

**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 Mr. Dembinski, , Mr. Wachholz, Ms. Smith, Mr. Heberling, Mr. Janik, Mr. Winiarski, and Mayor Costilow. Present via ZOOM were Law Director Pecora, Treasurer Ramsey, Assistant Law Director Ward, and Auditor Pittak, Safety/Service Director Jeffreys and Morning Journal reporter Lauren Hoffman. Mr. Cowger was absent and had a letter on file. Mr. Dembinski motioned to excuse Mr. Cowger as he had a letter on file. Seconded by Ms. Smith. Voice vote 6-0 to excuse Mr. Cowger.

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 Ms. Smith. Voice vote 6-0 to accept 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 and directing the Mayor to enter into an agreement with the Ohio Department of Transportation for the upgrading of certain traffic signal equipment on State Route 58; and declaring an emergency. (A-23-14)

Mr. Janik motioned to suspend all Council rules so that this may be passed in its first reading. Seconded by Ms. Smith. Roll call vote 6-0 to suspend rules. Mr. Janik motioned to adopt. Seconded by Ms. Smith. Roll call vote 6-0 to adopt. Becomes 0-22-15.

- (b) An Ordinance authorizing and directing the Safety Service Director to solicit bids for the procurement of body worn cameras for the City of Amherst Police Department and award the contract for such equipment to the lowest responsive and responsible bidder at a total cost not to exceed \$170,000.00 payable in annual installments over a five-year period; and declaring an emergency. (A-23-15)

Ms. Smith motioned to suspend all Council rules so that this may be passed in its first reading. Seconded by Mr. Wachholz. Roll call vote 6-0 to suspend rules. Mr. Wachholz motioned to adopt. Seconded by Mr. Heberling. Roll call vote 6-0 to adopt. Becomes 0-22-16.

- (c) An Ordinance authorizing and directing the City of Amherst, Ohio to accept grant funds in the amount of \$98,150.00 from the Ohio Office of Criminal Justice Services for the purchase of body worn cameras; and declaring an emergency. (A-23-16)

Mr. Dembinski motioned to suspend all Council rules so that this may be passed in its first reading. Seconded by Mr. Heberling. Roll call vote 6-0 to suspend rules. Mr. Dembinski motioned to adopt. Seconded by Mr. Wachholz. Roll call vote 6-0 to adopt. Becomes 0-22-17.

- (d) An Ordinance authorizing and directing the Safety Service Director to solicit bids for the 2023 Street Rehabilitation Program (Part 1) and award the contract for such work to the lowest responsive and responsible bidder; and declaring an emergency. (A-23-17)

Mr. Heberling motioned to suspend all Council rules so that this may be passed in its first reading. Seconded by Ms. Smith. Roll call vote 6-0 to suspend rules. Mr. Janik motioned to adopt. Seconded by Mr. Heberling. Roll call vote 6-0 to adopt. Becomes 0-22-18.

- (e) An Ordinance authorizing and directing the Safety Service Director to solicit bids for the 2023 Street Rehabilitation Program (Part 2) and award the contract for such work to the lowest responsive and responsible bidder; and declaring an emergency. (A-23-18)

Ms. Smith motioned to suspend all Council rules so that this may be passed in its first reading. Seconded by Mr. Heberling. Roll call vote 6-0 to suspend rules. Mr. Heberling motioned to adopt. Seconded by Ms. Smith. Roll call vote 6-0 to adopt. Becomes 0-22-19.

- (f) An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into a contract for professional services with Bramhall Engineering & Surveying Company relating to the 2023 Street Rehabilitation Program (Part 2); and declaring an emergency. (A-23-19)

Mr. Heberling motioned to suspend all Council rules so that this may be passed in its first reading. Seconded by Ms. Smith. Roll call vote 6-0 to suspend rules. Ms. Smith motioned to adopt. Seconded by Mr. Heberling. Roll call vote 6-0 to adopt. Becomes 0-22-20.

- (g) An Ordinance authorizing and directing the Safety Service Director to solicit bids for the OPWC State Issue I (Round 36) Middle Ridge Road Improvements Project and award the contract for such work to the lowest responsive and responsible bidder; and declaring an emergency. (A-23-20)

Mr. Dembinski motioned to suspend all Council rules so that this may be passed in its first reading. Seconded by Ms. Smith. Roll call vote 6-0 to suspend rules. Mr. Janik motioned to adopt. Seconded by Mr. Dembinski. Roll call vote 6-0 to adopt. Becomes 0-22-21.

- (h) An Ordinance establishing the salaries of the members and secretary of the City of Amherst Civil Service Commission, repealing all ordinances in conflict herewith, and declaring an emergency. (A-23-21)

Mayor Costilow noted there are two blank spaces that need to be filled in, and he suggested that to keep from having the same issue as we are having now of no raises for 30 years, that this Ordinance be edited to be the same as AFSCME contracts for the same percentage of salary increases as AFSCME receives. Mr. Winiarski motioned to amend this ordinance that the Civil Service Commission members are to receive the same salary increases percentages as do AFSCME members. Seconded by Mr. Heberling. Law Director Pecora noted that the correct verbiage will be inserted. Roll call vote 6-0 to amend the ordinance. Mr. Dembinski motioned to pass this on to its second reading as amended. Seconded by Mr. Wachholz. Roll call vote 6-0 to pass to second reading as amended.

**ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS SECOND READING: NONE**

**ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS THIRD READING: NONE**

Miscellaneous and acknowledgement of the public: Ms. Lauren Hoffman, reporter from the Morning Journal noted that being a reporter, people ask her questions and so she is also wondering what is going on with the former Golden Acres and what will be done there. Mayor Costilow said this is actually in the Township and the Township Trustees are the ones that can answer her questions. She then asked about the "deforestation" and construction going on in Beaver Park. Mayor Costilow said he would address that in his Reports of the Administration.

Agenda Requests and Committee Meeting Schedules:

A-23-22 Finance Resolution authorizing the Mayor to participate in the Ohio Department of Transportation Road Salt Contract for 2023-24; emergency

A-23-23 Building and Lands - KTM North America Inc. Industrial Review Board KTM North America Inc. (1119 Milan Avenue) is located in an industrial zoned district (I-1). Pursuant to the ACO, any changes in an I-1 district require approval by the Industrial Review Board which includes the Planning Commission and City Council. The plans for a proposed north and west building expansion were conditionally approved by the Planning Commission at their March 29, 2023 meeting pending completion of comments by the City's consulting engineer to be verified by the building dept.

A-23-24 Building and Lands - Amherst Mini Storage Final Development Plan and Industrial Review Board

The proposed Amherst Mini Storage (700 Mill Street) is located in an I-1 district require approval by the Industrial Review Board which includes the Planning Commission and City Council. the final development plans were conditionally approved by the Planning Commission at their March 29, 2023 meeting, pending final review of additional technical documents submitted by the City's consulting engineer as requested. Completion of all conditional items will be verified by the building department.

A-23-25 Building and Lands - An Ordinance to amend Amherst Codified Ordinances 1145.06 Temporary Accessory Buildings

A-23-26 Finance - Ordinance authorizing the Safety/Service Director to enter into a contract to lease to purchase a Pierce Pumper for the Amherst Fire Department through Sourcewell; emergency

Finance April 3, 2023 at 7:00 p. m. A-23-22, A-23-26

Building and Lands April 3, 2023 at 7:05 p.m. A-23-23, A-23-24, A-23-25

Remaining committee Meetings for 4/03/23 are cancelled.

Reports of the Administration:

Auditor Pittak: No report.

Treasurer Ramsey: Reminded everyone that taxes are due on April 18 and they are located at 480 Park Avenue. He named the various ways residents can file their taxes.

Law Director Pecora: No report

Safety/Service Director Jeffreys: No report

Mayor Costilow: Reported as far as the question as to what is going on in the park, the City owns quite a bit of the land, Lorain County Park District operates that park. So the park was brought into the conversation that this land would be used for the overflow for the retention pond for the medical building being built there. There were some trees cleared, but there was some restrictions as to when that could happen as there were some bats that could be endangered so there was some so the trees had to be removed at a certain times during the wintertime. There is also conversation between the Parks and University Hospital as to how that area will be restored with some native plants being planted. He does not know the plans for the tree. That is being left up to the Metro Parks to work with University Hospital as to how that restoration will be handled. But it's very important for their retentions so the overflow. can get back to the Creek.

Mr. Dembinski motioned to accept the Reports of the administration. Seconded by Mr. Heberling. Voice vote 6-0 to accept the reports.

Mr. Dembinski motioned to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Heberling. Voice vote 6-0 to adjourn.

The meeting adjourned at 7:26 p.m.

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Olga Sivinski, Clerk of Council

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Jennifer Wasilk, President of Council