

**ATHENS CITY COUNCIL: REGULAR SESSION, MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2019, 7:00 P.M.**

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

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

**DISPOSTION OF MINUTES:**

Risner moved approval of the minutes of the Regular Session of City Council held September 3, 2019; Fahl seconded. Minutes were unanimously approved as presented.

**COMMUNICATIONS:**

**Council Member Grace** requested an update on the status of repairing the elevators in the Parking Garage.

**Council Member Kotses** reminded everyone that the Athens City School Board will be meeting on Thursday, September 19, at 6:30 p.m. in the high school auditorium. The architect will be present and would like public participation on the overall look of the proposed new buildings.

**Council Member Crowl** informed everyone that this is Pollution Prevention Week with a number of events going on throughout the City. Tomorrow at the Campus Gate on Court/Union from noon to 2:00 p.m. there will be a tap vs. bottled water taste test.

Rick Hindman, Assistant Executive Director of the Buckeye Hills Regional Council, presented the City's 2018 Return on Investment (see attached).

Fahl asked about their collaboration with the Athens County Economic Development Council (ACEDC).

Hindman acknowledged they work with the ACEDC on a regular basis, but they do not duplicate services.

McGee understands that Buckeye Hills serves as a conduit for State and Federal dollars to assist in securing grants.

Hindman added, Buckeye Hills brings together the different funding sources to a project and assist in planning, data, and information.

Mayor Patterson commented that Buckeye Hills has been very helpful in looking at ways to increase Broadband coverage in our area.

Adam Boesinger, Ohio University Student Senate Off-Campus Commissioner, brought forward the issue of Towing Regulations within the City, and the conflicting rates between City and State regulations. Student Senate is recommending an audit of the towing practices in the City of Athens and encouraged the City to take firm action when addressing these issues.

President Knisely noted that further discussion of this issue will be addressed in an upcoming Transportation Committee meeting.

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

**Mayor Patterson** reported the following:

- Bailey's Brews and Blues, an informational event on the family outdoor recreational trail system, will be held October 2<sup>nd</sup>, from 6:00-8:00 p.m. at the Eclipse Company Store, upper level.
- Mayor Patterson will be in Washington, D.C. over the next few days working with the National League of Cities to talk about gun violence across the United States. He will also be meeting with Senator Sherrod Brown.

## **ORDINANCES FOR THIRD READING:**

### **0-83-19**

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE 32-19, AUTHORIZING 2019 STREET PAVING AND REPAIRS. Kotses moved for Adoption; Risner seconded. Adoption was approved unanimously.

### **0-84-19**

AN ORDINANCE CLOSING PARK PLACE, WEST MULBERRY STREET, AND A PORTION OF COURT STREET ON WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2019, WITH A RAIN DATE SET FOR THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2019, FROM 4:00 P.M. TO 8:00 P.M. FOR A BARBEQUE SPONSORED BY THE JOINT POLICE ADVISORY COUNCIL (JPAC). Grace moved to Amend to add an emergency clause in order to meet the event date; Fahl seconded. Amendment was approved unanimously. Grace moved for Suspension of the Rules; Fahl seconded. Suspension of the Rules was approved unanimously. Grace moved for Adoption; Fahl seconded. Adoption was approved unanimously.

### **0-86-19**

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING A DELINQUENT DEBT COLLECTION AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE OHIO ATTORNEY GENERAL AND THE CITY OF ATHENS INCOME TAX DEPARTMENT. Risner moved for Adoption; Crowl seconded. Adoption was approved unanimously.

**0-87-19**

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ATHENS CITY CODE TITLE 29, HOUSING REGULATIONS, SECTION 29.09.02, PENALTIES. Risner moved for Adoption; Fahl seconded. Adoption was approved unanimously.

**ORDINANCES FOR SECOND READING:**

**0-88-19**

AN ORDINANCE TO ADOPT THE CITY OF ATHENS AFFORDABLE HOUSING PLAN TO SUPPORT ACCESSIBILITY, SUSTAINABILITY, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT.

**0-89-19**

AN ORDINANCE CLOSING A PORTION OF COURT, WASHINGTON, AND STATE STREETS ON MONDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2019, FROM 5:30 P.M. TO 8:00 P.M. FOR TRICK-OR-TREAT HOSTED BY THE ATHENS UPTOWN BUSINESS ASSOCIATION; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

**0-90-19**

AN ORDINANCE BANNING PARKING AND CLOSING THAT PORTION OF COURT STREET FROM MULBERRY TO CARPENTER ON OCTOBER 26, and 27, 2019, IN ANTICIPATION OF A LARGE NUMBER OF PEOPLE CONVERGING ON DOWNTOWN ATHENS (HALLOWEEN WEEKEND); AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

**0-91-19**

AN ORDINANCE SUSPENDING THE ENFORCEMENT OF ATHENS CITY CODE SECTION 13.04.10, UNNECESSARY NOISE, FOR SCHEDULED BANDSTAND PERFORMANCES, HOSTED BY THE CLEAN AND SAFE HALLOWEEN COMMITTEE ON OCTOBER 26 AND 27, 2019 (HALLOWEEN WEEKEND); AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

**0-92-19**

AN ORDINANCE SUSPENDING THE ENFORCEMENT OF ATHENS CITY CODE CHAPTER 11.04, VENDING, PEDDLING AND SOLICITING, TO ALLOW VENDING IN A DESIGNATED AREA ON OCTOBER 26 AND 27, 2019 (HALLOWEEN WEEKEND); AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

**0-93-19**

AN ORDINANCE SUSPENDING THE ENFORCEMENT OF ATHENS CITY CODE SECTION 7.05.26(C), REGULATION OF CITY PARKING GARAGE RATES, ON OCTOBER 25, 26 AND 27, 2019 (HALLOWEEN WEEKEND); AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

**0-94-19**

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE 99-17; THE REVISED AGREEMENT WITH THE BOARD OF ATHENS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS TO EXTEND SANITARY SEWER COLLECTION SERVICES TO UNINCORPORATED PORTIONS OF THE COUNTY.

**0-95-19**

AN ORDINANCE DESIGNATING THE ZONE FOR THE ANNEXATION AREA ON HILLCREST DRIVE.

**ORDINANCES FOR FIRST READING:**

**0-96-19**

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO RE-DESIGNATE HOCKING.ATHENS.PERRY COMMUNITY ACTION PROGRAMS (HAPCAP) TO ADMINISTER ATHENS PUBLIC TRANSIT. Discussion: Kotses reported that this is a 3-year agreement, and the City's local share is 20% (approximately \$225,000 annually).

**0-97-19**

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO RE-DESIGNATE HOCKING.ATHENS.PERRY. COMMUNITY ACTION PROGRAMS (HAPCAP) AS CONTRACT ADMINISTRATOR FOR THE OHIO RURAL INTERCITY BUS PROGRAM (GoBUS); AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. Discussion: Kotses, again, this is a 3-year agreement. There is no local match, and he noted that the City rents space to the GoBus at the Community Center and receives approximately \$24,000 annually.

Risner asked about the total ridership for Athens Public Transit (APT) and the GoBus.

Mayor Patterson will report back with firm numbers, but understands that APT is close to, or has exceeded, 500,000 rides, a big hallmark. Ridership on APT is significant, a lot of which is the Bobcat Pass, subsidized by Ohio University.

**0-98-19**

AN ORDINANCE SUSPENDING ATHENS CITY CODE SECTION 7.05.03, CONTINUOUS PARKING IN THE SAME LOCATION, FROM, SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2019, THROUGH MIDNIGHT ON WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 1, 2020.

**0-99-19**

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SERVICE-SAFETY DIRECTOR TO SUSPEND, TEMPORARILY, THE FEE FOR PARKING AT METERED SPACES IN THE MUNICIPAL PARKING GARAGE. Discussion: Mayor Patterson has been asked by business owners in the uptown area to include some free on-street metered parking, and that is being explored.

**0-100-19**

AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING THE ATHENS COUNTY MULTI-JURISDICTIONAL NATURAL HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN FOR THE CITY OF ATHENS.

**0-101-19**

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ATHENS CITY CODE TITLE 3, ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS, CHAPTER 3.07, ADMINISTRATIVE DEPARTMENTS; BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS, SECTIONS 3.07.70 and 3.07.71, ATHENS CITY COMMISSION ON DISABILITIES.

**0-102-19**

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE 2019 APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE. Risner moved for Suspension of the Rules in order to maintain the fund balance in the Community Center Fund; Crowl seconded. Suspension of the Rules was approved unanimously. Risner moved for Adoption; Crowl seconded. Adoption was approved unanimously.

**0-103-19**

AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE ISSUANCE OF \$223,411 OF NOTES BY THE CITY OF ATHENS, OHIO, IN ANTICIPATION OF THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS FOR THE PURPOSE OF RENEWING NOTES PREVIOUSLY ISSUED FOR THE PURPOSE OF PAYING PART OF THE COSTS OF ACQUIRING A NEW PUMPER TRUCK AND RELATED EQUIPMENT; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. Risner moved for Suspension of the Rules to meet the October 1, on or about, bond issuance date; Kotses seconded. Suspension of the Rules was approved unanimously. Risner moved for Adoption; Kotses seconded. Adoption was approved unanimously.

**RESOLUTION FOR THIRD READING:**

**R-07-19**

A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE AMOUNTS AND RATES AS DETERMINED BY THE BUDGET COMMISSION AND AUTHORIZING THE NECESSARY TAX LEVIES, AND CERTIFYING THEM TO THE COUNTY AUDITOR. Risner moved for Adoption; Fahl seconded. Adoption was approved unanimously.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS & OTHER BUSINESS:**

McGee moved the appointments of Rachel Siegel, filling Aaron Thomas's seat, and Rebecca Robinson Miller, filling Laura Olbers' seat, on the Community Relations Commission; Fahl seconded. Appointments were unanimously approved.

Fahl moved to Accept the Auditor's August, 2019, Financial Reports, and Credit Card Transactions; Risner seconded. Motion was approved unanimously.

Mayor Patterson, responding to Grace's earlier inquiry on the elevator repairs in the Parking Garage, indicated that the Otis Company was on site today to begin those repairs with a completion date later this week.

At approximately 7:50 p.m. McGee moved to adjourn; Grace seconded, and the meeting was adjourned.

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President of Council

ATTEST:

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Clerk of Council