

Record of Proceedings

Regular Council Meeting

April 11, 2019

Presiding Officer, Mayor Nicholas Molnar called the April 11 regular meeting to order at 7:34 p.m.

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

**PROCLAMATION** April 26, 2019 declared Arbor Day in the City of Macedonia

**INVOCATION & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** City Chaplain Tom O'Brien of Nordonia Hills American Legion #801.

**MINUTES** Ms. Tulley moved, Mr. Ventura seconded and motion carried unanimously on a voice vote approving the minutes of regular meeting of March 28, 2019.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

~ **Dr. Joe Clark, Wadsworth, Ohio resident and superintendent of Nordonia Hills School District** thanked the Mayor and Council for the relationship the city of Macedonia has had and continues to have with the Nordonia Hills School system. Dr. Clark is grateful he said for having the ability to work hand-in-hand with Macedonia on behalf of the school system and is grateful too for all the services Macedonia provides the system in the form of its safety forces; police, fire service and even the parks department. Dr. Clark described the interaction of city employees with school employees as always prompt and professional. Dr. Clark thanked Mayor Molnar for what Dr. Clark described as Mayor Molnar's courageous act of leadership by way of endorsing Issue 3, the Nordonia School District levy. Mayor Molnar recognizes strong school and strong communities go hand in hand with one another Dr. Clark stated. Mayor Molnar, in taking the stance to endorse and encourage the passage of Issue 3 demonstrates to the community that supporting Issue 3 is the only right thing to do because it will help the schools. Good schools add value to the community and a strong school system makes for a strong community Dr. Clark continued. Nordonia's 3600 students compete with the school systems of Hudson, Twinsburg and Brecksville for scholarships, college admissions and jobs. It is vital therefore Dr. Clark said to provide Nordonia students with the same advantages provided to the students of Hudson, Twinsburg and Brecksville. The goal of the Nordonia Hills School District Dr. Clark emphasized is to graduate students who are successful and who are ready to join the work force or enroll in a college or a university. Dr. Clark is hopeful he added that the community will rally and support Issue 3 and that it will be a successful in part because of Mayor Molnar's endorsement.

~Jim Coon, Ledge Road resident complained that he has not yet received his income tax refund for which he applied a while go.

Mayor Molnar explained to Mr. Coon the delay is a result of several factors including change in leadership in the finance department and the fact the monies used to refund taxes had not been appropriated. Action in that regard is being taken care of this evening Mayor Molnar added.

~Karen Bartolozzi, Driftwood Lane resident and member of the Parks & Recreation Commission complained about what she described as a seriously dangerous condition that exists at the right-in right-out entrance at Speedway. Ms. Bartolozzi has seen too many times motorists leaving Speedway making a

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left hand turn and crossing four lanes of traffic to do so. It is a nightmare Ms. Bartolozzi stated and if there is no resolution at this specific entrance Mr. Bartolozzi feels delineators should be installed.

Mayor Molnar explained that Speedway is willing to install a larger island, called a pork chop to deter traffic exiting westbound. Delineators will be installed only a last resort he added.

## **INTRODUCTION, READINGS & ADOPTION OF LEGISLATION**

### **ORD. NO.22 -2019**

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 161.15 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF MACEDONIA RELATIVE TO EDUCATION LEAVE was **offered by Mr. Ventura** for its **third reading by title only**. A second not required.

Mr. Ventura moved, Ms. Brandt seconded and motion carried unanimously on a voice vote to **amend ORD. NO. 22-2019 to read as follows:**

**(g) Tuition Reimbursement Regular full-time and permanent part-time employees, who attend classes pertaining to their position with the City, may have tuition reimbursed by the City in the amount no greater than 50% of the cost of tuition and up to \$5,000, for any year in which classes are taken. Tuition Reimbursement shall be provided after proof of successful completion of the classes consistent with the below requirements.**

The employee will sign a contract with the City which will include as conditions of reimbursement, the following provisions:

(1) To maintain a “B” as the minimum passing grade and submit quarterly report cards to the Mayor for each course taken.

(2) Agrees that should the employee terminate employment with the City of Macedonia within ~~two~~three(~~2~~ 3) years from the respective date the semester or quarter of each course taken ends, the employee will reimburse the City of Macedonia for 100% of the tuition for such course(s).

(3) That should the employee not receive a the minimum passing grade in such course of schooling, the employee will not be eligible for reimbursement ~~the City of Macedonia~~ for such course.

(4) Agrees that should the employee drop out of a course before the semester is over, the employee will not be eligible for reimbursement ~~the City of Macedonia~~ for such course.

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Mr. Ventura moved, Ms. Tulley seconded and motion carried unanimously on a voice vote to **adopted ORD. NO. 22-2019 as amended** and post same according to law. **ORD. NO. 22-2019 declared adopted as amended.**

**ORD. NO. 32 -2019**

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 114-2018 RELATIVE TO CURRENT EXPENSES AND OTHER EXPENDITURES OF THE CITY OF MACEDONIA FOR THE PERIOD OF JANUARY 1, 2019 TO DECEMBER 31, 2019 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. Brandt authorizing the same carried unanimously on a voice vote.

Mr. Bilkie moved, Mr. Ventura seconded, and motion **carried unanimously on a voice vote to adopt ORD. NO. 32-2017 and post same according to law. ORD. NO. 32-2016 declared adopted.**

**ORD. NO. 33-2019**

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 797 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF MACEDONIA RELATIVE TO MEDICAL MARIJUANA DISPENSARIES was **offered by Ms. Brandt** for its **first reading by title only**. A second not required.

**ORD. NO. 34-2019**

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 921.04 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF MACEDONIA RELATIVE TO WATER UTILITIES DISPENSARIES 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 Mr. Bilkie authorizing the same carried unanimously on a voice vote.

Mr. Barker moved, Mr. Bilkie seconded, and motion **carried unanimously on a voice vote to adopt ORD. NO. 34-2019 and post same according to law. ORD. NO. 34-2019 declared adopted.**

**RES. NO. 35-2019**

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY ENGINEER TO PREPARE PLANS, BIDS AND SPECIFICATIONS AND FURTHER AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS FOR THE VALLEY VIEW ROAD RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT 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 authorizing the same carried unanimously on a voice vote.

Mr. Ventura moved, Ms. Tulley seconded, and motion **carried unanimously on a voice vote to adopt RES. NO. 35-2019 and post same according to law. RES. NO. 35-2019 declared adopted.**

**RES. NO. 36-2019**

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE DISPOSITION OF CERTAIN MUNICIPAL PROPERTY BY THE SERVICE DEPARTMENT OF THE CITY OF MACEDONIA IN ACCORDANCE WITH CITY OF MACEDONIA CODIFIED ORDINANCE SECTION 121.05 AND OHIO REVISED CODE SECTION 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. Ventura authorizing the same carried unanimously on a voice vote.

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Mr. Ventura moved, Ms. Tulley seconded, and motion **carried unanimously on a voice vote to adopt RES. NO. 36-2019 and post same according to law. RES. NO. 36-2019 declared adopted.**

**MOTIONS / OTHER LEGISLATIVE ACTION:** Ms. Tulley moved, Mr. Ventura seconded and motion carried unanimously on a voice vote to cancel the regular meetings of June 27, July 25 and August 8 for the purpose of providing summer recess.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** None.

**MAYOR'S REPORT:**

~Mayor announced Earth/Arbor Day is being held Saturday, April 13 from 9am to noon. Residents are encouraged to participant (help in the clean-up of the community) and for their much appreciated efforts will receive a tree seedling, a free tee shirt, snacks and a lunch.

~Mayor announced work on Longwood Park's three baseball fields and one field at Sugarbush is on hold because the weather has been less than cooperative. As the weather becomes better work will begin and hopefully in time for the fields to used in their improved state. The steel for poles for lighting of the one field is in transit. It is imported and has not arrived yet in port. The lights Mayor Molnar reminded the public is being funded by a NOPEC grant.

~Mayor asked has he has previously for patience and understanding regarding renovation work at the Recreation Center. The renovations are being done in-house thus the reason for the delay. And while many are disappointed in the delay, the delay is at a significant savings. The project estimated to cost of the project was in the vicinity of \$900,000 to \$1.1 million. The project is costing out at about \$650,000

~Mayor announced Ohio legislators approved an increase in the gas tax of 10.5 cents. This means for Macedonia that instead of receiving \$491,341 annually, its local share of the tax, the amount will increase by \$307,200 to \$798, 541 annually. This year the city will receive \$128,000 of that increase. The additional funds will continue to be used as gas tax state law requires; for road related improvements.

~Mayor announced the abrupt closing of Steak & Shake was due only to management "walking away" from the restaurant. Corporate has taken over Macedonia's location.

Councilor Bilkie asked Mayor Molnar why the BP gas station at Highland and Route 8 closed to which the Mayor answered that was a corporate office decision and it was closed without notice or reason as corporate closed other locations including a station in Twinsburg. The station was not closed for reasons of compromised underground storage tanks or robberies. The location is being market for another gas station which the Mayor added is a disappointment as he prefers another type of business perhaps a restaurant like a good steakhouse or one specializing in seafood although the Mayor added Macedonia is acquiring several new restaurants.

Councilor Brandt asked Mayor Molnar the status of the Route 8 right-in/right-out cut through to which the Mayor explained the project is progressing. Documents relative to the project must be finalized, the construction of Culver's restaurant must over and asphalt plants must open.

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Law Director Guidetti interjected the cooperation agreement with Golden Link property owners has not been finalized. Once the agreement is completed Council will act upon a Resolution of Necessity, the first legislative item in the assessment process stated Mr. Guidetti..

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**        None

**DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

**Service Department**    Director Hnottavange announced again that on Saturday, April 13 Macedonia is celebrating Earth/Arbor Day, a day set aside to clean-up Macedonia and plant a new tree. Residents wishing to participant and volunteer their time should meet at the former fire station where the first 100 participants will receive a seedling and everyone will receive a free T-shirt, lunch tickets and supplies to assist in the clean-up. Light snacks will be provided in the morning and lunch at 11:30 a.m. The three hour event is from 9 a.m. to noon. A second dumpster has been placed in the north parking until April 13 for residents to discard larger household trash excluding hazardous waste items Mr. Hnottavange added.

**Building Commissioner**

**Engineer**    Mr. Gigliotti was not present.

**Recreation Department**    Director Manley announced the Recreation Center is offering many new, exciting and different types of programming all of which can be viewed on the Rec Center's own website [www.macreccom](http://www.macreccom). Program highlights: Community Garage Sale, Saturday, May 18 and Sunday May 19. Participates must register their addresses on master list at the Recreation Center. A fee is charged only if resident identifies specific sale items on master list. Summer Day Camp for children ages 6-12 starts June 10. Camp participants can attend all nine weeks or just a portion of the time. The Spirit of Macedonia Festival is June 6 -9. The firework display is Sunday June 9 with a rain date scheduled the following week. The three day event includes but is not limited to live music, rides, food, craft beer, goat yoga, piglet yoga and a yappy hour (a pet friendly event). Sponsorships, community booth vendors and pet vendors can still register Ms. Manley stated. Ms. Manley mentioned that in addition to the current renovation/restoration of the locker rooms/ bathrooms the Recreation in also undergoing a face lift in that after 20-years the interior is undergoing a major paint lift and some additional upgrades.

Councilor Ventura commended Ms. Manley on the work done that has been done thus far. The interior he added has been made more appealing; it is fresh and bright looking.

Councilor Bilkie asked Ms. Manley if the closure of men's bathroom between 1-1:30 p.m., is going to be a permanent, daily situation to which Ms. Manley answered the closure is actually only for 10 minutes and it remain the same time each day to allow access by the female cleaning steward.

**Finance Department**    Director Veres thanked Council for passing the amended appropriation particularly with regards to transferring the funds necessary to implement the tax refund program. Mr. Veres also thanked finance department assistant Laura Welsh for bundling the applications for Mr. Veres' final review before disbursement.

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**Fire Department** Lieutenant Celinski in the absence of Acting Fire Chief Ripley's reported that Chief Ripley and several firefighters from the department were at a fire conference in Indianapolis where Macedonia's new aerial tower is on display.

**Police Department** Sergeant Costello in the absence of Chief Golden explained every officer daily has a 15 minute detail at Speedway to deter or cite motorists attempting to left turn onto Route 82 from the right-in, right-out only entrance.

**Law Department** Law Director Guidetti had no report.

**Unfinished business**

~Ms. Tulley thanked Mr. Veres for processing the tax refund applications.

~Regarding another topic Councilor Bilkie thanked Service Director Hnottavange for sending crew to Lake Forrest to cold patch.

**New business** None.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**At 8:20 p.m. Ms. Brandt moved, Mr. Ventura seconded to adjourn in Executive Session for the purpose discussing pending litigation pursuant to R.C. 121.22 (G) (3)**

**Roll Call: Ayes: Barker, Bilkie, Brandt, Tulley and Ventura  
Nays: None.  
The motion carried.**

At 8:31 p.m., Council reconvened into its regular meeting and there being no further business, the council meeting was adjourned unanimously on voice vote at 8:32 p.m.