

**ATHENS CITY COUNCIL: REGULAR SESSION, MONDAY, MAY 1, 2017,
7:00 P.M.**

Athens City Council met in Regular Session at the above hour with the following members present: Butler, Cochran, Fahl, Kotses, McGee, Papai, and Risner.

Also present: President Knisely, Mayor Patterson, Auditor Hecht, and Law Director Eliason.

DISPOSITION OF MINUTES:

Fahl moved approval of the minutes of the Regular Session held April 17, 2017; Papai seconded. Minutes were unanimously approved as presented.

COMMUNICATIONS:

President Knisely introduced Barb Kostohryz who then presented the student winners of the area school artwork project sponsored by Live Healthy Appalachia. The children's artwork will be displayed on banners that will hang in uptown Athens this summer.

The President acknowledged an article in *Cities & Villages*, a publication of the Ohio Municipal League that names the City of Athens as an Ohio community recognized by the Ohio EPA for environmental excellence.

Also, President Knisely announced that the City's new Website launched earlier today. The site has been redesigned and streamlined, and she thanked The Government Channel for its oversight of this project.

Councilman Butler shared that residents continue to report their dissatisfaction with the lack of parking meters on Union Street, and the difficulty of downloading the Park Mobile App.

Councilman McGee reported that residents would like to see the City provide dumpsters in the near uptown residential areas during Ohio University move-out to encourage students to use a dumpster instead of stacking the curbsides with mounds of unsightly trash and blowing litter.

REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS FROM OTHER ELECTED OFFICIALS:

Mayor Patterson reported the following:

- Stewart Street will be closed between Mill and Milliron on Tuesday, May 2nd, from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. for a sanitary lateral repair. There will be no emergency or thru traffic.
- Madison Avenue will be closed between East State and Franklin on Tuesday, May 2nd, from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. for pavement repairs. There will be no emergency or thru traffic.
- Beginning today, May 1st, the US Rt. 33 westbound entrance ramp at East State Street will be closed for concrete pavement installation. The anticipated completion date is May 15th.
- Stimson Avenue roundabout, Phase 1A, work is scheduled to occur between early May and mid-July. During this time, Stimson Avenue will be closed between McKinley Avenue and Rock Riffle Road. A vehicle and pedestrian detour will be in place.
- McKinley Avenue reconstruction, Phase 1B, is scheduled to occur between early May and early August. During this time McKinley Avenue will be closed. A vehicle and pedestrian detour will be in place.
- Athens Public Water system users may experience discoloration of water over the next several days, particularly in the center north part of the city. This is due to cleaning and removing sediment deposits from the floor of the Highland Reservoir, the city's main treated water storage location. While appearing abnormal, the water is chlorinated and remains safe to drink.
- The Mayor is in receipt of a thank you letter to the Athens Fire Department from Demetrios Prokos.

ORDINANCES FOR THIRD READING:

0-39-17

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ATHENS CITY CODE, TITLE 9, GENERAL REGULATIONS, CHAPTER 9.12, STREETS AND SIDEWALKS, SECTION 9.12.17, STREET AND SIDEWALK OBSTRUCTION. McGee moved for Adoption; Risner seconded. Discussion: Butler is still not comfortable supporting a non-waivable fee to be paid by owners making improvements to their property. Adoption was defeated by a 3-4 vote, with Butler, Fahl, Kotses and Papai voting in opposition.

0-45-17

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ATHENS CITY CODE, TITLE 29, HOUSING REGULATIONS, CHAPTER 29.34, SANITARY CONDITION, SECTIONS 29.33.06(C), MULTI-FAMILY DWELLINGS, 29.33.07(C), SINGLE DWELLING UNITS, AND 29.33.08, EXCEPTIONS. Fahl moved for Adoption; Papai seconded. Discussion: Cochran asked about achieving compliance.

The Mayor responded that educational efforts will be in place, and the information can be provided as part of customer utility bills. Adoption was approved unanimously.

0-46-17

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ATHENS CITY CODE, TITLE 5, PUBLIC UTILITIES, CHAPTER 5.02, GARBAGE AND RUBBISH, SECTION 5.02.03(D), PREPARATION AND STORAGE; AND TITLE 29, HOUSING REGULATIONS, CHAPTER 29.12, PREMISES CONDITIONS, SECTION 29.12.02, CITATION. Fahl moved for Adoption; Risner seconded. Adoption was approved unanimously.

0-48-17

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE 89-16; AUTHORIZING REPLACEMENT OF THE TRAFFIC SIGNAL AT THE INTERSECTION OF WEST STATE AND LANCASTER STREETS (PROJECT #306); AND AMENDING THE 2017 APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE. Papai moved for Adoption; Fahl seconded. Discussion: Butler supports this project to ensure pedestrian safety.

The Mayor clarified, as a cost saving measure, the new traffic signal will be wired, not pole mounted as he had initially thought. Adoption was approved unanimously.

0-49-17

AN ORDINANCE DECLARING CERTAIN VEHICLES NO LONGER NEEDED FOR A MUNICIPAL PURPOSE. Papai moved for Adoption; Fahl seconded. Adoption was approved unanimously.

0-50-17

AN ORDINANCE CLOSING A PORTION OF COURT STREET BETWEEN UNION AND WASHINGTON ON SATURDAY, AUGUST 12, 2017, FROM 8:00 A.M. TO MIDNIGHT FOR THE "BOUNTY ON THE BRICKS" FUNDRAISER. Papai moved for Adoption; Risner seconded. Adoption was approved unanimously.

0-51-17

AN ORDINANCE SUSPENDING THE ENFORCEMENT OF ATHENS CITY CODE CHAPTER 11.04, VENDING, PEDDLING AND SOLICITING, TO ALLOW VENDING IN A DESIGNATED AREA ON AUGUST 12, 2017, DURING THE "BOUNTY ON THE BRICKS" FUNDRAISER. Papai moved for Adoption; Risner seconded. Adoption was approved unanimously.

ORDINANCE FOR SECOND READING:

0-56-17

AN ORDINANCE TO ENSURE LOCAL MATCH FUNDS FOR THE MOBILITY MANAGER GRANT.

ORDINANCES FOR FIRST READING:

0-57-17

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING WATERLINE REPLACEMENT ON AVON AND A PORTION OF DALTON AVENUE (PROJECT #310). Discussion: Butler explained that this is a continuation of replacing the City's aging infrastructure.

Risner asked if this project includes fire hydrant improvements.

Mayor is not sure, but will find out and report back to the Council.

0-58-17

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING PARTICIPATION IN THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION'S COOPERATIVE PURCHASING PROGRAM; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. Papai moved for Suspension of the Rules to meet the ODOT deadline of May 10th; Butler seconded. Suspension of the Rules was approved unanimously. Papai moved for Adoption; Fahl seconded. Adoption was approved unanimously.

0-59-17

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING 2017 STREET PAVING AND REPAIRS (PROJECT #312).

0-60-17

AN ORDINANCE DECLARING CERTAIN ITEMS NO LONGER NEEDED FOR A MUNICIPAL PURPOSE.

0-61-17

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE 2017 APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE.

0-62-17

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE 5-17, THE 2017 STAFFING LEVELS IN THE MAYOR'S OFFICE; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

0-63-17

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE 151-16, THE 2017 STAFFING LEVELS; PART-TIME AND SEASONAL EMPLOYEES; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & OTHER BUSINESS:

Finance & Personnel and Committee of the Whole plan to meet next Monday at 7:00 p.m.

Cochran asked, in light of the recent storms, whether there will be any additional street sweeping or opportunity for folks to put out yard debris from the winds and rain.

Mayor is not aware of any, but it certainly would be appropriate and he will convey those concerns to Public Works Director Stone.

Papai added that the storm drains are clogged with debris.

Fahl encouraged residents to clear the surface area of drains near their residence.

Butler hopes the City will collaborate with the County to address debris on the bike trails.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

At approximately 7:50 p.m. Fahl moved to go into Executive Session to discuss collective bargaining, and invited the Mayor, Service-Safety Director, Auditor, and Law Director to attend. Risner seconded. A roll call vote was taken as follows: Butler, aye; Cochran, aye; Fahl, aye; Kotses, aye; McGee; Papai, aye; and Risner, aye. At approximately 8:30 p.m. Fahl moved to come out of Executive Session; Cochran seconded. Motion was approved unanimously. Butler then moved to adjourn the meeting; Papai seconded. Motion was approved unanimously.

President of Council

ATTEST:

Clerk of Council