



**Caucus & Regular Council Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, April 13, 2021
7:00 p.m.**

CAUCUS:

The caucus meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm.

ROLL CALL: J. McFearin, S. Scaffide, G. Bellan, S. Barr, D. Walker, M. Stauffer and B. Furey

ABSENT:

ALSO PRESENT: Ted Yates, Mayor
David Maistros, Law Director
Sarah Buccigross, Finance Director
Shannon Collins, Clerk of Council
Mark Gutowski, Senior Communications Administrator

Presentations:

No presentations this evening.

Items for Discussion:

No items for discussion this evening.

Audience Participation:

Karen Clinton – 2045 Glenwood Drive

Mrs. Clinton spoke about Ordinance 21-2021 regarding the Capital Improvements Board. She stated that council should not make the change to non-ward specific and keep it as the codified states so that each ward has a representative. Mrs. Clinton stated there is a history of the Capital Improvements Board and it is there for a reason.

No further audience participations this evening.

Pending Legislation:

Ordinance 21-2021 - Amending COT 127 regarding Capital Improvements Board

Ms. McFearin stated this is to amending section 127 of the codified ordinances regarding making the representatives on the Capital Improvements Board non-ward specific.

Mr. Bellan stated that he does not necessarily disagree with what Mrs. Clinton said. The goal is to have representation across all wards. That being said, Council did try to get this filled. It was advertised and re-advertised and there was not someone from Ward 1 who applied.

Mr. Scaffide stated he did fight to have a Ward 1 representative on the JEDI committee. He thought about this again with the Capital Improvements Board. The duties of this board are not ward specific. They are looking at the departments of the city and what is being spent for everybody.

Ms. McFearin stated that one applicant for the Capital Improvements Board rescinded their application so there will be an opening.

Mrs. Stauffer stated that she agrees that it should stay ward specific.

Mr. Scaffide stated he has reached out to residents in the past for other boards and they weren't able to get involved at the time. He stated the clerk advertises these positions for 60 days for annual openings and 30 additional days if it does not get filled or for any vacancies.

Mr. Furey stated he remembers when the Capital Improvements Board was reinstated and the first new member after that was Bob McDermott. Then it went to three residents, and later five.

Ms. McFearin asked Mr. Maistros if he could speak to this. Mr. Maistros stated that the reason the issue came up was the fact that no one from Ward 1 applied. He stated that there is another opening now because of a rescinded applicant so it will need to be advertised again.

Mrs. Walker asked Mrs. Clinton if she applied since she is in Ward 1. Mrs. Clinton said she did not but stated there are people interested and they should be given the opportunity.

Resolution 26-2021 - Enter agreements with ODOT for Road Salt Contract awarded in 2021

Mayor Yates stated this is for our road salt and the city has had success with this program in the past.

Resolution 27-2021 - Accepting NOPEC Energizing Community Grant Program

Resolution 28-2021 - Appointing 1 member to the Parks and Rec Commission

Ms. McFearin stated this resolution is to appoint one member to the Parks & Recreation Commission Ward 1 opening. The resident being appointed is Deb Peltz.

Mr. Scaffide stated she has served in the past and she is also the head of the Friends of the Twinsburg Parks.

Resolution 29-2021 - Appointing 2 member to the Environmental Committee

Ms. McFearin stated this resolution is to appoint two members to the Environmental Commission openings. The residents being appointed are Crystal Davis and Peter Flauto.

Mr. Furey stated both members have been on the board and do a great job.

Ordinance 30-2021 - Appropriations Amendment for TOP payouts and school compensation

Ms. McFearin stated this is an increase in the budgeted reimbursements for the TOP agreements and School district compensation payouts. Total payouts are \$500,869.

Mayor Yates stated that we have an agreement with the schools when the city enters these agreements that they share the income tax and this year the numbers came in a little higher.

Ordinance 31-2021 - Award bid for 2021 E. Idlewood Improvements to Schimer Construction LLC

Ms. McFearin stated this is to award the alternate bid which allows for a two week closure of the roadway in the amount of \$126,907.00. This will allow the project to be completed in a shorter timeframe and is safer for the workers.

Ms. Mohr stated this is not the lowest bid on the base bid but is the lowest on the alternate bid. She stated this project does have a two week closure. This will be on the Ravenna Road end of E. Idlewood. She has spoken to both the police and fire chiefs and they have routes in place to service the area.

Resolution 32-2021 - Amending CRA with PFG and 8745 Chamberlin Road

Ms. McFearin stated this resolution is for a CRA amendment with PFG and 8745 Chamberline Road, LLC in support of a 78,000 sq. ft. addition. The original submitted by the developer overstated the existing employment for PFG. Investment levels and new job creation will remain the same as originally proposed.

Ordinance 33-2021 - Appropriations Amendment for reimbursement grant funding for property purchase

Ms. McFearin stated this is for reimbursement grant funding that was awarded for a property purchase. This will appropriate funds for the purchase of the property with reimbursement to be received upon proof of payment. Appropriated amount is \$19,125.

Resolution 34-2021 - Resolution in Support of School Renewal Levy

This resolution shows the city and board of education understand that a financially strong city and school district are essential to all Twinsburg residents. The city has historically supported the school levies.

Mayor Yates stated he is excited that we are supporting the schools and they are supporting us.

Ms. McFearin asked council how they felt about the department heads returning to the meetings. Council would like to have them back. Mayor Yates states he will get them back on a schedule for council.

No further miscellaneous this evening.

Meeting adjourned at 7:26 pm.

Regular Council Meeting:

Mr. McFearin called the Regular Council meeting to order at 7:30 pm.

ROLL CALL: J. McFearin, S. Scaffide, G. Bellan, S. Barr, D. Walker, M. Stauffer and B. Furey

ABSENT:

ALSO PRESENT: Ted Yates, Mayor
David Maistros, Law Director
Sarah Buccigross, Finance Director
Shannon Collins, Clerk of Council
Mark Gutowski, Senior Communications Administrator

INVOCATION & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Mr. Bellan bestowed the Invocation and led Council in the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM THE SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING ON MARCH 29, 2021 AND REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING ON MARCH 23, 2021

Moved by B. Furey, seconded by D. Walker

Upon roll call motion passed unanimously

AWARDS & PRESENTATIONS:

No awards or presentations this evening.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION:

Karen Clinton – 2045 Glenwood Drive

Mrs. Clinton stated she believes it is important to keep the language for the Capital Improvements Board ward specific. She said this board is one for the most important boards in the city. It decided how and where our money gets spent.

Sheila Williams

Ms. Williams reported on the Summit County Health Department. She stated that the J&J vaccine has been put on pause. They were doing about 1,800-2,400 vaccines a day at the fairgrounds. It was going smoothly. She also brought in the Community Health Assessment.

Kathi Powers, Tina Davis and Mark Curtis

Mrs. Davis stated that they are here tonight to show support for the city's Police and Fire Levy. She stated she feels the schools and the city have always had a good relationship. She stated she supports the city's levy as a school board member and as a resident.

Mr. Curtis stated he cannot remember a time when city council has not supported the schools and feels they should support the city. Both the city and the schools both have obligations for the citizens. We all enjoy a high quality of life at a low cost in Twinsburg compared to other surrounding communities. A strong community and strong schools are what is expected and is in full support of the city's levy.

Mrs. Powers said she wanted to share the schools perspective on the levy. She stated not a week goes by where she isn't reaching out to police or fire. She said they are always quick to respond, professional and care about the kids. It is a partnership that has grown over time. Mrs. Powers stated that there are officers in their buildings routinely every day which allows the staff and students to know the officers which creates a community. She stated you can't have strong school without a strong city or a strong city without a strong school that is why they are happy to support the city's 2.4 mill Police and Fire Levy and respectfully requests the support of the schools renewal levy. Their renewal provides 10.4% of their operating costs.

Michael Turle – 9930 Forest Lake Drive

Mr. Turle stated he called today and spoke with Mrs. Buccigross about the Ohio Checkbook program who stated she was hoping to get it in place this fall. Mr. Turle stated he spoke with the Ohio Treasurer Office to find out what the process is. They stated once the data is compiled they can usually get city's online quickly. Mr. Turle asked if there was really a need for the 2.4 mills. He stated he absolutely supports police and fire. He stated the American Rescue Plan's \$3.7 million should help the city's financial situation. He wanted to know what these funds can be used for. He stated people are still trying to financially recover from this last month.

No further public participation this evening.

COUNCIL COMMUNICATION AND REPORTS

Maureen Stauffer - Public Works, ARB, Twins Days, Compensation

- Mr. Furey attended the ARB meeting on 4/1 and will report on it. Next meeting will be 4/15 at 6:00pm.
- Attended the Public Works Committee meeting earlier this evening. Mr. Scaffide will report on this.
- The J.E.D.I. sub-committee for Police and Justice met. They discussed the day in the life of an officer and their training. Next Police and Justice meeting will be on 4/26 at 6:00pm. The whole committee met on 4/12 and each subcommittee gave their reports. These meetings are open to the public. The next full committee meeting will be May 10th at 6:00pm.
- The Comprehensive Plan Committee will meet on 4/26 at 6:00pm.
- The next CIC meeting will be on 5/3 at 6:00pm.
- Thanked the schools for their support of the Police and Fire Levy.
- Nothing to report this evening

Greg Bellan – BZA, Public Works, Fitness Advisory, Charter Review

- Attended the Public Works meeting tonight.
- Attended the full J.E.D.I. Committee on 4/12. The Community Relations subcommittee will meet on 4/19 at 6:00pm.
- BZA met on 3/24 and heard a lot size variance on Cannon Road which passed unanimously. Their next meeting will be 4/28 at 6:30pm.
- Nothing to report this evening

Bill Furey – Environmental, Treasury Investment, Community Relations, Tax Incentive

- Attended the ARB meeting on 4/1 for Mrs. Stauffer.
 - Case 21-03-25 – 10313 Dayflower Drive – Sunroom – Approved
 - Case 21-03-28 – 2472 Warren Parkway, Unit 21 – Gazebo – Approved as noted
 - Case 21-04-34 – 9065 Darrow Road – S.J. Dental Sign Review – Approved
 - Case 21-04-35 – 8796 Independence Parkway – New Commercial Building – Approved
 - Case 21-04-36 – 2801 Veron Lane – Deck with Roof Covering – Approved
 - Case 21-04-37 – 1604 Bridget Lane – New Single Family Home – Approved
 - Case 21-04-38 – 1540 Bridget Lane – New Single Family Home – Approved
 - Case 21-04-39 – 2243 Meadowood Blvd – Addition – Approved
- Thanked Mrs. Powers, Mrs. Davis and Mr. Curtis for their support of the Police and Fire Levy. He stated that council is supporting Issue 6, which is the schools renewal levy.
- Stated a resident asked if they city really needs the 2.4 mills to support police and fire. Mr. Furey stated that the city is on the state minimum for .6 that goes to police and fire pensions as required. The 2.4 mills will solely to police and fire. The performance audit that was done last year stated the city is running extremely efficient. This audit also recommended charging for trash but the levy is actually cheaper for the residents. He stated that Twinsburg has the lowest property tax to support city functions in Summit County. Stated he would appreciate the residents support.
- Nothing to report this evening

Jo-Ann McFearin - Golf Advisory, Finance, Volunteer Fireman's Board

- Attended the Public Works meeting earlier this evening. Thanked Ms. Mohr for the graph that explains how the buying power has changed. In 1980, \$500,000 buying power is now equal to \$1,600,000.
- Nothing to report this evening

Sam Scaffide – Finance, Capital Improvement, Public Works, Public Safety

- Attended the Public Works meeting this evening. Thanked Chris Campbell, Public Works Director and Amy Mohr, City Engineer for all their reports and updates. Public Works talked about a study for salt dome and service garage. Thanked all of council for showing up. Ms. Mohr went through the projects that will be happening. Next meeting will be 6/8 at 6:00pm.
- The next Finance Committee meeting will be 4/28 at 6:00pm.
- Thanked the schools for their support of Issue 2, the city's Police and Fire Levy.
- Nothing to report this evening

Scott Barr – Finance, Public Safety, Planning

- Planning Commission’s next meeting will be 4/19 at 7:00pm.
- Attended the Public Works meeting tonight. They discussed a number of items. One being the capital improvements projects that were put on hold due to COVID. These items need to get done.
- The American Rescue funding that is being said the city is getting is not a windfall. It is 2.7% of the entire budget. The amount that is speculated we are getting may not be accurate because the townships have not been awarded any federal funds and amounts may shift.
- Thanked the schools for their support on Issue 2. The city is required to fully fund police and fire pensions and we have but that money comes out of the general fund. Issue 2 is specifically designed to fund our current pension obligations. Furthermore, there is a full mill to build up a capital improvement fund for police and fire. That money cannot be moved out of that account without a court order. Mr. Barr asked the residents for their support.
- Nothing to report this evening

Daisy Walker - Public Safety, Parks & Recreation, Chamber, Community Relations

- Attended the Public Works meeting earlier tonight.
- JEDI Full Committee met on 4/12. Heard from all the subcommittees. Invited the schools to attend one of the meetings.
- Thanked everyone for attending the meeting this evening.
- Nothing to report this evening

MAYOR’S REPORT:

- Thanked the schools for their support of the city’s Police and Fire Levy. It is great that the schools and city are supporting each other.
- Thanked Jen, Ryan, Brandon and Tom from the Fitness Center for all her work on the Bunny Tailgate.
- Stated Youth Camp, Water Park and Rock the Park will be back this summer but still working on what that will look like with the current guidelines.
- Thanked the schools and Norm Potter with ‘The Academy’ for inviting him to speak.
- Has been fortunate to be invited at times to train with police and fire. This week he was able to observe a police training that was coordinated with Aurora and Hudson. This was done so if mutual aid is needed that all officers are trained the same way and are familiar with each other.
- Encouraged the public to attend the JEDI meetings.
- The State of the City will be on 4/22 at 7:30 am and will be videoed for those who cannot attend.
- Congratulated the Historical Society on the Moses Roach house becoming a National Historical Landmark.
- Small Business program kicked off in the city. This is just to help jump start the local economy after COVID.
- Issue 2, the Police and Fire Levy for 2.4 mills. The revenue for the city has gone down and the cost of everything has gone up. In the last 10 years the cost to run the police and fire departments has gone up 30% just to maintain the same manner of operation as they have been. Other department costs have gone up too. The additional federal money that the city may get was talked about but that amount is not know because townships were not included in the first round. This money will be split over two years. There are four buckets for this, business grants, water/sewer infrastructure, hazard

pay for essential workers and income loss. The city is down over \$800,000 in income tax revenue this year. To use the term windfall is wrong, it is helping us keep our nose above water. The city took a 10% or approximately \$3 million decrease in our spending last year. There were layoffs and salary cuts and postponement of projects the city was able to grow our general fund balance. The CARES Act funding helped pay for a portion of police and fire expenses.

- Nothing further this evening

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:

No Department Head reports this evening.

LEGISLATION

ORDINANCE 21-2021 - AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 127.07 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF TWINSBURG REGARDING THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT BOARD (Stands on First Reading)

Read by S. Collins

RESOLUTION 26-2021 - A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE ODOT ROAD SALT CONTRACTS AWARDED IN 2021

Read by S. Collins

MOTION: TO AMEND RESOLUTION 26-2021 TO ADD THE STANDARD EMERGENCY CLAUSE

Moved by B. Furey, seconded by G. Bellan

Upon roll call motion passed unanimously

MOTION: TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 26-2021 AS AMENDED

Moved by J. McFearin, seconded by S. Scaffide

Upon roll call motion passed unanimously

RESOLUTION 27-2021 - A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY TO APPLY AND ACCEPT AN ENERGIZED COMMUNITY PROGRAM GRANT ADMINISTERED THROUGH THE NORTHEAST OHIO PUBLIC ENERGY COUNCIL (NOPEC)

Read by S. Collins

MOTION: TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 27-2021

Moved by J. McFearin, seconded by S. Scaffide

Upon roll call motion passed unanimously

RESOLUTION 28-2021 - A RESOLUTION APPOINTING ONE MEMBER TO THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

Read by S. Collins

MOTION: TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 28-2021

Moved by J. McFearin, seconded by M. Stauffer

Mr. Furey stated that Mrs. Peltz does a fantastic job on this board and is also the founder of the Friends of the Twinsburg Parks.

Upon roll call motion passed unanimously

RESOLUTION 29-2021 - A RESOLUTION APPOINTING TWO MEMBERS TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

Read by S. Collins

MOTION: TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 29-2021

Moved by J. McFearin, seconded by B. Furey

Upon roll call motion passed unanimously

ORDINANCE 30-2021 - AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CURRENT YEAR APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE GENERAL REVENUE ACCOUNT AS ESTABLISHED IN ORDINANCE 14-2021, THE APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF TWINSBURG FOR THE YEAR 2021; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Read by S. Collins

MOTION: TO PLACE ORDINANCE 30-2021 ON THE THIRD AND FINAL READING AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Moved by J. McFearin, seconded D. Walker

Ms. McFearin stated the reason for the emergency is for so payments can be made as soon as possible.

Mayor Yates stated the calculations that came in were a little higher than expected.

Upon roll call motion passed unanimously

MOTION: TO ADOPT ORDINANCE 30-2021

Moved by J. McFearin, seconded by M. Stauffer

Upon roll call motion passed unanimously

ORDINANCE 31-2021 - AN ORDINANCE ACCEPTING THE BID OF SCHIRMER CONSTRUCTION, LLC, FOR THE 2021 E. IDLEWOOD CULVERT REPAIR; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Read by S. Collins

MOTION: TO PLACE ORDINANCE 31-2021 ON THE THIRD AND FINAL READING AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Moved by J. McFearin, seconded S. Scaffide

Ms. McFearin stated the reason for the emergency is to enter agreements so material can be ordered and project can be scheduled.

Upon roll call motion passed unanimously

MOTION: TO ADOPT ORDINANCE 31-2021 AS AN EMERGENCY

Moved by J. McFearin, seconded by B. Furey

Mr. Furey stated this is a culvert repair for \$126,907.

Upon roll call motion passed unanimously

RESOLUTION 32-2021 - A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR, TO AMEND THE AGREEMENT WITH PFG (PERFORMANCE FOOD GROUP), AND 8745 CHAMBERLIN ROAD, LLC UNDER THE COMMUNITY REINVESTMENT AREA PROGRAM CREATED PURSUANT TO OHIO REVISED CODE SECTION 3735.66, FOR REAL PROPERTY TAX ABATEMENT

Read by S. Collins

MOTION: TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 32-2021

Moved by J. McFearin, seconded by B. Furey

Upon roll call motion passed unanimously

ORDINANCE 33-2021 - AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CURRENT YEAR APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE GENERAL REVENUE ACCOUNT AS ESTABLISHED IN ORDINANCE 14-2021, THE APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF TWINSBURG FOR THE YEAR 2021; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Read by S. Collins

MOTION: TO PLACE ORDINANCE 33-2021 ON THE THIRD AND FINAL READING AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Moved by J. McFearin, seconded B. Furey

Ms. McFearin stated the reason for the emergency is to get this paid as soon as possible.

Upon roll call motion passed unanimously

MOTION: TO ADOPT ORDINANCE 33-2021

Moved by J. McFearin, seconded by S. Barr

Upon roll call motion passed unanimously

RESOLUTION 34-2021 - A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING ISSUE 6, A \$5 MILLION RENEWAL LEVY TO BE SUBMITTED TO THE VOTERS BY THE TWINSBURG SCHOOL DISTRICT ON THE MAY 4, 2021 PRIMARY ELECTION BALLOT

Read by S. Collins

MOTION: TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 34-2021

Moved by J. McFearin, seconded by S. Barr

Ms. McFearin stated that the city has traditionally supported the school levies and is happy to do so again.

Mr. Bellan stated as a father of three kids in the district and as a council person he is proud to support this.

Mrs. Walker stated that she is happy to support as she has a third generation of family in the schools now.

Mr. Furey stated that this is a renewal and will not increase your taxes.

Upon roll call motion passed unanimously

UNFINISHED BUSINESS, NEW BUSINESS, MISCELLANEOUS

Ms. McFearin:

- Stated the Rotary Club of Twinsburg has started their Parade of Flags program. You can purchase your flag at www.twinsburgflags.com
- There will be a ribbon cutting on May 6th at Wilcox Meadows, the city's newest senior community. They are 40 % sold out already.
- Nothing further this evening

Mr. Scaffide:

- Nothing further this evening

Mr. Barr:

- Nothing further this evening

Mr. Bellan:

- Thanked all who worked the mass vaccination site at Summit County. It was an incredibly well done event.
- Issue 2 property tax is for Police and Fire and the money generated will not go to the clubhouse.
- Nothing further this evening

Mrs. Stauffer:

- Nothing further this evening

Mr. Furey:

- If you have questions on Issue 2 please contact the mayor, council person, finance director. Asked for support for this from the residents.
- Nothing further this evening

Mrs. Walker:

- Asked Mr. Furey to call Mr. Hon regarding the Environmental Commission trash pick-up
- Thanked Mr. Turle for the Old School Brick.
- Nothing further this evening

Mayor Yates:

- Nothing further this evening

Mr. Maistros

- Stated it was Dispatcher Week and wanted to thank you to our Dispatchers and all the hard work they do.
- Nothing further this evening

Mrs. Collins

- Nothing further this evening

ADJOURNMENT:

Meeting unanimously adjourned at 8:39pm.

Attest:

Jo-Ann McFearin
President of Council

Shannon Collins
Clerk of Council