

Record of Proceedings
Regular Council Meeting
February 23, 2017

Presiding Officer, Mayor Joseph Migliorini called the February 23 regular meeting to order at 7:30pm.

Present: Council members' Kevin Bilkie, David Engle, Sylvia Hanneken, Nick Molnar and Janet Tulley; Law Director Mark Guidetti and Council Clerk Josephine Arceci

Absent:

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE & INVOCATION City Chaplin Commodore Tom O'Brien of Nordonia Hills American Legion Post 801

MINUTES Mr. Engle moved, Ms. Tulley seconded and motion carried unanimously on a voice vote to approve the minutes of December 8, 2016 and January 24, 2017

Prior to comments by the public Mayor Migliorini advised comments should be specific to city business and relate to residents' issues, that the forum for public comments is not intended for personnel attacks and if that becomes the case a point-of-order will be called.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

~**Vini Ventura, 1479 Bruce Road, 30-year resident of Macedonia** stated, "I would like to congratulate and thank the majority of Council in working together with the Mayor in coming up with a plan for the May 2nd levy. After reading this proposal it looks like a plan that is not only good for the city, but also good for the residents. If you're not privy to the proposal, read last week's News Leader and the latest edition e-Messenger. Also, if you don't believe that the residents are taking notice, read the editorial submitted by Melissa Granke in this week's News Leader. Be informed that I am. Ms. Hanneken, we are only eight weeks into 2017 and you have already voted down just about every issue that has been brought up. What happened to cooperation & compromise? The levy will not have any additional cost effect on the residents. Ms. Hanneken, you have challenged the expertise and integrity of our Finance Director, Rhonda Hall. Rhonda comes to us highly recommended. Rhonda has the experience and credentials to keep this city fiscally sound given the opportunity, far more than the previous Finance Director Scott Svab that you supported and covered for. Be it known, he was a political science major. In 2016, you insulted attending residents twice by calling us minions and again by telling us to shut-up. So far in 2017, you have stated that you are smarter than the residents. You have also indirectly threatened a resident who voiced an opinion which is her God given right. When asked questions by other council members, you can't answer because you state "I'm not prepared to answer that", even though the questions are in reference to statements you've made or publications you have distributed or endorsed. Could this be because you don't pay attention or the fact that you fall asleep in your chair constantly? I have never in my life witnessed a potential employee being vetted in public. You have no business picking out individuals to admonish by bring up personal histories and finances. You chose to attack two of the seven hires after their department heads and the Mayor had already gone through that procedure for their intended positions. The procedure of council having to approve each individual hire is antiquated and should have been abolished long ago. Ms. Hanneken, you have made statements referring to the failure of the last two levies. You have said that "the people have spoken" and by Mr. Engle "same issues, the same result". Stop campaigning against the City's needs. You ran for Mayor against two formidable candidates and lost. Yes, the people have spoken."

Following Mr. Ventura's statement, Ms. Hanneken asked Mayor Migliorini why he didn't call point-of-order to which the Mayor said, "He was talking about city business."

Law Director Guidetti told Ms. Hanneken she could have asked for a point-of-order.

~**Jorge Pla, 1312 Timber Ridge**, stated, "I was going to ask the same thing, Mayor, Does the point-of-order only apply to people who say things that you don't like or does it apply to any member of Council?"

Mayor Migliorini advised Mr. Pla that any member of Council can ask for a point-of-order. Council then has the prerogative to vote on that point-of-order pursuant to Roberts Rules.

Mr. Pla thanked Mayor Migliorini for the clarification. Mr. Pla stated, "Mayor, members of Council as I documented in the correspondence which I forwarded to all of your attention yesterday, Council President Nick Molnar was fired from the City of Green for screening a video which was profanity laced and had racial overtone. And although I was very dismayed that a public official would show such a lack of judgment in showing that type of video to public employees in the service department I am really troubled by the fact that last nine months he has been lying to the residents of Macedonia as to why he was fired by the City of Green. So Mr. Bilkie as vice-president of City Council I would ask you to convene a public hearing. I would ask that all the evidence related to Mr. Molnar's firing from the City of Green be made public and discussed by the residents of the City and that the residents be allowed to determine whether or not he is fit to be on this legislative body."

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Mayor Migliorini stated, "Mr. Pla, before you walk away, when you sued the City you asked Mrs. Hanneken to testify for you in deposition. Is this some sort-of quid pro quo by you attacking members of Council because she helped you out during the case that you lost to the City? It is most evidenced to by the fact that there's this "Citizen For Macedonia Fiscal Responsibility" you are with her in that group.. Are you with her in that group?"

Mr. Pla answered, "Which question would you like answered" to which Mayor Migliorini responded "All of them. Mr. Pla stated. "First, with respect to Farnhurst, Mayor, I am not sure I would define losing that case because the City spent \$300,000 of taxpayer money to uphold your personal agenda because you were a private citizen at the time. And, what did it get in return? It got the fact that one house will not be built in this City."

Law Director Guidetti interjected, "That's wildly inaccurate."

Mr. Pla stated, "The reality is that the Court, if you read Judge Lioi's opinion very carefully you will see that there are many issues, all state issues she did not rule upon. So I am not sure that I would classify spending \$300,000 on a lawsuit to prevent me from building a house as a victory. Especially when in December of 2013 the City could have settled the case for \$60,000 and gotten a better result. So I am not sure that is a good thing for the taxpayers. Now, with respect to the second question, I am not here on a quid pro quo. I believe that it is very important that another city sees that someone has been fire for improper conduct with racial overtones and then that individual turns around and threatens the city members and then lies about it to our residents. I think that is very important. I don't think it has anything to do with quid pro quo."

Mr. Bilkie, interjecting asked Mr. Pla, "Did you watch the video?" to which Mr. Pla answered, "Yes, sir. Mr. Bilkie asked, "Which part of the video had racial overtones?" Mr. Pla answered, "Sir, why don't you ask the City of Green that put in the documents that I gave to you. I am quoting the City of Green" to which Mr. Bilkie said, "I am asking you that question, what part of the video had racial overtones. Did it have black people in it? Is that the racial overtone? Because I watched it and it did not."

Mr. Pla asked, "What was it called 'Biker Bait and Baiting Bikers in the Hood'? The City of Green concluded that it had racial overtones" to which Mr. Bilkie answered, "I am not arguing against the City of Green, I am interested in if you think it had racial overtones" to which Mr. Pla answered, "As I put in my letter to you, Mr. Bilkie, all I was concerned by the video and what happened there is Mr. Molnar lied to the residents of this city that past five months and berated anybody that questioned him about the facts and circumstances of his termination. That is what bothers me. You cannot have a public official standing here and lying to its residents and when anybody comes up here to disagree with him, for him to berate them. That is wrong, morally wrong."

Councilor Tulley interjected, "Can I Mr. Pla one question? From what I read in the Akron Beacon this is in litigation. As a lawyer, are you used to talking about litigation while it is ongoing?, to which Mr. Pla responded, "Ms. Tulley the litigation Mr. Molnar filed against the City of Green was recently filed. What I am talking about the past five months" to which Ms. Tulley said, "No, no, no, you are asking for a public hearing based on the fact that he is in litigation. I did not read anything you sent. Do you know why? Because it's in litigation, that is not my decision. I would ask our law director. Can would talk about litigation?"

Mr. Guidetti stated, "No, absolutely not. And I think it is highly ironic at this moment that Mr. Pla had taken the position in the former lawsuit that the interest was not his and that is why he could represent the plaintiff as their attorney and he just admitted that we are really preventing him personally from building a house. That is a little bit ironic to say the least. And just to be clear the Court did dismiss all the federal claims. There are statements throughout the entire opinion by Judge Lioi that there was barely a scintilla of evidence presented and that is why she dismissed those claims, to be clear."

Mr. Pla responded, "To be clear Mr. Guidetti, what Judge Lioi said was she never got to the claims because at the time there was no similarly situated property. She ruled there was no other lot that in the Park View estates that had been subdivided and that one new house had been built upon. But of course Mr. Guidetti we know now that Lot 58 has been subdivided. We know now two new homes have been built on that lot. One each on the newly lot so the issue of similarly situated properties might be decided differently if the case was held today."

Mr. Guidetti interjected, "You're saying the judge didn't determine that the plaintiffs failed to produce sufficient evidence to support their claims", to which Mr. Pla answered, "I said that the basis of her opinion was on a similarly situated property, "" which then Mr. Guidetti asked, "So you are not going to answer the question," to which Mr. Pla responded, "I did answer for you."

Councilor Tulley stated, "My last question to you, as Ms. Hanneken smiles to people in the crowd, is you believe a person's personal life, which has nothing to do with their performance as a city council member

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should be held open to public scrutiny. There are people up here who have lost their jobs, or left their jobs, or had worked in places where there were investigations. There may have been someone up here who didn't pay their bills. Should we put everyone up here under introspection of their personal life because of how it may impact their public life? I am not seeing the correlations so that is why I am asking, what relevance does this have for the residents of Macedonia? "

Mr. Pla stated, "Ms. Tulley, if you believe that there is no relevance when somebody terminates," to which Ms. Tulley said, "No, I asked you, what relevance is there." Mr. Pla said, "I am responding Ms. Tulley. If you believe there is no relevance when a public official is fired for improper conduct based on a video that was profanity laced and racial overtones and then lied about it for nine months, than I am not here to enlighten you."

Ms. Tulley said, "You are saying as a fact that he was fired because of racially over toned video. That is why you are stating he should have a public hearing? He has been asked and he said he resigned but you know for a fact different. Are you the judge and jury in this court case?"

Mr. Pla stated. "No I am not that is why I have asked for a public hearing. I think the residents of this City have a right to know, the City deserves a chance to view all the evidence for themselves and make their own determination " to which Ms. Tulley answered, "a public hearing has no relevance. Is there anyone out there besides your buddies who want to see this? I haven't had one resident come and tell me this is an issue. And as you say it came up over nine months. I haven't anybody say to me anything to me and I get a lot of phone calls. I have been on this Council a long time. Why haven't you called me, nine months ago, six months ago?" Mr. Pla said, "Ms. Tulley the reason I brought it to now is that I recently received the information, otherwise I would have brought to you sooner. But if recall I came up here June of last year and I asked Mr. Molnar about the facts and circumstances under which he was fired. At the time Mr. Molnar didn't deny that there was a video and he berated based on the Farnhurst lawsuit. I am fine with that. He has his opinion, he is welcomed to it. And I understand that he has to protect himself so I am prepared for the worst. But I am saying, if you want to know because I would never make any allegations or make any requests unless I had the documents and the evidence to back up what I am asking for. If you read the documents that I sent to you, you would see that" to which Ms. Tulley said, "It's in litigation. I learned my lesson from our law directors. Litigation is handled in executive session."

Council President Molnar interjected, "I will just say this, this on-going attack is personal, it's political and it's out-of-hand. I have never said one word to that man outside the time he stood at that podium and attacked me. Yet, here I am sitting here being attacked about. I want to be real clear about something. I have pending litigation going on because of something that happened down there that was incorrect and I am going to fight it. That's all I will say about it. But the one thing that Mr. Pla doesn't tell you is the most important thing. On April 26, 2016 the City of Green sent me a letter and that letter in the first sentence says this, 'this letter is a rescission n of the letter that I sent you on April 5, 2016'" the one he references. Let me define rescission for you. Act of rescinding; the cancelation of a contract and the return of the parties to the position they would have had if the contract had not been made. That is all I going to say about it."

Mayor Migliorini stated, "I just need to make one response because Mr. Pla referenced the fact that it was my personal agenda, if you will, in the Park View subdivision. It needs to be made very, very clear that I was not mayor at the time. I was on the management board for the Park View subdivisions Homeowners Association. Mr. Pla was on the board. And Mr. Pla came to the City of Macedonia and asked for a lot split. And the City of Macedonia issued a lot split for the parcel. The City never came to the Homeowner's Association to approve it. The lot split went through. A year later the HOA finds out about it and he sits on the board. And the board members say, Mr. Pla why is it that you have this lot split which you didn't share with the board. He said it was such a great find I didn't want anyone to know that he was splitting a lot. He claims that I had the City pay \$300,000, or that the City spent \$300,000 on defense is true. He sued our HOA by the way and our HOA by the way was without funds. I had to go in an recommend an assessment on every home to get additional dollars to have enough money to meet expenses in the association. That was quite unfair. And when he references \$60,000 it was really about \$100,000 offer to him between two insurances companies, the City's and the Parkview HOA. This was offered to Mr. Pla earlier against my objection by-the-way because I don't believe he was deserving of one penny. I also then made an offer to him of buying the lot back from him that he bought from the Ferrara estate for \$10,000 more than he paid for it. So it would have been somewhere is the area of \$170,000 that he would have gotten. He said basically, I am not interested. So a year went by and our attorneys on both sides, for the City and for Park View HOA filed for summary judgment. Judge Lioi granted summary judgment. Why, because there was no discrimination. In fact Judge Lioi said what is this zoning matter doing in my court. And further there were two council persons, Rita Darrow and Sylvia Hanneken who testified for him so I think it's a quid quo pro for her testifying in that case and now he is attacking members of Council.

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Mr. Pla stated, "Mayor, only with your permission can I ask one question" to which the Mayor obligated. Mr. Pla continued, "Sir, I will be happy to address every point that you just made, point by point at length cameras rolling if you wish but I don't think it's fair to the public for you to have the pulpit and not be able to go point by point. This is a city council meeting and is not the right forum but I invite you if you wish to sit down in public with cameras, you bring the evidence I will bring the evidence, I happy to do that sir."

Mayor Migliorini stated, "I'd be more than happy to do that."

Law Director Guidetti interjected, "It has already been litigated by a judge. There is no need to do that."

Councilor Hanneken stated, "I need to speak on this issue that you have raised again because you have said that I testified for Mr. Pla. I was subpoenaed by the process to go to give testimony not about any knowledge about any of the actual details about Mr. Pla's case. I was asked to testify on the point of what was said in my presence the Mayor and by a previous council person Ken Martin. And I so testified accurately and gave the facts that I heard. That is all I did. I did not testify on any other issue. I wasn't asked to testify on any other issue so it is completely wrong to say that I testified for Mr. Pla. What I did is I responded to a subpoena from the process and I gave the testimony about the issue that I was asked and that is it."

Mayor Migliorini stated, "Quid quo pro."

Ms. Hanneken stated, "You are just repeating yourself, sir when that is absolutely false. And you know it's false. The problem with this kind of meeting is there were all kinds of false statements that were made earlier during this process and if we are going to waste our time on all this..."

Mayor Migliorini interjected, "Sylvia, if anyone should recognize false statements, it should be you by what you put out" to which Ms. Hanneken answered, "I did not put out anything false in this community. You have people who buy this stuff that you put out there. I am just telling you this is not the forum." Mayor Migliorini responded, "I indicated to you before what the circumstances will be if you do that again" to which Ms. Hanneken stated, "You cannot threaten me, sir. You are threatening me," Mayor Migliorini stated, "No, I am not. I am saying it publicly that if you go out and disseminate information again in this community that is not truthful, that is a lie I am going to personally to take an action against you. It is not a threat, it's a fact" to which Ms Hanneken answered, "You can say what you want, I have not stated anything falsely in this community and I will this, I am not impacted by threats by people like you."

INTRODUCTION, READINGS & ADOPTION OF LEGISLATION

ORD. NO. 14 - 2017

AN ORDINANCE CONFIRMING THE APPOINTMENT BY THE MAYOR OF JOSEPH GIGLIOTTI, P.E., OF CHAGRIN VALLEY ENGINEERING, LTD., AS ENGINEER FOR THE CITY OF MACEDONIA was **offered by Mr. Bilkie for its second reading by title only**. Second not required.

ORD. NO. 15- 2017

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 761 OF THE CITY OF MACEDONIA'S CODIFIED ORDINANCE PERTAINING TO PEDDLER'S AND SOLICITORS was **offered by Mr. Engle for its second reading by title only**. Second not required.

ORD. NO. 16- 2017

AN ORDINANCE CREATING CHAPTER 920 OF THE CITY OF MACEDONIA CODIFIED ORDINANCES RELATIVE TO COMPREHENSIVE STORMWATER MANAGEMENT was **offered by Ms. Tulley for its second reading by title only**. Second not required.

ORD. NO. 17- 2017

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 923 OF THE CITY OF MACEDONIA CODIFIED ORDINANCES RELATIVE TO EROSION AND SEDIMENT CONTROL was **offered by Ms. Hanneken for its second reading by title only**. Second not required.

ORD. NO. 18 2017

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH THE SUMMIT SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT AND THE NORTHEAST OHIO REGIONAL SEWER DISTRICT FOR ASSISTANCE IN IMPLEMENTING SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION MEASURES was **offered by Mr. Bilkie for its second reading by title only**. Second not required.

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ORD. NO. 19- 2017

AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING THE ANNUAL APPROPRIATIONS FOR SALARIES /WAGES AND OTHER EXPENSES OF THE CITY OF MACEDONIA FOR THE PERIOD OF JANUARY 1, 2017 TO DECEMBER 31, 2017 was **offered by Ms. Tulley for its first reading by title only**. Second not required

RES. NO. 20- 2017

A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE REAPPOINTMENT BY THE MAYOR OF STACI SZUGYE TO THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION DEPARTMENT was **offered** by Mr. Bilkie and moved Council waive the requirement that it be read by title on three different days, instructing the Clerk to read it by **title only for all three readings**. Second by Ms. Tulley carried unanimously on a voice vote.

Mr. Bilkie moved, Ms. Tulley seconded, motion carried unanimously on a voice vote **to adopt RES. NO. 20-2017** and post according to law. **RES. NO. 20-2017 declared adopted**

MOTIONS / OTHER LEGISLATIVE ACTION None

CORRESPONDENCE: None.

MAYOR'S REPORT: Mayor Migliorini reminded voters of the May 2 ballot issue for a ½% income tax levy will take income tax rate to 2 ¼% effective July 1, 2017 because the current rate of 2% drops to 1.75% June 30, 2017. Mayor Migliorini explained that at a tax rate of 2 ¼% Macedonia residents may apply for a refund of a ¼% of the income tax rate. This means Mayor Migliorini explained that what residents pay today is what Macedonia residents will pay after the rate increases. The City is in a deep crisis Mayor Migliorini reminded the public and there is no other way viable solution to the extensive and costly infrastructure needs. Mayor Migliorini complained that city officials have not been proactive about the fiscal crisis it's been under. Action should have been taken in 2014 or 2015 when the auditor of state identified and targeted Macedonia fiscal weaknesses, noting that expenditure was exceeding revenue and that revenue was on a downhill spiral. The crisis is real, the need are paramount Mayor Migliorini reiterated. Twenty million dollars worth of roads need immediate attention and thereafter \$7 million more within the next five-years. Macedonia's Five-Year Plan detailing all these needs has been posted on the City's website. Mayor Migliorini added zero capital improvements dollars were spent in 2016 and for 2017 he anticipates only about \$140,000 will be available. The Mayor mentioned that when he resumed office in 2015 after being out-of-office from 2001, the administrative staff was still numbered the same, 14. The service department however is down from 20 to 15. The police and fire department staffing understandably has increased over those years.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: Prior to an update by the **Redevelopment & Future Growth Committee**, Mayor Migliorini explained that in 1997, during his third term as mayor a volunteer committee of residents was created and called the Future Growth Committee. The mission or premise of the Future Growth Committee was to study Macedonia's zoning and green space and create a plan of development, a guide with recommendation for city officials relative to Macedonia's growth and development One recommendation Mayor Migliorini recalled is purchasing residential property adjacent to the Macedonia City Center.

Redevelopment & Future Growth Committee Kevin Westbrooks, chairman of the R&FGC, introduced committee members, Secretary Jessica Brandt, Sonja Becker, Bundle Dalrymple, Roy Metzel, Emilie Quesada, Chris Coblenz, Al Kalish and Kevin Bilkie. Mr. Westbrooks explained that in May 2015, a committee then of twenty began meeting to revisit the plan created almost 20-years before. The committee of twenty eventually whittled down to nine who steadfastly met each month to create the 2016 Redevelopment and Future Growth Committee Update. Explaining further Mr. Westbrooks stated the committee looked at a new direction. The new version however would be created from former reports with today's needs being placed in the forefront. The committee met with each department head to understand the short and long terms needs of each department. The intent of these meetings was not just to hear just the maintenance needs of each department but also to hear the "want" needs Mr. Westbrooks stated. The committee also looked at what attracts people to the community, like services, appearances, a sense of community. The City's branding was taken under consideration even its logo. The committee asked is it time to change the motto from "The Crossroads of Northeast Ohio" to something different? Mr. Westbrooks said the R&FGC to a long, hard look at creating a heart of the city because unlike many

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communities Macedonia does not have a central focal point. The committee also reviewed storm water issues, the roads, sidewalks and overall beautification of Macedonia. Mr. Westbrook thanked fellow committee members, especially Jessica Brandt who he said committed three hours for every hour every committed by every other committee member.

Mayor Migliorini thanked the R&FGC members for their commitment and for reaffirming much of what had previously been recommended. Mayor Migliorini agreed especially with the city center concept he said because it brings synergy to the community which Macedonia lacks. Mayor Migliorini explained the footprint of the Macedonia City Center building was angled by design to face the intersection of Valley View, N. Bedford and Aurora Roads with the idea that one day the building would be visible from the main thoroughfare, that the building would be main focal point of the city center concept.

Finance Committee Ms. Tulley reported that the committee met three times, two of the meetings focusing on operating expenses within each department. Ms. Tulley explained that the 2017 appropriation does not allow for wage increases nor does it allow for any new appointments other than appointments to the fire department because of regionalization agreements Macedonia has with the townships of Northfield Center and Sagamore Hills. Ms. Tulley added that capital improvements are almost non-existent this calendar year except the Sioux culvert replacement project only because NEORS will be reimbursing Macedonia for the \$310,000 expenditure. The finance committee did however discuss potentially transferring \$200,000 from the General Fund to provide for some cracking sealing and to cover costs mandated by EPA requirements. When all is said and done Ms. Tulley anticipates only about \$71,000 for capital expenditures. This is a challenge she added given the police department needs new cruisers as just one example of needs, not wants. Ms. Tulley mentioned that health costs increased by 6% but could have increased by 21% had Macedonia stayed with Summit County's program. Ms. Tulley reiterated Macedonia does have \$1 million within two funds, each fund is \$500,000 that remains untouchable in a manner of speaking unless used for respective earmark: the Emergency Reserve Fund, meant for use for reasons of true emergency and the Retirement Reserve Fund, meant to fund costs associated at the time of an employee's separation of service. Ms. Tulley mentioned that the finance committee discussed again the potential of using revenue the Water Maintenance and Emergency Fund, currently at about 400,000. However, this is another specific fund and the law director advised the revenue can only be used for water and storm water related issues. Lastly, Ms. Tulley mentioned that she had received an email from a resident that read, 'Highland Road is sinking, what you are going to do to fix-it?'

Parks & Recreation Commission Mr. Bilkie announced that the P&RC is meeting March 1 at 6:30pm at the Recreation Center.

Longwood Manor Historical Society John Cassmer, president of the LMHS reported the society hosts a website: www.longwoodmanor.org which contains information, photos and activities relative to the Manor House and the LMHS. Mr. Cassmer reported on recent activities the LMHS has undertaken to make the Manor House safer and more accessible: completing electrical on first floor, posting exit signs, inspecting water heater function, installing panic bars on doors (except front door, architectural designs prohibits installation) and marking existing concrete for handi-cap parking. The plan hopefully Mr. Cassmer is by the time the Spirit of Macedonia Fun Fest is held the Manor House may be able to be opened to the public.

Council President Molnar asked Mr. Cassmer if the Manor House is ADA compliant to which Mayor Migliorini answered that it is partially. Mayor Migliorini explained that there are historical exceptions which allows for partial compliance. ADA access into the house is via a ramp in the garage that leads in the house and the bathroom is ADA compliant. The doorways throughout the floor are wide enough for passage of wheelchairs.

Mayor Migliorini thanked Mr. Cassmer and the other members of the LMHS for dedicating their time to Mayor Long's legacy. Mayor Migliorini said many call the Manor House a money pit and in some regards it is, but Macedonia must remain mindful of the donation of 300 acres of farmland the former mayor made.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Service Department Director Hnottavange reported that parks personnel completed street tree trimming in the areas of Newport, Elizabeth, Merline and Wren. Also, that five ton of cold patch material has been used on Highland, Shepard, Ledge and N Bedford as well as all streets within the area of Crow. Mr. Hnottavange proudly announced that all four part time service employees tested and successfully completed and received their class B CDL licenses in an effort to aid the department during heavy snow

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events or in facilitating in other job assignments requiring the operation of larger vehicles. The part time employees work a maximum of 29-hours per week Mr. Hnottavange added.

Building Commissioner

Engineer Mr. Gigliotti thanked Council majority for approving the adoptions of Ordinances Nos. 16, 17 & 18-2017. Mr. Gigliotti reminded Council that all cities and villages are required by Ohio EPA to implement storm water updates. Towards this end Mr. Gigliotti explained that local watershed groups like Tinker's Creek and Chagrin River crafted language acceptable to the EPA. The benefit of the common language brings all the communities in line with one another in terms of storm water legislative requirements. Macedonia's ordinance does not require more or less than other communities in the region Mr. Gigliotti added. Continuing Mr. Gigliotti stated CVE serves 17 municipalities, 10 of which have already passed very similar or exactly the same ordinance. The other communities will be doing the same shortly. These updates Mr. Gigliotti stated give clear direction to potential developers, or their design engineers as to the City's requirements. The updates in turn provide the City solid written back-up in case of possible debate or worse challenge.

Recreation Department Ms. Manley reminded residents they can receive complete information and stayed tuned daily regarding Recreation Center programming, classes, cancellations and events by accessing the Recreation Center Facebook page, reading the monthly eMessenger or going to www.macrec.com.

Finance Department Director Hall reported that income tax revenue for February was \$855,815.00, up by \$46,467.00 from \$809,391.00 last year for this month. This is good news Ms. Hall added but clearing it is not enough. Continuing Ms. Hall explained that the 2017 budget was increased by 4% over 2016 actual spending. In 2015 the General Fund budget was increased by 20.25% over 2014 actual spending, but actual General Fund spending for 2015 was only 12.25% higher than 2014 actuals she said. In addition, the 2016 budget was reduced by a negative 4.69% meaning there was a reduction in 2016 of actual spending by 13.09% over 2015 actuals. Depending on further decisions Ms. Hall stated the 2017 budget so far has increased by only 4.07%. Ms. Hall provided information in the February edition of the eMessenger in which she explained the May ballot issue relative to .5% income tax increase and how Macedonia residents may apply for a refund of taxes paid on ¼% of the tax if the income tax rate to 2¼ % effective July 2017. Regarding a recent NewsLeader article Ms. Hall stated that it is true police department expenses for 2017 are increasing by about \$320,000. The reason Ms. Hall explained is that in 2016 Council approved appointments of replacement police officers and the increase in part represents their salaries and wages in the amount of about \$100,000. Council also approved the appointments of several part-time corrections officers which is included in the overall increase as well overtime of about \$15,000. The overtime is mandated training which little can be done about Ms. Hall added. Explaining further Ms. Hall said in 2016 she used funds from the police levy fund, a permitted use to fund the police pension fund thereby reducing the amount of funds she would have taken from the General Fund knowing at that time that that in 2017 she would be taking the funds for police pension from the General Fund and thus the reasons for the dramatic increase.

Fire Department Chief Black reminded residents that it is illegal to burn yard waste in Macedonia or anywhere in the state of Ohio. The City and the state permit only small ceremonial fires like for cook-outs or camp fires.

Police Department Chief Golden had no report.

Law Department Law Director Guidetti had no report

Unfinished business None

New business Council President Molnar reminded residents of that there is an area of the City Center parking lot designated as an eCommerce safety zone that was created for the purpose of safely conducting Internet and Facebook sale or purchase transactions.

There being no further business before Council, the meeting adjourned unanimously on voice vote at 8:40pm.