

Minutes Approved

as circulated

October 2, 2023

Regular Council Meeting

Elyria City Council

October 14, 2023

1. CALL TO ORDER:

The regular meeting of Elyria City Council was called to order on October 2, 2023 at 6:58 p.m. by President Stewart. President Stewart opened the meeting requesting a moment of reflective silence, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Council member Schneider.

2. ROLL CALL: COUNCIL MEMBERS

PRESENT: Callahan, Cerra, Corbin, Davis, Oswald, Mitchell, Tollett, Schneider, Simmons, Stewart

Absent: Lipian

Motion made by Cerra, seconded by Schneider to excuse the absence of Mr. Lipian

AYES = 10

MOTION CARRIED

OTHERS PRESENT: Mayor Whitfield, Safety Service Director Lundy, Asst. Safety Service Dir. Calvert, Asst. Safety Service Dir. Williams, Fin. Dir. Pileski, Law Director Deery, CD Mngr. Almobayyed, Eng. McKillips, BO Farkas, Fire Chief Pronesti, Police Chief Pelko

3. PUBLIC HEARINGS: None

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Mr. Cerra moved, Mrs. Mitchell seconded to approve the Meeting Minutes of the September 18, 2023 Council Meeting as circulated.

MOTION CARRIED

5. REMARKS AND REPORTS OF CITY OFFICIALS:

Mayor Whitfield:

Mayor Whitfield announced October 14th as the Community Shred Day, any unwanted papers in need of shredding can be brought to the parking lot of city hall between the hours of 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Mayor Whitfield stated identification would be required. In addition, requested that paper clips and staples be removed. Trick or Trick will be held on Tuesday October 31st from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Participants are asked to turn on porch lights. City Hall is closed on Monday October 9th due to Columbus (Indigenous Peoples) Day. Trash pickup will not be delayed.

SSD Lundy:

SSD Lundy provided an update on crews that continue to maintain the downtown area and the square. A strategy meeting is scheduled in the upcoming week to discuss leaf pick-up. The SSD department wants to ensure trucks and trailers are operational. Plans for snowfall are also underway. The plan is in place to remove graffiti from the railroad underpasses. The Washington Ave and Bridge St. will be the first bridges painted.

5. REMARKS AND REPORTS OF CITY OFFICIALS: CONTINUED

Finance Director: No report

Law Director Deery:

Law Director Deery provided as brief of an update as possible regarding the shooting on Cornell. She explained that contact had been made with Council member Lipian and Police Chief Pelko. In addition to speaking with the Police Chief and Council member Lipian immediately after the incident, a meeting was held earlier in the day of October 2nd. The situation is being monitored.

EPD: No report

EFD: No report

ASSD Calvert:

ASSD Calvert shared that she was a presenter at the Ohio Economic Development Association regarding the city of Elyria downtown project. She stated that she presented on the capital stack, subsidies and funding of the Brownfield project. Thursday October 5th, Ridge Tool will kick-off manufacturing month. One hundred and forty-five applications were received for the Spruce Up Elyria program, fifty projects were completed and paid for, forty projects are under contract. Four hundred, twenty thousand dollars in funds are under contract. Ms. Calvert explained there are applications awaiting approval and ok to proceed, however there are more projects than what can be funded with the current allocation. The project has been a huge a success. President Stewart inquired if the forty applications could anticipate completion this year. Ms. Calvert responded yes, they are expected to be completed this year.

ASSD Williams: No report

Engineer McKillips:

Engineer McKillips provided an update on big projects. The big project is anticipated for completion November 2024 for the Cleveland St. project. West Ave. resurfacing is in progress. Abbe Rd. South milling is scheduled to start within the week. Chestnut Ridge resurfacing will take place at night and is scheduled to start the week of October 9th. Round two of street sweeping starting earlier in the day of Oct. 2nd. Eng. McKillips asked residents to please be mindful of the street sweeping signs. Eng. McKillips stated that residents of Dillworth have been inconvenienced for more than a year with the work in the area. She read a letter from one of the residents that was a compliment to the engineer department and contractor, opposed to the many complaints the department often receives. - Attached

Engineer McKillips stated she appreciates grace extended to the department during the big projects. Council member Davis stated that she observed the number of cars that ignored the street sweeping signs completely and parked directly in front of the signs. Mayor Whitfiled stated the city will explore options, possibly towing vehicles. Council member Tollett stated the engineer employees are exceptional. Council member Oswald, inquired if there is any time frame to provide assistance to the folks of Spring Valley. Eng. McKillips stated that she would like to

5. REMARKS AND REPORTS OF CITY OFFICIALS: CONTINUED

look at the second half of 2024 regarding a SpringValley project. Council member Mitchell inquired about residential paving and alternate streets. Ms. McKillips shared that some of the alternate streets have been paved.

6. PRESIDENT'S REFERRALS AND REMONSTRANCES:

**** Matter is completed or partially completed***

1. The matter of a Downtown Facade Improvement Applicant.

REFERRED BY: CD MANAGER ALMOBAYYED

REFERRED TO: COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

2. The matter of a rezoning request 1267 Lowell Street from R-MHL,L-I,H-I to R-MHL, H-I.

REFERRED BY: TY STEWART

REFERRED TO: COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT/ PLANNING COMMISSION

3. The matter of a request to partially forgive a lien 792 West River Rd.

REFERRED BY: CD DIR. SCOTT

REFERRED TO: COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT/ FINANCE

4. The matter of disposal by best means allowed by law of Ricoh copiers no longer fit for municipal use.

REFERRED BY: IT DIR. ROTHGERY

REFERRED TO: FINANCE

5. The matter of authorizing the Mayor to enter into a Professional Services agreement with Black & Veatch.

REFERRED BY: ENG. MCKILLIPS

REFERRED TO: FINANCE

6. The matter of authorizing the Mayor to apply and accept a TLCI (Transportation for Livable Communities Initiative) grant.

REFERRED BY: ENG. MCKILLIPS

REFERRED TO: FINANCE

7. The matter of authorizing the Mayor to enter into change order No. 1 for the Primary Settling Tanks No. 3 & 4.

REFERRED BY: ENG. MCKILLIPS

REFERRED TO: FINANCE

8. The matter of a request to apply for a Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Land and Water Conservation Fund grant.

6. PRESIDENT'S REFERRALS AND REMONSTRANCES: CONTINUED

REFERRED BY: P&R DIR. REARDON
REFERRED TO: FINANCE/ UTILITIES

9. The matter of establishing the creation of an Animal Control Officer position for EPD.
REFERRED BY: COUNCIL MEMBER LIPIAN- WARD 1
REFERRED TO: FINANCE/ UTILITIES

10. The matter of authorizing the Mayor to advertise and award a contract for the 2024 Emergency Sanitary and Storm Sewer Repair Contract.
REFERRED BY: ENG. MCKILLIPS
REFERRED TO: FINANCE/ UTILITIES

11. The matter of discussion: shootings and resident safety in the City of Elyria.
REFERRED BY: COUNCIL MEMBER LIPIAN- WARD 1
REFERRED TO: UTILITIES

12 - Received and Placed on file in the clerk's office:

12. List of receipts collected by each division of the Clerk of court's office for August 2023

7. PETITIONS-- LOBBY: None

8. PETITIONS--COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Council member Lipian- Community Safety- Exhibit 'A' Attached

Council member Tollett stated that resident Mr. Pallardy would like to address council, he was unable to arrive in time to complete a petition to address council sign up sheet. President Stewart invited Mr. Pallardy to address council.

Jason Pallardy- 312 Harvard Ave. Elyria- Recent shooting on Cornell Ave.- Mr. Pallardy expressed more citizens should be mad enough to show up and fight for the safety of all the residents of their communities. He would like to get around processes and figure out what could be done to eliminate shootings, violence and drug houses in neighborhoods.

9. REPORTS OF STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES: None

10. RESOLUTIONS--FIRST READING: None

11. RESOLUTIONS--SECOND READING: None

12. RESOLUTIONS--THIRD READING: None

13. ORDINANCES--FIRST READINGS:

Sponsored by:
Community
Development:
T. Callahan
A. Lipian
C. Schneider
D. Mitchell
K. Oswald

ORDINANCE NO. 2023-132
AN ORDINANCE ACCEPTING THE DEDICATION OF CERTAIN LANDS, EASEMENTS AND RIGHTS-OF-WAY FOR THE INSTALLATION OF STREETS AND UTILITIES AS PROVIDED FOR IN THE FINAL PLAT OF RIVER RUN LANDING SUBDIVISION PHASE 3.

Callahan moved, Mitchell seconded to pass this ordinance on its first reading under suspension of the rules.

SUSPENSION	PASSAGE
AYE: 10	AYE: 10
NAY: 0	NAY: 0
ABSENT: 1	ABSENT: 1
MOTION CARRIED	MOTION CARRIED

Sponsored by:
Community
Development:
T. Callahan
A. Lipian
C. Schneider
D. Mitchell
K. Oswald
Finance:
P. Tollett
B. Davis
C. Schneider

ORDINANCE NO. 2023- 133
AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AN ENTERPRISE ZONE AGREEMENT WITH NBN POWDER PACKAGING, LLC, FOR EXEMPTION OF REAL AND PERSONAL PROPERTY TAXES WITHIN THE ELYRIA ENTERPRISE ZONE, CREATED UNDER ORDINANCE NO. 91-71 AND AS AMENDED IN ORDINANCE NO. 95-47.

Callahan moved, Mitchell seconded to pass this ordinance on its first reading under suspension of the rules.

SUSPENSION	PASSAGE
AYE: 10	AYE: 10
NAY: 0	NAY: 0
ABSENT: 1	ABSENT: 1
MOTION CARRIED	MOTION CARRIED

Sponsored by:
Finance:
V. Stewart III
P. Tollett
B. Davis
C. Schneider

ORDINANCE NO. 2023-134
AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 2023-34, KNOWN AS THE "2023 PERMANENT APPROPRIATIONS ORDINANCE," TO CHANGE FUNDS IN VARIOUS ACCOUNTS.

Tollett moved, Davis seconded to pass this ordinance on its first reading under suspension of the rules.

13. ORDINANCES--FIRST READINGS: CONTINUED

SUSPENSION	PASSAGE
AYE: 10	AYE: 10
NAY: 0	NAY: 0
ABSENT: 1	ABSENT: 1
MOTION CARRIED	MOTION CARRIED

Sponsored by:

Finance:

V. Stewart III
P. Tollett
B. Davis
C. Schneider

ORDINANCE NO. 2023-135

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO INSURANCE CONTRACTS WITH TRAVELERS, THROUGH ARTHUR J. GALLAGHER RISK MANAGEMENT SERVICES, LLC, FOR THE CITY OF ELYRIA'S GENERAL LIABILITY, PROPERTY, CRIME, AUTO LIABILITY AND PHYSICAL DAMAGE, LAW ENFORCEMENT LIABILITY, PUBLIC ENTITY MANAGEMENT LIABILITY, EMPLOYMENT PRACTICE LIABILITY UMBRELLA/EXCESS LIABILITY INSURANCE.

Tollett moved, Schneider seconded to pass this ordinance on its first reading under suspension of the rules.

SUSPENSION	PASSAGE
AYE: 10	AYE: 10
NAY: 0	NAY: 0
ABSENT: 1	ABSENT: 1
MOTION CARRIED	MOTION CARRIED

Sponsored by:

Finance:

ORDINANCE NO. 2023-136

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AN INSURANCE CONTRACT WITH UNDERWRITERS AT LLOYD'S, LONDON (CFC SYNDICATE), THROUGH ARTHUR J. GALLAGHER RISK MANAGEMENT SERVICES, LLC, FOR THE CITY OF ELYRIA'S CYBER LIABILITY INSURANCE.

Tollett moved, Schneider seconded to pass this ordinance on its first reading under suspension of the rules.

SUSPENSION	PASSAGE
AYE: 10	AYE: 10
NAY: 0	NAY: 0
ABSENT: 1	ABSENT: 1
MOTION CARRIED	MOTION CARRIED

MOTION CARRIED MOTION CARRIED

14. ORDINANCES--SECOND READINGS:

Sponsored by:
Community
Development:
D. Mitchell
A. Lipian
C. Schneider
K. Oswald

ORDINANCE NO. 2023-
AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 1131.02, CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF ELYRIA, OHIO, KNOWN AS THE ZONING ORDINANCE, TO OVERLAY A B-G BUSINESS-GENERAL DISTRICT OVER A L-I LIGHT INDUSTRIAL DISTRICT, AS SET FORTH IN CHAPTER 1176, REDEVELOPMENT OVERLAY DISTRICT ("RDOD"), CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF ELYRIA, OHIO, FOR REAL PROPERTY LOCATED IN THE VICINITY OF REASER POINTE CROSSING, ELYRIA, OHIO AND OWNED BY DBR COMMERCIAL REALTY, LLC.

Public Hearing scheduled for Oct. 16, 2023

15. ORDINANCES--THIRD READING: None

16. COMMITTEE CALLS:

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT 10/10/2023 6:00 P.M. All Referred Items Council Chambers w/Law Director, SSD, Engineer, Bldg. Insp.

JOINT CD/FINANCE 10/10/2023 Following CD All Referred Items Council Chambers w/Law Director, SSD, Engineer, Bldg. Insp.

FINANCE 10/10/2023 Following Joint All Referred Items Council Chambers w/Mayor, Auditor, Law Director, SSD, Engineer

UTILITIES, SAFETY & ENVIRONMENT 10/11/2023 6:00 P.M. All Referred Items Council Chambers w/SSD, Law Director, Engineer

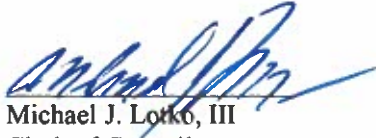
COUNCIL/STRATEGIC PLANNING 10/16/2023 Immediately following Council Meeting All Referred Items Council Chambers W/ Mayor, Safety Service Director, Auditor, Solicitor, Engineer

17. MISCELLANEOUS AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

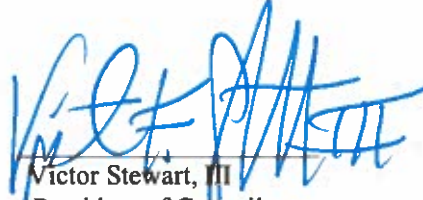
18. ADJOURNMENT:

Mitchell moved, Cerra seconded to adjourn the Regular Council Meeting at 7:52P.M.

MOTION CARRIED



Michael J. Lotko, III
Clerk of Council



Victor Stewart, III
President of Council

RLP/

Honorable Chairperson, distinguished colleagues, citizens who call this great land home,

1. Recently, we had an issue on Cornell avenue -- the second of similar incidents, at the same address. This smacks of recent incidents on Harvard ave, as well. We've seen drug busts in houses in Eastern Heights, and endured shocking criminal behavior in an area of Elyria we had heretofore considered tame. We feel it in the heights acutely, probably because our neck of the neighborhood has been fairly tranquil, until recently. The chilling sound of gunshots, echoing in the very streets where our children play, is a grim testament to the urgency of the matter at hand. We cannot and will not bury our heads in the sand while our communities are in peril! Every bullet fired robs us of a piece of our shared humanity. Every life lost is a piercing reminder that there is no room for complacency.
2. If violence is the storm, then narcotics are the dark clouds feeding it. Illegal drugs are not always innocent substances; they can be catalysts for chaos, harbingers of destruction that leave our neighborhoods fractured and our families torn apart. Can we really stand by, while the very soul of our community is poisoned?
3. Our children, the future of this fair city, should sleep soundly in their beds, free from the nightmares of gunfire and the dread of tomorrow. It's not just a dream; it's a fundamental interest of the families who call Elyria home. And we, in this hallowed hall, are duty-bound to protect them.
4. Lorain has 115 officers, and Elyria has about 79. Let that number sink in. Lorain has a Police Impact Team, Elyria does not. We used to have a Neighborhood Impact Unit, but we no longer do. Let that sink in. To fortify our police force is not just an administrative act. It's a clarion call to arms! We must ensure that every officer is equipped with the skills, training, capabilities and unwavering resolve to face the challenges ahead. Remember, we are not merely adding numbers; we are marshaling the protectors of our shared values and ideals.
5. Let us be clear. This is not just a mission for our police force. It is a mission for us all! We must stand shoulder to shoulder, with an unyielding resolve to cast out the shadows of crime and illegal drugs from our midst.
6. Colleagues, citizens, the clock is ticking, and destiny is watching. Shall we be remembered as the ones who faltered in the face of adversity? Or shall we rise, with unyielding spirit and unbreakable determination, to reclaim our streets, our homes, and our future?

For our children, for our community, for our future, let us ACT! Let our combined resolve echo for future generations. Let it be said: when the night was darkest, we brought forth the dawn.

-Andrew C.G. Lipian
Elyria City Councilman
1st Ward

216-800-7247 | alipian@cityofelyria.org

Committees: Community Development and Strategic Planning

Ad Astra Per Aspera

