



City of Powell, Ohio

City Council

MEETING MINUTES OCTOBER 21, 2014

A regular meeting of the Powell City Council was called to order by Mayor Jim Hrivnak on Tuesday, October 21, 2014 at 7:30 p.m. City Council members present included Jon Bennehoof, Frank Bertone, Richard Cline, Tom Counts, Mike Crites and Brian Lorenz. Also present were Steve Lutz, City Manager; Megan Canavan, Communications Director; Gene Hollins, Law Director; Susie Ross, City Clerk; interested parties and members of the Press.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Hrivnak said they were saddened to hear of the loss of City Staff member Rob Rice, who passed away suddenly on Sunday. Steve Lutz, City Manager, said on behalf of the City, his thoughts are with Rob's wife and family during this most difficult time. Sunday evening Rob passed away at home, quickly and unexpectedly. He has been a family member of the City since 1999 when he was hired as City Engineer. During a period of time he held both the City Engineer and Public Service Director positions. Rob was always great to be around for all of us in Big 10 country; he was a Maryland Terrapin fan and it was great teasing him. Staff was looking forward to Maryland joining the Big 10. It is difficult to lose someone who is so healthy and vibrant. A moment of silence was taken to reflect upon Rob's life.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

Mayor Hrivnak opened the meeting to Citizen Participation for items not on the agenda.

Fire Chief Tim Jensen and Fire Prevention Officer Lieutenant Tom Saunders, Chief, Liberty Township Fire Department were present to address Council. Chief Jensen provided a report of the quarterly activities of the Fire Department:

- First Response to Seniors Team. The department partnered with the Council for Older Adults for a program for a part-time Service Coordinator. It was funded through the Council and this individual because a part of their time to provide social worker support for seniors who call 9-1-1 but need other social services. This was an in-kind trade so the Department provided a desk, internet access and a phone and the Service Coordinator would visit homes as a representative of the Fire Department to evaluate and put them in touch with County services for seniors. They had to shelf the project for a while but have revisited this with the Council about re-instituting this service and hope to take an agreement to the Trustees next month.
- Electronic Tablets. EMS calls take an average of 1 hour, 23 minutes. In an effort to minimize the time the vehicles are out and the paramedics are at the station completing reports, they will be using tablets to complete reports on the way to and from the hospital while on the medic. There is only one person in the Fire Prevention Bureau so Lt. Saunders will have the use of an I-Pad so he can have a "portable office" as he visits sites.
- He has tasked his officers with "foundation" projects. Before he is willing to take the department to the public again to ask for tax dollars he wants to make sure they have evaluated how they operate and have found any and all other sources for funding. As a part of that process, they found that their second largest expense is their fleet. In the past they could easily gain approval for new vehicles but now there is more accountability. He presented a fleet assessment report to the Trustees which is a score card of all of the vehicles in the department and the age, maintenance and cost to determine if a vehicle is a candidate for refurbishment.
- He is seeking 6-7 members of the community, either residents or businesses, to serve on a Chief's Citizen Advisory Committee. He hears from his Board, the Administrator and the Union but he is looking for a connection to the public. A charter for the Committee has been drafted. He is looking for input on the services the Fire Department provides, how they are balanced and how they can be funded.

Councilman Bennehoof thanked Chief Jensen for his team's involvement in First Responders and One Community.

Hearing no further public comment, Mayor Hrivnak closed the Citizen Participation session.

PROCLAMATION – Liberty Township Fire Department, Fire Prevention Month

Mayor Hrivnak presented Chief Jensen and Lieutenant Tom Saunders with a proclamation in recognition of Fire Prevention Month in Powell. He thanked them on behalf of City Council for the work they do for the City's businesses and residents. Lt. Saunders said they have had a very busy month with teaching fire prevention in the schools and it has been very successful. He said Domino's Pizza and Zettler Hardware were gracious in making donations as a part of their events.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: Councilman Cline moved to adopt the minutes of October 7, 2014. Councilman Crites seconded the motion. By unanimous consent, the minutes were approved.

CONSENT AGENDA

Item

Departmental Reports – September 2014

Action Requested

Receipt of Electronic Report

MOTION: Councilman Cline moved to adopt the Consent Agenda. Councilman Crites seconded the motion. By unanimous consent, the Consent Agenda was approved.

RESOLUTION 2014-21: A RESOLUTION STATING POWELL CITY COUNCIL'S INTENTION TO COOPERATE IN IMPROVEMENTS TO STATE ROUTE 750.

Mr. Lutz said earlier this year a \$7-million grant was received to make improvements to the Sawmill Parkway/Powell Road intersection heading west to the Zoo. As part of that project, both the City and the Township are each contributing \$150,000.00 toward the improvements. This legislation is required by ODOT from the City and Township.

Mayor Hrivnak opened this item to public comment. Hearing none, he closed the public comment session.

MOTION: Councilman Cline moved to adopt Resolution 2014-21. Councilman Crites seconded the motion. By unanimous consent, Resolution 2014-21 was adopted.

RESOLUTION 2014-22: A RESOLUTION TO REFER TO THE PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION FOR STUDY AND RECOMMENDATION AMENDMENT TO THE POWELL PLANNING AND ZONING CODE SECTION 1151.04 (d): PORTABLE SIGNS; BILLBOARDS, AND SECTION 1151.11 REMOVAL OF ILLEGAL SIGNS.

Mr. Lutz said at the last Council meeting they were informed by Councilman Lorenz that during the Development Committee there was a brief discussion regarding portable signs in the City. The Committee is recommending that they have Planning & Zoning Commission take a look at the rules and regulations and enforcement practices. This legislation will be passed along to the Commission so they can start the process.

Mayor Hrivnak opened this item to public comment. Hearing none, he closed the public comment session.

Councilman Lorenz said the current regulations for the number, nature, and location of temporary signage was put in place when the economy was suffering as another instrument to boost visibilities for businesses. There has been some overrun and the Development Committee discussed other opportunities. Planning & Zoning Commission is the board that should make recommendations and they can look at the signage holistically. They will look for their recommendations within the next three months.

MOTION: Councilman Cline moved to adopt Resolution 2014-22. Councilman Crites seconded the motion. By unanimous consent, Resolution 2014-22 was adopted.

FIRST READING: ORDINANCE 2014-55: AN ORDINANCE MODIFYING APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR 2014.

Mr. Lutz said Staff is recommending they appropriate an additional \$17,500.00 to the Building Department to help them cover primarily plan review fees. Development activity continues to be very strong and they budgeted \$443,000.00 in revenue in this year's budget; to date they have collected \$640,000.00. The appropriation of additional funds is being offset by increased revenues.

Mayor Hrivnak opened this item to public comment. Hearing none, he closed the public comment session. Councilman Cline said the Finance Committee did not specifically discuss this but anytime they are appropriating money because they have received greater revenues than they anticipated, it is a good thing.

MOTION: Councilman Cline moved to suspend the rules in regard to Ordinance 2014-55. Councilman Crites seconded the motion.

VOTE: Y 7 N 0

MOTION: Councilman Cline moved to adopt Ordinance 2014-55. Councilman Crites seconded the motion.

VOTE: Y 7 N 0

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Development Committee: No report. *Next Meeting: Wednesday, November 5th, 6:30 p.m.*

Finance Committee: Councilman Cline said they met last week and reviewed the proposed 2015 budget. This is a "status quo" proposal where Staff has not recommended any dramatic changes from years past. They had a good discussion of the areas where some minor tweaking was done. *Next Meeting: Tuesday, November 11th, 7:00 p.m.*

Operations Committee: Councilman Counts said they were supposed to meet tonight but canceled it so they can prepare to spend more time at the next meeting on the Community Attitudes Survey. He asked that the Committee members review that document in preparation for that meeting. *Next Meeting: Tuesday, November 18th, 6:30 p.m.*

ONE Community: Councilman Bennehoof said they met last week. They had a good discussion on the First Responders playground at the Seldom Seen Park and the beautification projects. Tom Mitchell is working with the Agriculture Department at OSU and they may be able to have a couple of graduate student projects on Sawmill Parkway for test plantings. They would be funded by the university so it is a good opportunity for the community. *Next Meeting: Monday, November 10th, 7:00 p.m.*

Planning & Zoning Commission: No report. *Next Meeting: Wednesday, November 12th, 7:00 p.m.*

Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee: No report. *Next Meeting: Tuesday, October 28th, 6:30 p.m.*

Powell Community Improvement Corporation: No report. *Next Meeting: tba*

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

Trick or Treat will be held on Halloween, Friday, October 31st from 6-8 p.m. The next City Council meeting will be on Wednesday, November 5th due to the election.

OTHER COUNCIL MATTERS

There were none.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: EXECUTIVE SESSION IN ACCORDANCE WITH O.R.C. SECTION 121.22 (G) (3), PENDING LITIGATION.

MOTION: Councilman Cline moved at 8:04 p.m. to adjourn into Executive Session in accordance with O.R.C. Section 121.22 (G) (3), Pending Litigation. Councilman Crites seconded the motion.

VOTE: Y 7 N 0

MOTION: Councilman Cline moved at 8:45 p.m. to adjourn from Executive Session. Councilman Bertone seconded the motion.

VOTE: Y 7 N 0

MOTION: Councilman Bennehoof moved at 8:45 p.m. to reconvene in Regular Open Session. Councilman Crites seconded the motion.

VOTE: Y 7 N 0

MINUTES APPROVED: November 5, 2014

Jim Hrivnak Date
Mayor

Sue D. Ross Date
City Clerk

City Council

Jim Hrivnak, Mayor

Jon Bennehoof

Frank Bertone

Tom Counts

Mike Crites

Richard Cline

Brian Lorenz