

MINUTES – REGULAR SESSION

PORTSMOUTH CITY COUNCIL MEETING
 Monday March 11, 2019
 6:00 p.m.

The City Council of the City of Portsmouth, Ohio met in regular session on Monday March 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
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.

Council dispensed with the reading of the Journal for the Regular Session of February 25, 2019 on a motion by Councilwoman Aeh. The motion carried viva voce: **VOTE: 6 ayes –0 nays.**

There was no Public Hearing.

STATEMENTS OR REMARKS FROM CITIZENS ON ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

There was no one present that wished to address Council pertaining to items on the agenda.

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 moved that the Ordinance be passed.

Councilman Lowe asked Manager Sutherland if the contract was to his satisfaction and Mr. Sutherland replied “Yes”.

There were no questions or comments. **The role was called. VOTE: 6 ayes– 0 nays, the Ordinance was passed.**

The clerk gave a **second reading**, to an Ordinance authorizing the City Manager to adjust rules, regulations and fees within the Engineering Department pursuant to the Ohio Board of Building Standards.

Councilwoman Aeh moved that this constitute a second reading.

There were no questions or comments. **The role was called. VOTE: 6 ayes– 0 nays, a second reading was declared.**

The clerk gave a **first reading**, to an Ordinance authorizing the City Manager to enter into an agreement between the City of Portsmouth and Friends of Portsmouth for a Street Arch Lighting Project as per the attached Exhibit A.

Councilwoman Aeh moved that this constitute a first reading.

Acting Mayor Johnson advised that Sharon Bender had a picture of what the old arches on Second Street used to look like.

There were no questions or comments. **The role was called. VOTE: 6 ayes– 0 nays, a first reading was declared.**

**Ord.#16-2019
 Sam
 Sutherland
 City
 Manager
 Contract**

The clerk gave a **first reading**, to a Resolution authorizing the co-naming of Findlay Street between 12th and 16th Streets as “Martin Luther King Jr. Way”.

Councilman Dunne moved that the Resolution be adopted.

There were no questions or comments. **The role was called. VOTE: 6 ayes– 0 nays, the Resolution was adopted.**

**Res. 06-2019
Co-Naming
Findlay Street –
Martin Luther
King, Jr. Way**

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.

City Manager’s Report – Manager Sutherland reported the following:

1. He stated that Rick Duncan Director of the Wastewater Treatment Plant was present and will be discussing the sinkhole issue on 12th and State Route #52 at the pump station.
2. He continues to work on the Capital Improvement Budget for 2019 and would try to have it emailed to Council by this coming Friday or at the latest the following Monday.

The City Manager’s report was received, filed and made part of the record, on a motion by Councilwoman Aeh’s. The motion carried viva voce: **VOTE: 6 ayes– 0 nays.**

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

1. He chaired the Board of Health meeting.
2. He had some citizen’s complaints and will get with Manager Sutherland to review the items.
3. He advised that this coming Saturday will be St. Patrick’s Day parade.

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: 6 ayes– 0 nays.**

Solicitor Haas’ Report – Solicitor Haas had no report.

Auditor Williams Report – Mr. Williams reported the following:

1. He reviewed the February 2019 Auditor’s Report
February’s General Fund Income Tax Revenue - \$1,057,780 which was \$164,071 more than the previous year, but was down \$114,000 from the previous month; it balances itself out and the city is \$49,225 over the previous year. Total collections were \$1,202,036 for a total of \$186,423 over the same month last year and a total increase this year of \$55,877. Major Fund Balances – General Fund \$5,235,647, Streets \$301,404, Water -\$195,106, Sewer -\$1,035,970; he advised that payment had not been received from the County for the past 15-18 months of collections and he understood that it had been settled, but the settlement check had not been received, Sanitation \$437,845 and Insurance \$2,427,804.

The City 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: 6 ayes– 0 nays.**

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS FROM CITY COUNCIL

1st Ward – Councilman Sean Dunne reported the following:

1. He met with Sam Sutherland, Tracy Shearer and resident’s in the First Ward about McKinley Pool to discuss getting the pool ready, proceeding on some of the renovation work and hiring people for the summer. He added that the city was still awaiting money from a “GoFundMe” account and money from the County. Once received they will be able to place an order and do renovation work prior to the opening of the pool.
2. He met again with the Blues, Brews and Barbeque group regarding an event they want to hold at Spartan Stadium. He hoped to announce an official date soon, as well as musical acts and the rules for the barbeque competition.

2nd Ward – Councilwoman Aeh advised that her ward concerns had been handled by the City Manager.

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

1. He said he had received a request from a resident in the 1st Ward and with the blessing of Councilman Dunne, he spoke with Manager Sutherland regarding vacating an alley to a land locked piece of property. Mr. Sutherland advised Mr. Johnson that he would take a look at it.
2. He received a complaint regarding Branch Rickey Park restrooms not working and that there was a lot of garbage. Mr. Sutherland had checked on the restrooms and all were in working order and they did pick up the garbage.
3. He advised that he had some complaints in the 3rd Ward about alleys and trash.

4th Ward – Councilman Albrecht apologized for not making the last meeting, he got a dizzy spell and was unable to walk.

5th Ward – Councilman Meadows had no report.

6th Ward – Councilman Lowe reported the following:

1. He thanked Manager Sutherland for taking care of the alley in between Endicott and Kentland for Mr. Smith.
2. He congratulated Will Shope aka “The Iceman” who played for the Tartans and had received a full ride scholarship with Kentucky Christian College. He wished him the best.
3. He thanked Manager Sutherland for addressing the potholes, however he had a list that he needed handled.

Councilwoman Aeh made a motion to recess into Executive Session with the City Manager to discuss ongoing bargaining unit contracts. Solicitor Haas also requested an Executive Session to discuss pending litigation, he will need the City Manager and Auditor. Mrs. Aeh amended her motion to include the Solicitor’s request.

**Executive
Session**

The role was called and the motion carried: **VOTE: 6 ayes– 0 nays, Council recessed into Executive Session at 6:19 p.m.**

Councilwoman Aeh moved that Council reconvene from Executive Session. The roll was called and the motion carried. **VOTE: ayes 6 – nays 0, Council reconvened with all still in attendance at 7:17 p.m.**

The meeting adjourned at approximately 7:17 p.m. on a motion by Councilwoman Aeh.

City Clerk

Acting Mayor