

MT. HEALTHY CITY COUNCIL MEETING January 16, 2024

The council meeting was called to order at 7:00 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 Jennifer Moody, City Manager Scott Bauer, Finance Director Melanie Brandtitz

MINUTES:

A motion to approve and adopt the minutes as amended for the January 2, 2024 council meeting was made by Mr. Parsons with a second by Mr. Young. An aye vote carried the motion 7-0. Minutes were adopted.

CORRESPONDENCE: None.

GUESTS, SPECIAL EVENTS:

Brad Ackel (Civil Engineer) and Gina Balsamo (Lead Traffic Engineer) with Carpenter Marty Transportation (CMT): Attended to speak to council about Hamilton Avenue potential improvements. Carpenter Marty Transportation is a full service transportation engineering firm that handles road design, safety studies, surveys, etc. They are ODOT prequalified for all road and transportation services. The way CMT would run this project would be first to determine the goals for Hamilton Avenue (beautification, pedestrian friendly, traffic calming) identifying the preliminary scope, budget and schedule. They would then identify additional sources of funding. From there the project would go into data collection and analysis. Gina Balsamo would be the traffic analysis lead on this project. CMT would do 13 hour turning movement counts, which includes all vehicles and all movement in the area, including pedestrians. This would be done using video cameras that can be reviewed. CMT would also get growth rates from OKI to design the city for our current needs as well as take into consideration future plans and growth. After the analysis they would then do concept development. They have experience with putting funding applications together and could help guide this process and also potentially do some of those applications for the city. They showed examples of projects similar to our community.

PUBLIC INPUT:

Jim Lowenburg: The CDVG application was originally grown out of the effort to repave the alleys and parking lots, which was approved by the county. The idea was to add landscape design to make the alleyways and parking lots tie into the business district. A proposal was made to bring in a landscape designer. Jim encouraged council to remember to include the alleys and parking lots into the scope of the proposed Hamilton Avenue improvement project.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Beautification: Denise Lingo: Nothing to report.

Business Partnership: Paul Young III: None for the Business Partnership as there was no meeting.

Alliance: Paul Young III: Still working on the details of the new properties purchased on Hamilton Avenue. Rent is being collected and the scope for improvements is ongoing.

Finance: Bob Parsons: ~~December statements were reviewed and funds are positive or at zero.~~

Library: Kisha Dosa: Reached out to Lacey for any updates on the new Library project, nothing new to report. The library is offering a host of programs for youth, adults and families. Onsite tax assistance for this tax season will be held at the Groesbeck and North Central branch libraries. They also offer a "Discovery Pass" which can be reserved and used to visit local cultural institutions like museums, parks, and more for free. Log onto the library website or stop in for more information. The library is also still offering after school meals for kids under 18, available M-F 3:30-4 p.m. These meals are to be consumed at the library.

Parks: Kisha Dosa: An open public forum meeting will be held on February 13, 2024 at 6:30 p.m. in council chambers to discuss the parks and how to move forward. Parents, children and community members are encouraged to come with ideas. This invitation will be put on Facebook and the city's main page to be shared with the community.

Safety: Joe Roetting: Nothing more to add beyond the reports from the Police Chief and Fire Chief to follow.

Schools: Cordel George: There is an upcoming dental care opportunity being provided by Mt. Healthy City Schools District called "OH Dental Outreach" the first and second week of February. Stay up to date on the school website as they keep it updated. An acknowledgement was made for friend, former team mate and colleague David Montgomery (running back for Detroit Lions) as he scored the 1st touchdown for the Detroit Lions in playoff history during their historic playoff win.

Streets: Peggy Rissel: Nothing to report.

MAYOR'S REPORT: Jennifer Moody

A list of the recommended committee members for the Board of Zoning Appeals was presented to council for approval. Four of the five positions were filled, however some of their terms had expired and the position terms were not staggered as intended. An additional name was added to the list with years and terms that have been revised so they are properly staggered.

Working on Planning Commission appointments as some have also expired. James Wolf will be heading up the Civil Service Commission, with a balance of Republicans and Democrats to firm up that committee.

We Thrive has applied for a playground grant. Council Member Dosa and Mayor Moody to follow up with them to learn more.

Fibonacci Brewery webpage/facebook page has a lot of public classes and group meetings including an Amnesty International writing push for people suffering in the world as well as an Elderberry Syrup workshop. A business owner in Mt. Healthy has finally found a home here in our community and is looking forward to participating in the Beautification Committee.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT: Scott Bauer

City Manager Scott Bauer created a report for Council that he plans to present to council each meeting. Friday January 19, 2024 will be mediation for union negotiations for the Fire Department. Speed humps arrived today to be placed in early spring. Gas and electric aggregation information was presented.

DEPARTMENT REPORT: Steve Lawson, Fire Department

Fire Chief Lawson went over last year's Fire and EMS responses. 1,814 EMS calls and 286 fire runs. Of the 286, 30 were house fires. Of the 30, 4 of those were in our district. Looking to write a grant for a new fire engine, in addition to the "Safer Grant" which would pay for additional full time personnel. We would be asking for 2-3 full time employees through this grant.

DEPARTMENT REPORT: Jerome Deidesheimer, Police Department

Police Chief Deidesheimer gave a report on the January 1, 2024 incidents. 2023 was a quiet year for crime in Mt. Healthy. Unfortunately on January 1 there were two incidents. The first, a shooting at Speedway with a subject still in critical condition. The second, a shooting on Hamilton Avenue. Two people are in custody, one for each of the crimes committed, which were unrelated.

Chief Deidesheimer is proud of the way Mt. Healthy officers and neighboring agencies worked together. The Hamilton County crime scene investigative team was called in to assist and it was a completely cooperative effort from Hamilton County and Mt. Healthy to utilize some of their tools to move both cases forward. Because of these collaborative efforts, solid cases were brought in less than 2 weeks. Documentation, GPS, cell phone data and video evidence were collected. These were not random acts but targeted in both cases.

There was a discussion about how reporting is entered into the police reporting system. Some of this data needs to be revised to represent a more accurate count.

ORDINANCES:

24-2039 An Ordinance Rescinding Ordinance No. 20-1903 relating to the amending of Chapter 5, Section 5.07, Subsection C of the Mt. Healthy employee policy manual regarding military reserve leave in excess of 176 hours. Motion to adopt ordinance was made by Mr. George with second by Mrs. Rissel. Roll call vote of 7-0 carried the motion. ***Ordinance 24-2039 was adopted.***

RESOLUTIONS:

24-1216 A Resolution requesting the County Auditor to make payments of taxes pursuant to Ohio revised code §321.34. Motion to adopt resolution was made by Mr. Roetting with second by Mr. Parsons. Roll call vote of 7-0 carried the resolution. ***Resolution 24-1216 was adopted.***

OLD BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS: Mr. Roetting asked if there were any additional trash cans available to be placed on the corner of Forest and Compton. City Manager Bauer believes one was placed there already and will double check to make sure.

President of Council Bittner asked for a motion or discussion to be made about the list of names brought forward by Mayor Moody for the Board of Zoning Appeals committee. The Mayor has asked for these five names to be approved for the board: Thomas Galvis, Diane Kalmeyer, Steve Lawson, John Peters, John Knox. Terms are staggered with most of the committee members having been on the committee in the past. Motion to adopt the names of the Board of Zoning Appeals committee was made by Mrs. Lingo with second by Mr. George. A vote of aye from all members of council carried the motion. ***The Board of Zoning Appeals was confirmed.***

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion to adjourn was made by Mrs. Lingo with second by Mrs. Rissel. An aye vote carried the motion and the meeting was adjourned at 8:56 p.m.



President of Council, Ross Bittner



Clerk of Council, Sara Danks