

# HARRISON OHIO CITY COUNCIL

## MEETING MINUTES

05 JULY 2023

*Prior to roll call, a Public Hearing for the 2024 County Tax Budget was held, Pledge of Allegiance was said and Austin Mathis of Grace Church offered the invocation.*

The meeting opened with Roll Call at 7:31pm.

Council met in regular session with Mayor Bill Neyer presiding. Members present included: Ms. Lexis Dole, Mr. Tony Egner, Mr. Ryan Grubbs, Mr. Mike Mains, Mr. Ryan Samuels, Mrs. Jean Wilson and Mr. Jerry Wilson.

Mr. Grubbs made a motion, seconded by Mr. Mains, to approve the Council Meeting minutes from Jun 20, 2023. **Roll Call: Grubbs, Dole, Mains, Mrs. Wilson, Mr. Wilson – yea, Egner, Samuels –abstained (not present at meeting).**

### **Invited Guests and Visitors**

Adam Hagen Stein, Katherine Davis and Debbie Hillner all of Whitewater Trails Boulevard addressed Council about the amount of construction traffic going through their subdivision to access the new subdivision going in on Edgewood Road. Mayor Neyer addressed their concerns and a road to the new subdivision has been put in on Edgewood Road so they should no longer have any traffic. The 2 subdivisions will be tied together though at the end of this road.

### **Business**

Mr. Samuels made a motion to set a Public Work Session for the Fire Levy/ Withholding Tax Credit on Tuesday, July 25<sup>th</sup> at 5:30pm. It was seconded by Mr. Egner. **Roll Call: All – yea.**

Mr. Samuels made a motion, seconded by Mr. Wilson, to approve a Resolution Adopting the Annual Tax Budget for the Year 2024 for the City of Harrison and Submitting the Same to the County Auditor. **Roll Call: All – yea. (Resolution #8 -23)**

Mr. Grubbs made a motion to approve a Resolution Approving an Application for Tax Exemption within a Community Reinvestment Area for Parcel Nos. 561-0015-0142-00 and 561-0015-0268-00 (Hearth Brewery) It was seconded by Mr. Samuels. **Roll Call: All – yea. (Resolution #9 -23)**

Mr. Samuels made a motion to approve an Ordinance Amending the Amount Appropriated to Various Fund of the City of Harrison, Ohio. It was seconded by Mr. Grubbs. **Roll Call: All – yea. (Ordinance #8 -23)**

### **Mayor's Report**

Mayor Neyer reported the Harrison Mayor Community Fund Golf Outing is August 12<sup>th</sup> at Sugar Ridge Golf Course. They are looking for players and sponsors. The Mayor thanked Shannon Hamons for his 7 years of service as he is leaving for a position closer to family around Columbus, Ohio.

**Law Director's Report** – The Law Director was not present.

### **Council – Committee Reports**

**Mr. Wilson** – Mr. Wilson thanked the Street Department for removing the parking restriction signs on Broadway in front of the school.

**Mr. Egner** – Mr. Egner had no report.

### **Mr. Grubbs**

**Utilities Committee:** The Committee met this evening and Mr. Grubbs reported that the wastewater plant new roof is out for bids. The wastewater new conveyor system is also out for bid. The Edgewood Road lift station and sewer work will start soon. The project at water well #3 is waiting on EPA approval to begin work.

**RITA Review Committee:** Mr. Grubbs reported the cost to bring the Income Tax department back in house is too much. They did meet with the City's RITA contact and discussed customer service with her. RITA email responses should be within 48 hours.

### **Mr. Samuels**

**Finance Committee:** Mr. Samuels reported the Committee met on June 27th. May was pretty much on budget. The Water Operating Fund is being monitored because a 5 year forecast shows rate adjustments will be needed in the future. The 2022 audit is ongoing. A few miscellaneous items were discussed. The HR Department will be taking over IT responsibilities when Shannon leaves. Discussion of the replacement Fire Levy is ongoing and there will be the upcoming Work Session. The Committee's next meeting is July 25<sup>th</sup>.

**Police Committee:** The next meeting is July 18th.

Mr. Samuels made a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss personnel issues listed in ORC 121.22 section G1. It was seconded by Mr. Grubbs. **Roll Call: All – yea.**

### **Ms. Dole**

**Social Media Committee:** Ms. Dole reported the Board met today and the Community Connect newsletter went out. Residents can receive it via email by signing up on the website. Information about the energy aggregation program is also available on the website. They are working on a style guide so all City publications have consistent working and looks.

**IT Committee:** Ms. Dole reported that during the downtown speaker's installation an underground pipe was damaged. The Utilities Department is working with them to fix it so the installation can finish.

**Tree Board:** Ms. Dole reported the Board met on June 27th and Kroger is replacing dead trees on their property. They will be numbering trees that need pruning. The CTS expansion plan has added the needed trees to their landscape.

**District Liaison:** The next meeting is July 13<sup>th</sup> at 7pm via zoom.

**Mr. Mains**

**Economic Development:** The Committee met this evening and Mr. Mains reported the Hearth Brewery will be headed to Planning commission for their Conditional Use approval. Home construction could begin in the fall at the Edgewood Road development. One of the streets will be named Meckesheim Way in honor of Harrison's sister city. Several businesses have donated funds for visit of officials from Meckesheim, Germany in September. Jersey Mikes will be filling the Velvet Smoke location on New Haven Road and Papa Johns is going in by O'Charleys. The next meeting is August 1st.

**Street Committee:** The Committee met this evening, and Mr. Mains reported the West Road overpass work will begin soon and go into 2024. They will try to keep the road open as much as possible. Harrison Avenue will be repaved after the safety project is completed. Park Avenue is just about finished.

**Mrs. Wilson**

**Recreation Commission:** Mrs. Wilson reported the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Events were a great success. Next is another Summer Concert.

**Veteran's Liaison:** Orders for Military Banners that hang on Harrison Avenue is going on. The American Legion is again helping with the cost. Info is on the website or at the Legion.

Council entered into Executive Session.

The regular meeting reconvened after Executive Session.

Mr. Grubbs made a motion to add a vote on Directors salaries to the agenda. Ms. Egner seconded. **Roll Call: All – yea.**

Mr. Grubbs made a motion, seconded by Mr. Mains to approve an Ordinance Setting Compensation Rates for Directors and Other Non-Bargained Positions. **Roll Call: All – yea. (Ordinance #9-23)**

There being no further business Mr. Grubbs made a motion to adjourn, Mr. Mains seconded. **Roll Call: All – yea.**

  
William Neyer, Mayor

ATTEST:   
Risa Dole, Clerk