

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

Monday July 22, 2013

6:00 P.M.

The City Council of the City of Portsmouth, Ohio met in regular session on, Monday July 22, 2013 at 6:00 p.m., in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building.

Vice President of Council Rich Saddler 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 (Absent)

Also present was City Solicitor, John Haas and City Clerk, Diana Ratliff. City Auditor, M. Trent Williams entered the meeting at 6:20 pm.

Council dispensed with the reading of the Journal for the regular session of July 8, 2013, on a motion by Councilman Kevin W. Johnson.

Councilman Kalb and Councilman Sturgill's absence was excused on a motion by Councilman Kevin W. Johnson.

STATEMENT OR REMARKS FROM CITIZENS ON ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

There was no one present who wished to address Council on any item on the agenda.

LEGISLATION

The clerk gave a **first reading**, to an Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to approve and sign an Administrative Order on Consent (AOC) which has been negotiated with USEPA Region V. The AOC includes the construction of a number of improvements to Portsmouth's sewer system.

Councilman Kevin W. Johnson motioned that this constitute a first reading.

Councilman Kevin W. Johnson stated that at the next meeting he will be submitting an amendment to the motion (not the Administrative Order of Consent "AOC") to reflect Council's understanding that the "AOC" will be strictly for phase one, the Sanitary sewer overflows "SSO" issue and to reflect that Council will only be approving the financial obligation which is limited to an amount that will be provided by Rick Duncan prior to the next meeting.

There were no questions or comments. The role was called. **VOTE: 4 ayes – 0 nays, a first reading was declared.**

STATEMENT OR REMARKS FROM CITIZENS ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

Linda Switzer – 319 Front Street – She thanked the City for the repairs done to a sewer on Front and Jefferson Streets, as it had become dangerous. She stated her concerns over Shawnee State's plans for the turnaround in front of First Christian Church and that it had been marked off in front of the church and is very close to the bushes in front of the church.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS AND REPORTS:

1. **City Clerk's Report** – City Clerk Ratliff reported the following:

Oaths of Office: Norma "Jeanie" Smith	Traffic Committee	7-9-2013
Joe Webb	Code Enforcement Officer	7-16-2013

Received from the Auditor via e-mail on July 17, 2013, the following Combined MTD/YTD reports for the period ending June 30, 2013: Expense Report, Revenue Report & Fund Report.

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

Mayor's Report – Mayor Malone reported the following:

- a. He will follow up with Shawnee State University to make sure that the University and First Christian Church are both in agreement on the turnaround in front of the church.
- b. He has re-appointed 3 members to the Land Reutilization Program as follows:
Linda Switzer – 1st Ward, Jerry Conkel – 3rd Ward and Kelly Raise – 5th Ward.
- c. He concluded that he will be meeting with Dave Thompson of the Local Government Services on Tuesday July 23rd for a status report on the 5 year recovery plan which is due for submission to the State Auditor on August 9, 2013.

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

President's Report – No Report due to absence.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS FROM CITY COUNCIL

1st Ward – Councilman Kevin W. Johnson reported the following:

- a. He thanked the Mayor and Staff for helping the people in the first Ward with various issues.
- b. He stated that he has noticed some clean-up on Second Street.
- c. He suggested Council work with the Media on getting public announcements out regarding owners and businesses responsibilities for property maintenance such as maintaining sidewalks, clearing weeds and overall keeping their property clean.

2nd Ward – Councilman Saddler reported the following:

- a. He thanked Mr. Beaumont, Mr. Gideon & Ms. Weghorst for their quick actions on a couple of complaints in his Ward.
- b. He stated that his committee will be meeting again on August 13th at the American Legion Post 23 and he will be forming subcommittees.
- c. He commented on Ms. Switzer's concerns about the location of the cul-de-sac at First Christian Church and believes that it will be a safer alternative having the street closed with just a cul-de-sac.

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

- a. He thanked Mr. Beaumont for attending to some paving issues that a resident was having in the 3rd Ward and also for weed and small tree removal at Greenlawn Cemetery's Mausoleum.
- b. He also thanked Chief Ware on a parking issue that a resident was having.
- c. He recalled previous discussions with Shawnee State stating that if 3rd Street was closed, they would make certain to upgrade 4th Street to be able to handle all of the new traffic and that parking would not be allowed at least on one side of the street. Mr. Beaumont responded to his questions stating that there will be no updates other than putting up school zone signs and new speed limit signs that show how fast a vehicle is traveling. Mr. Beaumont also stated that there will be no traffic light at 4th and Gay Streets.
- d. He has set forth his Personnel & Performance Committee as follows: Councilman Kevin E. Johnson, City Clerk Diana Ratliff, Filtration Director Sam Sutherland, Finance Clerk Sherry Boling, Councilman Rich Saddler, Emily Cobb-Thomas, Ken Applegate, Jim Wilson and Craig Massie.

4th Ward – Councilman Kalb had no report due to absence.

5th Ward – Councilman Meadows reported the following:

- a. He stated that he had heard from a parent of a Shawnee State Student that was thankful the street had been closed.
- b. The Legal, Legislative & Safety Committee had an informative meeting and decided to address certain issues one at a time. The first being the Updating of Civil Service rules, secondly Employee use of City owned equipment and lastly the dilapidated housing problems within the City. Also discussed was reviewing Ordinances and making them understandable to the public.

6th Ward – Councilman Sturgill had no report due to absence.

City Solicitor – Solicitor Haas requested that Mayor Malone include the settlement of the

Hunt/Newsome lawsuits for the next Mayor’s Conference and asked that it be considered a Consent Agenda Item.

City Auditor – Auditor Williams had no report.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 6:30 p.m. on a motion by Councilman Kevin W. Johnson.

City Clerk

President of Council