

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of

Kenton City Council

Meeting

Lilienthal Southeastern, Inc., 1-800-837-1904, Re-Order 68665K

Held January 23, 2023

20

2nd REGULAR SESSION:

Kenton City Council met in their 2nd Regular Session on January 23, 2023, at 7:00 PM, in Council Chambers. Present: President Joel Althausser, Sue Fox Buroker, David Beazley, Ray Lawrence, Pegg Wren, Robin Jones, Anda Tudor, Mayor Lynn Webb, Safety Service Director Cindy Murray. Absent: Antwillia Davis, Law Director John Schwemer

Prayer given by President Althausser and the Pledge of Allegiance recited.

MINUTES:

Althausser: Are there any additions or corrections to the prior minutes? Hearing none, they'll stand approved as submitted.

CITIZENS REQUESTING TIME TO SPEAK:

None.

COMMUNICATIONS:

Althausser: We do have one item of communication; we can pass around. It is from the West Central Association of Realtors; notifying us of one of our own who has a couple of leadership positions in that organization, again another year and that is why Antwillia is not here this evening. She will be on the, Pegg help me, she's past president and she will be on the National Association of Realtors board. So, kudos to Antwillia, very active in that organization and Emma is passing around the communication we received from them.

PETITIONS:

None.

ADMINISTRATION REPORTS:

Althausser: We have quite a few being the, really getting the 2022 behind us. Chief Musser has two reports; his annual report, and then also the monthly report for December, 2022. Chief do you want to talk at all tonight, or?

Chief Musser: Sure, I just wanted to point out a couple of things; some of the numbers on here could be somewhat misleading; for example, under the sex offense arrest, it's on page 3, on the right, it says zero. Right but, when you look at sex offense calls we have 12. So, one may infer that we've had 12 reports of sex offenses with zero arrest but I want you to understand if we have sex offense calls; more than likely it's a felony offense and not reported most of the time until after the fact. So, there are cases that go through the investigative process and then through a grand jury. For example, if you've been reading the paper, the larger case we have of child pornography case that happened in 2022, it's actually being in from of a grand just and prosecuted in 2023. So, that's not really representative of the work we're getting done in regard to those sex offense calls. I just wanted to make that clear because it does look, the optics of it look pretty bad. Use of force/response to resistance; that looks really great we haven't had and use of force cases, but we have. We've had plenty. The thing is, we used to track use of force on a separate form, that we had to do separate apart from our arrest and our incident report but we've been using a system that's uploaded to the Attorney General's Office that has a very extensive use of force reporting section in it. So, that wasn't a thing years ago; we had to track that all ourselves. Now it's tracked and uploaded to the state every time we have to do a report. So, in hindsight I should just take that cell out of there, so that its...But the officer injury, that's a true number.

Beazley: That's what I was going to ask.

Musser: And lastly, Council President pointed out overtime hours were 550. That's a good number for sure but I should point out, the real number is 1,734; 550 is the paid overtime, the rest is, we managed through the use of comp time. So guys, they work overtime, they get time and a half; comp time they can build up a bank of the comp time and use it when it doesn't cause overtime and the schedule allows for it. So, it saves us a tremendous amount of money in the overtime budget to have that benefit. So, that's good.

Beazley: That is legally negotiated within their contract?

Musser: Yup. Any questions about the report at all? Okay thanks.

Althausser: Thank you Chief. Next up would be fire, Bruce has two reports in there also, his annual report and December 22 report. You might take a look at that. If you have questions, please seek out the Chief and ask him or I'm certain he'll probably be at our next meeting and you can ask him then

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20

also. Any questions on the fire report that were submitted? Okay, I'm going to jump down to who's here, actually I think our next report in your packet would be the report from the auditor and treasurer to the mayor; that's something we get every month. Are there any questions with regards to that report? To the best of my knowledge the auditor's office has nothing else to report tonight. So, that means we are to you Cindy.

Cindy Murray: I just want to report we do have two openings; one down at the Public Works Department and one at the Water Treatment. I think they're both out on the website. So, if anybody is interested in applying, or knows somebody that is interested in applying; please direct them toward our website.

Althaus: Any comment or any questions for her regarding the monthly report for public works or the monthly discharge report? Okay, Mayor Webb.

Lynn Webb: I just want to touch base about income tax, the department, and where we are with laughing the new software; it's been, it's crunch time and it's that big time for changeover. So, we're moving right into that. We're tying up some loose ends, training has been completed for the most part, all the forms will be updated by Friday and we will be able to e-file online. There will be a postcard that will be send out tomorrow. We're working with Golden Graphics. We'll put out too to Facebook and to the media; do not throw that postcard away because it has valuable information on it and we will make sure we communicate that. Also, we will not be accepting returns until Friday, January 27th. So, FYI that's when we'll go live with the new Civica Income Tax Software. So, we'll be ready to roll on the 27th. Any questions?

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES AND/OR SPECIAL COMMITTEES:

Althaus: Obviously finance met before tonight's meeting.

Beazley: Yessir, they did meet; we had several items that were discussed, many of them you will see in the form of legislation either tonight or in subsequent meetings. One item I would draw to your attention, based on the report we just went through; under the annual report for the Fire Department is shows 761 runs within the city by the EMS, if you go to the reports generated by the Auditor's office under the fund reports; that created receipt for us of over \$152,000 with just over \$30,000 of expenses. So, it produced \$122,000+ to our general fund to help offset the expenses of payroll and otherwise within that department. I did want to draw that to everyone's attention, if we can correlate those reports in our mind.

Althaus: Any questions for Finance Committee? Does MOP have a report?

Pegg Wren: No, not tonight.

Althaus: Public Utilities?

Robin Jones: Yes, we had a Public Utilities meeting and some things that we're working on are; administration fees, frozen pipes policies, ways to inform the public about the new policies we're putting in place, and payment arrangements. So, our next meeting will be February 15th at 1 o'clock here and I think we're working toward getting all in line with what the fees will be and the rules and regulations to follow and those will all be printed up and people will be made aware of that.

Althaus: Any questions for Robin or the committee? Thanks Robin. Streets, Alleys, Sidewalks, any report?

Ray Lawrence: No Streets, Alleys, Sidewalks.

Althaus: Finally, Legislation, Codes, Regulations?

Lawrence: Legislation did meet; they're still looking into future ordinance over solar but it's still in the works.

Althaus: It does sound like solar is going to be a big task.

Lawrence: It does, yeah. They've made it a priority and are moving forward with it, but nothing at this time.

REPORTS FROM COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Althaus: Do any council member who are on an individual appointment have a report?

Jones: Parks & Rec is included in your packet and the dates are also included in the packet that Jacqueline printed out and they had a really good meeting, approved a lot of things and so I think it's all self-explanatory in your packet.

Beazley: Mr. President I did not receive any Park & Rec.

Althaus: I don't think we got any of the Parks & Rec.

Held January 23, 2023

20

Jones: It was laying at your station.

Beazley: I didn't get that either.

Jones: And she did put it, she did I think, put it on an email too, earlier today, or yesterday.

Webb: She printed a bunch off. Is there some on the podium?

Jones: Does anybody need one? They can have mine.

Beazley: Yes, please. Cindy didn't have one either. Thank you.

Jones: There's all the information that was discussed at that last meeting in that. So, if you have any questions, just ask. They discussed pool prices; they're remain the same this year as they were last year, the park & quarry managers are still Deb & Don Purcell, and they have a really good board. So, you could reach out to any board member too, that you needed to talk with. Did everybody get one, park & rec?

Sue Fox-Buroker: The Tree Commission did meet and they're looking to, they have 8 trees; they need 12 more. They want, their goal is to plant 20 this next, this next year. That was the main thing; they talked about a few stumps that they missed that still need to be taken out and there was some talk about the Chad Roof Park, but other than that; pretty short meeting.

OLD BUSINESS:

None.

NEW BUSINESS:

Althaus: I would like a motion to consider Antwillia's absence.

Motion by Mrs. Wren and second by Ms. Jones to excuse Antwillia Davis's absence from the meeting.

Althaus: Any discussion?

(Roll call vote, 6 ayes, motion carried)

ORDINANCES/RESOLUTIONS:

1ST READING

- **ORDINANCE NO. 23-002, TITLE ONLY; AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS AND FOR TRANSFERRING FUND FOR THE YEAR 2023, FOR THE CITY OF KENTON, OHIO, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

Althaus: We do have an explanation sheet. David, is there anything you want to follow up on this?

Beazley: The aforementioned post cards that the Income Tax Department is going to be sending out tomorrow are one of the items that we're trying to pay for here. I believe that there was a need to move forward on this; and some repairs on the street lights have been done and we're anticipating that to be able to roll in anytime as well. That would be the reasons for the urgency in this particular legislation, Mr. President.

Motion by Mr. Beazley and second by Ms. Jones that the rules requiring legislation of a permanent or general nature to be read on three separate days, be suspended. Roll call vote, 6 ayes; motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Beazley and second by Mr. Lawrence to adopt Ordinance No. 23-002.

Althaus: Any discussion?

(Roll call vote, 6 ayes, motion carried)

2ND READING

None.

3RD READING

- **RESOLUTION NO. 22-011, TITLE ONLY; A RESOLUTION FINALIZING THE ACTIONS UNDER THE ORDINANCE NO. 22-021 TO PERMIT THE CITY OF KENTON, OHIO TO ENTER INTO A HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT WITH THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

Althaus: Okay, it's been read 3 times, any questions?

Motion by Mr. Beazley and second by Mrs. Buroker to adopt Resolution No. 22-011.

Althaus: Any discussion?

(Roll call vote, 6 ayes, motion carried)

SCHEDULING OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS:

Althaus: We did have an announcement that there will be a Public Utilities meeting on the 15th of February at 1pm, here in council chambers. Any other meetings scheduled at this time?

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Murray: We have a Legislation in March; I don't know if it's the 8th or the 15th.

Althausser: But it's in March?

Murray: It's in March, yes. Nothing in February.

Althausser: And I believe it's on the calendar already.

Lawrence: Yeah, 15th.

Murray: At 3:30.

Althausser: Okay.

OTHER MATTERS:

None.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:

None.

COMMENTS FROM THE NEWS MEDIA:

None.

COMMENTS FROM COUNCIL MEMBERS AND ADMINISTRATION:

Althausser: I'm going to start, and I'm going to double check with Brian and make certain he has nothing really to talk about tonight. Nope, okay. Chief, last words?

Musser: Nothing, thanks.

Althausser: Alright, Sue?

Buroker: Nothing.

Althausser: David? Ray? Pegg? Anda?

Anda Tudor: No.

Althausser: Robin?

Jones: No, thank you.

Althausser: Cindy, Lynn?

Murray: Yes, I've got something. You can come back to her. I forgot to say that tomorrow we are doing civil service testing for our new sergeant that will be replacing our retirement and then in the afternoon, the entry level patrolman testing, good news for our Police Department. Weather is supposed to get bad tomorrow night. So, just a reminder that we do not salt all the side streets. We do salt main road and some intersections and some other places that we know are hazardous like hillsides. So, use caution.

Althausser: Well, with that; I really have nothing to add. I would comment on some social media posts, but I will refrain from doing so; that involves semis. Anyway, with that I would remind everyone that our next meeting is February 13th, here, so I think my math, that's a 3 week. Okay so, we have a 3 week break until our next meeting. Everyone be careful in the weather coming up and if there are no objections; we are adjourned.

Joel Althausser, President of Council

Emma Boutwell, Clerk