

Adopted
6-7-2021

NORTH COLLEGE HILL CITY COUNCIL
Minutes for Virtual NCH Council Meeting, May 17 2021, 7:00 pm

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

Prayer

Call to Order 7:00 pm

Pledge of Allegiance

ROLL CALL:

Dukes-Dean	Present	Blythe	Present	Underwood	Present
Miller-Novak	Present	Zorb	Present	Hartman	Present
Anderson	Present				All present

AGENDA: Ms. Zorb moves to amend the agenda to move guest Speaker, Ms. Glenda Smith to the beginning of the agenda just after the proclamation for Officer Lasonczyk. Ms. Underwood 2nd. Motion passes 7-0. Ms. Zorb moves to accept the agenda as amended. Ms. Anderson 2nd. Motion to adopt passes 7-0.

Meeting Minutes: Ms. Anderson moves to adopt the 05-03-2021 meeting minutes. Ms. Zorb 2nd. Motion to adopt passes 7-0.

Proclamation: Mayor Nichols thanks Office John Lasonczyk on his retirement, Chief Schrand reads the proclamation and presents Officer Lasonczyk with his retired ID badge as well as his retired police badge.

Guest Speaker: Ms. Glenda Smith Esq. speaking on Hamilton County Juvenile court. See attached.

Communications: Ms. Dewald reports none. However, Ms. Underwood reports she, along with other council members, received an email from Alvin Nichols asking about CBDG funds, what are they and what are they used for. Mr. Mosby explains it is Federal dollars distributed to various communities used for specific projects, economic and community development to improve quality of life overall in cities, administered through Hamilton County. Mr. Mosby will respond to Mr. Nichols via email.

Committee Reports:

City Community and Development & Recreation: Ms. Anderson reports. Committee met May 10, 6:30 pm.

- Homeowners Assistant Fund discussed, how would people qualify and how much they would qualify for. More discussion will be at the next meeting.
- Discussed possibly Adopt an Island or Peninsula Program for businesses and families to adopt and maintain.
- June and July meeting will entail Local business to help City Community and Development & Recreation committee. A meeting with businesses to discuss what they hope to see in our community.
- Funding for Dumele Park, update play equipment and resurface
- Ms. Zorb mentioned the Tree City project. Continued discussion at next meeting.
- Next meeting is June 14, 6:30 pm.

Budget and Finance: Mr. Miller-Novak reports. Meeting held May 10, 7:30 pm

- Tax Budget discussed
- Public Hearing was held regarding rental registration tax assessments as seen on the current agenda.
- Salary Ordinance for non-classified Employees will be discussed in an executive session with Fire Chief, Police Chief and Ms. Ari hall.
- Next meeting June 14, 7:30 pm.

Rules & Public Policy: Ms. Underwood reports. Not met since last council meeting. Next meeting is May 24, 6:30 pm.

Public Safety: Ms. Underwood reports. Not met since last council meeting. Next meeting May 24 7:30 pm.

Ad Hoc reports: Mr. Mosby reports, Uniform Progress Committee met May 8.

- Discussion adopt-a-plant program
- High school track open 6:00 am to 7:30 am. Track is closed during school hours. Open for evening hours discussed.
- Movie night sponsored by Life Spring Community Church
- Next meeting May 22, 9:30 am, zoom only.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT:

Mayor's report:

- On clean-up date about 20 people including students turned out and she appreciates their support.
- Thanks to the voters for passing the street levy.
- Members of the Progressive Committee & Rec. Dept could each take a day to open the track and lock it up in the evening
- Still looking for someone (council member) to sit on the CIC. They meet this Thursday, May 20, 6:30 pm in Council Chambers. There will be a guest speaker at this meeting. A gentleman doing a project in College Hill.

City Administrator report:

- Congratulates Officer Lasonczyk on his retirement. Acknowledges that his job is not easy, yet so important to our community and was glad to see him retire in good health and enjoy his retirement.
- Thanks those who came out for clean-up day. It was a great representation. Some comments received from the volunteers was that they noticed there wasn't as much trash to pick up this time and Mr. Mosby feels it is a testament to the Mayor's policy on having a cleaner city and the Public Works doing more dedicated and targeted clean up, particularly in the commercial business district.
- We have \$130,000 in C.B.D.G block grant funds for Dumley Park. Those funds are to be used by the end of September of this year. This is important, it does represent a major infusion of resources so we can take down the some of the old equipment that we weren't able to take down the last time, install new equipment, as well as to put in new surfacing. Mr. Mosby has been working with our engineer and the county to make sure we get the first phase of this project completed.
- Thanks all the residents that came to out vote for the renewal of the Street Levy. Because of that we are going to see work being done on Sundale Ave. This project will take about 220 days. It will start at the western end of Sundale by the country club and come all the way down to Savannah. This work will be beginning fairly soon.
- We have an opportunity to receive grant money from S.O.R.T.A. for the Hamilton Avenue project which is scheduled to begin in 2022. Hamilton Avenue is one of the most heavily traveled routes in the S.O.R.T.A. system. It would require an outlay of about \$592,000. This grant money would reduce that financial liability. We don't know how much we would get from it yet, but our hope is to apply for all of it, if we could get it. In order to do that our window of opportunity to apply closes on June 30th. There will be a resolution that needs to be passed by council authorizing him to apply for the funds. Mr. Mosby has drafted that legislation and asked Pres. Pro-Tem, Mr. Miller Novak to have it placed in the Public Safety committee to be discussed, have it ready for the next council meeting to be voted on and hopefully passed to be able to apply for the grant money.

City Administrator Report cont.

- 1571 W. Galbraith, the old Hollywood video was purchased and he is in conversation with that new. Pres. Pro Tem Mr. Miller Novak asks if the new owner has stated his intent. Mr. Mosby said the new owner would like to rent it out if possible or if someone were interested, he would be open to selling the property.
- Ms. Blythe asks about the islands (bump outs) on both sides of Galbraith Road which was updated with perennials maybe 3 or 4 years ago. She noticed they now are full of weeds; some are 2 feet tall. Is this something that Public Works take care of or the temporary employees that we hire for grass cutting. There are now more weeds than there are perennials or beautification. Mr. Mosby clarifies that is public property so yes, the city would maintain those areas. Mayor Nichols addresses Ms. Blythe: These areas have been in discussion and in the process of getting cleaned out. Public works is aware of it and hopefully will get to it this week or next. The other issue is finding the right person who can plant the flowers. Mr. Mosby reminds everyone that Public works and temporary employees are busy with acting on high grass complaints cutting that grass.
- Ms. Zorb enquirers about the area where the new equipment would go in Dumley Park. Mr. Mosby explains it would be south of where the batting cages were.
- Ms. Zorb also inquired about a new position in the city titled "Litter Gitter". Mr. Mosby confirms, yes. This person was hired to go around and focus on picking up trash, particularly the commercial business district, Galbraith, Hamilton, Goodman. She has not seen that position on the salary ordinance, but she did see the temporary seasonal grass cutters and asked if they have been hired. Mr. Mosby confirms, that yes, they have been hired and should be starting next week. Actually the "Litter Gitter" is doing double duty and is also a seasonal grass cutter. That person will just be on a little longer than the temporary grass cutter.
- Ms. Zorb participated in clean-up day and noticed a street sweeper with a North College Hill emblem on the side. As vice chair to finance and has attended every meeting she asks about any appropriation or authorization to buy a street sweeper. Mr. Mosby said the appropriation was done last year. Explains there was funding set aside for renting of a street sweeper from Colerain Township that was used for the purchase.
- Ms. Zorb asks about the resolution to apply for a grant. Mr. Mosby explains this is S.O.R.T.A.'s requirement to apply for the grant authorizing the City Administrator to apply for and receive the grant funds.
- Mr. Miller Novak asks if the S.O.R.T.A. funds require any matching funds from the City. No, they do not. The resolution gives the City administrator the authority to accept the funds and will be used specifically for this project. Mr. Miller-Novak asks Ms. Underwood to put in Public Safety to be discussed at her next committee meeting. Ms. Underwood accepts.

Finance Director Report:

- Ms. Hall comments about the part time employee assisting with litter patrol. That position can be found under Public Works, 2 part time seasonal employees. The street sweeper was paid for under the 2020 budget under capital for 2020.
- Ms. Hall reports there is about \$18,200.00 that came to her attention that we need for traffic control boxes. She asks if council would amend it on the floor to include that so we can go ahead and get that purchased. It was not something included in the original budget, but needs to get done. If not, she can add it on the next supplemental. Ms. Hall can update the report for the next agenda.

Finance Director Report cont.

- Pro-Tem Mr. Miller Novak recommends to put Mr. Mosby's request to apply for a S.O.R.T.A. via resolution under new business. After discussion Mr. Miller Novak placed this in the Public Safety Committee to be discussed at the next committee meeting.

Call of Members

Ms. Dukes Dean: No comments, Nothing new.

Ms. Blythe: It was about the beautification along Galbraith Road and Thanks Mr. Mosby for answering her question.

Ms. Underwood: Congratulations to Officer Lasonczyk and thanks him for his service.

- On clean-up day she had an opportunity to walk Prospect Place and says that it is disgraceful. The street is crumbling, it looks like gravel and embarrassed that our citizens have to drive over that every day. She will lead the charge in getting something done about that street. She encourages all of council to go over to Prospect Place. It is disgraceful.
- She gives a report on the history of Marshall Peter Dumele. He was the only police officer to die in the line of duty in North College Hill. He interrupted a robbery and was shot multiple times and, on his deathbed, told his wife he could never die a coward. He served as a Marshall/police officer for North College Hill for 3 years.

Mr. Miller Novak: Participated on clean-up day with Ms. Patricia Baas. Appreciates just how dedicated she is to North College Hill. It was really nice to see people in the community who are still into actually serving the community with time and service and doing it proudly rather than using social media to try to make a difference. This government alone cannot pull it off without people contributing.

Ms. Zorb: Talked about clean-up day and would like to see it grow from the litter producing businesses. While helping out picking up trash she spoke with those helping and the biggest part of the trash that was picked up on Goodman was receipts, beer bottles. She herself found a bunch of diapers and a complete baby outfit. So maybe the businesses could get involved and help on clean up days, not leaving it to only to the residents to clean up. Maybe send a letter to them. Mr. Mosby agrees it would be good for businesses to be involved, however letters have been sent to the businesses through the code enforcement officer and are cited when needed.

- She wants to alert council that the virtual meeting concept ends July 31. So those who stay at home may want to prepare. Mr. Miller Novak adds to that, the moratorium car tag renewals will also expire on July 31. So, renew your License plates. We will start meeting in public the first Council Meeting in August. Mask mandate ends in June, maybe in the next safety committee meeting we could discuss how we are going to mandate mask issues. Further discussion about masks mandates continued with no resolve, only to place it in Public Safety for their next meeting.

Ms. Hartman: Thanks, and congratulations to Officer Lasonczyk.

- She participated in Clean-up day and she too found a complete baby outfit. She also pulled a plastic skeleton out of the sewer. She would like to see more clean-up days, get the youth involved with service hours.

Ms. Anderson: Thanks, and congratulations to Officer Lasonczyk.

- Apologizes for missing the cleanup day.
- Thanks, and appreciates the history from Ms. Underwood regarding Marshall Peter Dumele and the poor condition of Prospect Place.
- Remarked about the article Mr. Mosby shared in regards to approaching the shortage crisis of part time firefighters. It's very interesting and very informative and quite similar to what we are going through right now.

Call of members cont.

- Spoke into the regards of the social media world not being positive all the time.
- Congratulations to her mother, Mimi Anderson who filled a position at North College Hill, and for all that she does for the city. She says Mimi Anderson keeps this city alive.

COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE: None

Legislation

First Reading: Resolution 13-2021 A resolution to **de-certify** (Residential Rental Registration) assessments to the County Auditor for placement on the tax duplicate.

First Reading: Resolution 14-2021 A resolution to **certify** (Commercial Rental Registration) assessments to the County Auditor for placement on the tax duplicate.

First Reading: Resolution 15-2021, A resolution to **certify** (Residential Rental Registration) assessments to the County Auditor for placement on the tax duplicate.


OLD BUSINESS: Ms. Anderson reminds Mr. Mosby about the Rec Director position job description.

NEW BUSINESS: Ms. Underwood inquired about what can be done about Prospect Place. She will keep asking about it because it is in such bad shape and asks council to please take a look at Prospect Place. Ms. Zorb states that if we do get the funds for Hamilton Avenue perhaps there would be extra funds that could be used for Prospect Place. Ms. Anderson asks if the previous option for a no interest loan is still available. Mr. Mosby says that initial offer is no longer available but he can go back to the county to see if those funds have been committed. Discussion continued about scoring and ranks of streets needing repair. Ms. Hall reports that Prospect Place was scheduled for 2023-2024. If nothing changes this year that is the earliest, we can see that road getting repaired. Pres. Pro-Tem Mr. Miller-Novak recommends Ms. Underwood make a motion to see if council wants to move forward before Mr. Mosby goes back to the county. Ms. Underwood moves to request the City Administrator, Mr. Mosby to speak to his contact with Hamilton County about the possibility of the no interest loan so we can fix Prospect Place this year. Ms. Anderson 2nd. Discussion; Ms. Zorb reminds council that the Hamilton Avenue was hundreds of thousands of dollars over budget compared to the initial proposal. So, if the other streets that were already planned come in over budget, that puts a kink in our street levy funds. A no interest loan still needs to be paid back and as a past finance director used to say, loans get paid first. So, if that happens a loan will be paid before salaries are paid if that's what it came down to. Ms. Hall remarks it was not Hamilton Ave that came in overbudgeted it was the Sundale Project, just to be clear. Yes, for Hamilton Ave we are going to have to come up with approximately \$592,000. It is on the supplemental appropriation and has asked council if could we draw down on some our fund balance to cover that by the end of the year potentially beginning of 2022. So, we can make these commitments happen. Pres. Pro-Tem clarifies with Ms. Hall that we have enough money to direct Mr. Mosby to approach the county about the Prospect Place loan. She confirms we are not in a position to be overextended. If Mr. Mosby is able to get a zero-interest loan, we can support having that loan. Ms. Underwood points out that just looking at the street it could be a potential for a law suit for damage. Something we should consider. Ms.

passes 5-0.

ADJOURNMENT: Ms. Anderson moves to adjourn, Ms. Zorb 2nd. No discussion. Motion passes 7-0.


Mary Dewald, Clerk of Council

 6/17/21
~~Mike Graver, President of Council~~
Matt Mcken-Work Pro PR