

## COUNCIL MINUTES

March 18, 2024  
Council Chambers  
7:00 P.M.

**President Harris called the meeting to order**

**ROLL CALL** -Mr. Marmie, Mr. Rath, Mr. Rine, Ms. Bline, Mr. Chute, Mr. Cost, Mr. Houser, Mr. Labutis, Mr. Lang

**INVOCATION** – Ms. Bline

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**CAUCUS-** Motion by Mr./ Marmie to excuse Mr. Neely, second by Mr. Houser, passed by acclamation

**MINUTES of March 4, 2024, Motion to accept by Mr. Labutis, Second by Mr. Houser , passed by acclamation**

### **APPOINTMENTS**

**Mayor Hall** - Reappointing Kim Lust to the Heath- Newark-Licking County Port Authority Board of Directors, her new four year term begins June 1, 2024 and will expire May 31, 2028

**Passed 9-0**

**Jeff Harris Council President** - Appointment of Amy Vensel as Clerk of Council in training to succeed Janine Paul as Clerk of Council on April 29, 2024

**Passed 9-0**

### **REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES**

Finance - **Received and Filed without objection**

Service - **Received and Filed without objection**

Capital Improvements - **Received and Filed without objection**

Personnel - **Received and Filed without objection**

### **REPORTS FROM CITY OFFICIALS**

**City Auditor, Ryan T. Bubb** – Operating report for period ending February 29, 2024

**Received and Filed without Objection**

**Brenda Cooper, Tax Administrator's Office** – Income Tax Revenue Reports and Newark Lodging Excise Tax Revenue Report for period ending February 29, 2024

**Received and Filed without Objection**

**Division of Water & Wastewater** - List of properties being sent to lien for past due water,

sewer and storm water bills, total \$6,194.94

**Received and Filed without Objection**

## **COMMUNICATIONS**

**Dave Froelich** - Three emails regarding alleged fraud

**Licking County Regional Communications Center** - Report of LCRCC funding

## **COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS**

There were none this meeting

## **ORDINANCES ON SECOND READING**

There were none this meeting

## **ORDINANCES ON FIRST READING**

**By: Mr. Marmie, Ms. Bline, Mr. Rath**

**24-11** AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 890.13(A) OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF NEWARK, OHIO, PROVIDING FOR THE ALLOCATION OF INCOME TAX REVENUE

**Held until April 1st**

**By: Mr. Lang, Mr. Marmie, Mr. Rath**

**24-12** AN ORDINANCE SETTING THE COMPENSATION WITH RESPECT TO CERTAIN ELECTED OFFICIALS OF THE CITY OF NEWARK, OHIO FOR THE TERMS BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2026 AND JANUARY 1, 2028 AND REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS IN CONFLICT HERewith UPON THE EFFECTIVE DATE

**Held until April 1st**

**By: Mr. Lang, Mr. Marmie, Ms. Bline, Mr. Rath**

**24-13** AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE POSITION CLASSIFICATION, PAY RANGE AND DEPARTMENT AUTHORIZATION TABLES OF THE CITY OF NEWARK, DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICE, DIVISION OF WATER ADMINISTRATION BY THE RE-CLASSIFICATION OF ACCOUNT CLERK PART-TIME, AND SETTING THE COMPENSATION THEREFORE

**Held until April 1st**

## **RESOLUTIONS ON SECOND READING**

**By: Mr. Marmie, Mr. Cost, Ms. Bline, Mr. Rath**

**24-17** APPROPRIATING MONIES FOR THE CURRENT EXPENSES OF THE MUNICIPAL CORPORATION (\$2,886.04 -To put funds back into the Fire Safety Supply account from sale/transfer of Scott Smith turnout to Grandview Heights Fire Dept.)( \$62,884.00 -Funding of newly created Body Worn Camera Admin. Position in the Div. of Police. AFSCME position created by Ord. No. 24-02 and funded by Ohio Body-Worn Camera Grant Program for the 1<sup>st</sup> year. Grant will not cover Worker's Comp. Pay Range 35, Step 1 used for calculations@75% of

the year)

**Motion to adopt by Mr. Marmie, Second by Mr. Lang, Motion passed 9-0**

**By: Mr. Rath, Mr. Chute, Mr. Cost, Mr. Marmie, Ms. Bline**

**24-19** 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 to adopt by Mr. Rath, Second by Ms. Bline, Motion passed 9-0**

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

**By: Mr. Chute, Mr. Marmie, Mr. Rath**

**24- 20-A CI** APPROPRIATING MONIES FOR THE CURRENT EXPENSES OF THE MUNICIPAL CORPORATION (\$25,727.99 -Continuous mower replacement)

**Held until April 1<sup>st</sup>**

**By: Mr. Rath, Mr. Chute, Mr. Marmie**

**24-21** A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CONVEYANCE OF CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY NOW OWNED BY THE CITY OF NEWARK, OHIO TO NEWARK DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS AS ITS AGENT FOR INDUSTRIAL, COMMERCIAL, DISTRIBUTION, AND RESEARCH

**Held until April 1<sup>st</sup>**

**By: Mr. Marmie, Mr. Chute, Mr. Rath**

**24-22 EXP** APPROPRIATING MONIES FOR THE CURRENT EXPENSES OF THE MUNICIPAL CORPORATION (\$803,278.80 -Change orders for UV Disinfectant Project and 4<sup>th</sup> Street Sewer Project Separation)

**Motion to waive the two day reading rule by Mr. Marmie, Second by Mr. Lang, Motion passed 9-0**

**Motion to adopt by Mr. Marmie, Second by Mr. Lang, Motion passed 9-0**

**By: Mr. Marmie, Mr. Rath**

**24-23** APPROPRIATING MONIES FOR THE CURRENT EXPENSES OF THE MUNICIPAL CORPORATION (\$2,500.00-Training for Clerk of Council Position)

**Held until April 1<sup>st</sup>**

#### **COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS**

#### **MISCELLANEOUS**

**Law Director Tricia Moore** – My condolences to Mr. Cost on the loss of his Mother.

**Mayor Hall** – We certainly send our condolences to Mr. Cost and his family, she was a very special lady, Bill and I talked about that a little bit, she was very nice, so condolences. On Friday

I attended a Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission luncheon, it was 2024 State of the Region in Columbus. There were 900 people there for the luncheon, but I would like to congratulate, it was a sell out many weeks ago, the Framework Study, that obviously were a part of did receive the collaboration award. There were only three awards given out, that was the only one about collaboration, but it's the Collaborative Achievement Award and that's pretty big stuff. They were saying how unique that was for everyone to get together, there's some Framework stuff put outside there weeks back and the report is at FrameworkLC.org online. Fifteen entities to get together in a public and private partnership to talk about the future growth of this County was pretty special. So, congratulations to the TJ Evans Foundation that kind of started that idea, we're still meeting quarterly as we go through this and it's not done where people from around the County sit around a table from different geographic areas and work together as we move forward with proper growth.

**Mr. Marmie** – I need to call a Finance Committee meeting for April 1<sup>st</sup> and it's no joke. My condolences Bill again, I know we got to speak yesterday and had a great conversation, but thoughts and prayers out to you and your family. Well, as of last week I realized we need to step it up a notch as far as what we're doing for the City of Newark, we need to make this a better place to live, we need to make it a safer place to live, we need to make it a community of choice because a new citizen was born 3/14/24, my grandson Welles, so we need to make it better for him.

**Mr. Rath** – I will call a Service Committee meeting for April 1<sup>st</sup>. Bill condolences for your Mother, I did have an opportunity to meet her and glad I did. Hope you will enjoy her birthday celebration tomorrow. I want to remind everybody to vote tomorrow, it is your civic duty. I will welcome Amy Vensel in as our clerk and I guess the last item was I am President Pro-tem and in Mr. Harris absence next meeting I look forward to taking over and running the meeting.

**President Harris** – That's an April Fools joke. (laughter)

**Mr. Rine** – Bill, my condolences, I did not meet your Mother, but I remember calling you Mr. Cost and you said, that's my Father, I still remember that to this day.

**Ms. Bline** – Mr. Cost, I am truly sorry for the loss of your Mom, I didn't know her, but I've heard such wonderful things about her, the stories you shared, what a precious lady. I'd like to thank, it's been a very active weekend, in fact, the past two weekends have been very active. We were able to open up a corner of 6<sup>th</sup> by Tectum, we took out a lot of the trash and trees and just made that whole corner come alive, so I'm very grateful for all the volunteers who showed up and they took out what they cut and it just looks so much better. I'd also like to thank everyone for the graffiti clean up on Saturday, it's great getting rid of that. You know, it's funny I was a fine arts teacher for a little bit and I used to teach graffiti, so I wonder about that. We had many meetings over the weekend, it was great to hear their concerns about drugs, and there are definitely some properties that need cleaned up in their neighborhood, we're on it and it was just great to listen. I'd like to thank Lindsey Brighton for being involved in that and the upcoming South End cleanup, for the first time we're going to do Raccoon Creek and so it's much needed, it's been needed for a while, so I appreciate her initiative in jumping in with that.

**Mr. Chute** – I share in expressing everyone's condolences to Bill on his Mother's passing.

**Mr. Cost** - I'd just like to thank everybody. I've received many kind gestures and comments and phone calls and texts and people have been very supportive. Mom was special and she

lived a life without any boundaries whatsoever and she lived it to the max. Mom was the only PHD in our family and she was an incredible lady.

**Mr. Houser** – I will also offer my condolences to Bill.

**Mr. Labutis** – Bill, I'll offer my condolences as well. I had a couple opportunities to meet your Mom and speak with her and she was always special and a lot of fun and had a lot of great stories and I know she will be missed. I just wanted to remind everyone to vote as well, tomorrow in the Primary.

**Mr. Lang** – Bill my condolences again, also kudo for coming tonight, it's only been a few days and I think it's a testament to your dedication. It's good to see you and I'm glad you were able to make it and I hope everything goes well with you this week.

**Mr. Cost** – She would've insisted on me being here.

**President Harris** – Mr. Cost I extend my condolences to you, we've been praying for you and I hope everything goes well tomorrow. Congratulations Mr. Marmie, I didn't know you had a new grandson, that's awesome. Our next meeting will be April 1<sup>st</sup>, and like Mr. Marmie said that's no April Fools joke. I want to thank everyone for supporting Amy, I look forward to getting her started and filling some big shoes and we're going to miss Janine when the time comes.

**ADJOURNMENT - Motion to adjourn by Mr. Cost, second by Mr. Labutis, passed by acclamation**

**Jeff Harris, President of Council**