

NEW PHILADELPHIA CITY COUNCIL MET IN REGULAR SESSION IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS ON MAY 8, 2023 WITH PRESIDENT KEMP PRESIDING. PRESIDENT KEMP OFFERED A PRAYER, AND ALL IN ATTENDANCE RECITED THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

COUNCIL MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

MR. DAN LANZER
MRS. AIMEE MAY
MR. MITCH PACE
MRS. CHERYL RAMOS
MR. KELLY RICKLIC
MR. STEVE RIPPETH

EXCUSED ABSENCES: MR. DEAN HOLLAND
MR. MITCH PACE
AUDITOR BETH GUNDY

- MR. RIPPETH MOTIONED TO ADD RESOLUTION 7-2023, RESOLUTION 8-2023, AND RESOLUTION 9-2023 TO TONIGHT’S AGENDA
MRS. RAMOS SECONDED THE MOTION
5 YEAS
RESOLUTION 7-2023, RESOLUTION 8-2023, AND RESOLUTION 9-2023 HAVE BEEN ADDED TO TONIGHT’S AGENDA

- MRS. MAY MOTIONED TO ACCEPT TONIGHT’S AGENDA
MR. RICKLIC SECONDED THE MOTION
5 YEAS
TONIGHT’S AGENDA HAS BEEN ACCEPTED

- MR. LANZER MOTIONED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM THE APRIL 24,2023 REGULAR SESSION OF COUNCIL
MR. RIPPETH SECONDED THE MOTION
5 YEAS
MINUTES FROM THE APRIL 24, 2023 COUNCIL MEETING HAVE BEEN APPROVED

CORRESPONDENCE CLERK, JULIE COURTRIGHT

1. *To Councilwoman May from President Kemp, dated April 28, 2023. This is an email titled “Non-Bargaining Salaries” President Kemp asked Mrs. May to take this issue into her Committee.*
2. *To Councilman Holland from President Kemp, dated April 29, 2023. This is an email titled “Housing Ordinances”. President Kemp asked Mr. Holland to take this issue into his Committee.*
3. *To Council and Administration from Heather Denham with the Auditor’s Office, dated May 3, 2023. This is an email titled “Month End Reports” with the Statement of Cash Position Totals and The Expense Report with Encumbrance Details as the attachments.*
4. *To Council and Administration from The Kimble Company, dated May 3, 2023. This is a notice for the ODNR with Industrial Minerals Permit.*
5. *To Council and Administration from Income Tax Administrator for the City Vickie Daniels, dated May 3, 2023. This is the April Income Tax Report.*
6. *To Council and Administration from Mayor Day, dated May 3, 2023. This is an email titled Zoning Revisions Update.*
7. *To Council and Administration from Tom Adamich, President of the Visiting Library Service, dated May 4, 2023. This is an email titled “New Phila. Ward B. Chauncey Ave. Repair Inquiry Request.*

8. *To Council and Administration from Mayor Day, dated May 5, 2023. This is an email titled "Mayor's Association Call to Action Local Government Fund."*
9. *To Council Clerk from the Tuscarawas County Commissioners, dated May 5, 2023. This is a letter with the minutes from a meeting dated April 19, 2023 concerning the Proposed Site of the Friends of the Homeless Shelter in Brightwood.*
10. *To Council Clerk from Treasurer Gerber, dated May 6, 2023. This is the City of New Philadelphia Investment and Savings Report for April 2023.*
11. *To Council and Administration from Mayor Day, dated May 8, 2023. This is the Mayor's Report.*

MAYOR'S REPORT/REQUESTSMAYOR JOEL B. DAY

Mayor Day had the following report:

Getting Ready for the Summer Season

City crews are busy prepping our parks and other departments for the upcoming summer season. We could still use a few seasonal workers, so if you're interested, go to the City's website at www.newphilaoh.com/job-opportunities to apply.

RTY is getting the Tuscora Park rides ready to open, including the newly refurbished Ferris wheel. There will be a rededication ceremony for the Ferris wheel on Sunday, May 28th at 3pm. And there are still many rainbow trout in the Tuscora Park pond that need fished out before the water temperature rises.

The Southside Community Park dog parks are open. The County Public Library is planning to construct a story walk along the pollinator garden's pathway. Repairs are being made to the Crider Avenue walking trail to get it ready for the summer. Repairs are also underway at the Waterworks Park skate park. And the docks are in at both City boat ramps.

New Businesses Have Opened in the Downtown Area

The downtown business community is growing. Last Friday, I attended the ribbon cutting ceremony for Diamond in the Rough Property Solutions on West High Avenue. It's a business that specializes in bathroom and kitchen renovations and home additions. This coming Friday, Custom Needle-Print will have its official opening and ribbon cutting ceremony at its new location on Ashwood Lane NW. It outgrew its space at the Tolotty Centre business incubator on Tech Park Drive and selected the downtown location as its new home. Please join me in welcoming them to New Philadelphia!

The Value of Education in Our Community

One strength of our community is the quality of teachers we have in our school systems. Two were recognized this past Friday at the annual Quaker Foundation Recognition Banquet at the KSU Performing Arts Center. High School speech/theatre arts/language arts instructor Mike Exley and sixth grade math teacher and coach Seth Watson received the Hurst Jackson Distinguished Teacher awards for the education and encouragement they have given students inside and outside of their classrooms. The value of former teachers and the education they received at New Philadelphia High School was echoed by the NPHS alumni also honored at the banquet.

Our community is blessed to have organizations like the Quaker and Buckeye Foundations, who award graduating seniors with scholarships and recognize teachers whose influence goes well beyond the high school years.

If You See Something, Say Something

As the warmer weather sets in, the need for us to be more watchful in our neighborhoods will increase. It's important to remember that if you see something, say something. Don't hesitate to contact the New Philadelphia Police Department if you see something unusual. And be more mindful of your neighbors. Be ready to lend them a helping hand when needed.

Best Wishes to Jen Horner and Chris Born

Two long-time public servants are retiring this month. New Philadelphia Police School Resource Officer Jen Horner's 23-year duty with the City Police Department will conclude with her retirement on May 19th. And Chris Born's 45-year career as a custodian for New Philadelphia Schools will conclude with his retirement at the end of the current school year. Chris designed and helped construct the brick pillars at the City's Schoenbrunn Meadow Cemetery. Both are people with many talents. Their commitment to excellence has been inspiring to all who have known them and worked with them. We wish them good health and plenty of relaxation in their retirement.

SERVICE DIRECTOR..... Service Director Ron McAbier:

Mr. McAbier had the following report:

We met with Kinsey yesterday on Glen Drive. They did share the timeline for the project being completed. They're looking at the end of July, early August. It will be a bit of a headache with one way in, one way out. I know the last Council meeting we had a question on the truck route. He confirmed that he's going to use North Broadway because of the light. Also, the Taxi-way Reconstruction/ Relocation at Harry Clever Field. The Project has been awarded to Shelly and Sands \$2,680,035.50. That bid was 9.79% over engineering estimate. It's early on and we haven't met with them at all yet. Once I get an update on their construction plans I'll make sure I share with everybody. On Wednesday, May 3 we were to have a bid opening for the Route 250 Waterline Crossing Project. Unfortunately, there were no bids received last Wednesday, so we will rebid that again. Next Monday, May 15, the gas company will be at 10th and Front SW. They have a line there that has a slow leak in it that they'll be repairing. Those roads will be closed for approximately four days because they're working underneath the tracks. They'll continue to do work there for approximately three weeks with one lane traffic and a flagger. Also, the 416 permanent repairs were made last week. That concludes the Park Lane Waterline Project. Also, with the Mayor speaking about part-time help, we also need some full-time help. There are some positions in the sanitation department.

AUDITORMS. BETH GUNDY

Mrs. Gundy had the following report:

I just want to make Council aware that our auditors are in. You may be contacted, they like to talk to some Councilmembers. They'll be here for a few weeks.

SAFETY DIRECTORMR. GREG POPHAM

Mr. Popham had the following report:

In preparation for the retirement of Officer Horner and Chief Goodwin, the testing has been completed by the Civil Service Department for those positions. We'll be making an announcement of who gets promoted and becomes the next Chief.

TREASURER . . . MR. TOM GERBER.....NO REPORT

LAW DIRECTOR.....MR. MARVIN FETE

Mr. Fete had the following report:

I want to update you on the rental registration and vacant property legislation. I sent that to Wendy Moehler, who is revamping our zoning ordinances. I want to make sure there's nothing inconsistent with what they're doing. When we had met with her initially we went through several issues that we had. She said even if it's not in zoning she can suggest several legislative changes. I had also sent her the short term rental legislation. She responded to me and had some suggested changes in that and we will be implementing those. Once I get back her changes on the other two that will be coming before you. I wanted to request an Executive Session tonight to discuss a legal matter that is confidential. Given there are two Councilmembers out it's not in my preference to do that.

BOARD/COMMISSION REPORTS:

PLANNING COMMISSION.....MAYOR JOEL DAY

The Planning Commission meeting this month has been cancelled due to a lack of agenda items, and Also the fact that I have an appointment out of town tomorrow. So, we will be meeting again next Month. Second Tuesday of the month at 1;00pm here in Council Chambers.

BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS.....MR. RON MCABIER

The Board of Zoning Appeals will meet tomorrow evening at 5:00PM here in Council Chambers. We have one variance request to be heard.

AIRPORT COMMISSION.....MR. DAN LANZER

The Airport Commission will be meeting here in Council Chambers on May 9th at 6:00 PM.

PARK BOARD.....MR. MITCH PACE

CEMETERY BOARD.....MR. MITCH PACE.....EXCUSED ABSENSE

HEALTH BOARD MR. DEAN HOLLAND.....EXCUSED ABSENSE

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

FINANCE COMMITTEEMR. KELLY RICKLIC.....NO REPORT

PUBLIC WORKS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE...MR. DAN LANZER...NO REPORT

SAFETY, HEALTH, AND SERVICE COMMITTEE.....MR. DEAN HOLLAND.....EXCUSED ABSENSE

ZONING AND ANNEXATION COMMITTEE.....MRS. CHERYL RAMOS.....NO REPORT

SALARY COMMITTEE.....NO REPORT.....MRS. AIMEE MAY.....NO REPORT

PARKS AND CEMETERY COMMITTEE.....MR. MITCH PACE.....EXCUSED ABSENSE

SPECIAL AND CONTACT COMMITTEE.....MR. STEVE RIPPETH

Mr. Rippeth had the following comment:

The Special and Contact Committee met this evening in Council Chambers at 6:30. We took before ourselves Resolution 7, Resolution 8, and Resolution 9, which have been added to the Agenda tonight for legislative review. We took that action and we will be moving forward. We adjourned at 6:38.

VISITOR’S COMMENTS

Rod Wilson of 1640 Brightwood Rd. SE had the following comment:

I’d like to express some concern for the homeless shelter. I’d like to talk about one point. When the homeless shelter was started 17 years ago, the purpose was to take care of homeless people. Today, I have heard that there is a high percentage of people in the homeless shelter with drug problems. So, the purpose of the homeless shelter has changed. It’s now trying to solve a rehabilitation problem, and I don’t believe it’s equipped to deal with that, and we have a lot of issues as a result of that. If people on drugs were separated from the homeless people there would be a lot less homeless people in the shelter.

Joseph Jones of 2132 Herbert St. Brightwood had the following comment:

I am opposed to moving the Homeless Shelter to Brightwood Rd. I’m in a unique position. Back when the homeless shelter was started I was asked by the original group to come in and speak to them because of my affiliation with the Tuscarawas County Real Estate Investors Association and the Ohio Real Estate Investors Association. I have a unique experience with dealing with tenants and owners. They were looking for advice, and my advice to them at that time was no. I asked them at that time how many homeless people are in Tuscarawas County. They said they have 6, they found 6 people. I told them that in five years they would have 5 times that people. Right now the homeless population is 36 and they’re wanting to build a home for 60. People in Brightwood deal everyday with people released from the County Jail.

Jennifer Townsend of 3115 Brightwood Dr. SE had the following comment:

I have several concerns and reservations about the homeless shelter. The increase in crime, drugs and human trafficking being right off the exit. I don’t feel like Friends of the Homeless have been very forthcoming with the information New Phila. Residents should know. According to the Friends of the Homeless they have a grant with the Coalition on Homeless and Housing in Ohio. Their policies prohibit them from making a drug test a requirement to receive admittance to the shelter. Background checks for recent criminal history, sex crimes, and arson are currently being done at the shelter through the New Philadelphia Police Department. Friends of the Homeless said they are discouraged from requiring background checks on new

admissions. Unless prohibited by the governing body of that grant they would continue to do so. If disqualifying information is received the person is told to leave the same day. The names of the people denied access can not be communicated with the New Phila. Police Department, according to HIPAA laws. Proof of residency and identity is also not required. We would like New Phila. to accept the responsibility of the shelter. The residents of Brightwood are not equipped to handle the homeless shelter.

President Kemp:

That's information we've already heard before, so we'll just move on to Council Comments.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Mrs. Ramos had the following comment:

Are we allowed to offer public participation and limit it? We do limit it to five minutes. Are we allowed to say you can't talk anymore?

Law Director Fete responded:

The City controls the meeting. It's up to the discretion of the President.

President Kemp:

We understand their compassion. We've had many groups at meetings and we've had the same story basically each time. There is no action that's going to be taken by Council on this issue. The Board of Zoning Appeals is meeting tomorrow night. That's where to go for your concerns.

READING OF ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

ORDINANCES: NONE

RESOLUTIONS:

7-2023 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT WITH THE CITY OF UHRICHSVILLE, OHIO FOR THE PY 2023 COMMUNITY HOUSING IMPACT AND PRESERVATION (CHIP) PROGRAM.
1st Reading

8-2023 A RESOLUTION BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NEW PHILADELPHIA, TUSCARAWAS COUNTY, OHIO, AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR OF THE SAID CITY OF NEW PHILADELPHIA TO ACT AS THE SIGNATURE DESIGNEE AND FILE AN APPLICATION FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE UNDER TITLE 1 OF THE HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 1974 (PL 93-383) TO THE OFFICE OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, DIVISION OF OHIO DEVELOPMENT SERVICES AGENCY, OFFICE OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT SERVICES AND ACCEPT THE SAME UPON AWARD.

1st Reading

9-2023

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH THE OHIO REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION FOR THE ADMINISTRATION SERVICES FOR PY 2023 COMMUNITY HOUSING IMPACT AND PRESERVATION (CHIP) PROGRAM AND AUTHORIZING ORDC TO SUBMIT APPLICATION TO THE PY 2023 CHIP ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF NEW PHILADELPHIA

1st Reading

UNFINISHED OR OLD BUSINESS: NONE

NEW BUSINESS: NONE

With no other business to discuss Mr. Ricklic motioned to adjourn at 8:06 PM.

CLERK OF COUNCIL _____
Julie Courtright

APPROVED _____

PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL _____
Don Kemp