

COUNCIL MINUTES

February 1, 2016
Council Chambers
7:00 P.M.

7:00 P.M. - President Ellington called the Monday February 1, 2016 Newark City Council Meeting to order.

ROLL CALL- Mr. Bubb, Mr. Cost, Mr. Fraizer, Ms. Hall, Mr. Johnson, Mr. Marmie, Mr. Rath, Mr. Rolletta, Mr. Blake

INVOCATION – Mr. Johnson

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

CAUCUS- Motion by Mr. Marmie to excuse Mrs. Floyd, second by Mr. Johnson. Motion passed by acclamation.

MINUTES of January 19, 2016- Motion by Mr. Rath to approve the minutes from January 19, 2016 Newark City Council Meeting as presented and the reading be dispensed with in view of the fact each member of Council has received written summary of same, second by Mr. Johnson. **Motion carried by acclamation**

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Finance- **Received & Filed**

Safety- **Received & Filed**

Service- **Received & Filed**

Capital Improvement- **Received & Filed**

REPORTS FROM CITY OFFICIALS

Barb Jobs, City Tax Administrator- Income Tax Revenue Reports for the period ending January 15, 2016. - **Received & Filed**

COMMUNICATIONS

COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS

William Butcher, 263 Union St- he would like to see the Flint Festival come back

David Green, 1791 Olympic Ct- shared his concerns regarding the two Habitat for Humanity houses that just burnt while the east end fire station is closed. His concern was regarding replacing part time firefighters with full time firefighters. He urged Council to think twice about any kind of move towards part time firefighters and instead think more about ways it is possible to get more resources so that we don't have to do that, including a levy which was mentioned by the Mayor in the paper and other ways including involving the community and residents in this problem directly. I would argue very strongly that we should not move from full time to part time firefighters.

RESOLUTIONS ON SECOND READING

By: Mr. Marmie, Mr. Cost, Mr. Rath

16-06 A RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING MONIES FOR THE CURRENT EXPENSES OF THE MUNICIPAL CORPORATION

Motion by Mr. Marmie to adopt Resolution No. 16-06, second by Mr. Bubb

Motion passed by a vote of 9-0.

RESOLUTIONS ON FIRST READING

By: Mr. Marmie, Mr. Cost

16-08 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF NEWARK TO SUBMIT AN APPLICATION TO THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY FOR AN AWARD OF FISCAL YEAR 2016-2017 FUNDING UNDER THE OHIO EMS TRAINING AND EQUIPMENT GRANT PROGRAM.

Held for a Second Reading

By: Mr. Marmie, Mr. Cost

16-09 A RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING MONIES FOR THE CURRENT EXPENSES OF THE MUNICIPAL CORPORATION-EXPEDITE

Motion by Mr. Marmie to waive the two day reading rule on Resolution No. 16-09, second by Mr. Bubb

Mr. Marmie- this needs to be expedited in order to get these vehicles taken care of.

Motion passed by a vote of 9-0.

Motion by Mr. Marmie to adopt Resolution No. 16-09, second by Mr. Cost

Motion passed by a vote of 9-0.

By: Mr. Cost, Mr. Marmie

16-10 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE OF THE CITY OF NEWARK, OHIO TO APPLY FOR, ACCEPT AND ENTER INTO A SUPPLEMENTAL WATER POLLUTION CONTROL LOAN FUND AGREEMENT ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF NEWARK FOR PLANNING, DESIGN AND/OR CONSTRUCTION OF WASTEWATER FACILITIES (DOWNTOWN SEWER SEPARATION) AND DESIGNATING A DEDICATED REPAYMENT SOURCE FOR THE LOAN.

Held for a Second Reading

By: Mr. Marmie, Mr. Cost

16-11 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF NEWARK TO PREPARE AND SUBMIT AN APPLICATION TO THE OHIO DEVELOPMENT SERVICES AGENCY FOR A COMMUNITY HOUSING IMPROVEMENT GRANT AWARD FOR FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR 2016

Held for a Second Reading

By: Mr. Cost

16-12 A RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING MONIES FOR THE CURRENT EXPENSES OF THE MUNICIPAL CORPORATION- CI

Held for a Second Reading

COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS

Darren Decker, 188 Alcon Dr- I recently sent an email to the 1st Ward Councilperson, there is a sign at the top of Alcon Drive indicating that it has been zoned for multi-family dwelling. He asked when that had been zoned for multi-family. He wanted to know the dates so that he could look into it. The city started a new housing addition in Jones Meadow to develop that area a little and to change that zoning to multi-family dwelling I think would take away from what has been started there. Additionally I don't think the Shai sign if it has been permitted meets the requirements. I would like some direction to check into that also. Secondly, to reiterate what was said about part time firefighters, we have stood up here and talked about this and the low staffing of the fire department. I think the city needs to continue to seek funds. It bothers me as a firefighter and as a citizen to see that there is some interest in an additional levy. I can't help but think that the fact that we go before the citizens seeking a levy in the name of public safety when we are scrapping across the backs of them to supplement other incomes in the city of Newark and I know there has been some questions raised about that with the original levy that was supposed to increase manning. I would like to see the city seek additional sources of income whether it is the Safer Grant or maybe a permanent income tax or something like that but to go for a grant in the name of public safety a second time around and still not be able to see anything result from the original I think is a slap in the face to the citizens.

Daniel Crawford, 163 S 2nd St- to reiterate what Davis Green and this gentleman who just spoke said regarding part time firefighters, we all knew where I stood about this last year and you will see a letter to the editor of mine about that as well. He also discussed his concerns regarding homelessness. He stated that we needed to do more for the less fortunate in our society.

Tim Waldron, 167 S 2nd St- he discussed the Mayor's State of the City Address by stating that he disagrees with the shutting down of the east end forestation and thinks the Mayor should have shut down the west end instead because of the hospital and all the medical offices located at that end of the city. Secondly he criticized the statement that we have a good Police Department by stating that at night time in the south end there are drug dealers standing out along the streets selling drugs while police cars go by. Then he asked if anyone had seen report cards of the schools because they are the lowest of the county. He stated teachers don't care that they just give kids homework and send them home. Property Maintenance Code, he complained about the trash in the neighborhoods and the dilapidated houses which he said he would rather see instead of a vacant lot. He stated that the City is not spending tax dollars wisely.

ADMINISTRATION

Director Mauter- just a couple of brief comments on the Habitat homes, number one I want to let Council know that one of our funding sources in the Department of Development is our Home Revolving Loan Fund. Loans are given to improve homes and so forth, we put a loan out there then when they pay back it goes back into that revolving fund. We contribute to these Habitat homes, about 20% of their budget. So it really hits home here from the City of Newark that this is quite a loss. It is very sad what happened to these families. They worked so hard, they each had to put in 200 hours of community service into that home, they work alongside of everybody else that shows up to build the m homes, all of the other volunteers that work with Mark Fiori who is the lead carpenter and foreman for Habitat. I just wanted to let Council know that we do have City of Newark funds going into those projects and we will continue to have funds going into those projects in the future years. I hope that they can regroup and the families can regroup from this terrible tragedy.

President Ellington- Mr. Marmie had a very good question, those houses are insured correct?

Director Mauter- yes they are

MISCELLANEOUS

Law Director Sassen- I would like to thank Mr. Crawford, Mr. Green and Mr. Decker for making some positive statements contributing to the dialogue to some difficult issues that this Council has to address but I am convinced that Mr. Waldron and I must live in different cities.

Mr. Fraizer- I assume the comment that I don't know what I am doing was supposed to be a compliment. The current situation that we find ourselves in with 76 firefighters, an 8 million dollar budget and staffing concerns and there is no legislation going from full time firefighters to part time firefighters but we understand the concern and we appreciate your opinion. The city finds itself in some financial concerns and the hope is to find a long term solution to a problem. It is easy to look at raising taxes for systematic concerns that are systemic and long term. So the hope is to find a solution that benefits the people of Newark for the long term so that we don't have revisit these issues over and over again. As far as the Habitat for Humanity homes are concerned, it is a great example of what our community does with Habitat for Humanity of housing people and partnering with local organizations to make a difference in our community, along with Salvation Army and St. Vincent De Paul and a plethora of churches and non-profit organizations that give to those that are in need. To say that our community does not care about the impoverished or those that are less fortunate is not true. In my faith and in my walk I am here to make a difference and to do what is best for the people of Newark and what is best for our community and all the people here I believe have the same calling. I hope in the coming years we can continue to make progress to revitalize our city and improve the lives of everybody in our community. We are not here to work for the rich and the affluent we are here to work for the people and that is what is the message and that is what we need to do. I thank you guys for your comments and I hope that you continue to be vocal and active but please remember that our community is in the right direction and we continue to make a difference and see progress every day. I look forward to the next four years to see where we stand in four years after my term in office.

Mr. Marmie- called a Finance Committee meeting.

Mr. Rath- called for a Service Committee meeting. For somebody who doesn't know what he is doing that was very well put so I will just say dido.

Mr. Blake- it has been asked of me at a few different meetings now, Mr. Butcher has asked about having a Flint Festival. I did a Google search Mr. Butcher, Flint Ridge which is one of our places of pride here in our county have a Flint Ridge knap In on May 22-24 of the holiday weekend. It's not on the square like you want but there is a Flint Festival and I will get you that information. I thought that there were a lot of good comments here tonight related to safety services, related to people that are less fortunate than ourselves and tomorrow we have a very strong advocate who brings advocacy to issues of drug addiction and prison reform, her name is Piper Kerman. She wrote a memoir a book called The Orange is the New Black. There is a popular Netflix show based off of her memoir. She is going to be at the Sparta restaurant at noon then later that evening at 7:00 at Swayze Chapel at Denison she is going to give a convocation. She brings about many of the comments that were said here this evening. Talking about is drug addiction and issues related around that a police issues? Should they be treated as criminals or should they be treated as patients? These people usually have some type of mental health or other issues related in their lives so we need to recognize these issues and deal with them appropriately in bringing non-profit organizations together and collaborating and partnering. Not a single agency is going to be able to deal with these types of issues so a lot of her work and testimony before Congress and other State Legislators is very revealing. If you haven't read the memoir the book is very different than the T.V. show. The T.V. show is for entertainment purposes, it alludes to the book but if you get a chance to read the book I would encourage that.

President Ellington- Mr. Waldron thank you for your comments, I personally have several issues with some of the things you said and I'm not going to go down the list but I'm just not sure that you have facts to back any of that up so I am just going to leave it at that. Next Monday will be committees at 5:30 P.M. The next Council meeting will be Tuesday February 16th because Monday is a holiday.

ADJOURNMENT- Motion by Mr. Rath, second by Mr. Fraizer to adjourn. Motion carried by acclamation. 7:36 P.M.