

NORTH COLLEGE HILL CITY COUNCIL

Minutes for NCH Council Meeting, Monday August 05, 2024, 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

Zorb	Vacant	Dukes Dean	Alexander	Wilson	Davis	Underwood
Absent		Present	Present	Present	Present	Present

Ms. Underwood motioned to excuse Ms. Zorb and 2nd by Ms. Dukes Dean. Motion passed 5-0.

AGENDA

- The Mayor would like to have an executive session on the agenda for tonight.
- Motion from Ms. Underwood and 2nd by Ms. Alexander to add an executive session after old business. Motion passed 5-0.
- Motion from Ms. Underwood and 2nd by Mr. Davis to accept the amended agenda. Motion passed 5-0.

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- Motion from Ms. Underwood and 2nd by Ms. Dukes Dean to accept the minutes. Motion passed 5-0.

COMMUNICATION

- Nothing provided.

COUNCIL COMMITTEES

City Community and Development & Recreation:

- Talked about the food trucks, trash cans, and the 4th of July. Mr. Davis gave a few suggestions about a drum show for it. Mr. Davis will follow up on the trash cans. Ms. Clear stated there will be a grant for the fall festival.
- Next meeting August 12, 2024.

Budget and Finance:

- There were two meetings: They talked about splash pad update, William Dunson Memorial and is waiting on public works to follow-up. They spoke to RITA about minors not getting taxed. Talked about the finance update and budget. They talked about fire department MOU and finished in executive session. They talked about the city center. They talked about the PT fire department, public works union contract, and then entered another executive session.
- Next meeting August 12, 2024.

Rules & Public Policy:

- Yielded their time to the public hearing.
- Next meeting August 12, 2024.

Public Safety:

- Mr. Davis did not bring his notes. They had presentations from public works, police, and fire departments. They are starting on mowing Ronald Regan. They are working on trash can fundings.
- Next meeting August 12, 2024.

Ad Hoc Report:

- The mayor reported the next date and time for the planning commission.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Mayor Ms. Nichols reports:

- The Heading for the Hills Car Show will be this Labor Day. About the CDBG funds that council needs to determine 2-3 projects to do for this grant. Stapleton Park is nearly complete with its renovations.

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Mr. Stapleton's family is still around NCH which the park is named after will try to be at the park grand opening. The longest yard show was this past weekend, and it went well. There is a promotion to increase recycling in NCH and 180 have signed up. Mr. Torrey can add events to the website and council should send them to him. The mayor should receive a final report on the investigations about the police department within the week. She has not heard from the state auditors about any investigation of the fire department. The mayor stated the hiring process for the city administrator is ongoing but will hopefully have one by next meeting.

City Administrator reports:

- Position vacant.

Law Director

- No present.

Finance Director

- Not present.

CALL OF MEMBERS

Ms. Zorb: Absent.

Vacant Position:

Ms. Dukes Dean: Talked about the council vacancy and confirmed that Ms. Dewald has a committee, and they are working on filling her open position. She spoke about the city center. She stated the roof has leaks and they have had a contractor come out recently. They do have quotes and they are working hard on trying to find a solution. Council has decided to move forward on restoring the building's operations. She also composts. She has not attended any school board meetings due to council. She would like a backup for those meetings. The tree commission has committed that for everyone one removed two are planted. Wished the kids a good back to school.

Ms. Alexander: Wants people to be mindful of speeding with kids going back to school. Ms. Alexander would volunteer to help Ms. Dukes Dean on School Board meetings.

Mr. Wilson: He wants people to put their trash where it belongs not on the streets. He wants people to watch for kids as they go back to school.

Mr. Davis: Thanked the residents for coming.

Ms. Underwood: She wants people to watch for kids as they go back to school. She has more information on speed humps.

Mayor stated they are getting bids to replace the city senior center roof since it is leaking.

REMARKS FROM THE AUDIENCE

- Peg Albert: Form the Lady's American Legion Post stated the school flashing lights have been on all summer and wants to know what can be done.
 - The mayor stated she is not sure if the school district controls the lights, she will find out.
- Donna Brunner: For the ordinance that allows the selling and growing cannabis, council passed a moratorium will expire soon and she would like it extended and assigned to committee to discuss how it effect NCH. She would like it researched or prohibitive in NCH.
 - Ms. Dukes Dean stated there was some research about this and council did not want to move forward with it. Mr. Graver moved it to Public Safety Committee.
- Will Scott: Commander of DAV chapter, they are doing the cookout for the car show. They were able to get donations. Talked about the city center and their need for a space and they will do what it takes

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to get back in there.

- Kathy Cureton: Thanked Mr. Scott for his service.
 - The DAV needs space for them somewhere to meet and would like it assigned to council.
 - Ms. Dukes Dean asked for clarification. They would meet 4 days a week. They start back in September. They are willing wait. The mayor offered the senior center as a meeting place.
 - Would like to know who is under investigation.
 - The mayor stated the police chief and police depart are under investigation nothing about the fire department.
 - Asked about the vacancy for the council position.
 - Mr. Graver, there is a selection committee, and they will have someone sworn in before the deadline.
 - Asked for an update about the CDBG grant would be allocated to the restoration of the city center.
 - Ms. Dukes Dean talked about it in Budget and Finance meeting. Ms. Clear stated that she believes it could not be used for that, but she will follow up with her.
 - Asked about the Senior Center Rental update.
 - Ms. Underwood wanted to force the issue but she did withdrawal the legislation and it is with Ms. Clear. The Mayor explained that city center has been rented out and they have an agreement in place.
 - Asked about the NCH city schools not have crossing guards.
 - Ms. Alexander there are crossing guards on Galbraith and teachers will sometimes do it too.
 - The Mayor stated the city used to do it but not anymore and now the school uses their aides.
 - The police chief is working on traffic calming and ideas with the school.

LEGISLATION

THIRD READING ORD NO 3-2024 AN ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH A POLICE DEPARTMENT SPECIAL REVENUE FUND FOR THE RECEIPT AND DEPOSIT OF REVENUES FROM THE POLICE DEPARTMENT/CITY OF NORTH COLLEGE HILL TOW AND IMPOUNDMENT LOT

- Ms. Underwood asked a clarifying question what the funds will be used for. Ms. Dukes Dean stated there is no conversation about replacing general funds. The police department will use it to fix the roof and not have to come back to council for additional funds. This will use for a variety of issues and expenses. Costs are rising.
 - She would like to know how the police let council know what they are planning on spending. She would like to know how and when. He stated during the normal budget process.
- Ms. Dukes Dean stated the revenue for forfeitures do go back the police department. They are working on the budget this month and it will be discussion coming up soon.

Motion by Ms. Dukes Dean to adopt and 2nd by Ms. Underwood. Motion failed 5-0.

SECOND READING ORD NO 4-2024 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 AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

FIRST READING ORD NO 5-2024 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SALARIES FOR ELECTED OFFICIALS

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SECOND READING RES NO 8-2024 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL FOR CITY OF NORTH COLLEGE HILL, HAMILTON COUNTY, OHIO, APPROVING THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE IAFF, NORTH COLLEGE HILL FIREFIGHTERS COLLECTIVE BARGAINING UNIT LOCAL NO. 5279 (HEREINAFTER REFERRED TO AS "IAFF").

FIRST READING RES NO 9-2024 A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE A COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF NORTH COLLEGE HILL AND PUBLIC WORKS EMPLOYEES BARGAINING UNIT, AFSCME OHIO COUNCIL 8, LOCAL 1093

- Ms. Dukes Dean confirmed they need 6 to suspend any readings.

FIRST READING RES NO 10-2024 A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE A COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF NORTH COLLEGE HILL AND THE PART-TIME NORTH COLLEGE HILL FIREFIGHTERS BARGAINING UNIT, AFSCME OHIO COUNCIL 8, LOCAL 2372

- The mayor asked about if anything was handed out to council about this. Ms. Dukes Dean confirmed what was presented to council.

FIRST READING RES NO 11-2024 A RESOLUTION TO CERTIFY ASSESSMENTS TO THE COUNTY AUDITOR FOR PLACEMENT ON THE TAX DUPLICATE

FIRST READING RES NO 12-2024 A RESOLUTION TO CERTIFY ASSESSMENTS TO THE COUNTY AUDITOR FOR PLACEMENT ON THE TAX DUPLICATE

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

- Kathy Cureton: Asked why Mr. Davis and Mr. Wilson voted No on the Ord. 03-2024. They both stated that have what they need, and council will take care of it our general fund. Asked Ms. Dukes Dean the same question. She did not want to lock up this money in a special revenue fund and not being used in the general fund. She needs to know more about this upcoming budget cycle. She is not sure if council was fully aware of why they voted either way.
 - Ms. Dukes Dean stated this was discussed in Budget and Finance committee and have had several conversations.

OLD BUSINESS

- Pies Park - The locking and unlocking of the gate.
 - Mr. Wilson wants to make sure the gate is locked and unlocked daily. He stated that no police have come out to unlock it. He would like police to take this over.
 - The police chief stated that the police is getting a key for all their officers. He stated they cut off a lock that Mr. Wilson put on himself. Mr. Wilson said he never did that but gave further details on how the gate has been locked and unlocked. They have since changed the lock. The police chief will work on getting locked and unlocked. Mayor would like to take this conversation out of council, and she will make sure it is dealt with.
- CDBG - Fund Repurposing - Discuss & decide on up to three projects to propose to Hamilton County.
 - Ms. Dukes Dean would like to discuss it in her committee. Ms. Dukes Dean invited Mr. Davis to her meeting to discuss in Budget and Finance meeting.
- Ms. Underwood asked about the digitizing city records. Mr. Hedger gave an update on the current process.
 - Ms. Dukes Dean that she heard that some items being damaged. Mr. Victor confirmed.
- Mr. Graver confirmed there is vacant committee members.
 - Ms. Dukes Dean motioned to appointing Ms. Underwood as committee chair of Public Safety and 2nd by Mr. Davis. Motion passed 5-0.
 - Ms. Underwood motioned to appointing Mr. Wilson as the OKI representative and 2nd by Ms.

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Alexander. Motion passed 5-0.

EXECUTIVE SESSION Ms. Underwood made a motion and 2nd by Ms. Alexander to enter executive session Pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 121.22, under section:

(G)(1) To consider the appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion, or compensation of a public employee or official, or the investigation of charges or complaints against a public employee, official, licensee, or regulated individual, unless the public employee, official, licensee, or regulated individual requests a public hearing. Motion Passed 4-0-1 one abstention by Ms. Dukes Dean.

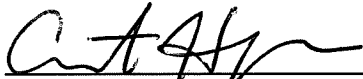
Mr. Graver called the meeting back to order at 9:07pm

NEW BUSINESS

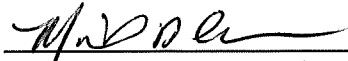
- Ms. Dukes Dean noticed that the City of Cincinnati put speed humps at the stop signs. She would like to draft legislation on placing speed humps at intersections, she would like it in her committee. Ms. Underwood gave her email and Mr. Graver agreed to place it in her committee.
- Ms. Dukes Dean stated she a rented scooter in front of her house, she would like to get the scooters out of NCH. She would like to move it to a committee.
 - Mr. Hedger explained should reach out to the company to have it removed.

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Dukes Dean motioned to adjourn and 2nd by Mr. Wilson. Motioned passed. 5-0.



Christian Hedger, Clerk of Council



Mike Graver, President of Council