

Record of Proceedings

Regular Council Meeting

September 13, 2018

Presiding Officer, Mayor Nicholas Molnar called the September 13 regular meeting to order at 7:35 p.m.

**Present:** Mayor Nicholas Molnar, Council President Jan Tulley and Council members' Shane Barker, Kevin Bilkie, Jessica Brandt and Vini J. Ventura; Law Director Mark Guidetti and Council Clerk Josephine Arceci.

**Absent:**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE & INVOCATION** by City Chaplin Tom O'Brien, Nordonia Hills American Legion 801. A moment of silence was observed in remembrance of the events of 9/11 in the year 2001.

**MINUTES** Ms. Tulley moved, Mr. Ventura seconded and motion carried by unanimously on a voice vote, to approve to the minutes of the special meetings of August 1, 2018 and regular meeting of August 9, 2018. Mr. Barker abstained relative to both August 1 & August 9 meetings.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

~**Karen Bartolozzi, Driftwood Lane** stated it is unfair in her opinion that Macedonia taxpayers continue to pay ongoing costs related to replacing street lawn trees in various subdivisions when the first plantings (first season) do not survive. Ms. Bartolozzi is aware the homeowner through the cost of their lot and home pays the cost of the first tree. It's the burden on all the taxpayers of the continued cost Ms. Bartolozzi resents. Ms. Bartolozzi suggested the street tree ordinance be amended to protect the general base of taxpayers from continually having to pay these costs. Ms. Bartolozzi also suggested the right in, right out curb cut located at the south end of Speedway lot be redesigned to prohibit motorist from crossing the westbound lanes of SR 82 to get to the eastbound lanes. Ms. Bartolozzi thought if redesigning the right in, right out then the City should reintroduce delineators to prevent crossovers.

Mayor Molnar informed Ms. Bartolozzi that he and the safety staff are working towards resolving the traffic safety concerns in that area. Mayor Molnar said he met with the owner of Speedway to persuade the property owner to initiate changing the curb cut. If that doesn't occur the City will take the initiative to alleviate the problem. The Mayor told Ms. Bartolozzi he does not feel delineators are the answer. Delineators are expensive and difficult to maintain. They get knocked over, they discolor and they collect debris.

Council President Tulley suggested the police department monitor the area more diligently.

**INTRODUCTION, READINGS & ADOPTION OF LEGISLATION**

**ORD. NO. 82- 2018**

AN ORDINANCE CREATING SECTION 161.23 OF CODIFIED ORDINANCES PROHIBITING NEPOTISM IN MACEDONIA HIRING PRACTICES was **offered** by Ms. Tulley for its **second reading by title only**. A second not required.

**ORD. NO. 83- 2018**

AN ORDINANCE CREATING SECTION 712 OF THE CITY OF MACEDONIA'S CODIFIED ORDINANCES RELATIVE TO SMALL CELL FACILITIES AND WIRELESS SUPPORT STRUCTURES was **offered** by Ms. Brandt for its **second reading by title only**. A second not required.

**ORD. NO. 85 -2018**

AN ORDINANCE CONFIRMING THE MAYOR'S PROMOTION OF MICHAEL PLESZ TO THE POSITION OF POLICE SERGEANT IN THE CITY OF MACEDONIA POLICE DEPARTMENT was **offered** by Ms. Tulley 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 Mr. Bilkie carried unanimously on a voice vote.

Ms. Tulley moved, Mr. Ventura seconded, motion carried unanimously on a voice vote **to adopt ORD. NO. 85-2018** and post according to law. **ORD. NO. 85-2018 declared adopted.**

Relative to ORD. NO. 85-2018, Sergeant Plesz has been a police officer for 10-years, the last 6 of which with Macedonia and prior to that 4 with the village of Boston Heights.

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**ORD. NO. 86 -2018**

AN ORDINANCE CONFIRMING THE APPOINTMENT BY THE MAYOR OF JOHNATHAN DESROSIERS TO THE POSITION OF FULL-TIME POLICE OFFICER was **offered** by Mr. Ventura 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. Ventura moved, Ms. Tulley seconded, motion carried unanimously on a voice vote **to adopt ORD. NO. 86-2018** and post according to law. **ORD. NO. 86-2018 declared adopted.**

Relative to ORD. NO. 86-2018, Chief Golden stated Officer Desrosiers who recently returned from Officer Training School for the National Guard Reserves at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri performed very well on the Macedonia's police civil service examination.

**ORD. NO. 87 -2018**

AN ORDINANCE CONFIRMING THE APPOINTMENT BY THE MAYOR OF RYAN ZAPORA TO THE POSITION OF A FULL-TIME FIREFIGHTER IN THE CITY OF MACEDONIA was **offered** by Ms. Brandt 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 Mr. Barker carried unanimously on a voice vote.

Ms. Brandt moved, Mr. Ventura seconded, motion carried unanimously on a voice vote **to adopt ORD. NO. 87-2018** and post according to law. **ORD. NO. 87-2018 declared adopted.**

Relative to ORD. NO. 87-2018, Chief Black stated Firefighter Zapora who participated in Macedonia's civil service firefighter exam has been working part-time for the fire department and has proved to be good fit in the department.

Subsequent to the approval of ORD. NOS. 85, 86 & 87-2018, Sergeant Plesz, Officer Desrosiers and Firefighter Zapora were sworn into office by Mayor Molnar. Each respectively thanked the Mayor and Council for their appointments. Each provided a brief history as well as introduced their families.

**RES. NO. 88 -2018**

A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE REAPPOINTMENT BY THE MAYOR OF SUE METZEL TO THE CITY OF MACEDONIA BOARD OF ZONING AND BUILDING CODE APPEALS was **offered** by Mr. Barker 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. Brandt carried unanimously on a voice vote.

Mr. Barker moved, Mr. Ventura seconded, motion carried unanimously on a voice vote **to adopt RES. NO. 88-2018** and post according to law. **RES. NO. 88-2018 declared adopted.**

**RES. NO. 89 -2018**

A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE REAPPOINTMENT BY THE MAYOR OF MIKE HAWKINS TO THE CITY OF MACEDONIA CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION 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, Mr. Ventura seconded, motion carried unanimously on a voice vote **to adopt RES. NO. 89-2018** and post according to law. **RES. NO. 89-2018 declared adopted.**

**RES. NO. 90-2018**

A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE APPOINTMENT BY THE MAYOR OF DAVID FINLEY TO THE CITY OF MACEDONIA PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION was **offered** by Ms. Tulley 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 Mr. Barker carried unanimously on a voice vote.

Ms. Tulley moved, Mr. Ventura seconded, motion carried unanimously on a voice vote **to adopt RES. NO. 90-2018** and post according to law. **RES. NO. 90-2018 declared adopted.**

Relative to RES.NO.90-2018, Mr. Finley who has been a resident of Macedonia for 10-years introduced his friends and thanked the Mayor and Council for his appointment.

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**RES. NO. 91-2018**

A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE APPOINTMENT BY THE MAYOR OF VINCENT VIGLUICCI TO THE CITY OF MACEDONIA BOARD OF ZONING AND BUILDING CODE APPEALS was **offered** by Mr. Ventura 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 Mr. Bilkie carried unanimously on a voice vote.

Mr. Ventura moved, Mr. Bilkie seconded, motion carried unanimously on a voice vote **to adopt RES. NO. 90-2018** and post according to law. **RES. NO. 90-2018 declared adopted.**

Relative to RES.NO.91-2018, Mr. Vigluicci thanked the Mayor and Council for his appointment, adding that he is only to happy to serve Macedonia is this capacity.

Relative to RES. NOS. 89 & 90-2018, Mayor Molnar added that Messer's Finley and Vigluicci had applied for the council vacancy. The Mayor appreciated that they had and their subsequent willingness to serve Macedonia in different but important capacities.

**ORD. NO. 92-2018**

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE ANNUAL APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE NO. 97-2017 RELATIVE FOR ADDITIONAL EXPENDITURES OF THE CITY OF MACEDONIA FOR THE PERIOD ENDING JANUARY 1, 2018 TO DECEMBER 31, 2018 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, Mr. Ventura seconded, motion carried unanimously on a voice vote **to adopt ORD. NO. 92-2018** and post according to law. **ORD. NO. 92-2018 declared adopted.**

Relative to ORD. NO. 92-2018, Finance Director Hall explained in pertinent part appropriations are increasing relative to the Parks & Recreation Fund as well as the Parks & Recreation Trust Fund; the latter fund is the fun revenue from the golf facility is channeled for purpose of reimbursement of Fund 204 expenditures.

Councilor Bilkie expressed appreciation that street trees are being funded.

Mayor Molnar interjected the City is obliged to fulfill this obligation, however the administration is re-evaluating requirements of the street tree ordinance because the high, ongoing cost of this obligation.

**ORD. NO. 93 -2018**

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT AGREEMENT WITH SUMMIT COUNTY, OHIO RELATIVE TO PHASE II OF THE SENIOR CENTER RENOVATION PROJECT was **offered** by Mr. Barker 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. Barker moved, Mr. Bilkie seconded, motion carried unanimously on a voice vote **to adopt ORD. NO. 93-2018** and post according to law. **ORD. NO. 93-2018 declared adopted.**

Relative to ORD. NO. 93-2018, Mayor Molnar explained the \$30,000 grant is being applied to updating the Community Room kitchen and perhaps the restrooms on the ground level.

**ORD. NO. 94 -2018**

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 147.02 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF MACEDONIA REGARDING THE PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION was **offered** by Ms. Brandt 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 Mr. Bilkie carried unanimously on a voice vote.

Ms. Brandt moved, Mr. Ventura seconded, motion carried unanimously on a voice vote **to adopt ORD. NO. 94-2018** and post according to law. **ORD. NO. 94-2018 declared adopted.**

Relative to ORD. NO. 94-2018, Councilor Brandt explained the amendment is a housecleaning measure as the code section referred to six members of Council and not the current number of five.

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**RES. NO. 95-2018**

A RESOLUTION STRONGLY URGING THE OHIO GOVERNOR AND MEMBERS OF THE OHIO GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO INVEST THE STATE BUDGET SURPLUS IN MUNICIPALITIES COMMISSION 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, Mr. Ventura seconded, motion carried unanimously on a voice vote **to adopt ORD. NO. 95-2018** and post according to law. **ORD. NO. 95-2018 declared adopted.**

Relative to RES. NO. 95-2018, Mayor Molnar said the state has a surplus of over \$320 million. The accumulation of these funds in part is because the state has drastically reduced communities and school districts local government tax sharing. Many communities, like Macedonia have had to reach out to their residents in the form of increased tax levies in order to stay financially viable. Many local officials feel it only fair the state loosens its purse strings and return some of the surplus to the localities.

Councilor Bilkie interjected that this has been a hot topic at in Columbus. Mr. Bilkie said he is grateful to Mayor Molnar and other mayors are taking initiative regarding this issue..

**MOTIONS AND/OR OTHER LEGISLATIVE ACTION** None

**CORRESPONDENCE** None

**MAYOR'S REPORT**

~ Mayor's Court receipts for July were \$53,302.09 and for August were \$41,712.00.

~ In pertinent part, Mayor Molnar read a statement made by Mayor William Frew Long on June 12, 1961 during the first organization meeting of the village of Macedonia following its transition from a township form of government.

*"Shakespeare said, 'Clothes make the man', and well kept lawns artistic landscaping nicely curtained windows, closed garage doors, especially if they face the street, constitute an index to the spirit of the people who are the heart and soul of every village. The spirit, whether it be good or bad, slovenly or neat, well shod or down at the heel is bound to be reflected in the men you elect to public office –for a stream can be no purer than its source and wise industrialist know that.*

*The job of persuading industry to locate in Macedonia is everybody's business. So remember that every time you follow the mower across your lawn, every time you plant another shrub, set out another plant, pull the weeds of the flower bed, put on a fresh coat of paint when needed, you will be doing as much to bring industry to the village as the man who drives the prospective industrialist past your home in an effort to demonstrate that the people of this village are the kind of folks among whom it would be pleasant and advantageous to locate.*

*The lack of sewers and water from other than privately drilled wells is a handicap which should be removed at the earliest possible moment. But for the time being this handicap simply makes the selling job harder. We must emphasize the fact that our present situation has its compensations. The land is cheaper. The competitive advantages of our increasingly favorable proximity to advantageous transportation facilities is compelling and the type of police and fire protection and capable forward looking village officials, especially when acquainted with the problems of industry, all play an important part in the sales effort.*

*There are many other important problems with which we must be concerned but inasmuch as tonight's agenda is heavy and an important one I will mention a few with comment. Among them is the question of roads, which, like the poor seem to always be with us. Others are street lighting, the early appointment of badly needed architectural board, improved recreational facilities, the regulation of public utilities, telephone and water rates and changing the mail delivery system to name a few."*

Commenting on Mayor Long's statement, Mayor Molnar stated, ironically, almost 60-years later much of what Mayor Long stated remain important issues for Macedonia today. Mayor Long had pointed out Macedonia was desirable to live in part because of its low property taxes. Macedonia tax base still

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remains low; in fact Mayor Molnar added Macedonia has the third lowest tax base in Summit County. And while that is admirable it does come at a cost. That cost is unquestionably the need for more revenue from an alternate source in order to continue supporting services to Macedonia's residents. In lieu of increasing the property base the more reasonably viable alternative in Mayor Molnar's opinion is to increase the income rate. The Mayor encouraged residents to educate themselves to understand Macedonia critical need for a more revenue stream specifically earmarked to support services provided by fire, police and the service department. The .25% income tax increase on the November ballot is important to Macedonia's future Mayor Molnar added.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Parks & Recreation Commission** Councilor Brandt reported the P&RC met on August 21 at which time member Karen Bartolozzi was elected chairperson and member Ken Greer, the longest serving member on the P&RC was elected vice-chair. Ms. Brandt mentioned Mayor Molnar informed the members of the P&RC that consistent with the Charter the P&RC will have more "say" regarding the functions and operations of the Recreation Center and the parks.

**DEPARTMENT REPORTS:**

**Service Department** Director Hnottavange reported that the second phase of Veterans Memorial Park is underway. Nearly all of what will be two concrete walkways have been cut and have been based in stone. The walkways will be along S. Bedford Road and S. Bedford Court. Concrete pads will also be installed to support two cannons both of which are currently being refurbished. The cannons were previously displayed in the park. Mr. Hnottavange also reported interior masonry walls relative to the Recreation Center addition are nearly complete. The installation of the roof is tentatively scheduled for the end of month. Once the roof is fully installed the interior walls, the plumbing and the electricals will be completed.

**Building Commissioner**

**Engineer** Mr. Gigliotti reported next week streets within the area of Crow Drive will be paved and thereafter the remaining road on the list.

Mayor Molnar interjected the administration is diligently trying to provide the public daily progress reports about the road project. Sometimes the information is disseminated via US mail. The progress report is also on the City's website. This year's thirty-three road project has been a huge undertaking, which from the residents perspective Mayor Molnar is frustrating given the number of orange barrels and detour sign.

Councilor Bilkie asked Engineer Gigliotti if he'll be providing a list of streets earmarked in 2019 for improvements to which Mr. Gigliotti answered that he and the administration will be reevaluating the report entitled Pavement Condition Rating (PCR) which rates the condition of every street numerically. The PCR will shrink by the number of streets paved this year. The rank order of the streets left on the list will most probably be the determining factor Mr. Gigliotti added.

**Recreation Department** Director Manley announced the Recreation Center is hosting a Dining Etiquette Class for children ages 8-15 years at Casa D' Angelo's Ristorante on Sunday, October 14 from 3-5pm. Registration is required. Another new event being offered is Pumpkin Painting in the Park. This is a family event which will be held in Longwood Park, Sunday, October 21<sup>st</sup> from 1-4pm. Refreshments will be provided. In case of rain the event will be held in the Recreation Center. Ms. Manley announced another event being held in Longwood Park is the Wizard of Oz Festival which is the week-end of September 28- September 30. Ms. Manley added this is not a city sponsored festival.

**Finance Department** Director Hall reported August income tax receipts were \$769,009.58, up by \$97,223.75 from 2017. Receipts to date are \$979,212.99. Expectation is Ms. Hall added projected tax receipts by year's end should be \$1.2-\$1.3 million. This revenue is being generated by .25% tax increase earmarked for the road and recreation department Ms. Hall added. Ms. Hall announced the tax refund program has ended. The program in its first year received 609 applications for which 555 applications were processed in the amount of \$68,995.20. Reasons vary why the remaining applications have not been processed Ms. Hall stated. Regarding the MOP program, Ms. Hall said the Tax Review Board met and approved the disbursement of payment to four companies in the total amount of \$127,693.28.

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Councilor Barker asked Ms. Hall how many tax payers did not request a refund to which Ms. Hall did not know. However she added there were five or so applicants requested refunds but who then donated their refunds back to the City.

**Fire Department** Chief Black thanked the Mayor and Council for the full-time appointment of Firefighter Ryan Zapora who coincidentally is a Macedonia resident. Chief Black announced Macedonia Fire Explorers Post 22 has scheduled an open house for September 17 from 7-9 p.m. The open house will be at Fire Station 1 (Valley View Road, Macedonia). Fire Explorers is for ages 14 to 20, although all are welcome Chief Black stated. The Chief added the purpose of open house to illustrate firefighter activities: firefighting tactics, vehicle extrication, CPR, first aid training and various volunteer opportunities..

**Police Department** Chief Golden was present earlier in the evening.

**Law Department** Law Director Guidetti stated, regarding Ordinance No. 83-2018, the legislation pertaining to small cells and wireless support structures that he is monitoring potential preemptive regulations that are currently being discussed at the federal level. Changes to the regulations, if any will be provided to Council prior to councilmatic action.

**Unfinished business** None.

**New business** Councilor Barker complimented the look of the new carpeting in Council Chambers.

Mayor Molnar interjected the need to replace the carpet with new was a result of an insurance claim. Color stripped from the previous carpeting by a chemical (bleach perhaps) brought in on the soles of visitor's shoes.

Councilor Tulley thanked Maintenance Supervisor Steve Plata who repaired and painted the walls of the Chambers in preparation of the carpeting, particularly the wall from where trapped raccoons were extricated.

Regarding another topic, Councilor Ventura welcomed Councilor Barker back to City Council, adding, Councilor Barker brings expertise and experience to the dais.

Councilor Barker thanked Mr. Ventura, adding, he is pleased to be back and appreciates the confidence his fellow council members have in him. Mr. Barker commended the other candidates who applied to the vacancy describing each as fierce competitors. Councilor Barker encouraged Messer's Finley and Vigluicci who had applied to the vacancy and have subsequently been appointed to two city boards to continue to be involved and active in the business of the City.

Councilor Bilkie as well welcomed Councilor Barker and Messer's Finley and Vigluicci.

Regarding another topic, Council President Tulley asked all residents to remain mindful and prayerful for not only the victims and their families of horrific events of September 11, 2001 but those who willingly and unselfishly risked their lives and more often sacrificed their lives to help the innocent in New York City and Washington D.C. and those private citizens on the commercial flight over Pennsylvania who took it upon themselves to avert even more tragedy. Macedonia is honored to have a piece of that history, a piece of the Trade Center on display in front of the City Center.

There being no further business Council by majority on a voice vote adjourned its regular meeting at 8:24 p.m.