

NORTH COLLEGE HILL CITY COUNCIL

Minutes for NCH Council Meeting, Tuesday February 22, 2022, 7:00pm

Persons wishing to address Council prior to its dealing with current legislation may do so by registering with the Clerk of Council. Please provide the Clerk with your name, address and the issue you wish to discuss.

PRAYER

CALL TO ORDER

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

Dukes Dean	Dewald	Underwood	Miller Novak	Zorb	Blythe	Anderson
Present	Present	Present	Present	Present	Present	Present

AGENDA

Motion to amended the agenda to hear the Tenant Union speak first by Ms. Dewald and 2nd Underwood. Motion passed 7-0.

Agenda approved as amended, motioned by Ms. Underwood and 2nd by Ms. Dewald, motion passed 7-0.

Tenants Union:

- Griffin Ritze with Socialist Alternative spoke about rent control. Spoke about property 1385 W Galbraith where there is a dispute between the landlords. There were several issues with the property and new landlords. He helped form a tenant's union and has the following demands; no rent increase till 2024, no evection or late fees, and credit back to tenants for lack of service, full audit for maintenance issue.
- Sharon St. Clair resident spoke about the current rent increases and issues with apartment. Talked about communications with current property manager and their bad relationship. She claimed the calls are a form of harassment. She doesn't understand her current rental agreement due to the poor communications. She has been threatened with eviction.
- Seth Weber spoke about a case study with a landlord with Vision and Beyond. The company has apartments with really bad conditions and large rate increases. He stated the Ohio has bad tenant protections and now is the time to act to protect tenants.
- Miya Brooks resident spoke about her current issue with property manager. She stated she was harassed at her door then proceeded to come into the apartment. She felt very intimated and unsafe when they entered.

Ms. Anderson did state that the City Community and Development & Recreation is looking at new legislation proposed to protect tenant. Mr. Miller-Novak stated the council is only a legislative body can pass laws and hoped the people reached out to legal aid and other forms of help. Ms. Underwood did give out an attorney's name for legal assistance to help in their issues.

- Mr. Ritze stated he hoped that council would reach out to the landlord and help to negotiate.

Mr. Miller Novak deferred to city law director and Mr. Deters stated could not give legal advice with the threat of breaking attorney client privilege.

Ms. Underwood stated she is very concerned with the situation and will follow up with council to see what they can do to help.

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MINUTES Council Meeting Minutes 02-07-2022 motion to approve by Ms. Anderson and 2nd by Ms. Underwood. Motion passed 7-0

COMMUNICATION

Gave the reminder to file their Ohio Financial Disclosure for 2021

COUNCIL COMMITTEES

City Community and Development & Recreation: Ms. Anderson reports.

- Last meeting was Feb 14, 2022. She had an update on Tree City. She gave updates that recreation commission and director is still in committee. Working on several new ideas. She spoke about the new LED lights to save city money. Discussed partnering with community programs to give communication when the Hamilton Ave is under construction. Discussed the tenant legislation. She discussed ideas for welcome packets.
- Next meeting Mar 14, 2022

Budget and Finance: Mr. Miller Novak reports.

- Last meeting was Feb 14, 2022 discussed the finance director report, Hamilton Ave construction legislation on the agenda, hiring an economic development consultant and completing the splash pad.
- Next meeting Mar 14, 2022

Rules & Public Policy: Ms. Underwood reports:

- Has not meet since last meeting.
- Next meeting Feb 28, 2021

Public Safety: Ms. Underwood reports:

- Has not meet since last meeting.
- Next meeting Feb 28, 2021

ADHOC Report

- Ms. Blythe reported for CIC meeting held on Feb 17, 2022. Stated found a donor for Weis Park asked NCH is the owner of said park.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Mayor Ms. Nichols reports:

- Food Truck Friday coming up soon March 4, 2022 4-7pm. Splash Park will be completed for Phase I this year and restrooms will be completed within a year in Phase II.
- Read the Greater Cincinnati African American Heart Association Proclamation which established 2/22 as the Greater Cincinnati African American Heart Association Day.

City Administrator Mr. Mosby reports:

- Stated last week he received the recycling information from Rumpke and NCH has greatly increased recycling effort. Spoke about changing the financial system to Uniform Accounting Network but need legislation from council to be passed and be transitioned by 7/1/22. The vehicle lease is available for police and code enforcement. Reminded council for Hamilton Ave construction project. Spoke about the RFP for the Economic Development Consultant is due soon.
 - Ms. Dewald asked about the CPA Robin. Mr. Mosby confirmed she is a consultant not employee. Asked about councils raise for 2022, he deferred to Mr. Deters. Asked what type of vehicles are going to be purchased. Has not received Mayors Court reports or Bank reconciliation reports. Mr. Mosby stated they are being reconciled properly and are being reviewed. Mayor Nichols explained that the Mayor Council report will be forwarded out and then to clerk going forward. Mr. Mosby explained why they found a new cleaner because

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- they need more of the cleaner's time but they could not provide it.
 - Ms. Blythe asked about the benefits of the Uniformed Accounting Network. Mr. Mosby explained they are interconnections to reconciliations, payroll systems, and state auditor improving efficiencies.
 - Ms. Anderson asked which line item the Robin the CPA consultant is paid out of. She wanted to know how the new person was hired for cleaning the building. Mr. Mosby stated he knew a person personally who cleans. She stated she was not happy with the hiring practices for the new cleaner.

Law Director

- Mentioned House Bill 51 that public meeting can be held virtually.
- Mr. Miller Novak asked if finance can discuss the new software.

CALL OF MEMBERS

Dukes Dean: Thanked all the attendants that came out tonight. Also congratulated GCAAHA for their Proclamation Day.

Dewald: Nothing to report.

Underwood: Thanked the police department for coming out and checking businesses are locked up at night. Also congratulated GCAAHA for their Proclamation Day. Encouraged citizens to come to meeting and express their concerns.

Miller-Novak: Thanked all the attendants that came out tonight to express their issues. Thanked council for their professionalism.

Ms. Zorb: Nothing to report.

Ms. Blythe: Nothing to report.

Ms. Anderson: Also congratulated GCAAHA for their Proclamation Day in Black History Month. Thanked the police dept for their services.

REMARKS FROM THE AUDIENCE

Police LT. Petrocelli with the support of the Police Department asked council to support a larger pay raise for the Police Chief. He explained the pay is extremely low when compared to other cities in the area and pay is too close to the other officers and be a minimum 12% increase from the Lieutenants pay.

- Ms. Anderson stated we don't pay the person we pay the position. The salary is lower in all positions across the city. Mr. Petrocelli stated there is a significant difference between department heads and the person below them.
- Mr. Miller Novak stated we are ahead this year in giving raises. He also understands that the pay for the proportions of rank does not seem close to other cities. He also stated we don't pay anyone at the city enough. Stated it is different for unrepresented people and is set through the ordinance. He also wants everyone gets their raises too and if it passes then there is still other times to talk about it in the future.
- Another officer shared his opinion and statistics about the police department. NCH Police officer's respondent to 184 incidents that involved a gun. There were 3 open shoot outs in NCH. There were 11 shot and homicide last year. The worst part is telling their loved ones is no longer coming home. All of these put a lot of stress on the officers and chief. He wants the Chief to be taken care of fairly.
 - Ms. Underwood stated she has been asking for this information for over a year. She wished the Chief to communicate with her on updates.
- The police clerk stated she supports this and wants the chief to stay.
- Mr. Miller Novak stated sometimes you forget the people behind the numbers. That is important to come to these and share their opinions and how thankful they came out tonight.

Fire Chief asked if there were any questions on the Fire Truck legislation.

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Motion to recess by Ms. Underwood and 2nd by Ms. Dewald. Motion passed 7-0. Motion to reconvene the meeting by Ms. Dewald and 2nd by Ms. Underwood. Motion passed by 7-0.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Ms. Anderson motioned to enter executive session to discuss the discipline, compensation and/or investigation of a public employee under ORC 121.22 and by 2nd Ms. Zorb. Motioned passed 7-0.

Miller Novak declared out of executive session.

LEGISLATION

SECOND READING RES. NO 05-2022, A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PARTICIPATION IN THE ODOT ROAD SALT CONTRACTS AWARDED IN 2022 AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Motion to suspend reading by Ms. Underwood and 2nd by Ms. Anderson. Motion passed 7-0.
Motion to adopt by Ms. Dewald and 2nd by Ms. Underwood. Motion Passed 7-0

SECOND READING RES. NO 06-2022, A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF NORTH COLLEGE HILL TO PREPARE AND SUBMIT AN APPLICATION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE OHIO PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION STATE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT AND/OR LOCAL TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM(S) AND TO EXECUTE CONTRACTS AS REQUIRED

Motion to suspend reading by Ms. Anderson and 2nd by Ms. Underwood. Motion passed 7-0
Motion to adopt by Ms. Dewald and 2nd by Ms. Underwood. Motion passed 7-0

SECOND READING RES. NO 07-2022, AN RESOLUTION APPROVING THE PURCHASE OF VEHICLE FOR USE BY THE CITY OF NORTH COLLEGE HILL FIRE DEPARTMENT

Motion to suspend by Ms. Underwood and 2nd by Ms. Anderson. Motion passed 7-0
Motion to adopt by Ms. Underwood and 2nd by Ms. Dewald. Motion passed 7-0.

- Ms. Dukes Dean confirmed fire department is comfortable with quote. Mr. Miller Novak stated is time sensitive. Ms. Underwood stated they have a complete list and ordinance is accurate.

FIRST READING RES. NO 08-2022, FINAL RESOLUTION

Motion to suspend by Mr. Miller Novak and 2nd by Ms. Underwood. Motion passed 7-0
Motion to adopt by Mr. Miller Novak and 2nd Ms. Dewald by Motion Passed 7-0

- Ms. Dewald asked for due date. Mr. Mosby stated there isn't but needs it asap.

THIRD READING ORD. NO 01-2022, AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND AND ESTABLISH SALARIES AND STAFFING LEVELS FOR CITY EMPLOYEES PURSUANT TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF SECTION 3.06 OF THE CITY OF NORTH COLLEGE HILL CHARTER

Mr. Miller Novak motioned to remove Mimi Anderson from legislation since Ms. Anderson has a conflict of interest with her mother being on the ordinance, and they should remove her mother from the ordinance so she can vote and 2nd by Ms. Dewald. Motion passed 5-1 with one abstention.

Mr. Miller Novak motion to remove section III second paragraph and 2nd Ms. Zorb. Motion passed 7-0.

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Motion to adopt as amended by Ms. Zorb and 2nd Ms. Dewald Motion passed 6-1

FURTHER REMARKS FROM THE AUDIENCE (as it pertains to legislation)

No remarks.

OLD BUSINESS


- No remarks

NEW BUSINESS

- Mr. Miller Novak would like to continue the talk that was had tonight.

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Dewald motioned to adjourned and 2nd by Ms. Zorb. Motioned passed. 7-0.



Christian Hedger, Clerk of Council



Mike Graver, President of Council