

ATHENS CITY COUNCIL: REGULAR SESSION, MONDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2021, 7:00 P.M.

Athens City Council met in Regular Session at the above hour. Due to concerns with COVID-19 the following members met via videoconference: Clodfelter, Crawl, Fahl, Kotses, Grace, Risner and Smedley.

Also present via videoconference: President Knisely, Mayor Patterson, and Law Director Eliason.

DISPOSITION OF MINUTES:

Grace moved approval of the minutes of the Regular Session held January 19, 2021; Fahl seconded. Minutes were unanimously approved as presented.

COMMUNICATIONS:

President Knisely reported:

- The Government Channel staff has a newly upgraded smartphone App called the Athens, Ohio City Source, now active and available to the public for download through the Apple App and Google Play Store. This is a great tool to report City issues, view City news, search for City jobs, etc.
- Letters from Woda Cooper Companies notifying the City that Woda Cooper Development, Inc. and Hocking Athens Perry Community Action Programs (HAPCAP) plan to be general partners in the development of 100 residential units located off South Plains Road. (see attached)
- Council Member Crawl announced that the next Environment & Sustainability Commission meeting, via Zoom, will be held Wednesday, February 3, at 6:00 p.m.

REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS FROM OTHER ELECTED OFFICIALS:

MAYOR PATTERSON reported:

- Receipt of a letter from a citizen asking to consider a proposal for humanitarian warm up stations. The Mayor will explore this proposal, and will share the letter with City Council.
- This week Athens County is 1 of 9 areas in the State receiving significant vaccine doses to begin vaccinating K-12 school staff as part of the State's scheduled rollout of those eligible.

- Crowl reported that some of his constituents have received the vaccine at two different locations, Heritage Hall and the Community Center, noting that it was an incredibly smooth process.
- Smedley commented that in addition to being limited by the number of vaccines received, the City continues to operate under the State's phased approach for local implementation.
- Clodfelter has also heard from residents who have received the vaccine from Hopewell and were pleased. She asked the Mayor how many doses of the vaccine the City is receiving on a weekly basis.

He is aware that this week the City-County Health Department expects to receive approximately 1100 doses that will include the vaccination of the school staff. There are also some residents receiving their second dose this week.

- President Knisely is aware that the Kroger process is also very streamlined.

ORDINANCES FOR SECOND READING:

0-08-21

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

0-09-21

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SERVICE-SAFETY DIRECTOR TO CLOSE STREETS IN THE UPTOWN AREA FOR SPECIAL EVENTS DURING THE 2021 CALENDAR YEAR, AND TO CHANGE REQUESTED DATES OR CANCEL EVENTS AS NECESSARY.

0-10-21

AN ORDINANCE SUSPENDING THE ENFORCEMENT OF ATHENS CITY CODE CHAPTER 13.04.10, UNNECESSARY NOISE, IN A DESIGNATED AREA.

0-11-21

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

ORDINANCES FOR FIRST READING:

0-12-21

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

0-13-21

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE 2021 STAFFING LEVELS AUTHORIZED BY ORDINANCE 141-20.

0-14-21

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE 2021 APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE AND AUTHORIZING INTERFUND TRANSFERS. Crowl moved for Suspension of the Rules so these appropriations and transfers can be reflected in the January postings; Risner seconded. Suspension of the Rules was approved unanimously. Crowl moved for Adoption; Kotses seconded. Adoption was approved unanimously.

0-15-21

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE PAYMENT OF PRIOR YEAR EXPENSES; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. Crowl moved for Suspension of the Rules to allow timely payment of these invoices; Smedley seconded. Suspension of the Rules was approved unanimously. Crowl moved for Adoption; Clodfelter seconded. Adoption was approved unanimously.

0-16-21

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SERVICE-SAFETY DIRECTOR TO PAY THE NEWLY HIRED STREET LABOR SUPERVISOR AT A RATE IN ACCORDANCE WITH ORDINANCE 142-20, THE NON-UNION PERSONNEL FRINGE BENEFITS PACKAGE, SECTION 22, PROMOTION; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. Crowl moved for Suspension of the Rules in that the City employee has been working in the Street Labor Supervisor position since December 21, 2021; Grace seconded. Suspension of the Rules was approved unanimously. Crowl moved for Adoption; Grace seconded. Adoption was approved unanimously.

0-17-21

AN ORDINANCE GRANTING A SPECIAL RIGHT-OF-WAY PERMIT TO THE UNIVERSITY ESTATES HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION, TO ALLOW A GUARD HOUSE STRUCTURE ON UNIVERSITY ESTATES BOULEVARD AT THE STATE ROUTE 682 ENTRANCE.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & OTHER BUSINESS:

Risner moved to accept the Auditor's December, 2020 financial reports; Crowl seconded. Motion was approved unanimously.

Smedley moved to confirm the Mayor's reappointment of Noah Trembley, and the appointment of Lisa Simpson to the Commission on Disabilities, both serving 3-year terms to expire December 31, 2023; Grace seconded. Motion was approved unanimously.

At approximately 7:30 p.m. Fahl moved to Adjourn the meeting; Crowl seconded, and the meeting was adjourned.

President of Council

ATTEST:

Clerk of Council