

**50<sup>th</sup> GIRARD CITY COUNCIL  
MONDAY, APRIL 26, 2021  
REGULAR MINUTES/JOURNAL**

Councilman Moliterno asked Councilman Schubert to introduce the young people to us that are going to lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Councilman Schubert said that it was an honor to have Cubmaster Betsy Faulk with Troop 40 there tonight and they are going to lead us all in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**PLEDGE**

The pledge was led by Scout Troop 40.

Councilman Moliterno thanked the scouts and thanked Councilman Schubert for putting it together.

**ROLL CALL**

PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL	MR. REYNALD J. PAOLONE	ABSENT
FIRST WARD COUNCILMAN	MR. KEITH SCHUBERT	PRESENT
SECOND WARD COUNCILMAN	MR. MARK STANDOHAR	
ABSENT		
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

**MOTION ZIRAFI SECOND SCHUBERT TO EXCUSE PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL REYNALD PAOLONE AND COUNCILMAN MARK STANDOHAR FROM THE APRIL 26, 2021 COUNCIL MEETING.**

SCHUBERT 2  
STANDOHAR  
KAY  
GRUMLEY  
MARTUCCIO  
MOLITERNO  
ZIRAFI 1  
MOTION PASSES 6-0

**COMMUNICATIONS**

**ADDITIONS & DELETIONS**

**ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA**

**MOTION KAY SECOND MARTUCCIO TO ACCEPT THE AGENDA OF APRIL 26, 2021 AS WRITTEN.**

SCHUBERT  
STANDOHAR  
KAY 1  
GRUMLEY  
MARTUCCIO 2  
MOLITERNO  
ZIRAFI  
MOTION TO ACCEPT AGENDA PASSES 6-0

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

**MOTION SCHUBERT SECOND KAY TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF APRIL 12, 2021 AS WRITTEN.**

SCHUBERT 1  
STANDOHAR  
KAY 2

GRUMLEY  
MARTUCCIO  
MOLITERNO  
ZIRAFI  
MOTION TO APPROVE MINUTES PASSES 6-0

**CITIZENS' COMMENTS**

Councilman Moliterno thanked everyone for attending and thanked the scout troop and said we take the Pledge of Allegiance very seriously and even more so when we have the scouts there to join us.

The Cubmaster asked if there was going to be anything discussed tonight because the scouts are working on a merit badge and they need an issue or two to discuss. Councilman Moliterno said this would be an appropriate time for them to be excused and go off. They are just fine. They do have an agenda they are going to go through and they are not sure how long that will take. It depends on the members of city council and administration and the comments they make. Moliterno said that normally they don't have very long meetings but they have the opportunity to leave at any point and time during the meeting. The Cubmaster said no they can just stay and hear it. Councilman Moliterno said that's fine they are going to get that opportunity.

**REPORTS OF OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS OF THE CITY**

**MAYOR**

**JAMES J. MELFI**

**PRESENT**

Mayor Melfi said that maybe he better stand up and point towards them. The Mayor said that the issue that he is going to speak of tonight is one that most communities face at one time or another and that is individuals who do not maintain their property. He stated that he is sure that everyone in the audience understands that to be a good neighbor you have to maintain your home, your grass, your structure, your home, clean, neat, paper picked up. Well, that same criteria is used to a larger degree when it comes to commercial buildings or industrial buildings. They have some property owners, just like in neighborhoods, residential areas, who do not want to maintain their property. Who give them great difficulty, the City, great difficulty, and it is embarrassing to all of us who live here and make an attempt to keep our properties nice because it takes work. They Mayor stated that as he looks out there he is sure that everybody out there is pushing a lawnmower at one time or another or using a weedwacker or doing something at your home. No different than any other property that you own. So, as he leads into that Mr. Chairman, 25 W. Liberty Street. Everybody over the age of 55 or so remembers Ben Franklin and it is owned by an individual who owns, unfortunately their family owns other properties in our community, and they don't maintain their properties very well. The Mayor said he spoke with Trumbull County Health Department who condemned the property and was informed that on May 1<sup>st</sup> they will place a final inspection on the property. At that time, sixty days have gone by since they condemned it, they did give the owner sixty days to bring it up to code. What that means, obviously, is a standard they can all live with. If the owner does not do that by May 1<sup>st</sup> then the Trumbull County Health Department will notify the City. They will be prepared prior to that date with an environmental test to make sure that the materials in that building are safe for demolition. They certainly don't want, the common problem is asbestos. Asbestos in plaster. Asbestos in wrappings around heating ducts and so forth. This is a problem and they have to remove that asbestos before they demo the property. Before they tear it down. Because they do not want to make the air unsafe to breathe and make it dangerous for the folks who live and work around that building. The Mayor said that unfortunately it has been an eyesore for a long time. Some of the older folks remember when it was a thriving business. They know there are not any Ben Franklins left around, but if the individual who owns it wants to work out of it and maintain it properly he wouldn't really have a problem with the City, but he has not done that. On May 1<sup>st</sup>, Mr. Chairman, they will be notified whether or not they have made improvements. The Mayor continued, if they have not, he will be coming to this body the next meeting for their consent, even though this is usually the administration's, but downtown has to be a team effort. This would be the start of several properties for demolition. The Mayor said they will incur the cost of demolition of that property. The Mayor said that was all he had at this time.

**COMMENTS:**

Councilman Moliterno asked if he could ask as councilman, if it is demolished and they incur the cost, would they put that on their taxes? The Mayor said yes they will. Councilman Moliterno thanked him.



of course, they may need to take some additional action, but they are very fortunate that the rest of the City funds are in very good, solid shape. Moliterno said as usual he wanted to thank all of the members of council and the administration for attending that meeting. For those that don't know, their committees meet on a somewhat regular/irregular basis depending on the committee and depending on the activities. The finance committee meets the second meeting of every month a half hour prior to that meeting and they have in attendance at that meeting three members of the committee but all who want to participate because it is an open meeting, have the opportunity to do that and they have consistently had all of the members of city council as well as the Mayor and administration attend those meetings and for that they are very appreciative because it is important that they are all on the same page. Moliterno said that as the Mayor stated they are a team working together and they have to be able to continue to do that for the benefit of the City. Councilman Moliterno thanked the Mayor for attending.

**COMMENTS:**

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT-MARTUCCIO-STANDOHAR-MOLITERNO**

Councilman Martuccio reminded everyone to support local businesses.

**COMMENTS:**

**BUILDING AND GROUNDS-SCHUBERT-MARTUCCIO-STANDOHAR**

No report.

**COMMENTS:**

**HEALTH & SAFETY-GRUMLEY-SCHUBERT-KAY**

Councilman Grumley stated he wanted to take this opportunity to thank everyone that attended the earth day cleanup yesterday. It was organized by a local resident and YSU student Corey Kihm and they had students from the Beta Club, National Honor Society and Robotics at the high school as well as quite a few YSU students. The Girard Fire Department was there in force and the Mayor and courtside representative were there also. Grumley said they were able to clean Stambaugh Park, Liberty Park, Mosier Road, Trumbull Hill, South Davis, Dearborn and he said he has to say they have been doing this for quite a few years now, at least the last ten, they had to take last year off due to Covid, but they have always run across mountains of tires throughout the whole area and they found one tire yesterday. That with taking last year off so that's a two year collection. Obviously, either the patrols or maybe people are just finally looking out and keeping their neighbors in check and so forth. It was good to see. Obviously, they still picked up many bags of trash and they can't stop all of the litter but there were definitely signs of improvement as far as dumping in their neighborhood so that was a good point. Grumley stated that after their last meeting the Health and Safety Committee met up at the fire department and they looked over a few items that need to be repaired up there and so forth. They turned the list over to the Safety/Service Director and he has been in contact and they are moving forward with some of the improvements. Councilman Grumley said be patient guys the improvements are coming. Thank you for bringing it to their attention.

**COMMENTS:**

Councilman Moliterno stated that that is a great thing. To be able to get the people in the community together and be able to help clean up. He thanked Councilman Grumley and the Mayor for their involvement in that.

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

No report. Councilman Kay said he did want to ask the Safety Service Director, he knows they have a lot of roads planned on getting paved this year, will they still be doing any sealing like they did last year with that? The Safety Service Director replied that it has to be a certain temperature. Once the temperature gets up the biggest thing that they have to do, they have a lot of water holes. They had a lot of water breaks this year. So there are a lot of water holes. They are hoping they can hold off doing the final paving of those water holes. They were hoping they would be able to cut them out when they did the paving. Like wait til July but some of them they are not going to be able to wait. They are going to have to do them right away. Lambert said that they have already started putting some of the hot patch in some of the holes right now. When the temperatures are solid and the paving is all behind them, he imagines they will be doing it on a regular basis. Councilman Kay thanked him.

**COMMENTS:**

**UTILITIES-ZIRAFI-MOLITERNO-SCHUBERT**

No report.

**COMMENTS:**

**ZONING-KAY-ZIRAFI-MOLITERNO**

No report.

**COMMENTS:**

**ORDINANCES**

**50-46**

**SECOND**

**READING**

A RESOLUTION DECLARING IT NECESSARY TO LEVY A TAX IN EXCESS OF THE TEN MILL LIMITATION.

**MOTION GRUMLEY SECOND MARTUCCIO TO AMEND ORDINANCE 50-46 SECTION 1, SECOND PARAGRAPH ADD RENEWAL OF A TAX.**

Councilman Moliterno asked if there was any discussion about the motion? He said he knows that was a question they had whether it was a renewal or not. They assumed that it was but are glad that Mr. Kren clarified that. Attorney Kren said, again, this is step 1. This is asking the County Auditor to give them the numbers that the levy will raise and the second ordinance after that will have the precise ballot language to send it to the Board of Elections. He said he also wanted to say that this is the best run meeting he has been to. Councilman Moliterno said they will have an email sent to Mr. Paolone letting him know. Councilman Kay said it is in the minutes.

SCHUBERT

STANDOHAR

KAY

GRUMLEY 1

MARTUCCIO 2

MOLITERNO

ZIRAFI

MOTION PASSES 6-0 FOR AMENDMENT

Councilman Moliterno said that for those in attendance tonight this is a renewal levy that they have had for sometime in the City to support recreation. Moliterno said that because it is done as five years they need to put it back onto the ballot again as a renewal, but all of those dollars arising from that levy go toward recreation.

**NEW LEGISLATION**

**MOTION ZIRAFI SECOND SCHUBERT TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS LITIGATION WITH LEGAL COUNSEL.**

SCHUBERT 2

STANDOHAR

KAY

GRUMLEY

MARTUCCIO

MOLITERNO

ZIRAFI 1

MOTION PASSES 6-0 FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION

**ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION ZIRAFI SECOND SCHUBERT FOR ADJOURNMENT OF THE MEETING OF APRIL 26, 2021.**

SCHUBERT 2

STANDOHAR

KAY

GRUMLEY

MARTUCCIO

MOLITERNO

ZIRAFI 1

MOTION PASSES 6-0 FOR ADJOURNMENT.

---

REYNALD PAOLONE, PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL

---

MONICA URBANIC, CLERK OF COUNCIL