

CLYDE CITY COUNCIL
Regular Session – July 20, 2021

Clyde City Council met at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, July 20, 2021 in Council Chambers of the Municipal Building, 222 N. Main Street, Clyde, Ohio. Mayor G. Scott Black called the meeting to order.

Roll Call.

Present: Mayor G. Scott Black
Vice Mayor Jean Jackson
Council Member Bobbie Boyer
Council Member Steve Keegan
Council Member Brent Stanley
City Manager Paul Fiser (Not voting)
Clerk of Council Janet Dickman (Not voting)
Deputy Clerk Jackie Hoppe (Not voting)
Finance Director Craig Davis (Not voting)
Solicitor Zachary Selvey (Not voting)
IT Justin LaBenne

Visitors signing in can be referenced in the Record Book Supplement.

The meeting opened with The Lord's Prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the July 6, 2021 regular session of council were distributed for review prior to this meeting. There was one correction.

Page 3, Finance section, 1st paragraph, 2nd line: "He participates in ~~conferences~~ *conference* calls to ..."

Motion: to approve the minutes of the July 6, 2021 regular session of council as corrected,

Action: Approve, **Moved by** Vice Mayor Jean Jackson, **Seconded by** Member Bobbie Boyer.

Vote: Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote (**summary:** Yes = 5).

Yes: Mayor G. Scott Black, Council Member Bobbie Boyer, Council Member Brent Stanley, Vice Mayor Jean Jackson, Council Member Steve Keegan.

DISCUSSION OF PENDING OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business.

CORRESPONDENCE

There was no correspondence

Visitors:

Mandy and Shannon Stewart expressed concerned about the need for functioning cameras at all

parks and at the reservoir. Their 16-year-old daughter was raped at the reservoir during daylight hours but the 18-year-old male was not prosecuted due to insufficient evidence. They would like to prevent this from happening in the future. They met in Cherry Street Park on May 11 (Mr. LaBenne will check the camera recording from that park for that date) then this happened at the restroom at the reservoir on the 14th. Their daughter is in counseling to deal with her PTSD.

Ms. Jackson offered her heartfelt concern for this situation. She noted that there is a women's safety class offered at a local gym. Mrs. Stewart stated there are many other concerning circumstances related to this male (it is up to the Prosecutor if he would be charged with anything; our local PD has limitations on what they can do).

Mr. Keegan offered his sympathy for all they have had to deal with. He agrees that counseling is needed, as this could affect her for a long time. Mr. Keegan noted that the reservoir is a big area, but we should be able to do something with installing a camera in the park area. He noted that he also brought up concerns at the last Council meeting with the safety of the bike trail.

Mrs. Boyer offered thanks for the Stewarts to bring this concern to Council tonight. Council and the City will look for an opportunity to help with this. She also shared information for free emotional support with professional counselors – Ohio CareLine (1-800-720-9616).

Mr. Stanley offered his concern for this family. He noted that IT will look for appropriate locations for cameras and Council will look at the feasibility of installing cameras.

Mayor Black agrees with Council comments. He shares understanding for this concern as he has three daughters and four granddaughters. He stated Council and the City will following through with looking at this concern.

Kimberly Morton expressed concern and appreciates the cameras at Cherry Street Park. She has lived across from the park for forty-four years. There is a lot of drug activity, especially after the sun goes down. Neighborhood residents can smell drugs as though it is being cooked. They also find drug paraphernalia, such as needles, around the park/neighborhood. It was noted the park is supposed to be open only from dawn to dusk, but there is increased activity after dusk. Residents call the Clyde PD to report this activity; officers come and speak to the individuals and then the PD leaves. Speeding on Cherry Street is also an issue. Mr. LaBenne noted that if the PD can only witness the individuals doing low level infractions, there is not much they can do. Ms. Morton is interested in hearing any suggestions on how residents can help with this situation.

Chris Shay lives in the 200 block of South Church Street. He has noticed much higher foot traffic in the Church Street/Cherry Street area in the past month. Many of the individuals walking are obviously impaired. A couple days ago, a man who appeared impaired was arrested; a woman who was with him and also appeared impaired went to a house in the neighborhood. He noted that four to five times a day there are individuals who appear to be impaired going into the same house.

Roxann Meckley of 147 Cherry Street, a neighbor to the park, is a new resident, previously from

Indiana. She questioned having a Community Watch program. Solicitor Selvey stated the City cannot sanction a community watch; however, if residents want to be observant citizens for information gathering (writing down license plates, watching individuals who are involved in trafficking, etc.), that would be okay. He recommends caution to not over step citizen boundaries. All residents should be encouraged to contact the Clyde PD and allow them to determine what a crime is.

Ms. Jackson extended thanks to all in attendance. If anything is found, such as a needle or anything, do not touch it; rather, call the Clyde PD. The more the police are called, the more information they will have to create a history. She has an understanding of what residents are going through as she previously lived beside a drug dealer in Cleveland.

Mr. Keegan recalls hearing similar complaints a couple years ago and that is why they put the cameras at Cherry Street Park. Mr. Keegan spent an afternoon in the park, observing activity. He spoke with a man who lives in the yellow house on Cherry Street, and the man knew all the activities that have taken place at the park. Mr. Keegan stated speeding can happen on all streets. Mrs. Stewart is afraid vandals will ruin the new park equipment that is planned to be installed.

Mrs. Boyer also extended thanks to residents for coming tonight. She agrees that residents should continue to call the Clyde PD as each call is a piece of the puzzle and residents should not be discouraged. The PD is doing a lot of work behind the scenes as well.

Mr. Stanley appreciates residents attending this meeting to voice their concerns. Mr. Stanley had reported a situation to the Clyde PD in December, and the police caught a suspect within a week. It is important to report all incidents to the PD. Speeding happens on many streets. Based on tonight's reports, possibly officers could patrol in the Cherry Street vicinity more often.

Mayor Black noted that all Council members live in Clyde, in all different areas of Clyde. Mayor Black has seen some of these same activities in his neighborhood since 1977. He continues to report activities to the PD.

Ms. Morton asked if a caller's address can remain anonymous, to avoid possible retaliation (yes, just make it clear when calling in a report that you want to remain anonymous; however, if someone is needed to testify as a witness, they could not remain anonymous).

Mr. Fiser stated there is an additional current issue in the City, related to cats. Solicitor Selvey stated there is a report that residents are feeding feral cats. There are guidelines that owners must keep a dog or cat pet on their premises and there cannot be more than four cats at one residence or it is considered a kennel, which is not permitted. Options that could be considered include: 1) not allowing cat food outside unattended, 2) registration for cats, 3) outdoor cats must wear a bell, 4) spay/neuter laws.

Marcia Nicely, a resident of Fairhome Street, has a neighbor who has twenty cats, with two new litters born in the past month. This has been going on for four years. A court order was issued that she could not have more than three cats, and she was previously thrown out of her home in

Green Springs for this issue. Ms. Nicely has repeatedly called the dog warden but is told there is nothing they can do to help. The cats are getting into Ms. Nicely's landscaping and getting on cars on her property. When the neighbor's windows are open, a smell from all the cats is in the air.

Mayor Black is aware of the cat problem. He has fenced in his yard and has purchased spike mats to try to keep the cats out of his yard. He has also tried spraying menthol on plants to deter the cats. The cats can also be trapped and taken to the Humane Society.

Ms. Jackson noted if the cats are in the neighbor's yard, there could also be cat feces in the yard. She has heard of other residents having this same issue. We need to do something about this.

Mr. Keegan stated this can be a touchy subject, depending on how a person feels about cats. He has seen other houses that were overrun by cats. We will need to look into how to address this issue.

Mrs. Boyer has dealt with many animal issues in her neighborhood. She went through the legal process, which took a couple years to resolve. We need to look at our outdated Ordinances that can be updated and take advantage of the knowledge from other communities who have found some solutions. We also need to address how to enforce our Ordinances.

Mr. Stanley has dealt with this issue too. He agrees we need to look at our Ordinances and address issues. He appreciates residents coming forward to express these concerns.

Solicitor Selvey offered a suggestion for changes. A meeting could be held with the Prosecutor's office to discuss enforcement, then new legislation could be proposed with more enforcement.

FIRST READING ORDINANCES

There was none.

SECOND READING ORDINANCES

There was none.

RESOLUTIONS

2021-36 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT FOR PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING SERVICES WITH MS ENGINEERING, LLC OF CLYDE, OHIO FOR THE MULBERRY STREET BRIDGE REPLACEMENT PROJECT IN THE CITY OF CLYDE; APPROPRIATING FUNDS AND AUTHORIZING THE EXPENDITURE OF MONEYS THEREFOR.

Resolution No. **2021-36** was read in its entirety.

Mr. Fiser indicated MS Engineering is the engineer of record for the OPW project. He is one of our regular inspectors. This amount was approved in the budget.

Ms. Jackson questioned if we have used MS before (yes). She is glad they are a local company.

Mr. Stanley questioned if this was the firm that was used for the Cherry Street project (yes).

Motion: to pass Resolution No. **2021-36**, **Action:** Pass,

Moved by Council Member Steve Keegan, **Seconded by** Council Member Brent Stanley.

Vote: Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote (**summary:** Yes = 5).

Yes: Council Member Bobbie Boyer, Council Member Brent Stanley, Vice Mayor Jean Jackson, Council Member Steve Keegan, Mayor G. Scott Black.

Mayor Black announced that Resolution No. **2021-36** passed.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Mr. Fiser gave the following report:

- US Rt 20/SR 101 Sewer Separation – all main line storm sewers have been installed. They are currently excavating SR 101 from Rt. 20 to the tracks, which is causing significant business details for Billings Sales & Service but we are keeping in constant contact with them to deal with any issues. The concrete shoulder along Rt. 20 should be ready for pour as they are currently waiting on subs. So far, there have been no issues with cemetery operations, with a temporary entrance established for the cemetery. Many current projects continue to be affected by delays related to COVID.
- Mulberry Street Bridge – advertising will be starting tomorrow with bids due by August 6th; the estimated cost is \$550,000. The OPW grant of \$275,000 was confirmed on July 6th with an executed agreement with OPW.
- 2021 Paving Project – advertising started last week with a bid date of July 30th. Estimated cost is \$425,000.
- Peak Shaving Efforts – it is that time of year when we are shaving our load for benefit of next year's pricing. We have been running the generators and the solar field has been active during all of the coincident peak which is used to base the cost next year. As far as the solar field goes, some of the peak occurred when we had some cloud cover rolling in so some are considerably less than we would like. Hopefully, we will have some hot days in August and will bump some of those off and replace them with some better solar days. All in all both projects are still performing at or above expectations.
- Active Shooter Training – Clyde PD participated in training at the high school this past weekend. Our school resource officer reported all went well. The after event critique was well received by all parties involved.
- WWTP – there were a lot of storms in July this year. On July 12, 16 and 17 there were some major events. Almost 2 million gallons were captured and did not make it to Raccoon Creek.
- Solar Energy Center – had a good June. Output was 581,000 kwh, which is the third best June since commercial operation started in June 2016.

FINANCE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Davis June financials were reviewed.

- All fund balances are higher compared to this time last year (General, Water, Electric,

Sewer)

- The Water and Sewer fund rate increase that happened a couple years ago is starting to show in the Water Fund
- Income Tax Collections were lower by \$57,000 compared to June 2020; July was the tax due date last year, but the tax due date was earlier this year; we are up \$234,000 YTD
- Some withholding accounts have been received this past month, but the numbers are down again; hopefully that will turn around as businesses reopen.

Budget notices will be going out this week to all department heads. Tentative date for budget hearing is October 26th.

Our American Rescue Plan Act (ARP) funds were applied for and have been approved, per notice we received today. The actual amount will be \$645,000 instead of the \$1.2 mil we were originally expecting.

Our CRA application was approved today by the State. A Housing Committee will need to be created so we can continue to move forward with this program.

FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Chief Davis reported there was a three-vehicle accident tonight near Kuny's Market, including a fuel spill.

COUNCIL REMARKS

Ms. Jackson conveyed that the Landscape/Tree Commission would like to see additional funds designated for purchasing/planting trees. It is noted in their By-Laws that when a tree is taken down a tree must be planted to replace it, but this has not been happening.

Ms. Jackson has heard many comments related to there not being any hanging baskets of flowers downtown. Since there is no longer a flower organization in Clyde, we need funding for downtown flowers.

Ms. Jackson reported the intersection at George and Vine Streets is a terrible intersection, per Facebook. Years ago, there was a mirror there so drivers could see other cars coming. Mr. Fiser noted Chief Campbell recently reported there has only been one accident at that intersection in the past twenty years. Mr. LaBenne was complimented for the good responses he gave to the comments that were on Facebook.

Ms. Jackson continues to hear comments that the new LED streetlights on Route 20 are too bright for drivers.

Ms. Jackson complimented the landscaping at the City Building as looking nice.

Ms. Jackson reported a situation where a semi-truck passed seven signs on Route 20 advising of re-routing for a detour due to the Route 20 sewer separation work that is being done, and the semi turned on Mason Street instead of following the detour. She questioned if there is

something that can be done to have semis follow the approved re-routing.

Mr. Keegan suggested placing a “dangerous intersection” sign at the George/Vine Streets intersection. He noted drivers need to pay attention. Mr. Fiser does not recommend a four-way stop sign. Mr. Stanley, who lives on Vine Street, does not recommend a stop sign on Vine Street, but possibly a flashing stop sign on George Street. Many members agreed to not install a four way stop.

Mrs. Boyer expressed concern with various health issues that have increased due to and since the pandemic, including anxiety, drug use and suicide. She encourages everyone to watch out for your neighbors and to ask for help if needed.

Mr. Stanley has received messages this past week related to tree Ordinances, visibility Ordinances, the Ordinance related to cats, etc. He asks that Council take these issues to heart and to handle issues in the upcoming meetings. He again thanked all visitors who attended tonight to voice their concerns.

Mr. Stanley attended a recent BZA meeting and members were questioning if a city-wide trash pick-up day would be held in the fall, similar to the previous trash day but they would like a residential pick-up instead of taking the trash to a designated lot. Mr. Davis will get quotes and present these to Council next meeting. It was noted residential pick-up may not be an option. Costs in 2019 were \$7,300 for disposal fees, plus overtime for City staff who assisted in various ways.

Mayor Black polled Council and Administration, then announced the Council Work Session as cancelled for July 27th.

Mayor Black believes ClydeScope will be happy to hear that the CRA is approved.

Mayor Black has an Aunt who has been trying to get to the cemetery, but has been having difficulty and unable to get in to visit her husbands grave (the auxiliary entrance is across from the dental office; if the sewer separation workers see someone trying to get in to the cemetery they try to help).

Mayor Black along with ClydeScope and other officials attended a tour of downtown Clyde with Representative Click and Senator Reineke. There were many interesting sites. It would be nice if downtown could be renovated and be opened for touring.

MOTIONS

There were none.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion: to adjourn the meeting at 8:29 p.m., **Action:** Adjourn,

Moved by Mayor G. Scott Black, **Seconded by** Council Member Bobbie Boyer.

Vote: Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote (**summary:** Yes = 5).

Yes: Council Member Brent Stanley, Vice Mayor Jean Jackson, Council Member Steve Keegan, Mayor G. Scott Black, Council Member Bobbie Boyer.


G. Scott Black, Mayor


Janet R. Dickman, Clerk of Council

CITY OF CLYDE

COUNCIL MEETING

Date: Tuesday 7-20-2021 Regular Session

Visitors – PLEASE SIGN IN:

1. Mund
2. Roxann Meckley
3. Sharon Ford
4. Chris Fly
5. Kim Morton
6. Matthew Morton
7. Gary Smith
8. Marcia Nicely
9. _____
10. _____
11. _____
12. _____
13. _____
14. _____
15. _____