

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of ATHENS CITY COUNCIL (REG. SESS.)

Meeting

BARRETT BROTHERS · DAYTON, OHIO

Form 6101

Held JANUARY 17, 2023

**ATHENS CITY COUNCIL: REGULAR SESSION, TUESDAY, JANUARY 17, 2023, 7:00 P.M.**

Athens City Council met in Regular Session at the above hour with the following members present: Crowl, Grace, McCarey, Swank, Spjeldnes, and Ziff.

Also present: President Pro Tem Risner, Acting Mayor Knisely, Service-Safety Director Stone, Law Director Eliason, and Auditor Hecht.

**DISPOSITION OF MINUTES:**

Grace moved approval of the minutes from the Regular Session of Council held January 3, 2023; Ziff seconded. Minutes were unanimously approved as presented.

**COMMUNICATIONS:**

**Council Member Swank** has received several emails and texts requesting that he extend thanks to the City staff responsible for placing safety reflectors on the telephone poles on East State Street between Morris and Madison.

**Council Member McCarey** has received a couple of emails and some verbal complaints from concerned citizens with hopes that the City might do more to promote diversity and inclusion in our uptown businesses, particularly with regard to LGBT inclusion.

**Council Member Spjeldnes** has received a few complaints about vehicles parked on the west side in violation of the City's 24-hour regulation.

**ORDINANCES FOR SECOND READING:**

**0-01-23**

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE 2023 APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE.

Crowl moved for Suspension of the Rules in order to pay 2022 invoices; Grace seconded. Suspension of the Rules was approved unanimously. Crowl moved for Adoption; Ziff seconded. Adoption was approved unanimously.

**0-02-23**

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE PAYMENT OF PRIOR YEAR EXPENSES; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. Crowl moved for

Suspension of the Rules in order to pay prior year expenses; Grace seconded. Suspension of the Rules was approved unanimously. Crowl moved for Adoption; Ziff seconded. Adoption was approved unanimously.

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## **ORDINANCES FOR FIRST READING:**

### **0-03-23**

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING UNNEEDED OR OBSOLETE MUNICIPAL PERSONAL PROPERTY TO BE SOLD BY INTERNET AUCTION.

### **0-04-23**

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE 156-22; REALLOCATING REVENUES FROM THE CITY INCOME TAX; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. Discussion: Swank asked about the Transportation Assistance Fund.

Service-Safety Director Stone responded that this is the local match for Athens Public Transit.

### **0-05-23**

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SERVICE-SAFETY DIRECTOR TO CLOSE STREETS IN THE UPTOWN AREA FOR SPECIAL EVENTS DURING THE 2023 CALENDAR YEAR, AND TO CHANGE REQUESTED DATES OR CANCEL EVENTS AS NECESSARY.

### **0-06-23**

AN ORDINANCE SUSPENDING THE ENFORCEMENT OF ATHENS CITY CODE TITLE 13, GENERAL OFFENSES, CHAPTER 13.04, OFFENSES AGAINST PUBLIC PEACE, SECTION 13.04.10, UNNECESSARY NOISE, IN DESIGNATED EVENT AREAS.

### **0-07-23**

AN ORDINANCE SUSPENDING THE ENFORCEMENT OF ATHENS CITY CODE CHAPTER 11.04, VENDING, PEDDLING AND SOLICITING, TO ALLOW VENDING IN DESIGNATED EVENT AREAS.

### **0-08-23**

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SERVICE-SAFETY DIRECTOR TO SUSPEND, THE FEE FOR PARKING AT METERED SPACES IN THE MUNICIPAL PARKING GARAGE.

### **0-09-23**

AN ORDINANCE SUSPENDING ATHENS CITY CODE SECTION 7.05.03, CONTINUOUS PARKING IN THE SAME LOCATION, FROM, MONDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2023, THROUGH MIDNIGHT ON SATURDAY, JANUARY 13, 2024.

### **0-10-23**

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ANNUAL PURCHASE OF WATER SOFTENING SALT FOR THE WATER TREATMENT PLANT.

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**0-11-23**

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SERVICE-SAFETY DIRECTOR TO ENTER INTO CONTRACT FOR CONSTRUCTION OF THE NEW FIRE HEADQUARTERS, PROJECT #346; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Discussion: McCarey clarified that this legislation will not be approved without the fully executed purchase agreement with the State of Ohio/Ohio University.

Service-Safety Director Stone noted that Section 13(G) contained two errors that will be changed in the document prior to signing: 1) the width of the easement retained by Ohio University on the northwest side of the property should read that it is 80 feet wide, and 2) there was a reference to the City leasing as opposed to purchasing the property.

He explained that the Department of Administrative Services (DAS), on behalf of Ohio University is the ultimate signatory for the execution of this document, and can only be approved by DAS after the State Controlling Board meets on February 27. City Council will need to Table this Ordinance at third reading, on February 20, to wait on receipt of the fully executed purchase agreement.

McCarey asked for clarification on the increase in cost of this project.

Stone responded that the architect's estimate at this time is somewhat higher, due to labor cost increases and the ongoing supply chain issues that are still causing increased cost of building materials and production. This increased amount will provide a cushion when accepting a bid.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS & OTHER BUSINESS:**

Swank moved to confirm the Mayor's appointments of Anne L'Heureux and Megan Russell to the Recreation Advisory Board; Ziff seconded. Appointments were unanimously approved.

McCarey moved to confirm the Mayor's reappointments of Carolyn Lewis and David McNelly to the Commission on Disabilities; Ziff seconded. Reappointments were approved unanimously.

Spjeldnes announced that the Ad Hoc Pedestrian Accessibility Committee will be presenting their report and plan next Monday.

Swank moved to accept the December 2022, Financial Reports; Ziff seconded. Motion was approved unanimously.

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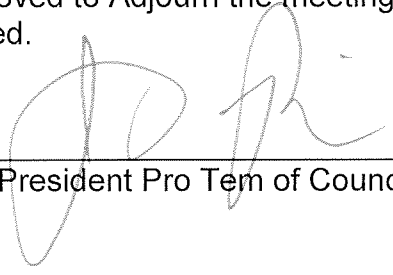
Meeting \_\_\_\_\_

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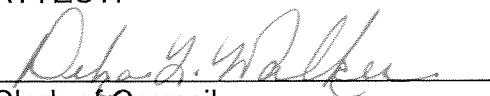
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At approximately 7:40 p.m. Ziff moved to Adjourn the meeting; Grace seconded, and the meeting was adjourned.

  
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President Pro Tem of Council

ATTEST:

  
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Clerk of Council