

NORTH COLLEGE HILL CITY COUNCIL  
**Minutes for Virtual NCH Council Meeting, October 27, 7:00 pm**

---

**Prayer**

**Call to Order** 6:30 pm

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**ROLL CALL** Ms. Bailey, Ms. Underwood, Mr. Miller-Novak (running late), Ms. Zorb, Ms. Hartman, Ms. Anderson, present

**AGENDA.** Ms. Zorb moves to adopt the agenda. Ms. Bailey 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion passes 5-0

**Ms. Bailey moves to go into executive session.**

To discuss in executive session under ORC 121.22 (1) the appointment and compensation of an employee, ORC 121.22 G (4) conducting or reviewing negotiations or bargaining sessions with public employees, concerning their compensation or other terms and conditions of their employment.

Ms. Bailey moves to go into executive session with all attendees and if necessary excuse administration. Ms. Anderson 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion passes 5-0

Mr. Miller-Novak is now in attendance and goes into executive session.

Council resumes meeting.

Ms. Underwood moves to reconvene to Committee of the Whole meeting from executive session. Ms. Anderson 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion passes 5-0. Ms. Hartman has not returned yet.

Ms. Underwood moves to give Mr. Miller-Novak the authority to negotiate with the Law Director his salary so we can resolve this issue. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ms. Anderson. No Discussion. Passes 5-0

**To discuss the 2021 North College Hill City budget.** (Ms. Hartman returns during this discussion)

Ms. Bailey suggests to skip most of police salaries, full time and part time and leave it for the end of the conversation until we have more of an understanding what's going on there.

Discussions: Police Department discussions

- All agree to skip over salaries, still up in the air at the moment
- Uniform costs discussed
- Ms. Zorb inquires about 2 officers possibly retiring in ~~2021~~ 2021. Ms. Hall said there is an expectation in 2021 one or both intend to retire.
- Ms. Underwood asks if this budget was put together by the amount of money we would potentially have. Ms. Hall assures she has gone through the numbers to try to balance the budget to fit the revenue so we wouldn't be over appropriated .and removed things from a wish list just to get us closer to a balanced budget.
- Ms. Zorb asks about the \$84,000.00 from the 2020 budget. Ms. Hall confirms it has been rectified.
- The new police software is budgeted in the police levy for 2021.
- Dispatch fees. Pres. Graver asks if we have budgeted appropriately. Ms. Hall will check with Hamilton County. She believes they are not going to increase the contract and will report back to council.
- Ms. Bailey said training and education is zeroed out and that's concerning. Ms. Hall will check with Chief Schrand and report back to council.

Discussions: Fire Department

- All agreed to skip over salaries, still up in the air at the moment
- It was determined that Chief Fels runs a tight ship and not much to discuss.

Discussion: Recreation


- Lengthy discussion as to whether Rec. Director to be funded. We are currently moving the Recreation Director to voluntary for now as there is no recreation as of now and 2021 doesn't offer much opportunity either. Mayor Nichols said we need a plan to be able to fund this line item. There is concern calling it voluntary, instead of Recreation Director. Ms. Zorb reminds all that the position has to be there according to our City Charter, we must have a Recreation Director, but we don't need to fund that position (currently \$11,745.00). It was suggested to leave that line item at zero dollars. And Ms. Zorb and Mr. Miller-Novak see that right now there is no plan for recreation in NCH and little hope if any for 2021 and without a plan it's hard to keep that amount of money in recreation. Mayor Nichols is concerned about the title of volunteer. Ms. Bailey would try to move the money where it is going to help out the most. Pres. Graver summarizes; we need to keep the position, line item can be zero but there is a concern about calling it voluntary. Ms. Bailey said \$11,745.00 is a good amount of money to put toward somewhere else because we are potentially looking at decreasing our police fund by approximately \$180,000.00 (confirmed by Ms. Hall). We know our Fire Department is struggling. Tax Department struggling.
- Most likely there will not be car show in 2021. Budgeting is council's responsibility. Ms. Zorb reports, the car show committee determines if there is a car show. Even if council funds the car show \$3,000.00, the car show earns that \$3,000.00 back so it's really just a wash for him to get supplies and he gives that amount back. If we leave it in the line item and don't use it for the car show, it's still there to move around later on if needed. Ms. Bailey agrees.

Next Committee of the Whole Meeting is scheduled for November 9, 2020, 6:45 pm to 8:45 pm and possible November 10, 2020, 6:45 pm to 8:45 pm. to be sure we get through all of the budget.

Next meeting will start at line item 101.401.402, Code building and zoning department

To establish salaries and staffing levels for city employees, not discussed. Time did not allow.

Ms. Zorb moves to adjourn. Ms. Bailey 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion passes. 6-0

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk of Council, Mary Dewald

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
President of Council, Mike Graver

pg 2