

**CITY OF HIRAM COUNCIL MEETING
REGULAR SESSION MINUTES
Tuesday, March 5, 2024**



Councilmembers in Attendance: Mayor Frank Moran, Mayor Pro Tem Melissa R. Bayardelle, Councilmember Robert Tressel, Councilmember Tiffany Carroll, Councilmember Derrick Battle, Councilmember Doris Devey.

Staff in Attendance: Jody Palmer, J. Jayson Phillips, Melissa Chosewood, Leo Parker, Chief Michael Turner, Clifford McGrady, Isabella Orr.

The Regular Session for March 5, 2024 was called to order by Mayor Frank Moran at 6:00pm in the Municipal Annex.

- Mayor Moran recognized County Commission Chairman David Carmichael, Post 2 Commissioner Sandy Kaecher, County Manager Frank Baker, and Michael Hughes from Paulding County Economic Development Organization in attendance.
- Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance led by Pastor Clifford McGrady.
- Michael Hughes made a presentation about Paulding County Economic Development Organization.
- Mayor recognized Mayor Pro Tem Bayardelle's receipt of a Certificate of Recognition following the completion of requirements through the Harold F. Holtz Municipal Training Institute.

24-028: Councilmember Devey made a motion to approve the minutes from the February 6, 2024 Regular Session and the February 26, 2024 Work Session. Councilmember Battle seconded the motion.

Post 1, Tressel – Yes Post 2, Carroll – Yes
Post 3, Bayardelle – Yes Post 4, Battle – Yes
Post 5, Devey – Yes
Motion passes: 5-0

24-029: Councilmember Battle made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Mayor Pro Tem Bayardelle seconded the motion.

Consent Agenda

- a) Approving FY24 mid-year budget amendments, as presented at the February 26, 2024 Work Session.
- b) Authorizing septic system upgrade at the public works facility, by Hutch and Co. Plumbing & Septic in an amount not to exceed \$11,525.00, to be funded by Public Works General M&O.
- c) Authorizing Boy Scout Troop 7 to use the parking lot of 76 Seaboard Street on March 22 and 23rd, 2024 for pine straw fundraiser pick up site.

Post 1, Tressel – Yes Post 2, Carroll – Yes
Post 3, Bayardelle – Yes Post 4, Battle – Yes
Post 5, Devey – Yes
Motion passes: 5-0

24-030: Councilmember Devey made a motion to adopt Resolution 2024-04, affirming the request for annexation by Local Act of the General Assembly. Councilmember Tressel seconded the motion. Councilmember Battle requested clarification on referendum/residents of annexation.

Post 1, Tressel – Yes Post 2, Carroll – No
Post 3, Bayardelle – No Post 4, Battle – No
Post 5, Devey – Yes
Motion fails: 2-3

24-031: Councilmember Tressel made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2024-01, approving an increase of the City Manager's spending limit from \$5,000.00 to \$25,000.00. Councilmember Devey seconded the motion.

Post 1, Tressel – Yes Post 2, Carroll – Yes
Post 3, Bayardelle – Yes Post 4, Battle – Yes
Post 5, Devey – Yes
Motion passes: 5-0

24-032: Mayor Pro Tem Bayardelle made a motion to authorize a \$1,500.00 sponsorship, including a table for 8, for the Paulding Chamber Gala on March 23, 2024, to be funded by the Elected Officials Special Events/Sponsorship budget. Councilmember Carroll seconded the motion.

Post 1, Tressel – No Post 2, Carroll – Yes
Post 3, Bayardelle – Yes Post 4, Battle – No
Post 5, Devey – No
Motion fails: 2-3



24-033: Mayor Pro Tem Bayardelle made a motion to authorize the purchase of a 2024 Ford F-550 with dump body from Hardy Family Ford, in an amount not to exceed \$80,000.00, to include \$5,968.00 for outfitting, to be funded by Park SPLOST and Street SPLOST, \$40,000.00 each. Councilmember Devey seconded the motion.

Post 1, Tressel – Yes Post 2, Carroll – Yes
Post 3, Bayardelle – Yes Post 4, Battle – Yes
Post 5, Devey – Yes
Motion passes: 5-0

24-034: Councilmember Tressel made a motion to table the action regarding the agreement with Hiram Hospitality League, Inc. regarding hotel motel excise tax disbursement. Councilmember Devey seconded the motion. Discussed why tabled.

Post 1, Tressel – Yes Post 2, Carroll – No
Post 3, Bayardelle – No Post 4, Battle – Yes
Post 5, Devey – Yes
Motion passes: 3-2

- Mayor Moran mentioned upcoming news and events:
 - March 26: Work Session at 6pm
 - March 8-9: Tuff Shed Event at Home Depot
 - Farewell and best wishes to Isabella as she embarks on her journey with the Peace Corps
- Melissa Chosewood thanked Isabella for her work as Deputy City Clerk, citing her accomplishments with the new city website and the city's social media presence. She then asked for further clarification regarding the statements made by Mayor Pro Tem Bayardelle and Councilmember Carroll during the February 26, 2024 Work Session regarding meeting recordings.
- Mayor Pro Tem Bayardelle requested that the subject matter be discussed after the meeting.
- Jody Palmer thanked Isabella for her work and wished her luck during her service with the Peace Corps.
- Mayor Pro Tem Bayardelle recognized the downtown merchants in attendance and mentioned the upcoming Seniors Helping Seniors event on March 22, 2024 at Affectionate Cuizine from 9AM-11AM.
- Councilmember Devey thanked Isabella for her work and wished her luck.
- Tyrone Griffin from the Hiram Rosenwald School and Museum asked to formally request Gray's Mill Park for a Juneteenth Event to be held on Saturday, June 15, 2024.

24-035: Councilmember Battle made a motion to adjourn the Regular Session. Councilmember Tressel seconded the motion.

Post 1, Tressel – Yes Post 2, Carroll – Yes
Post 3, Bayardelle – Yes Post 4, Battle – Yes
Post 5, Devey – Yes
Motion passes: 5-0

City Clerk

Approved: April 9, 2024