

**50th GIRARD CITY COUNCIL
MONDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2020
REGULAR MIINUTES/JOURNAL**

PLEDGE

ROLL CALL

PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL	MR. REYNALD J. PAOLONE	PRESENT
FIRST WARD COUNCILMAN	MR. KEITH SCHUBERT	PRESENT
SECOND WARD COUNCILMAN	MR. MARK STANDOHAR	
PRESENT		
THIRD WARD COUNCILMAN	MR. JEFF KAY	PRESENT
FOURTH WARD COUNCILMAN	MR. THOMAS GRUMLEY	PRESENT
COUNCILMAN-AT-LARGE	MS. LILY MARTUCCIO	PRESENT
COUNCILMAN-AT-LARGE	MR. JOHN MOLITERNO	PRESENT
COUNCILMAN-AT-LARGE	MR. SAM ZIRAFI	PRESENT

COMMUNICATIONS

ADDITIONS & DELETIONS

50-39

FIRST READING

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXPENDITURE OF UP TO \$50,000.00 OF THE CITY OF GIRARD'S COMMUNITY BLOCK GRANT REVOLVING LOAN FUND AS PART OF THE FY21 USEPA BROWNFIELDS CLEANUP GRANT TO FUND THE REMEDIATION OF CONTAMINATED PARCELS LOCATED ON THE FORMER GIRARD LEATHERWORKS PROPERTY AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Councilman Moliterno asked the Chairman if this was not what they approved last time. The Chairman asked the Mayor to take this question. Mayor Melfi stated that after they approved the last legislation, if he'll recall, they included general fund monies. The Mayor further stated that Julie Greene called them the very next day and said that their balance with Medvac, or whatever the new name is, is \$70,000. If he'd recall they didn't believe that they had over \$50,000. She confirmed that the balance of their funds is \$70,000. She needs this original language to get additional points on the application. The Mayor continued, so the legislation that they passed last time was general fund dollars and they are bringing it back to CDBG revolving loan fund. Councilman Moliterno asked if they were talking about the dollars that CIC has. The Mayor said that that was correct. Moliterno stated that that is not the revolving loan fund. It is a revolving loan fund administered by Medvac on behalf of the CIC. The Mayor said that is correct. Councilman Moliterno said it is not just city money. The Mayor said that the state uses city money. Moliterno said he had a conversation with the state today and they disagree with that concept. Moliterno continued, that being said he talked to Henry Sforza and he doesn't think there is cash. He thinks that includes the monies that they've lent out. The Mayor stated he is just going by what Julie has told him. Moliterno said his concern is he doesn't want to call in a loan on a company that they have loaned money to employing people in Girard in order to take money for this grant. Moliterno said they need to do the homework on this to make sure that it is actual cash and it is actually there. The Mayor said that Julie did. He did not personally. Councilman Moliterno said he talked to Medvac today too and they agree with what he just said. Moliterno said that Julie just got the paperwork from them, that's all. Moliterno said the homework needs to get done. His point in that is that this reads exactly the way the last one did. President of Council Paolone said that he understands that and called the Mayor and asked him about that. The Mayor said that this reads the way the original one did. Paolone said correct, and they amended it to general fund. Paolone asked if they are going to amend this one or leave it as it is? The Mayor said as is. The Mayor said she is in charge of the application on our behalf. This is the language that she wants for as she said additional points on the application. Paolone said so we will not have to amend this the way it is written? The Mayor said leave it the way it is. He continued it is actually Community Development Block Grant. The word development is not in there and it should be in there. The Law Director stated that at the last meeting when he and Mr. Zirafi spoke, he understands the difference of opinion that is out there regarding the CIC money but his and Councilman Zirafi's question was whether they had a line item titled that regardless of what the source is. That was the only issue he had, did they even have a line item called that. President of Council said he didn't think they had a line item called CIC either. The Auditor said no. Councilman Moliterno said it is a separate entity under Ohio Revised Code it is a 501C3. He said he

has no problem adding it to the agenda, he just wants to make sure that they go through the right process to do this. Moliterno said he is certainly not comfortable with that tonight but he doesn't mind adding it to the agenda. The Mayor stated that it has to be signed and delivered to her tomorrow or the application is gone. That's just the way it is. Paolone asked they don't have to amend it at all tonight. It passes the way it is? Councilman Grumley said they don't have any clarification of where the money is coming from. Paolone said that's why he is asking. Just playing devil's advocate. If they want them to pass something they have to know what they are passing. Councilman Zirafi stated if they get the grant they will need the money. If they don't get the grant they won't need the money. Zirafi said if they need the money council would have time to review it and say okay is there a way they can move money from the general fund into something specific. Mayor Melfi stated, it is also important to note that since their last meeting they developed an end user to the property which makes the application even stronger. That is Windsor House committing to be an end user to the property for office development. So that makes that application much stronger when it is being reviewed. It is a five state application. A five state grant process. It is a very competitive process. Paolone said in retrospect, if they pass this tonight they don't need the money tomorrow. They only need the money if they get the grant. The Mayor replied absolutely. Paolone said then at that time Julie and he will figure out where they are going to take the money. Councilman Grumley said so if they do get the grant then they can move the money from the general fund they passed at the last money into wherever we need it for the CDBG. Councilman Zirafi stated in his opinion if they get the grant he is sure between passing this tonight and whenever the grant would be awarded they could do some legwork on how they go about funding this. In other words, do they have to put another fund as the CDBG loan fund and then fund it from the general fund. He stated he thinks council can do that just by a vote. That money then would be put over there to come out of the line item. Councilman Grumley said that as a member of the CIC he knows that \$50,000, if there is even \$50,000 there it would bleed it dry or pretty close to it. Councilman Moliterno stated that it is the only fund they have in the city to help a business that wants to come into the city or grow. It is it. That is the only money they have. President of Council Paolone said that he sees what Sam's saying. If four months from now they get the grant they can move the money from the general fund. Moliterno said that if that is true, and he trusts Sam's opinion, if they are able to do that and move it he is certainly more comfortable with it because city council does not have the right to just take the money out of the CIC funds. It just doesn't have it. Councilman Zirafi said that in worst case scenario, in his opinion, the CIC money was theirs anyway. They funded it. Moliterno said that is not true. Moliterno further stated that the initial funds, because he has been on it since the day it was formed, there was a \$10,000 grant from the Community Development Block Grant of the city that started it, but it has grown dramatically since that time. Zirafi said that his point is that they gave money once they can always give them the \$50,000 to put in and take it right out. Moliterno said that not only that he is not saying, nor is Jeff as a board member or Tom, as a board member, or Jerry or Jimmy that are both on it that the CIC wouldn't want to participate but they deserve to be asked. They deserve to be a part of the conversation and a part of the process as opposed to this body reaching in and just saying we are taking all of your money because then what do they do with every other board or commission they have because they don't need them because council could just run every board or commission. Zirafi said that the position he is taking is that they want to go for the grant and to do that they have to pass this as is and get everyone to sign off today and then the next step is if they do have to come up with the \$50,000 then they do have to come up with multiple ways of doing that. Either give the money to CIC and call them in advance and tell them they are going to give them the \$50,000 if it has to come from them but with the understanding that they have to give it to Julie Greene or they are going to pass something else as legislators to set up a fund and then move the money from the general fund. Either way he doesn't think it is illegal and he thinks it is perfectly agreeable to do it that way. Passing this tonight just gets us in the horserace. We'll see where we finish. Councilman Moliterno said that the CIC is not mentioned in here. The Mayor stated that he didn't want to belabor this because this has been an issue for decades because it is such a small amount of money it is not worth an argument at this particular time. The Mayor continued, John is right, there is not another tool in the city's toolbox to help any businessman out there. The fact is though, in the past, our CHIP monies have been reduced because of the monies the CIC holds because the State deems it monies that belong to the city. They have actually been penalized by those balances. It is not worthy of an argument right now. It is a small amount of money. What is worth going forward with is making sure they get this application as prescribed by our grant writer.

MOTION MOLITERNO SECOND GRUMLEY TO ADD 50-39 TO THE OCTOBER 26, 2020 AGENDA.
SCHUBERT

STANDOHAR
KAY
GRUMLEY 2
MARTUCCIO
MOLITERNO 1
ZIRAFI
ADDING 50-39 TO AGENDA PASSES 7-0

ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA

MOTION STANDOHAR SECOND ZIRAFI TO ACCEPT THE AGENDA OF OCTOBER 26, 2020 AS AMENDED.

SCHUBERT
STANDOHAR 1
KAY
GRUMLEY
MARTUCCIO
MOLITERNO
ZIRAFI 2
PASSED 7-0 VOTE TO ACCEPT AGENDA AS AMENDED

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

MOTION MARTUCCIO SECOND ZIRAFI TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES OF OCTOBER 13, 2020 AS WRITTEN.

SCHUBERT
STANDOHAR
KAY
GRUMLEY
MARTUCCIO 1
MOLITERNO
ZIRAFI 2
PASSED 7-0 TO APPROVE MINUTES AS WRITTEN

CITIZEN'S COMMENTS

REPORT OF OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS OF THE CITY

MAYOR **JAMES MELFI** **PRESENT**
Mayor Melfi stated he had a couple of items. First, a reminder that trick or treat this year will be in front of the police station on Saturday between 5-7 pm. Once again, please have your trick or treaters in the vehicle, please be a Girard resident, have your trunk up and their volunteers will be placing the items. The items are in. They are in the police station roll call room. They are very nice. Children are getting a trick or treat bag of goodies plus a science kit from WOW. The Mayor said he wanted to thank Sarah Lown from the Western Reserve Port Authority. She did a great job for them. It is going to be a wonderful treat for the kids and obviously they kind of cut it off at 6th grade but no one will be turned away so even you, President of Council can jump in your car and get a treat. President of Council stated he and his wife are going to come down to help. The Mayor said he had an item that he caught wind of recently, it looks like downtown is going to get a major remodeling at the old Charles Shops for those of them old enough to remember the Charles Shops. Tropitan is going in. They are purchasing the building lease to purchase and they are going to do some major remodeling to the building. It will be a major boost to downtown. For a long time we have had a need for specialty shops downtown because obviously the haberdasheries and shoe stores are hard to stay in business anymore. That's a pretty good investment in our downtown.

COMMENTS:

Councilman Moliterno asked if they need volunteers for Saturday. The Mayor responded that they always gladly accept anyone coming by. They will have the police there. There will be two entrances in and out because they are expecting a crowd so yes, please stop by if you would like. Councilman Moliterno said he would like to come down and help but he thinks they have heard enough and read enough on Facebook to know that there are going to be a lot of people still passing candy out. He would love to have the police on the road doing their patrols as they always do on Halloween. The

POLICE CHIEF	JOHN NORMAN	ABSENT
FIRE CHIEF	KEN BORNEMISS	ABSENT

COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE-MOLITERNO-GRUMLEY-ZIRAFI

Councilman Moliterno stated they had a brief finance committee meeting this evening. He thanked the auditor and treasurer for the information they provided for them. They asked a number of questions and they are going to provide some additional information to them. Moliterno said they are most appreciative of their cooperation as they move forward.

COMMENTS:

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT-MARTUCCIO-STANDOHAR-MOLITERNO

Councilman Martuccio said she spoke with Mr. Dundee of Mr. P.C., the company that is working on their website and Mr. Dundee said he received the okay for hosting the site last week. He will be sending them changes for review hopefully this week.

COMMENTS:

BUILDING & GROUNDS-SCHUBERT-MARTUCCIO-STANDOHAR

No report

COMMENTS:

HEALTH & SAFETY-GRUMLEY-SCHUBERT-KAY

No report

COMMENTS:

STREETS, SIDEWALKS & EMPLOYEE WELFARE-STANDOHAR-KAY-GRUMLEY

No report

COMMENTS:

UTILITIES-ZIRAFI-MOLITERNO-SCHUBERT

No report

COMMENTS:

ZONING-KAY-ZIRAFI-MARTUCCIO

No report. Councilman Kay asked to schedule a meeting for December 14, 2020 at 6:30 pm.

COMMENTS:

ORDINANCES

50-38 FIRST READING

AN ORDINANCE APPROVING THE RECODIFICATION AND EDITING AND INCLUSION OF CERTAIN ORDINANCES AS PARTS OF THE VARIOUS COMPONENT CODES OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF GIRARD, OHIO, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

MOTION MOLITERNO SECOND GRUMLEY FOR SUSPENSION OF THE 2ND AND 3RD READINGS OF ORDINANCE 50-38.

SCHUBERT
 STANDOHAR
 KAY
 GRUMLEY 2
 MARTUCCIO
 MOLITERNO 1
 ZIRAFI

SUSPENSION OF 50-38 PASSES 7-0

MOTION MOLITERNO SECOND GRUMLEY FOR PASSAGE OF ORDINANCE 50-38.

SCHUBERT
STANDOHAR
KAY
GRUMLEY 2
MARTUCCIO
MOLITERNO 1
ZIRAFI
ORDINANCE 50-38 PASSES 7-0

50-39

FIRST READING

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXPENDITURE OF UP TO \$50,000.00 OF THE CITY OF GIRARD'S COMMUNITY BLOCK GRANT REVOLVING LOAN FUND AS PART OF THE FY21 USEPA BROWNFIELDS CLEANUP GRANT TO FUND THE REMEDIATION OF CONTAMINATED PARCELS LOCATED ON THE FORMER GIRARD LEATHERWORKS PROPERTY AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

MOTION MOLITERNO SECOND GRUMLEY TO AMEND ORDINANCE 50-39 TO ADD THE WORD DEVELOPMENT BEFORE BLOCK.

SCHUBERT
STANDOHAR
KAY
GRUMLEY 2
MARTUCCIO
MOLITERNO 1
ZIRAFI
AMENDMENT OF 50-39 PASSES 7-0

MOTION MARTUCCIO SECOND GRUMLEY FOR SUSPENSION OF THE 2ND AND 3RD READINGS OF ORDINANCE 50-38.

SCHUBERT
STANDOHAR
KAY
GRUMLEY 2
MARTUCCIO 1
MOLITERNO
ZIRAFI
SUSPENSION OF 50-38 PASSES 7-0

MOTION MARTUCCIO SECOND GRUMLEY FOR PASSAGE OF ORDINANCE 50-38.

SCHUBERT
STANDOHAR
KAY
GRUMLEY 2
MARTUCCIO 1
MOLITERNO
ZIRAFI
ORDINANCE 50-38 PASSES 7-0

NEW LEGISLATION

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION SCHUBERT SECOND STANDOHAR TO ADJOURN THE MEETING OF OCTOBER 26, 2020.

SCHUBERT 1
STANDOHAR 2
KAY
GRUMLEY
MARTUCCIO
MOLITERNO
ZIRAFI

ADJOURNMENT PASSES 7-0

REYNALD PAOLONE, PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL

MONICA URBANIC, CLERK OF COUNCIL