

March 15, 2022
City Council, Cheviot, Ohio

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President Smyth called the meeting to order at 7:30PM 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
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

Mrs. Zech announced that she would not be present at the April 5 meeting.

Motion to approve the minutes from the March 1 meeting was made by Ms. Hawk, second by Mrs. Richter, and carried with a 7-0 voice vote.

Public Recognition on Agenda Items: Council President Smyth explained to those community members in attendance that they will be given two opportunities to address Council, the first being on the topic of any agenda items, and the second following administrative reports, where they may address on any non-agenda item.

Legislation:

Resolution 22-05 To Adopt The "Activating The City Of Cheviot's Commercial Business District" Plan. Introduced by Mr. Hardig, second by Ms. Hawk. Motion to adopt made by Mr. Hardig, second by Ms. Hawk.

Ordinance 22-08 To Authorize The Establishment Of The Cappel's Property Purchase Fund; To Amend The 1st Quarter Appropriations; And To Declare An Emergency. Introduced by Mr. Voss, second by Mr. Hardig. Motion to suspend the rules made by Mr. B. Smyth, second by Ms. Hawk. Motion to adopt made by Mrs. Zech, second by Mr. Voss. All motions carried unanimously.

Ordinance 22-09 To Accept The Recommendation Of The Tax Incentive Review Council Regarding The Community Reinvestment Area Agreement For The Family Dollar Store; To Terminate The Community Reinvestment Area Agreement; And To Declare An Emergency. Introduced by Mr. Voss, second by Mrs. Zech. Motion to suspend the rules made by Mrs. Zech, second by Mr. Voss. During this time there was regarding why this is being passed as an emergency, the answer being that the matter is time sensitive and there would need to be additional meetings held in order to make the three readings in time for the deadline. Motion to adopt made by Mr. Voss, second by Ms. Hawk. All motions carried unanimously.

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Administrative Reports:

Mayor's Report: Mayor Keller had no report other than the closing date for the Cappels building will be Friday, March 18. Mr. Braun will attend the closing and sign on the City's behalf. Once the keys are available, Mayor Keller will make arrangements for all council members to tour the building.

Safety Service Director: Mr. Braun had no report.

Law Director: Mrs. Rohr had not report.

Public Recognition on Non-Agenda Items

-Mike Robbins, owner of GameTime, 3613 Harrison Ave. addressed council regarding the recent shots-fired report that happened recently in the area near Game Time. He said that he is fully cooperating with the police investigation of the incident where a patron left the bar, went to his car, retrieved a gun and fired it into the air. No one was injured. Mr. Robbins went on to explain that police calls regarding activities at the bar are often over-stated as they occur in areas near the bar, outside, and are reported as 3613 Harrison due to its proximity. He went on to discuss how security is beefed up on the weekends when he employs additional staff to help handle the crowd. He also stated that Game Time will be closing at 12pm in the immediate future to help alleviate some of the problems with the crowd.

-Police Chief Emmett Stone also addressed Council and reiterated that the Game Time owner has always been fully cooperative in providing video surveillance and photos inside the bar as requested. Chief Stone also addressed misinformation being dispensed via social media and asked for cooperation from those posting to always seek true statements so that the public has an accurate idea of what's going on and how it's being handled. During an active investigation, it is not uncommon for very little information being released to the public. This is to ensure that the police can conduct a thorough investigation and hopefully a satisfactory resolution.

-Kevin Leidecker, owner of NYPD Pizza, 3721 Harrison Ave was disappointed that the blame for many of the problems that occur are blamed on Game Time, for the same reason that Mr. Robbins stated earlier, in that anything that happens around Game Time is reported as happening IN Game Time, even if it is outside of the building, therefore out of the control of management.

-Vic Vidas, owner of Rooties Brick House stated that he has lost some customers due to the frequent trouble calls about patrons of Game Time and has found that if he refuses to service people who are already inebriated, they often respond by being disrespectful to his staff and property. He would like the bar shut down.

-Shawn Klei, of 3855 Delmar Ave discussed recent thefts of catalytic converters from cars and would like to organize a neighborhood watch. It was recommended that he take this up with his neighbors. f management there.

-Emily Friedrichs, of 3517 Glenmore Ave wanted to address an issue with B. Smyth and his post of a slur on the Next Door app that refers to transgendered people. Ms. Friedrichs cited the military code of conduct that prohibits use of hurtful language. Shortly into her speaking time, she was interrupted by President Smyth who asked that she get to her point. K. Smyth was then advised by the Law Director that not allowing Ms. Friedrichs to speak would be in violation of her rights to speak, in that others had been allowed more than the prescribed five minutes as stated in the council rules. Following some lively discussion, President Smyth refused to allow Mrs. Rohr or Mayor Keller to speak, stating that they are guests in the meeting and cannot speak without his permission. Mr. Smyth did allow Ms. Friedrichs to complete her comment despite his initial attempt to restrict her.

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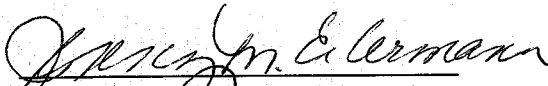
*Amended copy as per POC Smyth
4-5-2022
JE*

Other Business

- Filing deadline for financial disclosures is May 16
- Ms. Hawk read her report from the recent LSDMC meeting
- Mr. Voss reported that the fire department union has filed a Notice To Negotiate relative to the fire contract. The finance committee will schedule a meeting with them in the near future.
- Mrs. Richter let those in attendance know that Family Day will be held on June 1 at Harvest Home Park from 5-8pm. More details to follow.
- Ms. Eilermann announced the Easter Egg Hunt will take place at Harvest Home Park on Sunday April 10.

Motion to Move To Executive Session: Mr. B. Smyth motioned, second by Mrs. Richter, third by Ms. Jones.

Following executive session, Council returned to chambers where Mr. Hardig motioned for adjournment. Mrs. Zech seconded, and the meeting was adjourned at 9:12PM.


Jenny Eilermann, Clerk of Council

Kerry Smyth, President of Council