

# MT. HEALTHY CITY COUNCIL MEETING

## April 18, 2023

The council meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m. by President of Council, Ross Bittner, followed by the invocation and Pledge of Allegiance.

### **ROLL CALL:**

***Present:*** Mrs. Lingo, Mr. Parsons, Mr. Roetting, Mrs. Dosa, Mr. George, Mr. Young, Mrs. Rissel

### **ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:**

Mayor James Wolf, City Manager Scott Bauer, Finance Director Melanie Branditz

### **MINUTES:**

A motion to adopt the March 21, 2023 minutes with one change was made by Mr. Roetting and seconded by Mrs. Rissel. An aye vote carried the motion. Minutes adopted. A motion to adopt the April 4, 2023 minutes as printed was made by Mr. Parsons and seconded by Mrs. Rissel. An aye vote carried the motion. Minutes adopted. A motion to adopt the April 4, 2023 Work Session minutes was made by Mr. Young and seconded by Mr. Roetting. An aye vote carried the motion. Minutes adopted.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** Mt. Healthy Police Department Open House letter; May 18, 2023, 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Council members Kisha Dosa and Cordel George will attend.

**GUESTS, SPECIAL EVENTS:** None

### **PUBLIC INPUT:**

- Richard Strecker (Fairfield) - Wanted to recommend that a street be named after A&A owner Angelo Rollis. Mr. Roetting will work with Mrs. Rissel on this. Mayor stated that Mr. Rollis was given key to the city in March (on his birthday).
- Dwight Weese (Mt. Healthy, Urban Tree Commission) - Volunteer mulching event this Saturday (April 22<sup>nd</sup>), 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 Noon, meet at 7862 Perry Street. Brief explanation of benefits of mulching. Please bring gloves if you have them.
- Aaron Horsley (Mt. Healthy, Urban Tree Commission) - Upcoming Wetlands events include honeysuckle removal on April 29<sup>th</sup>, 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. and tree planting on May 6<sup>th</sup>, 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
- Tom Klingenberg (Mt. Healthy) - Stevens Avenue is a cut-through street. Between two funeral homes, several funeral vehicles and guests. Was told street is not being paved for two years. Is an embarrassment to the city, in horrendous disarray, and a safety hazard. Large hump in front of his house. Patching pot holes on top of pot holes, have to drive in middle of street to go the full length of the street, near head-ons. Two ball joints broken off diving over hump, lost control of steering and drove into his front yard. Any plan to patch it or pave it? NCH seems to be doing well getting loans and grants, redoing property, and we can't even get our streets paved; looks bad for Mt. Healthy. Anything we can do about the condition of Stevens? City Manager responded, informed resident that Stevens was not one of the four streets being considered this year. Resident suggested cutting out around pot hole, putting asphalt down and using a steam roller to smooth it over. Resident asked if someone from the city could come by and take a look at the street, discuss options. Also, is program to have trees planted still available? President

of Council responded yes, they are active. Let the Urban Tree Commission know and they will come up and talk to you. Mayor added that the streets are a constant issue with our residents. All of our street projects are grant-funded; we cannot afford any of them without added funds. We have priority lists but hesitate to share them because State can come in with a project and it takes precedence over our priority. Also, regarding repair of Stevens, the condition of the street comes in to play when applying for and receiving a grant.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Beautification Committee: Denise Lingo** No report. Will schedule committee meeting at May 2<sup>nd</sup> council meeting.

**Business Partnership/Alliance: Paul Young.** No report.

**Economic Development Committee: Paul Young** Scheduled for walk-thru at Antique Mall on Thursday. Two people walked through it, Port walked through it. Will discuss at next committee meeting, probably before next council meeting.

**Finance Committee: Bob Parsons** No report.

**Library: Kisha Dosa** Summer discovery programs for teens (up to 18) and young children run June 1 - July 31, more information to come. Tech Days - Library hosting a series of these days, staff will help visitors set up phones and other electronic devices with library apps, as well as navigate any databases or other online resources they have. Mt. Healthy branch having tech days digital drop-in sessions every Wednesday from 4:00-5:30 p.m.

**Parks Commission: Kisha Dosa** Parks Commission met on Monday and made some preliminary plans for this year's concert series. If anyone is interested in announcing the bands and helping out, please let us know. Also, park is a big concern and commission is working on NatureWorks grant for park playground set, grant is due June 1<sup>st</sup>. Concert schedule is on website, first concert June 16<sup>th</sup>.

**Safety Committee: Joe Roetting** Monthly police report has not been in packet lately, will probably have it for May 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting material. Still researching community block watch program, appears alot more to that and he will have to figure out a way to get that going. Question for City Manager: Anything from Lexipol on grant? Not yet. Anything on Firefighter grant? City Manager will check with Fire Chief on time line for each.

**Schools – Cordel George** Approaching final month of school. Shout out to whoever runs the school website, alot of information and stories on the site. On April 27<sup>th</sup>, hosting virtual open house for new students from 4:00 - 7:00 p.m. High school students visited UC IT program (career expo) and the high school band performed at XU after a three year hiatus.

**Streets Committee: Peggy Rissel** No report.

## **MAYOR'S REPORT: James Wolf**

- Playground - Attended WeThrive meeting, put this on Nicole Keys (sp?) radar, is with Hamilton County Public Health. Will keep her eyes on this as grants come through.
- ArtWorks - Decide tonight whether to go with \$5,000 or \$10,000 plan. There is \$10,000 in bank account for WeThrive committee, leaning toward \$5,000 so as not to exhaust it all; concern because a lot of projects coming up soon. First, HEEL grant, where we got \$10,000 grant for Hamilton County to do an active transportation plan (walking, scooters, bikes, wheelchairs, etc., anything non-motorized). They are working on that planning, should be getting funding within next three weeks. They are doing community outreach with surveys. Concern that they are already doing outreach for active transportation and most of ArtWorks plan would be based on community outreach. Hamilton County Public Health willing to add art questions into their active transportation survey, such as "What type of public art installations would make Mt. Healthy more appealing for walkers, bikers, etc.? Sculptures? Lighting alleyways? Murals? Since Hamilton County Public Health willing to do this with HEEL grant, we will make proposal to ArtWorks that they cut the community engagement portion in what they are offering and lower the cost of the public art plan. We have to reply to ArtWorks in two days, will keep you posted.
- E22 grant for Wetlands, first \$5,000 coming soon. Aaron connected on those emails.
- E022 grant \$3,750 for Health Fair (leftover Covid funds that have to go to public health).
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Century Mt. Healthy new name for CURC. Old bank building and Brotherton's building sold, house in holding pattern, realtor Kevin Dwyer passed away unexpectedly, father trying to sort out business.
- Real Deal Boxing needs help with training site rent, Emmanuel Apostolic Church needs storage space. Put the two together, hoping Real Deal can assist with storage (share spot) and Emmanuel Apostolic storage fees will assist with Real Deal rent.
- Will recommend arborist Tom Davis to Urban Tree Commission under New Business.

## **CITY MANAGER'S REPORT: Scott Bauer**

- UDF - Traffic counters installed, average of 161 cars daily through alley, fourth busiest street in Mt. Healthy. Installed speed bump today, may put more. Will leave traffic counter in place, see how it goes. Sterwerfs to keep City informed of any developments.
- Dan Oliver - May 11 date for liquor license hearing, may get extended beyond that. What do we want to do with liquor license objection? Police Chief open to City Council recommendation. Mr. Roetting wants to discuss it, wants more time to see how new restaurant (Lounge 31) is doing, would like to postpone hearing for awhile. Mayor added that previous withdrawal of liquor license objections done with Memorandum of Understanding. Discuss during next council meeting, Police Chief will be in attendance. Police have tried to contact current license holder (Diane), not getting anywhere; she has to be part of discussions. Mr. Parsons does not want to just drop it, either do Memorandum of Understanding or have City Law Director go to Columbus and plead our case. City Manager has reviewed M of U we put together, will have at next meeting. Will discuss during next council meeting.
- Police Department - Career Day at Mt. Healthy High School May 10 & 12; Chief Deidesheimer and Detective Jones will be in attendance. Retirement party for Sergeant Nolte on May 20<sup>th</sup> at Eagles, 3:00-7:00 p.m. Two positions hired, will hire Sergeant position to replace Greg Nolte; same assessment process as used for Chief. Mt. Healthy School shutdown last Friday was school decision, not Police Department. No imminent threat or any type of violence, all handled by school. Thankfully, nothing happened.

- Funeral procession (Officer Unwin) - Procession route "cleaned up" by Public Works (grass areas cut, trash pick-up), Mt. Healthy Police and Fire represented in procession, city employees at Compton & Perry for procession. Impressive to watch but sad.
- Fire - Captain assessment June 28, finally adding those three captains.
- City Council Work Session after May 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting. Topic of discussion will be junk cars on streets, box trucks in public parking lots, etc. If any particular questions for Police Chief, please bring to Scott's attention so Chief Deidesheimer can be prepared to address it at work session. Mr. Parsons added that we also want to ask him about speed humps on Compton. What should his guys be focused on? Mr. Bittner added cars in driveways that block sidewalks for Chief's attention.

## **FINANCE DIRECTOR'S REPORT: Melanie Branditz**

- March reports in packet, 1Q ended. 2022 auditors were out last week, finished their field work. Now back and forth emails.

## **ORDINANCES:**

**Second Reading of Ordinances:** None

### **First Reading of Ordinances:**

**23-2013** An Ordinance Assessing Costs of the Removal of Litter, Rubbish and Garbage and Declaring an Emergency. Motion made by Mr. Roetting to suspend the two reading rule, seconded by Mr. Young. By roll call vote of 7-0, two reading rule suspended. Motion by Mr. Parsons to adopt Ordinance 23-2013, seconded by Mrs. Dosa. By roll call vote of 7-0, Ordinance 23-2013 is adopted.

## **RESOLUTIONS:**

**Second Reading of Resolutions:** None

### **First Reading of Resolutions:**

**23-1204** Resolution Declaring it Necessary to Levy a Tax in Excess of the Ten Mill Limitation for Police Services and Requesting the Board of Elections to Place the Issue on the November 7<sup>th</sup>, 2023 Ballot and Declaring an Emergency. First reading only.

## **OLD BUSINESS:**

- SORTA - Which road to submit for SORTA grant (refer to handout). Hickman in bad shape, Mr. Parsons suggested we ask residents if they want street rebuilt. Compton to Madison a disaster. Harrison seems obvious answer for SORTA loan. Mr. George asked for explanation as to why Harrison makes more sense for SORTA = less out of pocket for City. Will have to pay at least 30% plus engineering costs if we go with Hickman. Can recommend Hickman for SCIP grant. Motion by Mr. Parsons to select Harrison Avenue from Compton Road to the South terminus for SORTA funding, seconded by Mrs. Lingo. By voice vote of 7-0, motion is carried unanimously.
- Mayor Wolf made a recommendation to appoint Tom Davis to the Urban Tree Commission. Mr. Roetting made a motion in support of the recommendation, seconded by Mr. George. By voice vote of 7-0, Tom Davis motion is carried unanimously.
- Mr. Roetting asked for clarification of Saturday volunteer mulching event due to rain prediction; Mr. Weese said they are keeping eye on weather, will communicate if change.

- Mr. Bittner brought up the gas lines on Elizabeth Street. Were replaced by Duke, Duke did a poor job of patching the street. Is their responsibility to repair that. We need to watch it and make sure they patch the street properly, call and remind them.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- Mr. Young scheduled Economic Development Committee meeting for 6:15 p.m. on May 2<sup>nd</sup>, prior to City Council meeting, in Council Chambers. Topic of discussion will be Covered Bridge report. City Manager asked about roof quotes and two other properties.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

A motion to adjourn was made by Mrs. Lingo and seconded by Mrs. Dosa. An aye vote carried the motion and the meeting was adjourned at 8:18 p.m.



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President of Council, Ross Bittner

  
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Clerk of Council, Kathleen Schmidt