

**MT. HEALTHY CITY COUNCIL MEETING**  
**July 20, 2021**

The council meeting was called to order by President of Council Ross Bittner. The invocation was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL:**

***Present:*** Mrs. Lingo, Mrs. Moody, Mr. Parsons, Mr. Roetting, Mrs. Dosa, Mr. George, Ms. Scheets

**ALSO, IN ATTENDANCE:**

Mayor James Wolf, Finance Director Scott Bauer

**MINUTES:**

A motion to adopt the minutes with corrections noted for the June 15, 2021, meeting was made by Ms. Scheets and seconded by Mr. Parsons. An aye vote carried the motion. Minutes were adopted.

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

None.

## **GUESTS, SPECIAL EVENTS:**

Karen Arnett, Mt. Healthy UrbanTree Commission has been in place for 10 Years.

- 10 years ago, city council passed an ordinance establishing a tree commission
- All volunteers and appointed by the mayor
- Mission Statement: Our mission is to support the preservation of Mt Healthy's urban forest canopy and to promote awareness of the value of trees in our city.
- Recognize members who no longer on the Tree Commission: Bob Curley, Julie Turner, Tom Davis, Michelle Robinson, Casey McCann
- Current Tree Commission: Judy Harmon, Sandy Young, Dwight Weese, who will need to be appointed by the mayor
- Accomplishments:
  - Planted 150 street and park trees and provided a handful of trees to residential
  - Has had a high survival rate for the trees planted
  - All has been done on a shoestring budget
  - Hosted Arbor Day events
  - Memorial Trees have been planted in front of the museum and in the park
  - Tree risk inventory – worked with mentor Wendi VanBuren
  - Offered certificates for trees in the neighborhood
  - Received a \$900 mini grant from Taking Root in 2017
  - Worked with Duke utility trimming
  - Has a Facebook page
- Going to start doing a quarterly report to council

Council Thanks Karen and all former and current members for all the hard work and dedication.

## **PUBLIC INPUT**

**Ms. Samples**, Cary Crossing resident to discuss the removal of traffic lights at Perry and Compton and Seward and Compton folks are not stopping when the lights are flashing. It is dangerous to cross at these intersections. The condition of the sidewalks around the city is bad. Mayor mentioned this is on the agenda to get a sidewalk assessment started. Keep using the SeeClickfix app. The street light issue has been brought up at every meeting since they were taken down. The streetlights are not going to come back, but there have been a lot of good suggestions and going to discuss with City Manager.

**Jim Lowenberg**; Regarding streets there are creative things that can be done. There are street calming methods that can be used. Was part of the zoning rewrite process and feels very positive with the end results. Front yard gardens have become a topic of discussion. Would suggest holding off on the portion of the zoning code that restricts front yard gardens. It is a unique thing that can be part of Mt. Healthy.

**Brandy Davis**; discuss making the intersections 4-way stops instead of the two on Perry. You can't see when you are crossing over Compton on Perry. The obvious choice is to make them 4-way stops. It's hard to use the crosswalk. Would also like to bring up the front yard gardens in the zoning code. Has started growing her own garden and spent a lot of money. Has planned to expand her garden into the front yard. Would not like to see the zoning pass to restrict front yard gardens.

**Sandy Young:** A 4-way stop needs to be put up at Compton and Perry. There have been a lot of complaints. People are driving around several blocks to avoid the intersection.

**Jessie Cupp:** Here tonight to respond to the new measure proposed with the zoning rewrite to regulate the distance of chicken coops and gardens to property lines. Asking council to reconsider what the land of Mt. Healthy can do for its citizens rather than visual pleasing properties.

**Karen Arnett:** Would like to Thank the city for engaging a certified arborist. They offered great suggestions and hopes they will some way be implemented, and contractor will be held to them. Front yard gardens and edible landscaping are trending right now. If we want Mt. Healthy to be a place that attracts younger people, more progressive folks in the future then we need to give people the opportunity to do things that are exciting and popular and important and vegetable gardens are important and useful. The new zoning restricts this from happening.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

### **Business Partnership/Alliance: Jennifer Moody.**

Attended the Mt. Healthy Business Association meeting.

- Not much was discussed at the last meeting.
- A P/R person from Mt. Healthy School District brought up that the school district was upset with the school resource officers situation. Not sure why bringing it up at a business association meeting was the right place. They are not getting the resource officer coverage they thought they were supposed to.

### **Alliance:**

- Meijer Simply Giving Campaign goes on through August, maybe longer. August 14-28 money donated at Meijer will be doubled up to \$5,000. Be sure to go to Meijer, pull a tab from Simply Giving for Mt. Healthy Alliance and they will receive money in gift cards to be used to purchase food and other items.
- August 11<sup>th</sup> the youth alliance is working with Northwest Schools and will be at Northgate Mall to register families and distribute food from 9-Noon. They are looking for volunteers.

### **Finance: Bob Parsons**

- Calling a finance committee meeting for 6:15pm on 8/17 before the next council meeting. Plan to look at the budget through July month end.

### **Safety/Streets – Joe Roetting**

- chief of police report was in packets. Newly added item listing the Liquor License Calls for service
- Traffic study reports came back for Joseph and Adams, which needs clarification from Mr. Kocher.
- Traffic Study report for Stevens & Park does not warrant a 4-way stop sign.

### **Wethrive – Cindy Scheets**

Meeting was June 22<sup>nd</sup> – hopefully the last Zoom meeting

- Farmers Market – SNAP program has been used at the market.
- New Navigator is now on board, Jodi Pickering.
- Working this month on getting funds for kids to swim.
- Every 2 years a community assessment is done. The current action plan will be in the next council packet.

### **MAYOR’S REPORT: James Wolf**

Clovernook Apartments management are very responsive to the issues that have been brought to their attention. This has just been in the past year. Part of the problem is they keep changing property managers. They have also gone through a couple of security companies. They have no security company there currently. Chief is in discussion with them to get detail officers.

Mayor will ask Chief for an update on the property at the next council meeting.

School starts August 17<sup>th</sup>

Friday night concerts continue

7/31 will be the first movie night

Update from Metro/SORTA, which is promising. They have changed the frequency of some of the routes. Route 16 used to have a frequency of every 60 minutes and it now is every 30 minutes. Sunday service is now available, there is a 24hour route. After the changes weekday riders have gone up 30%, and Saturday riders have gone up 92%.

Civil service committee rules and regulations are in your packet. This is for review. Nothing needs to happen tonight. Would council like to review and vote on or send to a committee.

Resident requested council consider a proclamation for Juneteenth Day and a proclamation for Pride Month: Juneteenth is now a Federal Holiday and will be recognized by the city. As far as Pride Month Mayor has chosen not to do this. Has tried to keep national politics out of small-town government. Our council works best when national issues aren’t brought in.

### **CITY MANAGER’S REPORT: Bill Kocher**

None. Absent.

### **FINANCE DIRECTOR: Scott Bauer**

June month end reports are in the packets.

## **RESOLUTIONS:**

**Resolution 21-1165:** A second reading of resolution to approve the recommendation of the planning commission relating to the zoning ordinance for The City of Mt. Healthy zoning districts for assorted zoning code amendments, additions, modification, and deletions. A motion to adopt the resolution with the removal of Section 155.094H and the removal of definition 155.2191, vegetable gardens was made by Mrs. Dosa and seconded by Ms. Scheets. A roll call vote carried the motion 6-1. Resolution 21-1165 was adopted.

**Resolution 21-1167:** A first reading of resolution declaring it necessary to levy a tax in excess of the ten-mil limitation and declaring an emergency. A motion to waive the two-reading rule was made by Mr. Parsons and seconded by Mr. Roetting. A roll call vote carried the motion 7-0. A motion to adopt the resolution was made by Mr. Roetting and seconded by Mr. George. A roll call vote carried the motion 7-0. Resolution 21-1167 was adopted.

**Resolution 21-1955:** A first reading of resolution authorizing the city manager to prepare and submit an application to participate in the Transit Infrastructure Fund Program(s) and to execute contracts as required and declaring an emergency. A motion to waive the two-reading rule was made by Mr. George and seconded by Mrs. Moody. A roll call vote carried the motion 6-1(Abstain). A motion to adopt the resolution was made by Mrs. Dosa and seconded by Mr. Roetting. A roll call vote carried the motion 7-0. Resolution 21-1955 was adopted.

## **ORDINANCES:**

**Ordinance 21-1954:** A first reading of ordinance assessing costs of the removal of high grass and weeds and declaring an emergency. A motion to waive the two-reading rule was made by Mrs. Lingo and seconded by Mrs. Moody. A roll call vote carried the motion 7-0. A motion to adopt the ordinance was made by Mr. Parsons and seconded by Mr. George. A roll call vote carried the motion 7-0. Ordinance 21-1954 was adopted.

## **OLD BUSINESS:**

Ms. Scheets would like to see the Fire Department monthly reports again. They have not been included in the packets for the last couple of months.

National Night Out is in early August.


## **NEW BUSINESS:**

Mr. Bittner and Ms. Scheets attended a meeting with the Building Department regarding the new fee schedule. This was in council packets tonight for review. The fees are being brought up to date with other municipalities. Review and we will have more discussion at the next meeting.

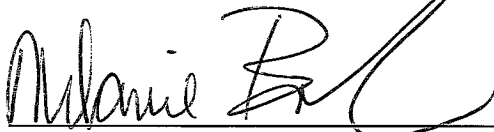
Ms. Scheets requests a sub-committee set up for onboarding of new council members. There need to be guidelines regarding policy and procedures for new council members.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

A motion to adjourn was made by Mrs. Lingo and seconded by Mr. Parsons. An aye vote carried the motion, and the meeting was adjourned at 9:55 pm.



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President of Council Ross Bittner



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Melanie Branditz, Clerk of Council