

accepted  
7-6-2021

NORTH COLLEGE HILL CITY COUNCIL  
Minutes for Virtual NCH Council Meeting, June 7, 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				

**AGENDA:** Ms. Anderson moves to adopt the agenda. Ms. Zorb 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion passes 7-0 to adopt. Records request on the agenda was questioned.

**Meeting Minutes:** Ms. Anderson moves to adopt the 03-15-2021 meeting minutes. Ms. Underwood 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion to adopt passes 7-0.

**Communications:** Records request from Ms. Amber Bailey, Covid Proclamation from Mayor Nichols, emergency cancelled.

**Committee Reports:**

**City Community and Development & Recreation:** Ms. Anderson reports. Has not met yet. Next meeting is June 14, 6:30 pm.

**Budget and Finance:** Mr. Novak reports. Has not met yet. Next meeting June 14, 7:30 pm

**Rules & Public Policy:** Ms. Underwood reports. May 24 meeting was cancelled. Next meeting June 28, 6:30 pm.

**Public Safety:** Ms. Underwood reports: May 24 meeting was cancelled. Next meeting is June 28, 7:30 pm

**Ad Hoc reports:** Unified Progress committee. Ms. Underwood reports. They met on June 1 at 6:30 pm. They will now meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday at 6:30 pm.

- Discussion in the High School track. It is opened in the morning before school starts, closed during school hours. Members of the committee will take turns locking the track after the evening session hours. The goal is to start morning and evening is June 14.
  - Drive in Movie Night at Life Springs church. Date not yet set.
  - Someone reached out to the mayor for a block party. Maybe hold the same time as the World's Longest Yard Sale, first weekend in August. They will commit one meeting for planning the block party.
  - The islands on are in bad shape. Bounced around the idea for citizens to show up for a volunteer day pulling weeds, planting flowers. Discussed also was hiring a professional company to do the weeding, mulching and landscaping.
  - Discussed a food truck day and approaching council on the zoning for that.
  - Planters were discussed. Attorney Pat Baas purchased some for the outside of her office building. She mentioned the planters were \$120.00 with a 5-year warranty.
  - Next meeting is June 22, 6:30 pm.
- DISCUSSION: Ms. Zorb asks Mr. Miller-Novak if an executive session is needed for the next Budget and Finance committee meeting. He agrees yes, and thanks her for the reminder. She will contact I.C.R.C.

## **ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT:**

### **Mayor's report:**

- Also, would like to discuss the High School track. There is a team of volunteers willing to go up and lock the track up at 8:30 pm. Monday thru Friday, no weekends. If anyone is interested, please her know or Mr. Mosby, Ms. Underwood or Mr. Miller-Novak know. The responsibilities are at closing time to make sure no one is one the track and to lock it up.
- She did some research information for the tree program and will forward that information to Ms. Anderson.
- Interviews continue for the Mayors Court Clerk position.
- She had a conversation with a gentleman, Mr. Rufus Johnson who is active with Cincinnati on gun safety, gang training, conceal carry classes. If there is interest, she can contact him and set something up.
- She gives the rest of her time to Mr. Mosby who is reporting on some of the same things and wants to avoid repetitive information.

### **DISCUSSION:**

Ms. Anderson ask if she is referring to 09-2020 ordinance regarding the tree program. Mayor Nichols's not sure but will send to Ms. Anderson anything she has. Ms. Anderson offers to help with the evening responsibilities for the track. Ms. Underwood reports that Ms. Dukes- Dean will take a day as well.

Ms. Zorb asks the mayor about the trees that were by contract cut down on Sundale in preparation for Sundale project. We are trying to be a tree city, is there anyway the city could replant the trees that have been removed. Mayor Nichols was not aware of the tree removal in the contract and would like to see trees planted. Mr. Mosby explains the trees needed to be removed because of 2 reasons. The construction involves replacing the sewer lines and they are also widening the street and take approximately two and a half feet. The trees can be replanted and are looking into grants to replant different trees.

Ms. Anderson also wants the mayor to know that she supports the gun safety program and supports it.

### **City Administrator report:**

- Mr. Mosby begins his report by saying there is a lot currently happing in the city, as well as on the horizon and is responding to these items and in no particular order of importance. (See full report attached to minutes.)
- Transit Center
- Full Time Firefighters union for the newly established full-time firefighters.
- Police Levy for November 2022
- Public Works and current and future street repairs. Received numerous calls and orders for tall grass and continue to pick up litter, especially in the business district.
- Reminder residents of the 12 mil Fire levy on the ballot this November replacing the current 3.2 mil and provide the resources to hire 6 additional full-time firefighters.
- Comprehensive Plan proposal has been completed and published. Deadline to receive the bids is June 15 at noon. There has been good interest in this project.
- Drive In Movies at Life Springs Church. Proposed dates are Wednesday July 14 with a rain date of Wednesday July 28. This is a great way to plan a family event and our DAV will participate in this as well.
- Reflect on his 2 years so far as interim City Administrator.

Discussion:

Ms. Zorb inquiries about the street sweeper.

- Does it have the sewer cleanout attachment that Marty Cole spoke of at the beginning of last year?
- Do we have schedules for street sweeping?
- And if so, a schedule for sewers to be cleaned out, if it has that attachment.
- Have we cleaned any streets with the new sweeper yet?

Mr. Mosby responds.

- The street sweeper was purchased in 2021 not 2020 as he previously stated. It was purchased from a Public Works fund (\$150,000.) allocated for capital.
- He will check, but he believes the sweeper does have the attachment and will check with Marty also about that particular schedule for cleaning sewers.
- As far as a schedule there is no particular schedule because we can take it out whenever we have the opportunity to clean.
- It would also eliminate the need to put up no parking signs. If there are cars in the way they can come back and do the street another time.
- We have actually already loaned out the street sweeper because we have an agreement with Mt. Healthy. They pay us for the use of the sweeper which basically pay for the street sweeper itself.
- Yes, they have already cleaned several of the streets.

Ms. Anderson ask about trash cans from the Chamber of Commerce.

- Are they going to put them around the city? Have they been purchased and is there a schedule of when and where they will be placed?

Mr. Mosby reports:

- The cans have arrived and Chambers of Commerce will reimburse the city for them. They should be coming out in the next couple of weeks. Locations for the new cans has not fully been discussed but they will be replacing the old cans that are currently being used in community to maintain uniformity.

**Law Director Report:** In regards to a resident's request to have the records request read at council until all requests were fulfilled. That is Pres. Graver's discretion as president, but there is no duty in the law or obligation to do so.

Discussion;

Ms. Underwood asks Mr. Deters to verify when the order expires allowing council to meet virtually?

- He reports it expires by its natural language at the end of June.

**Finance Director Report:** No report at this time. But would like to address a few comments.

- Confirms the street sweeper was budgeted for in 2021 from the street fund. She is not 100% sure about the attachment, she is aware an attachment was purchased and will get back to council with that information.
- In regards to the records request, her office is currently working on that.

**Call of Members:**

**Dukes Dean:** Nothing to report

**Blythe:** No comment at this time

**Underwood:** Return to in person meeting as of July.

**Miller-Novak:** Nothing to report

**Zorb:** Asks Ms. Underwood-will they ever Kick off the Police Task Force. Ms. Underwood responds, yes.

**Hartman:** Nothing at this time

**Anderson:** Drive- In Date Wednesday July 14. Rain out date July 28. Happy Pride month to everybody.

**Legislation:**

**FIRST READING:** Ordinance NO. 03-2021 An ordinance adopting the first supplemental appropriation for the operating budget for calendar year 2021 for the City of North College Hill.

**Discussion:**

- Ms. Zorb asks Ms. Hall; in the street levy fund, line item 401.000.419300
- , original balance has a zero balance, The amended budget has a deficit of \$850,000.00 and the increase-decrease line has a balance of \$850,000.00. Ms. Hall explains on the summary page it is her way of showing council it's a draw down from the fund balance that is in the fund. That line item does not show up in the operating budget. But on the month to date and year to date report you'll see the beginning balance for that particular fund showing that's where the money comes from.
- Ms. Zorb asks about line item 101.101.418500, Miscellaneous Income, General Fund increased by \$25,000.00. Ms. Hall explains, this is capturing revenue from an insurance payout for a police vehicle we no longer have because there is no actual line item to record this revenue.
- Ms. Zorb asks about code enforcement increase in line item 101.401.52300 by \$13,680.00. To cover additional hours code enforcement is working per week due to increased citations. It's a rough estimate on how much it would increase our budget.
- Ms. Zorb asks about line item 101.799.525100 Land/Land Improvement increased by \$130,000.00. Ms. Hall explains. This is upfront expenditures for Dumele Park. CBDG approved a grant for us in that amount. We have to come up with that money up front and then they reimburse us. Ms. Zorb asks if the total expense or just portions reimbursed. Ms. Hall said she only increased it up to the grant amount. We are not going above what we have been awarded. Ms. Zorb thanks Ms. Hall for all of her answers.

**FIRST READING:** Resolution NO. 16-2021. A resolution to authorize the City Administrator to prepare and submit an application to participate in the Transit Infrastructure Fund Program(s) and to execute contracts as required. (To apply for SORTA Funds for Hamilton Ave.)

**Discussion:**

Mr. Mosby explains this is grant money to improve roadways and reminds council that there is a deadline of June 30<sup>th</sup> and requests council suspend readings and pass it tonight to enable him to get the application submitted in time. Ms. Anderson moves to suspend 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> reading. Ms. Underwood 2nds. Discussion: Ms. Underwood comments, we can all agree the S.O.R.T.A. program will be a huge boost for our community and citizens. Ms. Zorb asks why it wasn't brought to council sooner. Mr. Mosby explains it was only just announced after the last council meeting in May. This is the first opportunity to bring it before council. Motion to suspend passes 7-0. Ms. Anderson moves to adopt Resolution 16-2021. Ms. Underwood 2nds. No discussion. Motion to adopt passes 7-0. Mr. Mosby thanks council.

**SECOND READING:** Resolution NO. 13-2021 A Resolution to de-certify (Residential Rental Registration) assessments to the County Auditor for placement on the tax duplicate.

**SECOND READING:** Resolution NO. 14-2021 A Resolution to certify (Commercial Rental Registration) assessments to the County Auditor for placement on the tax duplicate.

**SECOND READING:** Resolution NO. 15-2021 A resolution to certify (Residential Rental Registration) assessments to the County Auditor for placement on the tax duplicate.

**FURTHER REMARKS FROM THE AUDIENCE** (as it pertains to legislation) None

**OLD BUSINESS**

1. Ms. Blythe asks about an item that was positive after Ms. Glenda Smith gave a presentation. Mr. Miller Novak reports that Hamilton County had joined the juvenile program. Ms. Zorb adds it's (JDAI), Juvenile Detention Alternative Initiative.
2. Ms. Underwood reminds council about Prospect Place needing repair.
3. Ms. Zorb reminds council there are committee assignments yet to be filled. After much discussion, motions were made to fill all open positions except for R.I.T.A. delegate and OKI liaisons. A revised 2021 committee assignment will be attached to these minutes. Ms. Zorb informs council of the importance of OKI. There is much information that comes from OKI with many opportunities for the city one being grant money. Mr. Miller Novak ask if administration could attend on behalf of council. Mr. Mosby informs council that the board consists of elected officials from various municipalities. Ms. Underwood asks if she could send someone to attend the meeting in her place who is not an elected official. if she is the liaison. It was decided more information is need regarding this concern.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Mr. Mosby clarifies that June 22 is the last zoom meeting for the Unified Progress committee. After that all of their committee meetings will be held in council chambers.
2. Mayor Nichols reminds everyone that Monday July 5 the city is closed. Pres. Graver confirms the council meeting for July is Tuesday July 6. Ms. Zorb reminds all that we are now in summer session.
3. Ms. Dukes Dean asks if virtual presence is still an option with the mandate lifted. Pres. Graver explains that we are subject to the Open Meetings Act and the virtual and hybrid models was a result of legislation passed by the Ohio legislators because of covid precautions which has now been lifted. There fore council and audience are required to come back in person. As of July 1<sup>st</sup>, we will be back to in person meetings only. Mr. Miller Novak weighs in on the issue and confirms Pres. Gravers explanation.
4. Ms. Dewald received an email from a board member of the NCH senior and forwarded it on to Ms. Underwood. The center is asking if the DAV could purchase 2 flags and 2 flag stands. Ms. Underwood said she will take care of this issue.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Ms. Anderson moved to adjourn. Ms. Zorb 2<sup>nd</sup>. No discussion. Motion passes 7-0.

  
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Mary Dewald, Clerk of Council

  
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Mike Graver, President of Council