

NEW PHILADELPHIA CITY COUNCIL MET IN REGULAR SESSION IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS ON JULY 14TH, 2014 WITH PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL, SAM HITCHCOCK, PRESIDING.

MR. HITCHCOCK OFFERED A PRAYER, AND ALL IN ATTENDANCE RECITED THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

COUNCIL MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

MS. SANDY COX
MR. DAN LANZER
MR. ROB MAURER
MRS. CHERYL RAMOS
MS. WINNIE WALKER
MR. JOHN ZUCAL

PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL, SAM HITCHCOCK ANNOUNCED THAT COUNCIL PERSON MR. DARRIN LAUTENSCHLEGER IS EXCUSED FROM TONIGHT'S COUNCIL MEETING.

PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL, SAM HITCHCOCK ANNOUNCED THE CLERK DISTRIBUTED TO ALL COUNCIL CORRECTIONS TO TONIGHT'S AGENDA.

Under Resolution 23-2014 should read:
(Originally there were too many zeroes)

TO APPROVE THE TRANSFER OF \$50,000.00 FROM THE SANITATION FUND (#219)
TO BE TRANSFERRED \$25,000.00 TO THE WATER OPERATING FUND (#711)
AND \$25,000.00 TO THE SEWER OPERATING FUND (#713) FOR THE 2014 FISCAL YEAR.

Under Resolution 24-2014 should read:
(Originally the u was left out of authorize)

TO AUTHORIZE THE NEW PHILADELPHIA POLICE DEPARTMENT TO HOLD THE ANNUAL POLICE AUCTION ON AUGUST 25th, 2014 AT 5:00 PM.

MS. COX MADE A MOTION TO ACCEPT TONIGHT'S AGENDA AS CORRECTED
MRS. RAMOS SECONDED THE MOTION.

ROLL CALL 6 YEAS
MOTION PASSED

PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL, SAM HITCHCOCK ANNOUNCED THE CLERK DISTRIBUTED TO ALL COUNCIL CORRECTION TO TONIGHT'S MINUTES.

On page 5 last sentences should read:
(Originally there was a typo)

Both Councilperson Mr. Zucal and Councilperson Mr. Lautenschleger
will be back in town for the July 28th, 2014 Council Meeting.

MR. LANZER MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES AS CORRECTED FROM THE MEETING HELD Monday JUNE 23RD, 2014 MS. COX SECONDED THE MOTION.

ROLL CALL, 6 YEAS
MINUTES WERE APPROVED

CORRESPONDENCE CLERK, PATRICIA A. MCKAY

1. Mayor's Report to Council July 14th, 2014
2. A flyer announcing the 3rd Annual White Cane Walk
By the American Council of the Blind of Tuscarawas Valley; Sunday August 24th, 2014 from 1:00 to 3:00 PM
At the Tuscarawas County Senior Center, President Carl Russo extended an invitation to the Mayor, Administration, and Council to participate in the White Can Walk.
The purpose of the Walk is to educate the Adults and

- Children in our Community to what it is like to be blind or visually impaired.
3. Notice from the Ohio Department of Transportation Traffic Advisory West High Avenue Improvement Project to begin in New Philadelphia July 10th, 2014 to improve safety West High Avenue will be widened from the RJ Corman Railroad Tracks to 7th Street to provide a two-way left turn lane. Work will include; pavement widening, new curb and gutters, ADA Curb Ramps, Sidewalk Storm Drainage, and new Waterlines
 4. Press Release dated July 1, 2014
The Mayor's Office is announcing the City of New Philadelphia's 13th Annual Farmers Market to be held every Tuesday Morning from 7:30 AM through 11:00 AM beginning July 8th, 2014 through September 30th, 2014. The Market will be located in the main parking lot of Tuscora Park
 5. Mayor's Monthly Statement to Council for the month of June 2014
 6. A flyer from NPBCA announcing the Annual New Philadelphia Sidewalk Sales "We're Feelin' Groovy" to be held July 24th, 25th, & July 26th, 2014
 7. Finance Committee Meeting Minutes from Monday, June 23rd, 2014 and from June 30th, 2014
 8. Special and Contact Committee Meeting Minutes from Monday, June 23rd, 2014
 9. Zoning and Annexation Committee Meeting Minutes Monday June 9th, 2014
 10. Bulletin from the Auditor of State's Office, date issued July 7th, 2014 to all Public Offices and Independent Public Accountants from Dave Yost, Ohio Auditor of the State
In regard to Alcoholic Beverages Purchased for Resale at Public Events
 11. City of New Philadelphia Police Monthly Activity Report for the Month of June 2014
 12. City of New Philadelphia Income Tax Department "June 2014 Report Month End Tax Revenue by Year" from Joel Day, Income Tax Administrator dated July 7th, 2014
 13. Auditor's Monthly Statement of 2014 Revenue for the General Fund for June 2014
 14. Auditor's Financial Statement for the Month of June 2014
 15. City of New Philadelphia Budget Report with Encumbrance Details as of June 30th, 2014
 16. City of New Philadelphia Statement of Cash Position with Month to Date as June 30th, 2014
 17. City of New Philadelphia Fire Department Summary Report including Lifenet Monthly Transmission for the Month of June 2014 Dated July 1st, 2014 from the Fire Chief Parrish

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

MAYOR'S REPORT/REQUESTS....MAYOR DAVID JOHNSON

The Mayor addressed the following:

1. The Mayor reported he attended several Festival events:
The Queen's Luncheon
Rode in the Grand Parade
He was a Judge at the Car Show
The Mayor reported it was a wonderful Festival
The Mayor thanked all of our City Employees for the outstanding job they did; their dedication, hard work, and cooperation with each Department to make the Festival a success. The Mayor said it made him proud to be the Mayor of New Philadelphia.
The Mayor also thanked all the volunteers who dedicated their time and talents to helping make this year's festival run so smoothly.
2. The Mayor swore in Keith Limbacher as Special Auxiliary and Park Police and Lucas Ross as Park Police.
3. The Mayor met with ODOT for pre-construction meeting of the West High Avenue Project.
The Service Director will give an update during his report on the new schedule for the project.
4. The Mayor conducted the monthly Health Board Meeting.
5. The Mayor expressed displeasure with the paving project, the curbs especially and crosswalks in downtown during the final walk-through with ODOT.

PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL, SAM HITCHCOCK congratulated the City Team for taking the Rotating Trophy Back from the County Employees which will be setting in the Mayor's Office.
Unfortunately, the Third Annual Contest with the City of Dover, the Dover City Sluggers took that Rotating Trophy across the River.

SERVICE DIRECTOR.....MR. JAMES ZUCAL

The Service Director reported on the following:

- Commended the Street Department Crews are doing a nice job out there patching pot holes.

We have a new Falcon Hot Box Machine, which was budgeted, the machine keeps the asphalt hot it is more productive for our workers it makes our material last longer there is very little waste it is also recyclable you can take grindings and such add to that machine to put back in the pot holes. It is a good cost saving measure for the City.

- Commended the Water Department they are also keeping up with water leaks and various activities that have happened because of the transition in the ground because we had a tough winter and a wet summer There is a lot going on.
All of the crews in the service sector are doing a very good job and are very busy.
- The Service Director and the Mayor met with the representative ODOT and the contractor (Shelly & Sand Inc. from Columbus Ohio) last week there has been some changes. (RELATE TO THE TIMING OF THE SCHEDULE OF THE PROJECT AND THE CARRYOVER TILL NEXT YEAR.)
- The Press Release is out
The Project will begin next Monday.
There will be the tie-in of the Storm Sewer at Five Points.
There will be some limited lane closures.
That area will be very busy he requests everyone to avoid that area.
There will be a one west bound lane open some of the time.
The alternate route will be Front Avenue.
You can travel east and west on Front Avenue including Bluebell Avenue.
The orderly transition north will be at Fourth Street that is where the traffic light is.
There will be some secondary roads which will be Maple Avenue that will be open.
The changes are that they are starting July 21st, 2014 the 60 day complete closure of West High from five points which is 7th Street to 10th Street will begin September 15th, 2014 and last till November 15th, 2014.
That should wrap up the contractors estimate of construction for that year.
Utilities will be in; basecoat asphalt will be down there will be a slight carry over on the project into the Spring of 2015 where the west bound lane of West High from 10th passed Mercy Medical will be completed in the Spring, the total completion date is June 2015. We will be almost completely done the fall of this year with some carry over. We did not have a decision in that it was given to us by ODOT. It is technically their project we are a cost share partner in that.
 - The Mayor has done a very good job working not only with the Service Side but also the Safety Forces. Chief Parrish is with us tonight Chief Goodwin has been involved. We have all the safety issues covered. There will be a house indexing system (numbering system) in the alleys in the back so they can be serviced by the safety crews.
We built some books along with our mapping system we will pass out to the safety forces and contractors. The Mayor worked with us on that. We also have a safety crew and Fire Department Heavy Rescue Truck down on the west-end of the Lewis Center. We would like to think that we did a very good job covering all the bases.
 - The Mayor and the Service Director talked with the Director Lloyd MacAdam down at ODOT, about putting all possible signs out on the interstate including an illuminating directional sign, to encourage truck traffic and any traffic to avoid the west-end and go to the South Broadway or Schoenbrunn Exit. We are hopefully using a team approach in helping our travelling public as much as we can.
 - Mayor said Rod Miller talked to the schools to let them know when we have visiting teams what are situation is going to be and how they can detour.

Comment from Councilperson Mrs. Ramos:

Thanked Mark Henke and his crew for working so diligently on the pot holes she appreciated their efforts.

President of Council, Sam Hitchcock thanked the Service Director for his very informative presentation on the West High Widening to the Lions Club today.

AUDITORMS. BETH GUNDY

Ms. Gundy reported:

She e-mailed a copy of the Audit Report to everyone.

That is all wrapped up it and has been okayed to be released by the State Auditor.

“We are not going to have an exit conference like we normally do unless we really want to have that.”

She doesn’t feel that is necessary as she can answer your questions.

If Council should want an exit conference let her know within the next day or two and she will try to set up a meeting.

Ms. Gundy announced that she will not be at the August 11th, 2014 Council Meeting.

Question from Councilperson Ms. Cox:

“If we do ask for this conference do we have to pay for it?”

Ms. Gundy replied:

No.

Comment from Ms. Cox:

“I do have a couple of questions. Should I just call them?”

Ms. Gundy replied:

“You could.”

SAFETY DIRECTOR.....MR. GREG POPHAM

Commended all the workers in the City for over the fourth of July with the weather the amount of people

“I don’t think I have ever seen the amount of people that attended the First Town Days this year.

I think everyone should be commended for a great job.”

Comment from Councilperson Mrs. Ramos:

The June 2014 Fire Department Report the overtime hours were not included in the report.

Reply from Mr. Popham:

The overtime hours that normally are in the report still need to be in the report as far as the hours.

We don’t have the cost until the Auditor prepares it on her spread sheet.

Mr. Popham confirmed that the hours still need to be reported.

Request from Councilperson Mrs. Ramos:

Please explain the new report Lifenet Monthly Transmission included in the June 2014 Fire Department Report.

Reply from the Fire Chief:

About two years ago we implemented a system:

“When we go into someone’s home when they are having a heart attack we can get that on a monitor send it to the Union Hospital where a Medical Control Physician looks at it and confirms that they are having a heart attack. They automatically make arrangements at Timken Mercy or Aultman at the Heart Cath Lab for that person to go there sometimes before we even get them to ambulance. The wheels are set in motion to get them to the Heart Cath Lab as quickly as possible to stop that heart attack.

I put the report in there so you can see how many times we do that.

Comment from Councilperson Mrs. Ramos:

One said with Transmissions by Device and one didn’t say with Device

Reply from the Fire Chief:

The one that didn’t have the Device on it was the total for that time period.

TREASURERMR. AARON HILLYERNO REPORT

LAW DIRECTORMR. MARVIN FETE

The Law Director reported the following:

6-28-2014 The Law Director drafted an updated Office Policy and Job Description for the Prosecutor’s Office.
(We are going to be operating differently)

We have no intention of hiring an assistant in that position and we wanted to have clear

What the guidelines are according to the contract with the union.

Doug Jackson, Prosecutor, and the Office Manager reviewed and signed that they received and acknowledged it.

6-30-2014 The Law Director had a phone conference with Councilperson Cox regarding the New Handbook
On page 46 it does not explain Salary is Salary and Hourly is Hourly it doesn’t make that distinction
It needs to be addressed by Clemens and Nelson.

Discussed this extensively in the meeting regarding our New Handbook.

6-30-2014 Attended a Finance Committee Meeting regarding the New Handbook.

Which discussed various issues

Had a short conference with Council Person Dan Lanzer regarding the tow path and the ordinance to be drafted and discussed tonight regarding Maintenance Issue with the City.

- Request from the Mayor regarding Ohio Revised Code said on Comp Time and Non-Bargaining Comp Time regarding our local ordinances.
- 7-7-2014 Responded to a request from the Service Director's office Fixed Base Operator Contract we had a question.
Who was responsible maintaining different parts of the Airport?
City's Responsibility or Fixed Base Operators.
Two specific areas Main Hangar and Conference Room.
Contract it was Fixed Base Operator to fund that not the City of New Philadelphia.
- 7-10-2014 Common Pleas Court City of New Philadelphia versus Steven Spring.
He did not receive a response on all the property owners on the West High Widening.
The Law Director had filed default judgments.
Mr. Spring had filed a response but did not serve it on the Law Direct which was required by the Ohio Rules of Civil Procedure the Law Director had no idea the response was filed.
The Judge took it upon herself to count that as a no response. (If I file something and it is not filed in accordance to the Ohio Rules of Procedure I'm bound to follow that and it gets sent back if it is not done right and you lose your filing fees.)
It is now set for a Jury Trial.
This has no impact on the West High Widening Project.
It is set for mediation beforehand.
Normally this is ODOT's responsibility the Attorney General steps in; where there is a City Law Director the Law Director has to step in and represent the State of Ohio as well as the City of New Philadelphia in these matters, the money comes from ODOT.
The dispute whether or not the City can take the property that has been resolved.
The issue is how much the property is worth. ODOT does a pretty accurate job calculating the worth.
Home owners are not necessary in agreement with and that it is within their rights.
Mediation before that procedure is something that is done before the Jury Trial Stage.
Common Pleas Court has a wonderful mediation program paid for by the Court to go in with a Third Party Attorney to try to reach a negotiation settlement and do not take sides.
- 7-11-2014 Meeting with Councilperson Cox who shared the following:
Rea & Associates and Independent Auditor's Management Letter.
Recommendation regarding salary and wages.
Pointed Out in the past Elected officials and Non-Bargaining Employees whenever we Issued an ordinance for Raise we didn't include what the annual salary would be pointed out if we were to do that it would decrease the work load of payroll office and help things run smoothly.
The Law Director thanked Ms. Cox for bringing this to his attention.
- o Today conference with City Prosecutor Doug Jackson regarding personnel request and unexpected increase in our work load.
This Monday we received 23 new cases just from the weekend.
Three of those cases are next week are set for hearing.
That is a lot of work for the Prosecutors to keep up with.
 - o Request from Auditor Gundy conflict between 39-97 and the handbook as to which takes precedent.
Non-bargaining employees who retire paid for unused vacation.
39-97 applies until the New Handbook is adopted exception to Ohio Law and Federal Law the Handbook actually conflicts with it. The old handbook is also in conflict with 39-97 the Law Director was not aware that there was a prior handbook.
Over ride their own ordinance and elect to allow the person retiring to take that vacation time. (39-97 still applies.)
 - o Conference today with a Gentleman who requested an application for operating an Adult Game Facility.
The Law Director will get the information needed from the Mayor's Assistant Ms. Fragasse.
 - o Scheduled a meeting with Police Chief Goodwin this Thursday on a Prosecution issue.
 - o On a Personal matter extended his and the Breehl family's appreciation to the Fire Chief and the Fire Department on their quick response time.
The Law Director's dear friend was at the Red Lobster his father wasn't breathing. The Fire Department was called and on the scene in three minutes, revived him in the parking lot. He was then taken to the hospital and he is doing well.

BOARD/COMMISSION REPORTS:

PLANNING COMMISSION.....MAYOR DAVID JOHNSON

Mayor Johnson announced there was no Planning Commission Meeting for the month of July there were no requests.

BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS.....MR. JAMES ZUCAL

Mr. James Zucal announced the next scheduled meeting of the Board of Zoning Appeals is Tuesday August 12th, 2014 at 5:00 PM in Council Chambers. Currently there are no variance requests.

AIRPORT COMMISSION.....MR. JOHN ZUCAL

Mr. Zucal announced the Airport Commission will meet Tuesday August 12th, 2014 at 6:00 PM in the Airport Meeting Room. Mr. Zucal invited everyone to attend.

**PARK BOARD.....MR. DARRIN LAUTENSCHLEGER.....NO REPORT
EXCUSED ABSENCE**

HEALTH BOARD..... MS. SANDY COX

Ms. Cox announced that the next scheduled meeting for the Health Board is Wednesday, August 13th, 2014 at 12:00 (Noon) at the Health Department.

Ms. Cox reminded all that Tuesday July 22nd, 2014 from 10:00 to 4:00 PM the New Philadelphia City Health Department is having an Open House Celebration for 160 years of caring. (Everyone should have gotten an invitation)

Tours, cake and socializing is being offered while learning about the many services that are available to the residents of Tuscarawas County. Everyone is welcome to come.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

FINANCE COMMITTEEMS. SANDY COX

Ms. Cox reported that the Finance Committee met on Monday, June 30th, 2014 at 6:00 PM in the Council Chambers at the Knisely Centre.

The Finance Committee met for the second time to examine the ***Personnel Policy & Procedure Manual***.

Reviewed were the Second Chapter "Equal Employment Opportunity/Non Discrimination"

(Pages 16 through 22)

Along with Chapter Three "Employment"

(Pages 23 through 43)

And Chapter Four "Compensation and Hours of Work"

(Pages 44 through 51)

There have been several questions and comments but overall Ms. Cox feels the meetings have been very productive.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:10 PM

Ms. Cox reported that the Finance Committee met tonight, July 14th, 2014 at 7:00 PM in the Council Chambers at the Knisely Centre.

The First Item to discuss was a request from the Auditor to attend the Government Finance Officers Association Conference September 17th and 18th, 2014 and the Committee approved that.

The Second Item was the Council President had assigned to the Finance Committee the proposal to reduce the credit for tax paid to other cities to 1%.

The only paper work or information Council received on this item was from the Income Tax Administrator back in March 3, 2014.

1. To reduce the credit to 1% for New Philadelphia Taxpayers who work outside of the City Corporation Limits.
2. There is an estimate that over 40% of our residents pay income tax to other cities.
3. Estimate Generated Income from reducing the tax credit to 1% is around \$500,000 to \$750,000 per year.
4. An ordinance to enact the reduction would have to be drafted and approved by City Council before This would go into effect.

There were comments by the Auditor, Mayor, Councilperson Mrs. Ramos and Councilperson Mr. Lanzer, Treasurer Mr. Hillyer and the Committee Chair Ms. Cox.

The Committee voted and they are not recommending it and voted it down.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:14PM.

SALARY COMMITTEEMR. JOHN ZUCAL....NO REPORT

SAFETY HEALTH & SERVICE COMMITTEE.....MR. ROB MAURER....NO REPORT

PUBLIC WORKS & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE ...MR. DARRIN LAUTENSCHLEGERNO REPORT
EXCUSED ABSENCE

ZONING & ANNEXATION COMMITTEEMRS. CHERYL RAMOS....NO REPORT

SPECIAL & CONTACT COMMITTEE MR. DAN LANZER

Mr. Lanzer reported that the Special & Contact Committee had a meeting this evening at 6:45 following a very crowded Council Public Hearing on the NP2R Trail.

Thanks to the Mayor who brought up some valid points with the proposed ordinance that we now have.

Service Director informed Mr. Lanzer he is going to work with the Law Director to update the proposed ordinance.

Mr. Lanzer announced that we will be having another meeting shortly.

PARKS & CEMETERY COMMITTEEMS. WINNIE WALKER....NO REPORT

VISITOR’S COMMENTS:

Debbie Knisely, Administrative Director, of New Philadelphia Business and Community Association
New Philadelphia Business and Community Association, 126 East High Avenue, New Philadelphia, Ohio 44663

Ms. Knisely reported on the following:

NPBCA is having an exciting summer

The lighting on the House of Stones Building

The renovation of the Quaker Theater and the Daily Grind.

New businesses “To Your Health”, “Inspirations”, and Carbone’s Restaurant.

Color has been added to the downtown the local artists have painted the benches
and the trash cans.

The first artists walk was held in June and was a huge success the next one
will be held in the Fall.

Next upcoming event is Annual New Philadelphia Sidewalk Sales, “We’re Feelin’ Groovy” to
be held July 24th, 25th, & July 26th, 2014

Ms. Knisely expressed her appreciation:

By thanking City Council, the City of New Philadelphia, and Mayor Johnson for their Support.

The President of Council and Councilperson John Zucal thanked Ms. Knisely for her leadership,
hard work and effort.

Concerned Citizen:

Eric Reip

1103 Baltzley Valley Road SE

New Philadelphia, Ohio 44663

Mr. Reip stated that he did support the NPR2 Trail his only concern was the cost.

He felt a nonprofit organization to support the NPR2 Trail might be the answer.

He wishes the City well with the project.

READING OF ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

ORDINANCES:

14-2014 AN ORDINANCE BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NEW PHILADELPHIA,
OHIO TO MODIFY CHAPTER 902.01 TO ADDRESS THE PRIVATE DRIVE STANDARDS
CHECK LIST AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. (1st Reading)

15-2014 AN ORDINANCE BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NEW PHILADELPHIA,
OHIO TO ACCEPT THE BID FROM MID-OHIO CONCRETE FOR THE COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) PROJECT ON TUSCARAWAS AVENUE
NORTHWEST AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. (1st Reading)

Motion to Suspend the Rules made by Ms. Cox
Seconded by Mr. Zucal

Comment from the Service Director:

The Service Director announced that he supports the passage of this legislation to get this project on track. (Reminder it is a grant project.) "It is very important to get this done prior to our West High Widening."

Comment from the Mayor:

The Mayor announced that he mirrors the Service Director's comments.

Roll Call, 5 yeas and 1 nay (Mrs. Ramos)
Motion failed

RESOLUTIONS:

- 21-2014 A RESOLUTION BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NEW PHILADELPHIA, OHIO TO APPROVE THE TRANSFER OF UP TO \$3,500.00 FROM THE CEMETERY ENDOWMENT FUND(#812) TO THE CEMETERY OPERATING FUND (#209) FOR THE 2014 FISCAL YEAR. (1st Reading)
- 22-2014 A RESOLUTION BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NEW PHILADELPHIA, OHIO TO AUTHORIZE AND DIRECT THE THE AUDITOR OF THE CITY OF NEW PHILADELPHIA TO TRANSFER UP TO \$10,000.00 FROM THE GENERAL FUND #101 TO THE SIDEWALK PROGRAM FUND #285, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. (1st Reading)
- 23-2014 A RESOLUTION BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NEW PHILADELPHIA, OHIO TO APPROVE THE TRANSFER OF \$50,000.00 FROM THE SANITATION FUND (#219) TO BE TRANSFERRED \$25,000.00 TO THE WATER OPERATING FUND (#711) AND \$25,000.00 TO THE SEWER OPERATING FUND (#713) FOR THE 2014 FISCAL YEAR. (1st Reading)
- 24-2014 A RESOLUTION BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NEW PHILADELPHIA TO AUTHORIZE THE NEW PHILADELPHIA POLICE DEPARTMENT TO HOLD THE ANNUAL POLICE AUCTION ON AUGUST 25, 2014 AT 5:00 P.M., AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. (1st Reading)
- 25-2014 A RESOLUTION BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NEW PHILADELPHIA, OHIO TO AUTHORIZE AND DIRECT THE SERVICE DIRECTOR TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS, RECEIVE BIDS, AND AWARD A CONTRACT FOR THE BROADWAY/WABASH AVENUE WATERLINE REPLACEMENT PROJECT, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. (1st Reading)

UNFINISHED OR OLD BUSINESS:

Comment from Councilperson Zucal:

He would like the Service Director or the Mayor to discuss a little bit the ramifications Of Ordinance No. 15-2014; if we are going to go three readings on that what is that going to do to impact the West High Widening Project as well as the the start of the school year with some of the work being done on Tuscarawas Avenue.

Reply from the Service Director:

The Service Director requested a Special Council Meeting.
A reminder to Council this is a project that is funded through Community Development Block Grant Funds
In fact it is out in the Tuscarawas School Area and it is important and necessary that it gets done prior to the start of school and does have an impact on the West High Widening Project.

**The Special Council Meeting was called by the Mayor
and it was determined the Special Council Meeting would be held Monday July 21st, 2014
At 6:00 PM in Council Chambers. The Purpose Ordinance No. 15-2014.**

*The CDBG Contract for 2014 was in the February 20th, 2014 Meeting of the Finance Committee and

was passed unanimously by the Finance Committee at that time.

Statement dated July 14th, 2014 from Councilperson Mrs. Ramos:

- She has attended Council Meetings since January of 2013.
- Her concerns still remain the same from last year to now.
- The Finance Committee was asked to review a request by the Mayor to take away a ½% tax credit from the working citizens who live here but work out of the City.
In effect, imposing a ½ tax% increase on our residents.
- The way to raise money is to increase the tax base. Recruit businesses and residents.
Her question was what has been done to recruit good paying jobs?
- Raising taxes and fees for service will chase potential residents away. We have a lot to offer here, but adding an increased tax burden and higher costs to the already over strained resident is not the answer.
- Potential business and residents will chose another, less expensive place to live.
- Of the top ten employers in New Philadelphia, six are government employers. Four supporting six is not sustainable. Recruit private sector jobs. It is not the government's place to create jobs. But to serve the people who are paying dearly for that service.
- In the last six month, or, over one year there has been no discussion of how to cut costs to save the taxpayers' money and grow a healthy budget.
- Last November, voters defeated the Income Tax Levy Increase by 73%.
The taxpayers voted for the City Administrator to get serious about cutting the spending.
- In reviewing the budget, overtime is costing the taxpayers in excess of ½ million dollars.
The taxpayers are paying over \$100,000 of employee's share of their pension; medical insurance costs are very high with the taxpayers footing 95% of the premium bill. These costs are not sustainable.
- No tax dollars are going in to Master Capital.
Administrative salaries/costs are being paid out of the Water, Sewer and Trash Funds, services that the residents pay for.
Additionally, the City has borrowed more money from the State Infrastructure Bank.
(which is funded by tax dollars) for the West High Widening Project, a total of around one million dollars in less than a year. This is nonvoter approved debt, borrowing money from the taxpayers to be repaid by the taxpayers with interest.
- Mrs. Ramos asks that City Administration to look outside the box. Expenses must be cut. Hard choices must be made. There must be a healthy and robust discussion about how to be smarter and leaner in operating the City.
- She believes that the City should look at shared services, private- public partnerships and letting the private sector do what they do best and recruit businesses so people who live here can work here.
- Mrs. Ramos feels that it is time to get serious about the financial situation of the City
And not default to, "We will just ask the taxpayers for more of their money."

Reply from the Mayor:

Are you here to make a statement or to make a difference?

Mrs. Ramos answered she is definitely here to make a difference.

The Mayor responded:

No you are not.

NEW BUSINESS:

President of Council Sam Hitchcock echoed Councilperson Cox's reminder of the following:

The New Philadelphia City Health Department is having an Open House Celebration for 160 years of caring.

Tuesday July 22nd, 2014 from 10:00 to 4:00 PM

Tours, cake and socializing is being offered while learning about the many services that are available to the residents of Tuscarawas County. Everyone is welcome to come.

MS.COX MADE A MOTION TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 8:27 PM.

CLERK OF COUNCIL _____

APPROVED _____

PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL _____