

## CITY OF AMHERST, OHIO

OFFICE OF THE  
CLERK OF COUNCIL  
(440) 988-2420  
(440) 988-2570 fax

OLGA SIVINSKI  
206 SOUTH MAIN STREET  
AMHERST, OH 44001  
[council@amherstohio.org](mailto:council@amherstohio.org)

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

Minutes of the Finance Committee Meeting held July 17, 2023, at 7:23 P.M. Present in Council Chambers were Vice Chairman Dembinski, Mr. Heberling, Mr. Janik, Mr. Wachholz, President Wasilk, Treasurer Ramsey, Auditor Phillips, and Mayor Costilow. Present via ZOOM were Safety/Service Director Jeffreys, Assistant Law Director Ward and Mr. Winiarski. Mr. Cowger, Mr. Winiarski (absent from Council Chambers), Ms. Smith, and Law Director Pecora were absent. They were excused at a previous meeting.

A-23-35 Ordinance to establish the salary for the Clerk of Council for the years 2024 and 2025 and beyond

Mrs. Wasilk explained that this is to get the Clerk of Council on the same payroll schedule as others. Mr. Heberling motioned to take this to the floor of Council. Seconded by Mr. Wachholz. Voice vote 4-0 to take to the floor of Council.

A-23-36 An Ordinance to establish the salary for the members of the office of the Director of Law, Prosecuting Attorney, and Assistant Law Director for the years 2024 and 2025 and beyond

Mrs. Wasilk explained that this is to bring the Law Department on to the same payroll schedule. Mr. Wachholz motioned to take this to the floor of Council. Seconded by Mr. Heberling. Voice vote 4-0 to take to the floor of Council.

A-23-37 An Ordinance to establish the salary and benefits for the full time Mayor's position for the years 2024 and 2025 and beyond

Mrs. Wasilk explained the reason for the Mayor's increase is due to the fact of the 12 years of salary freezes which were not previously accounted for. Mr. Janik asked which cities were included in the comparisons. Mayor Costilow said they were cities comparable to Amherst. Mr. Janik is concerned that this increase does not line up with the

public sector. Mr. Ramsey read the names of some surrounding cities and their salaries. Mr. Janik said the median salary in Lorain County is \$62,000. Mayor Costilow said the Amherst Mayor's office is smaller than most other cities. They do a lot more of their own work. Mr. Wachholz agreed it is a large jump, but we should also take the 12 year freeze into consideration. Mr. Janik is concerned about the increased health care cost and believes we should wait for this increase. Mr. Winiarski asked if this will go three readings and the Chair said he cannot speak to how Council will vote on this in the future. Mr. Wachholz motioned to take this to the floor of Council. Seconded by Mr. Heberling. Roll call vote 3-1 with Mr. Janik voting no to take to the floor of council.

A-23-38 An Ordinance to establish the salary for the Safety/Service Director for the years 2024 and 2025 and beyond

Mrs. Wasilk said this is also to put the Safety/Service Director on the same payroll schedule. Mr. Wachholz motioned to take this to the floor of Council. Seconded by Mr. Heberling. Vote 4-0 to take to the floor of Council.

A-23-39 Increase appropriations for the Civil Service Commission wage increases; emergency

Mayor Costilow and Auditor Phillips explained that this is to fund the increases that were approved after the budget was adopted. Mr. Wachholz motioned to take this to the floor of Council. Seconded by Mr. Heberling. Vote 4-0 to take to the floor of Council.

A-23-40 Increase appropriations in Wages, OPERS, health insurance and worker's compensation for a new IT position; emergency

Auditor Phillips explained that these changes will cover funds needed for the new IT position that just was approved by committee. Mr. Wachholz motioned to take this to the floor of Council. Seconded by Mr. Heberling. Vote 4-0 to take to the floor of Council.

Mr. Wachholz motioned to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Heberling. Voice vote 4-0 to adjourn.

The meeting adjourned at 7:42 P. M.

Brian Dembinski, Vice Chairman  
Finance Committee