

CHRISTOPHER HALLUM
President of Council

MICHAEL KLINE
Vice President of Council

GLORIA MAJESKI
Clerk of Council, Pro Tem
3/25/21 meeting

COUNCIL:

NANCY E. FELLOWS

JOE JARMUSZKIEWICZ

DANIEL KNECHT

TANYA TAYLOR DRAPER

DANIEL ZEGARAC

City of Willoughby Hills

Regular Council Meeting

Minutes of March 25, 2021

Policy No. 2: All Council meetings shall be recorded by audio recording device and will be held in perpetuity and shall be part of the official records and minutes. Written minutes of Council shall be shortened whenever possible.

The Regular Council Meeting was called to order on Thursday, March 25, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. remotely, using Zoom and Facebook Live. Council President Hallum presided.

Pledge of Allegiance (Audio: 1:08-1:29)

ROLL CALL (by Council President Chris Hallum) (Audio: 1:35-1:58)

Members Present: Council President Chris Hallum, Councilman Joe Jarmuszkiewicz, Council Vice President Mike Kline, Councilman Dan Knecht, Councilwoman Tanya Taylor Draper, Councilman Dan Zegarac and Councilwoman Nancy Fellows.

Also Present: Mayor Andy Gardner, Law Director Michael C. Lucas, Finance Director Frank Brichacek and City Engineer Pete DiFranco.

APPOINTMENT OF CLERK PRO-TEM (Audio: 2:01-2:45)

Motion made by Councilwoman Taylor Draper seconded by **Councilwoman Fellows** to appoint **Gloria Majeski** as Council Clerk Pro Tem for tonight's meeting.

Roll Call: AYES: Hallum, Jarmuszkiewicz, Kline, Knecht, Taylor Draper, Zegarac and Fellows.

NAYS: None

Vote: 7/0

Motion Carries to appoint Gloria Majeski as Council Clerk Pro Tem for tonight's meeting.

DISPOSITION OF THE JOURNAL (Audio: 2:54-3:52)

Motion made by Council Vice President Kline seconded by **Councilman Zegarac** adopt the minutes of the March 11, 2021 Regular Council Meeting.

Roll Call: AYES: Hallum, Jarmuszkiewicz, Kline, Knecht, Taylor Draper, Zegarac and Fellows.

NAYS: None

Vote: 7/0

Motion Carries to adopt the minutes of the Regular Council meeting of March 11, 2021.

COUNCIL CORRESPONDENCE AND MISCELLANEOUS REPORTS (Audio: 3:54-4:09)

Email dated 3/17/21 from Lake County Port Authority re. 2020 Economic Dashboard and Unemployment Reports for December 2020 and January 2021

Email dated 3/17/21 from Ohio Municipal Clerks Association (OMCA) re. National Public Health Awareness Week on April 5th to 11th

Email dated 3/19/21 from Newsletter.com re. City E-Newsletter 031921

Emails dated 3/19/21 from Gloria Majeski re. Agenda for 3/23/21 Finance Committee Meeting & amended Agenda for 3/23/21 Finance Committee Meeting

Email dated 3/19/21 from OH Municipal League re. Legislative Bulletin dated 3/19/21

Email dated 3/21/21 from City Engineer DiFranco re. City Engineer Report dated 3/21/21

Email dated 3/22/21 from PC-ABR Clerk re. PC-ABR Meeting notification for April 1, 2021

Email dated 3/22/21 from Finance Director Brichacek re. 2021 Operating Budget Revisions as of 3/22/21

Email dated 3/23/21 from NOACA re. Registration for the NEO Regional Collaboration Panel Discussion set for April 1, 2021 from noon to 1pm

PUBLIC PORTION #1 (Audio: 4:10-13:13)

An opportunity for the public to address Council concerning anything pertaining to tonight's agenda

Public Portion #1 opened at 7:04 p.m.

Jenna Bing, 36951 Beech Hills Drive, Willoughby Hills, OH 44094

Mrs. Bing gave thanks to Gloria Majeski and Finance Director Brichacek for providing her with budget information. She appreciated seeing the "layout" and compared it to previous budgets. Mrs. Bing called this budget a "wake up call to all of us for such a large deficit," stating that "90%+ of our budget goes to personnel and benefits. The City was generous in Fire and Police contracts and it may be hard for residents to see all of this having to be paid for." She noted that there was a "23% increase in spending over the past five years." "Revenue has not seen the same increase." She does not believe a tax increase is a solution, given the number of elderly and young families in our community who cannot afford extra taxes. Mrs. Bing concluded with the fact that she is "chagrined" and while she does not have the answers, she believes Council is paid to "figure this out."

Public Portion #1 closed at 7:07 p.m.

Questions/comments following Public Portion #1:

Council Vice President Kline stated that he reviewed the 2020 State Employment Relations Board (SERB) Wage Settlement Report which shows that Willoughby Hills is actually below the average for increases given out for new contracts. He would defer to the Finance Director regarding increases in the Safety Forces. **Council President Hallum** stated that Administration has done a "good job with negotiations and a good job to keep things in check with 0%, 2%, and 2% increases over the three-year contract. **Finance Director Brichacek** pointed out that the biggest change in the Safety Forces is the Fire Department staffing increase, from 9 full-time members to 12 full-time members. **Council President Hallum** asked about more revenue coming after we complete the new business tax abatements (offered to Produce Packaging and Hospice of Western Reserve). **Finance Director Brichacek** stated "that is correct." In this year's budget, \$150,000 is budgeted for Produce Packaging Incentive Grant and Hospice of Western Reserve and both were

positive influences on the City. **Mayor Gardner** extended thanks to Council and agreed that the SERB report is important. He added that the “open door policy” shown to Council by the Department Directors helped everyone to understand this undertaking. We will proceed with an “aggressively managed budget this year and our goal is to have a surplus at year end.”

MAYOR’S REPORT (Audio: 13:17-21:14)

Mayor Gardner reported:

1) COVID Update:

We are “trending in the right direction.” We are hoping to fall out of the red level with Lake County numbers decreasing to nearly 20 cases per day. Regional vaccines are coming on line. Willoughby Hills Community Center hosted its second vaccine POD on Wednesday, with the 512 people returning for their second vaccine. Our previously scheduled PODS have been temporarily canceled due to the mass vaccine PODS coming to Mentor Fine Arts and Lakeland Community College. All PODS seem to have run smoothly. Thanks to all involved to make WHCC a successful POD. Appointments may be obtained through LCGHD and through the State’s website. On April 1, Governor DeWine will be opening more vaccine appointments at the Wolstein Center.

2) Just a reminder to sign up for the City E-Newsletter at e-newsletter@willoughbyhills-oh.gov.

3) Fire Department Report: 155 runs this month (38 were overlapping); 303 YTD. Of the 155 runs, 106 were EMS responses. The FD responded to 3 structure fires and 38 service runs. For the month 6 mutual calls were received and 8 were given. There was a Pine Ridge compactor fire last week and many departments were called in to help. The Fire Department will conduct some training in the apartments so residents are prepared for this type of emergency in the future. The Department is also disseminating information on fire pits and the City’s “no open burning” policy.

4) Service Department – The Service Department will be doing a spring leaf clean up during the week of April 12. Yard waste will begin on 4/1 (more than 50% of our residents utilized the yard waste service last year according to information received from Republic), but the one week of leaf pickup should help with leaves (taken to the curb/edge of your property).

5) There is a high wind warning tonight and tomorrow morning. Watch for downed wires.

6) Master Plan Subcommittee has set up Public Hearings for April 12 and April 14 at 6:00 p.m.

7) Recreation Commission is still looking for volunteers to serve on the Commission.

8) Saturday, June 12, 2021 from 9 to noon is Shred Day. The Spring Garage Sale is set for Saturday, April 24, 2021, with application deadline as April 16, 2021. Applications are on the City website.

9) Sympathy to the Sacerich family on the passing of Bob’s sister, Millie.

Questions/comments following the Mayor’s Report:

Councilwoman Taylor Draper asked if there was an update on the Zoning Administrator position. **Mayor Gardner** stated that a good candidate had been interviewed, and if the budget passes, we can move forward to get that person hired.

LAW DIRECTOR'S REPORT (Audio: 21:17-23:09)

Law Director Lucas reported:

With regard to Ordinance 2021-15, which provides for amendments to Chapter 157 of the Codified Ordinances is still being reviewed. He has met with Finance Director Brichacek. The ordinances from 2008 to present are being reviewed. He plans to meet with Finance Director Brichacek again with the hope of putting all applicable ordinances with Chapter 157. It would be more "user friendly."

Questions/comments following the Law Director's Report:

None

FINANCE DIRECTOR'S REPORT (Audio: 23:35-28:48)

Finance Director Brichacek reported:

- 1) Ordinance 2021-12 which adopted the City's 2021 operating budget is on Third Reading tonight. He requested that the Ordinance's current Schedule A (dated March 10, 2021) be replaced by the Schedule A dated March 22, 2021. These changes reduced the projected 2021 General Fund deficit from \$664,300 to \$383,900. He requested that the Ordinance be adopted tonight. State law requires the City to adopt an annual appropriation ordinance by no later than March 31, 2021.
- 2) After three months, income tax receipts total approximately \$1,393,600 which is approximately 1.6% behind the \$1,416,400 received through the first three months of 2020. Given that this period of time was pre-pandemic shutdown, this is an encouraging sign for the 2021 collections.
- 3) The City's new auditors, Rea and Associates, began the 2019-2020 audit this week. We also continue to work with the State Auditor's Local Government Service Division on the compilation of the 2020 GAAP financial statements.
- 4) The City's next Coronavirus Grant report is due March 5, for the period ending February 28th, which he will be finalizing next week.

Questions/comments following the Finance Director's Report:

Councilman Zegarac stated that with the anticipated deficit, we will be close to where we were in January 2021 since we increased the surplus by \$300,000. **Finance Director Brichacek** stated that it is actually \$254,000. The current budget maintains service levels. **Councilman Jarmuszkiewicz** asked about deficit budgets – is this only Willoughby Hills or other cities as well? **Finance Director Brichacek** stated that "this is not unusual. Many cities are coming off of a hard financial year. The City should maintain its fund balance. It was a challenging year. If revenue remains at the 2020 level, then we will make decision next year in service levels." He then thanked all for their concern when he missed the last Council meeting (due to a car accident).

CITY ENGINEER'S REPORT (Audio: 28:50-30:34)

City Engineer DiFranco reported:

- 1) He is preparing to advertise for bids for the Dodd Road Slope Repair Project now that the geotechnical report has been received. It is will be a "design build" which is "quicker and should be at a lower cost for the project."

- 2) Street Rehab, Sewer Rehab and Pavement Markings Program bids were received today. There were more bids than usual and all came in under the Engineer's estimate. Recommendations will be forthcoming after the review is complete.

Questions/comments following City Engineer's Report:

Council Vice President Kline asked about road closures during the Dodd Road Slope Repair project. **City Engineer DiFranco** stated that it likely will, but it will be "up to the contractor to determine how long and when."

COMMITTEE REPORTS/BOARD & COMMISSION REPORTS (Audio: 30:37-38:28)

Finance Committee by Vice President Kline: (Audio: 30:37-31:50)

Council Vice President reported that Council held its second Finance Committee meeting last week to discuss the budget. He thanked Council for their efforts, "for doing their homework," and stated he was impressed with the questions asked by Council members and the responses from the Department Directors. He felt that the responses showed that the Department Heads are "on top of their departments." **Council President Hallum** reminded all that the recordings of these meetings are on the City website, as well as on the City's Facebook page. The last meeting was a two-hour meeting.

Recreation Commission Report by Councilman Jarmuszkiewicz: (Audio: 31:53-33:38)

Councilman Jarmuszkiewicz reported that April 24 is the Garage Sale Day, with registration due by April 16. The Recreation Commission needs one or two more volunteer on the Commission. Baseball and softball signups are ongoing, with registration due April 1. He reminded all that you do not need to be a resident to join. The league is open to surrounding communities as well.

PC-ABR – reported by Councilwoman Taylor Draper: (Audio: 33:39-35:46)

Councilwoman Taylor Draper reported that PC-ABR met on Thursday, March 18. In the ABR portion of the meeting, one house addition was approved at 35850 Maple Grove Road, and the Gaetano sign was approved at 2747C SOM Center for our newest Italian restaurant. In the Planning and Zoning portion of the meeting, a lot split on White Road was approved (on the border of Richmond Heights). ProBuilt single family homes will be built there.

The Master Plan Public Hearings are set for April 12 and April 14 at 6:00 p.m. via Zoom. You can email PC-ABR, call a Council member with your suggestions, or mail/drop off any suggestions at City Hall.

Questions/comments following Committee Reports: (Audio: 35:50-38:28)

Councilwoman Fellows asked **City Engineer DiFranco** about the number of acres and number of homes anticipated on the White Road 12-acre property. **City Engineer DiFranco** stated that 3 new lots will be about 2 acres each plus one remaining lot on the 12 acres. There are wetlands, flood plan and stream issues so that it could not be fully developed.

Council President Hallum reminded all that the Charter Review Commission is still meeting and welcomes all to share their input, either via email or by dropping something off at City Hall. They are "covering a lot

of ground and are discussing all ideas that are submitted. **Councilman Zegarac** stated that he has been in contact with First Energy and awaits the close of the first quarter statistics regarding power outages that may have been a result of the equipment or substation. He added that he looks forward to hearing from First Energy once the first quarter closes.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS (Audio: 38:34-48:43)

Councilwoman Taylor Draper shared an email regarding resident concerns about trash in the City that came from Mr. Joshua Patty, 2960 Legend Lane. She asked about the City taking a “proactive approach,” asking “if Service can go out and gather it if it is after a windstorm for example.” **Council President Hallum** stated that he had mentioned an ordinance in the past to address this concern and “we should look at that.” He stated that he had done some research since the last Council meeting and stopped by several businesses on Bishop, which resulted in landscapers taking care of it and it “looked better.” He has spoken with a representative from Willoughby Municipal Court in the hope that there may be some individuals who need to do community service hours that could help out at no cost and he will share the information once he receives a response. **Councilwoman Taylor Draper** stated that **Councilman Jarmuszkiewicz** had also mentioned that perhaps the Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts would be able to help. **Council President Hallum** stated that he feels that the problem has been exacerbated with people at drive-thru restaurants with the trash perhaps coming from cars. **Councilwoman Fellows** stated that she had not recently reviewed **Council President Hallum’s** previously proposed ordinance, but recalled it to fine owners of vacant properties or sold properties that were turned over to banks. “It was not just about clean up, but we have an ordinance on property maintenance already.” She stated that the previous Building Commissioner took care of enforcing the property maintenance ordinance. **Councilwoman Taylor Draper** asked the Mayor if this would be part of the zoning inspector’s job. **Mayor Gardner** stated that it would be part of the job. He recognizes that businesses are struggling and some are still not fully staffed. It takes twice the time to get landscapers out. Road Superintendent Grubiss helps with this, only for trash that is in the right of way, not in the street or private property. The City Engineer has sent out violation letters. **Councilwoman Taylor Draper** agreed that she was not suggesting punitive reaction, but once we see it, we should address it. For habitual violators (such as BP and McDonald’s), the owners should be picking it up. **Council President Hallum** stated in closing that his proposed ordinance was to provide contacts for vacated property so they could be notified to clean it up. Fines were a “last resort.”

LEGISLATION (Audio: 48:48-1:16:27)

ORDINANCE 2021-012 – AMENDED – THIRD READING (Audio: 48:48-1:04:03 and 1:11:37-1:12:43)

AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING PERMANENT APPROPRIATIONS NECESSARY TO MAINTAIN CITY SERVICES FOR THE FISCAL PERIOD BEGINNING JANUARY 1ST THROUGH DECEMBER 31ST OF 2021; REPEALING ALL LEGISLATION INCONSISTENT HEREWITH.

Motion was made by **Council Vice President Kline** seconded by **Councilman Zegarac** to amend Ordinance 2021-012 to reflect the revised “Exhibit A” which is dated March 22, 2021.

Discussion on the Motion:

Council Vice President Kline stated that he supports the ordinance because Administration initially presented a budget with a larger deficit, then all did their due diligence to reduce \$280,000 from the deficit. He realized the times we are living in, with it being “historic” and “unique” for the entire world. He looked at the last seven budgets from 2014 through 2020 and over those 7 years, there were 5 deficit budgets and 2 surplus budgets. Of the 5 deficit budgets, there were 2 that were higher than this proposed budget. He spoke of the results of previous budget deficits ending up being surplus performance budgets. **Council Vice President Kline** felt that this speaks to our current and past Administrations and Department Heads’ commitments that recognize “a budget is not a license to spend.” With regard to the “Public Portion” comments that “the City’s surplus should not be used for deficits but should be used for emergencies,” he felt that a national pandemic certainly qualifies.

Councilwoman Fellows stated that her “sentiments have not changed since the temporary budget was proposed for the first quarter.” She cannot support a deficit budget. She feels that is “irresponsible” whether it was cut \$280,000 or not. “The previous Council saw this coming and that is why they took a proactive approach to make the budget cuts that they did.” The Charter allows Council to take over the budget. The Administration presents the budget to Council and the Council has the responsibility to review it. She stated that she may have voted for deficit budgets in the past that she can only attribute to her “lack of knowledge.” She did not support a tax hike (pointing out that both she and former Councilman Dave Fiebig) voted against the tax increase but it went to the voters who approved it. **Councilwoman Fellows** stated that the “climate is changed now” and might not support that. **Councilman Zegarac** stated that he could continue to “scrutinize the budget for a long time” but feels that we need to “move forward.” He stated that **Councilwoman Fellows** had “no comments in the Finance meetings,” and wished she would have expressed her concerns then so we could know her thoughts. Further, he thanked **Council Vice President Kline** for his leadership in the past 30-45 days, acknowledging his patience and budget knowledge. He also acknowledged the work of Mayor Gardner and Finance Director Brichacek. **Council President Hallum** agreed that this year, the Mayor has made everyone available to address any budget concerns. While he agrees that **Councilwoman Fellows** “has her opinion,” he was surprised that no recommendations were made by her on how to fix the budget during the meetings. He would have liked to see more input from a seasoned Council person when discussing the budget. **Councilwoman Taylor Draper** agreed that “everyone is entitled to their opinion, but as a newbie, she would have liked input from **Councilwoman Fellows**.” She felt some input from **Councilwoman Fellows** may have helped her as a new Council person. **Councilman Jarmuszkiewicz** stated, as **Councilwoman Taylor Draper** mentioned, as a “newbie” and it being a “strange year,” he learned a lot and appreciated the Mayor and Finance Director’s response to all of the questions asked. He feels confident that the deficit will not be there at year end. He has confidence in the directors. He stated that we can “look at things for next year for the next budget and continue to monitor how we do things.” **Councilman Knecht** stated that he has the “same sentiments as the others.” While it is not a good thing to pass a deficit budget, we need to consider the emergency this year. We need to take a “hard look” at additional income; find a “right fit for an economic consultant,” and stating things like the

ambulance billing recently adopted by Council to move the City forward in the right direction. “We need to try hard this year to find” additional revenue sources.

Roll Call: AYES: Hallum, Jarmuszkiewicz, Kline, Knecht, Taylor Draper and Zegarac.
NAYS: Fellows
Vote: 6/1

Motion Carries to amend Ordinance 2021-012.

Motion was made by **Councilwoman Taylor Draper** seconded by **Council Vice President Kline** to adopt Ordinance 2021-012, as amended.

Discussion on the Motion:

None

Roll Call: AYES: Hallum, Jarmuszkiewicz, Kline, Knecht, Taylor Draper and Zegarac.
NAYS: Fellows
Vote: 6/1

Motion Carries to adopt Ordinance 2021-012 as amended, adopting permanent appropriations necessary to maintain City services for the fiscal period January 1 through December 31, 2021.

ORDINANCE 2021-015 – SECOND READING (Audio: 1:04:05-1:04:32)

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 157 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF WILLOUGHBY HILLS, TO PROVIDE FOR PROVISIONS RELATING TO PART-TIME EMPLOYMENT, REPEALING CONFLICTING LEGISLATION AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Council President Hallum stated that this will remain on Second Reading.

ORDINANCE 2021-017 – FIRST READING (Audio: 1:04:33-1:05:01)

AN ORDINANCE APPROVING THE EDITING AND INCLUSION OF CERTAIN ORDINANCES AS PARTS OF VARIOUS COMPONENTS OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF WILLOUGHBY HILLS, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Council President Hallum stated that this will remain on First Reading.

ORDINANCE 2021-018 – FIRST READING (Audio: 1:05:04-1:12:54)

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE APPROVAL OF THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION’S (ODOT) REQUESTED ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS TO COMPLETE THE TERMS OF THE AGREEMENT BETWEEN ODOT AND THE CITY OF WILLOUGHBY HILLS PROJECT NO. 112503 PROVIDING FOR THE RESURFACING OF CHARDON ROAD AS OUTLINED IN ORDINANCE 2021-009, IN THE CITY OF WILLOUGHBY HILLS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion was made by **Councilman Jarmuszkiewicz** seconded by **Councilwoman Taylor Draper** to waive Three Readings on Ordinance 2021-018.

Discussion on the Motion:

None

Roll Call: **AYES:** Hallum, Jarmuszkiewicz, Kline, Knecht, Taylor Draper, Zegarac and Fellows.

NAYS: None

Vote: 7/0

Motion Carries to waive Three Readings on Ordinance 2021-018.

Motion was made by **Councilwoman Taylor Draper** seconded by **Councilman Knecht** to adopt Ordinance 2021-018.

Discussion on the Motion:

None

Roll Call: **AYES:** Hallum, Jarmuszkiewicz, Kline, Knecht, Taylor Draper, Zegarac and Fellows.

NAYS: None

Vote: 7/0

Motion Carries to adopt Ordinance 2021-018 authorizing the approval of the ODOT requested additional requirements to complete the terms of the agreement between ODOT and the City of Willoughby Hills Project No. 112503 providing for the resurfacing of Chardon Road as outlined in Ordinance 2021-009.

ORDINANCE 2021-019 – FIRST READING (Audio: 1:13:04-1:13:46)

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF WILLOUGHBY HILLS TO SIGN ANY AND ALL DOCUMENTS FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION'S (ODOT) ROAD SALT CONTRACTS AWARDED IN 2021 IN ACCORDANCE WITH OHIO REVISED CODE 5513.01(B), AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Council President Hallum stated that this will remain on First Reading.

RESOLUTION 2021-003 – FIRST READING (Audio: 1:13:50-1:16:27)

A RESOLUTION DECLARING THE MONTH OF APRIL AS CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH IN THE CITY OF WILLOUGHBY HILLS.

Motion was made by **Councilman Jarmuszkiewicz** seconded by **Councilman Knecht** to waive Three Readings on Resolution 2021-003.

Discussion on the Motion:

Councilman Zegarac stated that “every month should be Child Abuse Prevention month and, as adults, we set the example.”

Roll Call: **AYES: Hallum, Jarmuszkiewicz, Kline, Knecht, Taylor Draper, Zegarac and Fellows.**

NAYS: None

Vote: 7/0

Motion Carries to waive Three Readings on Resolution 2021-003.

Motion was made by **Councilman Jarmuszkiewicz** seconded by **Councilman Zegarac** to adopt Resolution 2021-003.

Discussion on the Motion:

None

Roll Call: **AYES: Hallum, Jarmuszkiewicz, Kline, Knecht, Taylor Draper, Zegarac and Fellows.**

NAYS: None

Vote: 7/0

Motion Carries to adopt Resolution 2021-003 to declare the month of April as Child Abuse Prevention month in the City of Willoughby Hills.

NEW BUSINESS (Audio: 1:16:31-1:22:21)

Councilwoman Fellows asked about the status of the appointment of a new Charter Review Commission member. **Mayor Gardner** stated he was notified of the resignation of a member of the Charter Review Commission this week and that he has reached out to the Chairman to ask if it would be reasonable to have someone join “mid-stream.” He stated in 2008, one member had either resigned or just stopped coming to meetings, but was never replaced.

Councilman Jarmuszkiewicz stated that at one time, the City of Willoughby Hills had an “abundance of banks,” and wondered if anyone had reached out to Huntington Bank to try to bring them back to the City. While he understands that many have left “brick and mortar,” it would be nice to have a local bank. **Council President Hallum** stated that he personally spoke with Huntington when they were unaware that the Huntington in Giant Eagle was closing. They have no plans to re-open here. This is something our Economic Development person should focus on.

Council President Hallum stated that with long-time resident Michael Stanley’s recent passing, perhaps Council could consider naming a section of Chardon Road after him. This can be discussed at the next meeting. **Mayor Gardner** stated that Detective Onion’s resolution was passed and he would like to present Detective Onion with a Proclamation to accompany that at the first Council meeting in April. At the second meeting in April, we could invite the Service Department to recognize their hard work. **Councilwoman Fellows** stated that she had not yet signed the Resolution, but would plan to do that. **Councilwoman Taylor Draper** mentioned the outstanding tribute to Michael Stanley that was in Cleveland, hosted by the Rock N Roll Hall of Fame and we could consider a Michael Stanley Day in the City of Willoughby Hills.

PUBLIC PORTION #2 (Audio: 1:22:22-1:26:16)

An opportunity for the public to address Council with any comments, issue or concern.

Public Portion #2 opened at 8:22 p.m.

Jenna Bing, 36951 Beech Hills, Willoughby Hills, OH 44094

Mrs. Bing stated that Public Portion is a way for her to provide feedback and encouraged Council to accept feedback and to say “thank you” and not “berate people for their feedback.” She added that Councilwoman Fellows could have helped Council more (with budget process) if she had been appointed as a Committee member. She felt this was a “loss on Council’s part.”

Dale Fellows, 2812 Fowler Drive Willoughby Hills, OH 44094

Mr. Fellows stated that Councilman Zegarac spoke about “setting an example” and did not think that the February 11, 2021 Council meeting portrayed this and that there was a “lack of decorum.” Further, he thought Council’s actions may have been in violation of Robert’s Rules of Order if one were to review what was said at the end of the meeting. Perhaps the resident would have been given a warning, not expelled from the meeting.

Public Portion #2 closed at 8:26 p.m.

Comments following Public Portion:

None

FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER/FOR THE GOOD OF THE COMMUNITY

(Audio: 1:26:27-1:28:41)

Councilwoman Taylor Draper stated, “Rest in Peace, Michael Stanley.” **Councilwoman Fellows** wished all a Happy Easter and a Blessed Holy Week. **Councilman Zegarac** stated that, in response to Mrs. Bing, that Council President Hallum was clear early on that “everyone could be involved in any committee. Participation was encouraged. No one is trying to slight anyone else.”

ADJOURNMENT (Audio: 1:28:42-1:29:34)

Motion was made by **Councilwoman Taylor Draper** seconded by **Councilman Jarmuszkiewicz** to adjourn.

Discussion on the Motion:

None

Roll Call: **AYES:** Hallum, Jarmuszkiewicz, Kline, Knecht, Taylor Draper, Zegarac and Fellows.

NAYS: None

Vote: 7/0

Motion Carries to adjourn the Regular Council meeting of March 25, 2021, **was adjourned at 8:29 p.m.**

APPROVED: April 8, 2021
Date

ATTEST: Kevin Majors
Council Clerk Pro-Tem


Christopher Hallum
President of Council