Regular Session July 5, 2022

The members of Hubbard City Council met in regular session on Tuesday, July 5, 2022, in council chambers with President William Williams presiding. Approximately 2 people was in attendance.

Roll call showed the following members in attendance:

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

Ms. Viele- I move to accept the minutes of the…it has got to be June. I am sorry, I didn’t get it this time.

Multiple- June 20th

It was moved by Ms. Viele with a second by Ms. Zambrini to accept the minutes of the June 20, 2022, regular as presented to council. There were no questions or comments on the motion. Motion passed. Vote unanimous.

Clerk-excuse me we also need to accept the minutes from the special meeting

Mr. Williams- Do we have a motion to accept the minutes from the special meeting…What was that date?

Clerk-27th

Mr. Williams- June 27th

It was moved by Ms. Viele with a second by Ms. Zambrini to accept the minutes of the June 27, 2022, special meeting as presented to council. There were no questions or comments on the motion. Motion passed. Vote unanimous.

**COMMUNICATIONS-**

We received a letter dated June 27 from George Ginnis. I Am sorry, a copy from the Mayor to George Ginnis accepting his resignation effective August 31, 2022, the Mayor’s Court Report for June of 2022 showing a total of $2,497.50, the Income Tax Comparison 20/21 through June 30, 2022, and the Reconciliation of Bank Statements & Auditor’ s Books for month ended June 30, 2022

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

**REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES-**

**FINANCE**- Ms. Zambrini- No report tonight Mr. President, thank you.

Mr. Williams-thank you

**PARK & RECREATION**- Ms. Cummings- Yes, our regular meeting was held June 23rd. They are still accepting bids for security cameras at Matinatt Park. Eagle Soccer Academy is now taking over the expense of Port a Johns at Waugh Field. Motion was made seconded to have signs made to notify people if they don’t clean up after themselves at the basketball courts at Jones Field, they will be closed. They went into executive session and approved a $3.00 raise for Mr. Yuhasz who is doing the maintenance for all the parks. I need to find out who is the insurance carrier for Park & Rec.? The committee wanted to know. I have to find out who that is.

Mr. Villano- Argonaut

Ms. Cummings-Argonaut

Mr. Williams- Is there something specific they need?

Ms. Cummings- No, they just asked me who the insurance carrier was for Park & Rec. That is all I have at this time.

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**REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES-**

Mr. Williams-Okay

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

Mr. Williams-thank you

**PLANNING & ZONING**- Ms. Viele- Yes, the Planning & Zoning Commission will not be meeting this month since there is nothing on their agenda. The Planning & Zoning Appeals Board will meet here is city council chambers Tuesday, July 12 at 7 pm. They will consider two applications for variances. One is for a swimming pool deck and the other is for a parking lot extension. Thank you.

Mr. Williams-thank you

**UTILITIES-** Mr. Kerr- Thank you Mr. President, I just have the three ordinance readings. That is all I have thank you.

Mr. Williams-thank you

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

Mr. Williams- thank you

**SAFETY**- Mr. Hallapy- No report Mr. President, thank you

Mr. Williams- thank you

**REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES-**

**CEMETERY BOARD**- Mr. Mogg- For the month of June at the cemetery, we had seven cremations, six burials, two lot sales and thirteen foundations poured. The columbarium Committee is still meeting trying to get things established. We will keep everyone updated. That is it Mr. President.

Mr. Williams- thank you

**FIRE DISTRICT-**Mr. Williams- That is me. We met on the 15th. We received Mike Mogg’s resignation effective June 15th. We were all very sad that that happened, but we all wish him well. Thank you for your service, Mr. Mogg. Chief Brown had mentioned at the meeting, they are trying to clean up down around there and the flagpole. He was looking into seeing if that would be an Eagle Scout Project or something like that. I don’t know where that is going to go. Chief Brown finished July1st and Chief Stanish is back with the department. We also authorized the Chief to apply for a $2,000 grant for an employee assistance program. They’ll offer counseling and the like. I believe it is through the county. The board also authorized the purchase of $6,524 for radios for the two new ambulances. We had thus far a hundred thirty-one EMS calls, twenty-three lift assist. In the first 15 days of the month, we had forty-five transports. At that time, pumper twenty-eight was out of service. We had some type of problem. I never got the whole story of what happened. It ended up in the shop. I believe the last I heard, it is back and in service. It was a warranty issue. Well, it was repaired under warranty. We also did a litany of moving monies around because oil and gas prices, gas and diesel prices, we are spending more. Plus, with transports. We had to increase EMS supplies and we took monies from subscriptions and the new equipment line item to cover those. We updated our blanket purchase orders. That is about the highlights of our meeting.

**REPORTS OF CITY OFFICIALS**

**SAFETY DIRECTOR**- Mr. Bancroft- Not in attendance

**LAW DIRECTOR**- Mr. Villano- No report Mr. President thank you

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**REPORTS OF CITY OFFICIALS**

**TREASURER**- Ms. Ruha-- No report this evening Mr. President

**AUDITOR**- Mr. Villano- Nothing this evening Mr. President thank you

Mr. Williams- 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- I do need to add, I forgot to put this in. The board also, approved what would you call it ----------We approved John Bizub as a Captain, Steven Mock as a Captain, and Derrick Hollander who will be EMS coordinator/lieutenant. That brings our officer core to three Captains, EMS Coordinator/ lieutenant and one other lieutenant so, there will be some positions we will be looking at and taking care of. That is all. I forgot to add that.

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

Mr. Williams- We would move on to the Mayor’s Report, but he is not here, but he did ask me to read his report. I will do that at this point.

**MAYOR’S REPORT**

Our hiring efforts for the electric department is progressing; we had four qualified applicants drop off resumes by the June 30th deadline for the Lineman C position. We are also currently accepting applications for Civil Service Lineman Trainee until Wednesday, August 3, at 3:00 pm. The exam will be held on August 8th at 6:00 pm at the senior center. Water Administrator George Ginnis will be retiring as of August 31, 2022. His knowledge of water distribution systems was unparalleled, and he will continue to assist as we transition to a new administrator. He contributed so much to the city over the past few years, and we thank him for his service to our community. The Hubbard Farmer’s Market started up for the season at Tylee Park. All Sunday’s in July, August, and September from 10 am to 2 pm weekly. Thanks to Trumbull Neighborhood Partnership, SNAP program is continuing this year. Anyone can use their SNAP EBT card at the info table at the market in exchange for SNAP tokens. Their money is doubled up to $25 for additional produce. We are very thankful that people are able to gather at Tylee Park and enjoy the surrounding area. As a friendly reminder, please only park in designated spots and do not park in front of the fire station doors. On behalf of the City of Hubbard, I want to thank Bobby Orr for leading the efforts to create “Corporal Richard Choppa Memorial Way.” Thank you, members of council, for supporting the effort, thank you Michael and Mark Villano for the work done for the signs and new decorative poles. Thank you to the street and electric departments for the installation of the poles over the past few weeks, and lastly thank you to the Choppa family for allowing us to have the ceremony in front of Richard’s family home. Saturday’s dedication ceremony was a fitting tribute to Corporal Choppa’s ultimate sacrifice. I want to thank members of the Hubbard VFW Post 36767, Trumbull County American Legion Honor Guard, Gather Mike Swierz and the nearly 150 people who came out to attend the ceremony. Richard A. Choppa is a true American Hero, a true Hometown Hero and we are honored to final pay tribute to his ultimate sacrifice. “Corporal Richard Choppa Memorial Way” will ensure that his bravery and sacrifice will never be forgotten.

It was moved by Ms. Viele with a second by Ms. Zambrini to accept the mayor’s report as presented by President Williams. There were no more questions or comments on the motion. Motion passed. Vote Unanimous.

**UNFINISHED OR OLD BUSINESS-**

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**MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS**

Mr. Williams- I do have something. Apparently, from what I read on social media; the fire district will be having an open house this coming Saturday. I believe it starts at 11:00 from what I read. They are going to have some demonstrations and have some things going on. I don’t know. I believe, they said the new officers are going to be there. I don’t know if they are getting sworn in at that time or not. I don’t know who is swearing them in or what’s going on. I have not been informed of any of the details of it. I am just the Chairman of the board. I don’t need to know these things. So, I will find out I guess at some point. That is all I have under miscellaneous. Anyone else?

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

Mr. Williams- If there is anyone who wishes to address the six items, we have this evening please step forward to the microphone and state your name and address for the record. You will have three minutes unless expanded by council vote. Please step to the microphone and if you could turn it on. There is a switch right on the back side.

Thank you, Mr. President, and members of the council. Earlier, I had a conversation with Ms. Viele

Mr. Williams- Could you please state your name and address for the record.

Jim Hughes 223 Christian Ave. Hubbard

Mr. Williams- thank you

Mr. Hughes- I know the place looks good, the city looks good, the Farmers Market is great. You have done a lot of nice things. I am just here to follow up on Ordinance 12-22, 13-22 and 14-22. I had not paid a lot of attention to what’s going on until, I saw this on social media and the newspaper. What I am really curious is when I saw it’s on social media and newspaper, it said that the electric rates are going to go up 100% next year. Then in so many years, it is going to go up 500%. I am just here to see if you have fact sheet to show exactly how the rates are going to increase over the next one, two, three, five years. That is all I am interested in.

Mr. Kerr- When we had the meetings for a year and a half with Mr. Palestro before he left, with Utility Financial Solutions and Raftelis. That is when the last meeting the paper, Mayor Kyle gave this information, and it was misinterpreted in the paper. It wasn’t the 2.5%, 2.5% over five years. It was not the 8% for the water. That is what we all agreed on. We met numerous times. No one came to any of the utility meetings that were open to the public. So, that calculation that went out on social media was a misinterpretation by the reporter. It wasn’t what we went over with our Auditor agreed, with the mayor, with the committee, with everybody with council went over and over. Mr. Palestro was very diligent in looking at these rate studies. Remember, the electric water and sewer hasn’t been touched since 1989, 1989. The water was about ten years, so we are looking at rates right now. We are getting slammed significantly. What we agreed on, there were three different proposals. The proposal we went with was systematically the 2%. I am sorry 2.5% over a period of five years. If needed, we would come back. Let’s say that something really bad happened. We say, guys the water went up this much, gas went up to $10 a gallon (hopefully not) then we have to go back and look at it. With that contingency, we have an option to come back and revisit it. Okay, but the water would be 8% and that was the raise for them. It is coming in from Aqua Pennsylvania so, it is costing us a lot more. We can’t absorb and eat that cost any more. I guess functionality, if we look at other communities, they end up going belly up and closing up. We invested a lot in the wastewater treatment plant. We invested a lot in the electric, water and sewer. When there are outages, we hear all the time how long Edison takes and other parts of the township and surrounding Austintown but we have it and boom, they are on the job. They are out. They are working on it. So, this infrastructure we have as a city is very viable and we have this plan. It was…There is no way we would put or calculate because that is what the newspaper…he usually does a good job. We were mentioning that earlier. We said there is no way we would put $100,000…what…where we going to move to

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

Mr. Hughes- I agree

Mr. Kerr- so it was the 2.5% for the electric, water, and sewer. We were going to look at restructuring some stuff with that O charge to make it a true cost of doing business because that is what we want. We want a cost of doing business. What they are charging us per KWH is what we want to charge the people not these different up and down. We want/this is what we are straight forward doing and that is what we needed to do. We met for a year and a half. We had numerous meetings.

Mr. Hughes- I mean, if you are just going up 2.5% a year for the next so many years?

Mr. Kerr- ya

Mr. Hughes-We are lucky. I will say that, we are lucky.

Talking at the same time

Mr. Kerr-really high like 40% in a one-time shot and say here go for broke and everybody gets a big, huge bill. We know from COVID for two years/people coming out of it. People lost jobs (you know) came back to work. We wanted…that is why Mr. Palestro was very diligent in our committee looking at that. Utility Financial Solutions and Raftelis went over that. We had three different plans. This is the plan we were all in agreement on. It is not what you read.

Mr. Hughes- Okay, I am happy to hear that. You guys are doing a fantastic job if you are holding it to 2.5%. I mean I am dealing with my position on utility bills and you’re doing a great job. I am not here to argue with you. I am here to find out what’s going on. You can’t get a clear answer. So, I just wanted to come to you guys, I haven’t been here the last year and a half while you guys have done a lot of hard work. Two and a half percent, I am happy. Thank you, Great job.

Mr. Williams-thank you

Mr. Hughes- Ms. Viele said there is going to be a fact sheet coming out? Is that correct?

Ms. Viele- Ya, there is supposed to be a handout…isn’t Marianne Hallapy putting together a fact sheet?

Mr. Kerr-eventually. Utility office… remember this doesn’t start until January so

Mr. Hughes-right

Mr. Williams- and actually all the information once these ordinances pass, will be on the city’s website under the ordinances and it is all stated right in the ordinance what the increases will be

Mr. Hughes-and I do have a copy of the last audit and it looks good. You are doing a great job.

Mr. Williams- thank you anyone else?

**NEW BUSINESS & REQUESTS FOR LEGISLATION-**

Mr. Williams- Robin you are the only one tonight

It was moved by Ms. Zambrini with a second by Ms. Viele to have the law director draw up the necessary legislation for a resolution accepting the amounts and rates determined by the budget commission and authorizing the necessary tax levies and certifying them to the county auditor. There were no questions or comments on the motion. Motion passed. Vote unanimous.

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**ORDINANCES & RESOLUTIONS**

Ordinance 12-22 Third Reading

ADJUSTING WATER RATES CHARGED TO CONSUMERS INSIDE OF THE CORPORATION LIMITS OF THE CITY OF HUBBARD, OHIO, EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2023

It was moved by Mr. Kerr with a second by Ms. Zambrini that Ordinance 12-22 be passed as read. There were no questions or comments on the motion. Motion passed. Vote unanimous

Ordinance 13-22 Third Reading

ADJUSTING WATER RATES CHARGED TO CONSUMERS OUTSIDE OF THE CORPORATION LIMITS OF THE CITY OF HUBBARD, OHIO, EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2023

It was moved by Mr. Kerr with a second by Mr. Mogg that Ordinance 13-22 be passed as read. There were no questions or comments on the motion. Motion passed. Vote unanimous

Ordinance 14-22 Third Reading

ADJUSTING ELECTRIC RATES CHARGED TO CONSUMERS OF THE CITY OF HUBBARD, OHIO EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2023

It was moved by Mr. Kerr with a second by Mr. Mogg that Ordinance 14-22 be passed as read. There were no questions or comments on the motion. Motion passed. Vote unanimous

Ordinance 15-22 Third Reading

INCREASING THE WAGES OF THE HUBBARD CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT AUXILIARY UNIT TO FIFTEEN DOLLARS ($15.00) PER HOUR WITH NO BENEFITS, NOT EXCEEDING THIRTY-TWO (32) HOURS PER WEEK PER OFFICER

It was moved by Mr. Hallapy with a second by Mr. Crowe that Ordinance 15-22 be passed as read. There were no questions or comments on the motion. Motion passed. Vote unanimous

Ordinance 16-22 Third Reading

INCREASING COMPENSATION FOR THE FILE/DATA CLERKS AT THE HUBBARD CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT TO $15.00 PER HOUR

It was moved by Mr. Hallapy with a second by Mr. Crowe that Ordinance 16-22 be passed as read. There were no questions or comments on the motion. Motion passed. Vote unanimous

Resolution 6-22 Second Reading

AUTHORIZING MS CONSULTANTS, INC. AS AGENT, AND PROJECT MANAGER FOR THE CITY OF HUBBARD, OHIO FOR THE PURPOSE OF SUBMITTING AN APPLICATION FOR ISSUE II MONIES AND TO EXECUTE ALL NECESSARY CONTRACTS AND ADMISISTRATE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROJECT WITH RESPECT TO THE 2023 STREET RESURFACING PROJECT

Mr. Williams- Since there is no action on Resolution 6-22 it will flow to a third reading.

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**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. Since there is 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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Lorrie Brown, Council Clerk William Williams, President