Regular Session October 16, 2023

The members of Hubbard City Council met in regular session on Monday, October 16, 2023, in council chambers with President William Williams presiding. Approximately 22 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 October 2, 2023, regular session as presented to council. There were no questions or comments on the motion. Motion passed. Vote unanimous.

**COMMUNICATIONS-**

Clerk- No Communications this evening thank you.

Mr. Williams-Thank you.

**REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES-**

**FINANCE**- Ms. Zambrini- Thank you Mr. President. I do not have a report for tonight, but I would like to change…I have a change of our finance committee meeting. It had originally been scheduled for November 20th. I am switching with the Street Department and so that means our finance committee meeting will be Monday, November 6th at 5:45 pm for the purpose of reviewing the 2024 proposed budget. Thank you.

Mr. Williams- Thank you.

**PARK & RECREATION**- Ms. Cummings- Yes, thank you Mr. President, I have no actual report other than our regular park & rec. was rescheduled to the 24th in council chambers. Thank you.

Mr. Williams- Thank you.

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

Mr. Williams- Thank you.

**PLANNING & ZONING**- Ms. Viele- The Hubbard Planning & Zoning Commission will meet Monday, November 13th at 7 pm here in council chambers to discuss outside storage on Moore Street. The Hubbard Planning & Zoning Board of Appeals will meet November 14th at 7:00 pm if anybody files for a conditional use permit. Thank you.

Mr. Williams- Thank you.

**UTILITIES-** Mr. Kerr- Thank you Mr. President. Prior to our caucus, the Utilities committee met and discussed ongoing dialogue about the EV substation, about our power grids with First Energy and AMP, and we had about a twenty-minute discussion on various things on our capacity and inspection capabilities. Again, it will be an ongoing discussion. We also talked about the (90% design is about done on it) for Caroline and Rebecca water and sewer line replacements. We also did mention about the Lead Service line mapping program, that software and GS mapping for the future. We will probably be having another meeting in December. Thank you, Mr. President.

Mr. Williams- Thank you.

**STREETS & SIDEWALKS**- Mr. Crowe- Yes Mr. President. The Street Paving Program for this year is complete. Today, the pavers were out sealing along the seams, along the curb. The Street Department is looking for rakers. We need people to help our street department on our Leaf Pickup Program. It is vital that we get at least three or four. I think we get four. Right now, we have one. We need three more rakers to sign up to call the mayor’s office at 330-534-3090. It helps the Leaf Pickup Program. We get a lot of complaints because it is so slow but we need

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**REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES-**

help, okay. The street department or the street committee are going to have our meeting on November 20th at 6 pm. We’ll meet here prior to the Monday night meeting that night. That is all I have Mr. President, thank you.

Mr. Williams-Thank you.

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

Mr. Williams- Thank you.

**REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES-**

**CEMETERY BOARD**- Mr. Mogg- Yes sir, just real quick, we would like to welcome John Schmitz, Smith I am sorry to the cemetery. He has been hired as part-time basis to help out as needed. That is all I have. Thank you.

Mr. Williams-Thank you.

**FIRE DISTRICT-** Mr. Mogg- Yes sir, the fire board met on October10th here in council chambers. The department is looking at possibly purchasing one maybe two ambulances from Penn Care. The cost of each ambulance is $185,000 with the graphics. Unfortunately, the current ambulances that they have are nickel and diming them. It is just really getting to be a financial burden. As an example, some of you heard about the truck fire out at Truck World the other day or morning. They were transporting the occupants of the truck to the hospital, and there was no heat in the back of the ambulance. The passenger was back there shivering. They had no heat back there. So, they are looking at that as a possibility. They are also looking at a state offered zero percent revolving loan for purchasing equipment. Hopefully, that money can be utilized toward the purchases of these ambulances. The applications are due in for that by the 31st. Chief Stanish is working on looking into that. Chief Stanish thanked the crews that have been working shifts for their hard work. As some of you have been seeing on Facebook and the Newspapers, it has been a real hectic week with a couple of structure fires, vehicle fires, a lot of calls in the last two weeks. The department recently had their IOS inspection which is a National Inspection done yearly. Chief Stanish is waiting on the results. ISO, in case anybody doesn’t know, it helps you with your homeowner’s insurance because the higher rating your fire department gets the lower your homeowner’s insurance is. Work on the restrooms at the station is moving slowly but it is moving along. The tile is being installed this week. Applications are being accepted to fill the township position on the fire board. Applications are due into Rick Hernandez by October 31st through email. You can reach his email through the township website. The election is November 7th. Please vote yes for the fire board aah fire levy. The finance committee held a meeting to establish a contingency plan in the event that the levy didn’t pass. It was not very good. They were looking at possibly two people for twelve hours per day. That was it. That is scary because if that ambulance is over at St. E’s in Youngstown and another call drops you have to wait until an ambulance comes from Liberty, Brookfield wherever. It could be a long time. It could be a matter of life and death. That is all I have Mr. President.

Mr. Williams- Thank you.

**REPORTS OF CITY OFFICIALS**

**SAFETY DIRECTOR**- Mr. Bancroft- Yes Mr. President, we had ordered, the police department had ordered a Police Interceptor vehicle about a year ago. The delivery was supposed to be in the first quarter of 2023. We have yet to see it. We called them today. I had the Chief call Statewide Ford. They have no idea when we are going to get it. So, that is an issue that we have. I know we only order one a year. We are not like the highway Patrol that orders three or four hundred at a crack. I know we are low on the list. I believe that the plant is probably on strike. They are not building anything so that’s…they are planning on changing the body style, I believe for the Interceptor Explorer in 2025 anyway. So, that leads me down the road of maybe

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**REPORTS OF CITY OFFICIALS**

possibly looking at other manufacturers. I don’t want to do that but if we have to do that, that is what we have to do. Dodge Durango makes one. I believe the Dodge Charger is a little bit small. I mean I drove one with the cage in it. There just isn’t any room. We are going to have to look at that. We are still waiting for repairs to be done on the underground retention system at the Safety Building. Kevin anything on

Mr. Lyden-The end plates are currently being made for that.

Mr. Bancroft- Okay. Hopefully soon, before the monsoon season gets any worse. If we can get that repair done there before the snow flies. Our texting while driving ordinance became effective this month in October. So hopefully, we will see some of those violations come in. I see it all the time still. I think the paving job that was done in the city was outstanding. I mean I was driving around, and you couldn’t tell where the old pavement was and where the new pavement started. I believe they did a nice job. Umm what else? I think that is it. That is it. Thank you.

Mr. Williams- Thank you.

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

Mr. Williams- Thank you.

**TREASURER**- Ms. Ruha- I have no report. Thank y Mr. President.

Mr. Williams- Thank you.

**AUDITOR**- Mr. Villano- Just one item Mr. President, I did distribute electronically, copies of the purposed 2024 to all of council and all of the administration. So, everyone should have that. If you need a hard copy, please let me know. Thank you.

Mr. Williams-Thank you.

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

Mr. Williams-mayor

Ms. Zambrini- I have one too.

Mayor-mind if I go first.

Mr. Williams- go ahead mayor.

Mayor- The question for fire board: I know you mentioned a backup plan that was discussed.

Mr. Mogg- A contingency plan, correct.

Mayor- Yes, contingency plan. A couple of questions I have 1. Is there a time frame on how long our current staffing will continue if the levy does not pass? 2. Will the fire board and their administration consider an adjustment in their soft billing tactics for the ambulance? If so, I would love to be informed if they do because it could be a way to make adjustments for longevity and future viability. Thank you.

Mr. Mogg- I agree completely. I was not informed if they talked about the soft billing, changing that. I thought of that myself. That that might be something and they did not discuss how long we would be able to go on. I actually have the number right here in front of me. Without this proposed levy, the department carries $770,000 dollars a year. That is with the three levies they currently have. That tells you right there with expenses, payroll and insurance and everything.

Mr. Williams- Robin, you had a question?

Ms. Zambrini- I don’t have a question as much as I want to add to my finance committee meeting. If I could have the department heads come for that night for finance meeting on the budget, that would be very much appreciated to discuss their portion of the budget.

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**REPORTS OF CITY OFFICIALS**

Mr. Williams- Thank you. I have a question. Mike, you are saying you are looking at two new ambulances at $185 each?

Mr. Mogg- Yes sir.

Mr. Williams- Are they still looking at the option we were looking at when I was on the board? There is a company that you send them your old ambulance. If your box is good, it is about 30 to 40 percent of the cost. It is put on a brand new wheel and chassis.

Mr. Mogg- That was not discussed. The thing that was discussed is these are coming from Penn Care. These are new units. If they would happen to go for it, one would be available by March. So I think they are already built. It is just a matter of getting them but that was never discussed.

Mr. Williams- Okay, because it is like seventy percent savings and you end up with a new unit, same thing.

Mr. Mogg-Right

Mr. Williams- You just use your box. Okay, that is all I have. Anyone else?

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

**MAYOR’S REPORT**

Thank you, President Williams. I want to echo the same sentiment. I want to thank Kirila Contractors for a great job paving in our community. It is very evident when you get a good contractor in that does work in the city and that cares about the job they are putting out in how much time and care that they do and our very understanding of our neighbors and residents. They just did a fantastic job. We will be finishing up with that and can’t thank them enough. I do want to read a statement that was in the paper today from Trumbull County Auditor Martha Yoder. As most people are aware, the market values of properties have increased because of the complexity of property taxes and the fact that there are twenty-three levies on the ballot for November. Predicting the exact effect on taxes is not realistic at this time. Mahoning County, and as I have mentioned before during the mayor’s report for people to understand, that the property re-evaluations in Mahoning County took place. Major adjustments occurred and we are currently seeing them. So, if you go and you’re current, if you go on Trumbull County Auditors website right now, you could pull up your adjustment that is currently purposed. You can see how much it is going to change. I have seen on properties that I have looked at anywhere from 20 to 30 percent increases for the City of Hubbard. So, keep that in mind, understand what is coming because we are all impacted. A lot of times as we just mentioned, sometimes you know you need to make adjustments if something…if a levy doesn’t pass. There is a lot of issues out there. Twenty- three levies in the county. That is a lot. Vote wisely. As mentioned, we need leaf rakers. We have a street department. We will move around the city, and we will pick up leaves. As Jerry said, everybody wants them done in a very timely fashion. If we have a short crew, we will still pick up the leaves. It just might take us awhile. Hopefully, we will be able to start at the beginning of November. I know I saw people with leaves out two weeks ago. Obviously, they’re not getting picked up yet. Hopefully, we will be able to get to them as soon as we can. I want to thank the Hubbard Junior Garden Club in their idea work creating the scarecrows at Tylee Park. They were able to work with other organizations. I think the students up at the High School and a lot of other community organizations came together. When they brought the idea to me, I thought it was a great way to pull the community together. It was really great to see. Reminder: Trick-or-Treat is on Tuesday, the 31st from five to seven. Please be careful. I know our safety forces will be out but as a reminder to the community that there will be kids out and about in the community just to let everyone know that. I will be the first to announce that Santa Claus is coming to town on December 2nd, Five o’clock like normal. Thank you.

Mr. Williams- Thank you Mayor.

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**MAYOR’S REPORT**

It was moved by Ms. Zambrini with a second by Mr. Mogg to accept the Mayor’s Report.

Mr. Williams- I would just like to comment on the paving program. It is nice to have a company that comes in grinds and paves, and it is not two weeks, three weeks in between. Yes, and I can’t believe how quickly they got grinding and paving done. I guess after our first experience on Myron Street, I mean, I hope they get our contract every year because I have not heard anything bad. I have not heard of any problems dealing with them and the roads look great that they do. So, good job on that one. That is all I have. Anyone else?

Mr. Crowe- Yeah, I talked to the pavers when they were on one of the streets that happened to be mine. I thought they did a great job. I was out of town over the weekend. I wanted to know that when we have rain I want to see if the water is going to the curb. That is going to be the big test for me. So ,what I have seen briefly when I got back into town this afternoon, it did look good. I am watching the water.

Mr. Williams- There you go.

Mr. Crowe- Thank you.

Mr. Williams-Thank you Jerry. Anyone else?

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

**UNFINISHED OR OLD BUSINESS-**

**MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS**

Mr. Williams- I have something that my wife showed me on the Facebook because that is where we are going to get things fixed and taken care of. Apparently, somebody hit the curbing down here and got a flat tire.

Mr. Bancroft- down in the lower section of the safety center

Mr. Williams- but I mean that curbing, I noticed the last time I went through there, is pretty well torn up. It looks like it just sits on top of the black top.

Mr. Bancroft- It is all in sections.

Mr. Williams- Well, it was done but whatever, would it be just easier to take it out?

Mayor- It is definitely.

Mr. Williams- I know when they plow through there it looks like a jigsaw puzzle and then they have to go back and straighten it out. Maybe we should remove it because of the danger it could cause if somebody hits it and flips it into the driveway.

Mayor- or somebody else down there.

Mr. Williams- Yeah, look at putting at some point new curbing down there.

Mayor-Especially, when you are looking at those entry points, some of the other places where people just park.

Mr. Bancroft- I can think on one hand how many people have hit that curb in the last how many years.

Mr. Williams- but the thing is if you look at that curbing it has been knocked loose so many times.

Mr. Bancroft- Yeah, I don’t know if it was right to begin with.

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**MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS**

Mr. Williams- I mean I don’t know but you know the snowplows knock it loose. I am just afraid they are going to knock one loose and not see it and somebody is going to come in there or one of our cars is going to come through and somebody is going to get hurt. So, maybe that is something we should look at. Anyone else under miscellaneous?

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

Mr. Williams- If there is anyone who wishes to address city council on our one agenda item this evening, when recognized please step forward to the microphone. You will have three minutes unless extended by council vote. Nobody wants to talk to us.

**NEW BUSINESS & REQUESTS FOR LEGISLATION**

Mr. Williams- I have one. Mr. Kerr the floor is yours.

It was moved by Mr. Kerr with a second by Mr. Hallapy to draw up the necessary legislation authorizing the board of control to advertise for bids for sludge hauling and disposal for the Hubbard Wastewater Treatment Facility from January 1, 2024, to December 31, 2025. There were no questions or comments on the motion. Motion passed. Vote Unanimous.

**ORDINANCES & RESOLUTIONS**

Resolution 6-23 Third Reading

AUTHORIZING THE BOARD OF CONTROL TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS FOR THE CITY OF HUBBARD 2023 WATERLINE REPLACEMENT PROJECT

It was moved by Mr. Kerr with a second by Mr. Hallapy that Resolution 6-23 be passed as read. There were no questions or comments on the motion. Motion passed. Vote Unanimous.

Mr. Williams- Okay, that is all we have on the agenda this evening. Now we will move onto

**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 to the microphone. You will have three minutes unless extended by council vote.

I see no one so 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