



**NORTON CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 2012**

Roll Call: Dennis McGlone
Charlotte Whipkey
Scott Pelot-Excused
Bill Mowery
John Conklin
Todd Bergstrom
Don Nicolard

Also Present:
Mayor Mike Zita
Rick Ryland
Laura Starosta
Pete Kostoff
Karla Richards
Ann Campbell

The Regular Council Meeting convened on Monday, November 26, 2012 at 7:01 PM, in the Council Chambers of the Safety Administration Building. The meeting was called to order by Don Nicolard, President of Council, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silent reflection.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC:

Mr. Joe Danko, 3805 S. Cleve-Massillon Road, Norton, Ohio, spoke about how nice the Christmas lights in Brentwood are and then you go to Shellhart & Cleveland Massillon Road on the north side and all you see is 15 years of trash. How long does this have to go on? Mr. Danko stated he does not see anyone from the city addressing this. If you pay attention in Barberton, you will see a yellow sign on the door and the next thing the house is gone. Seems like Barberton is doing it right. Mr. Danko questioned what would have to be done about this? Maybe you need to give them a ribbon for being the worst looking property in Norton. Mr. Danko commented about the public comment section and reminded everyone that the pen is mightier than the sword.

Andrew Lehner, 3853 Easton Road, Norton, Ohio, stated that he had stopped for gas in Wellington Ohio and left his vehicle running and was not aware there was a law against that. Mr. Lehner suggested Council adopt some law to ban people from leaving their cars running, and talking on their cell phones, etc. around gas pumps. Mr. Lehner agreed with the previous speakers comments adding and that when he moved here in 2001 he loved this place, now he is not so sure. Mr. Lehner commented about the public speaking and that Council had better not take that opportunity away and if you do you will be recalled.

Audrey Kornacki, 3008 Dutt Road, Norton, Ohio, spoke about “your” budget and that she has heard all about that in the last few meetings. Ms. Kornacki urged Council to think about the people’s budget and to consider the fact that we cannot handle the price for sewers. It is not just the hookup; it’s the line in front of her property. Mrs. Kornacki stated her mother lives on \$1,000.00 a month and she cannot afford that. Ms. Kornacki stated that most of us have good septic systems, and a cost for a new septic is far cheaper than connecting to the sewers.

Ms. Kornacki discussed the conversations last week about the road program, and questioned how to keep up with widening a road if you cannot even keep up with the roads that you do have now? We have two people up there working for us because they also cannot afford what you are trying to do. Ms. Kornacki urged Council to look at their (the people's) budget when you ask for things in the future.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE:

Mr. Nicolard noted that we should amend the agenda to rearrange the Public Service Announcements before we adjourn into Executive Session, to which there were no objections. Mr. Bergstrom urged Council to drive the roads as discussed last week from the listing the Administration gave us in order be better prepared for the next meeting. Mr. Nicolard noted that the overall cost for road repairs is \$3.6 million dollars and hoped that Council is working on figuring out where to come up with that kind of money.

2013 Budget

Mr. Nicolard turned this discussion over to Mrs. Starosta. Mrs. Starosta explained the items in her detailed memo (see attached). Mrs. Starosta stated that the details to the exhibit are all in the numbered pages, which you are accustomed to seeing. Mrs. Starosta started discussions from page #3-General Fund. Mrs. Starosta discussed the carry over balance of 19% for 2013. Ideally we like to see a 25% carryover which is for a three-month period. Mrs. Starosta indicated she did not budget into this years budget the Community Development Position, or an Intern for the Building Dept. Ms. Starosta announced we have one Finance Dept. employee leaving and that she will need to hire a replacement. Mrs. Starosta also discussed the severance pay out for this employee. Mrs. Starosta discussed the labor negotiations under General Government. Mrs. Starosta discussed capital improvements to coat a section of the roof at the Administration Building. We have not ran a summer rec. program for the last 2 years and we will not be doing that again in 2013, same with the summer concert series. The Police Department has some salary increases for dispatch from earlier this year and is included in the 2013 Budget. Mrs. Starosta indicated the police Dept. is 39% of the budget. Mr. Bergstrom asked why the jump in their pensions, and Mrs. Starosta stated they have switched to monthly billing. Mrs. Starosta discussed Storm Water Dept. on page #26 adding that this is to better track the activity. Mrs. Starosta briefly discussed the Road Program and noted it was discussed with you earlier there is no transfer out for this year, it was rolled into 2013. Advances to Fund #105- is a new one needed to account for the new EMS/FIRE levy which will not take effect until the first of the year. Service Fund page #29-carryover balance has been brought down in recent years, and is projected to be 19% or 20% at the end of 2013. The 2012 Fire/EMS Levy fund, this is new and we will be spending down the older funds #105-109 until they are exhausted. Mrs. Starosta discussed page #56-Water & Sewer Improvement Fund where we put the tax credit revenue. We have discussed two (2) projects this year; Barberton-Norton waterline and the sanitary sewer at the Dorothy Court Service Garage. Mrs. Starosta discussed a large carryover balance in the Water & Sewer Fund of nearly \$800,000.00, which was anticipated to be used for the Nash Heights Phase I Project. Mrs. Starosta discussed the Parks Land Improvement Fund-Cable Franchise Fees and the collections for 2012 are a little over \$140,000.00. Next year we have budgeted for park land improvements at \$100,000.00.

Mrs. Starosta indicated that the new Charter Amendment for the televising of Council meetings does not include a budget for that in 2013 Budget, until the Administration can determine the costs for providing that. Mr. Bergstrom noted that every dollar coming is allocated to a dollar going out. Mr. Bergstrom noted that when we do figure out just how much that will cost, we will have to go back into the 2013 Budget to figure out where to take that amount from and Mrs. Starosta concurred. Mr. Nicolard asked when this budget needs to be passed and Mrs. Starosta stated that this needs to be adopted before the end of this year. Ms. Starosta discussed one small change in the Law Dept. because the original contract calls for a 3% increase and she needs to address that. Mrs. Starosta stated there is one additional issue relating to the deposit of EMS services fund since the older fund will be eliminated. There was discussion as to the last Council meeting for the year of December 10, 2012, and Mr. Bergstrom indicated he would not be present for this meeting. There was discussion to continue discussions for the 2013 Budget at the December 3, 2012 Work Session. Mr. Nicolard directed Council to address any questions to Mrs. Starosta prior to the next meeting. Mr. Bergstrom asked how long before we have an idea for the costs for televised meetings, and Mr. Ryland stated you will not have that until after the first of the year, we are all over the place with this right now. Mr. Nicolard indicated we most likely would be adjusting the 2013 Budget next year at least once if not more.

CONSIDERATION OF THE MINUTES:

Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting of November 12, 2012 were approved as submitted. Minutes of the Committee Work Session of November 19, 2012 were approved as submitted.

REPORTS FROM OFFICERS, BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS:

Mayor announced the road striping was done on Easton Road last week and is now completed. Mr. Ryland announced the resignation of Ted Weinsheimer Supt. of Public Service effective Dec. 7, 2012. We are happy for Mr. Weinsheimer's advancement with another position elsewhere. Mrs. Starosta stated the 2011 Annual CAFR was released last week and all of Council should have received an email regarding that report. Mr. Kostoff had no report. Mr. Dan Karant, Norton's representative to the Summit County Public Health, gave a brief updated report, (see attached). Mr. Nicolard asked if there was a vaccine for the blacklegged ticks and Mr. Karant replied no, not that he knew of. Mr. Nicolard discussed the MHPP and the funds that have been cut, would this be coming from the General Fund at the County? Mr. Karant replied he could not answer that. Mr. Nicolard noted that the American Psychiatric Association has recently declared hoarding as a disease, and Mr. Karant added that this really is a public health issue.

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

None

INTRODUCTION OF NEW LEGISLATION:

ORD #95-2012

Mr. Conklin offered Ord. #95-2012 for its first reading and asked the Clerk to read it:

AN ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR AND/OR ADMINISTRATOR OFFICER TO EXECUTE AND DELIVER A COST SHARING AGREEMENT WITH

THE CITY OF BARBERTON FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE 31ST STREET NW/CLEVELAND-MASSILLON ROAD WATERLINE REPLACEMENT PROJECT; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

First reading only.

INTRODUCTION OF PRIOR LEGISLATION:

ORD #88-2012

Mr. Conklin offered Ord. #88-2012 for its second reading and asked the Clerk to read it:

AN ORDINANCE ACCEPTING THE BID OF WENGER EXCAVATING INC., IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$49,729.00, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Second reading only. Mr. Bergstrom asked if we are ever going to get the information that he had requested from the contractor, and Mr. Ryland we are working on it.

ORD #89-2012

Mr. Conklin offered Ord. #89-2012 for its second reading and asked the Clerk to read it:

AN ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR AND/OR CITY ADMINISTRATOR TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS FOR AND TO EXECUTE AND DELIVER A CONTRACT FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A SEWER LINE ON CERTAIN PROPERTY OWNED BY THE CITY; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Second reading only.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

None

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Mayor Zita made several announcements, (see attached). Tree lighting at Columbia Woods park, shop with a cop, still looking for Planning Commission Member in Ward 1.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mr. Nicolard moved to enter into Executive Sessions for the following reason as defined in (O.R.C. § 121.22) (G) (2) & Section 3.12 of the Norton City Charter: 1). Collective Bargaining Matters, and 2). Personnel Matters, seconded by Mr. Bergstrom.

Roll Call: Yeas: Nicolard, Bergstrom, McGlone, Whipkey, Mowery, Conklin
Nays: None

Motion passed 6-0.

At 7:56 Mr. Nicolard announced that Council would convene the Regular Council Meeting only for the purposes to adjourn, no legislative action would be taken. Mr. Nicolard moved to convene an Executive Session to discuss a Collective Bargaining Matter, and Personnel Matters, seconded by Mr. Bergstrom. Mr. Nicolard invited Mr. Kostoff, Mayor Zita, Mr. Ryland, and Mrs. Starosta to attend.

Mr. Dave Spice-Beacon Journal Reporter asked to attend, which Mr. Nicolard denied. Mr. Nicolard asked for the audience and members of the press, and the Clerk of Council to please leave the Council Chambers. At 8:00 Council convened the Executive Session meeting.

At 9:08 PM Mr. Nicolard closed the Executive Session and reconvened the Regular Council Meeting back into session.

ADJOURN:

There being no other business to come before the Regular Council Meeting, the meeting was adjourned at 9:10 PM.

Don Nicolard, President of Council

I, Karla Richards, CMC-Clerk of Council for the City of Norton, do hereby certify that the foregoing minutes were approved at a Regular Council Meeting held on December 10, 2012.

Karla Richards, CMC-Clerk of Council

****NOTE: THESE MINUTES ARE NOT VERBATIM****

All Council & Committee Meetings will be held at the Norton Safety Administration Building, unless otherwise noted.