

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

MEETING OF COUNCIL

September 13, 2021

Mayor O'Callaghan called the City of Union council meeting to order on Monday, September 13, 2021 at 7:30 p.m.

Attendance was taken and the following council members were present: Mayor O'Callaghan, Mr. Bruns, Mrs. Perkins, Mrs. Kyle, Mrs. Oberer and Mr. Blackwell.

Other city staff members attending the meeting were John Applegate, City Manager, Denise Winemiller, Clerk of Council, and Joe Moore, Law Director.

Mayor O'Callaghan called for a moment of silence.

1. Mayor O'Callaghan asked if there were any additions, deletions or corrections for the minutes of the August 9, 2021 council meeting. There were no corrections so Mr. Bruns moved that the minutes be accepted as prepared. Mrs. Oberer seconded the motion. All council members voted in favor of the motion. The minutes were accepted as prepared.

Mayor O'Callaghan said that Mrs. Thomas-Roth had called and was on vacation and not able to attend the meeting. He moved that her absence be excused. Mr. Bruns seconded the motion. All concurred and Mrs. Thomas-Roth's absence was excused.

2. Citizen's and Visitor's Comments

There were no comments from any citizens or visitors in the audience.

3. ONE READING – ORDINANCE 1729 - AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE ANNUAL APPROPRIATIONS ORDINANCE FOR 2021 AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mr. Applegate explained that this ordinance was amending the appropriation ordinance for 2021. There are two different funds. One is for Aullwood and the second one is adjusting the capital water fund. The city will be paying for the materials for the water line to Aullwood so the fund has to be adjusted but the costs of materials will be refunded. The funds will be available by October 1.

Mr. Bruns moved that Ordinance 1729 be declared as an emergency for the reasons set forth in the ordinance. Mrs. Oberer seconded the motion. All concurred and Ordinance 1729 was declared as an emergency.

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Mr. Bruns then moved to have the one and only reading and adopt emergency Ordinance 1729. Mrs. Oberer seconded the motion. All concurred and emergency Ordinance 1729 was adopted.

4. ONE READING – ORDINANCE 1730 - AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE, OHIO LABOR COUNCIL, INC. (waive three readings)

Mr. Applegate said this ordinance was for the police union and they have negotiated an agreement with their new representative, the Fraternal Order of Police (FOP). He said that the contract was almost identical to the previous contract except for an increase outlined on the attached agreement. Mr. Applegate said the staff, Union Police Chief and Police Captain recommend the approval of Ordinance 1730. He added that the membership in the FOP has already been approved.

Mr. Bruns moved to suspend the charter requirement of three separate readings on three separates days in regard to Ordinance 1730. Mrs. Oberer seconded the motion. All concurred and the motion was passed.

Mr. Bruns then moved to have the one and only reading and adopt Ordinance 1730. Mrs. Oberer seconded the motion. All concurred and Ordinance 1730 was adopted.

5. ONE READING – ORDINANCE 1731 - AN ORDINANCE AMENDING A REGULAR PAY TABLE, ASSIGNING PAY GRADES-STEPS/SALARIES AND THE MAXIMUM NUMBER OF FULL-TIME, REGULAR PART-TIME, PART-TIME SEASONAL) AND AUXILIARY POSITIONS WITHIN THE CITY OF UNION FOR 2021 AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mr. Applegate said that this ordinance was amending the pay table for fiscal year 2021 to change a salary and the number of positions, an adjustment due to the new police contract. They have decided to increase the number of lieutenants to four. In the discussion during the contract negotiation, they decided that they would need additional supervisory personnel, one on each shift. Mr. Applegate said the expenses and supervisors needed had been stated and considered before the negotiations for the new police contract.

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Mr. Bruns moved that Ordinance 1731 be declared as an emergency for the reasons set forth in the ordinance. Mrs. Oberer seconded the motion. All concurred and Ordinance 1730 was declared as an emergency.

Mr. Bruns then moved to have the one and only reading and adopt emergency ordinance 1731. Mrs. Oberer seconded the motion. All concurred and emergency ordinance 1731 was adopted.

6. ONE READING – RESOLUTION 21-07 - A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXTENSION OF THE DEPOSITORY AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF UNION AND FIFTH THIRD BANK.

Mr. Applegate said Resolution 21-07 was an extension of an existing depository agreement between the City of Union and Fifth Third Bank. The existing contract will expire at the end of this year. Fifth Third has agreed to extend the contract for another three years. Mr. Applegate said that the staff recommends this extension.

Mr. Bruns moved that they have the one and only reading and adopt Resolution 21-07. Mrs. Oberer seconded the motion. All concurred and Resolution 21-07 was adopted.

7. ONE READING – RESOLUTION 21-08 – A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE AMOUNTS AND RATES AS DETERMINED BY THE BUDGET COMMISSION AND AUTHORIZING THE NECESSARY TAX LEVIES AND CERTIFYING THEM TO THE COUNTY AUDITOR.

Mr. Applegate said this is an annual housekeeping resolution, accepting the amounts and rates determined by the Budget Commission for Montgomery County and certifying them to the county. The city is within the budgetary anticipation of revenue for the next fiscal year. Mr. Applegate said that the staff recommends the approval of Resolution 21-08.

Mr. Bruns moved to have the one and only reading and adopt Resolution 21-08. Mrs. Oberer seconded the motion. All concurred and Resolution 21-08 was adopted.

8. Open Agenda

Mayor O'Callaghan welcomed Mr. Blackwell to the meeting, saying he appreciated having him back.

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The Mayor said he had attended the ground-breaking event for the new Northmont Library. He said in the past he had been frustrated seeing all the other improvements with other libraries and now it is their turn. He said the library will be double the size of the old one, have lots of bells and whistles and more interactive things for both kids and adults. It will take about a year to be done so by this time next year, the Mayor thought the new library should be open.

Mayor O'Callaghan said this was his personal opinion but he said there has been a resurgence of the virus and he asked that people stay safe, and do a couple of things: get a vaccination if eligible against the virus, and wear masks when appropriate. He said everyone in the council room had been vaccinated but he asked everyone be as safe as they can for their cohorts and for the children who are more susceptible with this round of the virus.

Mr. Blackwell said it was good to see everyone. He said he has missed a lot of meetings due to his work schedule and getting the Covid virus. He said he had been on council for 13 years and that it had been an honor and a pleasure. He said besides serving on the council, he had also worked for the city for a total of 23 years, on the fire and police departments. He said because of his work schedule, he was not sure if he would be able to attend any more council meetings so he wanted to thank the council and tell them he had enjoyed working for the city.

Mr. Bruns said it was hard to believe that Mr. Blackwell wouldn't be on the council. He said it made him think that they have a group of people, doing what they have to do, not for the money, and said that both Mrs. Perkins and Mr. Blackwell would be leaving the council soon and he wanted to say good-bye and thank you.

Mr. Bruns asked if there was a need for a second meeting in September and Mr. Applegate said yes. He said that they needed to pass some development agreements, and hoped to have them on the agenda for this meeting but they were not ready. He said Opus was "turning dirt" on October 1, and there was a project for the Deal property for mid-October and a few other things. Mr. Applegate said they would need to have a second meeting in September, which would be September 27.

Mr. Applegate said things were going well with the water line and they were at the top of the hill. He said they had passed some of the worst obstacles and were doing 500 to 600 feet per day. A few people are already tying into Union's water.

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On the wastewater treatment plant, they are within days of filling up the new addition. Everything inspected so far has passed with flying colors. It was clear in the aeration tank and there were no problems. He said that they will shortly be able to shift gears and work on the old tank, install new equipment, and have their last inspection on Tuesday.

In response to a comment, Mr. Applegate said they were boring under State Route 48 already. Metro Parks had been very helpful, and the city is now able to offer potable water to people. He also thanked the Ohio EPA for the loan to the city, and after the work was done, it would become a forgivable loan.

Mr. Moore said with the Covid virus, he had not been to the city as much as many of the meetings were Zoom meetings and telephone conference calls. Mr. Moore said in coming to the meeting, he had driven through the area and it had been very interesting to see all of the work being done and seeing what the developers were doing. He said it all seemed very well planned.

Mr. Applegate said things are really happening and it is amazing to drive over and see the progress on the Amazon building. Mr. Moore said hearing the phrase “turning dirt” was happening and it was interesting to watch.

Mrs. Winemiller said that she had supplied the June and July Fund sheets to the council and if anyone had any questions, they could get in touch with her.

9. Mr. Bruns moved that the council meeting be adjourned. Mrs. Oberer seconded the motion. All concurred and the council meeting was adjourned. The next council meeting will be on September 27, 2021.

Respectfully submitted,

Denise A. Winemiller,
Clerk of Council

John Bruns, Vice Mayor