Regular Session March 7, 2022

The members of Hubbard City Council met in regular session on Monday, March 7, 2022, in council chambers with President William Williams presiding. Approximately 48 people were in attendance.

Roll call showed the following members in attendance:

B. Viele, R. Zambrini, M. Mogg, C. Cummings, M. Kerr, R. Hallapy, J. Crowe

It was moved by Ms. Viele with a second by Ms. Zambrini to accept the minutes of the February 22, 2022 regular session as presented to council. There were no questions or comments on the motion. Motion passed. Vote unanimous.

**COMMUNICATIONS-**

Ms. Hallapy- We have a letter here from Hubbard Township, the Hubbard Free Park Board of Trustees, about the joint paving and widening effort and we also have a brief outline from the utilities committee meeting held here in council chambers, and that is all.

It was moved by Ms. Viele with a second by Ms. Zambrini to accept the communications and place them in their proper files. There were no questions or comments on the motion. Motion passed. Vote unanimous.

**REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES-**

**FINANCE**- Ms. Zambrini- Yes, good evening. I would like to thank my fellow committee members and all others who attended the finance committee meeting on February 28, 2022. The meeting was held to gather and discuss information on potential projects using funds set aside for us from the American Rescue Plan. The meeting was both informative and productive. Mayor Ben Kyle presented a list of four infrastructure projects, all of which are worthy for use of these monies as they would do the most good for the entire city when completed. The ARP distribution amount of $777,000.00 is not enough to cover all four of these projects but will hopefully fund those deemed the top priority of the four. As noted during this meeting, anyone with ideas or comments on use of the ARP funds is welcome to email me at r.zambrini – (Z-A-M-B-R-I-N-I) - @cityofhubbard.com. The deadline for comments will be Monday, March 21, 2022, which is our next council meeting. Switching gears for a minute, I would just like to state that the, um, income tax collections for the first two months of this year have come in higher than last year, which is a positive start to this year and hopefully a trend will continue. Thank you.

**PARK & RECREATION**- Ms. Cummings- I don’t really have a report as our next meeting is next Thursday, but I am going to start going around to all the parks myself personally just to see how they are and what improvements they might need to do. Things like that. Nothing else. Thank you.

**COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**- Mr. Mogg- No report Mr. President.

**PLANNING & ZONING**- Ms. Viele- Yes. There will be no planning and zoning commission, nor appeals board meetings this month because of lack of requests. Thank you.

**UTILITIES-** Mr. Kerr- Thank you Mr. President. The utilities had a committee meeting March 4th at 5:30. Um, we had 9 attendees at the meeting. Mr. Palestro outlined the preliminary date from Utilities Financial Solutions, which is our phase 1 project. Reviewed some of the data, the rates. We looked at inflation, growth and purchase power of our energy and capital improvements. We… the rates were reviewed with assistance from the auditor, which looked at operating debts balance and doing the cost of service. Our last rate adjustment was 1989. There was discussion about the Moore Street substation, which was built in 1969. We do have an old system and it’s heavily depreciated. We also looked at our financial projections, operating income and looking at, um, what we have for cost of service in our PCA, which is a true PCA. So, we looked at, um, tiered structures and multiple block tiers, um, and we’re looking at structures that include both residential and commercial. We’re going to schedule another discussion… a committee meeting phase 2, which we would like to have on Friday,

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**REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES-**

March 25th at 5:30. Um, we also looked at having an additional meeting for phase 1 on the water. Um we’re doing a phase 1 study on the water for utilities and that will be March 14th at 5:30 here. Thank you, Mr. President.

**STREETS & SIDEWALKS**- Mr. Crowe- No report tonight Mr. President.

**SAFETY**- Mr. Hallapy- Yes, Mr. President. The police have mandatory training on Wednesday on domestic violence. Also, an update on the cruisers. One is getting the decals put on now as we speak. That is all Mr. President. Thank you.

**REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES-**

**CEMETERY BOARD**- Mr. Mogg- Yes sir. The columbarium committee met over the weekend. We’re finally getting some numbers in for the landscaping and the paving. So, hopefully we’ll have something together within the next month here. That’s all I have sir.

**FIRE DISTRICT-**Mr. Williams- I don’t have a report this evening. Our next scheduled meeting is this coming Wednesday. So, I’ll have a report at the next meeting.

**REPORTS OF CITY OFFICIALS**

**SAFETY DIRECTOR**- Mr. Bancroft- Yes, Mr. President. Thank you. Today, March 7th, is the seven-year anniversary of the Cody Pitts murder case. I’d like to advise everybody that we are still working on the case, and it is not being forgotten. So, we continue to develop details and, um, continue to work that case. Again, the, um, we took delivery Friday of the 2021… one of the 2021 Ford Explorers. I guess the other one is coming in. I was under the impression that both were coming in – one was a ‘21 and one was a ’22. That has not been the case yet, so we’re going to have to get that sorted out as to when we’re going to get the second one. Um, Thursday, this past week, the third was the deadline for the police officer applications for returning them. Two applications were received. Only two applications were received. Um, I guess that’s a trend across the country. We used to have hundreds of people apply for open police officer examinations. Now you can hardly get anybody that wants to do the job. Um, Struthers also had two police officers, um, and they had to cancel their examination. So, um, both of them passed the physical agility test this past Saturday, so they’ll be going on to the written exam on March 15th. And, as a result of one officer being on leave since the end of May of 2021, we have one on light duty as she’s expecting and can’t work the roads – she’s on light duty, been helping out, one resigned to work another department. Our officers are being I guess burned or taxed with working lots of overtime due to the shortage. Um, as you know one of the SRO officers left – it was the same officer, so we had to replace that officer with another one, so that’s kind of a double whammy there, so these same officers are working a lot of overtime and it’s appreciated, the hard work that they’re doing, the dedication, and I might add these are the same officers that donated all their time to help paint the walls in the police department and I’m certainly appreciative of their efforts. It looks really good down there. I am working on the new memorandum of understanding for the SRO – the school resource officer. Um, so any updates on that – we’ll get with that and get it signed and um, shortly. We also have been receiving some, um, addressing of complaints with speeding on Drummond Avenue in addition to Jacobs Road. We’re going to deploy our… some of our assets down to that area to combat that. I guess one of the residents had a pet that was struck by what he believed to be a speeding vehicle and it kind of peaked his attention to the roadway and that’s what he noticed. Um, he observed a lot of what he seen was excessive speed. So, we’re going to try to combat that. Um, that’s all I have Mr. President.

**LAW DIRECTOR**- Mr. Villano- I have no report tonight Mr. President. Thank you.

It was moved by Ms. Viele with a second by Ms. Zambrini to accept the reports of standing committees, special committees, and city officials.

Mr. Williams- Mr. Mogg, what were the dates of your meetings again please? Or Mr. Kerr, I’m sorry.

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**REPORTS OF CITY OFFICIALS**

Mr. Kerr- March 14th at 5:30 is going to be the um phase 1 water committee meeting and Friday, March 25th at 5:30 is the phase 2 electric.

Mr. Williams- Okay.

Mr. Crowe- Mr. President. I do have a question on um, I wrote down – Bonnie you said planning and zoning is canceled for March? Cuz I have the 14th down.

Ms. Viele- Yes, um, they thought there was going to be someone filed, but they failed to file, so um Chris says there’s no business. It would have been the 14th had they had business.

Mr. Crowe- Okay. Thank you.

There were no more questions or comments on the motion. Motion carried. Vote unanimous.

**MAYOR’S REPORT**

Thank you, President Williams. First of all, the Gotta Go Green electronics recycling grant applications are due this week. Um, the city and the township work alongside to do number one, the scrap tire event, but also an electronics recycling event. Last year was our first year for that. We will be applying once again this week to do another one here at city hall hopefully in the summertime. We’re working to figure out the coordination of that. We also inquired about doing a paper shredding event, but the library has taken – undertook that endeavor and they’re working with the Gotta Go Green for the Solid Waste District, so there’s plenty of opportunities here within the city and the township for everybody to recycle. I’d like to make mention there’s curbside recycling that every resident does have the opportunity for and the recycling center which is located next to the fire station that constantly gets filled and at a meeting that I attended I was reminded that the city and the township – we really can’t discern who’s who in that sense of recycling – but, we’re one of the largest producers in all of Trumbull County. So, that says something, that even though we have our recycling containers at curbside, people still go to the containers as well, so hopefully in years moving forward we will be able to keep those curbside recycling containers. Um, as Safety Director mentioned – speed complaints. Um, you know. It’s pretty simple. We have speed limits; um we have a large number of people who come to Mayor’s Court. Um, it’ for the safety and the welfare of the community that those speed limits are posted and the officers do their part. So, just please be careful. Please pay attention. If not, you’ll end up in Mayor’s Court. It’s pretty simple. Also, um, throughout the last few weeks, I’ve noticed and had discussions on this worldwide stage with the invasion of Ukraine and I just wanted to take knowledge of the amount of people in our community that are of Ukrainian descent and have families that have immigrated to the United States decades and decades ago. Um, one of them sat in this chair – Mayor Darko. So, um, it is of extreme importance for everybody to understand a lot of that that goes on. Um, I know that the VFW will doing something in solidarity for those men and women that have been invaded, um, in Ukraine. This office, the Mayor’s Office, will also be doing something in recognition as well. So, um. And lastly, as mentioned in caucus, last meeting the efforts of the water department, Mr. Palestro – the Utilities Superintendent, George Ginnis – our Water Administrator, our law director Mark Villano, have done a huge amount of preliminary research and work alongside the Governor DeWine’s office, H2Ohio, and the Ohio EPA. We are one of the, and hope to be, one of the first communities in this new program that will be replacing lead service lines – those lead lines and galvanized lines that are toxic to residents. This is a program that hopefully we’ll be on the ground floor and be able to continue to take advantage of the grant funds that will be out there in this collaborative effort with the governor’s office, H2Ohio, the Ohio EPA, where they are trying to make a continued commitment to clean, safe drinking water throughout the state and our commitment here in the city to improving our own infrastructure. So, it’s something to be really proud of. Um, and I know that there will be a request for legislation concerning that tonight. That is all I have. Thank you.

It was moved by Ms. Viele with a second by Ms. Zambrini to accept the Mayor’s report.

There were no more questions or comments on the motion. Motion passed. Vote Unanimous.

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**UNFINISHED OR OLD BUSINESS-**

There was no unfinished or old business.

**MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS**

Ms. Cummings- Um, one of my neighbors approached me and wanted to know if I could find out the ins and outs and the possibility of having a block party. So, being a new council person, I sort of need to know, is that doable event and what do I need to do to, um?

Mr. Williams- As far as?

Ms. Cummings- Is it feasible?

Mr. Williams- To do?

Ms. Cummings- Have a block party?

Mr. Williams- What do they want to do? Shut the road down?

Ms. Cummings- Yes. And where it is, I mean… it’s Doris Drive.

Mr. Williams- The only guy that can shut a road down…

Mr. Bancroft- Where (inaudible)

Ms. Cummings- The lower part of Doris Drive.

Mr. Bancroft- Give me the particulars – between what and what street and…

Ms. Cummings- Now or later?

Mr. Bancroft- I will look into it. Oh, whenever. After.

Ms. Cummings- Okay. Alright. She just asked me, and I told her that I’d check – I had no idea. Being a new council person, what you’re supposed to do or anything, so I told her I would ask first.

Mr. Bancroft- We will research it at the same time.

Ms. Cummings- Thank you very much. I appreciate that.

Mr. Bancroft- Absolutely.

Mr. Williams- He’s the big boss man.

Ms. Cummings- He’s my (inaudible)

Mr. Mogg- I would like to congratulate fellow firefighter Scott Thomas. This past week, Scott was inducted into the Ohio Fire Service Hall of Fame and was presented with a 2022 Valor Award for Act of Heroism and Service Above and Beyond the Line of Duty. Scott pulled a child out of a burning house about six months ago. It was pretty scary when he got her out. It was rolling pretty good when he got in there. So, congratulations to Scott and keep up the good work. That’s all.

**PUBLIC ADDRESS TO CITY COUNCIL ON AGENDA ITEMS-**

The record shows that there was no agenda for the night.

**NEW BUSINESS & REQUESTS FOR LEGISLATION-**

It was moved by Mr. Kerr with a second by Mr. Hallapy to request that the law director draw up the necessary legislation for an ordinance authorizing the City of Hubbard and the City of Hubbard Water Department to pursue and participate in the Ohio EPA program, H2Ohio, or other government funded program for the purpose of replacing identified lead and galvanized water service lines within the city right of way and on private property of consenting property owners, and declaring an emergency. There were no questions or comments on the motion. Motion passed. Vote unanimous.

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**NEW BUSINESS & REQUESTS FOR LEGISLATION-**

It was moved by Mr. Kerr with a second by Mr. Hallapy to request that the law director draw up the necessary legislation for an ordinance authorizing the Board of Control to enter into a contract with Quasar Energy Group for sludge hauling and disposal at the Hubbard City Wastewater Treatment Facility from April 1, 2022 to December 31, 2023, at a cost of $82.88 per wet ton, and declaring an emergency. There were no questions or comments on the motion. Motion passed. Vote unanimous.

**ORDINANCES & RESOLUTIONS**

The record shows that there were no items on the night’s agenda.

**PUBLIC ADDRESS TO CITY COUNCIL ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS-**

Mr. Williams- If there is anyone who wishes to address city council on non-agenda items related to city council business, when recognized please step forward to the microphone and state your name and address for the record you will have three minutes unless extended by council vote.

The record shows that no one addressed council on non-agenda items.

Mr. Williams- No one. I would entertain a motion to adjourn.

**ADJOURN**

A motion was made by Mr. Mogg with a second by Ms. Cummings to adjourn. There were no questions or comments on the motion. Motion carried. Vote Unanimous.

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Marianne Hallapy, Council Clerk William Williams, President