

MAY 24

2021

THIS MEETING WAS HELD IN HYBRID FORM: (Council members and guests in chambers and others via ZOOM)

Amherst City Council met in a Regular Session under full compliance of State Law with President Wasilk opening the meeting at 7:00 P. M. Roll call: Mr. Van Treuren, Mr. Dembinski, Mr. Cowger, Mr. Wachholz (via zoom), Mr. Heberling (via zoom), Mr. Nahorn, Mr. Janik, with all but the two noted in present in person. Present via ZOOM were Mr. Wachholz, and Mr. Heberling, Assistant Law Director Ward, Law Director Pecora, Auditor Pittak, Treasurer Ramsey and Safety/Service Director Jeffreys. Also present were Mr. Carl Rosso, Mr. Joe Ernandes, representing Clark and Post, Ms. Kelly Larosa representing Lorain County Habitat for Humanity, and Paul Bires, representing Freakin Greekin, LLC.

The Prayer was invoked by Chaplain Nahorn, followed by the Pledge to the Flag led by Sergeant at Arms Dembinski.

Consent Agenda: The Clerk read the Consent Agenda. Mr. Van Treuren motioned to approve the Consent Agenda as read. Seconded by Mr. Cowger. Roll call vote 7-0 to approve the Consent Agenda as read.

Acknowledgement of the Public pertaining to items on the Agenda: There was no one speaking.

#### **ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS FIRST READING:**

- (a) An Ordinance authorizing the City of Amherst, Ohio to accept a donation of the property known as The Old Amherst Freight Depot from Nordson Corporation; and declaring an emergency. (A-21-21)

Mr. Janik motioned to suspend all Council rules so that this may be passed in its first reading. Seconded by Mr. Van Treuren. Mr. Dembinski asked if all the parcels are numbered? Mayor Costilow explained they are working on this and that will done after passage of the legislation. Roll call vote 7-0 to suspend rules. Mr. Janik motioned to adopt. Seconded by Mr. Dembinski. Roll call vote 7-0 to adopt. Becomes 0-21-21.

- (b) An Ordinance approving the final development plan and granting a certificate of occupancy for certain improvements to the Lorain County Habitat for Humanity ReStore on the premises known as 300 Rice Industrial Parkway, Amherst, Ohio; and declaring an emergency. (A-21-22)

Mr. Dembinski motioned to suspend all Council rules to that this may be passed in its first reading. Seconded by Mr. Nahorn. Roll call vote 7-0 to suspend rules. Mr. Dembinski motioned to adopt. Seconded by Mr. Janik. Roll call vote 7-0 to adopt. Becomes 0-21-22.

- (c) An Ordinance authorizing and directing the Mayor to enter into an agreement with the Freakin Greekin, LLC for the exchange of certain parcels of real estate; and declaring an emergency. (A-21-23)

Mr. Dembinski motioned to pass this on to its second reading. Seconded by Mr. Van Treuren. Roll call vote 7-0 to pass to second.

#### **ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS SECOND READING: NONE**

#### **ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS THIRD READING: NONE**

Miscellaneous and acknowledgement of the public: Mr. Nahorn reported that last Thursday, Amherst Schools hosted a public hearing regarding the creation of a TIF district by the City, in order to assist in funding needed for infrastructure upgrades and in an effort to plan ahead for the effects of future development. He thanked the Amherst Schools for hosting this public forum. He thanked Mayor Costilow for his guidance in leading the discussion and being as clear as possible in explaining the meaning of TIF (Tax Increment Financing District) and how one would be necessary in this particular case. He thanked our legal department for their assistance in working to answer and fielding questions from those in attendance. He thanked those on Council who were able to attend and hear from our constituency. Finally, he thanked those residents who chose to attend and become more informed on the topic – as an informed public is crucial. He said it is encouraging to see how proactive and forward-

thinking this Administration and City Council are acting about this section of town. This "planning ahead" will include efforts to curb growing traffic concerns; work to continue to provide adequate utility services; and work to maintain other infrastructure, such as safe roads and bridges to handle area growth.

There was no one else speaking.

Agenda requests and committee meeting schedules: No Agenda requests were submitted this evening.

All Council Committee Meetings for June 7, 2021 are cancelled.

Reports of the Administration:

Auditor Pittak: Reported they have received a draft of the report of the State Audit. He will review and finalize it and will present it to Council in the next couple of months.

Treasurer Ramsey: Tax deadline has come and gone, so if anyone has not filed or have questions, they can call their office

Law Director Pecora: No report.

Safety/Service Director Jeffreys: No report.

Mayor Costilow: Applauded Mr. Nahorn for his report which shortened his report. He thanked Mr. Janik for chairing that hearing and the council members who chose to be there. It was nice to see some residents with their questions. With the health guidelines from the CDC, with mask guidelines, the mandates are being lifted soon. The City is working very hard to loosen some of the mandates and operate safely. There will be some changes; and there have already been some changes with our employees and within our buildings. Some of our Boards have already chosen to meet in person. He feels beginning in June, the remaining Boards and Commissions will meet in person and welcoming public to attend. There will be limited seating and there will be rules involved. But we will get back to meeting at city hall. He reported on a shortened version of the Memorial Day commemoration this upcoming weekend. He hopes that maybe there could be some kind of July 4 celebration.

Mr. Cowger motioned to accept the reports of the administration. Seconded by Mr. Dembinski. Voice vote 7-0 to accept the reports of the administration.

Mr. Dembinski motioned to adjourn. Seconded by Mr. Cowger. Voice vote 7-0 to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 7:18 p.m.

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Olga Sivinski, Clerk of Council

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Jennifer Wasilk, President of Council

