

## **JOURNAL OF COUNCIL**

The Council of the City of Conneaut met in regular session on Monday, January 22, 2024, at 7:00 PM in Council Chambers, City Hall, Conneaut, Ohio. Council President Mr. Moisio called the regular meeting to order. Answering roll call: Councilpersons: Ms. Branch, Mr. Castrilla, Mr. Church, Mr. Emery, Mr. Gaugh, Mr. Moisio and Mr. Perkoski; City Manager Mr. Hockaday, Finance Director Mr. Williams and Law Director Mr. Lewis.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and invocation was provided.

Mr. Castrilla moved to approve the Journal of the January 8, 2024 meeting, seconded by Mr. Emery. Roll call: Yea – All. Nay – None. Journal approved.

### **AWARDS PRESENTATION**

Terry Turner was recognized as the Employee of the Month. Mr. Sabo was not present. Mrs. Hoover read the certificate into the record.

### **COMMUNICATIONS**

Mr. Moisio advised that he received an email concerning the snow ban. Mr. Hockaday explained that the snow ban is city-wide when snow exceeds 3 inches to make it easier to plow the roads. He advised that the police department does its best to contact the vehicle owner prior to being towed. Mr. Castrilla added everyone should keep fire hydrants clear from snow in case of an emergency.

### **CITIZEN COMMENTS**

None.

### **REPORTS**

#### **CITY MANAGER'S REPORT**

Mr. Hockaday provided updates on the following:

- He expressed his appreciation to those who informed him of areas in poor condition during the snowstorm. There were some maintenance issues in the public works department, however all but one vehicle is up and running.
- OEPA annual inspection in water filtration and distribution – the field survey was postponed due to weather conditions.
- There were several water main breaks. Lake Road break is repaired. Additionally, a pump in the south circuit dropped out, but a replacement pump was installed.
- Design on the sewer NFA project has commenced.
- Submission to the state for state capital pieces was sent to the House before the end of the year. Senate portion is due in March and they are working on that submission.
- He also provided December reports from the Fire Department and the Police Department. He added that the Fire Department has received and provided mutual aid to departments in Pennsylvania more so than in the past due.

**FINANCE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Mr. Williams provided members of Council with a Total Real Estate Valuation summary and provided an explanation. He stated that there was a 21% increase in total valuation as a result of the most recent revaluation. He also provided a Tax Millage summary and provided a brief explanation of the same.

**LAW DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Mr. Lewis advised that he provided Council with a written report and would welcome any questions.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

None.

**LIASION REPORTS**

Mr. Church attended the Conneaut Port Authority meeting on January 8, 2024, where the following items were discussed:

- Water levels are higher this year than they were at this time last year, but no damage to the docks.
- They are performing daily checks of buildings to ensure heat is on.
- Treasurer's report and 2024 budget were discussed and approved.
- Employee handbook was discussed and amended
- Have been waiting five (5) years for the marina permit and anticipated receiving it on January 19<sup>th</sup>.
- New contracts, rules and regulations for boaters
- Lease agreement with Smoke on the Water – he added that restaurant management would be constructing separate bathroom facilities at no cost to the Port.

**ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS**

ORDINANCE NO. 05-24 entitled AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTION 111.01 OF THE CITY OF CONNEAUT CODIFIED ORDINANCES GOVERNING COUNCIL MEETINGS, AND NOT DECLARING AN EMERGENCY was placed for second reading.

Ordinance No. 05-24 was moved to third reading.

ORDINANCE NO. 06-24 entitled AN ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER TO ACCEPT A NATUREWORKS LOCAL ASSISTANCE GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$16,629.00 AND ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY was placed for first reading.

Mr. Hockaday added that this grant is for the Liberty Street playground.

Moved by Mr. Perkoski, seconded by Mr. Castrilla, to suspend the three-reading rule. Roll call: Yea – All. Nay – None. Rule suspended. Moved by Mr. Perkoski to declare an emergency, seconded by Mr. Castrilla. Roll call: Yea – All. Nay – None. Emergency declared. Moved by Mr. Perkoski, seconded by Mr. Castrilla to act on Ordinance No. 06-24. Roll call:

Ms. Branch	Yea
Mr. Castrilla	Yea
Mr. Church	Yea
Mr. Emery	Yea
Mr. Gaugh	Yea
Mr. Moisio	Yea
Mr. Perkoski	Yea

PASSED.

ORDINANCE NO. 07-24 entitled AN ORDINANCE TO CREATE FUND “382 – ODNR NATUREWORKS GRANT” FOR PURPOSES OF ACCOUNTING FOR REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES RELATED TO THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES NATUREWORKS LOCAL ASSISTANCE GRANT was placed for first reading.

Moved by Mr. Church, seconded by Mr. Gaugh, to suspend the three-reading rule. Roll call: Yea – All. Nay – None. Rule suspended. Moved by Mr. Church, seconded by Mr. Emery to act on Ordinance No. 07-24. Roll call:

Ms. Branch	Yea
Mr. Castrilla	Yea
Mr. Church	Yea
Mr. Emery	Yea
Mr. Gaugh	Yea
Mr. Moisio	Yea
Mr. Perkoski	Yea

PASSED.

### **UNFINISHED / OLD BUSINESS**

Council scheduled a public hearing on the application for a Planned Unit Development at PPN: 12-214-00-074-00, stemming from a recommendation from the Conneaut Planning Commission. The public hearing is scheduled for February 26, 2024 at 6:00PM.

Mr. Moisio asked Mr. Hockaday about the streetlighting at Day and Park. Mr. Hockaday advised they have the OPWC funds, they are waiting on the Appalachian grant funding to match the OPWC funds. He hopes to have an answer by the end of the month.

Concerning a Council retreat, Mr. Hockaday presented February 10<sup>th</sup> and February 17<sup>th</sup> as potential dates. The retreat would be from 9-noon at the Conneaut Public Library. They will decide on a date at the next work session. Mr. Hockaday also advised that he would contact Ned Parks of Aegis360 to act as a facilitator.

**MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS**

Mr. Moisio advised that he would like to discuss road paving at the next work session and asked Council members to list any roads they would like to consider. There was a brief discussion with Mr. Williams concerning the funds that would be available. Currently have \$422,000 appropriated. Mr. Bidwell is evaluating several streets and should have a rough estimate for the work session.

Mr. Church reminded residents to keep an eye on their pets as there have been coyotes spotted near Smith Street.

Mr. Moisio moved to enter Executive Session to consider the appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion, or compensation of a public employee or official, or the investigation of charges or complaints against a public employee, official, licensee, or regulated individual, pursuant to Section 121.22(G)(1) of the Ohio Revised Code, seconded by Mr. Gaugh. Roll call: Yea – All. Nay – None. Executive Session entered at 7:42PM.

Moved by Mr. Moisio, seconded by Mr. Church, to adjourn the regular meeting of Council. Roll call: Yea – All. Nay – None. Meeting adjourned at 8:13PM.

  
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President of Council

ATTEST:

  
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Clerk of Council