

NEW PHILADELPHIA CITY COUNCIL MET IN REGULAR SESSION IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS ON AUGUST 10, 2020 WITH PRESIDENT OF NEW PHILADELPHIA CITY COUNCIL DON KEMP PRESIDING. PRESIDENT KEMP OFFERED A PRAYER, AND ALL IN ATTENDANCE RECITED THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

COUNCIL MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

MR. DEAN HOLLAND
MR. DAN LANZER
MR. ROB MAURER
MRS. AIMEE MAY
MR. KELLY RICKLIC
MR. JOHN ZUCAL

EXCUSED ABSENCES

MRS. CHERYL RAMOS
AUDITOR BETH GUNDY

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

- MR. MAURER MOTIONED TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES FROM THE JULY 27, 2020
REGULAR SESSION OF COUNCIL
MR. ZUCAL SECONDED THE MOTION
6 YEAS
MINUTES FROM THE JULY 27, 2020 REGULAR SESSION OF COUNCIL HAVE BEEN
APPROVED

CORRESPONDENCE CLERK, JULIE COURTRIGHT

1. *To Clerk of Council from Rachel L. Dunfee, Attorney and Counsellor at Law, dated July 28, 2020. This is a letter with several attachments it states “Kinsey Annexation”. It states: “Dear Julie, I represent Matthew W. and Jessica L. Kinsey in the annexation of their Goshen Township Property located in New Philadelphia. Enclosed are the annexation petition and accompanying affidavit, the property deed and a surveyor’s map indicating the property to be annexed. This has been submitted on July 28, 2020 to the County Commissioner’s Office for approval.” I made copies and gave a copy to the President of Council.*
2. *To Council and Administration from Vickie Ionno, Health Commissioner for the City of New Philadelphia. This is an email dated Thursday, August 6, 2020. It has the subject “good news for a change” and it states “Public Health Greetings to all, good news we are now a yellow county.*
3. *To City Council from President of Council Kemp, dated August 7, 2020. This is an email that states “water hook-up outside of City”. It has the attachment “Chapter 935”. It states “we have a request from a family that lives outside of City limits to hook on to City water. I’ve attached the Ordinance we have pertaining to this. We will need to discuss Monday night as the Council wishes.*
4. *To City Council from Auditor Gundy, dated August 10, 2020. This is an email with the subject “Lodging Tax” and it has as the attachment the lodging tax for 2020.*
5. *To Council and Administration dated August 10, 2020 from Mayor Day, this is the Mayor’s Report.*

Administrative Reports.....

MAYOR'S REPORT/REQUESTS ...MAYOR JOEL B. DAY

Mayor Day had the following report:

➤ Responses to drug overdose deaths call to action: Since issuing my call to action to confront the drug overdose death problem in the City I have had citizens respond by providing names and locations of suspected drug dealers. Those were passed along to the Police Department for investigation. In addition, members of the county ADAMHS board Opiate Task Force has met to consider different approaches to its drug intervention and treatment efforts. Councilman Dean Holland has recommended that the City establish a Neighborhood Watch program to assist police in their drug investigations. I feel that Councilman Holland's proposal deserves further study and ask that it be assigned to a Council committee.

The New Philadelphia Health Department's role in battling the local drug overdose epidemic and the coronavirus pandemic is highlighted in a podcast recorded by the Tuscarawas County Anti-Drug Coalition. You can listen to it at www.getlevelpod.com/adc or watch the interview hosted by Jodi Salvo on the ADC's Facebook page.

➤ Construction is underway at the Southside Community Park: Vizmeg Landscaping Inc. has begun construction of the first phase of the Southside Community Park. Workers have been clearing overgrowth and have staked out the locations of the new entrance road and walking trails. A date for an official groundbreaking ceremony is still being determined. The project has to be completed by May of 2021.

➤ Addressing vacant and deteriorating buildings in the City: I have instructed Fire Chief Parrish and Building and Zoning Code Administrator Scolati to begin enforcing property maintenance codes to address the problem of vacant and deteriorating structures in the City. They have used the codes to tear down an abandoned house on Bank Lane SE and to issue citations to a downtown property owner to repair deteriorating buildings on Ashwood Lane NW and the former county office building at Fair Avenue and Broadway. Another abandoned house on Beaver Avenue NE is scheduled to be torn down. In addition, I am researching legislation adopted by other Ohio communities to create vacant building enforcement programs.

➤ Tuscarawas County's COVID color is now yellow: City Health Commissioner Vickie Ionno gave the encouraging news last Thursday that Tuscarawas County's ranking in Governor Dewine's weekly COVID-19 alert system has been lowered from orange to yellow. The Commissioner said "this means we have gone down from hitting 2-3 of the 7 indicators over the past three weeks to only one indicator." She's urging us to do what it takes to stay in the yellow: wear facial coverings when in crowded public places, wash hands frequently and social distance when possible.
Back-to-school immunizations are now available at the City Health Department

Mayor Day introduced his newly hired Executive Assistant Lacey McKain.

Executive Assistant to the Mayor Lacey McKain had the following statement:

I'm very excited for the opportunity to work for the City of New Philadelphia and to work for our great community.

President Kemp had the following question:

To piggyback on your comments concerning looking into a Citizen's program to help with the local drug crisis, I'm looking at Mr. Holland who has experience.

Mr. Maurer requested to have that issue in his committee.

Mayor Day suggested that they discuss the issue as Council as a Whole Committee.

Council agreed to meet at 6:00pm before the next Council Meeting on August 24, 2020.

Mr. Zucal had the following comment:

As we continue to look at the vacant buildings that we continue to study, even though they may not be decaying or causing blight within the City. Some of those buildings continue to be unused they sat vacant for years. If there's any way we could continue to study what other Cities are doing, either please use those buildings or find a way to allow someone else to purchase those. That would be greatly appreciated.

Mayor Day had the following reply:
Today I spent the day looking at legislation Painsville and Ashtabula has had
and they both addressed unused buildings.

SERVICE DIRECTOR.....MR. RON MCABIER

Mr. McAbier had the following report:

I'd like to go over three projects going on right now in the City. I'll start with the CDBG Poplar Ave. Project. Curbs have been installed on North Ave. NW. They have cut out curbing on 2nd St. NW, they'll be installing that next week, so the biggest part of the job will be done. Also early this afternoon I went to the airport to check on the PAPI light process. The transformers have been installed and they were operable. I think they're still concerned about the construction of the runway, to see if they can narrow it. Also, Phase 1 of the City Paving has been completed. That will start back up as funds become available and as Newton's Asphalt becomes available also. Also the Rt 39 paving, they will be working evenings. By the end of next week they should be wrapping that project up so you will see them in Phila. by Thursday at the latest. Also, as of late this afternoon we were awarded a small city paving grant in the amount of \$1, 235,500.00. That will be in construction year 2023. (Mr. McAbier emailed a list of streets that will be paved and cost per project to Council)

Mr. Holland had the following question:

We had discussed the possibility of constructing a narrow brick walkway on Broadway. Could that be accomplished?

Mr. McAbier had the following the response:

In talking with the Mayor, he would like a picture of what the whole area would look like versus just right there.

Mr. Zucal had the following response:

Once again I'd like to see some action being done on Glen Dr. It's been a month now and I visit with the citizens repeatedly. It's deplorable and embarrassing to the City of New Philadelphia. I can tell you the other street that's not that far behind is Darrell Dr. Don, having been a resident of that area you know the concrete is starting to buckle there as well. None of those citizens deserve to put up with that. Anything we could do to address that issue beyond just the flooding would be deeply appreciated.

AUDITORMS. BETH GUNDY.....EXCUSED ABSENSE

SAFETY DIRECTORMR. GREG POPHAM.....NO REPORT

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

LAW DIRECTOR MR. MARVIN FETE.....NO REPORT

BOARD/COMMISSION REPORTS:

PLANNING COMMISSION.....MAYOR JOEL DAY

The Planning Commission's will not meet this month. Our next meeting will be September 8.

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

Our next meeting will be Tuesday, September 8 at 5:00 PM in Council Chambers.

AIRPORT COMMISSION.....MR. JOHN ZUCAL

The Airport Commission will meet tomorrow evening, Tuesday, August 11, 2020 at 6:00 PM. However I would like to notify members of Council, Administration, and the Community that may be listening in. We do have a change of venue for our meeting. It will not be here in the Knisely Center. It has been moved to the Park Pavilion due to some work being done here in Council Chambers.

PARK BOARD.....MRS. AIMEE MAY

The Park Board will meet August 14 at Noon at Tuscora Park.

CEMETERY BOARD.....MRS. AIMEE MAY

The Cemetery Board will meet August 20 at 8 o'clock in Council Chambers.

HEALTH BOARD MR. KELLY RICKLIC

The next Health Board Meeting is August 12 at 12:00 PM in Council Chambers.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

FINANCE COMMITTEEMR. ROB MAURER.....NO REPORT

SALARY COMMITTEEMR. JOHN ZUCAL.....NO REPORT

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE.....MR. DEAN HOLLAND.....NO REPORT

SAFETY HEALTH & SERVICE COMMITTEE... .MR. KELLY RICKLIC.....NO REPORT

ZONING & ANNEXATION COMMITTEE.....MRS. CHERYL RAMOS.....EXCUSED ABSENSE

SPECIAL & CONTACT COMMITTEEMR DAN LANZER.....NO REPORT

PARKS & CEMETERY COMMITTEE.....MRS. AIMEE MAY.....NO REPORT

VISITOR'S COMMENTS: NONE

COUNCIL COMMENTS:

Mr. Holland had the following comment:

Just to bring everybody up to date concerning the audio/video system, all the equipment has been received and they begin work tomorrow evening after 5:00 installing the video and cabling. That will go Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 5:00 to about 7:00- 7:30. It should be completely installed Thursday evening.

READING OF ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

ORDINANCES: NONE

RESOLUTIONS: NONE

UNFINISHED OR OLD BUSINESS: NONE

NEW BUSINESS:

President Kemp had the following comment:

I sent out an email about the family that lives outside of the City limits and they want to attach to City water. The well is bad. There are two brothers who live there and one of them is handicapped. They're asking to tap onto the City water and pay for all the hookup charges.

Law Director Fete had the following comment:

Usually there's a recommendation from the Service Director on something like this and then Council does a voice vote.

Service Director McAbier had the following comment:

My recommendation would be not to let them hook up to the City water.

Mr. Zucal had the following comment:

We have tried to be very consistent with how we handle these situations but it does concern me right now that we have an individual who's disabled in a home, three weeks without water and potentially not having the ability to financially be able to have a new well to provide them with that. That just worries me whether or not it's someone within the City or a couple houses outside the City just from a human perspective. If someone's without water or someone with a disability who may need that water. I don't know if there's something that we can do that's reasonable or some avenues that we can explore. To do nothing it just concerns me. I hate to just write someone off given those circumstances.

Mr. Ricklic had the following comment:

I'm compassionate for someone without water. I know it's something we all need.

Mrs. May had the following comment:

I understand what you're saying Mr. Zucal. Every meeting we come in here and we have to be consistent with every single thing that we do and transparent and this is no different.

Mr. Zucal had the following comment:

I understand what you're saying. My concern is the human side. I also understand that consistency is critical, but I also feel for someone and if we can't do something as a City is there a resource available that we can speak to to assist someone to at least get some water in their home and trying to help them out. We work hard as a community to provide water for folks all around the world who are water deprived. If there could be some exploration done. If the number is given to me I'd be happy to talk to them and see what we can do to help them.

ROLL CALL VOTE

4 NO, 2 ABSTAIN (MR. ZUCAL AND MR. RICKLIC)

THE WATER HOOK UP WAS NOT APPROVED

Mr. Maurer motioned to adjourn at 8:00pm

CLERK OF COUNCIL _____
Julie Courtright

APPROVED _____

PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL _____
Don Kemp