

**December 19, 2023**  
**City Council, Cheviot, Ohio**

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Council 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
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	Kathleen Zech
Council At Large	Stefanie Hawk
Council At Large	Amy Richter

Former President of Council Mark Waters was given the floor. He spoke about soon-to-be former 30 year councilwoman Kitty Zech and what she has done for the city during her tenure. Kitty has upheld her promise to her constituents to always act in the best interests of the City. Mr. Waters also reflected upon how Mrs. Zech was instrumental in persuading him to run for office.

Mr. Rick Hoeting was then given the floor to field questions about his upcoming proposal regarding the former Cappel's property. Mrs. Statkus gave a very brief explanation and then offered Council to ask questions in tonight's Executive Session.

Motion to approve the minutes from the December 5 meeting was made by Mr. Hardig, second by Mr. Voss.

**Reports of Standing Committees:** Ms. Jones presented her report from the October 17 meeting of the Streets and Sidewalks committee. Received and filed with a motion by Ms. Jones, second by Mr. Smyth.

**Legislation:**

**ORD 23-23** To Amend Sections 114.01, 114.02 and 114.04 Of The Cheviot Code Of Ordinances Chapter 114: Mobile Food Vendors. Introduced by Ms. Jones, second by Mr. Smyth, and approved by all of council. This constitutes the second reading. Changes to the ordinance will be made by the law director and the ordinance will be presented for its final reading at the January 2 meeting.

**ORD 23-24** To Establish Regulation Of Compensatory Time For Non-Union Employees And To Establish Terms of Payment Of Sick Time For Non-Union Employees; And To Declare An Emergency. This Ordinance was originally brought forward at the December meeting, but was tabled. Brought forth again tonight, it was again tabled until the Finance Committee can meet for further discussion. That meeting is to be held on January 2 immediately following the council meeting.

**ORD 23-25** To Amend The 2023 Annual Budget Appropriations; And To Declare An Emergency. Introduced by Mr. Voss, second by Mrs. Richter. Motion to suspend the rules was made by Mrs. Zech, second by Mrs. Richter. There was no discussion. Motion to adopt was made by Ms. Hawk, second by Mr. Voss.

**ORD 23-27** To Modify And Establish A Salary Range For Safety-Service Director; And To Declare An Emergency. Introduced by Mr. Voss, second by Mr. Hardig. Motion to suspend the rules was made by Ms. Hawk, second by Mrs. Richter. Motion to adopt was made by Mrs. Zech, second by Ms. Hawk.

**ORD 23-28** Quarterly Appropriation Ordinance For First Quarter 2024, Ending March 31, 2024. Motion to introduce was made by Mr. Voss, second by Mrs. Zech. Motion to suspend the rules was made by Mr. Hardig, second by Mr. Voss. Motion to Adopt was made by Mrs. Zech, second by Ms. Hawk.

**Administrative Reports:**

- Mayor Keller read a proclamation naming December 19, 2023 as Kitty Zech Day in honor of her last council meeting. Some members of Mrs. Zech's family were in council chambers as well, to wish her well. Funding has been received for the resurfacing of Tangent, Alex, and Selby Court. Work should start in July 2024. The fence on Harrison Avenue in front of Cheviot School was destroyed by a car. No one was hurt, the car drove off but not before a neighbor's doorbell camera filmed it. No one has been apprehended in the incident. The fence will be replaced by a concrete barrier.
- Safety Service Director Braun had no report
- Law Director Rohr offered that due to the passage of Issue 2, Council may want to meet to revisit legislation and determine whether to make the moratorium apply to recreational marijuana as well as medical marijuana.
- \* The Zoning Committee will meet on January 16 prior to the council meeting to discuss.

**Public Recognition:**

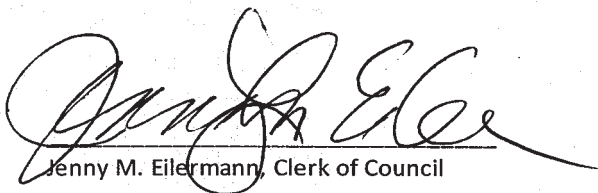
Kevin Burnett, organizer of the Mugs for Meal event spoke about the banners advertising the event be allowed because the banners were sold as sponsorships and raised over \$4000 for the cause. His feeling is that the banners are up for a short time, and they have done a great job of bolstering the fundraising efforts for a good cause, local food pantries. Most of council does not share his opinion. There was discussion. The end result is that Mr. Burnett can place his banners on the other side of the street or on the fence along Harvest Home Park, but not on the cemetery fence.

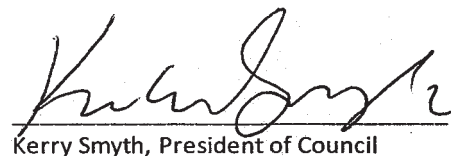
**Other Business:**

- Ms. Hawk asked for an update on the Mural Ordinance. Mr. Hardig responded that it is temporarily on hold, that he wanted to wait until the new council member was sworn in before moving forward. Mrs. Richter asked that we keep the Weber family in prayer, having lost their mother recently.
- Mayors Court Monthly Distribution Journal was received and filed with a motion by Mr. Voss, second by Mr. Smyth.
- \_POC Smyth asked everyone to consider whether they want to remain on their current committee assignments or if anyone wants to move.

At 8:40 Mr. Smyth, Mr. Voss and Mr. Hardig motioned for Executive Session for discussion of the possible sale of city owned property.

Council reconvened at 9:27 and seeing no further business before this Council, Ms. Hawk motioned for adjournment. Mrs. Richter seconded and the meeting adjourned at 9:28.

  
Jenny M. Eiler, Clerk of Council

  
Kerry Smyth, President of Council