

## COUNCIL MINUTES

November 6, 2023  
Council Chambers  
7:00 P.M.

**President Harris called the meeting to order**

**ROLL CALL** -Mr. Chute, Mr. Houser, Mr. Labutis, Mr. Lang, Mr. Marmie, Mr. Neely, Mr. Rath, Mr. Barker, Ms. Bline

**INVOCATION** – Ms. Bline

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** - Rylee Gibson, 2<sup>nd</sup> grade, Carson Elementary

**CAUCUS - Motion by Mr. Marmie to excuse Mr. Rine, second by Mr. Houser, passed by acclamation**

**MINUTES of October 16, 2023 Motion to accept by Mr. Labutis , Second by Mr. Barker , Passed by acclamation**

### **APPOINTMENTS**

There are none this meeting **Mayor Hall** - reappointing Newark Service Director, David Rhodes and appointing Newark Water Administrator, Brandon Fox, to the Newark CIC (Community Improvement Corporation), known as Newark Development Partners. Terms begin January 1, 2024 and expire December 31, 2026. **Passed by acclamation**

### **REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES**

Finance - **Received and Filed without Objection**

### **REPORTS FROM CITY OFFICIALS**

There were none this meeting

### **COMMUNICATIONS**

**Linda Mossholder** - Opioid Funds status request

### **COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS**

**Steven Smith, 237 Violet Ct.** - I want to speak a little more on the issue of homelessness. I think this is something that has been on people's minds and this is becoming a more and more important issue. I have some material I'll pass around on the Housing First Model for community homelessness. The Housing First Model allows people to get stable, safe housing, to receive treatment and have the opportunity to get employment and get out of the spiral of homelessness. It's been shown to work by many independent studies. You will see that I've circled a link in the bottom paragraph, there are more

than 40 studies cited that are accessible from that link. The Licking County Task Force on Homelessness did a study, had a lot of community meetings and studied the issue back in 2020. One of the things they found was a need for a low barrier shelter to help people get out of the cycle and the Housing First Model was specifically noted in their report which is still available if you want to download that and read that. We really want to solve the issue of homelessness in this area. If you consider looking at this, you consider doing something that's evidence based to solve the problem that's affecting a large number of people who are homeless and then causing problems for our other residents in addition to the residents who have problems because they are homeless.

#### **ORDINANCES ON SECOND READING**

There were none this meeting

#### **ORDINANCES ON FIRST READING**

There were none this meeting

#### **RESOLUTIONS ON SECOND READING**

**By: Mr. Rath, Mr. Barker, Ms. Bline, Mr. Marmie**

**23-88** A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE TO PARTICIPATE WITH A DEVELOPER IN THE COST FOR CONSTRUCTION OF OFFSITE DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS WHICH WILL PROVIDE BENEFIT TO AREAS BEYOND THE DEVELOPER'S NEED.

**Motion to adopt by Mr. Rath, second by Mr. Barker, Motion passed 9-0**

**By: Mr. Rath, Mr. Barker, Mr. Neely, Mr. Marmie, Ms. Bline**

**23-89** - Resurfacing with related work along SR 13 in Licking County. Scope of work to include preventative maintenance work on bridges within the resurfacing project limits. Scope of work within city will include resurfacing and replacement of curb ramps as needed.

**Motion to adopt by Mr. Rath, second by Ms. Bline, Motion Passed 9-0**

#### **RESOLUTIONS ON FIRST READING**

**By: Mr. Marmie, Mr. Barker, Ms. Bline, Mr. Neely, Mr. Rath**

**23-90** APPROPRIATING MONIES FOR THE CURRENT EXPENSES OF THE MUNICIPAL CORPORATION (\$25,000.00 -Hiring for Safety Forces and Promotional Processes)

**Held until November 20, 2023**

**By: Mr. Marmie, Mr. Barker, Ms. Bline, Mr. Rath, Mr. Neely**

**23-91 Exp** APPROPRIATING MONIES FOR THE CURRENT EXPENSES OF THE MUNICIPAL CORPORATION ( \$19,000.00 -Ashley Weaver in need of new laptop, One time adjustment to gross in the amount of \$2,000 in Dec 2023 for Barnard, Weaver, Butcher, Johnson, Fowler, Huy, Dutro, Clark) (\$8,800.00-GPS Monitoring Fees)( \$171,000.00 -Construction Management services for East Side transmission Main project)

**Motion to waive the tow day reading rule by Mr. Marmie, Second by Mr. Lang, Motion passed 9-0**

**Motion to adopt by Mr. Marmie, Second by Mr. Lang, Motion passed 9-0**

### **COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS**

**Daniel Crawford, 163 S. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street** - A lot of people who know me know that I suffer from OCD and also people who know me really well know that I have really good long term memory, however, my short term memory is a little bit lacking at times. I need to be reminded about things a lot. That reminds me of an adage if you don't use it, you lose it. So, I often have to try to use certain facts so I don't end up losing it. One time I had read that you can learn 5-7 new things each day, so I would memorize things from the dictionary, definitions trying to use that. To come back around and mention that tomorrow is Election, a lot of people overlook local elections because they think they're not important, but every Election is important and of course everyone who is here and everyone who ever runs for office or works for the City I think are here with competing visions, but I think we're all here because we have at least one major thing in common, we love this City. So, to anyone listening to this or who may be reading or whatever in the future, please make sure you vote tomorrow and every other election going forward because just like with my memory, if you don't use it, you lose it.

### **MISCELLANEOUS**

**Mayor Hall** - I was downtown yesterday to witness the toy run which I would like to congratulate and thank everyone who participated, there were 1.024 motorcycles in it yesterday. It may or may not be a record but surely is very close to that. To think how many homes they'll be helping with toys that helps the Salvation Army to help those families is just beyond belief. The creativity of the bike riders, pretty unique, they had a pickup truck with two fronts to it I think it said it didn't know if it was coming or going, so kind of cute, they make a lot of fun with it, but they do a wonderful job. It was 30 minutes long and came down Main Street from Walmart, but again thank everyone it's grown into such a phenomenal project and for the families it helps across the community are very grateful I'm sure.

**Mr. Chute** - I would just encourage everybody to vote tomorrow.

**Mr. Houser** - I will do the same, encourage everyone to vote.

**Mr. Labutis** - I would do the same, a lot of important issues State and Local and I would just encourage everyone to vote.

**Mr. Lang** - Good luck to all the candidates tomorrow and everybody here is going to vote, I know that, but make sure you talk to at least a couple people and get them out to vote too, you know people forget. I also want to thank our Safety Forces, really saw a lot of patrol out last weekend, especially Goosepond, 21<sup>st</sup> Street seemed like you guys are all over it, so appreciate the police being out there. I also saw a motorcycle accident off of King Road that couldn't have been 2 minutes and I saw the EMS come the other way, you guys were right on top of that, so I'm feeling good about our Safety Forces being out there and then I also wanted to thank our Service and Engineering Departments we got speed signs up on Country Club in that area where we talked about last time, so appreciate the quick work on that and hopefully it will reduce

some of the speeding in that area.

**Mr. Marmie** - I need to call a Finance Committee meeting for the 20<sup>th</sup>. I encourage everyone to get out and vote also and also if any of you have any desire to talk to your legislators at the State level, I do not like this Daylight Saving Time, can we get them to stop it so we are not changing the clocks any longer.

**Mr. Neely** - I will just echo the other comments, get out and vote.

**Mr. Rath** - Daniel, I thought it was incredibly profound, your words tonight, use your right to vote or you will lose your right to vote, I appreciate that, I agree with you 100%. Make sure you vote tomorrow. I want to thank Chance Patznick and Dave Rhodes as well as Barbara Gilkes, if you haven't been over to my neighborhood, check out the new dog park on Reddington Road at Reddington Road Park, it's phenomenal. It's been up for a while but they have finally put some play things in there for the dogs, they even have their own personal fire hydrant, then on the other side of the park we have a couple shelters and bathroom being built, it's very nice and very well needed for that area. Chance told me tonight that the guys working there installing the toys had to ask people to not come in and go to the other one, there are two one for big dogs and one for little dogs, but they had to re-direct them to the other one just so they could go in and do their work, so it's being used is the point. I appreciate that. I will call a Service Committee meeting for the 20<sup>th</sup>. Before I let go of that I want to remind everybody that Friday is the day that we observe Veteran's Day, when you get a chance, thank a veteran, thank them for the right to vote because they fought for that right.

**Mr. barker** - Just to echo Councilman Rath, Veteran's Day is observed Friday but is on Saturday and a resident sent me two opportunities on Saturday to participate in Veteran's Day Ceremonies, the first is 11am at Veteran's Park at 6<sup>th</sup> and West main Street, they'll have a ceremony and then in the afternoon at the VFW on Forry St. at 1pm which there will be a lunch provided there, so there are 2 opportunities to go and thank a veteran. I want to thank Law Director Moore for her work on the Gala for Hope Valley that I attended Saturday night and was the auctioneer for and Assistant Chief and I made a pretty good team and raised quite a bit of money for that event, we did a really good job together and just the firefighters item that night benefiting that event was sold for \$3,000, so kudos to you sir. I would just wish best of luck to all candidates tomorrow and remind everyone to go vote.

**Ms. Bline** - I would echo what the gentlemen have spoken, please vote and remember your veterans, we're here because of them. I'd like to thank the Parks department and the Street Department, they are great partners. As you know we do a lot of cleanups, we do a lot of renovating activities in south Newark, the most recent one was 3 weeks this Saturday, Christian Life Center came to Easy Street Park and they were fantastic, not only did they pick up the trash they took it away. They took away logs and several other things but there was still tree trash left and so until I can get a dump truck financed I have to depend on the Street and Parks Departments and again they are great partners, we appreciate them so much. I just want to thank the residents, I know there were some that weren't able to come tonight, we've been having FRAMEWORK within south Newark. We have to inspect our expectations, if you think small, that's what you get, so we're going to think big, we're going to think huge as a matter of fact and if we miss huge we'll hit big. We're grateful for all the chats we've been having with the families and a lot of prosperity is coming to Newark and it's a great opportunity for us all and thank you for all those families that participated. Thank you for this great Council.

**President Harris** - I wish everybody well tomorrow, stay busy, find something to do, don't worry about it, it is what it is, everybody has done all you can do. So, our next meeting is Monday, November 20<sup>th</sup>.

**ADJOURNMENT - Motion to adjourn by Mr. Labutis, second by Mr. Houser, passed by acclamation**

**Jeff Harris, President of Council**