

**MINUTES  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**

7:00 p.m.

January 4, 2022

Pursuant to Codified Ordinance Chapter 107 and ORC Section 121.22, notice of the following meeting was given on December 30, 2021.

**ROLL CALL**

**Council Members Present:** Anderson, Carr, Garry, Kary, Merhar and Tomaselli

**Others Present:** Mayor Fiala, Law Director Lucas, Police Chief Schultz, Clerk Novak

**Others Present via Zoom:** Service Director Palmisano, City Engineer Lannon, Fire Chief Ungar, Chief Building & Zoning Inspector Keller, Parks & Recreation Director Banker, Finance Director Bosley

**Absent:** Councilman Woodin

Motion made and seconded to excuse Councilman Woodin from the meeting.

Roll Call      6 yes  
                    0 no

Motion carried 6 to 0

The meeting was led in Prayer and Pledge of Allegiance by Councilman Garry.

**Swearing In** – Law Director Lucas swore in Councilmen Anderson, Carr, Garry, Kary, Merhar and Tomaselli

**ORGANIZATIONAL BUSINESS**

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT**

Motion made and seconded to nominate Councilman Carr as Council President.

ROLL CALL: 6 yes  
                    0 no

Motion carried 6 to 0

There were no other nominations.

Motion made and seconded to elect Councilman Carr as Council President.

ROLL CALL: 6 yes  
                    0 no

Motion carried 6 to 0

**COUNCIL VICE PRESIDENT**

Motion made and seconded to nominate Councilman Tomaselli as Vice President.

ROLL CALL: 6 yes  
                  0 no

Motion carried 6 to 0

There were no other nominations.

Motion made and seconded to elect Councilman Tomaselli as Council Vice President.

ROLL CALL: 6 yes  
                  0 no

Motion carried 6 to 0

**PLANNING COMMISSION MEMBER FROM COUNCIL**

Motion made and seconded to nominate Councilman Kary to be the Council representative on the Planning Commission.

ROLL CALL: 6 yes  
                  0 no

Motion carried 6 to 0

Motion made and seconded to elect Ken Kary to be the Council representative on the Planning Commission.

ROLL CALL: 6 yes  
                  0 no

Motion carried 6 to 0

**COUNCIL CLERK**

Motion made and seconded to appoint Alisa Novak as Council Clerk.

ROLL CALL: 6 yes  
                  0 no

Motion carried 6 to 0

**COUNCIL APPOINTMENTS**

Motion made and seconded to appoint the following individuals to the following boards:

Volunteer Firefighters' Dependents Fund Board - Bob Carr, Chris Woodin  
Income Tax Board of Review – Paul Korst, Birket Gibson

ROLL CALL: 6 yes  
                  0 no

Motion carried 6 to 0

**MAYOR'S APPOINTMENTS (Confirmed by Council)**

**Directors**

Director of Finance – Diane Bosley

Director of Law – Mike Lucas

Director of Public Service – Rich Palmisano

Motion made and seconded to confirm the Mayor’s appointments for Director of Finance, Director of Law and Director of Public Service.

ROLL CALL: 6 yes  
0 no

Motion carried 6 to 0

**Board and Commission Members**

Mayor Fiala appointed the following members to the boards and commissions:

- Planning Commission – Mike Wildermuth, Jim Cook
- Zoning Board of Appeals – Bruce Shade
- Design Review Board - Paul Garcia, Adam Brown
- Board of Building Code Appeals – Mike Gallagher

Motion made and seconded to confirm the Mayor’s board and commission appointments.

ROLL CALL: 6 yes  
0 no

Motion carried 6 to 0

**STANDING AND REGULAR COMMITTEE REPORTS** – Council President Carr said committee assignments will be finalized prior to the next meeting. Finance Committee has requested a meeting on January 18<sup>th</sup> as well as Parks & Recreation to discuss Osborne Park.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** No correspondence.

**PUBLIC PORTION:** No one spoke.

**Motion made and seconded that all ordinances and resolutions be read by caption only and that as to legislation not containing an emergency clause, the rules requiring that ordinances and resolutions be read on three separate days be waived.**

Roll Call 6 yes  
0 no

Motion carried 6 to 0

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2021-115 - Tabled**

**A resolution approving EAS #11-9-21 for demolition of the existing building and construction of a multi-tenant strip center located at 36001 Euclid Avenue (USA Management Strip Center Development).**

This resolution will remain tabled.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**ORDINANCE NO. 2022-1**

**An ordinance accepting the final plat for The Standard on Lakeshore, and declaring an emergency.**

Motion made and seconded that the rules of Council requiring three separate readings be suspended and that Ordinance No. 2022-1 be declared an emergency measure.

Roll Call      6 yes  
                    0 no

Motion carried 6 to 0

Motion made and seconded to adopt Ordinance No. 2022-1.

Roll Call      6 yes  
                    0 no

Motion carried 6 to 0

**RESOLUTION NO. 2022-2**

**A resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into a contract with C. Crump, Inc. in the amount of \$357,200 for implementation of the Ward Creek Improvements Project, and declaring an emergency.**

Motion made and seconded that the rules of Council requiring three separate readings be suspended and that Resolution No. 2022-2 be declared an emergency measure.

Roll Call      6 yes  
                    0 no

Motion carried 6 to 0

Motion made and seconded to adopt Resolution No. 2022-2.

Roll Call      6 yes  
                    0 no

Motion carried 6 to 0

**RESOLUTION NO. 2022-3**

**A resolution honoring, commending, and thanking Katie McNeill for 4 years of service as Councilwoman at Large to the City of Willoughby.**

Council President Carr read this resolution in its entirety.

Motion made and seconded to adopt Resolution No. 2022-3.

Roll Call      6 yes  
                    0 no

Motion carried 6 to 0

**MAYOR'S REPORT** – Mayor Fiala thanked Council for the confirmation of directors and board members. He said he asked the two returning Design Review Board members their opinion on merging the Design Review Board and Sign Review Board; they will be providing feedback. He said he will not be filling an opening on the Sign Review Board for now. Please pass along any names of anyone who may be interested in serving on a board.

Mr. Carr asked about the “bridge” art piece. Mayor Fiala said Mr. Thielman was able to see the piece under construction a few weeks ago; delivery should be early February. As soon as a hard date is made, a notice will go out to Council to establish a ribbon cutting date.

**DIRECTOR'S REPORTS**

**Law Director Lucas** – Mr. Lucas thanked the Mayor for his appointment as Law Director and confirmation received from Council.

**Police Chief Schultz** – Chief Schultz recognized the passing of Patrol Officer Shane Bartek from the City of Cleveland who lost his life on New Year's Eve. He said many officers from the Cleveland area put forth effort that night to catch the suspect. Chief Schultz thanked Katie McNeill for her service to the City and congratulated Council on their swearing in. Mr. Kary asked if there were many carjacking's in Lake County. Chief Schultz said no, but there are incidents that take place in Lake County that are tied back to carjacking's elsewhere.

**Service Director Palmisano** – Mr. Palmisano thanked the Mayor and Council for the appointment and for their support. He thanked Katie McNeill for her service. Mr. Anderson said he had someone reach out to him about electric vehicle charging stations in downtown Willoughby. Mayor Fiala said there is a NOACA grant and Mr. Palmisano had mentioned putting one charging station at City Hall and one at the Court.

**City Engineer Lannon** – Mr. Lannon said there will be an additional culvert replacement under Lakeshore Blvd. as part of the Two-Town Ditch project; there will be some clearing done at the Willoughby-Eastlake line on Lakeshore.

**Fire Chief Ungar** – Chief Ungar was inaudible.

**Building Inspector Keller** – Mr. Keller congratulated Council and thanked Katie McNeill for her support.

**Parks & Recreation Director Banker** – Ms. Banker congratulated everyone. She applauded her staff for their hard work this past year dealing with COVID. She said the pools covered 92% of their expenses. She said they probably covered 100% of their operating expenses, however, at the end of the year some money was used to upgrade some pool pumps, etc. She said the recreation program covered 74% of their expenses. The senior center covered 84% of their expenses. The golf course covered 107% of their expenses; 7% percent over their expenses with revenue. This year was the first time in over 20 years the golf course didn't receive a transfer.

**Finance Director Bosley** – Ms. Bosley said the Finance Department was able to close the books today for the year. After transfers were completed, the general fund balance is \$6,370,000 which is much higher than the original budget. She said sewer rates will be discussed at a Finance Committee meeting; she will be getting some information to Council. Mr. Anderson asked what the carry over difference was from last year to this year. Ms. Bosley said it was \$7,500,000 last year and \$6,300,000 this year in the general fund. She said there was \$8 million, but there was a decision to transfer more money into capital and future retirements.

**COUNCILMEN:**

**Mr. Woodin** – Absent.

**Mr. Kary** – No report.

**Mr. Tomaselli** – Mr. Tomaselli thanked Council for electing him Vice President. He welcomed Mr. Merhar to Council.

**Mr. Merhar** – No report.

**Mr. Garry** – No report. Mr. Garry welcomed Mr. Merhar.



**Mr. Anderson** – Mr. Anderson welcomed Mr. Merhar to Council. Regarding the electric vehicle charging stations, he said having a charging station downtown could promote Willoughby.

**Mr. Carr** – Mr. Carr thanked Council for electing him President.

*The Regular Council Meeting adjourned at 7:43 p.m.*

Date approved 1/11/22

  
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Robert E. Carr, President

  
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Clerk of Council  
  
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Robert A. Fiala, Mayor