

**January 4, 2022  
City Council, Cheviot, Ohio**

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President Smyth called the meeting to order at 7:35PM with the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silent prayer.

Roll was then called, and the following members were in attendance:

Mayor	Sam Keller
President of Council	Kerry Smyth
Law Director	Kimberlee Rohr
Safety Service Director	Tom Braun
Council Ward 1	David Voss
Council Ward 2	John Hardig
Council Ward 3	Brian Smyth
Council Ward 4	Lindsay Jones
Council At Large	Amy Richter
Council At Large	Stefanie Hawk
Council At Large	Kitty Zech

Motion to approve the minutes from the December 21 and January 1 meetings was made by Mr. Hardig, second by Mrs. Richter and carried with a 7-0 voice vote.

Motion to approve the standing committee assignments was made by Mr. Hardig, second by Mr. Smyth. Motion carried unanimously. Motion to replace Mrs. Zech with Mr. Voss as President Pro Tempore as well as motion to remove CWCA as an organization with council reps and replace it with CBA (Cheviot Business Alliance) and CCF (Cheviot Community Foundation) was made by Mrs. Richter, second by Ms. Hawk, and approved unanimously. The reps for these two entities will be Mrs. Richter and Mr. Hardig. A resolution is required to appoint Mr. Voss to be the JEDD representative.

**Legislation:**

**Ordinance 21-25** To Amend Section 111.33 Of The Cheviot Code Of Ordinances To Revise The Penalty (relative to nuisance properties) Mrs. Zech presented the ordinance for its second of three readings.

**Ordinance 22-01** To Amend The Fees For The Use Of The City Facilities At Harvest Home Park And The Cheviot Memorial Fieldhouse; And To Declare An Emergency. Motion to introduce was made by Mr. Voss, second by Mr. Hardig. Motion to suspend the rules was made by Mr. Voss, second by Mr. Smyth. During discussion, Mrs. Zech stated that she was concerned that because of the rate increase being more than double the previous rates, we may no longer be competitive in the market. After some discussion, it was agreed upon that the three veterans groups (Purple Hearts, VFW and American Legion) would receive a 40% discount. Mr. Voss then motioned to adopt the ordinance as changed. Mr. Hardig seconded, and adoption was approved unanimously.

**Legislation (continued):**

**Resolution 22-01** To Authorize The Safety Service Director To Solicit Bids For The Reconstruction Of Herbert Avenue (From Glenmore Avenue To Florence Avenue), Florence Avenue, Alta Vista Avenue and Mayfair Avenue. Motion to introduce was made by Mr. Voss, second by Ms. Hawk. Motion to adopt was made by Mr. Hardig, second by Mrs. Zech. Both motions carried unanimously.

**Ordinance 22-02** To Amend Sections 71.20, 76.42 And 76.99 Of The Cheviot Code Of Ordinances To Revise The Penalties. Ordinance presented for its first reading with a motion by Mrs. Zech, a second by Mr. Hardig and a 7-0 voice vote.

**Administrative Reports:**

--Mayor Keller presented his State of the City report. A copy is posted at Cheviot.org, under the City Officials tab. Mayor called for executive session prior to adjournment to discuss the wage contracts that are coming due this year. He also requested that legislation be prepared to appoint the new JEDD rep (Voss) as well as a resolution authorizing him to enter into an agreement for the transfer of the former Cappel's property.

--Safety Service Director: Mr. Braun reported that there was a decent turnout for the Harvest Home Lodge pre-bid meeting. He will need a resolution to be passed at the January 18 meeting to authorize him to accept the winning bid for the Harvest Home Lodge renovations. Street renovations contract for Alta Vista/Mayfair/Florence Ave will be awarded at the February 1 meeting.

--Law Director: Mrs. Rohr presented her year-end report. Some highlights included the Unofficial Juvenile Court, which was instituted in 2020, but put on hold during Covid. There were several dockets and they were found to be successful and money-saving for the City. Mayors Court has returned but remains flexible to meet the ever changing guidelines for the pandemic. She then spoke of the importance of following the guidelines under the Sunshine Law. All electronic communications are considered public record, and as such, must be conducted using the City email. Text messages can be used for general information, but never for official city business. All city business is to be conducted in an open meeting, the date, time and location being made available prior to the public via newspaper notice or at Cheviot.org. The next training for the Sunshine Law will be January 26. It is virtual. Details are available at [ohioattorneygeneral.gov/Legal/Sunshine-Law-Training](http://ohioattorneygeneral.gov/Legal/Sunshine-Law-Training). Each elected official is required to take the virtual training or have a designee attend on their behalf.

**Other Business**

-Mr. Hardig called a meeting of the Zoning Committee for discussion of Hamilton County's recommendations. The meeting will be held immediately following the council meeting on January 18.

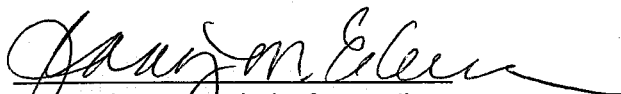
-Ms. Jones called a meeting of the Safety Committee for February 1 immediately following the council meeting to discuss the safety issues on Applegate Avenue.

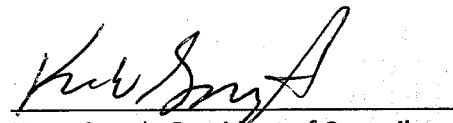
-Council President Smyth presented his year end report, a copy of which is posted at Cheviot.org under the City Officials tab.

**Other Business (continued):**

-President Smyth then requested executive session to discuss the upcoming wage negotiations for the police and fire departments. Motion to move to executive session was made at 9:10PM by Mrs. Richter, with a second by Ms. Jones, and a third by Mr. Smyth.

Following executive session, all members of council returned to council chambers. Seeing no further business, Mrs. Richter motioned for adjournment. Ms. Hawk seconded and the motion to adjourn carried.

  
Jenny Eilermann, Clerk of Council

  
Kerry Smyth, President of Council