

COUNCIL MINUTES

November 4, 2024
Council Chambers
7:00 P.M.

President Harris called the meeting to order

ROLL CALL - Mr. Labutis, Mr. Marmie, Mr. Neely, Mr. Rath, Mr. Barker, Ms. Bline, Mr. Chute, Mr. Cost, Mr. Houser

INVOCATION – Ms. Bline

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

CAUCUS – Motion by Mr. Marmie to excuse Council Member Rine, Second by Mr. Barker, passed by acclamation

MINUTES of October 21, 2024, Motion to accept by Mr. Labutis, Second by Mr. Houser, passed by acclamation

APPOINTMENTS

There are none this meeting.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Finance - **Received and Filed without objection**

Safety - **Received and Filed without objection**

Personnel – **Received and Filed without objection**

REPORTS FROM CITY OFFICIALS

There are none this meeting.

COMMUNICATIONS

There are none this meeting.

PUBLIC HEARING

By: Mr. Rath, Mr. Labutis, Mr. Marmie, Mr. Barker, Mr. Cost, Ms. Bline

24-26 AN ORDINANCE CHANGING THE ZONING CLASSIFICATION OF CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY, GENERALLY DESCRIBED AS 1845 WEST MAIN STREET, CITY OF NEWARK, LICKING COUNTY, OHIO, PARCEL TAX ID #054-218160-00.000 FROM THAT OF GB – GENERAL BUSINESS ZONING DISTRICT TO LI – LIMITED INDUSTRIAL ZONING DISTRICT, ZONING CODE OF THE CITY OF NEWARK, OHIO

Motion to adopt by Mr. Rath, Second by Mr. Houser

Mr. Rath - Mr. President, this zoning change has been recommended by the Planning Commission. It makes sense. I'm planning to support this and encourage my fellow council members to do the same.

Passed 9-0

COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS

ORDINANCES ON SECOND READING

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

24-39 AN ORDINANCE MODIFYING THE PAY RANGE FOR THE POSITION OF Senior Automotive Mechanic/Equipment Operator IN THE CITY OF NEWARK, DEPARTMENT OF Service, DIVISION OF Street Maintenance AND AMENDING THE DEPARTMENT AUTHORIZATION TABLES OF AND SETTING THE COMPENSATION THEREFORE

Mr. Barker - Mr. President, I'd like to make a motion to table Ordinance 24-39 until our next Council meeting on the 18th.

Mr. Marmie – Point of order. It has to come off of the floor.

Mr. Barker - Motion to approve. Sorry.

Motion to adopt by Mr. Barker, Second by Mr. Marmie,

Motion by Mr. Barker to table Ordinance 24-39 until November 18, Second by Mr. Marmie, Passed 9-0

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

24-40 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE POSITION CLASSIFICATION, PAY RANGE AND DEPARTMENT AUTHORIZATION TABLES OF THE CITY OF NEWARK, DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICE, DIVISION OF CEMETERY AND PARKS BY RECLASSIFYING THE CLASSIFICATIONS (4) OF GROUNDS MAINTENANCE WORKERS, AND ABOLISHING THE CLASSIFICATION (2) OF EQUIPMENT OPERATORS AND ABOLISHING THE CLASSIFICATION OF ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT WHILE CREATING TWO ADDITIONAL CLASSIFICATIONS OF GROUNDS MAINTENANCE WORKERS AND SETTING THE COMPENSATION THEREFORE

Motion to adopt by Mr. Barker, Second by Mr. Houser, Passed 9-0

ORDINANCES ON FIRST READING

There are none this meeting.

RESOLUTIONS ON SECOND READING

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

24-85 APPROPRIATING MONIES FOR THE CURRENT EXPENSES OF THE MUNICIPAL CORPORATION

Motion to adopt by Mr. Marmie, Second by Mr. Barker, Passed 9-0

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

24-87 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE OF THE CITY OF NEWARK, OHIO TO APPLY FOR, ACCEPT AND ENTER INTO A WATER SUPPLY REVOLVING LOAN ACCOUNT AGREEMENT ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF NEWARK FOR PLANNING, DESIGN AND/OR CONSTRUCTION OF LEAD SERVICE LINE REPLACEMENT PROJECT #6 AND DESIGNATING A DEDICATED REPAYMENT SOURCE FOR THE LOAN.

Motion to adopt by Mr. Rath, Second by Ms. Bline, Passed 9-0

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

24-89 Major rehabilitation of pavement; replacement of composite pavement and construction of additional general use lanes. Bridge and culvert maintenance work to be completed within project area.

Motion to adopt by Mr. Rath, Second by Ms. Bline, Passed 9-0

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

24-90 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE TO ENTER INTO A NEW MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT WITH THE LICKING COUNTY FAMILY YMCA TO OPEN AND OPERATE THE HOLLANDER POOL

Motion to adopt by Mr. Rath, Second by Mr. Cost, Passed 9-0

RESOLUTIONS ON FIRST READING

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

24-91 APPROPRIATING MONIES FOR THE CURRENT EXPENSES OF THE MUNICIPAL CORPORATION

Held until 11.18.24.

By: Mr. Labutis, Mr. Cost, Mr. Marmie, Mr. Barker, Ms. Bline, Mr. Rath

24-92 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SAFETY FOR THE CITY OF NEWARK, OHIO, TO RELEASE THE LIEN PREVIOUSLY PLACED AGAINST THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT AND KNOWN AS 492 JEFFERSON ROAD, NEWARK, OHIO AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Motion to adopt by Mr. Labutis, Second by Mr. Houser, Passed 9-0

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

24-93 A resolution repealing Resolution 20-55 and consenting to an enterprise zone abatement agreement between the Board of County Commissioners of Licking County, Ohio and Packaging Corporation of America and authorizing the director of public service to execute such agreement on behalf of the city of Newark

Held until 11.18.24.

COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS

MISCELLANEOUS

Tricia Moore, Law Director – I'll pass. Thank you.

Mayor Hall – I have a couple of things. Congratulations to the community. A lot has gone on in the last week and a half. A week ago, Friday, we had a safe trick-or-treat and changed it to a Final Friday. If anyone was downtown it was just absolutely packed. I want to thank the DNA taking it under their arms for the first year as a Final Friday event. Thousands were downtown. It was a beautiful platform for it. Thank all the merchants, too. They had an immense amount of candy. It was just a great night for downtown. Second of all, I'd like to congratulate Wildcat football. They have the first winning season in 19 years which is pretty neat. Coach Bill Franks and the entire team worked hard and actually, obviously had a tough opponent with Upper Arlington first up, but played them pretty good too. So, congratulations to all of them. They've worked very hard to get to this and have a great year for them. I want to congratulate our newest tenant or a business up on 21st St., 7 Brew Coffee came in. What an upgrade to that parcel. There used to be a car wash up there. We cut a ribbon on Friday. The Newark High Marching Band was up there and also received a \$2,000 donation check from 7 Brew. I talked to Rick, the local owner of the site. It's the 7th location in Ohio. It had the best opening week of any of his locations. So, there are a lot of people in line. They take orders kind of similar to Chick-fil-A. We appreciate their business and the jobs they'll be providing for our youth up there. Pretty neat. Last but not least, my wife finally came downtown yesterday for the 37th annual Rolling Thunder. What a beautiful day to be on a motorcycle or ATV or whatever you want to move from Walmart in Heath. It came in Main St., and if everybody realizes, we've had something under construction for many years. So, there's been a multitude of variances to that path. So, last year and this year they finally could fairly do it. I guess this is the first year of it completely. It lasted a half hour. And I will tell you, side to side, at least two wide for a half hour. You just tell me how many motorcycles that is. But what a great start for toys as the Salvation Army will offer some great Christmases for some people that need that badly. So, I want to thank everyone that participated in that. The bike loads of new bicycles, and the bike loads of toys, and just a pretty neat event overall. But what a great way to start the holiday season right around the corner. With that, I'll pass. Thank you.

Mr. Labutis – I will pass this evening. Thank you very much.

Mr. Marmie – Thank you, Mr. President. I need to call a Finance Committee meeting for November the 18th. I also want to let everybody know kind of the plans for the budget now that we're nearing the end of the year. The Mayor and the Auditor's Office are working together to try to get the budget to us for the meeting on the 18th. Then we will hopefully adopt that right in the first part of December. So, just so you have a heads up, be looking for that because it might be like just a few days before that you'll get your packet on it. But just look for those. A couple thank yous. Chief McKee helped me with an issue. Brian Morehead and Director Rhodes helped me on another issue that they've done a fine job. We're also working on a couple of others. Joe Paul in the Property Maintenance Department, he's just done a fabulous job. Anytime I contact him, and he does a lot for the city, and I think it goes unknown what all he does, but we do appreciate him and all that he and that department does for the city. I want to share my condolences to Jeff and Heidi. My condolences to you and the family, and may God bless you and your family in the days to come. And then finally, Mr. Mayor, you kind of mentioned the Newark High Band and that just reminded me of something. I think this year is the 40th straight year that they are state finalists. I know that it's not a state

championship, but maybe something to commemorate the fact that they've done that for 40 years might be warranted. A proclamation or something, but I think that would be fantastic if we could recognize them. And with that, I pass.

Mr. Neely – Thank you. I will pass.

Mr. Rath – Thank you. I want to express my condolences to you and your family as well, Mr. Harris. Congratulations to the Wildcats and Coach Franks. Looking forward to repeat performances next year. Really excited about the legislation that went through tonight, 24-90, making arrangements now to open up our Hollander Pool next summer. That's a great asset for the city of Newark, and it's been missed. So, I'm glad to see that that's coming out. I would encourage everybody to do your civic duty and vote tomorrow. People are talking about lines being long and having to wait around for a while. I will tell you that that pales in comparison to those who have done what they needed to do to give you the right to vote. So please don't complain about the lines, at least not to me. I'll call a Service Committee meeting on the 18th, and with that I'll pass.

Mr. Barker - Thank you, Mr. President. I'll call a Personnel Committee meeting for the 18th. My condolences to you and Heidi at this time. We're in November, everybody's favorite month leading up to Christmas, I think. We will have the annual courthouse lighting. We're in our 76th year. November 29th, the show will start at 6:15 at the east side of the square. Before our next council meeting, actually, the building should all be decorated and ready. So, we're kind of proud of that this year. We've got a great new crew who are working on the building. We're happy the community was helping help fund everything. We're looking forward to a great kickoff to the Christmas season at the end of the month. And with that, I'll pass.

Ms. Bline – Thank you, Mr. President. I'm sorry to hear about your loss. We'll be praying for you guys. I'd like to thank the Street Department. They have been on call and doing a great job taking care of a multitude of requests. Mr. Morehead and the Engineers Department as well for the great paving. Again, citizens have been calling saying, thank you, thank you, thank you. They're just much needed and the improvements are amazing. Also, there's been thank yous to NPD and their active presence in south Newark, and people are really appreciating it. And Doug, thank you for your work on the budget. It's a big deal. Thank you. Thank you very much. I'd like to thank the crew that's came out, the past two Saturdays and they'll be out probably not this next Saturday, but the Saturday afterwards going up and down Raccoon Creek, pulling things that have been contaminating the creek for quite some time now. Two truckloads so far, they want to make that waterway usable. They want to make it functional for recreation and river hiking. I didn't know that was a sport, but I guess it is. So, they're excited about that. So many thanks to them. And with that, I'll pass.

Mr. Chute - Please extend my sympathy to Heidi and your entire family. With that, I will pass.

Mr. Cost – Condolences, Jeff. I'd like to thank all of you that came to the community meeting last Tuesday night. I appreciate that beyond words. Also remind everyone to, if you haven't already voted, make sure you go vote. Thank you. I'll pass.

Mr. Houser – Thank you, Mr. President. I offer my condolences to you and Heidi as well. I want to echo something that Councilwoman Bline said, is that I've got a lot of text on the east side. There's been a lot of great paving done. We're really excited about that. That's been great. Thanks to the Street Department for that. And with that, I'll pass.

President Harris – Thank you all for your kind words. Some of you may not know my mother-in-law passed away this morning. Mr. Lang, it's good to see you. No one obviously was glad to see you but me. It's good to see you, Jonathan. Mr. Labutis, congratulations on your new family member. He gained a daughter-in-law Friday night. So, congratulations. Our next meeting is November 18th.

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

Jeff Harris, President of Council