

**51st GIRARD CITY COUNCIL
MONDAY, MAY 9, 2022
REGULAR MINUTES/JOURNAL**

PLEDGE

ROLL CALL

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

COMMUNICATIONS

Communication from VFW regarding Memorial Day ceremony.

MOTION SCHUBERT SECOND ZIRAFI TO FILE COMMUNICATION WITH COUNCIL AS A WHOLE.

SCHUBERT 1
STANDOHAR
KAY
GRUMLEY
MARTUCCIO
MOLITERNO
ZIRAFI 2
PASSED 7-0 TO FILE WITH COUNCIL

ADDITIONS & DELETIONS

51-16

FIRST

READING

AN ORDINANCE CREATING A LIMITED TEMPORARY MORATORIUM ON ISSUANCE OF TWO-FAMILY AND MULTIPLE DWELLING CONSTRUCTION AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

MOTION MOLITERNO SECOND MARTUCCIO TO ADD 51-16 TO THE AGENDA OF MAY 9, 2022.

SCHUBERT
STANDOHAR

KAY
GRUMLEY
MARTUCCIO 2
MOLITERNO 1
ZIRAFI
PASSED 7-0 TO ADD 51-16

ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA

MOTION ZIRAFI SECOND MARTUCCIO TO ACCEPT THE AGENDA OF MAY 9, 2022 AS AMENDED.

SCHUBERT
STANDOHAR
KAY
GRUMLEY
MARTUCCIO 2
MOLITERNO
ZIRAFI 1
MOTION TO ACCEPT AGENDA PASSES 7-0

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

MOTION MARTUCCIO SECOND ZIRAFI TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF APRIL 25, 2022 AS WRITTEN.

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

CITIZENS' COMMENTS

Fran Wilson, 117 Ella Street. Ms. Wilson said that she just heard a great caucus today with Ohio Edison. The only comment she had is the fire department. She wants to congratulate them on what a terrific job they did. She is still hearing from people about what happened with the big fire and everything. They did such a fantastic job. When her electricity goes down or something she looks right away. She heads right to the fire department to see what is happening out there and couldn't they, Jerry, she wouldn't want to be calling him up at 1:00 o'clock in the morning and asking him what happened. Mr. Lambert said everyone else does. Ms. Wilson said she kinda thinks about it twice, but anyways if they could have something like that and if they could call the station or so they would be able to have a quick response time. She knows a lot of them don't like facebook, but some of them like her that live alone, she goes to that first to see what is happening for her communications. If there was a way if they could go in and look at their

space on there and see what's happening that would get it quicker out there. She thanked them.

Mr. Lambert told the President of Council that that would probably go hand in hand with what the chief is looking into. Mr. Paolone said yes. Mr. Lambert said that that is in the works.

Jason McBride, 49 Morris Avenue. Mr. McBride said he is sorry he knows they don't like cell phones. He continued that he wanted to stop down and thank Metalico, their neighbor, and their ownership Ye Chiu Metal Recycling Group out of Beijing, China on causing a fire in the past two weeks that was visible from space. He said he would also like to congratulate them on how quickly they dismantled that pile and he knows that it cost a lot of money. Mr. McBride said that he knows this is not a Q&A, but does anybody know how much this city is going to have to pay for that? Mayor Melfi responded that the city is not paying anything.

REPORT OF OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS OF THE CITY

**MAYOR
PRESENT**

JAMES J. MELFI

Mayor Melfi said just to finish up with what Jason was asking, he knows that the Chief has accumulated costs with some of the other departments, but the City costs, it does not cost the City anything. Mayor Melfi said he has a couple of things. He continued, first of all the Penza property. You might have read in the paper, it might have been an article that it depends on how you read it, it might have been misleading. The City does not have an agreement with the Penzas for the old Ben Franklin store. Let's get that straight. The Mayor said that how they left it that day, because the Magistrate from Trumbull County came down and made an effort to try, unknowing of they, tried to make an effort to work something out where they would, after the demolition of 15, proceed and fix the building. It is a song and dance that they have heard for decades from this particular family. So, it depends on how you read the article. There is not an agreement with them. The case is going forward. Our lawyer and their lawyer are trying to bring something together. The Mayor said is he hopeful? No. But that is where they are at. Councilman Schubert asked where do they stand, this meeting was to see what needs fixed, what is going to get fixed, where is that at? Mayor Melfi responded that it was very frustrating he won't kid them. Schubert responded sure. Melfi continued, it was as frustrating a meeting as he has ever been in. Mayor Melfi said ironically, you had to be there to have a good laugh, the Magistrate was walking up from the corner of Market Street and he was trying to enter the other terrible building that this family owns across the street and they were yelling for him to come across the street to come to the terrible building that they own there because that is where they were at. He was a little confused. Melfi said it got a little verbal at the end. The reporter was not there. That might have been a good thing. He enjoyed it. He does not enjoy the frustration time, and time, and time again. Melfi continued, if the public really knew, really knew, of the cost and the waste of their tax dollars for people who cannot maintain a property they would really be disgusted. The Mayor said let me just tell you that. Melfi said, Councilman you represent the 3rd ward. The downtown is a part of the 3rd ward. It is the most frustrating part of the job when you see people who cannot keep their building at least clean. The argument at the end was over a bottle of Windex because the Mayor said that when the Magistrate seemed to think that there was going to be an agreement with holes in the roof,

patches going to fix it, the Mayor simply said a \$5 bottle of Windex may give some cleanliness to the front windows and you know what he was told by the party, they are not doing that. The Mayor said that the bird is gone. They claim that it was a false, Councilwoman Martuccio said she has the evidence. The Mayor said his money is on her. You had to be there to be as frustrated as he was. To listen to the lies once again and the con job once again. Once again and again and again! Roofer, contractor, money, nobody is going to do the job for that building. That building needs to be raised. Nobody is putting a quarter of a million dollars in a building because that is what it is going to take. The Mayor said they have informed the Chief that there are still flammables in there. Dangerous flammables in the basement. Some have been removed from the first floor. There are plenty of flammables. Melfi said this is what we have to put up with on a regular basis. The Mayor said he is finished. Councilwoman Martuccio asked if they indicated sometime of a timeline, the Magistrate, what was the outcome then? Is there a court date? Mayor Melfi said that the outcome is this. They continue the court case. As they know, they are bidding separately 15 for demolition because they seem to think that 15 caused all of their problems. Melfi said that 15 W. Liberty must have caused the problems across the street, and down the street, and up the street, on the corner. That's what we put up with there 3rd ward councilman. On the corner. The rainwater coming off of 15 caused all those problems. The water on S. State Street. The rainwater must proceed down. You had to be there to listen to the crap. President of Council said that he would like to add that he finds it abhorrent that these people are spending money on attorneys to fight cleaning it up. The money that they are spending on attorneys they could be cleaning all of the crap they have up and they are not. They would rather spend money to not clean. They are paying people to help them not clean. It is a sin. He has no other word. It's a sin. Mr. Paolone said he is sorry he knows he is not supposed to comment but it's been 26 years.

COMMENTS:

**SAFETY/SERVICE DIRECTOR
PRESENT**

JERRY LAMBERT

Director of Public Services said he has a couple of things. Tuesday and Wednesday the pavers are going to start milling some streets. He is pretty sure they are going to start in Parkwood and work their way north. There were some comments by council. Lambert continued that Tuesday and Wednesday they would start the milling process and then Thursday and Friday they would pave the streets that they mill tomorrow and Wednesday. Then they will be gone for two or three days and will be back on Wednesday to start milling all over again because it does say in the contract that once they mill they have to have it paved within a seven day period so this whole period here will take about four days to get it started. Mr. Lambert said the second thing that he has is that they have been having some questions with regard to some of the building department permits that are being issued and under Ohio Revised Code some sections that may have to be addressed by them and according to the Law Director, Girard has a few deadlines inside the building department that need to be amended to coincide with the State so he would like to amend some zoning, it would probably come under Jeff, to make a some amendments they should have it in their packets. Just bring in legislation to make amendments to the Ohio Revised Code with regard to the building department and they will get them to them before the meeting and see if they have any questions on those. Paolone said Brian send them an email. Lambert said oh ok so they were all copied on that. Anyway, he said if you see that one where it

specifically talks about the six month deadline but he wants to go over anything else that might be addressed and see what else they can be add and make sure that Monica gets something to them before so they can discuss it.

COMMENTS:

Councilman Standohar said the 2022 street paving bids open on Thursday? Mr. Lambert said they open at 11:00 o'clock on the 12th. Standohar said they are looking to put something together for the week of the 16th for the street committee to meet with Mr. Lambert in his office. Lambert said that is fine. They discussed a good day and time. It was left that Councilman Standohar would get in touch with Mr. Lambert for a day they could meet in his office at 4:00 pm. Mr. Lambert said they had 3 or 4 companies that took out bid packages but they do not know who will bid. They did meet with Vernal today to discuss the milling and paving so they are on board and ready to go with all of that.

**LAW DIRECTOR
ABSENT**

BRIAN KREN

**AUDITOR
PRESENT**

JULIE COLEMAN

No report. The Auditor said she did not know if anyone had any questions for her since she was unable to attend the last finance meeting.

COMMENTS:

**TREASURER
ABSENT**

MARK ZUPPO

**FIRE CHIEF
PRESENT**

JAMES PETRUZZI

Chief Petruzzi apologized for not being able to make the last meeting. He said he appreciates everyone's positive comments and that is not just from him but the entire department. They truly appreciate the support. Calls year to date is 700 as of just a little bit ago. They are currently still investigating a few of the fires that they have encountered over the last couple of weeks. Not just structure but they have had a few brush fires also down behind the old golf dome property that they think they may have found the culprits for so hopefully that will stop.

COMMENTS:

**POLICE CHIEF
ABSENT**

JOHN NORMAN

COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE-MOLITERNO-GRUMLEY-ZIRAFI

Councilman Moliterno said that he would like to set some time aside for their meeting next month. May 23, 2022 at 6:30 pm. Councilman Moliterno asked the Auditor for numbers for engineering and legal. She acknowledged that request.

COMMENTS:

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT-KAY-MARTUCCIO-MOLITERNO

No report

COMMENTS:

BUILDING & GROUNDS-SCHUBERT-STANDOHAR-KAY

No report. Councilman Schubert said that appreciates Sam getting the Ohio Edison folks there today. It was very informative. It was nice to hear their perspective.

COMMENTS:

HEALTH & SAFETY-GRUMLEY-MOLITERNO-MARTUCCIO

Councilman Grumley stated that their last couple of cleanups had to be postponed in the 4th ward due to the rain. They are going to try again Wednesday the 11th down at Stambaugh. They are going to meet at 5pm to at least get the park cleaned up. Hopefully, with the Mayor's help, he is working on possibly getting the Baseball Association to show a little more interest in the park. It has great bathroom facilities and everything else. They are going to get it spruced up and make a solid pitch to them. Also, the committee is going to meet May 23rd before the meeting at 6:15 pm to discuss a possible parking ban piece of legislation.

COMMENTS:

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

Councilman Standohar said he just had a follow up about the street committee meeting. He would respectfully request that Madame Auditor please get a brief memo at least to Jerry or address it to us also before the meeting the week of the 16th in regards to what, as the fiscal officer, that you feel for the 2022 paving project is appropriate and not to exceed. The Auditor said that she could also attend the meeting. Standohar said that that is up to her but a memo would be fine too just so they have an idea from the fiscal officer on what their budget it. Councilman Zirafi said that he wanted to add to that request the range not to exceed and also the sources as to where the payment would be coming from in that memo.

COMMENTS:

UTILITIES-ZIRAFI-SCHUBERT-STANDOHAR

Councilman Zirafi said that he thought that the meeting with Ohio Edison went well. Hopefully, what they are planning on doing will solve the majority of the problems, but he agrees that it is not going to solve all of them. Acts of God are Acts of God and there is nothing they can do about it. Zirafi said that hopefully they will be able to follow up and maybe Mr. Paolone will be able to go on his tree walking tour with them in the near future.

COMMENTS:

ZONING-MARTUCCIO-ZIRAFI-SCHUBERT

Councilwoman Martuccio said that she has not report but going forward, she supposes she will have to check with Brian Kren, to see about their commercial business district zoning, if they could prohibit business from using them as storage. Martuccio asked if they have anything on the books presently with that? The Mayor said that is a very good point. They do not have anything that he has ever seen on the books for storage, but he believes that most zoning laws

prohibit the use of retail buildings for storage. The Mayor said they have a few more other than the family aforementioned that use it just for storage. Those buildings are retail. That is their life. If you can't make them live, knock them down. The Mayor said since they are on the topic of zoning, any councilperson who has a complaint in their ward or they see if, please send it on to them because this is the time of year where all of the sins are uncovered. People who can't maintain their yards. Can't pick the toys up out of their yards. He had to give the direction to the zoning office, which he has not given in all of these years, about, he'll leave street alone because they'll know the house, he had to tell them to call the Mayor because the mayor is disgusted looking at their yard. He has never given that message in 23 years. Tell him because he is tired of looking at the pigsty. From the back to the front. Pick it up. We have the best garbage pick up in the valley. If you don't know, they pick up everything.

Mr. Lambert said they started sending out notices for high grass. Once the first notice goes out we are protected for the entire season. Lambert said they should be getting calls as early as next Monday as to which ones have to be cut. While they are on zoning, that piece of legislation that is there, they have not updated that since 2017. The Law Director said that it can only be done on a yearly basis. It is the one about the multi-family dwellings. Lambert said they have had some inquiries so he would like to get this thing passed as soon as they can and get it on the books just saying we are just continuing something from the past. Mr. Paolone asked who they should call about grass, him or Monica? Lambert said call zoning. Mr. Lambert said you can call him but if you lodge it with Nancy then she will give him the address and he and Monica will make sure it's taken care of. Councilman Moliterno asked if this was just a 12 month ordinance. Lambert said yes. The Law Director said that we can only make it for a year at a time. Councilwoman Martuccio asked because of Ohio Revised Code? Lambert said in the past they had to do it every year. Councilman Standohar said they have to consider it annually.

COMMENTS:

ORDINANCES

51-16

FIRST

READING

AN ORDINANCE CREATING A LIMITED TEMPORARY MORATORIUM ON ISSUANCE OF TWO-FAMILY AND MULTIPLE DWELLING CONSTRUCTION AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

MOTION MOLITERNO SECOND GRUMLEY TO SUSPEND THE 2ND AND 3RD READINGS OF 51-16.

SCHUBERT

STANDOHAR

KAY

GRUMLEY 2

MARTUCCIO

MOLITERNO 1

ZIRAFI

SUSPENSION PASSED 7-0

MOTION MOLITERNO SECOND GRUMLEY FOR PASSAGE OF ORDINANCE 51-16.

SCHUBERT

STANDOHAR

KAY

GRUMLEY 2
MARTUCCIO
MOLITERNO 1
ZIRAFI
51-16 PASSED 7-0

NEW LEGISLATION

MOTION ZIRAFI SECOND SCHUBERT TO PREPARE LEGISLATION FOR THE SALARY OF THE PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL.

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

MOTION ZIRAFI SECOND SCHUBERT TO PREPARE LEGISLATION FOR THE SALARY OF COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GIRARD.

President of Council asked if these would both be as of the 2024 term for President and Councilman Zirafi said yes.

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

Councilman Moliterno said that on behalf of council they miss those outbursts of his from the past. He enjoyed it. He has to admit that there is not a week that goes by where they don't get a question from some constituent about downtown. Moliterno said he does not think that everybody appreciates the effort that he is making to change that. It is a good thing to call the people's attention. They are all ashamed of what downtown looks like and they know that there are a couple of individuals that really are causing that. He said again he appreciates the Mayor continuing to bring it to everyone's attention.

The Mayor said he understands that it takes more than just a manicure, but what is the program? What is the future? Do you want to market the properties? Do you want to rent the properties? It just can't be a garbage heap and that is what it is. Melfi said that if you were in the 5 and 10 before the original cleanout it was a garbage heap. He said he was in there and he couldn't stay in there because he didn't want the smell to last on his clothes. A garbage heap.

It's embarrassing.

MOTION MARTUCCIO SECOND SCHUBERT TO PREPARE LEGISLATION FOR THE AMENDMENT OF THE CITY'S BUILDING CODES.

SCHUBERT 2

STANDOHAR

KAY

GRUMLEY

MARTUCCIO 1

MOLITERNO

ZIRAFI

MOTION TO PREPARE PASSES 7-0

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION SCHUBERT SECOND MARTUCCIO TO ADJOURN THE MEETING OF MAY 9, 2022.

SCHUBERT 2

STANDOHAR

KAY

GRUMLEY

MARTUCCIO 1

MOLITERNO

ZIRAFI

MOTION FOR ADJOURNMENT PASSES 7-0

**MONICA URBANIC, CLERK OF COUNCIL
PRESIDENT OF**

**REYNALD
COUNCIL**

PAOLONE,