

NORWALK CITY COUNCIL

Norwalk, Ohio

DATE: May 7, 2024
TIME: 7:30 p.m.
LOCATION: Council Chambers

REGULAR SESSION

Agenda

SCHEDULE OF BUSINESS

- I. PRAYER
- II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
- III. ROLL CALL
- IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
- V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
 - April 30, 2024
- VI. COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS
- VII. COMMITTEE REPORTS
 - Standing Committees
 - Finance & Franchise
 - Public Works
 - Safety
 - Planning & Zoning
 - Special Committees
- VIII. OFFICIALS REPORTS
 - Mayor
 - Safety/Service Director
 - Finance Director
 - Law Director
 - Public Works Director
 - Zoning Officer
 - Any other elected or appointed City Official who may wish to report
 - Recognition of persons appearing before Council
- IX. UNFINISHED BUSINESS
- X. SECOND READING OF ORDINANCES

Item No. 24-027

AN ORDINANCE APPROVING PRE-ANNEXATION ZONING

First Reading
Tabled & Referred to Planning Commission
Planning Commission Recommendation
Public Hearing

March 5, 2024
March 5, 2024
March 13, 2024
April 30, 2024

Item No. 24-035a

AN ORDINANCE APPROVING PRE-ANNEXATION ZONING

First Reading
Tabled & Referred to Planning Commission
Planning Commission Recommendation
Public Hearing

March 19, 2024
March 19, 2024
April 10, 2024
May 21, 2024

XI. NEW ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

Item No. 24-042

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE HURON COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY TO PROVIDE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT SERVICES FOR THE CITY OF NORWALK

Item No. 24-043

A RESOLUTION DELINEATING THE DUTIES OF THE CITY'S REPRESENTATIVE TO THE NORTHEAST OHIO PUBLIC ENERGY COUNCIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Item No. 24-044

A RESOLUTION APPROVING AND DIRECTING COOPERATION OF THE CITY WITH THE STATE OF OHIO, DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION IN THE MATTER OF A HIGHWAY CONSTRUCTION PROJECT WITHIN THE CITY OF NORWALK

Item No. 24-045

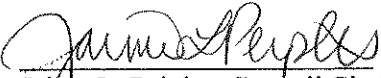
AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING THE 2024 ANNUAL BUDGET AND APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE NO. 2023-047 AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Item No. 24-046

A RESOLUTION DECLARING THAT THE AMOUNT OF TAXES THAT MAY BE RAISED BY LEVIES ON THE CURRENT TAX DUPLICATE WITHIN THE TEN-MILL LIMITATION WILL BE INSUFFICIENT TO PROVIDE FOR THE NECESSARY REQUIREMENTS OF THE CITY OF NORWALK, OHIO AND THAT IT IS NECESSARY TO LEVY AND RENEW A TAX IN EXCESS OF SUCH LIMITATION FOR PARK AND RECREATIONAL PURPOSES

XII. NEW BUSINESS

XIII. ADJOURNMENT


Jaime L. Peiples, Council Clerk

NORWALK CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES

April 30, 2024
Council Chambers

7:30 p.m.
Norwalk, Ohio

PUBLIC HEARING

Council President Stephen Euton called the public hearing to order. The following Council members were present: Stephen Euton, Samantha Wilhelm, Deb Lucal, Steve Schumm, Bryan Lamb, Jordan Duncan, Matt Doughty, and Tom Dunlap.

Mayor Dave Light, Safety/Service Director Mike White, Law Director Stu O'Hara, Finance Director Sandi Weltlin, Public Works Director Aaron Osborn, and Zoning Officer Mitch Loughton were also in attendance.

Item No. 24-027

AN ORDINANCE APPROVING PRE-ANNEXATION ZONING

Mr. O'Hara briefly explained the process of pre-annexation.

Scott White, owner of the property seeking pre-annexation was present and spoke about his property. He said the property has two existing apartments and an psychiatric office. He said he is not changing the utilization of the property.

There being no further business the public hearing was closed.

WORK SESSION

Council President Stephen Euton called the work session to order. The following Council members were present: Stephen Euton, Samantha Wilhelm, Deb Lucal, Steve Schumm, Bryan Lamb, Jordan Duncan, Matt Doughty, and Tom Dunlap.

Mayor Dave Light, Safety/Service Director Mike White, Law Director Stu O'Hara, Finance Director Sandi Weltlin, Public Works Director Aaron Osborn, and Zoning Officer Mitch Loughton were also in attendance.

NEW LEGISLATION

Item No. 24-042

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE HURON COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY TO PROVIDE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT SERVICES FOR THE CITY OF NORWALK

Mr. O'Hara said the City is required to have emergency management services. He said this is a continuing contract with Huron County EMA with the same rates as in previous years. Mr. Euton said that according to the contract the rate is \$4,267.00 for the contract year.

Mrs. Wilhelm inquired about a centralized dispatch. She asked if there is a team who meets and discusses emergency management. Mayor Light said there is a team that meets quarterly to discuss concerns. He then spoke about the pros and cons of centralized dispatch. He said that while it might make sense financially, the department would lose face-to-face contact with the public.

Council agreed to place this item on the agenda.

Item No. 24-043

A RESOLUTION DELINEATING THE DUTIES OF THE CITY'S REPRESENTATIVE TO THE NORTHEAST OHIO PUBLIC ENERGY COUNCIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Mr. O'Hara said the City has been a NOPEC community since 2010. He said the legislation is to make clear the duties of the City's NOPEC representative to represent the interests of the City. Mr. O'Hara was appointed by Mayor Light as the City's NOPEC representative.

Mr. Doughty asked if the representative is compensated. Mr. O'Hara said no.

Mr. Euton asked how a challenge would be handled in the event someone felt the representative was not acting in the best interests of the City. Mr. O'Hara said the Mayor would remove the representative from the position. Mr. Euton asked if there would be legal concerns if a city's mayor were to appoint themselves as NOPEC representative. Mr. O'Hara said no.

Council agreed to place this item on the agenda.

Item No. 24-044

A RESOLUTION APPROVING AND DIRECTING COOPERATION OF THE CITY WITH THE STATE OF OHIO, DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION IN THE MATTER OF A HIGHWAY CONSTRUCTION PROJECT WITHIN THE CITY OF NORWALK

Mr. Osborn said this legislation is to cooperate with the upcoming urban paving project in 2025. He said the legislation outlines the rules and expectations of the City and is nearly identical to the one used 10 years ago.

Council agreed to place this item on the agenda.

Item No. 24-045

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING THE 2024 ANNUAL BUDGET AND APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE NO. 2023-047 AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Mrs. Weltlin said Section 1 of the supplemental is for \$5,300.00 to repair a lamp post on Stower Lane. Section 2, she said is for \$32,560.00 for Civil Service testing within the Police Department.

Mr. Euton asked how many positions this amount is expected to cover. Mrs. Weltlin said the amount covers multiple positions to account for promotions and the vacancies created by them.

Mrs. Weltlin said Sections 3 and 4 are for \$4,900.00 each to pay the school districts pursuant to the Enterprise Zone Agreements.

Council agreed to place this item on the agenda.

Item No. 24-046

A RESOLUTION DECLARING THAT THE AMOUNT OF TAXES THAT MAY BE RAISED BY LEVIES ON THE CURRENT TAX DUPLICATE WITHIN THE TEN-MILL LIMITATION WILL BE INSUFFICIENT TO PROVIDE FOR THE NECESSARY REQUIREMENTS OF THE CITY OF NORWALK, OHIO AND THAT IT IS NECESSARY TO LEVY AND RENEW A TAX IN EXCESS OF SUCH LIMITATION FOR PARK AND RECREATIONAL PURPOSES

Mr. O'Hara said Council recently passed a resolution requesting the Auditor to certify the tax valuation of a Park and Recreation levy. He said the second step in passing the levy is this legislation which is to place the issue of renewal on the ballot.

Council agreed to place this item on the agenda.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – none

TOPICS OF DISCUSSION – Mr. Osborn addressed the steel plate that has been placed on West Main Street between Manahan and Menard Streets. He said that when ODOT came to perform a bridge inspection they asked that a steel plate be placed there until repairs to the bridge deck can be made. Next, Mr. Osborn said the General Services Department will be out filling potholes now that asphalt plants are open. Lastly, he said the railroad tracks on Benedict Avenue by Water Street will be repaired by Wheeling & Lake Erie Railway. He said the road will be closed from May 6, 2024, to May 8, 2024, for repairs to be completed.

Mayor Light congratulated Sergeant Jim Montana on his retirement following more than 30 years of service.

Mrs. Lucal said she is still hearing complaints from residents about Omni Fiber damaging their properties. Mr. Osborn said he has a number for residents to call to file a complaint. He added that there will be discussions about how to stop future companies from crowding the rights-of-way.

Mr. Doughty referred to the Police Department glyph reports and asked how the Department determines which reports get logged. Mayor Light said that all reports should be logged except for ongoing investigations.

NEW BUSINESS – none

ADJOURNMENT There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned.

Stephen E. Euton, Council President

Jaime L. Peiples, Council Clerk