

**MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2023
REGULAR MINUTES/JOURNAL**

PLEDGE

President of Council Paolone asked Girl Scout Troop 8073 to lead everyone in 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 | ABSENT |
| COUNCILMAN-AT-LARGE | MS. LILY MARTUCCIO | PRESENT |
| COUNCILMAN-AT-LARGE | MR. JOHN MOLITERNO | PRESENT |
| COUNCILMAN-AT-LARGE | MR. SAM ZIRAFI | PRESENT |

MOTION SCHUBERT SECOND MARTUCCIO TO EXCUSE COUNCILMAN GRUMLEY FROM THE MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 25, 2023.

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

COMMUNICATIONS

MOTION SCHUBERT SECOND MARTUCCIO TO FILE WITH COUNCIL AS A WHOLE A COMMUNICATION RECEIVED FROM THE LAW DIRECTOR REGARDING THE PROSECUTOR'S SALARY.

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

ADDITIONS & DELETIONS

ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA

MOTION MOLITERNO SECOND ZIRAFI TO ACCEPT THE AGENDA OF SEPTEMBER 25, 2023 AS WRITTEN.

SCHUBERT

STANDOHAR

KAY

GRUMLEY Absent

MARTUCCIO

MOLITERNO 1

ZIRAFI 2

MOTION PASSES 6-0

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

MOTION MARTUCCIO SECOND ZIRAFI TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 11, 2023 AS WRITTEN.

SCHUBERT

STANDOHAR

KAY

GRUMLEY Absent

MARTUCCIO 1

MOLITERNO

ZIRAFI 2

MOTION PASSES 6-0

CITIZENS' COMMENTS

Colleen Hernandez, 1009 Washington. Ms. Hernandez stated that she is one of the girl scout leaders for troop 807. She stated that she was leading the juniors last year that are now cadets, but last year they installed a fire pit at the Girard Liberty Park. They presented their idea to council and it was approved. They even got a donation and with that donation they were able to install a fire pit. It is fire safe. They used reusable materials and it is a permanent fixture there. The girls wanted to show their work. They passed around pictures to the administration and council. Everyone thanked the girl scout troop.

Lauren Green, 1580 Squaw Creek Dr. The troop leader stated that Lauren was one of their cadets who is working on the silver award and she wanted to.... President of Council Paolone interjected that she needed to state her name and address. Amanda Smith Toich, 1106 Washington. Ms. Toich continued, Lauren is one of their cadet girl scouts who is working the on silver award and she wanted to give an update on what has been done so far. Lauren said that so far they have gotten a bunch of donations of up to \$800 with outside donations. Some plants they got were mums, dogwoods, some lilies and hostas. They also got rocks and she also have a bunch of pictures they can look at and they will hopefully get statues too. Pictures were passed around. Ms. Toich said that this is the bed that is behind the bocce court at Tod Park. It is quite large. They consulted with landscape professional, and he taught them how to measure and estimate what materials would be used and the process to go about it. The project itself is about at the halfway mark. They got about half of it landscaped. These are 12 and 13 year olds and overall they have laid about 3,000 lbs. of rock. It has been a lot of work. Toich said they have planted two trees just

there, eight shrubs and flowers. They have really been working at it. She said she wanted to give them an update on the other project they did. This is the new the Mickey Williams Memorial Field. They did this before Memorial Day but it has taken off really well. They had a spare dogwood so they planted that by the ball fields as well so that is coming along well. The last part of project will be to finish the rock landscaping, install a seasonal pollinator garden at the end that has been left open and to fundraise for some statuary. That is going to be the expensive part of the project and they will be soliciting for donations throughout the community over the coming months to have that installed in the Springtime. If you see them out give them a wave and lend your support if you can.

Mayor Melfi said he received a call from Mrs. Williams, Mickey's widow, and she was very excited to see everything that was being done. She was really, really happy with it.

Ms. Toich said that one of the bushes that was planted there was a lilac that will bloom for many years to come.

Councilwoman Martuccio thanked them for their efforts. She knows it is a lot of hard work and hopefully a great learning experience. Martuccio asked if they would be able to give council, send to the administrative office a packet as to who they could contact to give a donation so that they can pass the word around. President of council asked them to get it to Monica. Ms. Toich said one of their students also made a small presentation, an electronic presentation that can also be distributed or shared if that is something they want as well.

Everyone thanked them and applauded.

Fran Wilson, 117 Ella Street. Ms. Wilson said that she made a request today through Jerry and she wanted to bring it to the attention of council. All of the other cities are doing mosquito spraying for West Nile so we don't get that because we don't want it but Jerry is going to be checking into that so if there are any funds involved in that she wants council to consider that.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS OF THE CITY

MAYOR

JAMES MELFI

PRESENT

Mayor Melfi said it has been a very long time since an opportunity for municipalities to receive demolition dollars in large amounts to come down the pipeline. The mayor said he believes the last time the city received a large amount of funds was back in 2009/2010. The city received about \$300,000. The mayor said you may recall with that money they tore down Washington Avenue School. They tore down the old St Rose School. They tore down the old Jones Building. For those of you who don't know the old Jones Building it is adjacent to the Knights of Columbus which was latent with some asbestos, and they did an agreement with the Knights of Columbus. They needed parking adjacent to their building and they were able to work that out with the owner of the Jones Building and probably 75 residential homes were demoed at that time. The mayor said he knows that he is missing some other spots, but to get to his point, the valley is going to get a lot of demolition money so he is submitting to the Trumbull Neighborhood Partnership all of the vacant or as of now the vacant residential structures and commercial structures for the city. They just double checked to see if they are vacant. They appear to be vacant. If they're occupied, whether they are occupied properly they do not know. That will be the argument for courts next year when all of the funds and things take place. That will be something that they can figure out then. Melfi said there are dozens upon dozens of residential properties all through the town and of course there is always commercial property. The mayor said he just wanted to make council aware. That

will be very important for the city. There are a lot of homes that have been burdens on their respective neighborhoods.

COMMENTS:

Councilman Kay asked if they just submit those and try to get as many done as they can dollarwise? Mayor Melfi said he submits them and he is hoping that the county land bank is funded enough that all of them go. The mayor said he thinks it is very important to remember that the EPA has changed a lot of their rules. What has happened in the past, the EPA did not require testing of asbestos in neighborhoods until you reached four on a particular street, that has changed to all asbestos must be removed. Must be tested and if it has asbestos, it must be removed. For example, a house on Pittsburgh. The neighbors long suffered with it and last year we tore it down. The asbestos removal and testing was around \$20,000 and the demolition was around \$10,000. The mayor said there you go. \$30,000 for one house, it doesn't go very far. Money doesn't go very far. This would include all of the testing. All of the asbestos removal. You may recall the houses that were lining Pittsburgh and State when they expanded the cemetery. They had asbestos as well. A lot of times they didn't have to do anything. They just had to test. That has all changed. You must test and you must remove. It gets too costly for the cities to do it out of their general fund. This is going to be a great opportunity to get rid of some eyesores that have been there for a long time.

SAFETY/SERVICE DIRECTOR

JERRY LAMBERT

PRESENT

Mr. Lambert said that the paving is done. It has been sealed and everything else. He hasn't had a complaint about it yet. If they hear anything let him know. Lambert said that the OPWC for the two projects that they have submitted, the Mosier Road project and the Tibbetts Wick project, they won't hear anything more now until about November 8th. They will have a meeting on the 7th and will let them know where they stand on the 8th. The Keefer Road waterline should be done in the next two or three weeks for completion. Lambert also said the dam, tomorrow the surveyors will be on site to lay out the location of the borings, and on October 2nd they are going to be starting drilling. They are estimating the completion for the bore drilling will be in one week.

COMMENTS:

AUDITOR

JULIE COGGINS

PRESENT

Ms. Coggins said she had nothing further from the finance meeting.

COMMENTS:

LAW DIRECTOR

BRIAN KREN

PRESENT

Attorney Kren said as a guy that appreciates a good campfire, he just wanted to say that it is a quality campfire the girl scouts put out. Some of them may recall that last year the judge had declared our pit-bull ban unconstitutional. Kren said he filed an appeal and today he got served with the appellate court's decision that upheld the judge's decision on declaring our pit-bull ban unconstitutional. Kren said he is not asking for legislation tonight, but he will be working on with the health and safety committee revising their ordinance on the books to comply with that decision. Regrettably that is in line with the other appellate court that looked at the issue. They just have to wait until some dog mulls somebody before they can take action. Secondly, he did mention at the last meeting about the tax payoff value of the TK Charles vacant land. It is the building we tore down. He is still waiting for that figure from the county

prosecutor's office. Attorney Kren said he thought he would have it by today but he did not. He will forward that to the finance committee once he has it.

Councilman Moliterno asked then they don't need to take any action until that time comes and they know what it is? Attorney Kren said no.

COMMENTS:

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

Mr. Zuppo said he had nothing further from the report he gave at finance.

COMMENTS:

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

Chief Petruzzi said they had 1776 calls to date. The fire department would like to thank Councilwoman Martuccio for the donation of a weight set to the station. They are getting a lot of use out of that so far. The chief said that Firefighter Ron Womack completes his probationary period at 7:30 tomorrow morning. He has shown a great deal of heart and dedication and they look forward to having him for many years to come.

COMMENTS:

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

COMMENTS:

COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCES-MOLITERNO-GRUMLEY-ZIRAFI

Councilman Moliterno said they had a good finance committee meeting this evening. Positive information from their treasurer and auditor. The city is moving along. They are in very good shape. They are very happy about that. Moliterno said that the next finance committee meeting the auditor will be preparing for them a little synopsis of where they are at after nine months of their year and they will be able to have some additional conversations about that.

COMMENTS:

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT-KAY-MARTUCCIO-MOLITERNO

No report.

COMMENTS:

BUILDING & GROUNDS-SCHUBERT-STANDOHAR-KAY

No report.

COMMENTS:

HEALTH & SAFETY -GRUMLEY-MOLITERNO-MARTUCCIO

No report.

STREETS SIDEWALKS & EMPLOYEE WELFARE-STANDOHAR-KAY-GRUMLEY

No report. Councilman Standohar stated that as the service director announced all of the paving program is complete. Streets are sealed. Standohar said he actually received a couple of messages and phone calls in a positive manner.

COMMENTS:

UTILITIES-ZIRAFI-SCHUBERT-STANDOHAR

No report.

COMMENTS:

ZONING-MARTUCCIO-ZIRAFI-SCHUBERT

No report.

COMMENTS:

ORDINANCES

51-79

SECOND READING

ORDINANCE DECLARING THE ADOPTION OF THE GIRARD CITY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN INCLUDING RELATED UPDATES BENEFITING THE YOUNGSTOWN AIR RESERVE STATION AND ZONING RECOMMENDATIONS IDENTIFIED DURING THE PLANNING PROCESS; AUTHORIZING ADMINISTRATION AND DEPARTMENT HEADS TO WORK TOWARDS IMPLEMENTATION AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

51-80

FIRST READING

A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE AMOUNT AND RATES AS DETERMINED BY THE BUDGET COMMISSION AND AUTHORIZING THE NECESSARY TAX LEVIES AND CERTIFYING THEM TO THE COUNTY AUDITOR.

MOTION ZIRAFI SECOND MOLITERNO TO SUSPEND THE SECOND AND THIRD READINGS OF ORDINANCE NO. 51-80.

SCHUBERT
STANDOHAR
KAY
GRUMLEY Absent
MARTUCCIO
MOLITERNO 2
ZIRAFI 1

MOTION PASSES 6-0

MOTION ZIRAFI SECOND MOLITERNO FOR PASSAGE OF ORDINANCE NO. 51-80.

SCHUBERT
STANDOHAR
KAY
GRUMLEY Absent
MARTUCCIO
MOLITERNO 2
ZIRAFI 1

MOTION PASSES 6-0

51-81

FIRST READING

AN ORDINANCE REQUIRING SELF-LOCKING DOORS AT ENTRANCEWAYS PROVIDING ACCESS TO BUILDINGS CONTAINING FOUR OR MORE DWELLING UNITS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

51-82

FIRST READING

AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING THE WELLMAN THEATER RENOVATION CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT FUND.

51-83

FIRST READING

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE COMPENSATION OF THE CITY PROSECUTOR OF THE CITY OF GIRARD, OHIO, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

51-84

FIRST READING

A RESOLUTION DECLARING IT NECESSARY TO LEVY A TAX IN EXCESS OF THE TEN MILL LIMITATION. The law director stated that this is to get the initial numbers from the county auditor to move forward with step 2 and put it on the ballot.

MOTION ZIRAFI SECOND MOLITERNO TO SUSPEND THE SECOND AND THIRD READINGS OF ORDINANCE 51-84.

SCHUBERT
STANDOHAR
KAY
GRUMLEY Absent
MARTUCCIO
MOLITERNO 2
ZIRAFI 1

MOTION PASSES 6-0

MOTION ZIRAFI SECOND MOLITERNO FOR PASSAGE OF ORDINANCE NO. 51-84.

SCHUBERT
STANDOHAR
KAY
GRUMLEY Absent
MARTUCCIO
MOLITERNO 2
ZIRAFI 1

MOTION PASSES 6-0

President of Council Paolone reminded everyone that the next meeting is on Tuesday, October 10th.

NEW LEGISLATION

MOTION ZIRAFI SECOND MOLITERNO TO PREPARE LEGISLATION TO CLARIFY AND SETTING UP THE TEMPORARY ENGINEERING SERVICES THEY CURRENTLY GET.

SCHUBERT
STANDOHAR

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

Councilman Standohar asked the law director to, he can't recall if the city has anything on the books already regarding hiring practices, nepotism type ordinances, banning that if he could look into that if there is anything on the books. If not, if he could research any such ordinances. The legality of the same and comparing to other cities in the region, etc. and the state and get back to them in that regard.

The law director asked for all city employees? Councilman Standohar said yes. The law director said he will reserve his comment for a later date.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION ZIRAFI SECOND SCHUBERT TO ADJOURN THE MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 25, 2023,

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

MONICA URBANIC, CLERK OF COUNCIL

REYNALD PAOLONE, PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL