, City Manager; Mr. Vazzana, City Solicitor; Mrs. Slagle, Clerk of Council; Mr. Comeriato, Assistant City Manager - Operations; Mr. Gerbracht, HCTV Operations Manager; Mr. Hannan, Community Development Director; Mr. Knoblauch, Assistant City Manager - Financial/Special Projects; Mr. Kosco, City Engineer; Mr. Leedham, Innovation & Technology Director; Mr. Leiter, Production Assistant; Ms. Roberts, Communications Manager; Mr. Sheridan, Assistant City Manager - Professional Services; Mr. Stifler, Economic Development Director; and Mr. Tabak, Police Chief.

2. Discussion Item

A. [21-0020](#) **Downtown Development Community Survey with Research Analytics Consulting, LLC.**

Brief Description: Dr. Walker, with Research Analytics Consulting, LLC. (RAC) will be in attendance to discuss her plan of action for the questions on the Downtown Development Community Survey.

Attachments: [First Draft of Survey Ideas](#)

Council met with consultant Dr. Walker of Research Analytics Consulting, LLC to discuss questions to be used in the Downtown Phase II Development Survey. Council suggested that the questions be more specific as to the community's vision for the area and development preferences. The consultant will provide revised survey questions, based on the discussion, and will return for further discussion with Council.

This matter was discussed.

3. Adjournment

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Regular Meeting:

4. Call to Order

Mayor Shubert called to order the meeting of Hudson City Council at 7:30 p.m., in accordance with the Sunshine Laws of the State of Ohio, O.R.C. Section 121.22.

5. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

6. Roll Call

Present: 7 - Mrs. Bigham, Mr. DeSaussure, Mr. Foster, Mrs. Kowalski, Ms. Schlademan, Mr. Sutton and Mr. Wooldredge

Staff in Attendance: Same as previously stated (see item 1 above).

7. Approval of the Minutes

A. [21-0026](#) Minutes of Previous Council Meetings

Brief Description: Draft minutes of previous meetings are provided for City Council's review and approval.

Attachments: [March 16, 2021 Meeting Minutes - DRAFT](#)
 [March 23, 2021 Council Workshop Minutes - DRAFT](#)

There being no changes, the above minutes were approved as submitted.

8. Public Comments

Mrs. Slagle read correspondence from the following residents into the record (emails attached to record copy of these minutes):

- Mr. Josh Studzinski, 2409 Hudson-Aurora Road, requested that Council consider not limiting the community survey to just the Downtown Phase 2 Development but also include the community's broader development needs and goals.

- Mr. Tony Havlicek, 6328 Stow Road, expressed disappointment that the Memorial Day Parade has been cancelled this year.

- Mrs. Denise McAnerney, 74 Trumbull Drive, asked that for crosswalk improvements at the intersection of State Route 303/Milford Dr./Atterbury Blvd.

Mr. Greg Janik, 36 Thirty Acres, spoke to Council regarding a proposed housing development on South Darrow Road across from Drug Mart. He urged Council to consider purchasing the subject property and setting it aside as open space.

Mayor Randy Riddle, of Grove City, Pennsylvania, said he was visiting Hudson as his wife undergoes treatment at the Cleveland Clinic, and he was interested to see how different Councils conduct business.

9. Correspondence and Council Comments

Mr. Sutton commented that he has received many calls regarding the following topics: cancellation of the Memorial Day Parade; the rezoning matter before Planning Commission; and the proposed dog park, including concerns about traffic, smell, and noise. He noted that the Park Board will hold a special meeting to further consider the proposed dog park, including public input. In addition, he said that Ravenna Street residents have expressed concerns regarding a flooding issue. He questioned the City's position that this is a private property issue, and he asked for further discussion of City's Storm Water Plan relative to the subject area.

Ms. Schlademan reported on the April 5th Environmental Awareness Committee meeting at which the following topics were discussed: storm water, Go Green Go event on April 19th, downtown recycling area, recycling education, rain barrel workshop, and Council direction on the status of a trash/recycling survey. She noted that Mrs. Kowalski and she will hold a virtual Open Forum on April 7th, and she encouraged anyone interested to register online for details.

Mr. Foster echoed Mr. Sutton's remarks regarding resident concerns about the proposed dog park and the rezoning matter, noting that many constituents have contacted him, as well. He questioned the effectiveness of the railroad sign at Walters and Hines Hill Roads, as well as the status of a similar sign at Valley View and Hines Hill Roads. He noted that Summit County passed a Resolution in support of the Western Reserve Land Conservancy grant application for the O'Brien Preserve Project.

On behalf of her constituents, Mrs. Bigham also advocated for a railroad sign at Valley View and Hines Hill Roads, and she asked for Council support. Mayor Shubert asked that staff provide cost and implementation information to Council for consideration.

Mr. Wooldredge said that he will meet with area residents whose properties abut American Fireworks. He announced that there will no longer be an agenda review meeting on Friday mornings, but draft agendas will continue to be available for review by elected officials prior to publication.

Motion to Add a Second Period for Public Comments

Council considered the need for adding a second Public Comments period during regular Council meetings. Ms. Howington explained that due to social distancing guidelines, a limited number of in-person seating is available to the public, and some could potentially be denied entry to the Town Hall. She said that if this occurs, staff would like to provide information to anyone interested in speaking to Council as to how they could join the meeting virtually, and offering a second comments period would allow ample time for them to do so.

A motion was made by Mr. Wooldredge, seconded by Ms. Schlademan, that Council add a second Public Comments period to their meeting agenda to begin immediately after Council completes the legislation portion of the agenda in order to allow ample opportunity for

anyone not able to comment during the comment period earlier in the agenda, and that this be effective through the end of the 2021 calendar year. Mayor Shubert announced passage of the motion after it carried by the following vote:

Aye: 4 - Mrs. Kowalski, Ms. Schlademan, Mr. Sutton and Mr. Wooldredge

Nay: 3 - Mrs. Bigham, Mr. DeSaussure and Mr. Foster

10. Report of Manager

Ms. Howington announced the following:

- Hudson City Hall will reopen to the public on April 19th, and City-owned community spaces will reopen to the public in June.
- While the Memorial Day Parade has been cancelled, other events are scheduled to honor our veterans. The City plans to hold a Labor Day weekend event that would include a parade. The event will be a Founder's Day event, celebrating the founding and the history of Hudson.
- The City's Traffic Safety Committee will consider the traffic concern expressed during Public Comments.
- The Park Board will hold open discussions about the Dog Park at a special meeting in April.
- Clean-up events are being planned.
- Follow-up will be provided to Council regarding the status of a trash/recycling survey and a Valley View railroad warning sign.

Mr. Knoblauch provided information regarding the American Rescue Plan and the American Jobs Plan funding that the City is eligible to receive, and he said that a written summary will be forwarded to Council.

Mr. Sheridan provided information regarding the City's application for Fish and Wildlife Funding for the Veterans Way Storm Water Project, which will help improve the storm water management system on Veterans Way near the railroad underpass. He explained that the Colony Park area was built prior to when requirements for storm water management were in place, and the area by the railroad underpass near Yours Truly gets inundated with water during heavy rains, which is a critical path for the City's emergency services. He said this project will divert storm water and improve fish and wildlife habitat by restoring an existing wetland.

11. Discussion Items

None.

12. Appointments

Mr. Wooldredge announced that the City is accepting applications for the Architectural & Historic Board of Review through April 9, 2021.

13. Suspension of the Rules for the Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Mr. Wooldredge, seconded by Mr. Foster, to suspend the rule requiring three readings to allow for passage of legislation on the Consent Agenda. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Mr. DeSaussure, Mr. Foster, Mrs. Kowalski, Ms. Schlademan, Mr. Sutton, Mr. Wooldredge and Mrs. Bigham

Approval of the Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Mr. Wooldredge, seconded by Mr. Foster, to approve the Consent Agenda. Mayor Shubert announced passage of the Consent Agenda after the motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Mr. Foster, Mrs. Kowalski, Ms. Schlademan, Mr. Sutton, Mr. Wooldredge, Mrs. Bigham and Mr. DeSaussure

- A. [21-33](#) **A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A PROFESSIONAL SERVICE CONTRACT WITH THE THRASHER GROUP, INC. FOR THE OWEN BROWN STREET SIDEWALK IMPROVEMENT PROJECT.**

Brief Description: The purpose of this proposal was to solicit proposals from professional design, engineering and surveying consultants (Consultant) for the analysis, engineering and design of a 5-ft. pedestrian sidewalk, traffic signage, pavement striping, retaining wall design and a raised walkway under the Norfolk and Southern RR underpass on Owen Brown between Lennox and Morse Road along Owen Brown Street.

Attachments: [Sidewalk Conceptual Plan and Section](#)
[Resolution No. 21-33](#)

Resolution No. 21-33 was passed on the Consent Agenda.

- B. [21-34](#) **A RESOLUTION AFFIRMING THE ACCEPTANCE BY THE CITY MANAGER OF AN OHIO HISTORY FUND GRANT FROM THE OHIO HISTORY CONNECTION FOR THE RESTORATION AND PRESERVATION OF THE OLD HUDSON TOWNSHIP BURYING GROUND AND ACCEPTANCE OF DONATIONS TOWARD REQUIRED MATCH.**

Brief Description: The Ohio History Connection awards Ohio History Fund Grant for the purpose of assistance with historically significant projects in Ohio. The City was awarded \$17,000 in grant funding for restoration and preservation work on the Old Hudson Township Burying Ground. \$13,000 in donations and staff time will assist with the required match.

Attachments: [Resolution No. 21-34](#)

Responding to Mrs. Bigham question regarding Resolution No. 21-34, Ms. Howington said that the Ohio History Connection Grant application is for the Old Township Burial Grounds by the Western Reserve Academy.

Resolution No. 21-34 was passed on the Consent Agenda.

- C. [21-35](#) **A RESOLUTION AFFIRMING ACCEPTANCE BY THE CITY MANAGER'S DESIGNEE OF A DIESEL MITIGATION TRUST FUND GRANT FROM THE OHIO ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY ON BEHALF OF HUDSON PUBLIC POWER.**
- Brief Description:** The Ohio Environmental Protection Agency accepted applications under its Diesel Mitigation Trust Fund program to help fund the installation of publicly available Level 2 Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging Stations in 26 Ohio counties. The City of Hudson received \$15,000 towards the cost of equipment and installation of one dual port charging station. The City's match is estimated at \$15,000 of the estimated total project cost of \$30,000.
- Attachments:** [Resolution No. 21-35](#)

Resolution No. 21-35 was passed on the Consent Agenda.

14. **Legislation**

- A. [21-24](#) **AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 230.05 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES TO AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO LICENSE AGREEMENTS FOR EXPANDED USES OF CITY-OWNED UTILITY EASEMENTS.**
- Brief Description:** The proposed amendment would authorize the City Manager to enter into license agreements with property owners for the construction of driveways and patios that are within a City-owned utility easement.
- Attachments:** [Ordinance No. 21-24](#)

Mayor Shubert read the title of Resolution No. 21-24, which constituted its third reading.

A motion was made by Mr. Wooldredge, seconded by Mr. DeSaussure, that this Ordinance be adopted on third reading. Mayor Shubert announced passage of Ordinance No. 21-24 after the motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 6 - Mrs. Kowalski, Ms. Schlademan, Mr. Wooldredge, Mrs. Bigham, Mr. DeSaussure and Mr. Foster

Nay: 1 - Mr. Sutton

- B. [21-25](#) **A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A JOB CREATION GRANT AGREEMENT WITH CLEVELAND STEEL CONTAINER CORPORATION.**
- Brief Description:** Cleveland Steel Container Corporation is requesting a 50% income tax credit for 9 years. The company will establish a headquarters for their corporate offices in Hudson, bringing 85 jobs with a three-year benchmark of \$9.3M in payroll.
- Attachments:** [Resolution No. 21-25 \(as introduced 3-2-21\)](#)
 [Resolution No. 21-25 Res \(as amended 4-6-2021\)](#)

Mayor Shubert read the title of Resolution No. 21-25, which constituted its third reading.

A motion was made by Mr. Wooldredge, seconded by Mrs. Kowalski, to amend Resolution No. 21-25 to add emergency language. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 6 - Ms. Schlademan, Mr. Wooldredge, Mrs. Bigham, Mr. DeSaussure, Mr. Foster and Mrs. Kowalski

Nay: 1 - Mr. Sutton

A motion was made by Mr. Wooldredge, seconded by Mrs. Bigham, to pass Resolution No. 21-25, as amended. Mayor Shubert announced passage of Resolution No. 21-25, as amended, after the motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Mr. Wooldredge, Mrs. Bigham, Mr. DeSaussure, Mr. Foster, Mrs. Kowalski, Ms. Schlademan and Mr. Sutton

C. [21-36](#) **A RESOLUTION ADOPTING IN CONCEPT THE CITY PARKS MASTER PLAN DATED DECEMBER 2020.**

Brief Description: This resolution adopts in concept the City Parks Master Plan dated December 2020, as presented and discussed with the Park Board at the City Council Workshop on January 26, 2021.

Attachments: [Hudson Parks Master Plan 12-16-20](#)
[Park Bd. Letter - Joint Mtg. with Council on 1-26-21](#)
[Resolution No. 21-36](#)

Mayor Shubert read the title of Resolution No. 21-36, which constituted its first reading.

15. **Executive Session**

A motion was made by Mr. Wooldredge, seconded by Mr. DeSaussure, that Council enter into executive session to consider the following matters: the purchase of real property; and a personnel matter concerning the appointment and employment of certain public employees. Mayor Shubert recessed the meeting at 8:34 p.m. after the motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Mr. Wooldredge, Mrs. Bigham, Mr. DeSaussure, Mr. Foster, Mrs. Kowalski, Ms. Schlademan and Mr. Sutton

Staff in attendance: Ms. Howington, City Manager; Mr. Vazzana, City Solicitor; Mr. Knoblauch, Assistant City Manager - Financial/Special Projects; Mr. Kosco, City Engineer; Mr. Sheridan, Assistant City Manager - Professional Services; and Mr. Tabak, Police Chief.

Mayor Shubert reconvened the regular meeting of Council at 8:56 p.m.

16. Adjournment

There being no further business, Mayor Shubert adjourned the Council meeting at 8:56 p.m.

Craig A. Shubert, Mayor

Elizabeth Slagle, Clerk of Council

Upon approval by City Council, this official written summary of the meeting minutes shall become a permanent record, and the official minutes shall also consist of a permanent audio and video recording, excluding executive sessions, in accordance with Codified Ordinances, Section 220.03(d), Rules.