

**ATHENS CITY COUNCIL: REGULAR SESSION, TUESDAY, JUNE 21, 2022,
7:00 P.M.**

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

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

DISPOSITION OF MINUTES:

Risner moved to approve the minutes of the Regular Session of City Council held June 6, and the Special Session held June, 13, 2022; Grace seconded. Minutes were unanimously approved as presented.

COMMUNICATIONS:

Erin Stevens, Southeast Ohio Community Liaison with SOPEC, reported that SOPEC is expanding and while the acronym is still SOPEC, it is now Sustainable Ohio Public Energy Council since they are growing outside the southeast area. She thanked the City of Athens for being a founding member of SOPEC. Dayton is the newest member, creating more purchasing power to continue to lock in those lower rates. She explained that the City is halfway through a two-year contract with a locked-in rate of \$5.84 per kilowatt hour, including the carbon rate. This will be about a 15% savings on electricity, or about a \$100 savings per household over the next 12 months, as compared to AEP's standard service offer which is \$6.93 per kilowatt hour. Along with these superior rates, SOPEC is also environmentally sound, and reinvests in its communities.

Crowl asked if she is aware of any other communities that are considering the carbon fee.

Stevens responded that there has been interest.

Stevens presented the City with the 2022 EPA Green Power Partnership Award for exceeding the EPA's guidelines for buying clean renewable energy. The award is two large road signs for our City's entryways that states, "Welcome to a Green Power Community."

REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS FROM OTHER ELECTED OFFICIALS:

Mayor Patterson reported that the City will be making application for a program that would expand our EV electrification infrastructure through Clean Fuels Ohio, a parallel organization to the Power Clean Futures Ohio organization.

The Mayor acknowledged receiving an email from an individual about the Stimson Avenue location for the Fire Station Headquarters.

ORDINANCES FOR THIRD READING:

0-81-22

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE DISPOSAL OF A MOWER AT THE WATER TREATMENT PLANT. McCarey moved for Adoption; Grace seconded. Adoption was approved unanimously.

0-82-22

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE 2022 APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE. Crowl moved for Adoption; Ziff seconded. Adoption was approved unanimously.

0-87-22

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO SUBMIT APPLICATIONS AND ENTER INTO AGREEMENTS WITH THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR MUNICIPAL BRIDGE AND LOCAL MAJOR BRIDGE PROGRAM FUNDS. Risner moved for Adoption; Crowl seconded. Adoption was approved unanimously.

0-88-22

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO SUBMIT AN APPLICATION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE STATE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT AND/OR LOCAL TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM(S) FOR ISSUE I FUNDS; AND TO EXECUTE CONTRACTS AS REQUIRED. Risner moved for Adoption; Ziff seconded. Adoption was approved unanimously.

0-89-22

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING WEST WASHINGTON SIDEWALK AND SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS, PROJECT (#335). Risner moved for Adoption; Crowl seconded. Adoption was approved unanimously.

0-90-22

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING CONSTRUCTION AND CONSTRUCTION ENGINEERING FOR THE WATER TREATMENT PLANT SALT STORAGE ROOF SLAB AND BEAM REPLACEMENT PROJECT (#354). McCarey moved for Adoption; Risner seconded. Adoption was approved unanimously.

0-91-22

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING A DEBT COLLECTION AGREEMENT BETWEEN CAPITAL RECOVERY SYSTEMS, INC. AND ATHENS COUNTY MUNICIPAL COURT. Crowl moved for Adoption; Ziff seconded. Adoption was approved unanimously.

0-92-22

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE 2022 APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE. Crowl moved for Adoption; Grace seconded. Adoption was approved unanimously.

ORDINANCES FOR SECOND READING:

0-85-22

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ATHENS CITY CODE TITLE 29, HOUSING REGULATIONS, CHAPTER 29.36, PROHIBITED ACTONS, TO ADD SECTION 29.36.02, TENANT'S RIGHT TO PAY TO STAY. Discussion: Katherine King, True Town Road, Athens County, representing United Athens County Tenants (UACT), expressed concern by an attorney, who is a member of the organization, that the section on "reasonable attorney fees" may conflict with the Ohio Revised Code. The attorney will be forwarding an email to the Council. The group also encouraged Council not to limit this action to once per calendar year.

0-86-22

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTERS 7.05, PARKING REGULATIONS, AND 7.06, TOW TRUCK REGULATIONS, IN ATHENS CITY CODE TITLE 7, TRAFFIC CODE. Discussion: Damon Krane, Hudson Avenue, has heard no good reason why the City shouldn't regulate towing, and given what is at stake for Athens residents, he believes towing should be locally regulated.

ORDINANCES FOR FIRST READING:

0-94-22

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO RE-DESIGNATE HOCKING ATHENS PERRY COMMUNITY ACTION (HAPCAP) TO ADMINISTER THE ATHENS PUBLIC TRANSIT BUS SYSTEM.

0-95-22

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO RE-DESIGNATE HOCKING ATHENS PERRY COMMUNITY ACTION (HAPCAP) AS CONTRACT ADMINISTRATOR FOR THE OHIO RURAL INTERCITY BUS PROGRAM (GoBUS).

0-96-22

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SERVICE-SAFETY DIRECTOR TO ENTER INTO A MUTUAL ASSISTANCE AGREEMENT WITH THE SOUTH CENTRAL OHIO MAJOR CRIMES UNIT

0-97-22

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE 2022 APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE.

RESOLUTION FOR SECOND READING:

R-03-22

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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & OTHER BUSINESS:

President Knisely announced that City Council will be meeting one final time, next Monday, June 27, at 7:00 p.m., before heading into recess for the month of July.

At approximately 7:35 p.m. Risner moved to Adjourn the meeting; Grace seconded, and the meeting was adjourned.

President of Council

ATTEST:

Clerk of Council