

## **MT. HEALTHY CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

### **June 20, 2023**

City Manager swore in Officer Christina Nared. City Manager announced the promotion of Sergeant Chris Jones, who was then pinned with Sergeant stripes. Police Chief Jerry Deidesheimer briefly addressed council, shared his confidence in both Officer Nared and Sergeant Jones.

Public hearing was held regarding the 2024 tax budget. This is annual tax budget, not annual appropriations budget. Done every year. We cloned the 2023 budget and moved it into 2024. Any questions, please ask Melanie. Budget is due to the County July 20<sup>th</sup>.

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:**

City Manager Scott Bauer, Finance Director Melanie Branditz, Director of Public Works Justin Westrich

#### **MINUTES:**

A motion to adopt the May 16, 2023 minutes as printed was made by Mr. George and seconded by Mrs. Rissel. An aye vote carried the motion 7-0. Minutes adopted.

#### **CORRESPONDENCE:**

#### **GUESTS, SPECIAL EVENTS:**

- Troy Miller, Government Relations Liaison, Cincinnati Metro, SORTA -- Spoke on MetroNOW! New initiative to provide service within designated zones. Seating for 8 with 2 spots for wheelchairs, will pick up at person's house, cost is \$2.00 each way. Mt. Healthy is currently Zone C, will change as more buses are delivered and service expands. Travels only within one zone, will take riders to bus stop where they can catch a bus that travels to their desired destination if outside zone. Pick-up usually within 5 minutes of customer request. Handouts provided.
- Dwight Weese, Urban Tree Commission - Went through the handouts provided to council. Requesting council to adopt a resolution approving \$2,500-\$10,000 for public tree maintenance in 2024 budget and pass a tree ordinance, which is a prerequisite for ODNR (Ohio Department of Natural Resources) grant.

**PUBLIC INPUT:** None

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

***Beautification Committee: Denise Lingo*** Plants at Heritage Park are planted, pots are out on Hamilton Avenue. Thanks to Ross and Cordel for helping out, as well as volunteers Pam Sands

and Sarah Danks and her family. Now, Justin and his crew are watering for us. Most of the storefronts are doing their own.

**Business Partnership/Alliance: Paul Young.**

- Ron Mosby, NCH Chamber, invited all to a luncheon at Krimmer's Italianette Pizzeria on Thursday, June 22<sup>nd</sup>, with Ohio State Representative Cindy Abrams. She will talk about business and "things" available for small businesses in the region. No fee to attend the luncheon.
- Historical Society open only on Saturdays, 9A - 11A, needs volunteers. Putting together Mt. Healthy Monopoly game. Cards and spots on board available at various pricing. Ice cream social at July 3<sup>rd</sup> event. World's Longest Yard Sale on August 5<sup>th</sup>, Historical Society accepting donations (no clothing, furniture or outdated electronics).
- Business Association looking for volunteers to help with July 3<sup>rd</sup> drink booth.

**Economic Development Committee: Paul Young** No report.

**Finance Committee: Bob Parsons**

- Looked through end of May statements, had a few concerns about items to be reassigned to proper accounts. Some expenses were over budget but those were things that just came up, such as building and vehicle repairs. Good news is that property taxes in first half considerably larger than expected, income tax seems to be on budget. Will call meeting later in the year to go over July numbers, probably in August. Will talk about that at next meeting.

**Library: Kisha Dosa**

- Offering normal scheduled child, teen and adult programs on Wednesdays, June through August
- Movers & Shakers story time at park for ages 1-5 and their caregivers.
- Wednesdays at 4:00 p.m. digital drop in session - assistance with technology.
- Partnered with Fibonacci for Pages & Pints book club, first Wednesday of month at 6:00 p.m. at brewery; registration required (library website), books that will be discussed available for checkout at library.
- Not serving free summer meals and snacks this year but College Hill, Groesbeck and Northside libraries will.
- Food drive with Tikkun Farms to benefit Tikkun Farm service families in need of food support. Shelf staple items, donations accepted at library.

**Parks Commission: Kisha Dosa**

- Looking for volunteers to cover concert dates, sign-up sheet, see her after meeting.
- Still trying to figure out what we need to do to get playground equipment for park. Has reached out to ODNR, hope to have update at next meeting.
- Parks Commission meeting first Thursday in July at 6:30 p.m. in Council Chambers.

**Safety Committee: Joe Roetting**

- Article in Ohio Municipal League that the State of Ohio is going to require AED units in our parks and other places. Thinks we already have one in concession area by field, not sure how we will handle that. Will research and let council know.

**Schools: Cordel George** No report.

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

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

- Fire Department - Captain assessment next week. Three candidates.
- Police Department - New officer starting July 10. Detective position open, once filled (internally) will have one open patrol position. Detective position is a testing position from patrol ranks. Still putting together what the test will look like.
- July 3<sup>rd</sup> - Everything in order, still waiting on who is running Mt. Healthy Boosters booth.
- Clovernook - One of the problem units going through eviction process, hoping for good result. Working with the county to contact PURL directly, same issues as before, having someone we can talk to. Trying to set up meeting with self, Chief, CEO and County.
- First CRA Housing Council meeting at 6:15 p.m. on July 18. Attendees will be Joe, Ross, Jamie and his two appointees, City Manager, and Gordon Wong may be there. This group will then appoint two more to the council.
- OPWC - Will have info at next meeting. JMA suggesting we do same ones as before, have to decide, legislation by end of September. Will have at next meeting.
- City of Cincinnati suing Vinebrook for unfair practices. In beginning stages. Around 32 Vinebrook properties in Mt. Healthy that we know of; hide behind LLCs. Gordon Wong and Bill Knight did not seem to think we have too many issues. Is on radar.
- Pool open daily, no issue with lifeguards.

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

- May financials in packet. Spoke with Bob Parsons about a few items. Please call her with any questions/comments.

**PUBLIC WORKS REPORT: Justin Westrich**

- Pool open, fences in park fixed by Public Works. Mulch was spread throughout park for Memorial Day, which went well.
- Compton Road just about done, few items on punch list and permit striping remains. Will start repair issues this side of Compton on Friday (full depth repairs, sewer lids, aprons, preventive maintenance).
- No update on Hamilton Avenue - ODOT representative on vacation. Guessing they will wait until they start paving NCH section then do it all at once.
- Port-O-Let now in Wetlands April - November.
- Unused air compressor now working. Will be used to help repair storm drains around town. Able to repair catch basin at Werner and Compton.
- Estimates on having center lines repainted. Hamilton County Engineers used to do it fairly cheap, no longer do their "Saturday work." Estimates range from \$6,600 to \$9,600. County used to do it for \$2,200. Materials cheaper if Public Works does it but expensive once labor (for manual striping and road closures) factored into cost.
- Restripe parking area out front, police vehicles now on City property, not street.
- Two estimates to reseal parking area by Community Room. Hasn't been done in awhile, is due. Both estimates @ \$3,000. Will prolong life of asphalt.

## **ORDINANCES:**

**Second Reading of Ordinances:** None

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

**23-2014** An Ordinance Assessing Costs of the Removal of High Grass and Weeds and Declaring an Emergency. Mr. Parsons made a motion to suspend the first reading rule, seconded by Mr. Roetting. Roll call vote carried the motion 7-0. Mrs. Dosa made a motion to adopt Ordinance 23-2014, seconded by Mr. George. Roll call vote carried the motion 7-0. *Ordinance 23-2014 was adopted.*

**23-2015** An Ordinance Reappointing the City's Members on the Springfield Township Joint Economic Development Zone 1 Board of Directors and Declaring an Emergency. Mr. Roetting made a motion to suspend the first reading rule, seconded by Mr. Young. Roll call vote carried the motion 6-0 with Mr. Parsons abstaining. Mr. Young made a motion to adopt Ordinance 23-2015, seconded by Mr. Roetting. Roll call vote carried the motion 6-0 with Mr. Parsons abstaining. *Ordinance 23-2015 was adopted.*

## **RESOLUTIONS:**

### **Second Reading of Resolutions:**

**23-1206** A Resolution Adopting a Tax Budget for 2024. Mr. Parsons made a motion to adopt Resolution 23-1206, seconded by Mr. Roetting. Roll call vote carried the motion 7-0. *Resolution 23-1206 was adopted.*

**23-1207** A Resolution Authorizing the Mt. Healthy City Manager to Sign and Accept the Memorandum of Understanding Between the City of Mt. Healthy and the Fraternal Order of Police, Ohio Labor Council Regarding Changes to the Current Collective Bargaining Agreement Covering Full Time and Part Time Officers and Sergeants. Time is of the essence, given upcoming payroll dates. Mr. Roetting made a motion to adopt Resolution 23-1207, seconded by Mrs. Lingo. Roll call vote carried the motion 7-0. *Resolution 23-1207 was adopted.*

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

**23-1209** A Resolution Approving the Update of the Solid Waste Management Plan of the Hamilton County Solid Waste Management District. Motion to suspend first reading made by Mr. Young, seconded by Mr. George. Roll call vote to suspend first reading rule passed 7-0. Motion to adopt Resolution 23-1209 made by Mr. Roetting, seconded by Mr. Young. Roll call vote carried the motion 7-0. *Resolution 23-1209 was adopted.*

**23-1210** A Resolution Authorizing the Mt. Healthy City Manager to Sign and Accept the Memorandum of Understanding Between the City of Mt. Healthy and the Fraternal Order of Police, Ohio Labor Council Regarding Changes to the Current Collective Bargaining Agreement Covering Full Time and Part Time Officers and Sergeants. Time is of the essence, given upcoming payroll dates. Mr. Roetting made a motion to suspend the first reading rule, seconded by Mr. Young. Roll call vote carried the motion 7-0. Mr. George made a motion to adopt Resolution 23-1210, seconded by Mrs. Dosa. Roll call vote carried the motion 7-0. *Resolution 23-1210 was adopted.*

Chief Deidesheimer was asked if there were any concerns with officers working 12 hour shifts. While agreeing that there are concerns, Mt. Healthy was the only area force not on a 12 hour shift. Further, Chief Deidesheimer considers this a better way of doing business for an agency our size, and it also allows for a set schedule.

**OLD BUSINESS:** None.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- Mr. Roetting addressed resident in attendance, Jim Lowenberg, regarding City's electric aggregation. City is hopeful that Mr. Lowenberg will be allowed into the aggregation, despite net metering for solar panels.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

A motion to adjourn was made by Mrs. Lingo and seconded by Mrs. Dosa. An aye vote carried the motion 7-0 and the meeting was adjourned at 8:38 p.m.



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President of Council, Ross Bittner



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Clerk of Council, Kathleen Schmidt