

## COUNCIL MINUTES

**November 2, 2015**

Council Chambers

7:00 P.M.

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

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

**INVOCATION** – Mrs. Floyd

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE-** Paul Moran

### CAUCUS

**MINUTES-** of October 19, 2015 Motion by Mr. Rath 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, second by Mr. Johnson. **Motion carried by acclamation**

### REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEE

Finance- **Received & Filed**

Recreation- **Received & Filed**

### APPOINTMENTS

**Mayor Hall-** is appointing Jeff Harris to the City of Newark Tax Incentive Review Council. He will complete the remainder of a past members term and then his two year term will begin January 1, 2016 and expire December 31, 2017. **Motion was carried with 1 objection from Mr. Blake**

**Mayor Hall-** is appointing Jeff Harris to the Licking County Tax Incentive Review Council. He will complete the remainder of a past members term and then his two year term will begin January 1, 2016 and expire December 31, 2017. **Motion was carried with 1 objection from Mr. Blake**

### REPORTS FROM CITY OFFICIALS

**Stephen E Johnson, City Auditor-** operating report for the period ending September 30, 2015. **Received & Filed**

**Stephen E Johnson, City Auditor-** a letter stating that the Auditor of State released the Audit Report for the year 2014 and that there weren't any finding or adjustments required. **Received & Filed**

**Barb Jobses, Tax Administrator-** Income Tax Revenue Report for the period ending October 15, 2015 **Received & Filed**

### COMMUNICATIONS

**Paul Moran-** his comments regarding issues in Newark from the Council meeting of October 19, 2015 **Received & Filed**

**AFSCME Local 2963 Leadership-** an update on safety concerns regarding staffing in the Radio Room at the Newark Police Department. **Received & Filed**

**Zaron Van Meter-**a letter regarding his concern about the Newark Resident and her son of 81 Spring St operating a backyard breeding business in their home. **Received & Filed**

### COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS

**William Butcher, 263 Union St-** asked when the alley behind his apartment building was going to get paved and he gave a weather update.

### ORDINANCES ON SECOND READING

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

**15-28 AN ORDINANCE SETTING COMPENSATION WITH RESPECT TO CERTAIN APPOINTED OFFICIALS OF THE CITY OF NEWARK, OHIO AND REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS IN CONFLICT HEREWITH**

**Motion by Mrs. Floyd to adopt Ordinance 15-28, second by Mr. Johnson**

**Mrs. Floyd-** this is something that we need to do. We do it every time we get into another election cycle. It deals with

those who will be in office starting January 1, 2016.

**Motion passed by a vote of 10-0.**

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

**15-29 AN ORDINANCE SETTING COMPENSATION WITH RESPECT TO CERTAIN ELECTED OFFICIALS OF THE CITY OF NEWARK, OHIO AND REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS IN CONFLICT HEREWITH**

**Motion by Mrs. Floyd to adopt Ordinance 15-29, second by Mr. Cost**

**Mrs. Floyd-** again this is something we do every time we get into another election cycle. It deals with Elected Officials who will be in office starting January 1, 2016.

**Mr. Marmie-** I am just going to be indicating that I will not be supporting this although I do believe that the Auditor is deserving of a raise. I don't think we can give raises at this point with our budget and there are many other positions in the City that deserve raises but we don't have it within our budget. I can't support anything that has raises involved.

**Mr. Guthrie-** I just want to point out that I strongly support this raise for the City Auditor, Steve Johnson by bringing him up to the same level as the cabinet over a four year period. It would have been nice if we could have brought him up to that level at one time but because of the fiscal concerns that we all know exist and the point Mr. Marmie made even though I will say that Council hasn't hesitated on numerous occasions within the last year to give raises that far exceeded this. Not only is he worthy of it, I think we need to keep him around and I think it is only right that our City Auditor with all of the responsibilities that he has with a multimillion dollar budget he has to manage and keep us on a fiscally sound footing that a percent and a half or whatever this exactly worked out to is totally appropriate.

**Motion passed by a vote of 7-3 (Mr. Bubb, Mr. Marmie, Mr. Rath)**

#### **RESOLUTIONS ON THE SECOND READING**

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

**15-94 APPROPRIATING MONIES FOR THE CURRENT EXPENSES OF THE MUNICIPAL CORPORATION  
100 General Fund- \$6,585.90: (Summer Youth Program)**

**Motion by Mr. Blake to adopt Resolution 15-94, second by Mrs. Floyd**

**Motion passed by a 10-0 vote**

#### **RESOLUTIONS ON FIRST READING**

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

**15-97 APPROPRIATING MONIES FOR THE CURRENT EXPENSES OF THE MUNICIPAL CORPORATION  
(100, General Fund: \$400.00- Donation for NFD Training; 100, General Fund: \$2,703.73-Summer Youth Program)**

**Held for a Second Reading**

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

**15-98 APPROPRIATING MONIES FOR THE CURRENT EXPENSES OF THE MUNICIPAL CORPORATION-EXPEDITE  
(958, Fire Damage Fund: \$14,386.57-Fire reimbursements; 100, General Fund: \$26,617.50-Improvement Projects in Cemetery & Veterans Section)**

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

**Mr. Blake-** it is dealing with some reimbursements and there are timelines related to them.

**Motion to waive the two day reading rule passed by a vote of 10-0.**

**Motion by Mr. Blake to adopt Resolution 15-98, second by Mrs. Floyd**

**Motion passed by a vote of 10-0.**

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

**15-99** A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE AUDITOR OF THE CITY OF NEWARK TO PAY BILLS ON BEHALF OF DIVISION OF POLICE PURSUANT TO SECTION 5705.41 (D), THEN AND NOW CERTIFICATION; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

**Motion by Mr. Blake to adopt Resolution 15-99, second by Mrs. Floyd**

**Motion passed by a vote of 10-0.**

#### **COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS**

**William Butcher, 263 Union St-** asked when Union Street was going to get paved and that he was concerned about speeders going up and down Union Street.

**Peggy Jones, 1115 Wilmington Court-** I came here tonight upset about some of the nasty political things that have been going on. I feel badly about it, I think we have a great Council, a great Mayor and a great City of Newark and I hate to see where people have problems with one another because I think we are all elected to work together for the good of our community, our city, our citizens and I don't think politics should enter into that. I think we are all here for the common goal. The other thing is that I am very unhappy and sad that Marc Guthrie is no longer going to be with us as of the 31<sup>st</sup> of December, is that correct? You have been a great person for the City of Newark. You have worked diligently and you have supported everybody regardless of who you were Republican, Independent or Democrat. You will be greatly missed. I hate to see you go. Good Luck to you.

**Daniel Crawford, 163 S 2<sup>nd</sup> St-** some of us are used to being ignored. Day in and day out, the struggles of the downtrodden are dismissed as a consequence of each poor soul's personal failures. Society has at times gleefully disregarded the scourge of poverty because its solutions require a cultural shift of which we are desperately in need. My primary plea and calling in life is for these unheard voices to be given a microphone to speak and an ear to hear what they have to say. How often do we truly listen to one another? Are we satisfied with the sound of our own voice and the cacophony of those which tend to side with us? Does it suffice that our attention is given to friendly praise but is conspicuously lacking at the moment that criticism rears its unpopular head? I dare say that we've become complacent with respect to the conditions of working people – including the men and women who would like to work but are having difficulty pulling themselves up – since it is much easier to point the finger at them and assign blame accordingly for their lack of fortune. Even so, there is a desire to succeed among these supposed takers in our midst. They do not want a life to be given to them on a silver platter. No, what they want is a shot at the same happiness that their more affluent brothers and sisters have enjoyed for so long. What they demand is recognition of their human dignity and a social contract which regards their plight or triumph as a fate shared by the whole of our community. Here lately, Council has taken some actions deserving of applause for lifting a few of the obstacles trapping us in a cycle of relentless economic despair; namely the vote to “delay the box” on city job applications. Still, more can and must be done and the path forward is dependent on the participation of the least fortunate in concert with others who are dedicated to fighting poverty. The Band-Aids can no longer suffice for a problem which has harmed countless men, women, and children for generations. What we need is a strategy to win the war on poverty by seeing the impoverished as partners in waging such as opposed to mere pawns on a political chess board. Listen for a moment, and I promise that we will see the emergence of amazing solutions to the many challenges facing the poor. Don't dismiss the answers they may have for affordable housing, rental registration, job creation, curbing homelessness, improving transportation, and whatever other matters may come to mind. After all, they are the ones living in these conditions. Is it so difficult to believe that some of them may have thought at length about how society can help lift them up? Poverty is not an individual struggle, because its consequences infect the rest of society. For that reason, combating this plague cannot be left to the impoverished alone to fight on a person by person basis. Choosing to separate ourselves from the life experience of others is not an appropriate response to the cries for help that regularly emanate from them. We owe it to one another, especially to our children and their children, to pull out the ear plugs and prepare to work hard as a unit for a remedy to these ills. An election is at hand. Regardless of its outcome, I am pleading with the members of this our city government to remember the people without a lobby. Their success is your success and the same must be said of their shortcomings. Illuminating the future of Newark not unlike setting up the lights on a beautiful Christmas tree is dependent on ensuring

that every man, woman, and child receives equal treatment and ultimately has a chance to shine. In conclusion I want to thank everyone for what has been with a few exceptions a relatively peaceful election campaign. It's been great in lieu of opinion polls we have been able to have a clear head moving forward. I think those are a distraction to our democracy, a cancer to it as you can see at higher levels of government. Regardless of what happens tomorrow night this has been an amazing experience for me and you can plan on no matter what happens to see my face in the future regardless of whether you like that or not.

**Paul Moran, 63 N 4<sup>th</sup> St-** discussed the courage that our Veterans must have had to do what they did for our country.

## **MISCELLANEOUS**

**Mr. Cost-** called for a Service Committee Meeting.

**Mrs. Floyd-** I appreciate your comments on what Council should be because we are all up here because we love Newark and because we want to see Newark be the best place it can and I think that works best when we work together. Tomorrow is Election Day and we all know as a retired Civics teacher I am going to say everybody go vote. My guess is that probably everybody in this room has already voted. If you haven't or know others who haven't go vote. Daniel I know we don't do enough to fight poverty but I started volunteering for the United Way and they are working with the bus that goes to the beauty park and there are now 45 people going to the beauty park daily. People are being picked up from St. Vincent DePaul, the Salvation Army and the churches around town are providing lunch for them. Some of those people are getting advancements in their job they're not at the lowest possible level. I know the problem is large but every little bit helps. I think it is something valuable and something that we can be proud of in Newark. Last week I talked about Safe Trick or Treat on the Square and if you weren't there you missed a fun time. There were a thousand kids down on the square and most people ran out of goodies to pass out because there were so many kids there and most of them were with families. If you missed Spooky Town Bash you missed Jeremy Blake in a buffed out Superman costume. Every year the Midland does the Nutcracker and it includes some professionals from Columbus but largely dance students from several different counties who come and perform over Thanksgiving weekend. It's a great show. The first time I went I didn't think that it would be very good because it was a local production but it is wonderful and there is enough narration if somebody isn't familiar with the story.

**Mr. Guthrie-** I appreciate that Carol mentioned Spooky Town. I didn't get to see Superman but I did get to see Shrek. Bob Handleman did a pretty good job with Shrek. I want to thank Paul for some of his comments about 11 11 coming up here soon and I appreciate you remind us all that we need to be there. For those of you who have not been there it is a really nice event and there is always a nice turnout for it which is heartwarming. Along the lines of courage Paul I know everybody probably has seen this by now, this poison piece that was done on Mr. Rolletta. I just want to say that the person who did this didn't learn much about courage because they didn't have the guts to put their name on it. It's sad. Matter of fact the first time that I was subjected to these was when I was in legislature but that was viewed as big time next level politics. This is the very first time I have seen a political party do a poison mailing on a City Council candidate and that is amazing. It was enough to make me sick and I hope that it did others. Daniel, I will tell you in so many ways you are the conscience of this community and I really appreciate your words. I appreciate the point that Carol made about transportation being provided. I know that we have a financial dilemma but I will never ever feel that relinquishing our transportation program to the county was a good move in the long run. I think it has hindered our residents from getting services that they should receive. On a lighter note I heard on WLW out of Cincinnati which I listen to a lot because I am a Reds and Bengals fan. They always have really cute promos and the promo that they have going on right now during the game between the Bengals and the Browns was "Ohio has two really great football teams The Cincinnati Bengals and the Ohio State Buckeyes and then we have the Cleveland Browns.

**Mr. Johnson-** one thing that I wanted to say was that when I was out and missed a Council meeting Autumn does a tremendous job of getting the minutes out and the committees together and to us and I think that she deserves accolades for that. I discovered that today is national epitaph day so I thought that I would tell you my favorite epitaph. Beneath these trees lie Solomon peas, beneath this sod lies peas pods but peas shelled out and gone to God.

**Mr. Marmie-** I don't know what you guys are talking about, some election or something but over a century or so ago somebody up here was born. Don how old are you tomorrow?

**Mr. Rath-** I will just encourage everyone to vote tomorrow

**Mr. Blake-** I really just have a lot of thank you's. Spooky Town Bash was the first time that we put on a big event like that. I think it was successful. The rain did kill the attendance towards the middle of the event. We had a lot of families there. I thought it was really good until the rain started to sprinkle down for 10 or 15 minutes then people went home and I just wanted to hurl them around and tell them to stay. It was fun and we learned a lot from Saturday. We had a good committee that worked to pull it together. Thank you to Dee who did face painting, Alex attended, Don worked the Beer Garden, Marc attended and Carol worked the information desk. Thank you for your support. I think that it highlighted Don Edwards Park. I heard several comments from people that they didn't realize how big that field was behind the main baseball field. We could have all kinds of events back there. I want to thank Director Rhodes and Chuck Jackson from the Parks Department. They are stellar to work with. I want also that all of the other community partners that we had. I think that it highlighted a place of pride in our community and hopefully we will make improvements and make it even better for next year. He called for a Finance Committee meeting for next Monday. I just want to say something to Daniel a follow south ender. We all know that a third of our city is in poverty. It is something that we have to address and it does take a matter of us coming together and I don't just mean those of us in this room but also working with the non-profit sector and the private sector to develop those collaborations to focus resources. We all have limited resources and we need to bring those together on certain goals. I most definitely appreciate all of your comments.

**President Ellington-** kudos should also go to you because you did a great job organizing that event. It was a very nice event. Nice job.

**Mr. Bubb-** Happy Borthday

**President Ellington-** Next Monday November 9, 2015 committees will meet at 5:30 P.M. City Hall will be closed Wednesday November 11 in honor of Veteran's Day. City Council will meet again on Monday November 16, 2015 at 7:00 P.M. Don't forget to vote tomorrow.

**ADJOURNMENT-** Motion by Mr. Cost, second by Mr. Rath. Motion carried by acclamation.