

KIRTLAND CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

July 6, 2020

The meeting of Kirtland City Council was called to order at 7:02 p.m. by Council President Richard Lowery. Due to the current state of emergency regarding COVID-19, the meeting was held virtually via Zoom. Mr. Schulz led the prayer which followed the Pledge of Allegiance. The members of Council present were: Scott Haymer, John Lesnick, Richard Lowery, Jeffrey Ruple, Matthew Schulz, Joseph Smolic and Kelly Wolfe.

Administrative personnel present were: Mayor Kevin Potter, Law Director Matthew Lallo, Assistant Finance Director Louis Slapnicker, City Engineer Douglas Courtney, Service Director Joseph Fornaro, Police Chief Lance Nosse, Fire Chief Anthony Hutton and Economic Development Manager Monica Drake.

PUBLIC HEARING

Tax Budget for Fiscal Year 2021

Council President Lowery opened the public hearing in this regard. Assistant Finance Director Slapnicker noted that the legislation for the tax budget is on second reading tonight. He advised that the tax budget provides information for the County Auditor to set the property tax rate for next year (2021). In 2021 the millage request will be 3 mills inside and 8.05 mills outside for the voted levies. Failure to pass the tax budget results in zero real estate tax revenue for 2021. Local government revenue is also based on completion of the tax budget and allows the County Auditor to provide the City of Kirtland with a certificate of estimated resources, which limits the amount of money Council can appropriate for the year 2021, thereby avoiding negative fund balances. The tax budget does not appropriate any funds for next year.

Mr. Slapnicker stated that the tax budget was prepared with a five percent reduction that has been revised to a six percent reduction by recommendation of the County.

Answering Councilman Schulz, Mr. Slapnicker stated that the six percent reduction would be approximately \$110,000 overall.

There were no further questions from Council, and there were no comments or questions from the public. Council President Lowery closed the public hearing.

MINUTES OF THE JUNE 15, 2020 COUNCIL MEETING:

Mr. Smolic moved to waive the reading of the minutes, with the second by Mrs. Wolfe. The motion of Council passed by unanimous vote. Mr. Smolic moved to approve the Minutes, as presented, with the second by Mrs. Wolfe. **ROLL CALL: MOTION CARRIED 7/0 (VOTING YEA: HAYMER, LESNICK, LOWERY, RUPLE, SCHULZ, SMOLIC AND WOLFE. VOTING NAY: NONE).**

MINUTES OF THE JUNE 15, 2020 FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING:

Mr. Lesnick moved to waive the reading of the minutes, with the second by Mr. Ruple. The motion of Council passed by unanimous vote. Mr. Lesnick moved to approve the Minutes, as presented, with the second by Mr. Ruple. **ROLL CALL: MOTION CARRIED 7/0 (VOTING YEA: HAYMER, LESNICK, LOWERY, RUPLE, SCHULZ, SMOLIC AND WOLFE. VOTING NAY: NONE).**

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Police Chief Lance Nosse expressed sincere sympathy on behalf of the Kirtland Police Department to the Toledo Police Department and the family of Officer Anthony Dia, who was killed on July 4 from a single gunshot wound while performing a welfare check of an individual in a parking lot.

Chief Nosse announced that Officer Zach Petric and his wife welcomed a new baby girl, and all are doing well.

Chief Nosse noted that Mayor Potter presided over the swearing-in and hiring of Officer Aleashia Tapia; she comes to the City from the Lakeland Police Department. She is part-time and has started her training with Sergeant LaTurner and is doing very well.

With regard to the vigil held on June 23 behind the Recreation Park, Chief Nosse stated it went very well, according to plan, and it was a peaceful vigil. He noted it was a vigil, not a protest, and there were no signs of violence or property damage. Chief Nosse publicly thanked Willoughby Police Department, Waite Hill Police Department, Kirtland Hills Police Department, Lake Metroparks, Lake County Drone Team, and the State Highway Patrol for the assistance they provided to Kirtland.

Chief Nosse stated they have been extremely busy since last Friday, mostly with fireworks complaints. He believes the increase in the use of fireworks is a result of cancellation of public fireworks displays. As a reminder, he stated publicly that fireworks are illegal and cannot be detonated in the State of Ohio. He stated that if the officers see the violation, they take appropriate action.

Chief Nosse advised that the monthly report for June has been distributed. He noted the report was broken down with the physical arrests and summons in lieu of arrests.

Councilman Haymer inquired about the speed sign and traffic counters on Kirtland-Chardon Road. Chief Nosse advised that they are not related; the traffic counters are not part of the speed sign. He noted the sign is being borrowed from Kirtland Hills, and it does not have the programming to determine how much traffic comes through. Chief Nosse stated he does not know who placed the traffic counters.

Mr. Haymer inquired if an excessive amount of time is being spent on Kirtland-Chardon Road because of the complaints of one resident. Chief Nosse stated when they receive complaints about specific locations, they allocate as much time as possible to each of the locations. He stated that although he is getting complaints about Kirtland-Chardon Road, it does not mean that the officers are patrolling only Kirtland-Chardon Road.

Councilman Lesnick inquired about the number of tickets on Kirtland-Chardon Road issued to City residents, as compared to those issued to non-residents. Chief Nosse stated he would have to look up that information and provide an answer at the next meeting.

Councilman Smolic inquired about a measure passed in the House, to be submitted to the Senate, regarding legalizing fireworks. Chief Nosse confirmed it has gone through the House, but it is rumored that the Governor will veto it.

Fire Chief Anthony Hutton advised the monthly report for June has been distributed. The Chief advised that their call volume has increased over the last few months, following a downturn of calls in March. Referring to special events, Chief Hutton stated that basically everything has been cancelled. Events the Department would have normally covered include Lakeland's graduation, the half-marathon, Strawberry Festival, and Vintage Ohio, all of which have been cancelled.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS (continued):

Chief Hutton stated there have been a lot of fireworks. Agreeing with Chief Nosse, he stated due to the cancellation of public fireworks displays, many people bought their own fireworks. Fortunately there were no resulting fires or injuries.

COVID-19 Update: There have been three new cases in the last week in Kirtland, bringing the City up to ten cases. The State developed a tier system, color-coded as levels one through four. Lake County has seen quite a few new cases and is at Level Two. It appears that the State will defer to local health departments for the handling of the situation in each county. The Fire Department continues to work closely with the Health Department and the EMA, and the Department is in good shape with PPE for the personnel.

Chief Hutton advised that the diesel exhaust system project is underway; Captain Catania will head that project. He noted that due to the pricing, the Department should be able to do seven drops at Station 2 and two drops at Station 1; both stations will be done with one grant.

With regard to the cracked walls and the drainage issue at Station 1, Chief Hutton stated the outside work was completed by a contractor; the A-Shift crew (Captain Catania, Dan Samf, Aaron Madden, Brad Blankenship, and several part-time employees) took care of all the interior work, including wall patching, repair and painting. Dan Samf's daughter is working on a mural and putting the logo on the wall in the kitchen.

Chief Hutton stated they are working on another grant, the Ohio EMS grant; he thanked Matt Killeen, the EMS coordinator, noting that he does a great job with the state reporting. The Department is looking to get some new splinting equipment and computers for each station for the reporting.

Referring to the events that have been cancelled, Council President Lowery inquired if the sponsors of those events pay for police coverage. Chief Hutton stated that, for both Police and Fire, it is a separate detail and is handled the same as the football games; they pay the personnel directly, so there is no out-of-pocket cost for the City.

Answering Councilman Lesnick regarding downed power lines, Chief Hutton stated there were a few storms last month, noting they had to call the Service Department out a couple times. He noted they get a lot of calls for wires down, not only from storms, but also from trucks and busses driving through town.

Mr. Lesnick inquired about an item on the report, "dispatched and cancelled in route". Chief Hutton replied that it could be for a fire alarm or automatic aid call that was cancelled.

Councilman Smolic inquired if there were any fireworks injuries. Chief Hutton advised there were no injuries or fires.

Economic Development Manager Monica Drake reported that she has been meeting with businesses and setting up meetings with businesses in the Historic Town Center District. She drafted a questionnaire and is working on a cover letter, which will be shared with the businesses when it is complete.

She advised that Jobs Ohio announced a grant and loan program that will extend from 2020 through 2024 for new businesses being developed on 30-acre sites; the focus will be predominantly on manufacturing. If a property is properly zoned, these funds can be used for infrastructure, such as bringing sewers to the property.

Ms. Drake stated she attended the Tall Oaks showcase, which shared with prospective clients the new facility that is underway.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS (continued):

A meeting has been scheduled with Aqua Ohio to discuss sewers and Aqua Ohio's capabilities. She inquired if Councilman Schulz saw the invitation and if he would be able to attend. Mr. Schulz advised that due to some family health issues, he will not know whether he can attend until that day.

Answering Mr. Schulz, Ms. Drake said she does not have any information on the status of the Kirtland City Tavern. Council President Lowery stated it is rumored that it is for sale. Ms. Drake stated that it does not show as being for sale on the CoStar report.

Service Director Joseph Fornaro reported that in the last couple weeks the Department started a crack-sealing program to keep up with maintenance on the roads that were paved a few years ago. To date, the crews have crack-sealed six streets, including Arborhurst, Singlefoot and Martin, and they will continue on Friday with another four streets that are planned to be crack-sealed.

The Department completed ditching of another 400 feet as part of the maintenance program for culverts. With a little help, they were able to rent a tractor and should have all roadside mowing done by Wednesday.

Councilman Schulz noted that he lost power three times over this past weekend, and he reached out to Councilman Smolic and Councilman Ruple who have had the same issue. He noted that they seem to lose power quite a bit more than other wards, and he inquired if it relates to downed power lines. Mr. Schulz stated he would be interested in having a conference call with Mr. Fornaro and First Energy to understand why this is happening in this particular part of the city. Mr. Fornaro agreed that area seems to be affected, noting that he can reach out to Wendy at First Energy. Mr. Fornaro noted the Department has some work to do with trees in the city, removing dead limbs.

With regard to power outages, Chief Hutton stated that the west end of the city seems to be affected when Willoughby Hills or Wickliffe has transformer issues. He noted that the old town section is affected by Waite Hill, noting that there are lines down Metcalf Road, and when those lines are affected by a storm it takes out the whole north end. He stated that a lot of the feed to the south end of the city comes from Willoughby Hills.

Councilman Schulz inquired if the ditch elimination was part of a safety program or drainage program, or if it was the property owner wishing to eliminate the ditch. Mr. Fornaro stated he was referring to ditch maintenance, not ditch elimination. Mr. Schulz inquired about the status of ditch elimination work. Mr. Fornaro noted he is hoping to have a work session to present a few ideas to Council in this regard. Mr. Smolic stated he will schedule a Service Department Standing Committee meeting to discuss this issue, along with roads.

Assistant Finance Director Louis Slapnicker advised that, with regard to the Tax Budget, the Finance Department is requesting that the legislation be passed tonight, on second reading. He noted it is due by July 15, but passing it tonight will allow additional time to get it submitted to the County.

Mr. Slapnicker stated that work is ongoing on the new software system; the first revenue report out of the new system should be available this week. He stated that 2020 payroll information is being entered and matched and reconciled with the previous system.

He advised that the City's 2019 unaudited financial statements were filed with the State prior to the deadline; the audit is still underway. Responding to Councilman Smolic, Mr. Slapnicker advised that the auditors work out of a local office, but they also come on site; the audit can last weeks or months, depending on their timetable. Mr. Smolic thanked Mr. Slapnicker and Mrs. Kovalchik for their work in getting the new system up and running.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS (continued):

Responding to Councilman Lesnick, Mr. Slapnick stated that the revised reduction he mentioned earlier was recommended by the County due to COVID-19.

Law Director Matthew Lallo stated he is working on the matter of sewers in the old town area, and a conference call is being arranged with the Ohio EPA for early next week to address funding and a timeline of events for that project.

Mr. Lallo noted that there is legislation on the agenda relating to a request for authorization for easement for East Ohio Gas to construct natural gas pipeline on a parcel of City-owned property on Charlesderry. He requested that Council pass that resolution, which authorizes the Mayor to sign the easement.

City Engineer Douglas Courtney advised that he will have a full report at next week's meeting.

With regard to the easement for East Ohio Gas, Mr. Courtney stated he reviewed those documents and he has no concerns.

Councilman Haymer inquired if the construction work is done on Fox Hill Drive. Mr. Courtney advised that the punch list work is done. Mr. Haymer stated it does not look like the work was done by a professional and he believes it needs to be revisited. Mr. Fornaro stated he was on site today and talked to a resident; he noted the Service Department will be taking care of some issues there. Mr. Fornaro stated that the washout on the hill was a result of the last two storms. He noted at the time of the walk-through, the erosion control was in place. He noted there are a couple items that will be taken care of by the contractor, and the Service Department will take care of the rest. The Department has some hydroseeding to do from the winter in front of the resident's house.

Council President Lowery noted that Gildersleeve looks good; they did a nice job. Councilman Schulz inquired if the guardrail on Gildersleeve has been addressed. Mr. Fornaro stated they are waiting for the seeding to come in on Gildersleeve and on Wisner before addressing the guardrail.

MAYOR'S REPORT/ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Mayor Potter congratulated Chad Van Arnhem, who is being named as the Kirtland School District's next superintendent. The Mayor noted he looks forward to working with him in this capacity. Mayor Potter stated he has had the pleasure of working with Bill Wade, the outgoing superintendent, He stated his thanks to Mr. Wade for his leadership during his tenure at the Kirtland School District and wishes him the best of luck in his new endeavor.

Mayor Potter stated that he heard from Jesse Styles of Northstar Towers, and he advised that First Energy is a little behind due to COVID-19; the tower is waiting to be powered up before Verizon installs their antennas. It is expected it will be operational in August.

The Mayor advised a letter has been sent to the County Commissioners requesting their approval with regard to the County money originally designated for Springer Drive. It has since been realized that the east end of Emerald Glen is in deplorable condition and beyond repair, and the City will use the \$52,000 for the east end of Emerald Glen.

With regard to roads, Mayor Potter stated that he will ask the Service Department Standing Committee and the Finance Committee to schedule some work sessions over the summer recess. He suggested that the road paving task force be invited to a meeting of the Service Department Standing Committee as they summarize their findings over the next couple weeks. He noted they will be sending out a letter to the community.

MAYOR'S REPORT/ANNOUNCEMENTS (continued):

The Mayor stated that Mr. Courtney and Mr. Fornaro have been working to develop a maintenance strategy and project some maintenance costs for the roads. He noted the importance of crack-sealing roads that have been paved in the past couple years. He stated that Mr. Courtney and Mr. Fornaro are working on preliminary costs for the first few years of a road program. Once there are some rough estimates on the construction costs, as well as estimates for a maintenance plan, discussion will be held regarding a full road plan.

Mayor Potter stated that the legislation is on third reading tonight for the MOU that will allow the City of Kirtland to enter into the partnership with Willoughby for emergency dispatch services. He stated this is a phenomenal opportunity for Kirtland, noting that over the last three to four months there has been much discussion and public input. The Mayor thanked all the residents, noting that he appreciates their participation and dialogue in the matter, whether they are for or against the move. He stated that input has been received from the Chiefs and the Finance Director, noting this is a collaborative effort with Willoughby. It will reduce yearly dispatch expenses by \$300,000 and will create two full-time police positions; it will provide a net savings of over \$800,000 over the course of the next five years. It expands the police budget without going to the voters. The Mayor stated safety is not a concern, noting that the City will be just as safe after entering into this agreement. He noted that many other cities have been doing this for many years; he mentioned that Broadview Heights is ranked by Safe Cities as the safest city in Ohio, and they use a private dispatch company; and four of the five safest ranked cities use centralized dispatch. He stated that this decision is good representative government at work. Mayor Potter stated it is his hope that Council passes this legislation tonight.

Councilman Schulz inquired about the heat patch technology from Mr. Ribelli's company. Mayor Potter stated the purchase order was created and signed, and Mr. Fornaro reached out to the contractor today. He stated that the work was scheduled for Locust in the next couple weeks.

Councilman Smolic inquired about the status of the COVID grants. Mayor Potter stated that the City of Kirtland's share will be approximately \$310,000, but it is not yet known exactly how the money can be spent. He noted that any money not spent will have to be returned. The Mayor noted that an account has been established to receive the money, but no account has yet been established to spend those funds.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Councilman Smolic stated he would like to schedule a Service Department Standing Committee meeting, as discussed earlier; he will contact the Committee members to determine a meeting date.

CORRESPONDENCE:

None.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA:

None.

OLD BUSINESS:

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS OF OLD BUSINESS:

None.

**RESOLUTION NO. 20-R-32
(Mayor Potter)**

- (Third Reading) - A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH THE CITY OF WILLOUGHBY FOR THE CONSOLIDATION OF DISPATCH SERVICES, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

The legislation was read by title only. Mr. Lesnick moved to declare an emergency and adopt, with the second by Mr. Smolic. Councilman Schulz noted that money was borrowed in 2018 to purchase equipment (Ordinance No. 18-O-25); and he inquired when an asset is purchased with borrowed money whether that asset needs to be held while the note is being paid. Mr. Slapnick advised that the note was paid in full for this specific asset.

Councilwoman Wolfe stated she wants to make sure the City has considered every possible scenario before a decision is made. She stated over the past weeks she had conversations with seven police officers, firefighters, EMS responders, and when she asked each of them if the City will be as safe as it is currently if dispatch is outsourced, she received seven definitive answers of “no”. They explained there is a learning curve when switching to another dispatch. She stated Kirtland will be “second fiddle” when the move is made to Willoughby, noting that the dispatchers are under the supervision of Willoughby chiefs and the Willoughby taxpayers pay their salaries. Mrs. Wolfe stated she is confident that Kirtland officers will do their jobs to the best of their ability, but she is concerned about the disconnect between service and safety. She stated that Kirtland’s dispatchers give a level of personalization that will not be received from Willoughby. If an officer has to come into the station to take care of a report, they could be off the road for three to four hours. If someone has to be held in the jail, an officer will be taken off the road until the individual is transported elsewhere. Although it is being said there will be more police presence, Mrs. Wolfe stated concern there could be less police presence because the officers will have to handle the jobs that the dispatchers now do for the officers.

Mayor Potter stated the primary purpose of dispatch is to get the call to Police and Fire and get them to the home or establishment as quickly as possible. He stated the police officers and firefighters know Kirtland’s roads and know the residents, and he has confidence in the Chiefs to implement this move. He noted he has also talked to many people in the police and fire professions, and he has confidence in making this move. With regard to the concern of being “second fiddle” to Willoughby, Mayor Potter stated the dispatchers are professionals, and they will do the same job for Kirtland as they do for Willoughby. Mayor Potter stated he appreciates the concern, but this has been carefully considered, and Kirtland is not the first city to make such a move.

Mrs. Wolfe stated that although Kirtland is not the first to make such a move, this would be the first for Willoughby, and there are many unknowns. She stated that she agrees Willoughby’s dispatchers are professionals, but they don’t drive Kirtland’s roads. She noted she wants to make sure everything has been considered. Mayor Potter stated there has been a great deal of discussion in this regard. He agreed there are unknowns, but pointed out that with one dispatcher on duty in Kirtland, the dispatcher may need to walk a caller through a situation and another call may come in. He noted Willoughby has two or three dispatchers on duty at any given time, which allows another dispatcher to take that other call. Mayor Potter stated he has confidence that Chief Nosse will make sure the professionalism and service to the residents is maintained.

Responding to Mrs. Wolfe’s concern about officers having to come in and complete paperwork, Mayor Potter stated there will still be an officer on the road. He also mentioned mutual aid and the great relationship the City has with the surrounding communities.

OLD BUSINESS – RESOLUTION NO. 20-R-32 (continued):

Council President Lowery inquired if Chief Nosse will be providing a report to Council on a fairly routine basis if this legislation passes, advising Council of the successes and the challenges. Chief Nosse stated he would provide those reports to the Mayor and Council on a routine basis.

With regard to the dispatch analysis provided by the Finance Director, Councilman Schulz stated he believes that document should reflect the transfer of the PSAP equipment and all appurtenances, which are not currently referenced. He stated the document should also represent the loss of revenue from the personnel that will no longer be working for the City. Mayor Potter stated the document should also reflect the warranty service, noting that the City will not have that cost going forward.

Noting that a motion has been made and seconded, Mr. Schulz inquired in what manner this legislation can be amended. Mr. Lallo advised that it cannot be amended now because the motion is on the table.

Councilman Lesnick stated that this agreement will ensure that Kirtland has access to the latest equipment, noting that the MOU provides technological upgrades to the dispatch system for almost ten years, without any additional capital expenditures for Kirtland; Willoughby will spend money to make sure the system is updated and upgraded as often as needed. Mr. Lesnick also stated that Willoughby will be staffing two dispatchers first shift and three dispatchers at peak times, which is more than Kirtland has now. With more dispatchers, they can direct CPR over the phone, and immediate CPR can double or triple the chances of survival after cardiac arrest.

Council President Lowery thanked the members of Council, the Mayor, Administration and both Chiefs for the due diligence put into this discussion over the last several months, including the comments, suggestions and questions from the community.

Councilman Schulz inquired if a plan has been considered regarding use of City Hall bathroom facilities during events in the future, such as the concerts at the gazebo. Mayor Potter stated it can be worked out with the Police Chief to make sure City Hall bathrooms are open during those community events.

Mr. Schulz thanked the dispatchers for their service to the Kirtland community, noting his appreciation of them during the times he has had to call.

To all of the dispatchers, Council President Lowery thanked them for their commitment, their professionalism and for what they do every day, and wished them the best going forward.

Voting began on the motion to declare an emergency and adopt. **ROLL CALL: ADOPTED 5/2 (VOTING YEA: HAYMER, LESNICK, LOWERY, RUPLE AND SMOLIC. VOTING NAY: SCHULZ AND WOLFE).**

ORDINANCE NO. 20-O-33
(Council President Lowery)

- **(Second Reading) - AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE SUBMISSION TO THE ELECTORATE OF THE CITY OF KIRTLAND, OHIO, A PROPOSAL TO AMEND THE CHARTER OF SAID CITY BY AMENDING ARTICLE VII – CHARTER AMENDMENTS, SECTION 2 – CHARTER REVIEW COMMITTEE, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

The legislation was read by title only and placed on Second Reading.

OLD BUSINESS (continued):

- ORDINANCE NO. 20-O-34** - (Second Reading) - AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE SUBMISSION TO THE ELECTORATE OF THE CITY OF KIRTLAND, OHIO, A PROPOSAL TO AMEND THE CHARTER OF SAID CITY BY AMENDING ARTICLE II-A – APPOINTED ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS AND DEPARTMENTS, SECTIONS 2, 3, 4, AND 5, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.
(Council President Lowery)

The legislation was read by title only and placed on Second Reading.

- ORDINANCE NO. 20-O-35** - (Second Reading) - AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE SUBMISSION TO THE ELECTORATE OF THE CITY OF KIRTLAND, OHIO, A PROPOSAL TO AMEND THE CHARTER OF SAID CITY BY REPEALING ARTICLE V – INITIATIVE, REFERENDUM AND RECALL, SECTION 5 – MANDATORY ZONING REFERENDUM AND AMENDING ARTICLE I – THE COUNCIL, SECTION 8 – POWERS AND DUTIES, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.
(Council President Lowery)

The legislation was read by title only and placed on Second Reading.

- RESOLUTION NO. 20-R-36** - (Second Reading) - A RESOLUTION ADOPTING A TAX BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021.
(Mayor Potter)

The legislation was read by title only. Council President Lowery noted that Mr. Slapnick requested the legislation be adopted tonight. Mr. Lesnick moved to waive the third reading, with the second by Mr. Smolic. **ROLL CALL: MOTION CARRIED 7/0 (VOTING YEA: HAYMER, LESNICK, LOWERY, RUPLE, SCHULZ, SMOLIC AND WOLFE. VOTING NAY: NONE).** Mr. Lesnick moved to adopt, with the second by Mrs. Wolfe. **ROLL CALL: ADOPTED 7/0 (VOTING YEA: HAYMER, LESNICK, LOWERY, RUPLE, SCHULZ, SMOLIC AND WOLFE. VOTING NAY: NONE).**

NEW BUSINESS:**PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS OF NEW BUSINESS:**

None.

- RESOLUTION NO. 20-R-37** - A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A GAS PIPELINE EASEMENT WITH THE EAST OHIO GAS COMPANY ON PERMANENT PARCEL NUMBER 20A0140000010 LOCATED ON CHARLESDERRY ROAD, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.
(Mayor Potter)

The legislation was read by title only. Councilman Schulz inquired if Dominion East Ohio Gas is paying for this easement. Mr. Lallo replied that there is no compensation; the purpose of the easement is to lay the pipe and provide natural gas to the property; they are providing a service and increasing the value of the property. Mr. Lallo confirmed that the document will be recorded upon execution. Mr. Schulz inquired if there will be any noise, referring to changes proposed in the Rocking Horse area several years ago that would increase noise. Mr. Courtney stated this is a simple main extension to serve the two new homes at the east end of Charlesderry.

NEW BUSINESS – RESOLUTION NO. 20-R-37 (continued):

Councilman Smolic inquired if the extension will affect any of the new water lines that were recently installed. Mr. Courtney confirmed that it will not affect the water lines.

Responding to Council President Lowery regarding the need to pass this tonight, Mr. Courtney stated that the builder for the two homes is on schedule to move the residents in within the next week or so, and Dominion has to extend the main in order to supply gas to the homes. Answering Mr. Lesnick, Mr. Courtney confirmed there is no detriment to the City or the surrounding property owners.

Mr. Smolic moved to waive the three readings, with the second by Mr. Lesnick. **ROLL CALL: MOTION CARRIED 7/0 (VOTING YEA: HAYMER, LESNICK, LOWERY, RUPLE, SCHULZ, SMOLIC AND WOLFE. VOTING NAY: NONE).** Mr. Lesnick moved to declare an emergency and adopt, with the second by Mr. Smolic. **ROLL CALL: ADOPTED 7/0 (VOTING YEA: HAYMER, LESNICK, LOWERY, RUPLE, SCHULZ, SMOLIC AND WOLFE. VOTING NAY: NONE).**

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RECONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION:

It was noted that the Finance Director provided an amended Exhibit A to Resolution No. 20-R-36, and that the Resolution will need to be amended to attach the amended Exhibit A to the legislation. Mr. Schulz moved to reconsider Resolution No. 20-R-36, with the second by Mr. Smolic. **ROLL CALL: MOTION CARRIED 7/0 (VOTING YEA: HAYMER, LESNICK, LOWERY, RUPLE, SCHULZ, SMOLIC AND WOLFE. VOTING NAY: NONE).**

**RESOLUTION NO. 20-R-36 - (Second Reading) - A RESOLUTION ADOPTING A TAX BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021.
(Mayor Potter)**

Read by title only. Mr. Schulz moved to amend Resolution No. 20-R-36 to incorporate the amended Exhibit A. Mrs. Wolfe provided the second. **ROLL CALL: MOTION CARRIED 7/0 (VOTING YEA: HAYMER, LESNICK, LOWERY, RUPLE, SCHULZ, SMOLIC AND WOLFE. VOTING NAY: NONE).** Mr. Schulz moved to waive the three readings, with the second by Mr. Smolic. **ROLL CALL: MOTION CARRIED 7/0 (VOTING YEA: HAYMER, LESNICK, LOWERY, RUPLE, SCHULZ, SMOLIC AND WOLFE. VOTING NAY: NONE).** Mr. Schulz moved to adopt as amended, with the second by Mr. Ruple. **ROLL CALL: ADOPTED 7/0 (VOTING YEA: HAYMER, LESNICK, LOWERY, RUPLE, SCHULZ, SMOLIC AND WOLFE. VOTING NAY: NONE).**

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COUNCIL COMMENTS:

With regard to Resolution No. 20-R-32, Councilman Schulz inquired about insertion of the dates in the MOU and the timeline of Willoughby passing their ordinance. Mr. Lallo advised the dates were left blank so they can be filled in when all parties sign the agreement.

Councilman Schulz thanked Tim Lowery and Scout Troop 286, along with the parent leaders, noting that Tim’s Eagle Scout project was to put a brick paver around the South Cemetery flagpole. He noted the troop and parents worked together on a very hot Saturday morning and did a fantastic job. He appreciates Highland Landscape Supply, a Kirtland company, for donating the materials. Mr. Schulz stated he feels it is important to recognize the Scout troop for the work they do.

CONTINUING CONCERNS:

Council President Lowery noted that this is an opportunity for the public to address Council about any continuing concerns.

Tim Cosgrove, 10626 Rocking Horse Trail, stated his thanks to all the members of Council and the Mayor for their leadership on the issue regarding dispatch. He said he knows it was extraordinarily difficult, and Council and the Mayor took a lot of time listening to residents and taking feedback. Mr. Cosgrove noted there was strong and passionate opposition, and he respects those folks and their concerns. He stated he has had the opportunity to work on these issues with multiple communities; this is not a novel idea and this is where most communities are moving. Noting that it is difficult to adjust to change, he stated the reality is that safety has not been compromised in the communities that have gone to centralized dispatch. He stated that four of the five safest cities have centralized dispatch. Mr. Cosgrove stated he believes it is a positive development for Kirtland and provides the added benefit of additional resources to improve police presence. Mr. Cosgrove stated as a resident of Kirtland he is hopeful that all can work together on whatever challenges are faced.

Amy Buchanan, 8217 Kirtland-Chardon Road, thanked all the dispatchers that have worked for her the past few years and served the community well. She stated she has been working for the City of Kirtland as a dispatcher for 22 years; she began her career working part-time in 1998, and in 2000 she accepted a position as full-time record clerk and dispatch supervisor. She stated when she received the news in March about the decision to outsource dispatch, it broke her heart. She has spent many holidays and weekends, and missed family events, to assure the City of Kirtland was safe; and she made these decisions for the love of being a first responder and helping her community. She stated that dispatchers are the first point of contact and they provide assurance that Kirtland safety forces are on their way. The dispatchers also know the residents and the family to contact in an emergency. They know locations where individuals may have medical history at a time when they cannot speak. The dispatchers have children in the Kirtland schools and know the layout of the school building in case of an active shooter. They provide a service that is so much more than sending a call to the appropriate units. They work with their officers every day; they can tell by the tone of their voice that something is not right, and they are their lifelines. The officers rely on them, and the dispatchers are the officers' safety and partner. Mrs. Buchanan said the dispatchers are the first ones people make contact with on their worst day; they hear the cries, screams and at times they hear someone take their own life. They work 24/7, 365 days a year, hidden from the public, but always there for the community. Mrs. Buchanan thanked Council for the appreciation of what the dispatchers do day in and day out.

Council President Lowery thanked Mrs. Buchanan for her comments and stated appreciation for everything she has shared and done.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Lesnick moved to adjourn, with the second by Mrs. Wolfe. The motion of Council passed by unanimous vote and the meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

President of Council

Clerk of Council