

NEW PHILADELPHIA CITY COUNCIL MET IN REGULAR SESSION IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS ON JANUARY 22, 2007 AT 7:30 P.M. WITH PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL DAVE JOHNSON PRESIDING. A MOMENT OF SILENCE WAS OBSERVED FOR THE TWO VICTIMS OF A RECENT CAR ACCIDENT, AND ALL IN ATTENDANCE RECITED THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

COUNCIL MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: MR. ROBERT CONNER
MS. SANDY COX
MR. JIMMY EICHEL
MR. GEORGE HOUSTON
MR. DARRIN LAUTENSCHLEGER
MR. ROB MAURER

COUNCILMAN JIM LOCKER WAS ABSENT.

THE MINUTES OF JANUARY 8, 2007 WERE APPROVED AS WRITTEN AND RECEIVED.

CORRESPONDENCE CLERK DIANE ROUDEBUSH

1. Special/Contact Committee meeting minutes of January 9, 2007.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

MAYOR'S REPORT.....MAYOR RON BRODZINSKI

Submitted a written report of the activities of his office from January 9 through January 22, 2007. Reported that he was the guest speaker for Leadership Tuscarawas held here at JKMC, and congratulated them for their leadership. Reported that on January 13 he attended the inauguration of newly elected Governor Ted Strickland. Reported meeting January 17 concerning the 911 wireless system in the County. Reported meeting January 18 concerning the Dover Dam. Reported that on January 19 he attended the monthly Stark-Tuscarawas-Wayne Policy Board meeting, and announced that after ten years, a new plan is in effect. Requested emergency passage tonight of Resolutions 3-2007 and 4-2007. Thanked the city's safety forces and everyone who aided during the recent tragic accident in which a car crashed into the Tuscarawas River off Front St. Announced that there will be a meeting Thursday January 25 at 7:00 P.M. at Tuscora Park to plan for the Park's 100th anniversary. Mayor Brodzinski relinquished the floor to the following Department Supervisors for their 2006 Report to Council: Prosecutor's Office, Jim Range; Cemetery Department, Doug Demattio; Income Tax Department, Auditor Beth Gundy; and Fire Chief, Jamie Snyder.

SERVICE DIRECTOR.....MR. GARY ESPENSCHIED

Gave the annual tree report for 2006.

SAFETY DIRECTOR.....MR. GREG POPHAM

Also thanked everyone for their help during the recent car accident on Front St.

AUDITOR. MS. BETH GUNDY

Requested emergency passage of Resolution 2-2007.

TREASURER MR. MIKE TAYLOR NO REPORT

LAW DIRECTOR MR. MIKE JOHNSON

Asked the Mayor if the January 29 meeting with the Airport Commission to discuss the lease for hangars is still scheduled. Mayor Brodzinski said the meeting will go forward.

MAIN STREET REPRESENTATIVE MS. JESSICA KOPELWITZ

Provided Council with a packet of information with an overview of 2006, and invited everyone to their year-end evaluation on February 15. Announced that she has resigned from her position, but will stay involved with Main Street as a volunteer.

BOARD/COMMISSION REPORTS:

PLANNING COMMISSION.....MAYOR BRODZINSKI

Will meet February 14, 2007 at 1:00 P.M. in Council Chambers.

BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS.....MR. GARY ESPENSCHIED

Reported meeting January 9, 2007. One variance was heard and granted.

AIRPORT COMMISSION.....MR. JIM LOCKER ABSENT

Mayor Brodzinski reported that a meeting was held last week concerning the future of the airport, and Commission member Ted Gentsch gave a presentation on the search for a new airport facility. Since council members were not informed of the meeting, Mr. Gentsch will be asked to give the presentation at a future council meeting.

PARK BOARD.....MR. DARRIN LAUTENSCHLEGER NO REPORT

HEALTH BOARD.....MS. SANDY COX

Will meet February 14, 2007 in the Health Department at 12:00 PM.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

FINANCE COMMITTEE. MS. SANDY COX NO REPORT

SALARY COMMITTEE MR. JIM LOCKER ABSENT NO REPORT

SAFETY, HEALTH, AND SERVICE COMMITTEE . . . MR. ROB MAURER

Informed Council that the meeting scheduled for January 25 has been cancelled, and will be rescheduled.

PUBLIC WORKS & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE. . . MR. DARRIN LAUTENSCHLEGER . . .

Reported meeting tonight to discuss a proposal from ASCAP. The Law Director will work with ASCAP to come up with an agreement. Also discussed was the downtown tree maintenance. The current trees are causing problems with sewer lines and sidewalks. The City will work with Main Street to solve the problem. Also discussed were electricity problems in the downtown area. The City will work with Main Street to solve this problem also.

ZONING & ANNEXATION COMMITTEE. . . . MR. GEORGE HOUSTON NO REPORT

CONTACT & SPECIAL COMMITTEE MR. ROBERT CONNER

Reported meeting January 9 to discuss Codified Ordinance 753, Peddlers, Solicitors, and Canvassers. The Committee voted to accept a revised Chapter 753, which was forwarded to the Law Director for preparation of an ordinance.

PARKS & CEMETERY COMMITTEE MR. JIMMY EICHEL

Reported meeting January 18 to discuss a request for consideration of steps to the Lagoon area from Quaker Stadium. The Administration will look into the possibility of a crosswalk, flashers, ramp, etc.

VISITOR’S COMMENTS:

George Sommers, 1351 Sharon Valley Rd., New Philadelphia, asked why nothing is being done about the rundown property at 139 Fair Ave. Rear. He said this has been an ongoing problem for years, and why can’t the city go after the property owner to have something done. Fire Chief Jamie Snyder, who was in attendance, informed Mr. Sommers that he has inspected the property and has worked with the owner’s son to try to get some action. Mr. Sommers said he will take legal action if necessary.

Police Chief Jeff Urban gave his department report for 2006.

READING OF ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS:

Mayor Brodzinski relinquished the floor to Perry Hershberger and Tom Farbizo of New Philadelphia City Schools who asked for Council’s support of Resolutions 3-2007 and 4-2007. They informed Council that they wish to apply for grants to purchase the Quaker Dome for athletic use. However, schools cannot apply for these funds and the City can, so they are asking for passage of Resolutions 3-2007 and 4-2007. The applications must be made by February 1. Several questions were raised by Council, and some Council members voiced their opinion against support of these resolutions.

ORDINANCES:

1-2007 An ordinance by the Council of the City of New Philadelphia, Ohio to authorize a contract for health care benefits between the City of New Philadelphia and all non-bargaining unit employees with health and medical insurance under three Aultcare plan options, and declaring an emergency. (2nd Reading)

RESOLUTIONS:

1-2007 A resolution by the Council of the City of New Philadelphia, Ohio to adopt a policy regarding the use of electronic or mechanical signatures and to prohibit the use of a rubber stamp on any negotiable instrument including checks or contracts by any official or authorized employee of any Board, and declaring an emergency. (1st Reading)

Mr. Johnson assigned this to the Special/Contact Committee.

2-2007 A resolution declaring the necessity to request an advance of \$850,000.00 from the County Auditor on the February 2007 Real Estate Tax Settlement, and declaring an emergency. (1st Reading)

Motion to suspend the rules made by Ms. Cox, seconded by Mr. Eichel. Roll call, 6 yeas, rules suspended.

Motion to vote on passage made by Ms. Cox, seconded by Mr. Eichel. Roll call, 6 yeas, resolution passed.

3-2007 A resolution by the Council of the City of New Philadelphia, Ohio to permit the City to complete necessary documents for an application under land and water conservation funds to apply for funds to purchase real estate known as the Quaker Dome for use by the New Philadelphia City Schools and for public recreation purposes, and declaring an emergency. (1st Reading)

Motion to suspend the rules made by Mr. Darrin Lautenschleger, seconded by Mr. Houston. Roll call, 1 yea 5 nays (Houston, Cox, Conner, Eichel, & Maurer), suspension of rules failed.

4-2007 A resolution by the Council of the City of New Philadelphia, Ohio to permit the City to complete necessary documents for an application under the Nature Works Program to apply for funds to purchase real estate known as the Quaker Dome for use by the New Philadelphia City Schools and for public recreation purposes, and declaring an emergency. (1st Reading)

Motion to suspend the rules made by Mr. Darrin Lautenschleger, seconded by Mr. Houston. Roll call, 1 yea 5 (Houston, Cox, Conner, Eichel, & Maurer), suspension of rules failed.

OLD BUSINESS: NONE

NEW BUSINESS: NONE

MOTION TO ADJOURN MADE BY MR. HOUSTON. MEETING ADJOURNED AT 9:14 P.M.

CLERK OF COUNCIL _____

APPROVED February 12, 2007

PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL _____