



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, March 16, 2021

7:30 PM

Via Video-Conference & Live-Stream

1. Call to Order

2. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

3. Roll Call

Present: 6 - Mrs. Bigham, Mr. DeSaussure, Mr. Foster, Mrs. Kowalski, Ms. Schlademan and Mr. Sutton

Absent: 1 - 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. 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; and Mr. Sheridan, Assistant City Manager - Professional Services.

4. Approval of the Minutes

A. [21-0022](#)

Minutes of Previous Council Meetings

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

Attachments: [March 2, 2021 Meeting Minutes - DRAFT](#)
[March 9, 2021 Council Workshop Minutes - DRAFT](#)

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

5. Public Comments

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

- Ms. Alice Chien, 330 Oldham Way, requesting the City build a charging station in the downtown to promote electric vehicle use and lower car emissions.*
- Mr. Todd Zedak, 16 Hudson Commons Drive, providing input regarding questions and a representative sample for the survey regarding vacant downtown property.*

Mr. Zedak later joined the virtual meeting and spoke concerning the community survey, expressing his ongoing concerns regarding the Downtown Phase II Project. He urged that survey questions be framed such that the results provide information regarding citizens' values, and that such information be key to Council's urban planning decisions.

6. Correspondence and Council Comments

Mr. DeSaussure reported on the March 15, 2021, Park Board meeting and said that members voted unanimously to recommend moving forward with the solicitation of bids for the design of the Tennis and Pickle Ball Courts Project.

Mr. Foster provided information regarding a Spectrum service upgrade to base bandwidth at no cost to customers. He also questioned how EPA regulatory actions will impact AMP (American Municipal Power), the possible closure of Prairie State, and Hudson's investments. He asked that staff provide information about the future of Hudson Public Power at an upcoming workshop. Ms. Howington said that staff is in the process of conducting an electric rate study and will provide the results to Council when it becomes available, along with the City's electric portfolio information in order to provide a comprehensive analysis.

Mrs. Kowalski also expressed interest in the Prairie State matter. She updated Council regarding the March 10, 2021, Architectural & Historic Board of Review meeting, reporting that one matter concerned the proposed demolition of additions and a garage at the Middle School building at 77 North Oviatt Street, while the original 1927 building would be preserved. She also mentioned an incident regarding property stolen from a resident's yard, and she encouraged concerned citizens to contact the non-emergency number for the Hudson Police Department. She announced that she intends to introduce legislation in April regarding limiting commissions of third party food service delivery companies.

Mayor Shubert said that he received information from Congressman Tim Ryan that Hudson's share of funding from the American Rescue Plan of 2021 is estimated to be \$4.36 million. He stated that this funding can be used for infrastructure projects related to health and safety, and he suggested Council consider funding the Hines Hill Road Grade Separation Project to improve safety force access to the northwest quadrant of the City and to ensure safe passage of school busses on Hines Hill Road.

7. Report of Manager

Ms. Howington responded to Mr. Zedak's comments regarding the community survey, saying that Council will conduct multiple conversations with the consultant to develop the subject matter and survey questions. For transparency, these discussions will be held during open meetings or workshops of City Council, the first of which is scheduled in April.

Ms. Howington acknowledged Mr. Foster's concerns regarding Prairie State and AMP (American Municipal Power). She said that staff is monitoring how new federal regulations will affect the City's investments and

expects to provide an update to City Council in 4-6 weeks.

She announced that City Council will resume in-person meetings and workshops at the Town Hall, beginning April 6, 2021. As usual, meetings will be live-streamed. Limited seating will be available to the public with an option to attend virtually for public comments at meetings, some staff will attend virtually, masks will be required, and social distancing will be observed. It is expected that the City's boards, commissions, and committees will also transition to in-person meetings by the end of June 2021.

In addition, City Hall will re-open to the public in April 2021; however, the community rooms will not be available until further notice, pending guidance from the State and the CDC concerning public gatherings in community spaces.

She reported that a recent brush fire along Barlow Road was caused by open burning of yard debris. She noted that the City does not permit open burning and will be releasing a public service announcement regarding the dangers of open burning in urban areas.

8. Discussion Items

None.

9. Appointments

Mr. DeSaussure announced that the City is accepting applications for the Architectural & Historic Board of Review, and he encouraged interested citizens to submit their applications by the deadline on April 9 at 4:30 p.m.

10. Suspension of the Rules for the Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Mr. Foster, seconded by Mrs. Kowalski, to suspend the rule requiring three readings to allow for passage of legislation on the Consent Agenda, except for Resolution No. 21-26, which was removed for separate consideration. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

Approval of the Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Mr. Foster, seconded by Mr. DeSaussure, to pass items on the Consent Agenda, except for Resolution No. 21-26, which was removed for separate consideration. Mayor Shubert announced passage of Consent Agenda items after the motion carried by the following vote:

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

A. [21-0023](#)

A Motion to Acknowledge the Timely Receipt of the February 2021 Monthly Financial Report

Brief Description: Financial summaries are provided each month for Council's review.

Attachments: [February 2021 Financial Report](#)

Motion No. 21-0023 was passed on the Consent Agenda.

- C. [21-27](#) **A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ADVERTISE FOR COMPETITIVE BIDS AND ENTER INTO A CONTRACT FOR THE BARLOW COMMUNITY CENTER DAM IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT.**
- Brief Description:** The project includes improvements to both the west (Lower) and east (Upper) lake dams to meet the ODNR dam requirements and creation of additional storm water storage volume at the upper lake.

Attachments: [Exhibit for Barlow Community Center Project](#)
 [Resolution No. 21-27](#)

Resolution No. 21-27 was passed on the Consent Agenda.

- D. [21-28](#) **A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO AN ADDENDUM TO THE CONTRACT WITH QCI GROUP FOR CONSTRUCTION ADMINISTRATION SUPPORT SERVICES FOR THE STATE ROUTE 91 NORTH TURN LANE PROJECT (PID 93822).**
- Brief Description:** This resolution would authorize an increase of \$79,910.21 to the original Contract with QCI Group for construction management and inspection services.

Attachments: [QCI 2021 Estimate Final](#)
 [Resolution No. 21-28](#)

Resolution No. 21-28 was passed on the Consent Agenda.

- E. [21-29](#) **A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO SUBMIT AN APPLICATION TO THE OHIO ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY (EPA) FOR A PRINCIPAL FORGIVENESS LOAN FOR LEAD SERVICE LINE REPLACEMENTS AS PART OF THE NORTH OVIATT STREET WATERLINE REPLACEMENT PROJECT; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**
- Brief Description:** This is a request to submit an application to the Ohio EPA for a principal forgiveness loan for the replacement of the lead service lines to the homes within the project area of the N. Oviatt Street Waterline Replacement Project.

Attachments: [Resolution No. 21-29](#)

Resolution No. 21-29 was passed on the Consent Agenda.

- F. [21-30](#) **A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACT WITH O.R. COLAN ASSOCIATES, INC. FOR RIGHT-OF-WAY ACQUISITION SERVICES FOR THE STATE ROUTE 91 SOUTH SAFETY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT (PID 106445).**
- Brief Description:** The SR 91 South Safety Improvement Project design limits are on SR 91 (S. Main Street) from Barlow Road to the Stoney Hill Drive intersection. The project scope includes the widening of SR 91 to accommodate a center two-way left turn lane and resurfacing throughout the project length, 5-foot-wide bike lanes and sidewalks will be constructed on the east and west side of SR 91, traffic signal upgrades, storm sewer improvements, and repair to heaving shoulders.

Attachments: [Resolution No. 21-30](#)

Resolution No. 21-30 was passed on the Consent Agenda.

- G. [21-31](#) **A RESOLUTION AFFIRMING THE APPLICATION SUBMITTED BY THE CITY MANAGER'S DESIGNEE TO THE FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY FOR AN ASSISTANCE TO FIREFIGHTERS GRANT.**
- Brief Description:** The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) awards Assistance to Firefighters grant funding for the purpose of funding critically needed resources to equip and train emergency personnel, enhance efficiencies and support community resilience. The City could receive up to \$202,827.27 in grant funding for the purchase of new self-contained breathing apparatuses (SCBA's) on behalf of the Hudson Fire Department. The city's match is 20,282.73.

Attachments: [Resolution No. 21-31](#)

Resolution No. 21-31 was passed on the Consent Agenda.

- H. [21-32](#) **A RESOLUTION AFFIRMING THE CITY MANAGER'S ACCEPTANCE OF A GRANT FROM THE BURTON D. MORGAN FOUNDATION ON BEHALF OF HUDSON COMMUNITY TELEVISION.**
- Brief Description:** The Burton D. Morgan Foundation has continued to provide a production grant in the amount of \$1,200.00 to help fund production of the *Good Day in Hudson* television series on HCTV. No match is required.

Attachments: [Resolution No. 21-32](#)

Resolution No. 21-32 was passed on the Consent Agenda.

Items Removed from the Consent Agenda

- B. [21-26](#) **A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE NATURAL AREAS LAND CONSERVANCY'S CLEAN OHIO GREEN SPACE CONSERVATION PROGRAM APPLICATION FOR THE O'BRIEN PRESERVE PROJECT; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

Brief Description: The purpose of this request is to support the Western Reserve Land Conservancy's subsidiary, The Natural Areas Land Conservancy, for financial assistance under the Clean Ohio Green Space Conservation Program to acquire and protect (with a conservation easement held by Western Reserve Land Conservancy) an approximate 55-acre parcel within the City of Hudson.

Attachments: [Location](#)
 [Aerial](#)
 [CD Memo - Tiperary Parcel 3000415](#)
 [Resolution No. 21-26](#)

Mayor Shubert requested that Resolution No. 21-26 be removed from the Consent Agenda, and Mr. Foster supported this action.

Mayor Shubert read the title of Resolution No. 21-26, which constituted its first reading.

A motion was made by Mr. Foster, seconded by Mr. Sutton, to suspend the rule requiring three readings to allow for passage of Resolution No. 21-26. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

Mr. Foster spoke regarding the ability of the Western Reserve Land Conservancy to purchase properties for conservancy purposes to benefit the residents of Hudson and northeast Ohio, the Conservancy's desire to apply for funding to purchase the subject property through the Clean Ohio Green Space Conservation Program, and a requirement that such application is due April 1, 2021, and must be accompanied by Resolutions from the City of Hudson and Summit County in support of such effort. He noted that Summit County Council is supportive of the application. Discussion followed regarding related matters, including the City's interest in the Rails to Trails Path, adjacent to this property, and in improving the access road to O'Brien Cemetery.

A motion was made by Mr. Foster, seconded by Mrs. Kowalski, to pass Resolution No. 21-26. Mayor Shubert announced passage of the Resolution after the motion carried by the following vote:

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

11. Legislation

- A. [21-5](#) **A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE APPLICATION FOR PLACEMENT OF LAND IN A NEW AGRICULTURAL USE DISTRICT FOR PURPOSES OF O.R.C. 929.02 FOR LEONORE E. COSMA, 2242 RAVENNA STREET, HUDSON, OHIO.**

Brief Description: Ms. Cosma has submitted the attached Application for Placement of Farmland in an Agricultural District for property located at 2242 Ravenna Street (Permanent Parcel No. 30-00514) in Hudson. Council has previously approved similar applications since 1999 at five-year intervals, but the renewal deadline for 2020 was missed, and therefore this application is considered a new request.

Attachments: [Application for Placement of Farmland in an Agricultural District](#)
[Notice of Public Hearing \(2/16/2021\)](#)
[Map - 2242 Ravenna St](#)
[Memo - 2242 Ravenna St CD Inspector 2.2.21](#)
[Resolution No. 21-5](#)

Mayor Shubert read the title of Resolution No. 21-5, which constituted its third reading.

Mr. Sutton encouraged Council members to support passage of Resolution No. 21-5 in order to re-establish an Agricultural District for Mrs. Cosma's property. He explained that a long-existing Agricultural District lapsed last year without her renewal application.

A motion was made by Mr. Sutton, seconded by Mr. DeSaussure, to pass Resolution No. 21-5. Mayor Shubert announced passage of the Resolution after the motion carried by the following vote:

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

- B. [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 Ordinance No. 21-24, which constituted its second reading.

C. [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](#)

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

12. Adjournment

There being no further business, Mayor Shubert adjourned the Council meeting at 8:16 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.