

MINUTES – SPECIAL SESSION
PORTSMOUTH CITY COUNCIL MEETING
 Thursday October 3, 2013 - 6:00 p.m.

The City Council of the City of Portsmouth, Ohio met in special session on Thursday October 3, 2013 at 6:00 p.m., in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building.

President of Council Steve Sturgill 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:

Kevin W. Johnson	1 st Ward
Rich Saddler	2 nd Ward
Kevin E. Johnson	3 rd Ward
Jim Kalb	4 th Ward (Absent)
Gene Meadows	5 th Ward
Steve Sturgill	6 th Ward

Also present were Mayor David Malone, Solicitor John Haas and City Clerk, Diana Ratliff.

Clerk's Report

In accordance with Section 4 of the City's Charter, Mayor David Malone requested in writing a special meeting of Council for Thursday October 3, 2013 for the following purposes:

- a. To submit an application for grant funding through OPWC, requesting \$100,000 from the CIP fund for the Oakland Boulevard project.
- b. To considering passage of legislation to submit an application for grant funding through OPWC for the EPA mandated Rapid Mix Tank for the Water Filtration Department.

Notices were given to each Council Member, Mayor, Solicitor and Auditor and acknowledgements were received from all of the above.

The Clerk's report was received, filed and made part of the record, on a motion by Councilman Kevin W. Johnson.

STATEMENT OR REMARKS FROM CITIZENS ON ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

Chief Robert Ware – 728 2nd Street Portsmouth, OH - He's speaking on behalf of the Oakland Boulevard project because that's where he lives. He's concerned of the severity and nature of the damage to the street and what will happen if the grant isn't approved. He stated that because the bonded indebtedness is now regulated by the Charter, he's worried there will not be enough money to fix the street and with winter time coming quickly the wetness of the season will only exasperate the problem.

LEGISLATION

The clerk gave a **first reading**, an Ordinance authorizing the appropriation of \$100,000 from the unencumbered balance of CIP Fund No. 301 to begin actions to correct the road slippage on Oakland Boulevard in Sciotoville and declaring such an emergency.

Councilman Kevin W. Johnson stated that due to the emergency status he moved to suspend the 3 reading rule as part of the Consent Agenda.

The roll was called. **VOTE: ayes 4 – nays 1 (G. Meadows) - the rule was suspended.**

Councilman Kevin W. Johnson stated that he appreciated the memo from the City Auditor which included the balance of the CIP fund and plenty unencumbered. He added that with the recent Audits the City was hit various times for having approved budget items for which there was no money in the budget, to the point we were \$200,000 over last year's CIP and General Fund. With this said he motioned that this Ordinance be amended with the following wording: Whereas, City Auditor M. Trent Williams, in an October 3, 2013 memo to Council advised "that as of this date the unencumbered balance of the Capital Improvements Fund #301 stands at \$756,331.19 and is therefore sufficient to accommodate the \$100,000.00 requested".

**Ord. #42-13
\$100,000
from CIP
for Oakland
Blvd.**

Councilman Meadows asked if we had to have the special meeting and waive the three reading rule because of a deadline issue.

Community Director Tracy Shearer stated that the application is due on October 4, 2013 by 4:00 p.m. in the Scioto County Engineer's office. The reason she's requesting the \$100,000 is to show that the City is willing to accept the commitment and to better our chances for approval.

Councilman Kevin E. Johnson asked what the total cost of the project would be.

Director Shearer stated the total cost as \$998,000.

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

Councilman Kevin W. Johnson motioned that this Ordinance be passed.

Councilman Sturgill asked the citizens to take a look at the cost of this situation and said there's no wonder why our government cost us all so much, when it cost almost \$1,000,000 to fix 250 feet of road that's 20 foot wide. We are hopeful that they will be able to get to this project soon, because it does need taken care of.

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**, a resolution authorizing the City of Portsmouth to prepare and submit an application to participate in the Ohio public works commission state capital improvement and / or local transportation improvement program(s) and to execute contracts as required.

**Res. #16-13
 OPWC
 application**

Councilman Kevin W. Johnson motioned that this resolution be adopted.

Councilman Sturgill asked Director Shearer to provide some details about this resolution.

Director Shearer stated that the last time the City applied for an OPWC grant was in 2009. This year Director Rick Duncan has requested some sewer improvements, she has now requested the Oakland Boulevard project and Director Sam Sutherland at the Water Filtration plant is now requesting a Rapid Mix Tank which is EPA mandated. She originally submitted for this back in April for the first round of funding and is hopeful that with the second round she will be successful and has received encouragement to apply from Scioto County Engineer Craig Opperman.

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

The meeting adjourned at approximately 6:15 p.m. on a motion by Councilman Kevin W. Johnson.

City Clerk

President of Council