

Service Committee Minutes

Honorable Council
City of Newark, Ohio
February 22, 2023

The Service Committee met in Council Chambers on February 21, 2023, following the Finance Committee with these members in attendance:

Jeff Rath - Chair
Jeff Harris – Vice Chair
Spencer Barker
Beth Bline
Cheri Hottinger

We wish to report:

1. **Resolution No. 23-18** A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE FOR THE CITY OF NEWARK, OHIO, TO ENTER INTO A LEASE AGREEMENT WITH PARK NATIONAL BANK FOR THE LEASE-PURCHASE OF ONE (1) MEDIC UNIT FOR THE DIVISION OF FIRE

David Rhodes, Service Director - As you know we are in a revolving cycle on Medics and we do a lease purchase for a period of four years and when we're done paying one off, we come back in and order another one. We made the last payment this year and we're ready to order another one and this is working out pretty decent.

Motion by Mr. Barker, second by Mr. Harris to send to full Council

Ms. Hottinger - I have to abstain on this one and the next one.

Motion passed 4-0 with one abstention

2. **Resolution No. 23-19** A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE FOR THE CITY OF NEWARK, OHIO, TO ENTER INTO A LEASE-PURCHASE AGREEMENT WITH THE PARK NATIONAL BANK FOR THE PURCHASE OF TWO(2) SNOW PLOWS

Director Rhodes - We would like to enter into an agreement to buy two additional snow plows. One would hold 8 tons of salt, the other would hold 16 tons of salt and the one with 16 tons of salt will have a double blade on it or a single blade. So, when we go down the highway with the double blade we can get both sides of the highway without sending two trucks, which means we have another truck available for the streets.

Motion by Mr. Barker, second by second by Mr. Harris

Mr. Rath - When we spoke earlier you were talking about doing 2 16 ton trucks

Director Rhodes - I've got one 16 ton truck and another smaller 8 ton truck preordered using COVID funds, those will be in in September, so this will be the second 16 ton truck and a second new 8 ton truck.

Mr. Rath - So,, the 16 ton trucks will have double blades.

Director Rhodes - Yes, they can have double blades or a single blade either way.

Mr. Rath - So, are the 16 ton trucks going to be able to maneuver around our streets. Obviously highway, no big deal, 21st Street, no big deal, but are they going to be able to do anything other than main highways.

Director Rhodes - Yes, but will they be able to maneuver as well as a single axle truck, the answer is no, we'll be careful where we send those.

Ms. Bline - Where do you shop for a lease purchase agreement for something like a snow plow? Do you get quotes, how do you do that?

Director Rhodes - About 12 years ago we had that very problem and I spoke with a fellow named Dan Hunt at Park National Bank and Dan worked with Steve Johnson and we worked out an agreement where the Auditor's office and the bank that gives us a great rate and flexible banking so on the spreadsheet the 4 years seems to work out the best.

Mr. Rath - This legislation is only about the lease purchase agreement.

Motion passed 4-0 with one abstention

3. **Resolution No. 23-20** A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE TO ENTER INTO AN AMENDED AGREEMENT WITH THE NEWARK DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS AS ITS AGENCY AND INSTRUMENTALITY FOR COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE CITY OF NEWARK

Tricia Moore, Law Director - This agreement that we have been working on with myself, the NDP and the Service Director on a way to more efficiently run our contract with them. So, typically under the Ohio Revised Code NDP are to pay us any proceeds from the sale of property that we give them for development within the City. Then if they have any shortfall, we were to make up that, so there's a lot of going back and forth with pretty much the same money. So, what we decided to do is to amend our agreement because we are a charter City and the constitution of the State of Ohio gives us leeway to kind of contract as we wish. So what we have decided to do with all parties involved is to say that when we give a property, and most of these properties are just kind of run down properties or plots of unused land that do not serve any municipal purpose anymore. When we give them the property to sell, we're saying any proceeds that you receive minus all the costs that goes to the NDP, we want them to be kept in an account by the NDP for further use within our City for further development, which we know in the future we're going to have a lot more development in the City. Then if they ever have any shortfall, they can also use that account to make up for that shortfall

rather than us going back and forth with money. So, it's just a more efficient way to run our contract with the NDP.

Mr. Rath - Who oversees that account?

Director Moore - NDP would keep the accounting of that.

Motion by Mr. Barker, second by Mr. Harris

Ms. Hottinger - I just wanted to make a comment because normally I abstain on all NDP legislation, but I am no longer an officer there, so I am free to cast my vote.

Mr. Marmie - I think this is great legislation, NDP have been a huge asset to the City of Newark and to the entire community and they are just doing great things and hardworking individuals put in a lot of hours, study hours in addition to research and just doing great things for the City. The other thing that I will comment because they have in fact stated they are developing for the entire City of Newark and I know the downtown has gotten a lot of attention, but it goes beyond just the downtown area and you're going to see more and more of that in the future and I think that the way we are setting this up is just going to enhance that and allow that relationship and their ability to operate just be a lot more efficient and I just want to give them tremendous kudos on what they do. It's just been fantastic.

Mr. Rath - Very well put.

Motion passed 5-0

4. **Resolution No. 23-21** A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE NECESSARY PAPERWORK TO HAVE THE CITY OF NEWARK, OHIO, JOIN THE MID-OHIO REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

Mayor Hall - So, probably the first few years I wasn't thinking so much about MORPC, I was more to just the boundaries of Newark in many ways. What's happened the last couple years with Licking County growth with Intel but it's well beyond that if you read the papers. So, we think quite a bit beyond the borders, I have meetings every month with 15 representatives for people throughout this county, Trustees, Mayors, City Managers and we all want to stay together to make a good strong Licking County, I think we can grow and still keep our personality and what we enjoy so much about Licking County. So, MORPC comes into that too a little bit. They have many members, I mean pages. You could say who's at that table right now, we're not, but Buckeye Lake, Johnstown, Heath, Hebron, Etna, Licking County, Licking County Soil and Water, Granville, Granville Township, New Albany, Pataskala. So, we're kind of the one that's not. There's a little bit of not only the group learning, but there's also making sure everything's correct at the other end. We'd have three seats at the table, the fees are by capita based on our population, which is the census number of 49 thousand and change, it would be \$1,665 per month to be a member of MORPC. We built that into the budget because that's obviously the first thing we look at for anything from my chair, can we afford it. They give us a lot of numbers for some big planning, infrastructure all of those kinds of things. I'd set there right now and say 70% of all the traffic from Intel is going to go

west, I don't agree with that, I think it's 50/50. We can set over here and say all we want, but we have to have that voice over in Columbus. So, they'll offer us a lot that we can use, monthly meetings, where we would be in attendance over there, so I think it's a good move and the right thing to do. I've talked with the County, I've talked with Heath, they're both on board the last six months. We're looking to apply for a Grant for a Thornwood Drive Corridor potentially. So MOPRC sent two people over to work with us on that, in collaboration with Newark, Heath and the County. They give us credibility in some ways.

Ms. Hottinger- If this was 12 years ago I would've said don't join, as a member of the Chamber we've worked with MORPC and back then I wouldn't have been so confident in their abilities, however, they've come a long way and what they do, they have a very good reputation and we absolutely should be at that table.

Mayor Hall - I appreciate that and those words couldn't have been better said, it's the timing thing. We're doing things very good, so I've been invited over the past years to many of their things and not being a member, but they wanted us to be there. It wasn't necessarily just courting to be a member, but they appreciate what we can bring to the table and they have some answers for the future and I've said all the answers aren't in the boundaries of Newark we kind of have to reach out and pull some of those answers back and make them the Newark way, but I think this is a piece of that in many ways. There are some collaborations out there that are the right thing to do moving forward with the growth expected in Licking County and those that don't collaborate are going to get left in the back.

Mr. Barker - I would just echo Councilwoman Hottingers statements and also, you know Mayor you and I spoke about this about 4 years ago when I first came on Council and probably back then MORPC was not the right way to go, but I definitely support this and hope everyone will support moving forward with MORPC because they are on the right track now and we do have a lot of things coming. A few of us were able to be at one of the meetings the Mayor mentioned for the Framework Initiative last Thursday and it was very eye opening to see those things and know what's coming and the work they're doing, so I would just encourage everyone to vote in favor of this.

Motion by Ms. Hottinger, second by Ms. Bline to send to full council, motion passed 5-0

Meeting stands adjourned

Jeff Rath -Chair