

MT. HEALTHY CITY COUNCIL MEETING

August 17, 2021

The council meeting was called to order at 7:00pm by President of Council Ross Bittner. The invocation was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL:

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

Absent and Excused: Mrs. Lingo, Mr. Roetting

A motion to excuse the absent members was made by Mrs. Moody and seconded by Mrs. Dosa. An aye vote *carried the motion.*

ALSO, IN ATTENDANCE:

Mayor James Wolf, Finance Director Scott Bauer, City Manager Bill Kocher, Fire Chief Steve Lawson, Police Chief Vince Demasi

MINUTES:

A motion to adopt the minutes with corrections noted for the July 20, 2021, meeting was made by Mr. Parsons and seconded by Ms. Scheets. An aye vote carried the motion. Minutes were adopted.

CORRESPONDENCE:

None.

GUESTS, SPECIAL EVENTS:

Chief Lawson "Thanks" council, mayor, city manager, and residents who made this possible.

Mayor Wolf swears in 7 new career Full-Time Firefighter/Medics.

1. Seth Gauby
2. Samuel Kemper
3. Kirsten Kolkmeier
4. Eric Moorman
5. Keith Peace
6. Kyle Scales
7. Mitchel Wiethorn

This makes history in Mt. Healthy as the first full time firefighters on board. Also, we have the first female full-time firefighter.

Police Chief Vince Demasi: Updating council on Clovernook Apartments

We have had a series of ongoing conversations with management at Clovernook Apartments. There have been numerous management changes over the years. What has been seen over the last two months is very disturbing. Several occasions we have been called for violent acts. Not sure what extent they do background checks. Part of the problem is we don't know who is supposed to be on property and who is not. They have no security – there are cameras on the property, but they are not very good. Management expects the police to perform security on their property and they just can't do this and there are limitations of what the police can do. Not about being the "scare" police. It is on private property so to intervene gives us legal challenges. Police can't be always there. It is common to have 2-3 domestic violence cases per day. Our resources are being stretched from this property.

Needs to be 24hours 7days a week security company, better camera system, assigned parking spots, a strong management company. Goal has got to be safety.

5, 2021
Going to place a curfew for juveniles through October. Officers will be able to challenge these groups that are just hanging out on the property. This gives officers a legal basis.

Mr. Kocher: They are engaging conversations with us, just not seeing anything getting taken care of. The last meeting, we had it were introduced to a new management team. We need to see results and less excuses. We will continue to report back to council on a regular basis.

Officers' safety is a big concern.

PUBLIC INPUT

Rhea Pettaway, A business owner and resident of Mt. Healthy

Here to know about the process that was put in place for the 1-hour parking ordinance that just went into effect in front of the businesses. Was never notified as a business owner. No business owners knew about this. Have heard rental tenants were parking too long in the spots. This looks like you are putting businesses against other businesses. 1 hour parking in not sufficient for some of these hair shops. She is speaking on behalf of other business owners who did not want to come to this meeting. Here to work together with the city not against. The Business Association did not notify any businesses if they were representing the businesses. Invested in the community so wants to see all these businesses grow. Not here to be combative. Wants to work together with the city to have the business community not feel isolated.

- *Mayor Wolf:* the concern came from business owners who have concerns with business employees and ~~tenants~~ ^{rentals} that were parking on Hamilton Avenue in front of their businesses which did not allow for their customers to use those spots. This has been a complaint for years. Mt. Healthy Business Association took this issue on and worked with council on this. There was a work session with business owners, city council, Mt. Healthy Business Association where we discussed solutions. There were several council meetings that this was discussed. There were two readings on the ordinance.
- *Mrs. Moody:* The business association did try to get to as many businesses as they could. Part of the problem are the landlords and tenants that park in the spots all day long. You have a voice, and it is needed in the business association. Thanks for coming up.

There needs to be more signage pointing to the public parking areas. You don't know where they are. Let's get our parking lots visible. Customers need to know where to park. The parking lots are overgrown and has lots of trash.

Kim Cremeans, ~~Vice President~~, Mt. Healthy Business Association; This is frustrating because nobody sees the value of the association until there is an issue. We are all stronger together. There is a membership committee and they do go out and speak to the businesses and at the time say they will be there, but never come to a meeting. If you are part of the association and attend even a few meetings you would at least know and be part of the discussions and issues that are happening. Become part of the solution. Would love for Mrs. Pettaway to be part of the association and more businesses being part of it.

Ken Cobb, Great to see the fire department happy and proud of where they are now. What we have today is the birth of the Mt. Healthy Fire Department. Appreciate the follow through and the result. Thank you.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Business Partnership/Alliance: Jennifer Moody.

There was not a meeting this month.

Alliance:

- Meijer Simply Giving Campaign has the last double match August 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.
- Youth alliance is looking to hire a youth director.

Finance: Bob Parsons

- Postponed this evening's finance committee meeting until September 21st at 6:15pm. Will plan to review the budget for January-August activity.

Schools: Cordel George

- Mt. Healthy schools started classes today
- There was a back-to-school event was held and over 600 backpacks filled with school supplies were handed out

Library: Kisha Dosa

- Library "thanks" the city for supporting the summer programs in the park. The programs went very well. They had 7 story times and had 51 attendees. 7 afternoon teen/tween programs and had 23 attendees
- Last meal distribution boxes will be Monday 8/23
- Beginning August 30th, they will begin providing in branch meal services Monday-Friday, 3:30-4:00 for kids 1-18years old

Wethrive – Cindy Scheets

Meeting was July 26th at Fibonacci, good attendance

- Met the new Navigator, Jodi Pickering.
- Discussed Clovernook Apartments and they are willing to help in any way they can. We need to keep them in mind to help

T.K.M. Farm is hoping to get it asphalted this summer, looking to put up greenhouses, start cooking classes

- Fibonacci's 4th of July Farmers market went well

MAYOR'S REPORT: James Wolf

Vince's requested a meeting with the city on Thursday afternoon. The communication is open with them.

A letter from a resident on Duvall that went on vacation. A neighbor called and told them their garage door was open for two days. She called the police, and they went to check the house, and everything was fine. Police closed the house and called the resident back to let her know. Planning Commission meeting last night. There is a young woman opening a tattoo shop at 7613 Hamilton Avenue. There are multiple businesses in this building. Tattoo shops are not allowed in the core business district. The planning commission approved the tattoo shop with 3 conditions keeping consistent with the other tattoo shops. Condition #1 must have all licenses and permits to operate. Condition #2 Business hours are 9a-10p, she plans on closing at 7. Condition #3 May do piercings in the future, so we put a condition that is she starts piercing that she let the city know and have all necessary permits and license. There will be legislation on this at the next council meeting.

There are concerns about the operation of the event center next to Little Dutch Bakery. We did find out there was not an occupancy permit for the business. Mr. Knight is working on this. An event center is okay, but not an after-hours bar.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT: Bill Kocher

Pool has closed for the 2021 season. Would like to "Thank" John Peters for helping the new pool management company in getting the pool open and ready. There were problems, but overall, everything worked out. Next year we will be better prepared.

Reminder: there will be an executive session before adjournment tonight

OPWC information was in the packets. Last year our number 1 priority was Hamilton and that is being funded. 2nd was Madison & Forest, 3rd was Compton. This is just something to start thinking about. By next meeting we will need to get our priorities together, so we can get the legislation together.

Mr. Kocher will confirm the deadline of September 17th with our engineer.

Arborist has provided quotes for the Elizabeth Street project.

All these trees are on private property and not in the right of way

We need to set a president on how we deal with the trees on private properties

Two of the things the arborist suggested was clean cutting of the roots which is done with a stump grinder and fertilizing twice

One of the things the arborist said is these trees are already stressed now and haven't been cared for and the construction will put additional stress on these trees

Recommendation is do we want to fertilize and go 50/50 with the homeowners. See if they want to put skin in the game to help improve these trees

Mr. Kocher needs direction from council on what to do at the next meeting

There is need to purchase of a new ambulance. We have a 2000 and 2010 ambulance. 21 years is old and a lot of repairs are being needed. We will receive COVID funds. We don't want to get in a situation that we can't respond because we don't have a working ambulance. We would need to place the order for the ambulance and there is a 6-7 month out wait time to get it.

There are a few options we can use to pay for a new ambulance:

1. 100% COVID money
2. 100% carryover
3. Combinations of the two
4. Looking at a 0% financing option grant

FINANCE DIRECTOR: Scott Bauer

July month end reports are in the packets.

The city is receiving in COVID funds around \$705,000. We have received the first half in August and second half will be next year. These funds can go back into the operating budget for normal operating needs. The big risk with these funds is you do it over the next 4 years. We will justify this money over 4 years, so we can't just spend it all at once.

RESOLUTIONS:

Resolution 21-1168: A first reading of resolution authorizing acceptance of award of Hamilton County CDBG-CV grant funds expanding free public WI-FI in city and authorizing city manager to execute all necessary contracts and documents as required and declaring an emergency.

Resolution 21-1169: A first reading of resolution authorizing the city manager to enter into and execute contracts with the director of transportation which are necessary to develop plans for and to complete the below-described project (PID# 108964); and to execute contracts with ODOT pre-qualified consultants for the preliminary engineering phase of the project.

Resolution 21-1170: A first reading of an emergency resolution to accept the material terms of the One Ohio Subdivision Settlement pursuant to the One Ohio Memorandum of Understanding and consistent with the terms of the July 21, 2021, National Opioid Settlement Agreement

Resolution 21-1171: A first reading of resolution authorizing the city manager to sign an amendment to original engagement letter between The City of Mt. Healthy and The Port of Greater Cincinnati Development Authority with assistance Ohio Environmental Protection Agency to obtain and environmental assessment and conduct environmental remediation

ORDINANCES:

Ordinance 21-1956: A first reading of ordinance amending Chapter 150.103 (Building and Zoning Fees) of the Mt. Healthy Code of Ordinances.

Ordinance 21-1957: A first reading of ordinance amending and updating the existing City of Mt. Healthy Civil Service Rules and Regulations.

Ordinance 21-1958: A first reading of ordinance assessing costs of the removal of high grass and weeds and declaring an emergency.

Ordinance 21-1959: A first reading of ordinance authorizing the city manager to establish emergency curfew for juveniles within Clovernook Apartments up through October 5, 2021.

OLD BUSINESS:

Ms. Scheets appreciated the fire department reports

NEW BUSINESS:

Council calls an additional meeting for Thursday, August 19th at 6:00pm.

Mr. Parsons made a motion to move into executive session in accordance with Ohio Revised Code 121.22 (G)(1) to consider the purchase of property for public purposes. Mrs. Moody seconded the motion. Roll call vote carried the motion 5-0

- *Council moved to executive session at 10:00pm*
- *Council returned to regular session at 10:15pm*

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion to adjourn was made by Mrs. Dosa and seconded by Mr. George. An aye vote carried the motion, and the meeting was adjourned at 10:15 pm.



President of Council Ross Bittner



Melanie Branditz, Clerk of Council