

JOURNAL OF COUNCIL

The Council of the City of Conneaut met in regular session on Monday, July 10, 2023, at 7:00 PM in Council Chambers, City Hall, Conneaut, Ohio. Council President Mr. Arcaro called the regular meeting to order. Answering roll call: Council President Mr. Arcaro, Councilpersons: Mr. Emery, Mr. Gaugh, Mr. Kozesky, Mrs. Ledford, Mr. Moisio and Mr. Perkoski; City Manager Mr. Hockaday, Finance Director Mr. Williams and Law Director Mr. Lewis.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Mr. Moisio moved to approve the Journal of the June 12, 2023 meeting, seconded by Mr. Emery. Roll call: Yea – All. Nay – None. Journal approved.

AWARDS PRESENTATION

A Certificate of Appreciation was read into the record and presented to resident Cohen Bidwell for assisting the Conneaut Police Department. The award was presented by Mrs. Ledford and Mr. Moisio. Cohen was present and accompanied by his parents, and several members of the Conneaut Police Department.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

None.

COMMUNICATIONS

None.

REPORTS

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

Mr. Hockaday provided updates on the following:

- On the Buffalo Street sewer boring project, he advised that the bore under the tracks is complete and they will be threading line and retying connections. He estimates they have about a week to a week and a half left. Mr. Gaugh asked about the storm sewer. Mr. Hockaday stated there was a portion of storm sewer that the contractor is responsible for repairing and it has already been repaired by the contractor and inspected by the City.
- On the paving contract, it has been full executed. Will provide a final pave schedule with Council as soon as he receives it.
- On Madison Street, preconstruction is complete and waiting on approval by the County.
- On the NS railroad bridge replacement, Mr. Hockaday received an email and forwarded the same to Council. They will be working over the waterways Monday-Friday 7-5 and they are asking that no one passes under them during that time. They will allow people to come through the channel, but not while they are actively moving material overhead.

We have notified the kayak operator at Welton Road and working on a posting at boat ramps.

- Mr. Hockaday advised they have been working on a presentation for Council regarding CDLs with Mr. Bidwell and Mr. DiBell. The requirements for a CDL changed at the beginning of the year and there is a new certification process. Will either train a trainer or use an outside training facility.
- He has received a couple complaint on the hydrant flushing. Many have said it is rustier than normal. Mr. Hockaday stated that we did not do annual flushing during Covid so it may a little more built-up material. He asked Chief Lee to purchase additional signs. Mr. Emery asked if he received any complaints today, to which he stated he did not. Mr. Moision stated he did receive one complaint but attributed it to the flushing. Mr. Hockaday recommended running water through an outdoor spigot or removing the screen from indoor faucets and running water for 30 seconds-1 minute.
- On the Route 20 culvert repair, he spoke with OPWC and sent a preapplication. He is going to ask CT to help prepare that because we will need an engineer's estimate. We do have a contractor's estimate that will be provided to CT. He will have CT prepare a reconstruction estimate and will come back to Council.
- City has started some of the prep on South Ridge Road. They are ditching and screening material. They have about 30 truckloads of grindings.
- Mr. Hockaday advised they have started going through the Astatic building and provided a list of vehicles to Council that the City can part with. Asked that Council review an ordinance to declare the vehicles surplus and auction on govdeals.com with a reserve price.
- He had a second follow-up walkthrough with the EPA at the dredge facility. He provided an email to Council and also provided aerial photos of the project area. There is a 2-foot clay cap on the entire 40-acre site and you can see the formation of the sluiceways. The photos show progression of what they have been doing. Mr. Emery asked how much longer they are anticipating. Mr. Hockaday advised they still have the original target date of early August and we lose a day every time it rains. He stated he will update the construction calendar as we get closer. August 15th is the substantial completion date. Mr. Emery asked if we are still looking at putting in an access road off of Thompson Road. Mr. Hockaday stated that is our long-term goal, but that it is not financed and funded through this project. Mr. Hockaday stated he did get some preliminary estimates for resurfacing Broad Street, north of Lake Road. Will need to formalize and discuss in construction meeting.

Mr. Arcaro asked Mr. Hockaday to send a copy of the overhead photos to the media so they can put it out to the public and put it on the City's website. Mr. Hockaday also stated they have been looking into posting a QR code on the fence near Breakwall that would show the facility. Mr. Arcaro stated there is still a lot of misinformation about the project.

Mr. Gaugh asked if the City cited anyone for fireworks. Mr. Hockaday advised yes, but he does not have an exact number. Mr. Moision stated that it has not stopped and that more citations need to be issued. They all agreed that it is difficult to locate those lighting off fireworks.

FINANCE DIRECTOR’S REPORT

Mr. Williams provided Council with a printout of the 2024 tax budget, which is a preliminary estimate of revenue and expenses for the following year. Mr. Williams provided an explanation of the documents he provided.

LAW DIRECTOR’S REPORT

Mr. Lewis provided Council with a written Law Director Report.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

LIASION REPORTS

Mrs. Ledford advised that the Conneaut Convention and Visitor’s Bureau meeting will be tomorrow (7/11/2023) at 5:30PM at the Port Authority building on Broad Street.

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

ORDINANCE NO. 75-23 entitled AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE 2023 BUDGET THROUGH APPROPRIATIONS AND FUND AND INTERFUND TRANSFERS, ATTACHED HERETO AND MARKED “EXHIBIT A” was placed for first reading.

Mr. Williams stated the amendment was for two minor adjustments for OPWC debt.

Moved by Mr. Moisio, seconded by Mr. Emery, to suspend the three-reading rule. Roll call: Yea – All. Nay – None. Rule suspended. Moved by Mr. Moisio, seconded by Mr. Gaugh, to act on Ordinance No. 75-23. Roll call:

Mr. Arcaro	Yea
Mr. Emery	Yea
Mr. Gaugh	Yea
Mr. Kozesky	Yea
Mrs. Ledford	Yea
Mr. Moisio	Yea
Mr. Perkoski	Yea

PASSED.

ORDINANCE NO. 76-23 entitled AN ORDINANCE TO ADOPT A TAX BUDGET FOR THE YEAR 2024, ATTACHED HERETO AND MARKED “EXHIBIT A” was placed for first reading.

Mr. Williams added that the tax budget must be approved by July 15th and submitted to the county by July 20th.

Moved by Mr. Perkoski, seconded by Mr. Gaugh, to suspend the three-reading rule. Roll call: Yea – All. Nay – None. Rule suspended. Moved by Mr. Perkoski, seconded by Mr. Moisio, to act on Ordinance No. 76-23. Roll call:

Mr. Arcaro	Yea
Mr. Emery	Yea
Mr. Gaugh	Yea
Mr. Kozesky	Yea
Mrs. Ledford	Yea
Mr. Moisio	Yea
Mr. Perkoski	Yea

PASSED.

RESOLUTION NO. 77-23 entitled A RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE SUBMISSION TO THE ELECTORS OF THE CITY OF CONNEAUT A 1.90 MILL RENEWAL LEVY IN EXCESS OF THE TEN (10) MILL LIMITATION FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE CONNEAUT PUBLIC LIBRARY FOR A FIVE-YEAR PERIOD, COMMENCING WITH TAX YEAR 2024 TO BE COLLECTED IN 2025, AT THE GENERAL ELECTION TO BE HELD NOVEMBER 7, 2023 was placed for first reading.

Moved by Mrs. Ledford, seconded by Mr. Gaugh, to suspend the three-reading rule. Roll call: Yea – All. Nay – None. Rule suspended. Moved by Mrs. Ledford, seconded by Mr. Moisio, to act on Resolution No. 77-23. Roll call:

Mr. Arcaro	Yea
Mr. Emery	Yea
Mr. Gaugh	Yea
Mr. Kozesky	Yea
Mrs. Ledford	Yea
Mr. Moisio	Yea
Mr. Perkoski	Yea

PASSED.

RESOLUTION NO. 78-23 entitled A RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE SUBMISSION TO THE ELECTORS OF THE CITY OF CONNEAUT A RENEWAL OF 2.75 MILLS OF AN EXISTING LEVY IN EXCESS OF THE TEN (10) MILL LIMITATION, FOR A FIVE YEAR PERIOD COMMENCING WITH TAX YEAR 2023, TO BE FIRST COLLECTED IN 2024, AT THE GENERAL ELECTION TO BE HELD NOVEMBER 7, 2023 FOR STREET CONSTRUCTION, MAINTENANCE, REPAIR AND IMPROVEMENTS, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO, GENERAL CONSTRUCTION, RECONSTRUCTION, RESURFACING, REPAIR OF STREETS, ROADS, AND BRIDGES IN THE CITY OF CONNEAUT was placed for first reading.

Mr. Moisio asked Mr. Williams to explain the street levy. Mr. Williams explained the millage and the estimated collection. Mr. Arcaro added that this is our last chance on this levy and asked that something be added to the front page of the website.

Moved by Mr. Moisio, seconded by Mrs. Ledford, to suspend the three-reading rule. Roll call: Yea – All. Nay – None. Rule suspended. Moved by Mr. Moisio, seconded by Mr. Emery, to act on Resolution No. 78-23. Roll call:

Mr. Arcaro	Yea
Mr. Emery	Yea
Mr. Gaugh	Yea
Mr. Kozesky	Yea
Mrs. Ledford	Yea
Mr. Moisis	Yea
Mr. Perkoski	Yea

PASSED.

ORDINANCE NO. 79-23 entitled AN ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE CLOSING OF A PORTION OF WELTON ROAD, AS DESCRIBED IN SECTION 1 BELOW, ON JULY 22, 2023 FROM 1:00PM THROUGH 9:00PM, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY was placed for first reading.

Mr. Hockaday added that this was a special event request received and it was discussed at the work session.

Moved by Mrs. Ledford, seconded by Mr. Emery, to suspend the three-reading rule. Roll call: Yea – All. Nay – None. Rule suspended. Moved by Mrs. Ledford, seconded by Mr. Gaugh, to declare an emergency. Roll call: Yea – All. Nay – None. Emergency declared. Moved by Mrs. Ledford, seconded by Mr. Gaugh, to act on Ordinance No. 79-23. Roll call:

Mr. Arcaro	Yea
Mr. Emery	Yea
Mr. Gaugh	Yea
Mr. Kozesky	Yea
Mrs. Ledford	Yea
Mr. Moisis	Yea
Mr. Perkoski	Yea

PASSED.

ORDINANCE NO. 80-23 entitled AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING SANDBAR SUDS TO UTILIZE THE PORT OF CONNEAUT MARINE MEMORIAL PARK ON AUGUST 4, 2023 AND AUGUST 5, 2023 FROM 11:00AM THROUGH 10:00PM FOR THE PURPOSE OF HOSTING A 2-YEAR ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY was placed for first reading.

Mr. Hockaday added that this was a special event request received and it was discussed at the work session. He added that the park looks good. Mr. Arcaro added that it is nice to see a business succeed.

Moved by Mrs. Ledford, seconded by Mr. Gaugh, to suspend the three-reading rule. Roll call: Yea – All. Nay – None. Rule suspended. Moved by Mrs. Ledford, seconded by Mr. Emery, to declare an emergency. Roll call: Yea – All. Nay – None. Emergency declared. Moved by Mrs. Ledford, seconded by Mr. Gaugh, to act on Ordinance No. 80-23. Roll call:

Mr. Arcaro	Yea
Mr. Emery	Yea

Mr. Gaugh	Yea
Mr. Kozesky	Yea
Mrs. Ledford	Yea
Mr. Moisio	Yea
Mr. Perkoski	Yea

PASSED.

ORDINANCE NO. 81-23 entitled AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTION 1133.03 OF THE CITY OF CONNEAUT CODIFIED ORDINANCES GOVERNING SWIMMING POOLS, AND NOT DECLARING AN EMERGENCY was placed for first reading.

Mr. Lewis provided a brief explanation of the proposed changes.

The Ordinance was moved to second reading by Mr. Perkoski.

ORDINANCE NO. 82-23 entitled AN ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE WAIVER OF ANY APPLICABLE TAP-IN FEES ASSOCIATED WITH THE INSTALLATION OF WATER SERVICE FOR THE BUILDING LOCATED AT 985 BROAD STREET, CONNEAUT, OHIO, OWNED BY THE CONNEAUT FOUNDATION, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY was placed for first reading.

Mr. Hockaday stated that the request was received from The Conneaut Foundation and that this was exclusively a Foundation project. Mr. Emery asked if there was an existing tap-in at the property, Mr. Hockaday stated they are required to upgrade to a 2-inch tap, which has a \$4,800 tap-in fee. They are renovating for economic development and it was further discussed at the last work session and utilities committee meeting.

The Ordinance was moved to second reading by Mr. Moisio.

ORDINANCE NO. 83-23 entitled AN ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER TO APPLY FOR, AND IF AWARDED, ACCEPT, AND ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT, ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF CONNEAUT, AN OHIO ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY WATER POLLUTION CONTROL LOAN FUND DESIGN LOAN FOR WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT IMPROVEMENTS, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY was placed for first reading.

Mr. Hockaday stated that this is for the Wastewater Treatment Plant NFA improvements. They have been working with the Ohio EPA on the deficiencies. We conducted a study in 2018 and recommended some improvements to our plant to satisfy EPA requirements. This is the first step in a long series of steps.

Moved by Mrs. Ledford, seconded by Mr. Emery, to suspend the three-reading rule. Roll call: Yea – All. Nay – None. Rule suspended. Moved by Mrs. Ledford, seconded by Mr. Emery, to declare an emergency. Roll call: Yea – All. Nay – None. Emergency declared. Moved by Mrs. Ledford, seconded by Mr. Gaugh, to act on Ordinance No. 83-23. Roll call:

Mr. Arcaro	Yea
Mr. Emery	Yea

Mr. Gaugh	Yea
Mr. Kozesky	Yea
Mrs. Ledford	Yea
Mr. Moisio	Yea
Mr. Perkoski	Yea

PASSED.

ORDINANCE NO. 84-23 entitled AN ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER TO APPLY FOR, AND IF AWARDED, ACCEPT, AND ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT, ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF CONNEAUT, AN OHIO ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY WATER SUPPLY REVOLVING LOAN ACCOUNT DESIGN LOAN TO REPLACE THE CLARK STREET WATER TOWER, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY was placed for first reading.

Mr. Hockaday stated this is the same thing, just on the drinking water side. The Clark Street water tower is from 1933 and is the last of our riveted towers and our primary tower. It is a rather sizeable project and he expects design to take over a year. Goal is the have the tower replaced before it turns 100.

Moved by Mrs. Ledford, seconded by Mr. Moisio, to suspend the three-reading rule. Roll call: Yea – All. Nay – None. Rule suspended. Moved by Mrs. Ledford, seconded by Mr. Moisio, to declare an emergency. Roll call: Yea – All. Nay – None. Emergency declared. Moved by Mrs. Ledford, seconded by Mr. Gaugh, to act on Ordinance No. 84-23. Roll call:

Mr. Arcaro	Yea
Mr. Emery	Yea
Mr. Gaugh	Yea
Mr. Kozesky	Yea
Mrs. Ledford	Yea
Mr. Moisio	Yea
Mr. Perkoski	Yea

PASSED.

Mrs. Ledford stated that Ordinance No. 82-23 was discussed at the utilities committee and at the work session and it was agreed to move it on and asked why it was being moved to a second reading. Mr. Moisio stated he was not ready to act on it and wants to do more research. Mrs. Ledford stated that wasn't mentioned at the work session and she was puzzled.

ORDINANCE NO. 85-23 entitled AN ORDINANCE TO SET THE RATE OF PAY FOR MEMBERS OF CONNEAUT CITY COUNCIL, EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2024, AS LISTED IN SECTION 1 BELOW, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY was placed for first reading.

Moved by Moved by Mr. Perkoski, seconded by Mr. Gaugh, to suspend the three-reading rule. Roll call: Yea – Mr. Emery, Mr. Gaugh, Mr. Kozesky, Mrs. Ledford, Mr. Perkoski. Nay – Mr. Arcaro and Mr. Moisio. Rule not suspended. Moved by Mr. Perkoski, seconded by Mr. Gaugh, to declare an emergency. Roll call: Yea – Mr. Emery, Mr. Gaugh, Mr. Kozesky, Mrs. Ledford, Mr. Perkoski. Nay – Mr. Arcaro and Mr. Moisio. Emergency not declared.

The Ordinance was moved to second reading by Mr. Perkoski.

UNFINISHED / OLD BUSINESS

None.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

Mr. Moisio addressed the appearance of the downtown area. Mr. Hockaday stated that the City street sweeps and participates in downtown clean-up by purchasing the mulch and having employees volunteer their time. Some business owners have allowed grass to grow up through the sidewalks and along the curb line. Just like in a residential area, the owner is responsible for the treelawn in the public right-of-way. City crews have maintained City property. Mr. Hockaday directed Ms. Hoover to pay special attention to the downtown area and send notices in the coming week or two.

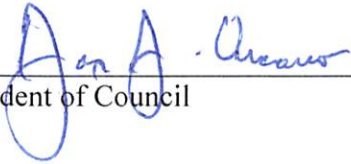
Mr. Emery addressed a property on Nickel Plate next to the railroad tracks that is used as storage. He stated the property looks horrible. Mr. Hockaday stated there has been some discussion about the property and referred the matter to the law department.

Mr. Moisio stated that it was brought to his attention that they were charging for parking at Lakeview Park during the fireworks. The property was lined off and the disc golf poles were removed and no one knows where their \$5.00 went. Mr. Moisio asked who authorized a public park to be closed and who authorized the charging for parking at a public park without our (Council) approval knowledge. He stated that people would just like to know where their money went. Mr. Hockaday added that Lakeview Park was closed for the Fourth of July festival but that he would not speak for the Port Authority. Mr. Moisio will be attending their next meeting on the 20th at 6:00PM. Mr. Moisio stated that they should have stated they were going to charge for parking in their application and Mr. Hockaday agreed that should be stated in any future application. Mr. Moisio thinks everyone would be fine if they knew where the money went. Mr. Hockaday added that they do struggle to raise funds for the fireworks so he guessed that was their intention.

Mr. Moisio scheduled a public works committee meeting for Wednesday the 19th at 5:00PM in Council chambers. Mr. Hockaday stated that Mr. Dalrymple and Mr. DiBell would be there.

Mr. Arcaro asked Mr. Lewis to look into whether there is a legal issue with charging for parking without Council authorization.

Moved by Mr. Moio, seconded by Mrs. Ledford, to adjourn the regular meeting of Council. Roll call: Yea – All. Nay – None. Meeting adjourned at 8:03PM.



President of Council

ATTEST:



Clerk of Council