



REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY, APRIL 27, 2020

****REMOTE MEETING****

The Regular Council Meeting was convened on Monday, April 27, 2020 at 7:30 PM remotely pursuant to H.B. #197. The meeting was called to order by Joe Kernan, President of Council, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silent reflection.

Roll Call:	Jack Gainer	Also Present:
	Dennis McGlone	Mayor Zita
	Dan Karant	Robert Fowler
	Paul Tousley	Pam Keener
	Charlotte Whipkey	Justin Markey
	Scott Pelot	Kerry Macomber
	Joe Kernan	

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC- None

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

Minutes of Regular Council Meeting of March 9, 2020 were accepted as submitted.

Minutes of Regular Council Meeting of March 23, 2020 were accepted as submitted.

Minutes of Committee Work Session of April 20, 2020 were accepted as submitted.

REPORTS FROM OFFICERS, BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

Mayor Zita announced that Republic Trash and Recycling service is back on the pre-COVID pick-up schedule starting tomorrow, April 28, 2020. All containers will be picked up today and tomorrow. This will leave all containers empty. Starting next week, trash in the trash container and recycling in the recycling container. It will be every other week for the recycling. Mr. McGlone asked if anything outside of the container would be picked up. The Mayor said his understanding is bulk items need to be scheduled a week in advance so they can send another truck. Yard waste should be picked up. Mr. Karant asked if both cans will be treated as trash. The Mayor replied that as Paul brought to our attention, the containers may already be mixed with recycling and trash. Mr. Gainer asked if the containers at City Hall are going to be returned and the Mayor said they will be replaced in the next couple of weeks.

Mr. Fowler said the Paving Program is going on as scheduled and they are trying to get everything covered because of weather conditions. He has asked Department Directors to consider budget reductions of 10 – 15 percent reduction and hopes to have the information available for Council at the May 18, 2020 Committee Work Session. He said that he and Ms. Keener will prepare an ordinance for Council to review. Mr. Fowler announced five local companies will receive funding but there are another six that did not receive funding through the County. He thanked Council for their consideration. Mr. Fowler said they will comply

with the Governor's announcements and City Hall will be modifying meetings and they will be available by appointment only. They will provide masks and bags, observe social distancing, and install plexi-glass barriers at the counters. Ms. Whipkey asked what the bags were for and Mr. Fowler explained to throw away the masks per CDC guidelines. Mr. Pelot asked if disinfectant and hand sanitizer have been provided to all work stations. Mr. Fowler said he has distributed sanitizer and wipes, but he will pick up more. Mr. Pelot saw emails regarding tax assistance from CCA and asked when it will be taking place. Mr. Fowler said they are still on modified operations and have not said when they are coming back. Ms. Keener said she has not heard anything, yet. Mr. Pelot acknowledged the filing deadline has been extended through July 15, 2020 and there will be some dates for assistance.

PUBLIC HEARINGS - None

INTRODUCTION OF NEW LEGISLATION

Ord. No. 047-2020

Ms. Whipkey introduced Ord. No. 047-2020 for its first reading and asked the Clerk to read it:

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE CURRENT EXPENSES OF THE CITY OF NORTON FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2020; AUTHORIZING AMENDMENTS TO THE CERTIFICATE OF ESTIMATED RESOURCES OF THE CITY FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2020; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Ms. Whipkey explained we are bringing our annual appropriations and estimated resources into compliance and this needs to be done as soon as possible and she moved to waive second and third readings; seconded by Mr. Pelot.

Roll Call: Yes: Whipkey, Pelot, Gainer, McGlone, Karant, Tousley, Kernan
No: None

Motion passed: 7 – 0

Ms. Whipkey moved to adopt Ord. No. 047-2020; seconded by Mr. Pelot.

Roll Call: Yes: Whipkey, Pelot, Gainer, McGlone, Karant, Tousley, Kernan
No: None

Motion passed: 7 – 0

Ord. No. 048-2020

Ms. Whipkey introduced Ord. No. 048-2020 for its first reading and asked the Clerk to read it:

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING TRANSFERS FROM THE GENERAL FUND FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2020, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Ms. Whipkey explained we are bringing our budget up to date and moving funds from the General Fund to various other funds and moved to waive second and third readings; seconded by Mr. Pelot.

Roll Call: Yes: Whipkey, Pelot, Gainer, McGlone, Karant, Tousley, Kernan
No: None
Motion passed: 7 – 0

Ms. Whipkey moved to adopt Ord. No. 048-2020; seconded by Mr. Pelot.

Roll Call: Yes: Whipkey, Pelot, Gainer, McGlone, Karant, Tousley, Kernan
No: None
Motion passed: 7 – 0

Ord. No. 049-2020

Mr. Tousley introduced Ord. No. 049-2020 for its first reading and asked the Clerk to read it:

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF EQUIPMENT FROM B&C COMMUNICATIONS FOR THE POLICE DEPARTMENT IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$15,476.00, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

First reading only.

Mr. McGlone asked if the police cars have come in and Mr. Fowler said not yet.

Ord. No. 050-2020

Ms. Whipkey introduced Ord. No. 050-2020 for its first reading and asked the Clerk to read it:

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER TO APPLY FOR AND TAKE FURTHER ACTIONS AS NECESSARY TO ACCEPT A NORTHEAST OHIO PUBLIC ENERGY COUNCIL (NOPEC) 2020 ENERGIZED COMMUNITY GRANT, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Ms. Whipkey said this was a grant program from the NOPEC gas aggregation program and it is for \$750 and it needs to be sent in and moved to waive second and third readings; seconded by Mr. Pelot.

Roll Call: Yes: Whipkey, Pelot, Gainer, McGlone, Karant, Tousley, Kernan
No: None
Motion passed: 7 – 0

Ms. Whipkey moved to adopt Ord. No. 050-2020; seconded by Mr. Pelot.

Roll Call: Yes: Whipkey, Pelot, Gainer, McGlone, Karant, Tousley, Kernan
No: None
Motion passed: 7 – 0

Ord. No. 051-2020

Ms. Whipkey introduced Ord. No. 051-2020 for its first reading and asked the Clerk to read it:

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SUMMIT COUNTY COVID-19 SMALL BUSINESS EMERGENCY RELIEF GRANT PROGRAM, AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF AN AGREEMENT WITH THE GREATER AKRON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE IN FURTHERANCE THEREOF, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Ms. Whipkey explained this is where we contributed \$25,000 so that five of our businesses would get \$5,000 to help them get through this COVID crisis and it needs to be done as soon as possible and moved to waive second and third readings; seconded by Mr. Pelot.

Roll Call: Yes: Whipkey, Pelot, Gainer, McGlone, Karant, Tousley, Kernan
No: None

Motion passed: 7 – 0

Ms. Whipkey moved to adopt Ord. No. 051-2020; seconded by Mr. Pelot.

Mr. Pelot asked if this was for five businesses and Mr. Fowler said yes, each gets \$5,000 and there were six businesses that did not receive funds. Mr. Tousley asked where the County comes in. Mr. Fowler explained we can fund five businesses and the rest of the businesses stay in the pool that has funds of about \$1.5 million. The five businesses that are guaranteed were sent to Council this afternoon. Mr. Tousley asked if Council wants to go further, when will we know and Mr. Fowler suggested maybe later this week. Mr. Kernan clarified that Mr. Tousley was asking if Council should allocate more funds and Mr. Tousley concurred. Mr. Fowler said we had 29 or 30 applicants and he will try to get them the names of the businesses recommended, but he is concerned about our financial situations. Mr. Pelot asked if it was from the first government stimulus package and Mr. Fowler said no, it is the cities, County, CDBG and also an anonymous donor. Mr. Pelot asked if these businesses can still apply to the Small Business Administration. Mr. Fowler said yes, this program does not preclude businesses from using any other funding. Mr. Fowler said they are looking at other things. Mr. Gainer asked if there were any communities that did not participate and Mr. Fowler said he could not speak to that. The Mayor noted the communities are still holding weekly conference calls.

Roll Call: Yes: Whipkey, Pelot, Gainer, McGlone, Karant, Tousley, Kernan
No: None

Motion passed: 7 – 0

Ord. No. 052-2020

Ms. Whipkey introduced Ord. No. 052-2020 for its first reading and asked the Clerk to read it:

AN ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE AN AGREEMENT FOR PROPERTY AND CASUALTY INSURANCE, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Ms. Whipkey said we need to get the insurance in place and noted that everyone has received an updated legislation that includes the Mayor's signature effective immediately as emergency language. She explained that this new company is a savings and is quite a drop from the

previous provider, plus there will be multiple years of savings through a discount on the Lexipol program used by our Police department for a 50% savings on that membership for this first year, 30% next year, and 20% the year after. Ms. Whipkey moved to waive second and third readings; seconded by Mr. Pelot.

Mr. Tousley asked when this goes into effect and Mr. Fowler said this technically expires tonight at midnight, which is why we needed the emergency clause.

Roll Call: Yes: Whipkey, Pelot, Gainer, McGlone, Karant, Tousley, Kernan
No: None

Motion passed: 7 – 0

Ms. Whipkey moved to adopt Ord. No. 052-2020; seconded by Mr. Pelot.

Roll Call: Yes: Whipkey, Pelot, Gainer, McGlone, Karant, Tousley, Kernan
No: None

Motion passed: 7 – 0

INTRODUCTION OF PRIOR LEGISLATION- None

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS

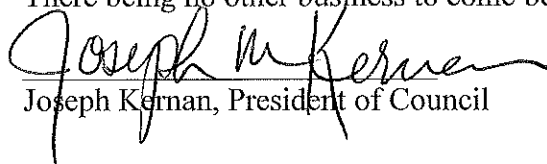
Mr. Karant announced that the Community Prayer Breakfast has been cancelled but a video featuring Judge McKinney will be posted and there is also going to be a fund raiser for Emma that will be held one week from this Thursday.

Mr. Pelot inquired into how complaints will be handled once the businesses in the city open back up. Mr. Gainer asked for clarification and Mr. Pelot replied there could be customers or competitors complaining that a business was open that shouldn't be or things like that. Mr. McGlone offered that the Governor said the Health Departments should handle it. There was discussion about the wearing of masks in places of business and public areas with Ms. Whipkey pointing out the Governor had made mask wearing mandatory for everyone when the businesses started opening in May. People should be practicing that now.

Mr. Karant noted that the Board of Health has reviewed the effectiveness of these procedures and it has shut down Influenza, which is a wonderful side effect. Mr. Gainer remarked that he agreed with Ms. Whipkey in that all businesses should require that all employees and people going into businesses should be required to wear masks. Mr. Karant said one of the main ways to transfer germs is through the handling of money.

ADJOURN:

There being no other business to come before Council, the meeting was adjourned at 7:58 PM.


Joseph Kernan, 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 _____, 2020.

Kerry Macomber, Clerk of Council

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