

CITY OF MIDDLEBURG HEIGHTS, OHIO

REGULAR MEETING
MARCH 14, 2023

The Council of the City of Middleburg Heights, Ohio met in Council Chambers at City Hall on Tuesday, March 14, 2023 for the purpose of conducting a REGULAR MEETING. President of Council David Bortolotto called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

| | | |
|----------|------------------|----------------------|
| PRESENT: | Matthew Castelli | Mayor |
| | David Bortolotto | President of Council |
| | Tim Ali | Councilman At Large |
| | Dan Sage | Councilman At Large |
| | Bill Meany | Councilman Ward 1 |
| | Matthew McGregor | Councilman Ward 2 |
| | Michael Ference | Councilman Ward 3 |
| | John Grech | Councilman Ward 4 |
| | Mary Ann Meola | Clerk of Council |

STAFF

| | | |
|------------|-----------------|-------------------------------|
| ATTENDING: | Santo Incorvaia | Law Director |
| | Jason Stewart | Finance Director |
| | Jim Herron | Service Director |
| | Chuck Bichara | Economic Development Director |
| | Mark Elliott | Recreation Director |
| | Bob Downey | Executive Assistant |

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

MINUTES

Motion by Mr. Ali to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of February 28, 2023. Seconded by Mr. Grech.

MINUTES
APPROVED

ROLL CALL: YEAS 7, NAYS 0, MINUTES APPROVED

COMMUNICATIONS

None.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Mr. Tim Sullivan, 14541 Cherokee Trail, referred to the timing of the traffic lights on Bagley Road. He said he starts work at 6:00 a.m., and many times gets stopped at every single light on Bagley Road, with the exception of the two rec center lights. Mr. Sullivan said he even gets stopped by the light by Heinen's where no businesses are even open at that time. He said he has called a couple times and is asking for someone to please look into this.

Mr. Herron said the light by the Heinen's plaza has a broken loop, and Signal Service is going to come out to fix that, but the roadway has to cut into and the weather created a couple issues with that. He said the timing would probably need changed, and whether or not our system could do that now or not he isn't sure since our system is 25 years old. Mr. Herron said he does understand what Mr. Sullivan is saying.

Discussion continued.

Mayor Castelli said there is a major study going on with NOACA right now over this whole corridor on managing traffic, not just in our city but in all of them. He said hopefully the ultimate solution is going to be to upgrade the system. Mayor Castelli said hopefully we can receive some funding from NOACA, as well as other organizations to help finance this. He said they will look at the findings and then make some determinations as to when we can upgrade the system. Mayor Castelli said that is the overall solution, but what Mr. Sullivan is talking about is the ancillary lights that are needed during the day time, but not during the early morning hours. He asked that Bagley Road be reviewed by Signal Service, and

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1 then we can make a determination. Mayor Castelli said we will have the
2 consultant review both Pearl Road and Bagley Road, and then we will make some
3 decisions.
4

5 6 APPOINTMENTS AND CONFIRMATIONS

7 Mayor Castelli asked members of council to confirm the appointments of Mr. Jim
8 Sheppard to the Civil Service Commission and Mr. John Zakel, Jr. to the Planning
9 Commission. He gave a brief background on each of the individuals.

MOTION 2023-10
APPOINT JIM
SHEPPARD
(CIVIL SERVICE)

11 Mayor Castelli asked to confirm the appointment of Mr. Jim Sheppard to the Civil
12 Service Commission, to serve a full term expiring December 31, 2028.

13 On behalf of the mayor, Mr. Bortolotto made a motion to confirm the
14 appointment of Mr. Jim Sheppard to the Civil Service Commission. Seconded by
15 Mr. Ference.

16 ROLL CALL: YEAS 7, NAYS 0, MOTION CONFIRMED
17

18 Mayor Castelli asked to confirm the appointment of Mr. John Zakel, Jr. to the
19 Planning Commission to fill the unexpired term of Christina Elffers, which
20 expires December 31, 2025.

MOTION 2023-11
APPOINT JOHN
ZAKEL, JR.
(PLANNING
COMMISSION)

21 On behalf of the mayor, Mr. Bortolotto made a motion to confirm the
22 appointment of Mr. John Zakel, Jr. to the Planning Commission. Seconded by
23 Mr. Grech.

24 ROLL CALL: YEAS 7, NAYS 0, MOTION CONFIRMED
25

26 27 ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS AND MOTIONS

28 29 CITY PARKS, RECREATION & SERVICES COMMITTEE – MR. ALI, 30 CHAIRMAN

31 No legislation.
32

33 34 FINANCE, TAXATION & ASSESSMENTS COMMITTEE – MR. 35 BORTOLOTTI, CHAIRMAN

36 Mr. Bortolotto introduced ORDINANCE NO. 2023-21, An Ordinance to make
37 supplemental appropriations for current expenditures and expenses for the City of
38 Middleburg Heights for the calendar year 2023 and MOVED TO ADOPT.
39 Seconded by Mr. Ali.

ORD. 2023-21
ADOPTED
SUPPLEMENTAL
APPROPRIATION

40 Mr. Bortolotto said these items were reviewed at the finance committee meeting.

41 ROLL CALL: YEAS 7, NAYS 0, ORDINANCE NO. 2023-21 ADOPTED
42

43 44 LEGISLATION & RULES COMMITTEE – MR. FERENCE, CHAIRMAN

45 No legislation.
46

47 48 PUBLIC HEALTH, SAFETY & RELIEF COMMITTEE – MR. MCGREGOR, 49 CHAIRMAN

50 No legislation.
51

52 53 PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS COMMITTEE – MR. SAGE, CHAIRMAN

54 No legislation.
55

56 57 STREETS, UTILITIES & RAILROAD COMMITTEE – MR. MEANY, 58 CHAIRMAN

59 No legislation.
60

61 62 ZONING & BUILDING CODE COMMITTEE – MR. GRECH, CHAIRMAN

No legislation.

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1
2
3 Mayor Castelli introduced RESOLUTION NO. 2023-22, A Resolution
4 authorizing engagement of Dickie, McCamey & Chilcote, P.C. to provide legal
5 services in regard to labor, employment and related services and moved to adopt.
6 On behalf of the mayor, Mr. Bortolotto MOVED TO ADOPT. Seconded by Mr.
7 Sage.
8

RES. 2023-22
ADOPTED
ENGAGEMENT OF
DICKIE, McCAMEY &
CHILCOTE

9 Mayor Castelli said as you recall, we had a similar agreement with Walter
10 Haverfield, and Shaka Sadler has been assisting the city with human resources.
11 He said Walter Haverfield made the decision to focus on more real estate law and
12 business law, and is no longer providing employment law services. Mayor
13 Castelli said the attorney's that were doing that moved on to other firms. He said
14 Shaka has been recently hired with Dickie, McCamey and Chilcote and we would
15 like to continue working with Shaka. Mayor Castelli said Shaka has done a
16 wonderful job.
17

18 Mr. Incorvaia said the city has a good relationship with Shaka Sadler, and she
19 provides the HR services for the city. He said this mirrors the agreement the city
20 had with Walter Haverfield and she continues to provide those same types of
21 services. Mr. Incorvaia said Walter Haverfield gave up their public sector
22 practice, and a number of their attorney's went to different firms. He reiterated
23 that the city would like to continue the relationship with Shaka Sadler.
24

25 ROLL CALL: YEAS 7, NAYS 0, RESOLUTION NO. 2023-22 ADOPTED
26

27 Mayor Castelli introduced RESOLUTION NO. 2023-23, A Resolution waiving
28 permit fees for Southwest General Health Center for the Center for Bariatric
29 Surgery and moved to adopt. On behalf of the mayor, Mr. Meany MOVED TO
30 ADOPT. Seconded by Mr. Ali.
31

RES. 2023-23
ADOPTED
WAIVE PERMIT FEES:
SOUTHWEST GENERAL
HEALTH CENTER
(BARIATRIC
SURGERY CENTER)

32 Mayor Castelli said this resolution and the next one will be to waive permit fees
33 for Southwest General Health Center. He said they are currently working on
34 bringing the Bariatric surgery that was nationally recognized from St. Vincent
35 Charity Medical Center. Mayor Castelli said they have completely transitioned
36 the bariatric surgery to Southwest General Health Center. He said this is a great
37 investment in Southwest. Mayor Castelli said over the past year or two,
38 Southwest General has made a lot of investments in the community. He said as
39 you know any type of organization like Southwest, Polaris or the school system
40 that is partially tax payer funded, is automatically given a 25% break on permit
41 fees. Mayor Castelli said he would like to waive all the fees for these two
42 resolutions. He said over the last several years, Southwest has invested quite a bit
43 of improvements into the community, totaling approximately \$124,000 worth of
44 permit fees, with only approximately \$30,000 waived of that \$124,000. Mayor
45 Castelli said they have paid approximately \$100,000 in permit fees based on all of
46 the improvements made over the past couple years. He said Southwest is
47 incredibly important to the community. Mayor Castelli said they are still our
48 largest employer, and as you know we have one of the largest medical corridors
49 outside of the Cleveland Clinic in Cleveland. He said the city appreciates
50 Southwest's investment in our community.
51

52 Mr. Bichara said with the Bariatric Center, they will also be bringing additional
53 doctors and support staff to Southwest General. He said they will be adding
54 employment to the community as well with this particular project.
55

56 Mr. Bortolotto said he will be abstaining from both pieces of legislation because
57 of his position on the Southwest board.
58

59 Mr. McGregor said he will be doing the same.
60

61 ROLL CALL: YEAS 5, NAYS 0, ABSTAIN 2, BORTOLOTTTO, McGREGOR,
62 RESOLUTION NO. 2023-23 ADOPTED

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1 Mayor Castelli introduced RESOLUTION NO. 2023-24, A Resolution waiving
2 permit fees for Southwest General Health Center for the Southwest General
3 Medical Group Pain Management and moved to adopt. On behalf of the mayor,
4 Mr. Ali MOVED TO ADOPT. Seconded by Mr. Sage.

5 Mayor Castelli said Southwest General Medical Group Pain Management
6 specializes in the evaluation, diagnosis and treatment of pain. He said Southwest
7 General Health Center will undergo interior expansion and renovation to the Pain
8 Management Center to support a multi-disciplinary approach to care. Mayor
9 Castelli said everything he previously said about the importance of Southwest
10 General Hospital in our community applies to this as well.

11 ROLL CALL: YEAS 5, NAYS 0, ABSTAIN 2, BORTOLOTTI, MCGREGOR,
12 RESOLUTION NO. 2023-24 ADOPTED

13 COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS

14 City Parks, Recreation & Services Committee – Mr. Ali, Chairman

15 Mr. Ali thanked Mr. Elliott for coming to the committee meeting this evening to
16 provide a general recreation update to city council.

17 Finance, Taxation & Assessments Committee – Mr. Bortolotto, Chairman

18 No report.

19 Legislation & Rules Committee – Mr. Ference, Chairman

20 No report.

21 Public Health, Safety & Relief Committee – Mr. McGregor, Chairman

22 No report.

23 Public Improvements Committee – Mr. Sage, Chairman

24 No report.

25 Streets, Utilities & Railroad Committee – Mr. Meany, Chairman

26 Written report submitted.

27 Zoning & Building Code Committee – Mr. Grech, Chairman

28 Mr. Grech offered his condolences to the Morsillo family. He said the family has
29 been very generous to the city. Mr. Grech said Pat Morsillo's wife, Helen, passed
30 away a couple of weeks ago. He also offered his condolences to the Vale family,
31 which is another great family in Middleburg, for the recent loss of Joan Vale.

32 Mr. Bortolotto echoed Mr. Grech's sentiments as well.

33 MAYOR'S REPORT

34 No report.

35 LAW DIRECTOR

36 No report.

37 FINANCE DIRECTOR

38 No report.

RES. 2023-24
ADOPTED
WAIVE PERMIT FEES:
SOUTHWEST GENERAL
HEALTH CENTER
(PAIN MANAGEMENT
GROUP)

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RECREATION DIRECTOR

No report.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR

No report.

SERVICE DIRECTOR

No report.


EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

No report.

There being no further business, Mr. Sage made a motion to adjourn. Seconded
by Mr. Grech. Mr. Bortolotto adjourned the meeting at 7:32 p.m.


David Bortolotto

President of Council


Mary Ann Meola
Clerk of Council