At 5:30 p.m., Mayor L. Mulligan called the City Council meeting to order in Council Chambers, Lower Level of the City Building.

ROLL CALL

Staff Present: Amy Schenck, Neal Wilson, Nadine Begley, Susan Cohen.

CITIZENS COMMENT

CITY MANAGER
City Manager Adkins explained that the City’s internet contract expired in July of this year. We have been working with Cincinnati Bell to get a new contract in place. The City also has a contract with Cincinnati Bell for our telecommunication circuits, which are the circuits that tie all the buildings together. Although our contract for the telecommunication circuits doesn’t expire until the end of September, Cincinnati Bell has offered a three year bundle for both the internet and circuits at a reduced rate for the City. The alternative is to pay the current rates, which are higher. Staff recommends bundling of the City’s internet and telecommunication circuit contract into one reduced rate contract; this is a savings of approximately $300 per month from the City’s budget. Emergency legislation will be requested at the next meeting.

2017 Budget
City Manager Adkins presented the following information and explained that during the 2014 City Manager interviews he demonstrated that the City’s current organization of government suffers from several fundamental flaws. He stated that the City had been forecasting failure. The General Fund revenues were forecasted to be lower while expenses continue to rise over time. The only possible outcome of that forecast is additional budget cuts or to draw down the General Fund balance. The budget process and the strategic planning were poorly designed to bring about positive results. The City had been backward in its budget process. He stated that City Council should be setting policy and budget goals before the budget process starts so that the City is planning and budgeting to meet the stated goals and policies. In the past, the goals were set after the budget was mostly complete. He stated that the City should budget towards the end objective. He offered a style of leadership that focuses on strategic planning and then execution in a sustainable fashion. It offers decision points and concepts. The actual policy details of each concept would be worked through with City Council.

He explained that during the 2016 City Council Retreat he outlined a 2020 Plan designed to meet the City’s needs in a sustainable way including: infrastructure needs of water, sewer, the Long Term Control Plan, street paving, park renovations, neighborhood amenities, quality of life events, recreation programs, community events and deferred maintenance needs.

Mr. Adkins proposed to increase General Fund revenues by creating jobs. He discussed his plan to create 1400 new full–time retail and service jobs with an average hourly wage of $10 an hour by 2020. He proposed creating 950 new jobs with an annual salary of $40-50k and discussed the 285 new positions already committed at NTE, Cohen Recycling, AK Research, Covenant Village, and Injection Alloys. He identified additional job opportunities at the airport, Atrium Medical Campus, and Commerce Corner.

City Manager Adkins explained that another way to increase the revenues of the General Fund is to assess the costs of street lighting to citizens, increase property values and pointed out that the mall debt would be paid off in 2019.

He discussed the 2017 Master Plan which includes: community visioning, an updated transit plan, the Downtown Master Plan, the new zoning code, the airport and the housing study. He proposed to develop a new City Master Plan and annual budgets with the above components as a framework with an action plan to meet the sustainability goals set forth above by 2020.

City Manager Adkins reported that in 2014 the City’s pay levels were near the bottom half for similar Ohio communities. Since then, the City has realigned pay scales in many positions to be competitive in the market place and new bargaining agreements have been reached with Police, Fire and Public Works. New staff members include Public Safety Director, Police Chief, Fire Chief, Assistant Fire Chief, Economic Development Director, Assistant Economic Development Director, Finance Director, Assistant Finance Director, City Planner, Zoning Administrator and the soon-to-be-named Tax Superintendent.

City Manager Adkins discussed creating a vision and perhaps inviting Forbes Magazine back in 2018 to demonstrate the dramatic turnaround in the City since their declaration that Middletown was a dying city in 2008 and working to become an All-America City by 2020. He stated that we want to demonstrate visible change in all areas that impact people and perceptions. He discussed the Middletown Way and explained that the employees are committed to providing quality public
services in a positive and efficient manner, to treating the public and our co-workers in the manner in which we would like to be treated, to making Middletown a great place to live, an exciting place to do business and a pleasant, friendly place to visit, to representing Middletown in a positive way and projecting the community in a good light, and to serve the public with dedication, integrity and responsibility in undertaking our roles as the caretakers of all things public in Middletown.

He explained that the City has established a new Employee Recognition Program to recognize and reward work and behaviors that support and further the mission, goals, and values of our organization.

City Manager Adkins discussed the City’s marketing and presence on social media. He announced that the City is currently working with a company called CivicPlus to upgrade our public website. This upgrade will not only allow departments to modify and publish their own content, it has many other new capabilities.

City Manager Adkins discussed the 2017 budget priorities and reported that the Communication Intern had moved to the Economic Development Department. She will provide resident information, work to revamp the economic development marketing materials and the newsletter and will work with CVB on regional marketing and tourism.

He discussed the 5 year plan and stated that much of our success must come through new economic development and expanding and diversifying our tax base. He highlighted many of the new businesses in the City. He explained that further progress in economic development is possible at the Airport and cited the airport layout plan update, the rehabilitation of taxiway, ramps, and aprons, the recruitment of at least one new business, the development of a plan to open the HHook Road side for development, an indoor skydiving facility, and the completion of the Long Range Maintenance Plan.

City Manager Adkins highlighted the economic development projects under construction and the newly created jobs available in the City. He discussed the manufacturing jobs in the City and reported that work force development has become a larger issue than adding jobs according to the local Chamber of Commerce, almost every manufacturer belonging to the Chamber has unfilled manufacturing Jobs available. He discussed the challenges facing development in the East End including the need for water, sewer, roads, and utilities. He discussed the street paving program and reported that the biggest complaint we get from residents is the quality of our streets. He explained that nationwide, roughly 35% of non-interstate urban roads are in poor condition, up from about 24% in 1994. Part of the reason urban drivers see so many potholes is because of funding decisions that favor interstates.

He discussed the 2017 Capital Improvement projects and the deferred maintenance repairs. Mr. Adkins explained that Part 1 crimes and thefts were down in 2016. He discussed the success of the quality of life projects and the City appearance initiatives that have been implemented. He reported that staff is working to fine tune revenues and costs to complete the 2017 budget at this time. The 2017 Budget Presentation will be on October 4, 2016, and Public Safety will be on October 18, 2016.

CONSENT AGENDA

Approve City Council Minutes: August 16, 2016
Receive and File Board & Commission Minutes:
  Board of Health- March 8, April 12, May 10, June 14 and July 12, 2016
  Airport Commission- April 21, May 19, June 22, 2016
  Historic Commission- May 5, June 7, and July 21, 2016
  Architectural Review Board- May 24, 2016
  Board of Zoning Appeals- June 1, 2016
  Planning Commission- June 8, 2016
  Civil Service- July 21, 2016
Confirm Exceptional Appointment:
  Dan Dawson- Field Inspector, Community Revitalization
Confirm Personnel Appointments:
  Kenyatta McCrory, Tamica Smith, Tina Kendrick, and Walker Williamson- Part-Time Bus Driver, Community Revitalization, Division of Transit.
  Bradley Sorrell- Maintenance Worker, Public Works and Utilities, Water Maintenance
Receive and File Oath of Office: Amedeo Marchetti
Proclamation: September is Prostate Cancer Awareness Month
Receive and File the Maintenance and Performance Bonds, submitted by Fischer Development Co., Inc. for the public improvements in Renaissance Section 5 Subdivision
Receive and File the Maintenance and Performance Bonds, submitted by Fischer Development Co., Inc. for the public improvements in Renaissance 2, Section 2 Subdivision
Receive, File, and Approve the Final Plat for Renaissance Section 5
Receive, File, and Approve the Final Plat for Renaissance 2, Section 2
Mr. D. Picard moved to approve the issues and actions listed on the Consent Agenda. Mr. S. Bohannon seconded. Motion carried. Ayes: S. Bohannon, T. Moon, D. Picard, L. Mulligan, D. Bronston.

**MOTION ITEM**

**Extend D. O. R. A.**

To concur with the Chief of Police to extend the hours for the Designated Outdoor Refreshment Area to include: September 10, 2016 from 12:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. for the Middletown Arts Festival.

Mr. D. Picard moved to concur with the Chief of Police to extend the hours for the Designated Outdoor Refreshment Area to include: September 10, 2016 from 12:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. for the Middletown Arts Festival. Ms. D. Bronston seconded. Motion carried. Ayes: T. Moon, D. Picard, L. Mulligan, S. Bohannon, D. Bronston.

**COUNCIL COMMENTS**

S. Bohannon

Mr. S. Bohannon congratulated Dora Bronston on her ordination and becoming a Bishop over Christian Education. He offered his condolences to the family of Kara Church; Ms. Church was an employee in the Municipal Court.

D. Bronston

Ms. D. Bronston thanked Mr. Bohannon for his recognition. She encouraged everyone to get out and attend the First Friday events. She commented that she had attended the final concert of the Middletown Symphony Orchestra.

L. Mulligan

Mayor Mulligan thanked DMI and the organizers of the Craft Beer Walk; it was well attended. He commented that he had witnessed a world record pocket bikes from Middletown to New Mexico, more than 1,500 miles. He encouraged everyone to come out to the parade for two-time Olympic medalist Kayla Harrison.

**Suspend Charter**


**Res. No. R2016-16**

Resolution No. R2016-16, a resolution in support of the development of State and US Bicycle Routes as designated by the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) and the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) and declaring an emergency.

Ms. D. Bronston moved to approve Resolution No. R2016-16, a resolution in support of the development of State and US Bicycle Routes as designated by the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) and the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) and declaring an emergency. Mr. S. Bohannon seconded. Motion carried. Ayes: L. Mulligan, D. Bronston, S. Bohannon, T. Moon, D. Picard.

**Res. No. R2016-17**

Resolution No. R2016-17, a resolution accepting the amounts and rates as determined by the Budget Commission and authorizing the necessary tax levies and certifying them to the County Auditor and declaring an emergency.

Mr. D. Picard moved to approve Resolution No. R2016-17, a resolution accepting the amounts and rates as determined by the Budget Commission and authorizing the necessary tax levies and certifying them to the County Auditor and declaring an emergency. Mr. T. Moon seconded. Motion carried. Ayes: D. Bronston, S. Bohannon, T. Moon, D. Picard, L. Mulligan.

**Res. No. R2016-19**

Resolution No. R2016-19, a resolution declaring the intent of the City of Middletown to appropriate three temporary easements, two perpetual easements to construct and maintain a sewer and two fee simple interests in certain real property owned by AK Steel Corporation and located at parcel numbers Q65420850000012, Q65420850000003 AND Q65420850000014, and declaring an emergency.

Mr. T. Moon moved to approve Resolution No. R2016-19, a resolution declaring the intent of the City of Middletown to appropriate three temporary easements, two perpetual easements to construct and maintain a sewer and two fee simple interests in certain real property owned by AK Steel Corporation and located at parcel numbers Q65420850000012, Q65420850000003 AND...
Ms. Bronston moved to approve Resolution No. R2016-20, a resolution declaring the intent of the City of Middletown to appropriate a temporary easement in certain real property owned by Cynthia L. Tott located at parcel number Q6542115000041 and declaring an emergency. Mr. T. Moon seconded. Motion carried. Ayes: T. Moon, D. Picard, L. Mulligan, S. Bohannon, D. Bronston.

Resolution No. R2016-22, a resolution declaring the intent of the City of Middletown to appropriate a temporary easement in certain real property owned by Mark and Thresea Robinson located at parcel number Q6542114000081 and declaring an emergency. Mr. T. Moon seconded. Motion carried. Ayes: D. Picard, L. Mulligan, S. Bohannon, D. Bronston, T. Moon.

Resolution No. R2016-23, a resolution declaring the intent of the City of Middletown to appropriate a temporary easement in certain real property owned by Mark and Timothy Riley located at parcel number Q6542102000039 and declaring an emergency. Mr. S. Bohannon seconded. Motion carried. Ayes: L. Mulligan, D. Bronston S. Bohannon, T. Moon, D. Picard.


Resolution No. R2016-25, a resolution declaring the intent of the City of Middletown to appropriate a temporary easement in certain real property owned by Homer T. Lewis located at parcel number Q6542116000073 and declaring an emergency. Ms. D. Bronston seconded. Motion carried. Ayes: S. Bohannon, T. Moon, D. Picard, L. Mulligan, D. Bronston.

Resolution No. R2016-26, a resolution declaring the intent of the City of Middletown to appropriate a temporary easement in certain real property owned by William R. and Alberta R. Lane located at parcel number Q6542115000025 and declaring an emergency. Mr. T. Moon seconded. Motion carried. Ayes: T. Moon, D. Picard, L. Mulligan, D. Bronston, S. Bohannon.


Resolution No. R2016-28, a resolution declaring the intent of the City of Middletown to appropriate two perpetual easements to construct and maintain a sewer and a temporary easement in certain real property owned by Roger Grewe located at parcel number Q6542115000104 and declaring an emergency.

Mr. D. Picard moved to approve Resolution No. R2016-28, a resolution declaring the intent of the City of Middletown to appropriate two perpetual easements to construct and maintain a sewer and a temporary easement in certain real property owned by Roger Grewe located at parcel number Q6542115000104 and declaring an emergency. Mr. S. Bohannon seconded. Motion carried. Ayes: L. Mulligan, D. Bronston, S. Bohannon, T. Moon, D. Picard.

Resolution No. R2016-29, a resolution declaring the intent of the City of Middletown to appropriate two temporary easements in certain real property owned by Yankee Road First Church of God located at parcel numbers Q6542105000017, Q6542105000019, Q6542105000020, Q6542105000025, Q6542105000027, Q6542105000029, and Q6542105000013, and declaring an emergency.

Ms. D. Bronston moved to approve Resolution No. R2016-29, a resolution declaring the intent of the City of Middletown to appropriate two temporary easements in certain real property owned by Yankee Road First Church of God located at parcel numbers Q6542105000017, Q6542105000019, Q6542105000020, Q6542105000025, Q6542105000027, Q6542105000029, and Q6542105000013, and declaring an emergency. Mr. T. Moon seconded. Motion carried. Ayes: D. Bronston, S. Bohannon, T. Moon, D. Picard, L. Mulligan.

Resolution No. R2016-30, a resolution declaring the intent of the City of Middletown to appropriate a temporary easement in certain real property owned by Max E. and Victoria A. Coon located at parcel number Q6542116000083 and declaring an emergency.

Ms. D. Bronston moved to approve Resolution No. R2016-30, a resolution declaring the intent of the City of Middletown to appropriate a temporary easement in certain real property owned by Max E. and Victoria A. Coon located at parcel number Q6542116000083 and declaring an emergency. Mr. T. Moon seconded. Motion carried. Ayes: S. Bohannon, T. Moon, D. Picard, L. Mulligan, D. Bronston.

Resolution No. R2016-31, a resolution declaring the intent of the City of Middletown to appropriate a temporary easement in certain real property owned by Carol Bryant located at parcel number Q6542102000037 and declaring an emergency.

Mr. D. Picard moved to approve Resolution No. R2016-31, a resolution declaring the intent of the City of Middletown to appropriate a temporary easement in certain real property owned by Carol Bryant located at parcel number Q6542102000037 and declaring an emergency. Mr. S. Bohannon seconded. Motion carried. Ayes: T. Moon, D. Picard, L. Mulligan, S. Bohannon, D. Bronston.

Resolution No. R2016-32, a resolution declaring the intent of the City of Middletown to appropriate a perpetual easement to construct and maintain a sewer and a temporary easement in certain real property owned by Big Valley Properties, LLC located at parcel number Q6542115000026 and declaring an emergency.

Mr. D. Picard moved to approve Resolution No. R2016-32, a resolution declaring the intent of the City of Middletown to appropriate a perpetual easement to construct and maintain a sewer and a temporary easement in certain real property owned by Big Valley Properties, LLC located at parcel number Q6542115000026 and declaring an emergency. Mr. T. Moon seconded. Motion carried. Ayes: D. Picard, L. Mulligan, D. Bronston, S. Bohannon, T. Moon.

Resolution No. R2016-33, a resolution declaring the intent of the City of Middletown to appropriate a perpetual easement to construct and maintain a sewer and a temporary easement in certain real property owned by Emily Florence Belcraft located at parcel number Q6542116000068 and declaring an emergency.

Ms. D. Bronston moved to approve Resolution No. R2016-33, a resolution declaring the intent of the City of Middletown to appropriate a perpetual easement to construct and maintain a sewer and a temporary easement in certain real property owned by Emily Florence Belcraft located at parcel number Q6542116000068 and declaring an emergency. Mr. T. Moon seconded. Motion carried. Ayes: L. Mulligan, D. Bronston, S. Bohannon, T. Moon, D. Picard.
Resolution No. R2016-34, a resolution declaring the intent of the City of Middletown to appropriate three single sided billboard signs owned by Porter Advertising which are upon certain real property owned by the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company located at parcel numbers Q6542085000007 and declaring an emergency.

Mr. Bohannon moved to approve Resolution No. R2016-34, a resolution declaring the intent of the City of Middletown to appropriate three single sided billboard signs owned by Porter Advertising which are upon certain real property owned by the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company located at parcel numbers Q6542085000007 and declaring an emergency. Ms. D. Bronston seconded. Motion carried. Ayes: D. Bronston, S. Bohannon, T. Moon, D. Picard, L. Mulligan.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 6:20 p.m. Mr. S. Bohannon moved to adjourn to executive session under the authority of O.R.C. 121.22 (G) (1) To consider the appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion, or compensation of a public employee or official. Ms. D. Bronston seconded. Motion carried. Ayes: S. Bohannon, T. Moon, D. Picard, L. Mulligan, D. Bronston.

The Council returned to regular session at 7:09 p.m.

Resolution No. R2016-35, a resolution imposing a moratorium of six months on the issuance and processing of any permits allowing retail dispensaries, cultivators, or processors of medical marijuana within the City of Middletown and declaring an emergency.

Ms. D. Bronston moved to approve Resolution No. R2016-35, a resolution imposing a moratorium of six months on the issuance and processing of any permits allowing retail dispensaries, cultivators, or processors of medical marijuana within the City of Middletown and declaring an emergency. Mr. T. Moon seconded. Motion carried. Ayes: S. Bohannon, T. Moon, D. Picard, L. Mulligan, D. Bronston.

Ordinance No. O2016-30, an ordinance establishing a procedure for and authorizing the purchase of an additional police canine and declaring an emergency was read. Mr. Adkins explained that this dog would be used for detecting drugs and regular patrol.


Ordinance No. O2016-31, an ordinance establishing a procedure for and authorizing a contract with Andritz Separation for the replacement of missing tiles from the centrifuge conveyor and declaring an emergency was read.


Ordinance No. O2016-32, an ordinance authorizing the City Manager to create a pilot program to establish incentives to encourage the construction of deficient housing stock in the City and declaring an emergency.

Mr. D. Picard moved to approve Ordinance No. O2016-32, an ordinance authorizing the City Manager to create a pilot program to establish incentives to encourage the construction of deficient housing stock in the City and declaring an emergency. Ms. D. Bronston seconded. Motion carried. Ayes: D. Bronston, S. Bohannon, T. Moon, D. Picard, L. Mulligan.

Resolution No. R2016-18, a resolution authorizing an amendment to the employment agreement with Douglas Adkins to serve as City Manager of the City of Middletown was read for a second time.

Mr. D. Picard moved to approve Resolution No. R2016-18, a resolution authorizing an amendment to the employment agreement with Douglas Adkins to serve as City Manager of the City of Middletown. Mr. T. Moon seconded. Motion carried. Ayes: T. Moon, D. Picard, L. Mulligan. Nays: S. Bohannon, D. Bronston.

ADJOURNMENT

At 7:18 p.m., Mayor Mulligan declared the meeting adjourned until the Council meeting of September 20, 2016, at 5:30 p.m.

Lawrence P. Mulligan, Jr., Mayor

Attest: ______________________