

MEETING WAS HELD IN HYBRID FORM (Council members and visitors in Chambers and all others via ZOOM)

Amherst City Council was brought to order in a Regular Session with President Wasilk opening the meeting at 7:00 P. M. Also present in Council Chambers were Ms. Smith, Mr. Heberling, Mr. Janik, Mr. Winiarski, Mr. Dembinski, Mr. Cowger, Mr. Wachholz, Treasurer Ramsey, Income Tax Secretary Laura Kemp, and Mayor Costilow. Present via ZOOM were Law Director Pecora, Assistant Law Director Ward, and Auditor Pittak. Mr. Jeffrey was excused per a motion by Mr. Dembinski and second by Mr. Cowger as he had a letter on file. Voice vote 7-0 to excuse. Also present were Mr. Ben Cutler, Public Affairs Manager from Columbia Gas of Ohio, and a reporter from the Chronicle.

The prayer was invoked by Chaplain Janik, followed by the Pledge to the Flag led by Sgt. At Arms Dembinski.

Consent Agenda: The Clerk read the Consent Agenda: Mr. Heberling motioned to accept the Consent Agenda as read. Seconded by Mr. Dembinski. Voice vote 7-0 to accept the Consent Agenda as read.

Acknowledgement of the Public pertaining to items on the Agenda:

Mr. Ben Cutler – Public Affairs Manger, Columbia Gas of Ohio spoke and presented the 2023 projects that will be done in the City this upcoming year. He distributed information. He spoke to the projects in various locations in the city and how they work with the City. He answered questions asked by Council and administration.

Treasurer Ramsey spoke to A-23-05 and answered questions that were asked at the committee meeting. An information sheet had been distributed to council prior to this meeting. He said the total amount of funds needed for this position is \$7,667. There were many questions and a lengthy discussion about this request. This legislation provides for help in the office for one year only.

Mrs. Laura Kemp also explained the help that she needs in her office and what the additional employee will be doing. She answered questions.

Mayor Costilow had no opinion on this particular ordinance.

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS FIRST READING:

- (a) An Ordinance establishing the wage rate, benefits and other conditions of employment for the seasonal part-time Tax Assistant I of the City of Amherst; and declaring an emergency. (A-23-05)

Mr. Janik motioned to suspend all Council rules so that this may be passed in its first reading. Seconded by Mr. Heberling. Roll call vote 6-1 with Mr. Wachholz voting no to suspend rules. Mr. Janik motioned to adopt. Seconded by Ms. Smith. Roll call vote 6-1 to adopt with Mr. Wachholz voting no. Becomes 0-23-07

- (b) An Ordinance authorizing an increase In appropriations for engineering relating to the Cooper Foster Park Road/N. Lake Street Incentive District; and declaring an emergency. (A-23-07)

Mr. Dembinski motioned to suspend all Council rules so that this may be passed in its first reading. Seconded by Mr. Cowger. Roll call vote 7-0 to suspend rules. Mr. Dembinski motioned to adopt. Seconded by Mr. Cowger. Roll call vote 7-0 to adopt. Becomes 0-23-08

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

Miscellaneous and acknowledgement of the public:

- (a) Request for transfer of liquor permit for D5 license from D Tuttanellis Pizza to DTS Pizza LLC at 103 Milan Avenue (name change only)

There were no objections to this request.

Mr. Ramsey spoke regarding DORA and advised there would be a meeting Saturday at 9:00 with the stake holders. He explained further process that will take place in order to begin DORA.

Agenda requests and committee meeting schedules:

- A-23-08 Finance Ordinance to make appropriations for current expenses and other expenditures of the City of Amherst, state of Ohio during the fiscal year ending December 31, 2023; emergency
- A-23-09 Finance Ordinance authorizing and directing Safety/Service Director to solicit bids to trim trees on a unit basis in the city of Amherst for the year 2023; emergency
- A-23-10 Finance Ordinance authorizing Mayor to enter into a contract for professional services with Bramhall Engineering & Surveying related to the 2023 Road Rehab and Storm Sewer Improvements; emergency

Finance February 20 , 2023 at 7:00 p.m. A-23-08, A-23-09. A-23-10

Remaining committee Meetings for 2/20/23 are cancelled.

Reports of the Administration:

Treasurer Ramsey: The January Treasurer's report has been completed and distributed.
Auditor Pittak: The January Auditor's report has been completed and distributed.
Law Director Pecora: No report
Safety/Service Director Jeffreys: Not present.
Mayor Costilow: Reported the City has a very good relationship with Columbia Gas and they work well together. They are working on the budget and the new position will be added for funding. He spoke about a potential water rate adjustment due to the increase in cost of the water supplied to the city.

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

Acknowledgement of the receipt of the January monthly reports from the Treasurer and Auditor:

Mr. Cowger motioned to acknowledge the receipt of the December Treasurer report. Seconded by Mr. Dembinski. Voice vote 7-0 to acknowledge the receipt of the reports.

Mr. Heberling motioned to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Dembinski. Voice vote 7-0 to adjourn.

The meeting adjourned at 8:37 p.m.

Olga Sivinski, Clerk of Council

Jennifer Wasilk, President of Council