

**ATHENS CITY COUNCIL: REGULAR SESSION, MONDAY, AUGUST 5, 2019, 7:00 P.M.**

Athens City Council met in Regular Session at the above hour with the following members present: Butler, Crowl, Grace, Kotses, McGee, and Risner.

Also present: President Knisely, Mayor Patterson, Law Director Eliason, and Auditor Hecht.

**DISPOSTION OF MINUTES:**

Risner moved approval of the minutes of the Regular Session of City Council held June 17, 2019; the Special Session held June 24, 2019; and the Special Session held June 27, 2019; McGee seconded. Minutes were unanimously approved as presented.

**COMMUNICATIONS:**

President Knisely welcomed Boy Scout Troop 53 in attendance this evening.

Council Member Kotses announced that the Athens City School Board will be meeting on Thursday, August 15, at 6:30 p.m. in the high school auditorium.

**REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS FROM OTHER ELECTED OFFICIALS:**

Mayor Patterson reported the following:

- One of the scouts in Troop 53 is documenting the history of the City/County of Athens
- Athens will be hosting the Ohio Town Gown Summit in July, 2020
- Letter from Congressman Bill Johnson congratulating the City on earning the Tree City USA designation in 2018
- Letter of appreciation from AFSCME Local 3351 on the firefighters formal Class A uniforms
- Suggestion from a citizen on making the Armory the home for the Athens County Foundation

President Knisely is in receipt of the Hillcrest Drive annexation file received May 7, 2019 from the Athens Board of County Commissioners. These documents are required to be on file for 60 days in the City Council office.

## **ORDINANCES FOR FIRST READING:**

### **0-75-19**

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SERVICE-SAFETY DIRECTOR TO EXECUTE A MUTUAL AID AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF ATHENS AND THE CITY OF DAYTON. Discussion: Crawl asked about the number of mutual aid agreements the City has already in place.

The Mayor is unsure of the actual number, adding that we have several in place throughout the County. He will check on it and report back.

Crawl doesn't doubt that this would be useful, only questioned the distance, wondering if any others may be as far away.

Mayor Patterson responded that the issue is not so much distance, but rather the need another municipality may have when there are known events.

McGee asked whether Dayton police officers assist Athens during the annual Halloween event.

Mayor Patterson is not sure, but will check with Police Chief Pyle. Other law enforcement agencies across the State find it useful to assist in terms of understanding how to work with large crowds, mass gatherings.

### **0-76-19**

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE 91-18, AUTHORIZING DESIGN ENGINEERING SERVICES ASSOCIATED WITH THE CITY/COUNTY SEWER EXPANSION PROJECT (#317). Discussion: Butler noted that this will allow for the design of two water lines, Dairy Lane and Blackburn Road, as part of this larger sewer project.

### **0-77-19**

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SERVICE-SAFETY DIRECTOR TO RENEW A LEASE AGREEMENT WITH OHIO UNIVERSITY. Discussion: Kotses clarified this lease is for a small area on the site of the City's Parking Garage that is owned by Ohio University.

Mayor Patterson added that American Electric Power is replacing transformers in this area, and that the ADA ramp will be replaced as part of this work.

Kotses noted that there are no funds associated with this agreement.

### **0-78-19**

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SERVICE-SAFETY DIRECTOR TO ENTER INTO AN LPA/STATE AGREEMENT (PID NO. 109334) FOR BRIDGE INSPECTION PROGRAM SERVICES; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. Kotses moved for Suspension of the Rules as requested by ODOT; Risner seconded. Suspension of the Rules was approved unanimously. Kotses moved

for Adoption; Crowl seconded. Discussion: Kotses reported that there is no cost to the City for the inspection services covered in this LPA. Adoption was approved unanimously.

**0-79-19**

AN ORDINANCE ACCEPTING THE PETITION FOR ANNEXATION OF APPROXIMATELY 0.74 ACRES LOCATED ON HILLCREST DRIVE.

**0-80-19**

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE 2019 APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE.

**0-81-19**

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE 14-19 AND ORDINANCE 142-18, STAFFING LEVELS. Risner moved for Suspension of the Rules in order to continue these levels from July 31 to September 15; Kotses seconded. Suspension of the Rules was approved unanimously. Risner moved for Adoption; Crowl seconded. Adoption was approved unanimously.

**0-82-19**

AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE ISSUANCE OF \$460,000 OF NOTES BY THE CITY OF ATHENS, OHIO, IN ANTICIPATION OF THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS FOR THE PURPOSE OF RENEWING NOTES PREVIOUSLY ISSUED TO PAY PART OF THE COSTS OF IMPROVEMENTS TO THIS MUNICIPALITY'S SANITARY SEWER SYSTEM; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. Discussion: Auditor Hecht explained that this is a short-term note issued last year in the amount of \$485,000. The City plans to pay down \$25,000.

Risner asked about the interest rate on the rollover.

President Knisely responded 1.67 percent.

Kotses asked which project this is.

Mayor Patterson responded that it is the Wastewater Treatment Plant's dewatering facility improvements.

McGee indicated that this is on Factory Street, wondering if it is in connection with Ohio University's land improvements in that area.

The Mayor believes it may service the planned new building. He will check into that further.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS & OTHER BUSINESS:**

Risner moved to Accept the Auditor's June, 2019, Financial Reports; Kotses seconded. Motion was approved unanimously.

Crowl moved to Accept the June, 2019, Credit Card Transactions; Grace seconded. Motion was approved unanimously.

McGee moved to approve the appointment of Joe Krause to serve as alternate to the Board of Zoning Appeals; Grace seconded. Appointment was approved unanimously.

Grace moved to approve the reappointment of John Valentour to the Historic Preservation Commission; Crowl seconded. Reappointment was approved unanimously.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

At approximately 7:50 p.m. Grace moved to go into Executive Session to discuss Threatening and Pending Litigation, and invited the Mayor, Auditor, and Law Director to attend; Crowl seconded. A roll call vote was taken as follows: Butler, aye; Risner, aye; Crowl, aye; Kotses, aye; McGee, aye; and Grace, aye.

At approximately 8:10 p.m., Butler moved to come out of Executive Session; Grace seconded. Motion was approved unanimously. Risner then moved to adjourn the meeting; Butler seconded. Motion was approved unanimously.

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President of Council

ATTEST:

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Clerk of Council