

**50th GIRARD CITY COUNCIL
MONDAY, MARCH 22, 2021
REGULAR MINUTES/JOURNAL**

PLEDGE

President of Council asked Rose Ann Lubert to lead the 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 |

The Mayor called Rose Ann Lubert to come to the front. The Mayor said that this evening they had a Proclamation by Council and the Mayor honoring the library and the folks involved. The Mayor requested Ms. Lubert call the library employees in attendance to the front. Ms. Lubert introduced her staff and they came forward. Ms. Lubert stated she is retiring and Friday is her last day and she has had twenty great, privileged years at what she considers to be the jewel of our community. Mike DelBene, she knows many of them know him, named it that many, many years ago. She further stated that it has been an honor and a privilege and if she did any good, she hopes some of them think she did, it is because of these people right here. Nobody does anything alone. Ms. Lubert said it's been a great twenty years and thanked everyone. The Mayor said the library will miss her but he knows she'll be around and our citizens will see her, possibly even more. The Mayor said he knows it's a day of celebration but bittersweet. The Mayor then read the Proclamation aloud and presented the Proclamation. Congratulations were given by the Mayor and Council members and pictures were taken.

COMMUNICATIONS

ADDITIONS & DELETIONS

ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA

MOTION MOLITERNO SECOND GRUMLEY TO ACCEPT THE AGENDA OF MARCH 22, 2021 AS WRITTEN.

SCHUBERT

STANDOHAR

KAY

GRUMLEY 2

MARTUCCIO

MOLITERNO 1

ZIRAFI

MOTION TO ACCEPT AGENDA PASSES 7-0

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

MOTION MOLITERNO SECOND GRUMLEY TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF MARCH 8, 2021 AS WRITTEN.

SCHUBERT

STANDOHAR

KAY

GRUMLEY 2

MARTUCCIO

MOLITERNO 1

ZIRAFI

MOTION PASSED TO APPROVE MINUTES 7-0

CITIZENS' COMMENTS

REPORTS OF OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS OF THE CITY

MAYOR

JAMES J. MELFI

PRESENT

The Mayor said he had a couple of things this evening. The Mayor said at the last meeting he made Council aware of the fact that 25 W. Liberty Street, the old Ben Franklin, was condemned by the Trumbull County Health Board. He just wanted to read to Council from their minutes under new business "Declaration of unfit for human habitation, 25 W. Liberty, Girard City, John M. Penza, owner, not present. A request was received from Girard city officials to conduct an inspection to determine if the structure was fit for human habitation. An inspection was conducted on January 29, 2021. Upon inspection the inspector noted gross, unsanitary conditions. The inside of the structure was gutted. The windows were broken throughout and the structure was in horrible condition. Motion 21-23 made by Mr. Messersmith, second by Mr. Borocz, to declare the structure at 25 W. Liberty Street, Girard City, unfit for human habitation and a danger to life and health. The property owner must secure and make improvements or raise the structure within sixty days. Failure to comply will result in the matter being turned over to the court of competent jurisdiction." So we are moving on that relatively quickly. The Mayor continued, his second item for this evening, he is sure everyone has read or seen on tv about the Covid money that the City has received. The Mayor said he was informed by Congressman Ryan that the City received \$1.8 million in Covid funds. He said he had a discussion with President of Council and they decided they should sit down and have Council submit a list of their thoughts about the funds and how to use the funds and the administration will do the same. The Mayor said then it can be determined by the appropriate body or legal influence that whatever we have selected is eligible. Once they do that then from that point on they will determine what programs and what things they want to do. He stated he thinks he mentioned it in the local paper, right off the top of his head two items, he has a wish list of course, is making sure the general fund is solidified with the drop in income tax last year and the continued drop and also first and foremost on every list is demolition. The Mayor said that is just a couple of items that he had for them. They are looking for input from council and they will determine from that point he asked President of Council if he agreed. Paolone said yes and told Council to put a list on paper, e-mail him, call him. They will get it all together and have a caucus one day a month or so from now and see what they can come up with. If no ideas they will throw it all on administration so if they have anything they really want to do let's do it. Paolone said he has some things he would like to do and knows he has talked to some of them about things they would like to do. Now is the time to do those things. He said if they want to discuss it with the building and grounds chairman, Keith is open to listen.

COMMENTS:

Councilman Martuccio asked if there is a deadline as to when they want this submitted. President of Council said they have until 2024 the Mayor told him. The Mayor stated the projects must be completed by December 31, 2024. As soon as possible. The Mayor said he is sure everyone is thinking of things to make improvements. They have to make sure of course that they are accepted by the federal government as use for Covid funds. Once they do that then they'll talk it out. President of Council said by the end of April. The meeting of the 26th.

Councilman Standohar asked what, in general, what are the restrictions and what it cannot be used for? The Mayor responded he has been reading extensively what other cities have done with the previous Covid funds and he doesn't know what restrictions are out there. They were always concerned last year what they were using the funds for, but he sees Youngstown using them for general fund purposes. The Mayor said he has seen demolition, vehicles, all kinds of things. Liberty Township bought a pickup truck with funds last year as well for the police department and possibly the road department. The Mayor stated he just wants to make sure that whatever they want to do as a group that they have approval for those items and then they'll go from there. Then they don't have to concern themselves that they did something incorrectly. Standohar said he would put forth a zoning coordinator and director to oversee the entire department. Paolone said write it down and let him know. Paolone said maybe the first meeting of May they will have a caucus and discuss all of this. He'll have them all put together on a piece of paper and they will go from there.

SAFETY/SERVICE DIRECTOR

JERRY LAMBERT

PRESENT

The Service Director said he had a couple of things tonight. An update.....they talked to Foust Construction. They are the ones that are doing the sidewalks around the school. Jerry said they told him that they will be started when there is no sign of future frost in the forecast. Foust is assuming it will be before the end of April before they actually start it. The second thing on the list, the street paving will begin after July 1st. That is when the money is available from the State. Lambert said the anticipated completion date if they pass the legislation tonight, which he is hoping to, with regard to Wellman, they will start as early as tomorrow and the anticipated completion date for the entire project is going to be June 15th. What they are probably going to do once everything is approved and in place, they are probably going to put something together to notify all of the people that live in that area by a letter to show what will be happening as far as restricted driving and stuff like this because Wellman Avenue may be one lane for a section from Kline to Liberty St. for awhile. Lambert said at the next meeting he will be able to give them all of that stuff to show them exactly what is going on. Lambert said the last thing he has on there is that they have been working on the recommended improvements to the water system in the City of Girard probably for the last 20 years. The next step that they can see that can really help them out would be if they were to update the pumps at the Tibbetts Wick pump station as well as the Churchill Road pump station. How he would like to handle this with council's approval, he talked to Mr. Zirafi, who is the chairman of utilities, earlier about it. What he'd like to do is advertise for bids for the improvements to those pumps. They will need three at Tibbetts Wick and two at Churchill. Advertise for them and if there is a way they could get the Covid money, if this would apply to that, he would like to see if they could use the Covid money for that. It could be in excess of \$250,000 by the time they are done. If not, they do not have anything for next year's Eastgate. So one way or the other they can probably do it either way. Lambert said he would like to see if they can bring in legislation tonight to at least advertise for bids and see where they are and he would keep them informed in the future as to what is going on.

COMMENTS:

Councilman Grumley asked if they are going to go the Eastgate route, should they be looking, it seems like anytime they make adjustments to pumps the weakest lines seem to appear. They know that they have some very shaky lines underneath as it is. If they are going to go the Eastgate route should they be looking, or if they are going to get the pumps through Covid, look at next year updating it and putting in where they need, starting sections of this City, because they all have known for years that they need to start replacing waterlines, and make a total project of the entire package. Grumley said he thinks it is long overdue. They worry every time there is a break on Trumbull because they have seen the condition of that line. He said he has been there every time it has been broke open and the condition of that line is terrible. Grumley said it is throughout the City. He said should they maybe look at a master plan with these pumps or start taking sections and actually replacing some of these faulty lines that we know are underneath there.

The Service Director responded that they have been working on the list and he didn't want to bring it all out today, but some of the things that are on the list, there is a section of pipe on Keefer Road from Marlene Drive to Churchill.....it's not there and that would help improve the water service to that particular area. The second thing they put down there too in addition to what this is, a few years back the line that goes over the Mosier Road bridge froze and broke again so there is no line over that bridge. All they have is a valve on either side and what they are doing now is they are feeding the water from the Churchill pump station, down Wellman Avenue, across Liberty Street, down Mosier Road and all the way down to the bridge and then the people in Parkwood, Iowa, Illinois and that area are being serviced from Youngstown coming down Trumbull Hill and feeding it back that way. Lambert said they want to make that connection because they feel with the improvements to the pump stations on Tibbetts Wick and the one at Churchill they will be able to pump more water because the Niles water is less expensive any way you look at it. If they could pump the Niles water into the Parkwood area it would also save the City money and it would also give them better pressure because of the improvements they are making at the pump stations. That is why pump stations were number one. Lambert said the third thing on the list, there is actually, they want to extend the 12" main line on Highland, it is really strange here so he is going to have to check it out himself, but Highland to Churchill to the 12" line on Kline and Highland, that has to be upgraded. They are talking about adding a new 12" line from Wellman to Churchill to Hazel to supply water, that is what he was just talking about, to the Parkwood area. Then replace the Trumbull Avenue deteriorated 6" and 8" water mains with a new 10" main from Earl to Summit, which is exactly where you were coming from. The Service Director said the biggest thing is getting the pumps in order and if they can add these things too, depending what all of your lists are in regards to the Covid money, and depending on if these things could apply to the Covid money they can go right down. These go back to something we said we were going to update twenty

years ago. They have been working on it bit by piece. Lambert said this is the initial action that they are hoping they can get accomplished.

LAW DIRECTOR **BRIAN KREN** **PRESENT**

Attorney Kren said that he knows council likes to wait and give three readings to the ordinances for levies and that's a two part process. They do have a trash levy up so in order to give it the six readings to them between the both and get the certified numbers to the auditor for the November election he would ask that somebody request that legislation tonight so Council has enough time. Kren said he is looking forward to the next primary, he thinks the senior levy folks wanted that levy on the primary and the deadline is in February, so later this year he will be prompting council to try to get all of that in place before the end of the year so that they have enough time for the May primary.

COMMENTS:

Councilman Moliterno asked if that is a garbage levy that is up? Attorney Kren said it is a garbage levy that is up but he forgets which millage it is.

AUDITOR **JULIE COLEMAN** **PRESENT**

Ms. Coleman stated she just wanted to say that they had a good finance meeting and went over the current year to date numbers in comparison to the past few years. The Auditor said she just wanted to add onto the Covid funds that they are receiving it does seem that they are more flexible compared to the monies they received before as far as guidelines go. They have a longer period of time to use it but she said she does believe that they might be getting it in two different payments. Fifty percent in the first one and then a year after that they would receive the other fifty percent. She said she doesn't think they are getting it all at once.

COMMENTS:

TREASURER **MARK ZUPPO** **PRESENT**

No report.

COMMENTS:

POLICE CHIEF **JOHN NORMAN** **ABSENT**

FIRE CHIEF **KEN BORNEMISS** **PRESENT**

No report

COMMENTS:

COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE-MOLITERNO-GRUMLEY-ZIRAFI

Councilman Moliterno stated that as the Auditor said they had a good, long finance committee meeting tonight. They got the updated numbers as they start the year. Moliterno said he appreciates what Julie has done adding some additional information to her packet. It gives all of the members of council an additional update on some of the other levies, some of the other things that they knew they had on the ballots but they were never really sure what they generated or what times they generated those dollars. Again, he said he appreciated that very much.

COMMENTS:

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT-MARTUCCIO-STANDOHAR-MOLITERNO

Councilman Martuccio said that she just wanted to check to see if everybody has had a chance to look at the test website. She stated that she did hear from some of them. If anyone else has any comments please email her or let her know by phone or text. Shop local.

COMMENTS:

BUILDING & GROUNDS-SCHUBERT-MARTUCCIO-STANDOHAR

No report.

COMMENTS:

HEALTH & SAFETY-GRUMLEY-SCHUBERT-KAY

Councilman Grumley said that they will be meeting with Chief Bornemiss at the next meeting at six o'clock here. Grumley said that if he could just take a minute there are some firefighters in the

audience that a month ago he received one of those phone calls that no employer wants to receive. He had an injured employee. He said that by the time he got there these two gentlemen were already on the scene and were starting to stabilize the employee who was in a very difficult situation. The professionalism that they put forward that night/morning to get this very large employee out of a very difficult situation who was severely injured, he can't say enough about their dedication and what the fire department means to this community. Councilman Grumley said that he wanted to thank both of them, Captain Drake and Danko. He forgets the other firefighter's name. They responded Tom Cantola. Grumley said he was also there. It was a tough situation but they handled themselves very well. He thanked them again.

COMMENTS:

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

Councilman Standohar said that he just wanted to follow up with the Service Director a little bit regarding the streets. He mentioned the paving funds would be available after July 1st. Standohar said that, as they discussed, Jerry is there going to be anytime that you expect a ballpark time on the numbers you'll be receiving in as far as a meeting with the street committee. Standohar said just let him know.

COMMENTS:

Mr. Lambert responded that there is still nothing. They will be putting together, he and Dennis spoke last week, and are hoping to have everything ready to at least put it out to bid in April and then be ready with all the bidding and processing. He'll let him know when they are going to sit down and put everything together and they'll see what the timeline is so he'll have time to look at it. Councilman Standohar thanked him.

UTILITIES-ZIRAFI-MOLITERNO-SCHUBERT

Councilman Zirafi stated that he wanted to remind everybody that following Councilman Grumley's meeting at 6:00 at 6:40 they have a utilities meeting. He stated he thinks they need to start discussions on a major plan for the replacement of all of the problems they have. Especially the water system. Zirafi said he will be asking for an ordinance for the safety service director to get some bids on the pumps so they have an idea of the cost.

COMMENTS:

ZONING-KAY-ZIRAFI-MOLITERNO

No report.

COMMENTS:

ORDINANCES

50-43

SECOND

READING

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH Kirila Contractor, Inc., 505 Bedford Road, P.O. Box 179, Brookfield, Ohio 44403 FOR THE WELLMAN LIBERTY DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT, OPWC NO. CF04X FOR A PRICE NOT TO EXCEED TWO HUNDRED THIRTY-FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$235,000.00).

MOTION MOLITERNO SECOND ZIRAFI TO SUSPEND THE THIRD READING OF ORDINANCE 50-43.

SCHUBERT
STANDOHAR
KAY
GRUMLEY
MARTUCCIO
MOLITERNO 1
ZIRAFI 2

MOTION FOR SUSPENSION PASSED 7-0

Councilman Moliterno asked Mr. Lambert how many houses would be affected? Mr. Lambert responded he's not sure maybe sixteen. The Mayor responded approximately fifteen. Moliterno said you were talking about the houses on Wellman. He said the only reason that he brings it up is, not to be offensive, but with the state of the post office these days you may want to deliver those. It could be months before they actually get that letter. Lambert responded that they are going to have the zoning

department go out and hand deliver them. Lambert said they are talking Kline, they are talking Joan The Mayor said they are talking about fifteen homes. Moliterno said he is concerned because they've had too many delays here.

MOTION MOLITERNO SECOND ZIRAFI FOR PASSAGE OF ORDINANCE 50-43.

SCHUBERT
STANDOHAR
KAY
GRUMLEY
MARTUCCIO
MOLITERNO 1
ZIRAFI 2
MOTION FOR PASSES 7-0

NEW LEGISLATION

MOTION SCHUBERT SECOND STANDOHAR TO PREPARE LEGISLATION FOR THE GARBAGE LEVY.

SCHUBERT 1
STANDOHAR 2
KAY
GRUMLEY
MARTUCCIO
MOLITERNO
ZIRAFI
MOTION FOR PASSES 7-0

MOTION ZIRAFI SECOND MARTUCCIO TO PREPARE LEGISLATION FOR THE SAFETY SERVICE DIRECTOR TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS TO REPLACE FIVE WATER PUMPS.

SCHUBERT
STANDOHAR
KAY
GRUMLEY
MARTUCCIO 2
MOLITERNO
ZIRAFI 1
MOTION FOR PASSES 7-0

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION SCHUBERT SECOND ZIRAFI FOR ADJOURNMENT OF THE MEETING OF MARCH 22, 2021.

SCHUBERT 1
STANDOHAR
KAY
GRUMLEY
MARTUCCIO
MOLITERNO
ZIRAFI 2
MOTION FOR ADJOURNMENT PASSED 7-0

REYNALD PAOLONE, PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL

MONICA URBANIC, CLERK OF COUNCIL