

At 5:30 p.m., Mayor Condrey called the Special Meeting of City Council to order via a Zoom video conference in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and the recently signed Ohio House Bill 197 temporarily amending the public meetings law. The meeting agenda was conducted as normal, and was streamed live on Facebook (on the City of Middletown's page) and was posted to YouTube (on the City of Middletown's page.)

ROLL CALL

City Council Members present: A. Vitori, M. Nenni, T. Moon, J. Mulligan, N. Condrey.

PUBLIC HEARING

The public hearing for the 2020 Annual Action Plan Regarding HUD Funding was postponed until April 21, 2020 due to the COVID-19 Pandemic.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

No citizen comments were received.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Mr. Moon

Mr. Moon thanked the City Staff and commended Health Commissioner Phillips for the excellent work that she and her staff were doing during such unusual times. He commented that it is excellent to see everyone working together. He encouraged Middletownians to stay home and stay safe and stated that he is looking forward to seeing everyone in person soon.

Ms. Vitori

Ms. Vitori echoed that gratitude to City staff members and especially the Health Department staff who have been working around the clock. She offered words of solace to all of small businesses owners and commented that it has been wonderful to see everyone supporting one another. Everyone is working hard to keep and reopen the vibrant downtown. She encouraged everyone to stay home and stay safe.

Mr. Mulligan

Mr. Mulligan commented on a newspaper article about the year to date census reporting. The City of Middletown is under the local response rate average. He emphasized the importance of getting a good count for the City, county and state. These numbers determine representation in Congress and the Senate and controls the redistricting in the Statehouse.

Ms. Nenni

Ms. Nenni echoed that statements of Councilmembers Moon and Vitori about the staff. She thanked City staff and other essential workers and thanked people for staying home to flatten the curve and slow the spread of the virus. She encouraged everyone to respond to the 2020 census. She offered her condolences to Jeff Diver on the loss of his father Ron Diver. Ron Diver was an advocate for education and an example of service to our community.

N. Condrey

Ms. Condrey expressed her gratitude to City Manager Cohen, Health Commissioner Phillips, Communications Manager Quinlivan, Chief Lolli and Chief Birk for their tireless work during this pandemic. She has been talking to other mayors and also state and national leaders. There is a lot going on and we are advocating for resources for Middletown. Teens and 20 year olds are the biggest violators of the stay at home order. She encouraged parents to monitor where their kids are and to help them understand the gravity of the situation. She encouraged everyone to vote and announced that absentee ballots are available at Kroger stores. She announced that she will be doing a Facebook live every day at 4 p.m. to update the citizens on the latest information about the COVID 19 situation. Thank you for staying home and keeping your community safe. Downtown Middletown Inc. is putting on an Easter Egg Hunt. Families can stay in their cars and hunt for Easter Eggs together. She encouraged everyone to always be humble and kind.

CITY MANAGER REPORTS

City Manager Cohen thanked Public Works and Utilities Director Scott Tadych for serving as City Manager during her vacation. She thanked Council and staff members for stepping up to offer help and support during this situation. Handwashing stations have been set up in the downtown area and at the parks to keep people safe and healthy. The City also considered hand sanitizing stations but decided not to use them because of trouble finding refills of the sanitizer solution. She expressed her concern about the teens and twenty somethings that are not abiding by the stay at home order. The City encourages everyone to enjoy the parks and to maintain safe social distancing protocols. The City has closed playground equipment and removed basketball hoops to prevent close contact until we move through this crisis. The City has been in constant communication with the Emergency Management Agency to make sure that the City has all of the resources that it needs. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) request has been submitted to help recoup the costs the City has incurred as a response to the pandemic. The City's first responders and the Health Department have been working tirelessly maintaining personal protective equipment (PPE) supplies. She thanked those who have donated hand sanitizer and cleaning supplies to help keep the City's first responders safe. She has been working with Finance Director Burton to evaluate the City's finances and to mitigate the financial impact of the COVID 19 crisis. The City does have a healthy carryover reserve which will cushion some of the blow. Some projects and hiring will be put on the back burner until a later time to save some money. At the next meeting you will see legislation de-appropriating \$285,000 in expenditures. She acknowledged the hardships to out of work citizens and small businesses owners. The City is providing information daily from the state and federal government about the stimulus packages that are available and is working to identify unmet needs. The City received confirmation that it will receive an additional

\$431,000 in Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding to meet the needs of low to moderate income residents in this time. Some of the funding will be going to the agencies that serve the homeless population, assistance to those who are out of work and assistance to school children without internet access. She urged people to respond to the census. It determines more than you think. The census numbers determine the level of funding that we receive as a City, county and state. It effects everything from head start to elderly services.

CONSENT AGENDA.

To confirm the following promotional appointments of Colton Elliott to the position of Equipment Operator in the Department of Public Works & Utilities, Division of Sewer Maintenance; and Edward Truster to the position of Public Works Leader in the Department of Public Works and Utilities, Grounds Maintenance Division.

Receive and File Oaths of Office for Chandra Corbin, Joshua Lentz and Mark Horn.

Mr. Mulligan moved to approve the issues and actions listed on the Consent Agenda. Ms. Vitori seconded. Motion carried. Ayes: M. Nenni, Mr. Moon, Mr. Mulligan, Ms. Condrey, Ms. Vitori.

MOTION AGENDA

Well Pump #3 Repairs

To recommend the bid from National Water Services, of Groveport, OH, in an amount not to exceed \$139,225 for the water well pump and water supply well #3 repairs.

Mr. Mulligan moved to approve the recommended bid from National Water Services, of Groveport, OH, in an amount not to exceed \$139,225 for the water well pump and water supply well #3 repairs. Ms. Vitori seconded. Motion carried. Ayes: Mr. Moon, Mr. Mulligan, Ms. Condrey, Ms. Nenni, Ms. Vitori.

Transfer Property 603 14th Avenue

To authorize transfer of City-owned property at 603 Fourteenth Avenue.

Mr. Mulligan moved to authorize the transfer of City-owned property at 603 Fourteenth Avenue. Ms. Vitori seconded. Motion carried. Ayes: Mr. Mulligan, Ms. Condrey, Ms. Vitori, Ms. Nenni, Mr. Moon.

Waive Charter

Mr. Mulligan moved to suspend the Charter provision that requires reading on two separate days and to declare Ordinance No. O2020-14, Ordinance No. O2020-15, Ordinance No. O2020-17, Ordinance No. O2020-18, Resolution No. R2020-07 and Resolution No. R2020-08 emergency measures to be read one time only. Ms. Nenni seconded. Motion carried. Ayes: Ms. Condrey, Ms. Vitori, Ms. Nenni, Mr. Moon, Mr. Mulligan.

Ord. No. O2020-14 Contract for Local Street Improvement

Ordinance No. O2020-14, an ordinance authorizing a contract with RA Miller Construction Co., Inc. for the 2020 Local Street Improvement Program and declaring an emergency was read.

Mr. Mulligan moved to approve Ordinance No. O2020-14, an ordinance authorizing a contract with RA Miller Construction Co., Inc. for the 2020 Local Street Improvement Program and declaring an emergency. Mr. Moon seconded. Motion carried. Ayes: Ms. Vitori, Ms. Nenni, Mr. Moon, Mr. Mulligan, Ms. Condrey.

Ord. No. O2020-15 Approve Contract with Southeastern Equip.

Ordinance No. O2020-15, establishing a procedure for and authorizing a contract with Southeastern Equipment Company for the purchase of a Bomag Tandem Vibratory Roller and declaring an emergency was read.

Mr. Mulligan moved to approve Ordinance No. O2020-15, establishing a procedure for and authorizing a contract with Southeastern Equipment Company for the purchase of a Bomag Tandem Vibratory Roller and declaring an emergency. Ms. Vitori seconded. Motion carried. Ayes: Ms. Nenni, Mr. Moon, Mr. Mulligan, Ms. Condrey, Ms. Vitori.

Ord. No. O2020-16 Levy Special Assessments

Ordinance No. O2020-16, an ordinance to levy special assessments for the repair of sidewalks, curbs, gutters and driveway aprons in the City of Middletown during the year 2019 against the lots and lands benefitted by said improvements was read for the second time.

Mr. Mulligan moved to approve Ordinance No. O2020-16, an ordinance to levy special assessments for the repair of sidewalks, curbs, gutters and driveway aprons in the City of Middletown during the year 2019 against the lots and lands benefitted by said improvements. Ms. Vitori seconded. Motion carried. Ayes: Mr. Mulligan, Ms. Condrey, Ms. Nenni, Ms. Vitori. Abstain: Mr. Moon.

Res. No. R2020-06 Amend Appropriations

Resolution No. R2020-06, a resolution to make adjustments to appropriations for current expenses and other expenditures of the City of Middletown, Counties of Butler and Warren, State of Ohio, for the period ending December 31, 2020 was read for the second time. (Police Grant Fund)

Mr. Mulligan moved to approve Resolution No. R2020-06, a resolution to make adjustments to appropriations for current expenses and other expenditures of the City of Middletown, Counties of Butler and Warren, State of Ohio, for the period ending December 31, 2020. (Police Grant Fund) Ms. Vitori seconded. Motion carried. Ayes: Mr. Mulligan, Ms. Condrey, Ms. Vitori, Ms. Nenni, Mr. Moon.

Res. No. R2020-07
Extend Great Miami
River Trail

Resolution No. R2020-07, a final resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter a contract with the state of Ohio, Department of Transportation for the extension of the Great Miami River Trail and declaring an emergency was read.

Mr. Mulligan moved to approve Resolution No. R2020-07, a final resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter a contract with the state of Ohio, Department of Transportation for the extension of the Great Miami River Trail and declaring an emergency. Mr. Moon seconded. Motion carried. Ayes: Ms. Condrey, Ms. Vitori, Ms. Nenni, Mr. Moon, Mr. Mulligan.

Res. No. R2020-08
Contribute Funds to
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Resolution No. R2020-08, a resolution authorizing the contribution of City funds to Downtown Middletown, Inc. to be used for matching funds with the Heritage Ohio Downtown Redevelopment Grant Program and declaring an emergency was read.

Mr. Mulligan moved to approve Resolution No. R2020-08, a resolution authorizing the contribution of City funds to Downtown Middletown, Inc. to be used for matching funds with the Heritage Ohio Downtown Redevelopment Grant Program and declaring an emergency. Ms. Nenni seconded. Motion carried. Ayes: Ms. Nenni, Mr. Moon, Mr. Mulligan, Ms. Condrey. Abstain: Ms. Vitori.

Ord. No. O2020-17
Howell Contractors
N. Interceptor Sewer

Ordinance No. O2020-17, an ordinance establishing a procedure for and authorizing a contract with Howell Contractors, Inc. for the repair of the North Interceptor Sewer and declaring an emergency was read.

Mr. Mulligan moved to approve Ordinance No. O2020-17, an ordinance establishing a procedure for and authorizing a contract with Howell Contractors, Inc. for the repair of the North Interceptor Sewer and declaring an emergency. Mr. Moon seconded. Motion carried. Ayes: Ms. Nenni, Mr. Moon, Mr. Mulligan, Ms. Condrey, Ms. Vitori.

Ord. No. O2020-18
CBA Police Civilian
Employees

Ordinance No. O2020-18, an ordinance authorizing a collective bargaining agreement with the Fraternal Order of Police, Ohio Labor Council (Police Civilian Employees) for the years January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2022, and declaring an emergency was read.

Mr. Mulligan moved to approve Ordinance No. O2020-18, an ordinance authorizing a collective bargaining agreement with the Fraternal Order of Police, Ohio Labor Council (Police Civilian Employees) for the years January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2022, and declaring an emergency. Ms. Nenni seconded. Motion carried. Ayes: Mr. Moon, Mr. Mulligan, Ms. Condrey, Ms. Nenni, Ms. Vitori.

Ord. No. O2020-19
Type A Guardrail
Replacement

Ordinance No. O2020-19, an ordinance authorizing the City Manager to consent to the Ohio Department of Transportation Type A guardrail replacement was read for the first time.

Res. No. R2020-09
File DOT Grant
Application- Transit

Resolution No. R2020-09, a resolution authorizing the filing of an application with the Department of Transportation, United States of America, for a grant under the Federal Transit Administration Act of 1991, as amended was read for the first time.

Res. No. R2020-10
File ODOT Grant
Application- Transit

Resolution No. R2020-10, a resolution authorizing the filing of applications for CY 2021 with the Ohio Department of Transportation for grants under the Ohio Public Transportation Grant Program was read for the first time.

ADJOURNMENT

At 6:16 p.m., the meeting was declared adjourned until April 13, 2020 at 1:30 p.m.



Nicole Condrey, Mayor

Attest: 
