

**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING – January 21, 2016 – GATEWAY – 7:00 P.M.**

**CALL TO ORDER** - Acting Mayor Josh Williby called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm and the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was recited.

**Roll Call of the Members of the City Council** - Josh Williby, Rusty Addleman, Marilyn Horn and Brandon Oien. **Majority of the Body Present.**

**Absent** – Mayor Ladd Wendelin and Jim Marchello

**Others Present** – City Administrator Pete Kampfer, City Attorney Steve Hirsch, City Treasurer Steve Zodrow, Police Chief Troy Haas, John Gizzarelli, Cemetery Sexton Jeremy Tally, Nick Oliver with the Oberlin Herald, Marilyn Black, Jim & Ruth Miesner, Mike Dempewolf, Lavern Rippe, Frieda & Bernard Goetz and City Clerk Sandy Rush.

**PROCLAMATIONS** - none

**PUBLIC COMMENTS** - none

**CONSENT AGENDA –**

Approval of the minutes of the January 7, 2016 regular Council meeting.

Appropriations Ordinance – Payment of Bills

Addleman moved, second by Oien to approve the Consent Agenda. **Motion** carried.

**New Business**

Consider a proposal from PAWSitively PURRfect Pet Food Pantry, Jessi Vogel of Culbertson, NE - no show

Accept Annual Audit Engagement Letter from Varney & Associates, CPS's. – Oien moved, second by Horn to sign and accept the attached audit engagement letter for the period ended December 31, 2015. **Motion carried.**

Review and Discuss the 2015 Oberlin Citizen-Council Survey. – Administrator Kampfer reminded the Council of their request to survey the citizens to gather information regarding top priorities. The survey was sent in the billing to approximately 1000 users of meters and 345 responded. City Treasurer Steve Zodrow presented a tabulation report and gave the highlights of the results. The highest three concerns being taxes & utility rates/fees, streets & alleys and blighted/unsightly property. Mr. Zodrow reminded the Council that utility rates were set at an amount to only use the service. He said of the taxes paid into Decatur County, the City received 41%. The Council thanked him for the report.

Introduction: the Gateway Center discussion – Administrator Kampfer discussed the attached results of him and Steve Zodrow's research on the past 22 years of data collected from the Gateway. He said there are no records of statistics for the Gateway to show what impact it has had on the community. The overall operating deficit for 22 years averages \$91,032 per year. At this time there is no strategy to fund the Gateway since the utility franchise fees that was going to be the revenue supporting it; were not passed. Kampfer recommends the CVB, Chamber and the EDC consider the Gateway as a positive aspect for community development instead of a stand-alone. He will be presenting a plan in the future.

**Executive Session #1**

At 7:40 pm Oien moved, second by Addleman to enter into executive session for 20 minutes for a consultation with Attorney on matters that would be deemed privileged in an attorney-client relationship

to include Mayor, Council, City Attorney, City Administrator and City Treasurer Steve Zodrow. **Motion carried.**

Back in session at 8 pm with no action taken.

### **Executive Session #2**

At 8 pm Oien moved, second by Addleman to enter into another executive session for 20 minutes for a consultation with Attorney on matters that would be deem privileged in an Attorney-client relationship to include Mayor, Council, City Attorney and City Administrator. **Motion carried.**

Back in session at 8:20 pm with no action taken.

### **REPORTS**

**Administrator Report** – Administrator Kampfer asked for comments and thoughts on changing the meeting time from 7pm to 5pm for the next four Council meetings as a result of conflicts for Mayor Wendelin. All agreed to change the meeting time.

Kampfer said City Foreman David Sporn and other departments would be giving reports on the first Council meeting of the month only.

Kampfer gave a report of a combined meeting with CVB, Chamber and EDC. He will be presenting a marketing RFP for advertisement, to include the Gateway (City). In order to accommodate a strategy and create a focus for all four entities, funding would need to be in place.

Kampfer said some of the projects in the works are; street city plans, electric power and a radio read system. Within 60-90 days he will have a solid waste plan to present. The water main is complete except for the items to be resolved when the weather warms up. Chris Miller with Miller & Associates will be at the next meeting to present the final pay request from Myers Construction.

Kampfer said that due to health issues, the code enforcement effort will be downsizing.

**Police Report** – Police Chief Troy Haas gave a report recapping the year of 2015. City Attorney Steve Hirsch commented that the City of Oberlin has the best police force in the area and were very fortunate.

### **Executive Session #3**

At 8:35 pm Oien moved, second by Horn to enter into a third executive session for 15 minutes for personnel matters of non-elected personnel to include Mayor, Council, City Attorney and City Administrator. **Motion carried.**

Back in session at 8:50 pm with no action taken.

**ADJOURNMENT** -At 8:55 pm Addleman moved, second by Oien the meeting be adjourned. **Motion carried.**

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City Clerk

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Mayor