

**51st GIRARD CITY COUNCIL
MONDAY, JUNE 27, 2022
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	ABSENT
COUNCILMAN-AT-LARGE	MS. LILY MARTUCCIO	PRESENT
COUNCILMAN-AT-LARGE	MR. JOHN MOLITERNO	PRESENT
COUNCILMAN-AT-LARGE	MR. SAM ZIRAFI	PRESENT

MOTION MOLITERNO SECOND MARTUCCIO TO EXCUSE COUNCILMAN GRUMLEY FROM THE MEETING OF JUNE 27, 2022.

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

COMMUNICATIONS

ADDITIONS & DELETIONS

ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA

MOTION ZIRAFI SECOND MARTUCCIO TO ACCEPT THE AGENDA OF JUNE 27, 2022 AS WRITTEN.

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

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

MOTION MARTUCCIO SECOND SCHUBERT TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF JUNE 13, 2022 AS WRITTEN.

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

CITIZENS' COMMENTS

Fran Wilson, 117 Ella Street, Girard, Ohio. Ms. Wilson said she wanted to talk about her street. Back in September of last year, well actually 3 or 4 years ago, she had a brand new street put in. Last summer there was a water break in the front of her house and it was actually running down so the water department came in and tried to repair it and they couldn't repair it. They kept trying and trying to repair it. They would repair it and then the break would start down the street. Again and again and again they kept it up until about 10:00 pm at night and finally at 10:00 pm at night they stopped doing it and someone came and knocked on her door and said they were leaving and they wanted her to know that because they had told her about the main being broken and they would be there all day. Ms. Wilson continued, they said they were going to tell Jerry that they were going to need a new line. They put a new line in and when they did that that street that had been paved prior to that was all torn up and it is all still torn up. Ms. Wilson said that when she checked on it Jerry said it was going to be paved because it was in such bad condition. He knew that and they knew that. Ms. Wilson said that he kept coming here to council and reporting, and the last report she had was in October of 2021 that when he talked about the contractor and wasn't getting the job down and he was behind on this, that and the other for the state and Jimmy backed him up and said yea Jimmy was tired of all that but they were going to get it fixed and get that fellow to doing those when they did this year's contracts. Ms. Wilson said her question to council was if they go back and read to see what they had said what they were going to do before. She stated that she knows that when she read in the paper that they gave line 1 or whatever of the streets that they were going to pave, did her councilman say are you doing the streets that I want on there. Did he look at her street and see how badly it needs done. When she was on council she checked on her streets. She knew the ones that had to be done. They had Kline on there going down to that church was a mudhole. That was the first street they did because people coming in from out of town. Ms. Wilson said the only problem that she has with that is that they need to go back and see what is going on in prior years when they go to do something new. Ms. Wilson said she knows for a fact having been on council that Standohar asks the council people every year do they have streets in their area that need paved. If they do let's look at them and when she read in the paper that Jerry had other streets he wanted to do and council said no more streets they're done she was very upset. She couldn't find the article to bring in to read to them but she just wants her street done. They tore it up. She didn't do it. She had a new street and she does not have one today. She thanked council.

REPORT OF OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS OF THE CITY

MAYOR

JAMES J. MELFI

PRESENT

Mayor Melfi said he had a couple of items this evening. The Mayor said that with them in the back row is Lucia Martuccio and she is their new event coordinator. He said he was going to give her a different title like marketing and publicity director but that is in there anyways. She is doing that anyways and for the same price. The Mayor said he wanted to give her a few minutes, an opportunity to introduce herself to everyone and when interviewed she was well prepared and brought a plan that would be pretty exciting for them. As everyone knows they are trying to help the folks who have events there and also create some new events. Some new excitement in town. Without further ado the Mayor introduced Lucia.

Lucia Martuccio stated that she knew most of them in the room, but for those that don't know her she is Lucia Martuccio. She was born and raised in Girard. She continued, she feels like she has been actually doing the job for awhile. At least had plans to do things. The town right now, the City of Girard, if you look around there are so many businesses that they have that she feels that Girard needs to support to keep those businesses here. They also have people that live in the community that are doing things out of their homes. She stated that she and Lily had talked about doing something like a town talent where people could walk down Liberty Street and they have so many vendors selling their things that they make but they are all Girard residents. Taking it a step further how do they bring people in town. Ms. Martuccio said that one of the things they talked about, Mr. Melfi and Lily had spoke about, they have this gas station that is right off the freeway. It has seven Tesla charging stations. If you google search, she doesn't have a Tesla but she knows people who do, but if you google Tesla charging stations you are going to come up with a couple of different ones. You're going to come up with super charging stations which she didn't know there were differences, and then you're going to come up with other ones. The other ones are little ones that are at hotels and things like that. The closest other super charging station is in Hermitage so not only do you have to go a little farther but you have to cross the border. Ms. Martuccio said it is things like that that they have in Girard that would bring people to town. It is creating events and exciting things because everyone has been cooped up for two years. Right now everyone is looking to do something. When you start looking at what they want to do it is a little bit more than go to a baseball game or anything like or a concert. She feels like a lot of people right now are going on vacations that they were supposed

to be taking in 2020 but they are looking for other things to do. People don't really want to leave town because they know when they are leaving town they are staying overnight. They are spending a lot more money. Their friends are here. Ms. Martuccio said she looks forward to the position. She thinks it is a position really every town needs especially when you have a community like ours. She looks forward to it and if anyone ever has any ideas throw them at her. Her background too is marketing just so everyone does know. It is not just her profession but something that she likes to do personally, and she is looking at the ones that she went to school with and are friends with on Facebook, and if you are friends with her on Facebook you probably know that this is just her thing. She is excited about it.

Mayor Melfi said he had one other item. Beginning tomorrow the demolition will begin at the Sackus or Z Fitness or whatever generation you're from. If you went to St. Rose you got your uniforms at Sackus, but demolition begins tomorrow.

COMMENTS:

Councilman Kay said that Olgun's had asked him if when this building goes down if there was a plan to maybe paint that side of the building depending on what it's like. Maybe the city would help with something like that. Mayor Melfi responded that they will review that. It is his building. It is their action that exposes it. It is also our action that he finally gets free from at least one side of his renovated building with the garbage that surrounds him. The Mayor said they will cross that bridge. He is not against looking at that down the road once the building is down because there will probably be a rough cut to that side. Councilman Kay said they didn't have plans for that at the present time. The Mayor said they will be taking action to obtain that property for the city. It will become city property. Attorney Kren along with their private attorney, Michael Grove, are working on that. It becomes city property and, of course, as you well know, the other property as it sits now we are told they are going to repair. That remains to be seen. They will get their opportunity to repair it. If they don't then it will be condemned and knocked down as well so that is where they are at.

DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICES

JERRY LAMBERT

PRESENT

Mr. Lambert said he had a couple of things. He said that before they advertised for bids for the Trumbull Avenue waterline they had to make sure that the money was available. The money was supposed to be ready after July 1st and it is there so they have it being advertised on June 30th and July 7th and the bid opening for the job is on July 28th. They did have a pre-construction meeting with Lindy in regards to the paving this year and they are either going to start on July 5th or July 11th and they are anticipating finishing by August 1st. Mr. Lambert said he was going to bring in a couple of articles he had seen in the paper with regards to the paving in Youngstown and the paving in Hubbard where they are all kind of worrying about next year about the prices and everything else and saying how much more they feel it is going to be. Lambert continued that the only thing he could say is that the price that they have with Lindy is guaranteed for sixty days so if they do change their mind and do want to add those streets that they are putting off until next year they can still do it and that price is still firm, but he could get a copy of the articles from Youngstown and Hubbard and they could read them for themselves just to see if maybe there is a chance that they might still want to do this since the Auditor said they have the money to do it. Mr. Lambert stated that as far as the fireworks, if they look in the paper, it was either in the paper today or yesterday, he will have a copy for council in regards to how it will be handled. He talked to both Chiefs and they are going to follow whatever the State has passed. It didn't seem too bad. They had the dates down there they said that most of the time for setting off fireworks would be from 4-11 except on New Year's Day and New Year's Eve. That type of thing. But it didn't look too bad. He thinks that they agreed that instead of trying to make it more specific for the City of Girard they would do what they State has imposed and they will get them copies of that too. Mr. Lambert said he would get with Monica and see if they could get something out so that if anyone calls them they can get something out there incase anyone calls they'll have them.

COMMENTS:

Councilman Moliterno said he had a couple of things. He said he knows that citizens' comments is not the normal time they respond to anyone. When they do those streets if it is possible to be able to with their contractors to address the street in front of Mrs. Wilson's home. Moliterno said he knows that they tore it up as a City so it would be nice to be able to get back again when they have them back in town. Mr. Lambert said like he said they had the pre-construction with them. Mr. Moliterno said his next point is with the last couple of years about a second mausoleum. As he drives down 422 there is more and more graves sites filling up the land that they bought when they demolished the houses. Councilman Moliterno said it might be time to start thinking about that again. They are going to run out of space again unless they find more property to buy and he is not sure where that is at. The mausoleums in the long run worked out very well for the City. There is an upfront cost but they tend to pay for themselves very

quickly. Moliterno said it might be something they want to start thinking about again. Mr. Lambert said they were talking about it and when they did the first one they had some presales which helped get the money upfront to help them with the down payment and everything else. Since they have put that thing up the price has definitely doubled so who knows what kind of figure they are going to put on instead of what they used to charge. They have looked into the prices but he thinks they would have to start a program he thinks where they would have presales to try and see if they could get at least a deposit down before this thing happens. Councilman Moliterno said again he thinks it is a logical approach to take care of something that looks like it is going to be a problem. Presales makes all of the sense in the world. They will just have to make sure they let the people know that that is something they have available.

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

COMMENTS:

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

Ms. Coleman said that following up to what Jerry said about the streets. They know the prices are increasing. The budget was \$400,000 for streets this year. They are looking at \$100-150,000 for the salt barn which is not going to be done this year. That money could be placed towards doing the streets but they would have to use some funds from their ARP money.

COMMENTS:

TREASURER **MARK ZUPPO** **ABSENT**

FIRE CHIEF **JAMES PETRUZZI** **PRESENT**

Chief Petruzzi stated that the calls year to date is 992. Chief Petruzzi continued, they partnered with the Red Cross for a smoke detector program. They provide smoke detectors and some other miscellaneous items. They will be available for any city resident. The Chief said they will have to call the fire station and schedule and they will actually go out and install them for them at no cost to them. They will be going live hopefully this week. President of Council asked if there was any criteria for that. The Chief said just that you are a resident of the City of Girard. Councilwoman Martuccio asked when people could start calling. The Chief responded he is going to get everything together this week and they will publish it on social media and things of that sort.

COMMENTS:

Councilman Standohar asked if he could jump back to Jerry real quick. He said that Jerry mentioned a handful of meetings ago that he was going to try to make a priority of the street department regarding the tar gun. Standohar asked if that was underway. Mr. Lambert said Tommy will be back in town next week and they are ready to get started. Councilman Standohar said so then next week we should start seeing a lot of that done. Mr. Lambert said hopefully. Give him a couple of days to get back in and see exactly what has been going on since he was gone. Lambert said he told them before he went on vacation he was going to start as soon as he got back. Mayor Melfi said that the second half of summer you will see it.

Mr. Lambert said the Law Director did say that if they wanted to address the streets again that they postponed they would have to bring it up as new legislation. Mr. Lambert addressed Councilman Moliterno and stated that he and the Chief would like to have a safety committee meeting sometime in the near future so they could let them be abreast of what they are attempting to accomplish at the fire department. Councilman Moliterno said he will make sure that the rest of the committee is aware of that.

POLICE CHIEF **JOHN NORMAN** **PRESENT**

No report.

COMMENTS:

COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE-MOLITERNO-GRUMLEY-ZIRAFI

Councilman Moliterno stated they had a short finance committee meeting today. It was very positive. They are certainly very fortunate as a City to be in a position they are right now and they are going to closely monitor it as they continue on with this year and see if there are any changes, especially in the income tax which is up from where it has been the past couple of years.

COMMENTS:

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT-KAY-MARTUCCIO-MOLITERNO

No report. Councilman Kay welcomed Ms. Martuccio to the City and look forward to working with her and maybe get together for a meeting very soon.

COMMENTS:

BUILDING & GROUNDS-SCHUBERT-STANDOHAR-KAY

No report.

COMMENTS:

HEALTH & SAFETY-GRUMLEY-MOLITERNO-MARTUCCIO

No report.

COMMENTS:

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

No report. Councilman Standohar said he addressed a few questions with Jerry.

COMMENTS:

UTILITIES-ZIRAFI-SCHUBERT-STANDOHAR

Councilman Zirafi stated that they met briefly with the government representative from Spectrum and got some information that they are going to try to get to the other division concerning cable within our city.

COMMENTS:

ZONING-MARTUCCIO-ZIRAFI-SCHUBERT

Councilwoman Martuccio stated she had a couple of things. She had the pleasure to go to a planning and zoning workshop conference at Punderson on Friday with Ms. Fran Wilson. She attended a few workshop conferences/sessions and she will update them as needed if they apply to anything that they are talking about. It was signs, refurbishing old buildings and how to stay out of court. Those were the topics. Ms. Martuccio said she also had the pleasure to walk the potential bike trail entering through Weathersfield Township with the Mayor today so it was a perfect day for a stroll along the bike trail. The Mayor said it was more like a 3 mile walk and that is not an exaggeration. Conversation regarding the walk continued. The Mayor said it is important to note that decades of effort, legal effort, engineering costs, frustration, arguments, worries and concerns, the City has secured 67 acres. They own 27. That is the old Leatherworks. That is theirs and they all know the cleanup will begin there shortly this summer. That is 27 acres and they have a 99 year lease on 40 acres of the railroad property. After 99 years it is turned over to the City, but it is very important to note if you read that contract that efforts must be made to go forth with a bike trail, walking trail, that type of thing there that they said to the court that they wanted. A lot of effort was made over the decades and a lot of money spent but it sure is in a good position now. They have 67 acres that the city controls. Councilwoman Martuccio said he is not kidding when he says decades because she was like 22 years younger when they first started approaching the city and she was not on council or anything, but there was a whole bikeway committee, they raised some money, they had some funding so this really makes her happy that they can go forward with this so lets keep it up and keep going. The Mayor said for many good reasons you can't fight city hall. Councilman Standohar told Mr. Lambert that when that lease is up make sure he does a good job.

COMMENTS:

President of Council Paolone said he was remiss in not saying something under utilities. He and Jerry met with Ohio Edison Friday. They spent a couple of hours with Lisa Taddei and Andy. He doesn't remember his last name, but they walked from Avon Oaks to Hillside Drive and looked at they are going to cut down lot of trees along there that are leaning over powerlines. They want to clean that up. Paolone said they were very cordial to both of them and very nice about the situation. They know, deep down you can tell, they know they have work to do. They are trying to do it. He just thinks t is going to take awhile but he thinks they are doing their best with what they have the abilities to do. Paolone said he doesn't know who is in charge of that place but it wasn't the two people that they were with. Someone much higher has the final say. Paolone said it was a very interesting afternoon and they were more than cordial and that whole corridor you should see open up here by the end of summer. They are going to cut down a bunch of trees supposedly. So they'll see.

ORDINANCES

51-17

THIRD READING

AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING THE SALARY FOR THE POSITIONS OF CITY COUNCIL FOR THE CITY OF GIRARD, OHIO.

MOTION ZIRAFI SECOND MOLITERNO FOR PASSAGE OF ORDINANCE 51-17.

SCHUBERT Yes
STANDOHAR Yes
KAY No
GRUMLEY Absent
MARTUCCIO Yes
MOLITERNO 2-Yes
ZIRAFI 1-Yes
MOTION PASSES 5-1

51-18

THIRD READING

AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING THE SALARY FOR THE POSITION OF PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL FOR THE CITY OF GIRARD, OHIO.

MOTION MOLITERNO SECOND ZIRAFI FOR PASSAGE OF ORDINANCE 51-18.

SCHUBERT Yes
STANDOHAR Yes
KAY No
GRUMLEY Absent
MARTUCCIO Yes
MOLITERNO 1-Yes
ZIRAFI 2-Yes
MOTION PASSES 5-1

President of Council explained that this now sets them at the minimum of one year of credit in PERS for everyone on council through the rest of the decade starting with the next council, January 2024. They will get a year of credit for a year of service which they are not getting now.

51-22

SECOND READING

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

51-23

SECOND READING

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

51-24

SECOND READING

AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING AN ALTERNATIVE TAX BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF GIRARD, OHIO FOR THE FISCAL YEAR COMMENCING JANUARY 1, 2023, AND SUBMITTING COPIES OF SAME TO THE TRUMBULL COUNTY BUDGET COMMISSION.

51-25

FIRST READING

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS FOR THE REPLACEMENT OF THE PUMPS AT THE TIBBETTS WICK AND CHURCHILL ROAD WATER BOOSTER STATIONS.

MOTION MOLITERNO SECOND ZIRAFI FOR SUSPENSION OF THE SECOND AND THIRD READINGS OF ORDINANCE 51-25.

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

MOTION MOLITERNO SECOND ZIRAFI FOR PASSAGE OF ORDINANCE 51-25.

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

Councilman Moliterno said when you are talking about ARP funding, this is something that will benefit the City of Girard for many, many years to come. This is not short term. This is certainly long term and long needed. He knows that the committee members and council have talked about it for a long time and it is good to finally have the dollars to do something.

51-26

FIRST READING

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS FOR THE INSTALLATION OF WATER PUMPS AT THE TIBBETTS WICK AND CHURCHILL ROAD WATER BOOSTER STATIONS.

MOTION MOLITERNO SECOND ZIRAFI FOR SUSPENSION OF THE SECOND AND THIRD READINGS OF ORDINANCE 51-26.

SCHUBERT

STANDOHAR

KAY

GRUMLEY

MARTUCCIO

MOLITERNO 1

ZIRAFI 2

MOTION PASSES 6-1

MOTION MOLITERNO SECOND ZIRAFI FOR PASSAGE OF ORDINANCE 51-26.

SCHUBERT

STANDOHAR

KAY

GRUMLEY

MARTUCCIO

MOLITERNO 1

ZIRAFI 2

MOTION PASSES 6-1

NEW LEGISLATION

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION SCHUBERT SECOND STANDOHAR TO ADJOURN THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING OF JUNE 27, 2022.

SCHUBERT 1

STANDOHAR 2

KAY

GRUMLEY

MARTUCCIO

MOLITERNO

ZIRAFI

MOTION FOR ADJOURNMENT PASSES 6-1

MONICA URBANIC, CLERK OF COUNCIL

**REYNALD PAOLONE,
PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL**