

CLYDE CITY COUNCIL
Regular Session – September 21, 2021

Clyde City Council met at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, September 21, 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
Finance Director Craig Davis (Not voting)
Clerk of Council Janet Dickman (Not voting)
Deputy Clerk Jackie Hoppe (Not voting)

Absent/

Excused: City Manager Paul Fiser
Solicitor Zachary Selvey

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 September 7, 2021 regular session of council were distributed for review prior to this meeting. There were two corrections.

Page 6, 3rd paragraph from bottom: "Mrs. Boyer questioned who owns the *house lot on the corner of Cherry and George Streets ...*"

Page 7, 2nd line: "...alley behind ~~Edwards~~ Edward Jones ..."

Motion: to approve the minutes of the September 7, 2021 regular session of council as corrected,

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

Vote: Motion passed (**summary:** Yes - 4, No - 0, Abstain - 1).

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

Abstain: Council Member Brent Stanley.

DISCUSSION OF PENDING OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Stanley noted that Ms. Jackson brought up at the last meeting regarding crosswalks needing painted. Mr. Stanley recalled that he had brought up this same topic in July, and he brought it up last year. Some have been done, but there are many areas that still need to be painted. Mr. Stanley questioned if legislature is needed to get these done, especially the ones in high traffic areas. Ms. Jackson stated that she only brought up the crossing at Main/Limerick, and that

crossing has already been taken care of. Mr. Davis responded that a city-wide project may be a way to get it completed.

Mayor Black reported there are two city culverts in the grass area on Ames/Yost where there is a three-foot drop from the sidewalk to the grate. A riser is needed to bring them up. City workers previously marked these areas by painting a white arrow on the road near the culvert. This work still needs to be done.

CORRESPONDENCE

There was none.

Visitors:

Frank Pierce extended thanks to Council for all that they do to make Clyde the best it can be. He does have one issue to bring up. His wife is the crossing guard at Clyde Elementary School. The crosswalk there needs to be painted. There is very busy traffic there. He suggests there needs to be a more effective way to slow down the traffic, possibly by having a delay in the traffic lights along Main Street. He also suggests having better signage, maybe larger and possibly with a light on it, with no option to turn right on red. He shared a story of a recent close encounter between a car, a student and the crossing guard. This issue has been brought to the attention of the Police Department. This is causing a dangerous situation for the school kids.

There is a “deaf person” sign on Forest Street where there is no longer a deaf person in the area. There is a “no outlet” sign on N. Main Street where there is now an outlet. Mr. Pierce noted the speed limit on Main Street goes from 35 mph to 25mph as you come into town; he suggests reducing it to 25mph starting at the Eagles.

The updated lighting looks beautiful, but there are many other streets with either no lights or lights that do not work. Specifically, Amanda Street between Vine and Main Streets and the east side of Route 20 (Route 20 lights on the east side would be Toledo Edison).

Ms. Jackson thanked Mr. Pierce for bringing these things to our attention. She noted that pedestrians have the right of way at the crossing near the school.

Mr. Stanley suggested that newer signs, some are fluorescent, should be put in place.

Mrs. Boyer offered her thanks.

Mr. Stanley questioned if the speed limits are set by the State Highway Patrol (Mr. Davis will look into this; maybe we would need to petition the State to change a speed limit).

Mayor Black offered thanks.

FIRST READING ORDINANCES

There were none.

SECOND READING ORDINANCES

2021-44 AN ORDINANCE RENEWING SECTION 191 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF CLYDE WHICH LEVIES AN EXCISE TAX OF THREE PERCENT (3%) OF TRANSACTIONS BY WHICH LODGING BY A HOTEL/MOTEL IS OR IS TO BE FURNISHED TO TRANSIENT GUESTS PURSUANT TO OHIO REVISED CODE SECTION 5739.02 (C)(1).

By poll of Council, Ordinance No. **2021-44** was read by title only for its second reading.

Mr. Davis noted this is a five-year renewal.

Council had no comments or questions.

Motion: to adopt Ordinance No. **2021-44**, **Action:** Adopt,

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 Ordinance No. **2021-44** has been adopted.

RESOLUTIONS

There were none.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Mr. Davis gave the following report:

Fair –thanks extended to the Fair Board, the City workers, Council and the citizens who helped make it a success. After a year absence, they did a nice job with bringing it back, with the go-karts and the parade too. Some deposits have been received already for next year. It was verified with Chief Campbell that there were no incidents out of the ordinary over the weekend, with nothing related to the Fair.

Railroad – they are in the process of doing the main line replacement. They were to have gotten through Woodland Avenue and towards Spring today, but it looks like they did not. It is unknown how that will affect their work tomorrow. They will work from Woodland heading east to 175. This could create issues with Main Street and Woodland being blocked, although that was not the intent of the original plan. They assured Mr. Davis they will be working regardless of the weather. They do have to be off the tracks by 6:00pm to open the line back up for the evening.

COVID – we do have about five employees currently off work; we hope to have them back by the end of this week and one more the following week.

Department Reports – GS, EVS, Electric spent a lot of their time on preparations for the Fair and also trying to keep up for the paving projects and other miscellaneous items that came up. The reservoirs are over 90% full going into the fall/winter months; the numbers have been good most

of the months.

FINANCE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Davis reviewed the August financials:

- All fund balances are in good shape
- Income Tax Collections were \$718,427 compared to \$376,905 in 2020; with this large of a profit, we are cautious that an error could have occurred and a refund or credit may need to be issued.

One staff member is currently off work and should be returning on Friday. Software upgrades continue.

FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Chief Davis reported the firefighters have been maintaining equipment and participating in training. There have been minimal fire calls.

COUNCIL REMARKS

Ms. Jackson questioned if the City website will include information about the upcoming railroad crossing closings and the traffic delays this will cause (although the IT Administrator is on vacation, the website is being updated).

Ms. Jackson offered thanks to the Clyde Fair Board and Clyde City workers for the Fair this past weekend. She is amazed that all of the straw from the go-kart races and everything else from the Fair is completely cleaned up by Monday morning.

Ms. Jackson reported a “welcome to Clyde” sign near the VFW, before Woodland Avenue, is faded.

Ms. Jackson reported that the street signs for Bertha Avenue and Church Street are switched. Also the street sign for Arch Street is not at a 90 degree angle.

Mr. Keegan reported increased speeding violations on N. Main Street near Mason Street. In the past Police Officers frequently showed a presence in the area of the watering hole to monitor for speeding, however, this has not been happening lately.

Mr. Keegan verified that the reservoir water levels are at a good level.

Mr. Keegan commended the recent fly-over event at the Clyde High School stadium as being well organized. He also commended the CHS football coach for taking out the starting players before half time of that evenings football game, so as not to run up the score.

Mr. Keegan questioned the status of the blue house on Cherry Street that is falling down (it is still in the works with the land bank).

Mr. Keegan questioned the status of the new playground equipment for Hurd Park (there is no

update on the playground equipment that was ordered).

Mrs. Boyer echoed all the thanks for the recent Fair.

Mrs. Boyer offered the following thoughts, related to the upcoming budget hearings:

This is a team that needs three votes to proceed; not like other teams we can remember. Imagine if the Fliers football team had to vote before each play; how well would they do? I am not sure, but I am pretty sure no matter who led the shots, you relied on the strengths of those on the team to get it done. And you knew what each were best at, because you made it your business to know. You couldn't get very far on that team, if you didn't do what you were good at and encourage others to do the same.

I have found myself on the phone many times recently with members of our state legislature. I was struck on one of these calls by one of the leaders who called out a new state representative for her passion and expertise in an area. He asked her to lead the work in that particular area. He knew he couldn't do it all and that he had to lean on even a freshman colleague who brought expertise to the table.

The reason I ran for City Council over four years ago was so that I could bring back to my hometown, the expertise I have gained from working with communities across the entire state and across the nation. I had success with issues that I did not grow up with here in Clyde. Issues including alcohol and drugs, crime and gangs. I didn't learn about those in college either. I learned about them from other colleagues that had expertise. What I learned about myself is that I was very good at bringing the experts to the table and figuring out solutions to very difficult issues, including housing in poor neighborhoods. That began here in Sandusky County and then led to my statewide work and then with other states around the country. I repeat, I got to be very good at bringing the right people to the table and facilitating a process that brought solutions to communities all across Ohio and this country.

However, when I began sitting in this chair, I found no such support or acceptance from those sitting beside me. Two of which are people that I have known practically my whole life. Steve, I used to watch you play sports alongside by little brother Bill. Scott, I knew of you as the big brother to Paul, my fellow classmate.

This Council has voted no to every time I have tried to introduce the idea of investing our budget toward planning for the future of our hometown. I know beyond a shadow of a doubt, that we can tackle the problems that I hear you bringing up over and over again, with no solution. The grain train, for example. Do you even know that a solution is already in the works for that one? So, after two years, I figured out that I needed to recruit new blood to serve with me, if there is any chance to move forward. Last time around, I convinced Brent to run and supported his campaign. I am grateful to have him serving on our team. However, it still takes three to move this forward.

I am urging you to think of our community first and give this idea a chance to flourish in the budget. It is not about you. It is about recognizing that there may be another idea, from someone

that happens to have some experience to bring to this table we call City Council. This table needs to do more than just pay bills twice a month.

I believe we are in a critical crossroads for the City of Clyde. The next few years will tell the tale of whether we crumble at the seams or rise up toward a vision that we can all get excited about. Please join me in prioritizing \$50,000 in the budget for a plan for our future, for no matter who is sitting in these seats the next term.

Our Mayor has taken the time to visit other communities that are doing a great job of planning for their future, and he saw the results of that effort. It doesn't matter if we look like another city or not. We all know that we are unique. What we need, however, is the same thing that other communities have and that is leadership that looks to the future and trusts in experts to help them get there.

How many engineers and other consultants we have hired in the last four years (maybe six or eight)? Any idea of the cost for them? Why do we need them? We need experts to help us get the work done. This is no different. I call on you to be open and do what is best for Clyde, even if you don't fully understand what steps are ahead. You can be on the journey, taking one step at a time beside the whole team of Council, administrators of our city, business leaders, and citizens. She asks that \$50,000 be put as a line item in the upcoming budget.

Thank you for listening to my thoughts today.

Mr. Stanley offered thanks to all for the Fair, including the City workers for their preparation and for the cleanup. Thanks to local residents who attended and outside residents who attended; especially since we did not offer a Fair last year. He was glad to see so many people out having fun.

Mr. Stanley reported speeding violations on Maple Street, from the light at Mulberry east on Maple. He feels this occurs every year at this time of year. It appears to be someone who is not in school, based on the time of day that the speeding occurs (we will revisit this situation with Chief Campbell). He can hear the speeding car at his home on Vine Street and he recently heard the vehicle race thirteen times up and down Maple Street. He expressed concern over this safety issue.

Mayor Black offered thanks to all for the Fair. He noted a car show was not planned, but a spontaneous car show did occur and space was provided for this. Mayor Black noted that the Fair Board members also assist with sweeping and cleaning up the area each day of the Fair.

Mr. Keegan attended all three nights of the Fair. He shared information about the go-kart race. There were go-karts from five different states. There were vintage go-karts, with one kart having a 1985 motor from England. This race is special to him as he has been involved in this sport over the years. We are lucky to have this event in Clyde, as other communities have cancelled their events (example: Heritage Festival was cancelled). COVID was still an issue this year but we were able to still have the Fair. Mr. Keegan expressed being proud of our Fair Board.

Ms. Jackson reminded Council that there will be an Arbor Day celebration on Saturday at 10:00 a.m. at McPherson cemetery.

By poll of Council and Administration, the worksession scheduled for September 28 is cancelled.

MOTIONS

Ms. Jackson extended thanks to Sue Norris for her years of service on BZA. She understands that Sue is busy with her family and therefore has submitted her resignation from BZA. Ms. Jackson wishes her well.

Motion: to accept the resignation letter from Sue Norris for the Board of Zoning Appeals,
Action: Accept,

Moved by Vice Mayor Jean Jackson, **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.

Mr. Keegan also recognized Ms. Norris for serving on the Civil Service Commission. He thanked her for her dedication and for attending many meetings.

Mrs. Boyer echoed thanks and commended Ms. Norris for her outstanding service to the community.

Mr. Stanley offered thanks to Ms. Norris and noted that in addition to the BZA and Civil Service she also served on the Clyde Public Library Board. Ms. Norris has spent a lot of time trying to help things be better. She has shared her knowledge of the BZA with new members. He wished her the best with raising her great grandson.

Mayor Black offered his thanks and his best wishes for the future.

ADJOURNMENT

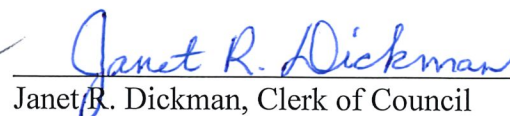
Motion: to adjourn the meeting at 7:53 p.m., **Action:** Adjourn,

Moved by Mayor G. Scott Black, **Seconded by** Council Member Steve Keegan.

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

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


G. Scott Black, Mayor


Janet R. Dickman, Clerk of Council

CITY OF CLYDE

COUNCIL MEETING

Date: Tuesday 9-21-2021 Regular session

Visitors – PLEASE SIGN IN:

1. Chris Shay

2. Frank Pura

3. Gary Smith

4. Jonathan Wang

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15. _____