

COUNCIL MINUTES

March 2, 2015

Council Chambers

7:00 P.M.

7:00 P.M. - President Ellington called the Monday March 2, 2015 Newark City Council Meeting to order

ROLL CALL- Mr. Guthrie, Ms. Hall, Mr. Johnson, Mr. Marmie, Mr. Rath, Mr. Rolletta, Mr. Bubb, Mr. Cost, Mrs. Floyd

Absent- Mr. Blake

INVOCATION – Mr. Johnson

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE-Director Spurgeon

CAUCUS- Mr. Marmie made a motion to excuse Mr. Blake, second by Mrs. Floyd. **Motion carried by acclamation**

Mr. Cost- I will be offering an amendment to Ordinance 14-39 so that we will comply with the recommendation of the Planning Commission.

MINUTES- February 17, 2015 Motion by Mr. Rath, second by Mr. Johnson to approve the minutes as presented and the reading be dispensed with in view of the fact each member of Council has received written summary of same. **Motion carried by acclamation**

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEE

Finance- **Received &Filed**

Service- **Received &Filed**

Capital Improvement- **Received &Filed**

COMMUNICATIONS

Pit Bull legislation- there were 13 communications received opposing City Council adopting Ordinance 15-04 and one in favor. - **Received &Filed**

PUBLIC HEARING

The public notice was read by the Clerk

President Ellington opened the public hearing

No comments were received neither for nor against this request for a zoning change

The public hearing was then closed

By: Mr. Cost, Mrs. Floyd, Mr. Marmie

14-39 AN ORDINANCE CHANGING THE ZONING CLASSIFICATION OF CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY, GENERALLY DESCRIBED AS 2023 CHERRY VALLEY ROAD, CITY OF NEWARK, LICKING COUNTY, OHIO, FROM THAT OF MFC – MULTI-FAMILY CONDO ZONING DISTRICT, TO MFR – MULTI-FAMILY RESIDENCE ZONING DISTRICT.

Motion by Mr. Cost to adopt Ordinance 14-39, second by Mr. Bubb

Mr. Cost- I need to make an amendment to Ordinance 14-39 that the ordinance be approved on the condition that no more than 6 units per acre or 60 units total be permitted to be developed on this 10 acre parcel. This would then be in alignment with the recommendation of the Planning Commission

Motion by Mr. Cost to amend Ordinance 14-39, second by Mr. Rath

Motion to amend Ordinance 14-39 to Ordinance 14-39 A passed by a vote of 9-0.

Roll Call vote on amended Ordinance

Motion passed by a vote of 8-1(Mr. Guthrie)

COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS

Daniel Crawford- 163 S 2nd St, The past month has served as a painful reminder of how miserable winter can be. Just imagine, for a second, if you were unfortunate enough to endure this nightmare outside of the comfort of your own home. Right now,

as most of us are safe from the brisk winds and dangerously-low temperatures, there are a number of our brothers and sisters who aren't so lucky. For them, there is no certainty that they will have a warm place to rest. Instead, all they have to hope for is that some local charitable organization will have the rooms or resources to lend them a helping hand.

If you've been paying attention to news articles about the homeless over even the past couple of years you ought to be familiar with stories about the brutal treatment of our least fortunate. From vicious assaults by random careless people to cities actually shipping them out of state via a one-way plane or bus ticket, the homeless are often portrayed as a stain on society. How can this be? How can we justify painting those who are suffering the most in our midst as being what's wrong with our image? Isn't our lack of empathy and compassionate action the true stain on our society? Before we lash out in blind judgment of the downtrodden, should we not take a step back and consider all the possible pathways to homelessness which exists? Not only that, but wouldn't it also be instructive to ponder the plethora of roadblocks standing in their way as they try to escape their desolate existence? Need I mention the troubling fact that thousands of these poor humans once served you and I as a member of the United States Armed Forces? Granted, the number of homeless veterans is on the decline, but the fact that any man or woman who once fought on our behalf ever found themselves without a home should cause us all to be ashamed. Then again, is it humane to make a distinction between a homeless veteran and anyone else in the same predicament? At the end of the day, these citizens are our fellow countrymen, and to ignore their plight is equally repugnant regardless of whether they wore a military uniform. Yes, there are charitable organizations scattered about which aim to assist the homeless on their journey back to stability, but their resources are limited. Is there nothing more that we, as a city, can do to combat this crisis of our collective soul? A study published last May by the Central Florida Commission on Homelessness found that providing housing and sufficient guidance as they transition back into productive citizenship saves a city roughly \$20,000 per person. This is compared to the current fend for yourselves approach wherein we see the public's money wasted on arresting, jailing, and even treating them in the emergency room for health problems best dealt with by a primary care physician or psychiatrist. If given a chance, I have faith that most of our homeless neighbors will give back ten-fold as hard-working, tax-paying members of our society. All they need is for their community to step up and give them a fighting chance. Thank you.

RESOLUTIONS ON THE SECOND READING

By: Mrs. Floyd, Mr. Cost, Mr. Marmie

15-10 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 2015-2016 FUNDING UNDER THE OHIO EMS TRAINING AND EQUIPMENT GRANT PROGRAM.

Motion by Mr. Marmie to adopt Resolution 15-10, second by Mrs. Floyd

Motion passed by a vote of 9-0

By: Mrs. Floyd, Mr. Cost, Mr. Marmie

15-12 APPROPRIATING MONIES FOR THE MUNICIPAL CORPORATION
(100 General Fund-\$15,880.00: Machinery & Equipment)

Motion by Mr. Marmie to adopt Resolution 15-12, second by Mrs. Floyd

Motion passed by a vote of 9-0

By: Mr. Cost, Mr. Marmie, Mrs. Floyd

15-13 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF NEWARK TO APPLY FOR FINANCIAL SUPPORT FROM THE STATE OF OHIO 2015 NATUREWORKS GRANT

Motion by Mr. Marmie to adopt Resolution 15-13, second by Mr. Cost

Motion passed by a vote of 9-0

By: Mr. Cost, Mrs. Floyd

15-14 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS AND ENTER INTO CONTRACTS, SUBJECT TO THE APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS, FOR VARIOUS CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS.

Motion by Mr. Cost to adopt Resolution 15-14, second by Mr. Bubb

Motion passed by a vote of 9-0

RESOLUTIONS ON THE FIRST READING

By: Mr. Marmie, Mr. Cost, Mrs. Floyd

15-15 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF NEWARK TO PREPARE AND SUBMIT APPLICATIONS TO THE DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY, FOR FISCAL YEAR 2014 and 2015 FIRE ACT GRANT PROGRAMS, IN SUPPORT OF TRAINING PROGRAMS, EQUIPMENT PURCHASES, FUNDING FOR PERSONNEL, FIRE PREVENTION, AND FIRE SAFETY PROGRAMS THROUGHOUT THE CITY. **-EXPEDITE**

Motion by Mr. Marmie to waive the two day reading rule on Resolution 15-15, second by Mr. Bubb

Mr. Marmie- in order to meet the deadline of this grant application we need to expedite this.

Motion passed by a vote of 9-0

Motion by Mr. Marmie to adopt Resolution 15-15, second by Mr. Cost

Mr. Guthrie- Director Spurgeon, are we any closer to knowing whether you are going to apply for two or three firefighters?

Director Spurgeon- Chief Connor and I are going to have a final decision tomorrow but I anticipate three.

Motion passed by a vote of 9-0

By: Mr. Marmie, Mr. Cost, Mrs. Floyd

15-16 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF NEWARK TO APPLY FOR FUNDING FROM THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, BUREAU OF JUSTICE ASSISTANCE UNDER THE BULLETPROOF VEST PARTNERSHIP GRANT PROGRAM.

Held for a second reading

By: Mr. Marmie, Mr. Cost, Mrs. Floyd

15-17 APPROPRIATING MONIES FOR THE MUNICIPAL CORPORATION- **EXPEDITE**

(153 Compensated Absences Fund-\$450.00: Pay out Pat Connor)

Motion by Mr. Marmie to waive the two day reading rule on Resolution 15-17, second by Mrs. Floyd

Mr. Marmie- we expedite any payouts so that we can pay an employee for their compensation as quickly as possible so we need to expedite this.

Motion passed by a vote of 9-0.

Motion by Mr. Marmie to adopt Resolution 15-17, second by Mrs. Floyd

Motion passed by a vote of 9-0

By: Mr. Cost, Mrs. Floyd

15-18 APPROPRIATING MONIES FOR THE MUNICIPAL CORPORATION

(335 Capital Improvement Fund-\$69,307.00: Vehicles & Equipment/Machinery)

Held for a second reading

By: Mr. Marmie, Mr. Cost, Mrs. Floyd

15-19 APPROPRIATING MONIES FOR THE MUNICIPAL CORPORATION

(334 Construction Fund-\$1,000,000.00: Professional Services)

Held for a second reading

COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS

ADMINISTRATION

Director Spurgeon- today is a bitter sweet day. It is sweet because this body has approved and we appreciate it, that we were able to swear in a police officer and promote a Captain. We are going to say good bye on Wednesday to a friend mentor, a confidant and a servant. Chief Stephen Sarver has spent the last 44 ½ years of his life protecting the public and serving others, 7 of those as our Chief. He has left a great legacy of enhancing his command staff. I want to publicly thank him and wish he and Rebecca all the blessings as they proceed in the next of their journey.

MISCELLANEOUS

Director Sassen- It was nice to see Mrs. Grinrod and her students present today. One of the most common misconceptions in the US is that we live in a democracy. We don't. We live in a represented democracy so we are not governed by he who shouts the loudest instead we are all represented equally. That way even the smallest and the quietest in the room are heard. Much the same reason that we have the Electoral College so many of the smaller states can have a voice in the election of our President so they all don't come from Texas, California and New York, isn't that right Mrs. Grinrod?

Mrs. Grinrod- I am thinking we are going to agree to disagree.

Mayor Hall- welcome Mrs. Grinrod and students of Newark High. With Councilman Blake we have had Youth Council this year and I think that it has worked well. Everybody knows that all of these chairs get occupied one Thursday each month of the school year. There are three students from Newark High, three from Newark Catholic, three from CTEC, three from the YES Club and one from the Digital Academy. We always welcome any students who want to reach out and engage in local municipal government. I will also congratulate Chief Sarver on his retirement. We want to thank him and wish him and his wife Rebecca the best in their future life.

Mr. Guthrie- I want to add to what was said about Chief Sarver. I can remember when he first started with us there was a public meeting at the church at King and there were a lot of residents concerned about safety up there and Chief Sarver was a real stable influence going into that group. I could tell at that point he was going to be a dedicated Chief. I certainly wish him well and apologize to him that I wasn't able to make his luncheon. I want to thank everyone who attended the Pancake Day at Kiwanis on Saturday. All of that revenue supports Camp O'Bannon and I believe it was their best Pancake Day. I also want to mention that this Saturday the United Methodist Church at Cedar and E Main has their monthly breakfast in case anyone wants to put that on their agenda. It is a very nice breakfast that supports their church and their food pantry which is the oldest food pantry in Licking County. I have talked to Director Sassen before the meeting and I have talked a couple of times with representatives of the administration on this; I want to say publicly that I am open to the discussion of the City under taking discussions with the County, Mayor Hall on the possibility of transitioning our Animal Control to the County Dog Warden and the Humane Society. Of course we want it to be cost effective and it would be great if we could save some revenue but in a lot of ways it seems like they might be better equipped to handle our animal control. I want you to know that I am open to that. I don't know how anybody else feels but I would like to see that discussion at least begin.

Ms. Hall- I too would like to thank Chief Sarver for his years of service. I am new to Council and his door was open, we had several conversations about safety and general things about what we are headed for.

Mr. Johnson- I am sorry also to see the Chief leave. Congratulations to the new Captain and it is good to have another office

in the Police Department. I want to thank Director Rhodes; I saw the roads getting plowed with a lot of snow coming down and I am very appreciative.

Mr. Marmie- called a Finance Committee meeting. I want to wish the best to Chief Sarver. He has been a great asset to the community and I appreciate his service. I also want to commend Director Spurgeon on the transition plan that he has not only for the Police Department and the Fire Department in all he has done to make sure that all of our safety forces are running smoothly even during the time of transition. I want to thank Director Rhodes for the roads and his folks. They definitely during these snowy weekends have done a very good job of clearing the streets and it is greatly appreciated. I want to wish all of the local basketball teams both Newark High and Newark Catholic both boys and girls the best going into tournaments. Hopefully they will succeed and do well in representing this community. Finally, I want to welcome Mrs. Grinrod and her class. We appreciate you coming and hopefully you have gained something out of your experience here.

Mr. Rath- I also want to thank Chief Sarver and congratulate him on his retirement. I wish him well in his future adventures. I want to thank Director Rhodes and the Street Department for the outstanding job they have done on the roads. Mrs. Grinrod, welcome it is good to see you again.

Mr. Rolletta- I would like to congratulate Officer Evans, our newest Police Officer and Captain Lynn on his promotion in our Division of Fire. I would also like to congratulate Chief Sarver on his retirement and thank him for his years of service. I too would like to thank Director Rhodes I had a few residents who had a problem with the snow on their roads and he was very responsive in helping with that. Last but not least I would like to thank Mrs. Grinrod and her Government class for being here I truly believe that our community, our state and our country need young people involved in the political process.

Mr. Bubb- I too would like to welcome all the students this evening and wish you all the best in the future.

Mr. Cost- I would like to congratulate Chief Sarver, he has done an incredible job. It was certainly nice to be here tonight to see another Police Officer sworn in and to see a promotion in the Fire Department. It is always nice to see Mrs. Grinrod and welcome her class here. I hope you come away with feeling like we have a good situation going here and if you have any questions we will be glad to help.

Mrs. Floyd- called for a Personnel Committee meeting. I too would like to welcome Mrs. Grinrod and her students. Tonight everything went yes, yes, yes and you are thinking we don't do anything but sit up here and say yes, yes, yes. No we don't. If you were last week when we were discussing these things it was more complicated. If you were here two weeks ago we had a lot of citizen's comment and the place was packed and will be again in two weeks. It is not always this cut and dry just so you know. Your local city government is the closest government to you. It is the Policeman, Fireman, the people who clean your streets who are the closest to you and dealing with problems that affect you the most. We are glad you are here, come back again sometime. I would like to congratulate Chief Sarver on his years of service. I was here when he first came to Newark. I took his Newark Citizens Police Academy. People take the course becomes they interested in police work but I took the course because I wanted to know more about the work that our Police Department does.

Mr. Ellington- I would like to add my kudos to the Chief he has done a great job and will certainly be missed. I would also like to thank all of you for coming and being a part of your Newark City Council and being a part of your local government. Our next meeting will be Monday March 9th it is a committee meeting starting at 5:30. The next Council meeting will be Monday March 16th at 7:00.

ADJOURNMENT- Motion by Mr. Rath to adjourn, second by Mr. Cost. Motion carried by acclamation **7:30 P.M.**