

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. Cowger, Mr. Wachholz, Ms. Smith, Mr. Heberling, Mr. Janik, Mr. Winiarski, Mayor Costilow, Law Director Pecora, Auditor Phillips, Safety/Service Director Jeffreys, Treasurer Ramsey and Assistant Law Director Ward.

The Prayer was invoked by Chaplin Janik, followed by the Pledge to the Flag led by Sergeant 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 7-0xx 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 re-appropriating funds in the Income Tax Department of the City of Amherst, Ohio to cover costs for Contracts and Professional Services; and declaring an emergency. (A-23-57)

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 7-0 to suspend rules. Mr. Janik motioned to adopt. Seconded by Ms. Smith. Roll call vote 7-0 to adopt. Becomes 0-23-51.

- (b) 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 (A-23-58)

Mr. Janik motioned to suspend all Council rules so that this may be passed in its first reading. Seconded by Mr. Dembinski. 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 R-23-04

#### **ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS SECOND READING:**

- (a) An Ordinance re-appropriating funds previously advanced for the purchase of Body armor vests (A-23-55);

Mr. Dembinski motioned to pass this on to its third reading. Seconded by Mr. Heberling. Roll call vote 7-0 to pass to third reading.

- (b) An Ordinance authorizing and directing the Mayor of The City of Amherst, Ohio to exercise the City's First Right of Refusal Under A Real Estate Exchange Agreement with The Freakin Greekin, LLC and purchase certain land identified in such agreement as the Church Street Vacant Lot Exchange Land. (A-23-56)

Mr. Dembinski motioned to suspend all Council rules so that this may be passed in its second reading. Seconded by Mr. Heberling. Roll call vote 7-0 to suspend rules. Mr. Dembinski motioned to adopt. Seconded by Ms. Smith. Roll call vote 7-0 to adopt. Becomes 0-23-52.

#### **ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS THIRD READING:**

- (a) An Ordinance authorizing and directing the Safety Service Director to bid and award the contract for sludge removal services for the city's Water Pollution Control Center for the years 2024 and 2025. (A-23-51)

Mr. Heberling motioned to adopt. Seconded by Mr. Dembinski. Roll call vote 7-0 to adopt. Becomes 0-23-53.

Miscellaneous and acknowledgement of the public: Mrs. Wasilk read a letter sent by Mayor Costilow regarding the appointment of Matt Nahorn to the Design Review Board. (On file) Mr. Wachholz asked why this individual was chosen? Mayor Costilow said he has been on the Board before. He is qualified for the vacant position. We are always looking for good people and for those that have submitted their resumes and ask to be appointed. Mr. Winiarski said the Design Review Board requires people with certain backgrounds. He named the

backgrounds of residents that DRB requires on its board. He is the member representing Council. Mr. Nahorn is on the Historical Society and would fill that spot. Mr. Cowger motioned to confirm this appointment. Seconded by Mr. Winiarski. Voice vote 7-0 to confirm appointment.

Agenda Requests and committee Meeting Schedules:

Submitted after 9/25/23 meeting:

A-23-58 Finance 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.

Submitted this evening:

A-23-59 Finance Re-appropriate funds in various department  
A-23-60 Executive Season part-time employee ordinance

Finance October 16, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. A-23-59  
Executive October 16, 2023 at 7:05 p.,/ A-23-60

The remaining council committee for 10/16/23 are cancelled

Reports of the Administration

Treasurer Ramsey: September reports have been distributed.

Auditor Phillips: Their September reports have been distributed. She spoke on a "Better You, Better Ohio Wellness Program." This information has been provided to all the Employees. This is through the Ohio Bureau of Worker's Compensation. There is no cost to the city or employees. This program offers reward dollars so there is some incentive. This gives the employees a chance to partake in some healthy behaviors. This leads to lower health care costs.

Law Director Pecora: No report

Safety/Service Director Jeffreys: No report.

Mayor Costilow: Spoke to the agreement with AMP-Ohio to purchase some mega-watt hours not to exceed 5.9 cents which would be \$9 per kilowatt hour. He explained the partial agreement they have come up with. He is pleased with the agreement and he thinks our City did very well. This agreement extends through 2028. He said there could be some grants becoming available for ppa type purchase power. So they are waiting to see what happens with the grants before we agree to this. He feels things are pretty stable right now so they will hold off on the other purchases. He should get the agreement next week to lock things in place.

Mr. Dembinski motioned to approve the Reports of the Administration. Seconded by Ms. Smith. Voice vote 7-0 to approve the reports.

Acknowledgement of the receipt of the September Auditor and Treasurer reports:

Mr. Dembinski motioned to acknowledge the receipt of the September Auditor and Treasurer reports. Seconded by Mr. Cowger. Voice vote 7-0 to acknowledge the receipt of the reports.

Mr. Heberling motioned to adjourn. Seconded by Mr. Cowger. Voice vote 7-0 to adjourn.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:19 p.m.