



**NORTON CITY COUNCIL  
COMMITTEE WORK SESSION  
MONDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2022**

The Committee Work Session was convened on Monday, October 3, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. by Paul Tousley, President of Council. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited followed by a moment of silent reflection.

Roll Call:	Jamie Lukens	Also Present:
	Ben Bates	Pamela Keener
	Joe Kernan	Kerry Macomber
	Scott Pelot (Excused)	
	Charlotte Whipkey	
	Doug DeHarpert	
	Paul Tousley	

**COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC - None**

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**

Rental Property Owners' Registration - Mr. DeHarpert said this is to continue the conversation on whether we want to have a rental registration program in the City of Norton. He said that because there are Administrative changes happening now, he suggested holding this back until the new Administrator is in place. Ms. Whipkey asked if we are tabling this. Mr. DeHarpert said yes, until the first of the year. Mr. Lukens said that is a good idea so we can see what the new leadership suggests. Ms. Whipkey said she would like them to consider a couple of things going forward. It is a maximum of 10 rental units for \$1,500 a year and asked if it is in one building or will it include 10 separate locations. Mr. DeHarpert said it would be the maximum if you were like a building such as Columbia Woods Apartments. Ms. Whipkey asked about the 1492.04 (B) and asked if the owners would select their own inspector to inspect their properties. She would like clarification on these questions. Mr. Tousley said this will be on hold for now.

Parks & Cemetery Board Proposal - Mr. Tousley said that we have received several quotes for Phase 1, which is the fence around the cemetery. Mr. Tousley said this is a good start for the Administration and it should be moved to them to continue the process. Ms. Whipkey said this is only for the cemetery on Cleveland-Massillon and she would like to see the back side of the Western Star Cemetery fencing be completed as well. Mr. Tousley requested that Administration budget accordingly for that fencing, as well as the monuments in Phases 2 and 3. Mr. Lukens asked if Administration would be providing the ordinance and Mr. Tousley said yes, they can use the information that is provided and make suggestions for the final solution. Mr. DeHarpert said two bids came in at \$14,985 and \$15,400 for 510 feet of 4' high of aluminum fencing. Ms. Whipkey noted Precision offered granite as a color while with the other we have color options of black and white; the one at Western Star is black. Mr. Tousley recognized that Ms. Gibson preferred Precision, but it will be given to Administration for their thoughts.

Parks Master Plan - Mr. Tousley explained that the City contracted for the development of this plan several years ago, but it was interrupted by the Pandemic. OHM Advisors developed this system-wide parks master plan, which highlights each park in the City; identifies challenges and opportunities; and offers recommendations. It also captured what the residents wanted through surveys and community meetings. However, it was not officially adopted and he thought that was what Mr. Lukens was hoping for. Mr. Lukens said under Williams Park a veterans' memorial was suggested and there is a lot of information provided by the residents on the parks. With the new Administration coming in, they could reference this as well to be on the same page. We've already paid for it so we should just use it. Ms. Whipkey said she believed we've already used it and Mr. Lukens responded he should have said adopted. Ms. Whipkey stated this is the same plan that was sent to us in 2021 and they resubmitted it in 2022. She reiterated that she wants her name removed and the cover page notation that it was adopted needs to be corrected. Ms. Whipkey explained how the designated committee was identified even though it was just three of us that attended the Parks meeting. Mr. Lukens asked if there was a working group and if anyone knew their parts in it and suggested that if not, the reference to it can be deleted. Ms. Whipkey stated Shannon was there as the secretary and Mr. Finney allowed his establishment be used as public presentations. Mr. Kernan said the main thing is if we feel it is a good plan. We adopt the plan if it is a good plan and it is not necessary to get lost in the minutia. If Council adopts the plan, Administration implements it. Ms. Whipkey asked Mr. Kernan if he had read it, but Mr. Kernan did not respond. Ms. Whipkey said she felt much of it was beyond what we would be looking to do right away and the public has never seen this plan. Mr. Kernan responded then when it is brought forward to spend the money and you feel it is beyond the limits, you say you aren't voting for that money. Ms. Whipkey stated she felt it only fair for the public to have a chance to see it. Mr. Kernan stated they had a chance and nobody showed up. Mr. Tousley said the public had opportunities to participate in the surveys and the public meetings. Ms. Whipkey said the public has not seen the results of their participation. Mr. Tousley concurred and suggested we ask Administration to draw up legislation to adopt the plan, which will give the public an opportunity to see it. Mr. Kernan suggested putting it on the website. Mr. Tousley recognized that several of the recommendations have been completed such as the walking paths around Columbia Woods Park.

PC Resolution No: R10-2022 - Mr. DeHart said this property is located at Wooster Road and St. Rt. 21. There was a lot of discussion regarding the paper streets at the Planning Commission meeting. Ms. Whipkey asked about properties that would be affected if the road/s are put in. She said it goes behind other businesses and other residents and there is only one access that would be logical and safe. She is interested in knowing how that will be developed and the Planning Commission did not know. It will come before Council for final approval. She said this is another tree business and it was stated they would be keeping trees for a buffer and there will be a building to store their trucks. Mr. DeHart said the road that follows along the ramp, from what he saw, is beat up and it may not be able to sustain commercial traffic. He is also concerned about how it will affect the residents. Ms. Whipkey said that may be the area where the culvert was put in and she questioned how this could be Barberton's and there were several road names on the GIS map. Mr. DeHart moved to add this to Council's next Agenda; seconded by Mr. Lukens. Mr. Tousley noted the Public Hearing is scheduled for October 24, 2022.

Roll Call: Yes: DeHarpart, Lukens, Whipkey  
No: None

Motion passed unanimously.

Certification of Tax Levies

Mr. Bates explained this is to accept tax levies and to certify them to the County and moved to add Res. No. 80-2022 to Council's next agenda; seconded by Mr. Kernan.

Roll Call: Yes: Bates, Kernan, Tousley  
No: None

Motion passed unanimously.

Appropriations and Estimated Resources Amendment

Mr. Bates explained a few of the larger transactions: \$626,725 decrease in the appropriations of the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Fund 129 because they were not expended but will be expensed in 2023; \$180,690 increase in appropriations for the Water & Sewer Improvement Fund because Barberton inadvertently did not bill the city; \$351,330 increase in the annual road program. Mr. Bates moved to add Ord. No. 81-2022 to Council's next agenda; seconded by Mr. Kernan.

Roll Call: Yes: Bates, Kernan, Tousley  
No: None

Motion passed unanimously.

Transfer – Mr. Bates explained this will transfer the opioid settlement funds received previously. There were two settlements equating to \$10, 672, which will be moved into the new fund being established. Mr. Bates moved to add Ord. No. 82-2022 to Council's next agenda; seconded by Mr. Kernan.

Ms. Whipkey asked for clarification on the previous agenda item regarding the ARP Fund 129 and Ms. Keener explained the monies will not be expended this year so they are decreasing the Fund amount. Those monies will become part of the \$1.2 million, which will be in the 2023 budget.

Roll Call: Yes: Bates, Kernan, Tousley  
No: None

Motion passed unanimously.

Repeal Ord. No. 58-2022 - Mr. Kernan said that this year we had appropriated funds to purchase a police vehicle but it did not happen. To clean things up, we will repeal that ordinance and moved to add Ord. No. 83-2022 to Council's next agenda; seconded by Mr. Lukens.

Roll Call: Yes: Kernan, Lukens, DeHarpart  
No: None

Motion passed unanimously.

### NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Ms. Whipkey requested information on the following:

- the repair amounts on the Police Department;
- the information on the rental numbers in Norton;
- third board member for Civil Service Commission;
- the assessment on Easton that hooked up to sewer that was not part of Nash Heights;
- landscaping for Brookside as she is hearing there are more issues with the gas line;
- Driftwood and Cherrywood explanation;
- Resident next door to 3399 Reimer Road contacted her on the neighbor who has put in a pond without a permit and it is encroaching on his property. Ms. Whipkey said it was supposed to be filled in and she wants to see the paperwork on it. Soil and Water went out and said it was a City issue but they will support it. Mr. DeHarpert said he was told the same thing. The neighbor was told to fill the pond in and nothing has been done. Ms. Whipkey said she wants the paperwork and wants the pond filled in. The neighbor actually got into his culvert and diverted the water;
- Newpark Drive repair needs to be scheduled by Perrin.

**TOPICS FOR NEXT WORK SESSION** – None

### ADJOURN

There being no other business to come before the Committee Work Session, the meeting was adjourned at 7:30 PM.



Paul Tousley, President of Council

I, Kerry Macomber, Clerk of Council for the City of Norton, do hereby certify that the foregoing minutes were approved at a Regular Council Meeting held on October 10, 2022.



Kerry Macomber, Clerk of Council

**\*\*Note: these minutes are not verbatim\*\***  
Original signed and approved minutes are on file with Clerk of Council.