

COUNCIL MINUTES

April 20, 2015

Council Chambers

7:00 P.M.

7:00 P.M. - President Ellington called the Monday April 20, 2015 Newark City Council Meeting to order

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

INVOCATION – Mrs. Floyd

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE- City Auditor, Steve Johnson

CAUCUS- Motion by Mrs. Floyd to excuse Ms. Hall, second by Mr. Marmie. Motion carried by acclamation

MINUTES- of April 6, 2015 Newark City Council Meeting. 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- **from March 30th & April 13th** – Received & Filed

Service- **from March 30th & April 13th** – Received & Filed

REPORTS FROM CITY OFFICIALS

Stephen E Johnson, City Auditor- operating report for the period ending March 31, 2015. – **Received & Filed**

Barb Jobes, City Tax Administrator- Income Tax Reports for period ending February 15, 2015 & February 28, 2015. – **Received & Filed**

COMMUNICATIONS

aconcernedcitizen14@yahoo.com- an email opposing the merger with the county 911 center and the effect it would have on the dispatchers. – **Received & Filed**

Paul Moran- his comments made during the Council meeting of April 6, 2015. – **Received & Filed**

Michael Di Pietro-an email sent to Mr. Guthrie concerning Pit bulls in the City of Newark – **Received & Filed**

Theresa(Terri) Moats- opposing the 911 merger with the county – **Received & Filed**

Roger Loomis- Lien request for past due water, sewer and storm water bills totaling \$14,603.95. – **Received & Filed**

COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS

Daniel Crawford, 163 S 2nd St- Change can be a good thing. Likewise, making a system more efficient and less redundant can be good. However, the question must be asked if we will be better off abdicating our role in providing the city's police dispatching services. Would it be in the best interest of the people of Newark to leave this up to the county? Less than a month ago we the people first heard about this proposal. In that meeting, we repeatedly heard that nothing is being proposed, but yet a piece of legislation was offered only two weeks later to authorize our Mayor to negotiate terms for outsourcing these services to the county. Granted, the resolution was amended to require that the Mayor bring this issue back to the full council for a final vote, but I'm reluctant to see this as a victory for the people. Reason being, that we continue to have a great deal of questions left unanswered. For example, I as a concerned citizen, and father of two young children would like to know how abolishing the city dispatching position in favor of leaving it up to the county affects the response time of our officers. I'm sure the administration has an answer, and I'm pretty sure I know what the F.O.P. and AFSCME have to say, but what about an independent study or even some input from the officers and citizens themselves? Councilman Cost said it best last week when he underscored the top priorities pertaining to issues like this: the safety of our citizens and officers must come first. So, why are we rushing to make this hasty change? Don't the people deserve to be fully informed as well as treated to an extensive debate here?

Honestly, I get it. Eliminating eight jobs from the city's payroll and contracting with the county would save us some money, and that looks good when you are trying to project the image of being a good steward of public dollars. Additionally, with the county having an upgraded system, handing the jobs over to them seems more appealing. Having pointed out the list of pros, it would be irresponsible to ignore the cons; especially since we are dealing with something as vital as the security of this place we call home. Let us ponder this question for a second: is it more important to save money or to save a life? What if the changes being proposed would slow our police response time by a minute? It's reasonable to consider a nightmarish hypothetical scenario wherein that minute lost could result in the loss of a life. For a moment, ponder this question: are the promised savings of sacrificing the invaluable experience of our city-employed dispatchers worth even one citizen's life? When moving forward, I implore the members of this council to consider the full array of consequences relative to these desired changes. It would be equally instructive to remember that this is about more than eight jobs or a balanced budget, because the results could have long-term effects on the citizens of this city. To be honest, the magnitude of these changes might warrant a vote of the people for final approval. So, I ask for the sake of Newark's good citizens put this before the voters when the negotiating is done so that we may have enough time to fully analyze all the facts and have the discussion that we deserve.

ORDINANCES ON THE SECOND READING

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

15-07 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE POSITION CLASSIFICATION/PAY RANGE AND POSITION AUTHORIZATION TABLES OF THE CITY OF NEWARK, DIVISION OF CEMETERY AND PARKS TO ABOLISH ONE (1) FULL TIME POSITION OF PROJECT ASSISTANT AND ONE (1) FULL TIME POSITION OF CEMETARY AND PARKS CREW LEADER AND CREATING ONE (1) FULL TIME POSITION OF CEMETERY AND PARKS CREW LEADER/PROJECT ASSISTANT.

Motion by Mrs. Floyd to adopt Ordinance 15-07, second by Mr. Cost

Mrs. Floyd- I think that this will stream line things.

Motion passed by a vote of 10-0.

RESOLUTIONS ON THE SECOND READING

By: Mr. Blake, Mr. Cost, Mrs. Floyd, Mr. Rath

15-23 APPROPRIATING MONIES FOR THE MUNICIPAL CORPORATION
(298: ODNR Fund-\$1,000; 669: Storm Water Utility Fund-\$150,000.00)

Motion by Mr. Blake to adopt Resolution 15-23, second by Mrs. Floyd

Motion passed by a vote of 9-0

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

15-25 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF NEWARK TO APPLY FOR FINANCIAL SUPPORT FROM THE STATE OF OHIO 2015 FEDERAL LAND & WATER CONSERVATION FUND PROGRAM

Motion by Mr. Blake to adopt Resolution 15-25, second by Mr. Bubb

Motion passed by a vote of 9-0.

By: Mr. Blake, Mr. Cost, Mrs. Floyd, Mr. Rath

15-26 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE TO ENTER INTO A LEASE PURCHASE AGREEMENT FOR THE LEASE-PURCHASE OF ONE EMS TRANSPORT MEDIC UNIT FOR THE DIVISION OF FIRE

Motion by Mr. Cost to adopt Resolution 15-26, second by Mr. Bubb

Motion passed by a vote of 9-0.

By: Mr. Blake, Mr. Cost, Mrs. Floyd, Mr. Rath

15-27 APPROPRIATING MONIES FOR THE MUNICIPAL CORPORATION

(335, Capital Improvement Fund- \$44,900.00: Vehicles, Communication Equipment; 335, Capital Improvement Fund- \$2,200.00: purchase & installation of a vehicle lift)

Motion by Mr. Rath to adopt Resolution 15-27, second by Mr. Cost

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

RESOLUTIONS ON A FIRST READING

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

15-28 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF NEWARK TO ENTER INTO A COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT FUNDED SUBRECIPIENT AGREEMENT WITH THE HEREINAFTER NAMED ORGANIZATIONS TO CARRY OUT ACTIVITIES INCLUDED WITHIN NEWARK'S FY 2015 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT ONE YEAR ACTION PLAN

Held for a Second Reading

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

15-29 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF NEWARK TO PREPARE AND SUBMIT APPLICATIONS TO THE OHIO GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE SERVICES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2015 EDWARD BYRNE JUSTICE ASSISTANCE GRANT FUNDING.

Held for a Second Reading

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

15-30 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF NEWARK TO SUBMIT AN APPLICATION TO THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICE FOR FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR 2016 OHIO TRAFFIC SAFETY GRANTS PROGRAMS: SELECTIVE TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT PROGRAM (STEP) AND THE IMPAIRED DRIVING ENFORCEMENT PROGRAM (IDEP).

Held for a Second Reading

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

15-31 APPROPRIATING AND DISAPPROPRIATING MONIES FOR THE CURRENT EXPENSES OF THE MUNICIPAL CORPORATION (231 Probation Improvement Grant: Training, Travel, Lodging & Meals-\$3685.00; 100 General Fund: Summer Employment Program-\$76,032.00; 100 General Fund: Worker's Comp & Memberships-\$23,024.41; DISAPPROPRIATION 100 General Fund Salaries-\$23,024.41)

Motion by Mr. Blake to waive the two day reading rule, second by Mrs. Floyd

Mr. Blake- there are some requests on here that are under a time line including the Summer Youth Program so they can get started as soon as they can.

Motion passed by a 9-0 vote

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

15-32 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE OF THE CITY OF NEWARK, OHIO TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS AND ENTER INTO CONTRACT FOR THE OFF-SITE DISPOSAL OF BIOSOLIDS FROM NEWARK'S WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT.

Held for a Second Reading

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

15-33 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH SPECIALIZED LEGAL COUNCIL FOR THE PURPOSE OF DEVELOPING AND IMPLEMENTING A PROGRAM OF TAX INCREMENT FINANCING FOR THE RIVER TRAILS DEVELOPMENT AND SURROUNDING AREAS.

Held for a Second Reading

By: Mr. Cost, Mrs. Floyd, Mr. Blake, Mr. Rath

15-34 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE OF THE CITY OF NEWARK, OHIO TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS AND ENTER INTO CONTRACT, SUBJECT TO THE APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS, FOR THE WILRICH AND YORKSHIRE DRIVE WATERLINE PROJECT.

Held for a Second Reading

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

15-35 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE AND THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SAFETY TO NEGOTIATE A CONTRACT WITH THE LICKING COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS AND LICKING COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY, SUBJECT TO THE APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS, FOR THE PROVISION OF EMERGENCY 9-1-1 COMMUNICATIONS SERVICES ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF NEWARK, DIVISION OF POLICE.

Held for a Second Reading

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

15-36 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE TO ACCEPT BIDS AND SELL CERTAIN SURPLUS PERSONAL PROPERTY NOW OWNED BY THE CITY OF NEWARK, OHIO, AND DECLARING THAT SUCH PROPERTY IS NO LONGER NEEDED FOR ANY MUNICIPAL PURPOSE.

Held for a Second Reading

By: Mr. Cost, Mrs. Floyd, Mr. Blake, Mr. Rath

15-37 APPROPRIATING MONIES FOR THE CURRENT EXPENSES OF THE MUNICIPAL CORPORATION
(670 Garfield McKinley Fund: Operating Transfer& Storm lines-\$448,930.03)

Held for a Second Reading

By: Mr. Cost, Mrs. Floyd, Mr. Blake, Mr. Rath

15-38 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF NEWARK TO PREPARE AND SUBMIT AN APPLICATION TO THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR THE 2015 TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES PROGRAM TO PARTIALLY FUND THE RIVERVIEW BIKE TRAIL – PHASE 1 PROJECT.

Held for a Second Reading

COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS

Melissa Lanter & Malita Scanlon with Beacon 360 Management- they came to inform Council of the future developments that are going to be taking place at Washington Square Plaza. Ms. Lanter stated that within the next year and a half Beacon 360 Management will be revitalizing 340 Washington Square with 4 million dollars of rebuilding of the property. At the town homes located at 425 Washington \$173,000.00 is going for a new playground by the end of May. There will be a ribbon ceremony for that event. They are also going to be re-doing all of the buildings and the property.

They want to change the perception of that area of town. She stated that since Beacon 360 has taken over two years ago at the town homes alone the crime rate has went down 25%. She stated they credit that to the fact that they installed security cameras at all of their facilities and are in the process of using Gap Security. There will be security guards that monitor the property at all hours. She asked for the help of the City, landlords and tenants in that area to clean up that area of town.

President Ellington- let Autumn know the date on your ribbon cutting ceremony and she will get it out to all of us.

Mr. Guthrie- is the surface of the playground ADA accessible.

Ms. Lanter- yes

Paul Moran- 63 N. 4th St. The building that I spoke about last Council meeting with the signs on it is at 21 W. Canal St. He asked that the city start addressing all of the vacant commercial buildings because they are a safety and health hazard and a deterrent to the city. He also stated that when there are auto crashes in the city there are sharp pieces and debris laying around. He asked if the Street Department could clean that up.

MISCELLANEOUS

Mr. Rath- he thanked Melissa and Malita for their information about the revitalizing project. He hoped that the community would recognize what they are doing and follow suit. He called an Economic Development Meeting.

Mr. Blake- called for a Finance Committee meeting. On April 23rd there is a public meeting at the library at 6:00 P.M. to get input from residents about the developments that are occurring at Canal District. You can get more information at mysouthnewark.org. Saturday, April 25th there is going to be a clean-up. Marsha Downs at The Works is heading up this project. People are going to meet at 9:00 A.M. in the parking lot between Sparta and City Hall. They are going to be cleaning up downtown Newark. I want to thank our Auditor for the discussions that we have had regarding our deficit and debt. Last Saturday I took my dog for a walk and we went around the square where I saw a young couple there taking wedding photos at the gazebo and it just reminded me that here in a week the Supreme Court will be receiving oral arguments regarding marriage equality. So that opportunity for all of our citizens to have that chance is going to be rested among 9 Justices of The Supreme Court. The oral arguments go next week then a decision is expected in June. All of you know somebody who would like to get married in Ohio at some point. You might have someone who belongs to the GLBT community who may want to get married in Ohio so just put that on your hearts and minds.

Mr. Cost- I want to thank the ladies from Washington Square for coming out, I think that is phenomenal. I want to welcome the Denison University students. He also called for a Service Committee meeting.

Mrs. Floyd- tomorrow night at 6:00 P.M. at the Community Wesleyan Church the Drug Task Force is going to be there to talk to a couple of block watches. She congratulated the ladies there for what they are going to do at Washington Square. She also informed the audience about the We Dig Newark website that allows you to be informed about the construction that is going on downtown. The Downtown Newark Association is really working well together with the city to try to make sure that everything is done to benefit those businesses downtown that will be affected.

Mr. Guthrie- asked that someone pass along this information to Director Spurgeon so that Property Maintenance can look at the building with an X on it across from Goodwill on Union Street because the back door was broken and shoved down. I have brought this up numerous times and I know I sound like a broken record. It is the issue of us as a community bidding out our trash hauling services in quadrants. I happen to be in Millersport and picked up the Buckeye Lake Beacon and saw that the Village of Buckeye Lake is entering into a contract which is their second contract. Companies that are regular haulers in our city, take a look because I am not going to embarrass them but take a look at what they are bidding to haul trash in Buckeye Lake, Granville, Pataskala, Etna, Harrison and look at what our citizens are paying those companies to have their trash hauled. I know we have talked about it before and I know that we had a group that met, the Trash Talkers but I think that this deserves a serious discussion because to me we have an obligation especially when you have tough economic times for our citizens. We have an opportunity here to at least investigate how we can save our citizens some money. Like I said it is embarrassing when we look at the companies that are serving our citizens are providing these services to other communities. They are able to do it because they don't have 5 trucks on

the same street. We may have 6 or 7 in our community.

President Ellington- the next Committee meeting is next Monday April 27th at 5:30 P.M. and the next Council meeting will be Monday May 4th at 7:00 P.M.

ADJOURNMENT- Motion by Mr. Rath, second by Mr. Cost. Motion carried by acclamation 7:35 P.M.