

June 27, 2022

Council President Mr. Martin called the June 27, 2022 meeting to order at 7:32 PM. The roll was called with the following members present: Mrs. Dennis, Mr. Ferguson, Mr. McClead, Mr. Millhone, Mr. Null, Mr. Ruth and Mr. Wallace present. Also present was Mayor Lorentz, Safety Director Mrs. Hoblitzell, City Auditor Mrs. Nolan, City Law Director Mr. Webster, and Treasurer Mrs. Cassady. Absent from the June 27, 2022 meeting was Council Clerk Mrs. Meredith.

Council President Mr. Martin asked that everyone please rise for the Prayer and remain standing for the Pledge of Allegiance. Mayor Lorentz gave the invocation and led us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

President of Council Mr. Martin reminded council and the administration that if you have a report, please see that the clerk gets a copy of your report.

Mr. Martin also reminded everyone in the audience that is speaking before council to stand, state your name and address for the council clerk to hear and what you are addressing. Also please turn off all cellphones.

Mr. Ferguson made a motion to accept the minutes of June 13, 2022 as presented and by-pass the reading. A vote was taken with members of council present voting aye.

#### Reports of City Officials:

Mayor Lorentz stated his report was rather short. The report this week will be pretty much up to the Safety-Service Director as I was sitting in the sun.

The Safety-Director reported that the Street Garage has been busy cleaning up after all the storms. They had 23 hours of overtime this week due to the failing infrastructure.

The police chief and I have been doing interviews for dispatcher. We have a couple more interviews this week.

The United Way cleaned up landscaping at the Senior Center and helped prune and cut trees at Civitan Park. The city thanks them for their help.

American Boring will be starting prep work this week for the Force Main. They anticipate boring 1500 feet of pipe next week. Mayor Lorentz stated that traffic would be terrible.

City Auditor Mrs. Nolan reported that on June 16<sup>th</sup> I attended RITA's Annual Meeting.

On June 23<sup>rd</sup> I attended the Ohio Auditor of State's Office Live Webinar. I successfully completed a Certified Public Records Training.

The Utility Adjustment Report is before you this evening. Copies are on the back table. I need Council's approval on the report. Mr. Ferguson made a motion to accept the Utility Adjustment Report as presented. A vote was taken with all members of council present voting aye.

City Law Director Mr. Webster reported that we have a meeting with the Washington County Commissioners on Wednesday at 11:00 am in Marietta. We will talk about the sewer contract between the county and the city after the Force Main Project is complete. We are going to start now to put together what the requirements are for the contract to include the amount of usage it will provide as well as cost.

It was asked where the meeting would be held. Mr. Webster stated that it would be in the office of the County Commissioners.

Mr. Locke asked if it would be opened to the public. Mr. Webster stated that it wasn't discussed. Mr. Webster stated that the time and location was set. Mr. Webster said that from his prospective he didn't care if it was a public meeting. The issues are there whether it is a public meeting or not. Just remember it is a preliminary discussion for the contract. It is not a final contract.

City Treasurer Mrs. Cassady reported that the May Treasurer's Report has been emailed to all members of council with copies on the back table. I'm asking for council's approval on the report. Mr. Ruth made a motion to accept the May Treasurer's Report as presented.

Communication and Petitions - none

Reports of Standing Committee -

Finance/Audit Committee Mr. Ferguson had no report.

Mrs. Dennis, Police and Fire Committee had no report.

Mr. Ruth, Streets, Sidewalks and Storm Sewer reported that Farson Street closure is due to open mid-week at Washington Boulevard. The mayor reported that there will be a lot of traffic. Please be patient. Mrs. Hoblitzell stated they have 90 days to complete. I did talk today with Charles Schilling regarding parking on Murray Street. I was given some ideas and hopefully we get some solutions to the problem.

President of Council Mr. Martin asked Mrs. Hoblitzell if we are putting out notification of road closures on Facebook. It is scheduled to be placed on Facebook.

Mr. Millhone, Utilities Committee had no report. Mr. Millhone stated that he had some ward constituents present to speak this evening. I encouraged them to come.

Mr. McClead, Parks and Recreation Committee had no report.

Mr. Wallace, Planning and Zoning Committee had no report.

Mr. Wallace, Economic Development Committee had no report.

Mr. Null, Rules Committee had no report.

PERSONS APPEARING BEFORE COUNCIL - AGENDA items only  
((President of Council will ask if there is anyone wishing to address City Council on any agenda items.)) None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: ((President of City Council will recognize that there is or is not any Unfinished Business this evening)).

Mr. Ferguson brought before council for third reading A RESOLUTION SUPPLEMENTING YEAR 2022 APPROPRIATIONS. A vote was taken with all members of council present voting aye.

Mr. Ferguson moved this be Resolution #14, 2022-2023 and duly passed. Mrs. Nolan requested a certified copy from the clerk. A vote was taken with all members of council present voting aye.



NEW BUSINESS: None

PERSONS APPEARING BEFORE COUNCIL:

Karen Locke 726 Tuttle Street asked about the Dog Warden that was present at the last meeting. Mrs. Locke asked if that was our dog warden. She was informed that he was present regarding the Humane Society. Mrs. Locke asked if there was any action taken on that. She was informed that no action was taken. Mrs. Locke was happy about that. She feels that extra money should be spent on fixing the heating and air conditioning at the city building.

Randy Stanley 117 Elm Street appeared before council regarding Ridge Street onto Elm Street as you come up from the river. We have a lot of problems with people going the wrong way on the street. Mr. Stanley feels that this street should be 1 way. I would like to see a stop sign as you turn from Ridge Street onto Elm Street. I feel this is a safety issue. Mr. Martin asked Mr. Stanley to get with the Safety-Service Director regarding the issue. Mrs. Hoblitzell stated that we have looked at that area however I don't feel that a stop sign is going to fix the issue.

Mayor Lorentz stated that since there is parking on both sides of the street would they be able to see a stop sign. Mr. Stanley stated that he thought they would be able to see the sign.

Brett Gramkow 113 Elm Street addressed tree in front yard that is dead. We have talked about getting it cut down. The last storm we had knocked out power. The tree had been stuck by lighting. The limb yanked mast down and caught house on fire. The tree is rotten and is lying between the street and sidewalk. Mrs. Hoblitzell to check about the problem. She stated that she didn't know anything about it however she asked for the gentleman's phone number and said she would get back with him.

Jackie Walker 2124 Murray Street addressed car parking on grass on Murray Street. I would like to thank whoever was responsible for getting the car to move. The car never came back to that area. Mrs. Walker stated that there is still a lot of work to do. Mayor Lorentz and Mr. Ruth have

both been down. The house across the street on the corner needs cleaned up. I take pride in my yard and I would like to see something done.

Mr. Ferguson called a Finance/Audit committee meeting for July 11, 2022 at 7pm for the purpose of discussing Discovery World. I would like Mayor Lorentz and Mrs. Nolan to attend to help direct us. They have asked for a \$5,000 donation.

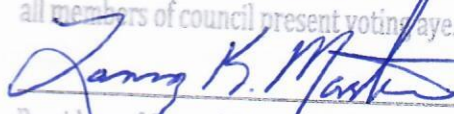
Mrs. Cassady addressed the slide that was taken down at Civitan Park. Mrs. Cassady asked if would be replaced. Mrs. Hoblitzell stated that we are getting a quote on a new one. They don't make one like that anymore. Mrs. Hoblitzell stated that she believes someone is getting a grant for the handicap playground equipment also.

Mr. McClead addressed the Rockland Lift Station. If you come down Washington Boulevard from the bank past Rockland Church there is a heck of a smell. I was wondering if they could put some kind of Odor band in the lift station. I know it's been like that for the last 38 years. Mrs. Hoblitzell stated that the county is starting to put a new chemical in to help with the smell. Mr. McClead stated that it hasn't helped with the problem yet. Mrs. Hoblitzell stated that they have to keep testing it once they start putting it in to see how much they need. They can't get it perfect the first time.

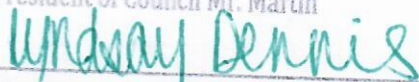
Mr. Millhone asked if we have bids on fixing the air here. Mrs. Hoblitzell stated that we have no money and the money would have to be appropriated. Mr. Millhone stated that if there is no money how are we going to give a donation for Discovery World.

#### ADJOURN:

Mr. Ferguson made a motion to adjourn at 8:13PM. A vote was taken with all members of council present voting aye.



President of Council Mr. Martin



Clerk Protem of Belpre City Council Mrs. Dennis