

**MONDAY, APRIL 24, 2023  
REGULAR MINUTES/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**

**ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA**

**MOTION ZIRAFI SECOND GRUMLEY TO ACCEPT THE AGENDA OF APRIL 24, 2023 AS WRITTEN.**

SCHUBERT

STANDOHAR

KAY

GRUMLEY 2

MARTUCCIO

MOLITERNO

ZIRAFI 1

MOTION PASSES 7-0 TO ACCEPT AGENDA AS WRITTEN

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

**MOTION MOLITERNO SECOND STANDOHAR TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF APRIL 10, 2023 AS WRITTEN.**

SCHUBERT

STANDOHAR 2

KAY

GRUMLEY

MARTUCCIO

MOLITERNO 1

ZIRAFI

MOTION PASSES 7-0 TO APPROVE MINUTES AS WRITTEN

**CITIZENS' COMMENTS**

Sal Ponzio, 1136 N Ward Ave. Mr. Ponzio said that actually it was going to be for Brian but he's not here tonight. Anybody can answer it. It's an open question. A couple months ago he was here and they talked about Niles not charging them the correct amount for water. Mr. Ponzio asked if there has been any resolution to what the outcome is going to be. Mr. Lambert said they are in the process of still talking about it. That is the stage it is in. Mr. Lambert said the water rates themselves will also affect Trumbull County because they buy from Niles and sell it to them for the area that goes to Liberty. Lambert said he has been in contact with Brian of course and their lawyer, Matt Blair, Trumbull County's, and he is talking with them as well. Mr. Lambert said he has seen their bill from Trumbull County. He just got it a couple of days ago. It has not changed. It is exactly what it was before. So apparently Niles has not done anything with Trumbull County. Theirs right now is doubled and they can't really explain to him why so the last couple bills what he has done basically, until this thing is resolved, he is paying them at the price they have been paying all along. He has gotten a call from them and he said he thinks it is in the hands of the law directors from our city and theirs and with them and then let them talk about and they'll talk with him he assumes. Mr. Lambert said he is not paying anything more than he was paying before.

**REPORT OF OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS OF THE CITY**

**MAYOR**

**JAMES MELFI**

**PRESENT**

Mayor Melfi said we'll stay on money. As their consultant told them some months ago that electric was going to go up significantly. The mayor said you may have noticed we changed over and indeed if you are with Ohio Edison, which the city is not, the city's aggregation is not any longer, it is going to be effective June 1<sup>st</sup> \$12.39 per kilowatt hour. It is up significantly so just a warning to our citizens who may not be shopping around, it's important to go on that website, apples to apples, and see what we have. The City of Girard never guarantees that we are the lowest rate but we just offer something and follow it very closely. Just a warning to the citizens please take a look at your electric aggregation and make sure that you are getting the best possible price.

President of Council asked what we are paying through the city and the mayor responded \$8, he doesn't have Dynegy with him it's \$8 something, \$8.33 maybe, but it is considerably lower than \$12.39. Mr. Paolone thanked the mayor.

**COMMENTS:**

**SAFETY/SERVICE DIRECTOR**

**JERRY LAMBERT**

**PRESENT**

Mr. Lambert said they discussed a little bit during finance in regards to the upcoming placing of bids for the paving of certain streets and also for the salt barn. They are still waiting to see what the numbers are going to come in at. They are very concerned about the price of the asphalt right now. It is up to about \$200/ton and he doesn't think they have ever come close to paying that amount in the past. Once that figure comes in they will have to make a serious decision to see what they may have to hold off until next year. Lambert said he will keep updated with regards to the barn to see exactly where it is going. Probably the most important thing is he did find a place that actually has blinds for the windows. Mr. Lambert said they did find them and hopefully they should be in within two weeks and they will put them in all along the side.

**COMMENTS:**

**LAW DIRECTOR** **BRIAN KREN** **ABSENT**

**COMMENTS:**

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

The auditor said that she had nothing further from their finance meeting earlier this evening.

**COMMENTS:**

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

The treasurer said the year-to-date collections through period 3 were \$1,291,294.55 vs prior year \$1,118,685.69. They are up \$172,608.86 or 15.43%. Mr. Zuppo said pending their questions that concludes his report.

**COMMENTS:**

**FIRE CHIEF** **JAMES PETRUZZI** **ABSENT**

President of Council said that Chief James Petruzzi could not make it tonight and Captain Brian Iceman is there in his place. Captain Iceman said they have been taking advantage of the nice weather lately. They took the boat to the upper lake to train a couple of weeks ago. Iceman said that last week Metalico was gracious enough to donate them some vehicles to practice extrication on, namely a bus which they don't get to do that much. Wednesday and Thursday of this week they will be in the river with the boat which is with the boat launch there is a likelihood that they will get called down there sometime so that is what they have been doing at the department mainly is training and trying to be better for their citizens.

**COMMENTS:**

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

**COMMENTS:**

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

#### **FINANCES-MOLITERNO-GRUMLEY-ZIRAFI**

Councilman Moliterno said they had a finance committee meeting was at 6:30 this evening. Very good, positive reports both from their auditor and their treasurer. They are happy to see that their income tax is up 15+% as Mr. Zuppo said. Collections are in line. They are happy about that. Moliterno said they actually had a very good conversation about the remaining ARP funds, which are federal funds that come to the city. They probably have \$300,000 plus not committed yet. Moliterno said he thinks the consensus of council was that those dollars, the lion's share will probably be used towards recreation. He said he knows their chair, Mr. Schubert, is going to come back to them with some numbers about splash pads and pickle ball courts and other things that they think would be a positive impact on the people of Girard and hopefully the children of Girard will get a chance to use those, but they will hear about it in the future and hopefully they will be able to encumber some of those funds so they can't be able to be used for anything else. They will be set aside specifically for those needs. The next committee meeting will be on the 22<sup>nd</sup> at 6:30.

**COMMENTS:**

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT-KAY-MARTUCCIO-MOLITERNO**

Councilman Kay said they had a brief meeting this evening about the enterprise zone agreement for Yellowstone Industrial on old Syro Steel/Trinity Steel property and he will be asking for legislation later on this evening about that.

**COMMENTS:**

**BUILDING & GROUNDS-SCHUBERT-STANDOHAR-KAY**

Councilman Schubert said he will do his best to push the companies to get hard numbers back next meeting so they can make an informed decision on exactly how much these projects are going to cost. Schubert said if he had to go in a pecking order splash pad 1, redoing the rec at Tod Park 2, splash pad would go to Liberty Park and then pickleball court would be third. He said he will have those numbers, hopefully. President of Council asked where he was planning on pickleball. Schubert responded where the basketball courts are. Kay said the old tennis courts? Schubert said no not where the tennis courts are, basketball courts. Paolone said he knows above there? Schubert said correct. There was more discussion about location of the pickleball courts.

**COMMENTS:**

**HEALTH & SAFETY-GRUMLEY-MOLITERNO-MARTUCCIO**

Councilman Grumley said they will have their next meeting May 8<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 if the chairman would like to join them. The 4<sup>th</sup> ward cleanup is rescheduled for Sunday, May 7<sup>th</sup> from 12-3.

**COMMENTS:**

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

Councilman Standohar said as the service director announced this evening, they had some discussion about the salt barn and the street paving program this year. They are waiting those bids and then his committee will meet with Jerry to discuss exactly. They will definitely have to make some cuts from the streets that are proposed and see which ones can be pushed off until next year. They will have to make those hard decisions, but hopefully their budget can stay at least around \$200,000-\$225,000 this year.

**COMMENTS:**

**UTILITIES-ZIRAFI-SCHUBERT-STANDOHAR**

No report. Councilman Zirafi said he had a comment. About a week and a half ago he had an accident at his house and Girard fire department did come to his aid. They did a very excellent job. Zirafi said he had very good care. They were very professional. Captain Iceman was one of the two fireman that came to his house to take care of him and he wanted to say publicly they did an excellent job. Very good job.

**COMMENTS:**

**ZONING-MARTUCCIO-ZIRAFI-SCHUBERT**

Councilwoman Martuccio said earth day clean up was cancelled last Saturday, April 22nd. She knows they were all ready to go. There is no reschedule date for this year. If anyone wants to coordinate something with their wards ou're more than welcome to, but for next year Mr. Kay and she were talking about having

maybe two clean up dates and then that way one would serve.... There's a lot to clean up. They can have two dates next year.

**COMMENTS:**

**ORDINANCES**

**51-58**

**POSTPONED**

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT FOR THE PURCHASE OF REAL ESTATE FOR A PRICE NOT TO EXCEED \$72,900.00 PLUS CLOSING COSTS.

**MOTION MOLITERNO SECOND ZIRAFI TO BRING BACK AND PASS ORDINANCE 51-58.**

SCHUBERT Y  
STANDOHAR Y  
KAY No  
GRUMLEY Y  
MARTUCCIO Y  
MOLITERNO 1Y  
ZIRAFI 2Y  
MOTION PASSES 6-1

**51-62**

**FIRST READING**

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A ONE YEAR CONTRACT WITH THE TRUMBULL COUNTY COMMISSIONERS TO PROVIDE LEGAL DEFENSE FOR INDIGENTS FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2023.

**NEW LEGISLATION**

**MOTION KAY SECOND MOLITERNO TO PREPARE LEGISLATION FOR PROPOSED ENTERPRISE ZONE AGREEMENT WITH YELLOWSTONE INDUSTRIAL.**

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

**ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION ZIRAFI SECOND SCHUBERT TO ADJOURN THE MEETING OF APRIL 24, 2023.**

SCHUBERT 2  
STANDOHAR  
KAY  
GRUMLEY  
MARTUCCIO

MOLITERNO  
ZIRAFI 1  
MOTION PASSES 7-0

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**MONICA URBANIC, CLERK OF COUNCIL**

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**REYNALD PAOLONE, PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL**