

MINUTES – REGULAR SESSION**PORTSMOUTH CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

Monday February 11, 2019

6:00 p.m.

The City Council of the City of Portsmouth, Ohio met in regular session on Monday February 11, 2019 at 6:00 p.m., in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building.

Acting Mayor Johnson called the meeting to order. A moment of silent prayer was observed followed by The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Roll Call showed the following members to be present:

Sean Dunne	1 st Ward
Jo Ann Aeh	2 nd Ward
Kevin E. Johnson	3 rd Ward
Jerrold Albrecht	4 th Ward
Gene Meadows	5 th Ward - Absent
Thomas K. Lowe	6 th Ward

Also present was City Manager Sam Sutherland, Solicitor John Haas, Auditor M. Trent Williams and City Clerk Diana Ratliff.

Councilmen Meadows absence was excused on a motioned by Councilwoman Aeh. The motion carried viva voce: **VOTE: 5 ayes –0 nays.**

Council dispensed with the reading of the Journal for the Regular Session of January 28, 2019 on a motion by Councilwoman Aeh. The motion carried viva voce: **VOTE: 5 ayes –0 nays.**

There was no Public Hearing.

Acting Mayor Johnson stated that he would like to acknowledge some special people in our Community who were very deserving of the WSAZ Hometown Hero award. The Mound Park Neighborhood Watch program where neighbors watch after each other making sure homes were safe and they are doing a tremendous job in our community. He thanked Karen Hill and all that were involved in this wonderful program. He read the names: Lori Cooper, Karen Hill, Marsha Liles, Rob Jackson, Jim and Donna Arthur, Phil Malone, and Randy Mollett.

STATEMENTS OR REMARKS FROM CITIZENS ON ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

Richard Duncan – Director of Portsmouth Wastewater Department – He was asked to discuss the sewer issues concerning the PMHA development. He hasn't seen any plans for the development, but he knew there was an eight inch sewer on Edgewood Drive and an eight inch sewer on Thomas Avenue and that would have to be the location that they would have to connect to the sewer from the development. He doesn't have any other information at this time.

Cynthia Holsten – Executive Director of Shawnee Family Health Center – She said that she would like to try to clear up concerns that Council may have about the targeted population for this project. She had the application that was completed in order to receive the priority letter from the Ohio Housing Finance Agency. She read some of the questions and answers that they had provided: “1. How will the development be targeted to vulnerable residents – The primary target population is homeless/imminently homeless youth aged 18-24, who are identified through the local coordinated entry system, foster care program, and/or courts. These youth are at high risk of long-term homelessness, criminal justice involvement, exploitation and separation from their own children.” She stated that they needed to provide a detail description of the anticipated population and she shared with Council information from a study that was done by the Pew Charitable Trust. It said that approximately 84% of youth aging out of foster care, came out with trauma or mental health issues and 1 out of 4 youth aging out of foster care that did not receive any intervention or support end up incarcerated 2 years after they age out. She added that with that information they had to describe what some of the youth may look like that would come to this project. She said again the priority population would be transitional aged youth 18-24 years of age. Many of these youth have emancipated from or aged out of the Child Welfare or Juvenile Justice system and were either single or have a young child. She said some would be exiting treatment centers for addiction, but the majority of youth will have a physical, mental, or emotional impairment; including but not limited to impairments caused by alcohol or drug abuse, post-traumatic stress disorder or mental illness. She explained that when she read that the majority would have a physical, mental or emotional impairment, these were impairments caused by alcohol or drug abuse but it doesn't mean that all of these youth would have an addiction problem, but some will because of what they've gone through; they do not come out unscathed. The 84% of impairments caused by alcohol or drug abuse were caused by the drug abuse that they had witnessed in their family of origin. She said the second part of the application would be child welfare involved families similar to the families served in the Keeping Families Together projects. Each family would have at least one open case at child welfare and at least one of the members would have a mental health or substance abuse issue that created a barrier for reunification and that second priority population would be available in the event they could not completely fill the project with transitional aged youth.

She said that the last time they heard a lot of people talk about the problem with all of these kids being taken out of the home. The Keeping Families Together project was a way to keep the kids in the home if they were put in an apartment where they receive the support they need. She concluded that as part of the application they had to describe how they would deal with anyone that was residing in the facility that used drugs or marijuana on the property. They know that substance use disorders were common among transitional aged youth, but that doesn't mean everyone in the facility would have an addiction issue, they know that positive social networks help the youth deal with those issues. The housing, plus additional supports that they want to provide would focus on becoming substance free and getting involved in positive social behavior; plans would be developed to help them. She believed that the thought going around was that this facility would be recovery housing, or that everyone in the facility would have addiction issues, or that they were bringing folks in from Cleveland. She said they have enough children in the local community that need this housing and there were no plans to bring people in from Cleveland or any of the other big cities.

Jay Hash – 2213 Timlin Road – He learned about what was going on through his attendance at ADAMHS Board meetings and working together with Shawnee Family Health Center. He was a former employee of Shawnee Mental Health from 1994 until 2007 and he strongly supported what their work. He had never worked with a group of professionals like Shawnee Family Health who had been in Portsmouth for 30 plus years and the same with PMHA, those folks were there to help. He said that while we can't always pick the exact right spot, he strongly supported the project and from what he understood, it was a \$9,000,000 apartment complex for people who were the most vulnerable in our City and County. He added that homelessness was the single biggest risk factor to living an unhealthy life and committing property crimes. He said that this facility was going to be very nice, they will have round the clock security and surveillance of areas not currently being watched. He encouraged Council to move forward with this project and allow an easement off of Thomas Avenue. He said it was time to make this investment in our youth, these were the people that were going to take care of us sometime and some were people that can't take care of themselves. He added the fact that there would be temporary jobs created during construction and would add to the city's tax base. He also believed that it would be a property improvement by making the neighborhood safer.

Peggy Rice – Executive Director of PMHA 410 Court Street – She said it was undeniable that there was an issue in our community with the vast number of kids in foster care. It was also obvious that what they were currently doing was not working. Shawnee Mental Health Center (SMHC) and PMHA wants to be part of the solution and help intervene in a cycle that was already in place and give these kids a safe place while they try to figure out what is next for them. They want to help them obtain the skills necessary to live in the real world and the ability to find a way up and a way out. She said that with this endeavor the housing authority and Shawnee Family Health would be taking on red tapes involved with the tax credit development. She stated that when she was first told that it would take a 9% tax credit development for this to be successful, she wasn't excited about it because 9% tax credit deals do not go to small communities, they go to major cities and from the beginning she was skeptical, however when they requested money that was set aside for the 9% tax credit for transitional aged youth, she noticed that no large cities had applied. Because there were no large cities going after that (which was unheard of), they won the priority for the State and with that priority designation they got 25 points before the application was ever scored; that's 25 points that the large cities would not get which made Portsmouth competitive. They had looked at different options to try to address this underserved population and none of those options had worked out. HUD had a few programs but once again those programs went to the large cities in the State of Ohio. This was a very small opportunity for the City of Portsmouth to be competitive in this 9% tax plan, they could have a very good shot at making this happen bringing \$9,000,000 into the community to help build a facility for the kids who up to this point had been turned out to the street. They see these kids going back to the home life that they came out of, they see them sofa-surfing, they see them ending up in Justice System when they're left on the street to fend for themselves. She said PMHA and SMHC want to try to stop that and were willing and open to working with the city and residents in the community to be able to make this work. It will not be something they could do in a vacuum, the problem wasn't created in the vacuum and it would take a united effort for all parties for these kids to have a chance. With the things they had seen and lived, they deserve that chance. With 9% tax credits the Housing Authority would not only be working with HUD but would now be working with the State of Ohio and the IRS, they will be inspected and reviewed by all of those parties and they were alright with taking on that red tape and to make a difference in our community. She said that she heard Mr. Duncan speak of the sewer taps and they do not want to be a drain on the community, they will work with their engineers, and architects to come up with something that will work for all. She concluded by stating that at no time had they ever wanted to come down Edgewood Drive and asked that Council consider their requests.

Emily Cobb Thomas – 1824 Hutchins Street – She stated that she was 75 years old and had been around a long time and in 1974, a young man from Portsmouth named Larry Hisle played Major League Baseball. Mr. Hisle along with his wife and little boy wanted to buy a house on Orizaba Lane and a man had agreed to sell them the house. The neighborhood exploded and so much pressure was put on the seller that he asked Mr. Hisle to withdraw his offer and not move to Orizaba Lane. Mrs. Hisle told her husband that she didn't want to move where they would have to live like that, so they moved out of town. Mr. Hisle now lived in Wisconsin and worked with the courts and schools through a mentoring program, and had received honors for his work. She said that she didn't believe the city did him wrong with the exception that the city didn't stand up for him and try to keep him in our area. She explained that this was a chance for a do-over, the facility will be named after Larry and she's spoken with him and he was so excited and wanted to come back to Portsmouth and help do whatever he could do to help the youth. She said she felt ashamed that he was not able to stay in our city and this project was a chance for us to do better by him and do a service to these young people.

Larry Mitchell - 2425 Orizaba Lane – He had spoken at the last Council meeting and the City Planning Commission meeting; he advised that the residents were not against the project but was against the location. They felt there were other much better suited areas in Portsmouth to have this located. He said that many had spoken about at-risk youth but yet they want to locate it in one of the worst possible places in Portsmouth. He said that all you had to do was look at the Police reports and notice that it was one of the highest crime areas in the City of Portsmouth. He felt it was a tragedy that a \$9,000,000 project with at-risk youth was being built in a high crime area. He added that they were calling 18-24 year olds youth, he does not see them as youth. He felt they were putting the cart before the horse, as it had not been very well planned. He added that Mr. Duncan had not seen any plans and Mr. Mitchell wasn't sure if the City's Engineering office had even seen any plans. He said that he didn't feel that it was an emergency and that all three readings need to be read and the citizens should be able to voice their opinion. He understood that Mr. Albrecht had a private meeting with the developers and that they weren't invited to the meeting; he would like to have the same opportunities to express his opinion. He felt that he was not being heard and that the City had a Land Revitalization program but didn't know if there was a way that the city could work with them and offer them a piece of land. He strongly suggested that the building be put in a different location where it may of benefit. He also noticed that none of these people have given their addresses, they're telling you where they work but they're not paying property taxes for the City of Portsmouth.

Sandy Bates – 2364 & 2375 Edgewood Drive – She reiterated that a lot of people were in attendance that live on Edgewood Drive and the only reason they were there was not to slam Peggy's project, whether they agree with it or not; all they we're asking was that if they do get funded that the City of Portsmouth grant them the easement off of Thomas Avenue so that Ms. Rice would not be forced to use the easement through Edgewood Drive. Ms. Rice had visited her home and she believes that Ms. Rice does not want to use the easement at Edgewood Drive. Ms. Rice asked her to help convince City Council to grant an alternate route. She asked Council to please grant her request because she doesn't want their street/neighborhood ruined.

Claudette Arms – 2390 Edgewood Drive – She said that she and her husband have four children and they were educators in Portsmouth. They moved to Edgewood Drive because it was a safe community on a dead-end street, and their kids could play on the street. They just built onto their house to make it bigger and were hoping to stay there but if this goes through their street, they would move out of the City of Portsmouth.

Joyce Craig – Edgewood Drive – She said that her and husband lived on Edgewood for 40-50 years and her kids grew up on Edgewood. She believed the facility would be wonderful but not at the expense of trucks ruining their street.

Jim Elliott 2394 Edgewood Drive – He retired as a firefighter after 46 years and knew a lot about the City of Portsmouth. He had seen a lot of what's going on and appreciated what Ms. Rice was trying to do with the homeless which he had no objections. He had heard they were talking about opening up Edgewood Drive, which would be impossible and he did have objections because the street was narrow.

Gina Rainer - 2394 Orizaba Lane – She felt it was great that they could come to City Council with their concerns and they do ultimately put their trust in them to make the right decisions. She met with Mr. Albrecht and they toured the location, she said it was beautiful. She remembered Mr. Meadows saying that he didn't want the at-risk youth looking over the hill and seeing people at Kendall Heights, but in fact you only see a little bit of Edgewood and Orizaba's rooftops. She said once they build and plant more trees, put up a fence for security, Edgewood would not even be seen. She said that it was important to keep the focus on the easement off of Thomas Avenue, it wasn't anything to do with Edgewood or Orizaba. She personally felt that she would be safer, as a homeowner, if there was a controlled environment, because right now there was clothing, prescription bottles and that was after it was cleaned up. She reminded Council of the time limit and believed it to be a value to our city and to the children who are fostering out. She hoped that the right thing would be done for our community.

Mike Lallow – 2440 Edgewood Drive – He spoke at the last meeting and voiced his concerns about the project. He's not against the project but felt there was a better location for these kids that they're trying to help become better citizens and to contribute to Portsmouth. It's not a good example for these young adults 18-24 year olds to see what they will be seeing going down Thomas Avenue. On Edgewood Drive he and his neighbors take care of their places and respect Portsmouth and he asked for the same respect.

Margaret Taylor – 2374 Edgewood Drive – She's lived there for 12 years and would like to continue to live there peacefully without the streets being destroyed.

Patty Spriggs – 2470 Edgewood Drive – She said her concern was the traffic on Edgewood because the street wasn't very wide and with big delivery trucks it would cause a problem. The easement needs to be on Thomas Avenue. She also stated that she didn't understand why they would want to put these young kids in a high crime area because you could buy drugs there any time of the day or night.

Katie Kitchen – 175 Linden Drive Cincinnati, Ohio – 40 West Long Street is her office - She recognizes now that they didn't have time to educate everyone especially the key decision makers as well as some of the neighbors. She stated that if they had had an opportunity to tour a similar program or spend more time with Council to answer questions, they would probably be in a different spot. The most common response they hear from neighbors of other supported housing projects was that they hadn't even noticed that they had moved in. Most of the time the neighbors that had the most fears about what would go on with supportive housing, become champions in other communities. They were very proud of the team that had come together but recognize that there was more work to be done as well as other community organizations. There were a lot of excellent resources

and providers in Portsmouth that they have not yet had a chance to work with, but she felt they could enhance the services and help make this more of a community project. They were sorry for the timing because the OFA application letting them know they had the green light. She said that as of December 15th the project was possibly a no go, but then they got the green light from OFA and had to put things together very quickly in a way that was more rushed than they would have liked. There was a chance to work together to provide that information and meet with community neighbors if this easement is approved. She wanted to add that there were two clarifications: 1. They were only talking about Thomas Avenue and not talking about construction traffic or access to the building from another location. 2. Safety was their number one concern; people that experience trauma's do not recover if they do not feel safe and they wouldn't have made the decision on this location if they didn't feel like they could adequately protect the safety of the youth and staff that would be there.

J.B. Marshall – 1256 Bierly Road – He spoke on behalf of his in-laws about the easement that PMHA had on Edgewood Drive. He measured the lane on Edgewood Drive and to widen the road to make a two-lane road would only leave 10 foot of land for the property owner's front yards. He advised that this would be tearing down a subdivision which paid taxes to the City because people would not want to live there anymore. Other people that had spoken talked about how they liked the privacy with where they lived. He said it was incumbent upon Council to consider their wishes when in fact there was another way for the roadway to come off of Thomas Avenue. He said there was already a gate and a path and it does not interfere with people's property. He recommended to Council to request that the easement on Edgewood be withdrawn and let the citizens keep the value of their homes.

LEGISLATION

The clerk gave a **third reading**, to an Ordinance to appoint Sam Sutherland to the position of City Manager of the City of Portsmouth, Ohio.

Councilwoman Aeh motioned that the Ordinance be passed.

**Ordinance
was Tabled**

Solicitor Haas stated that this was tabled at the last meeting because some questions about the terms of the contract. He spoke with Mr. Sutherland regarding some of the discussion but wasn't sure that Mr. Sutherland had had any discussion with Council. Because he doesn't know what the terms of the contract would be, he asked for Council to Table it again so that they could go into Executive Session before the end of the meeting to discuss the terms of the contract so that everyone was on the same page.

Councilwoman Aeh withdrew her motion to pass and motioned to Table the Ordinance until the meeting of February 25, 2019.

There were no questions or comments. **The role was called. VOTE: 5 ayes– 0 nays, the Ordinance was tabled.**

The clerk gave a **second reading**, to an Ordinance authorizing the City Manager of the City of Portsmouth, Ohio, to grant an easement to Portsmouth Metropolitan Housing Authority (PMHA) to use a section of property for ingress and egress between Thomas Avenue and Parcel No. 33-2681.000 as shown on the attached Scioto County GIS Map subject to grant approval for the project subject of the January 18, 2019 City Planning Commission hearing. Pursuant to Council Rule 5, this legislation is requested to be passed as an emergency in accordance with Section 10 of the Charter for the City of Portsmouth in order to facilitate administration, daily operation and avoid practical and legal entanglements.

Councilman Dunne questioned the inclusion of Thomas Avenue and the Edgewood access point. Acting Mayor Johnson stated that if this legislation was granted, they would have access from Thomas Avenue and would not need access from Edgewood Drive. Solicitor Haas stated that PMHA had an easement off of Edgewood that was on record, but if this legislation was approved, Thomas Avenue would be utilized because every time they've met they have repeatedly stated that they do not want to use Edgewood.

**Ord. #07–2019
PMHA granted
easement off of
Thomas Avenue**

Councilwoman Aeh motioned that this constitute a second reading with the option that it could be withdrawn and the motion to suspend could happen because she believed that it needed to be discussed. Councilman Albrecht stated that they needed the legislation passed so that they could apply for their grant. Mrs. Aeh said that could be part of the discussion and she could withdraw the motion.

The role was called. VOTE: 5 ayes– 0 nays, a second reading was declared.

Councilwoman Aeh stated that she was on the telephone all day and was concerned with the way that it was presented to the Planning Commission and to City Council as young people coming out of foster care. She questioned the age of 24 with 2 and 3 bedroom apartments, it was expressed earlier that the kids were coming out of foster care, however one of the ones they left out of priority population would be "some will be exiting residential treatment centers for addiction or be court involved for a variety of offenses". One of the

questions was: “Describe how you will receive resident referral, including what interaction you will have with the Coordinated Entry System.” The way they answered the question was: “The project will participate in the Balance of State Region and County’s coordinated entry system will move quickly to house individuals assessed and found eligible for PSH who are 18-24 years old. Should insufficient referrals be received through the coordinated entry system, we will also accept referrals from the County Job and Family Services (JFS) Foster Care and Independent Living programs for youth aging out of foster care, JFS family preservation and investigations unit for parenting youth in need of PSH, and the family court.” Council and the Planning Commission had been told that this program was for kids transitioning out of foster care, however according to the application they would be the last to be considered. She said that what she had been hearing a lot of this evening was “we don’t want it there, however if we’re going to be forced to have it there, we don’t want them coming down Edgewood”. She agreed with that, but asked Solicitor Haas if the ordinance could be amended to say “if we give them this right of way, they deed over their Edgewood easement and right of way to the City of Portsmouth” Solicitor Haas replied that could be done with PMHA’s approval and it was his understanding that PMHA doesn’t want to use the Edgewood easement. Councilwoman Aeh stated that would eliminate any future opening of that road to Edgewood. Councilwoman Aeh asked Manager Sutherland if the legislation didn’t pass and they weren’t granted the easement to Thomas Avenue, could they possibly access that piece of property through Wayne Hills and the City of Portsmouth grant them access during construction. Solicitor Haas stated that Council could grant them an easement across that property. Councilwoman Aeh stated that she spoke to Councilman Meadows who could not be in attendance but these were his constituents and his ward; he said that if they were going to do it anyway, he would rather Council give them the easement to Thomas Avenue which would have been his vote had he been here. She believed that it would still require a traffic study and she was mostly concerned and upset with the fact that she had agreed originally to kids transitioning out of the foster homes and they were not priority, in fact they were last and probably won’t even get in, she was not happy about it and felt misled, however we’re here and a decision needed to be made.

Councilman Lowe stated that the State of Ohio considered 21 year olds as adults and noted that this legislation was for youth 18-24 year olds, he would like to hear an answer. Katie Kitchen said that HUD set the rules for these kinds of programs especially youth coming out of foster care and by the age of 21 they usually weren’t ready to launch. She said the typical stay was two years, but it was extended to 24 years of age for those who needed more time. Acting Mayor Johnson asked Ms. Kitchen if when they turn age 24 would they be made to leave, Ms. Kitchen replied that there was nothing in their lease that stated they had to leave, but like most people when they turn 21 or 22 they naturally tend to be ready to move out. Mr. Johnson asked if there was a point when they were made to leave, he said he had kids that won’t move out of his house (laughter). She said from the time that someone moves in, the goal was to coach them towards independent living skills, a lot of them will have behavior health disorders which was part of addressing being ready to get a job and move out on their own and promoting independence. They cannot move their girlfriend in like many people do now in their 20’s, you can’t have an overnight guest (in most cases), and there were a lot of restrictions on the type of housing that helped promote independence. Councilman Dunne stated that part of the reason there was no age limit was because if someone is going through treatment of some sort, having some type of deadline at the end would only add pressure. Some kids were a lot slower to move out on their own but like a lot of millennials some were still living with their parents. He added that part of the reason was the result of our economy, and student debt makes it tough.

Councilwoman Aeh asked Rick Duncan to answer a few questions: 1. She said that after speaking with him today, he could not make a determination with regard to the sewage leaving that area until he had seen the Engineering studies, like how many people, how much estimated sewage would be removed from there. She asked if it would be possible if for some reason they would put in a lift pump and lift the sewage to 17th Street and if it’s possible. She said we could possibly be discussing something that if legislation doesn’t pass, and they move forward from the Edgewood easement, they may not be able to build because of the sewage issues and she didn’t want to see another Grandview Avenue. She asked if there was anything he could tell Council with no more than he knew about the project that would prevent PMHA from being able to discharge the sewage from that location to someplace else? Mr. Duncan said there were 2 issues which was the sewage and the storm water run-off and he couldn’t answer either. He understood it was going to be a 45 unit complex and that may not be an issue and a lot of the streets have 8 inch sewers that services a big area, but again he would need to see the plans. She said that even if Council doesn’t grant the easement to Thomas, PMHA would build it anyway, so we need to protect the people on Edgewood and that it didn’t appear they we’re going to be able to satisfy both concerns; Councilman Dunne asked Mr. Duncan if there were other areas of the city that were similar, Mr. Duncan said “yes” but it depended on how many manholes and the grade of the sewer, in general it would probably be fine, but could say without seeing plans. Mrs. Aeh asked if they were combination sewers or were the storm sewers separated. Mr. Duncan said they were separate and eventually combine. Mrs. Aeh stated that was the problem the City had with Grandview. Mr. Duncan stated that they would probably have to put in a detention structure to hold back the flow to be released the same as or in better condition. Mrs. Aeh said it would be similar to what the hospital had to do. Acting Mayor Johnson wanted clarification that it would need

to be done at PMHA's cost not the city and Mr. Duncan replied that was correct. Mrs. Aeh also said that the City would not be responsible for the cost of the retaining structure or responsible for maintaining the lift pump. Solicitor Haas said that typically sewage flows downhill and this project would be below. Mr. Duncan said there was a plateau up there and didn't know how deep the sewer was up there. Solicitor Haas asked if the lines empty into Lawson Run and Mr. Duncan said eventually it does and that it was 8ft. in diameter. Acting Mayor Johnson said that a \$9,000,000 project would have engineering behind it and if it won't work they won't get the money to put it there anyway. Mrs. Aeh stated that she wanted it to be a part of the record because in the past, Grandview had been an issue; Solicitor Haas said that issue was people's downspouts tied together and tying your downspouts into the sanitary sewer was illegal. Mr. Johnson stated that he liked what they were doing but not how it was handled. He addressed the folks on Edgewood and Orizaba, and said that he didn't want to see the access to this project be on Edgewood and this had been a double-edged sword. He told them this was the best Council could do on this issue so that they don't have an easement for Edgewood. He said he would support the facility because he believed what PMHA was doing was good. He asked them to make sure they police the property and make it a good thing and not to make Council sorry that you put it there.

Councilwoman Aeh motioned to withdraw her motion for a second reading and motioned to amend the Ordinance with the Solicitor's wording.

Solicitor Haas reiterated that the easement for Thomas Avenue would only happen if PMHA was successful with their funding and Council could add to that, subject to grant approval and the withdrawal of the Edgewood easement. Mrs. Rice asked that the wording be put into the Ordinance that they would like to surrender the easement to Edgewood for a permanent easement on Thomas Avenue regardless whether they get the 9% tax credit. She said she never wanted to disrupt that community and doesn't ever want it to be an issue in the future. Solicitor asked for a few minutes to come up with the wording. He said the wording change will be in the preamble and Section 1 and will follow the wording - subject of the January 18, 2019 City Planning Commission hearing **"and the surrender of the current easement held by Portsmouth Metropolitan Housing Authority (PMHA) identified as the Edgewood easement."**

Councilwoman Aeh said that poor planning on others part doesn't make it an emergency on Council part. She said that she was sorry that they couldn't make everyone happy, but this was the best that could be done.

There were no further questions or comments. **The role was called. VOTE: 5 ayes– 0 nays, the Ordinance was amended.**

Councilman Albrecht motioned to suspend the three reading as requested.

The role was called. VOTE: 5 ayes– 0 nays, the rule was suspended.

Councilman Dunne motioned that the Ordinance be passed.

There were no questions or comments. **The role was called. VOTE: 5 ayes– 0 nays, the Ordinance was passed.**

The clerk gave a **first reading**, to an ordinance authorizing the appropriation of \$75,000.00 from Waterworks Fund No. 606 to New WTP Fund No. 606.771.5515 for payment to complete a study required by the Ohio EPA to demonstrate the ACTIFLO process will work and is a good option for the City. Pursuant to Council Rule 5, this legislation is requested to be passed as an emergency in accordance with Section 10 of the Charter for the City of Portsmouth in order to facilitate administration, daily operation and avoid practical and legal entanglements.

Councilwoman Aeh motioned to suspend the three reading as requested.

The role was called. VOTE: 5 ayes– 0 nays, the rule was suspended.

Councilwoman Aeh motioned that the Ordinance be passed.

Acting Mayor Johnson asked Manager Sutherland if he was confident on this issue and Mr. Sutherland replied "yes".

There were no questions or comments. **The role was called. VOTE: 5 ayes– 0 nays, the Ordinance was passed.**

Ord. #07–2019
PMHA
easement to
Thomas Avenue

Ord. #08–2019
Appropriations
for ACTIFLO
studies

The clerk gave a **first reading**, to an ordinance to approve the City Planning Commission recommendation submitted by the Portsmouth Metropolitan Housing Authority (PMHA) to permit the use of Parcel No. 33-2681.000 as a large-scale neighborhood project subject to grant approval for the project subject of the January 18, 2019 City Planning Commission hearing. Pursuant to Council Rule 5, this legislation is requested to be passed as an emergency in accordance with Section 10 of the Charter for the City of Portsmouth in order to facilitate administration, daily operation and avoid practical and legal entanglements.

Councilwoman Aeh motioned to suspend the three reading as requested.

The role was called. VOTE: 5 ayes– 0 nays, the rule was suspended.

Councilwoman Aeh motioned that the Ordinance be passed.

There were no questions or comments. **The role was called. VOTE: 5 ayes– 0 nays, the Ordinance was passed.**

The clerk gave a **first reading**, to an Ordinance to make appropriation for the current expenses and other expenditures of the City of Portsmouth, Ohio beginning January 1, 2019 and ending December 31, 2019, as provided for in Section 49 of the Charter of the City of Portsmouth, Ohio.

Councilwoman Aeh asked Auditor Williams when this would be needed and he responded that he would need it passed before the end of the month.

Councilwoman Aeh motioned that this constitute a first reading.

There were no questions or comments. **The role was called. VOTE: 5 ayes– 0 nays, a first reading was declared.**

STATEMENTS OR REMARKS FROM CITIZENS ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

There was no one present that wished to address Council pertaining to items not on the agenda.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS AND REPORTS:

City Clerk's Report – City Clerk Ratliff had no report, but expressed her thanks to Council and friends for all the prayers and concerns for her daughter Ashley. She was doing much better and is home from the hospital.

City Manager's Report – Manager Sutherland had no report.

Acting Mayor's Report – Acting Mayor Johnson reported the following:

1. On January 31st he met with Councilwoman Aeh and Councilman Albrecht as well as the folks from Shawnee Mental Health and PMHA. They discussed the recent housing proposal.
2. On February 7th he met with Manager Sutherland regarding several different residential concerns and appreciated the fact that when he brought concerns to Mr. Sutherland they were addressed. Mr. Sutherland and the departments had done a great job.
3. He reminded the men of Valentine's Day will be this Thursday the 14th.

The Acting Mayor's report was received, filed and made part of the record, on a motion by Councilwoman Aeh's. The motion carried viva voce: **VOTE: 5 ayes– 0 nays.**

Solicitor Haas' Report – Solicitor Haas reported the following:

1. He thanked Council for passing the ordinances for the PMHA project. He said that having worked in the courts for 25 plus years he's looking forward to it. Juvenile Court Judge Lemons and his court administrator Dawn Keller spoke at the last meeting and have seen the need for this in our community and he does as well. He was glad the development was moving forward and hope that the project would be granted to our area, as it was sorely needed. He appreciated Council for passing the ordinances and wished the best of luck and much success to the partners that were putting this together.

The Solicitor's report was received, filed and made part of the record, on a motion by Councilwoman Aeh's. The motion carried viva voce: **VOTE: 5 ayes– 0 nays.**

Auditor Williams Report – Mr. Williams reported the following:

1. He forwarded the December 2018 end of the year reports.
2. He recommended that the next reading for the 2019 budget be the final reading. He also asked Council that if they had any questions about the budget to contact the City Manager and get those

Ord. #09–2019
approval for
PMHA to build
a large scale
project

ironed out before the next meeting. He reiterated that the appropriations ordinance needed to be passed by the end of February.

The Auditor's report was received, filed and made part of the record, on a motion by Councilwoman Aeh's. The motion carried viva voce: **VOTE: 5 ayes– 0 nays.**

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS FROM CITY COUNCIL

1st Ward – Councilman Sean Dunne reported the following:

1. He thanked Mr. Sutherland for meeting with him and a member of the community about a traffic signal on 3rd Street and for giving guidance on the topic.
2. He attended a vision plan for the City that was organized by the Scioto Foundation. He said it was great to see a round table discussion with different members of the community that had different ideas on how we could move forward.
3. He was able to travel with a group to talk about Portsmouth as a place that required more attention on the outside in a positive way and that the city could be a destination that people could visit. It was a great experience to be able to hear different ideas about Portsmouth in a different momentum than what's currently going on in our city.

2nd Ward – Councilwoman Aeh had no report.

3rd Ward – Councilman Kevin E. Johnson reported the following:

1. He asked the citizens to not dump garbage. He had two complaints on illegal dumping of garbage and confirmed with the City Manager that there were 4,000 pounds of furniture and garbage in an alley. He would appreciate if we would start enforcing our litter and garbage laws. If a person litters, they need to be fined.
2. He had reported some potholes that had been taken care of in the 3rd Ward.

4th Ward – Councilman Albrecht had no report:

5th Ward – Councilman Meadows had no report due to absence.

6th Ward – Councilman Lowe reported the following:

1. He got some calls from North Moreland, Valley and Dever Streets in the past couple of weeks, claiming there had been a lot of break-ins and requested additional patrol in those areas until the issue could be curtailed.
2. He thanked Manager Sutherland for everything that he had done, and he would like to meet with him later this week.
3. He mentioned Walt Monroe who had fallen on hard times as he is sick. He wished him the best and thanked him for everything he had done for the Tartan community throughout the past 25-30 years, through coaching. He's a very good individual and proud that he was from the community.
4. He mentioned the Grandview widening project for Mr. Kalb.

Councilwoman Aeh made a motion to recess into Executive Session with the City Manager and the Solicitor to discuss a personnel contract.

The role was called and the motion carried: **VOTE: 5 ayes– 0 nays, Council recessed into Executive Session at 7:51 p.m.**

Executive
Session

Councilman Dunn moved that Council reconvene from Executive Session. The roll was called and the motion carried. **VOTE: ayes 5 – nays 0, Council reconvened with all still in attendance at 8:15 p.m.**

The meeting adjourned at approximately 8:15 p.m. on a motion by Councilwoman Aeh.

City Clerk

Acting Mayor