

Wilmington City Council met on November 19, 2009, with President Fred Ertel presiding.

Roll Call: Jaehnig, present; Wells, present; Peterson, present; Wallace, present; Popp, present; Mongold, present; McKay, present.

Chief Hatten was also present.

Council gave the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

A motion was made by Wells and seconded by Jaehnig to approve the minutes of the last regular meeting, November 5, as received.

Motion passed.

Minutes approved as received.

President of Council – Fred Ertel: At this time, I would like to call upon Councilperson Jaehnig to talk about an event upcoming.

Councilman Jaehnig: Thank you, Mr. President. Obviously, it is Holidazzle season. While Holidazzle itself has some very exciting things going on and things are very, very promising...the parade looks to be coming on in really good shape...we are adding a street spectacular this year that will help those in the cold stay entertained and focus on something other than being cold right before the parade arrives downtown. But, while I could talk about Holidazzle all evening, tonight, I actually am pleased to announce that Holidazzle is having the one-time opportunity to add an additional day. The Sunday after Holidazzle, we have the privilege of a group from Cleveland of film producers and entertainers that are going to come in and extend our festival for a day for us. They have booked the Murphy Theatre and Sugartree Ministries' stage from noon until 10 pm with movies, magicians, comedians, bands, singers, one-act plays, face painters, balloon artists, portrait artists and all kinds of different things at both locations. They are coming in under the name of "The Big Picture." It is a group that really doesn't exist. You can go and try to look it up, but there is no such group. They were just looking for some place to do something nice this holiday season in general. They looked at many communities. After coming to visit Wilmington, they found that they just really, really enjoyed the fact that the attitude of this community, considering everything that we have been through, was positive. You can knock us down, but we are going to get back up, and everything is going to be great. They said, "You know what? This is a community that we want to come and do something for." They really aren't looking for any press. They aren't pushing their name. They're not bringing people to film the event. There is no charge for what they are doing. There are no tickets that you have to get in advance. It is just come and enjoy. It is not limited to the City of Wilmington, it's not limited to the county – Highland County, Fayette County, anybody in the general area that is interested, please come and enjoy part of the festivities, stay for the day, whatever you want. But, it will be a great addition to Holidazzle. Just as a repeat. This is a one-time thing. Please don't get the mistake that we have now taken Holidazzle and turned it into a two-day or three-day event. I've got enough work to do; I don't need that added on to it. It's wonderful that they are coming to our community and providing this for us. Thank you, Mr. President. That is all I have.

Councilwoman Mongold: May I add to that because it all ties into the same weekend? Friday and Saturday of that weekend – the 27th and 28th – the downtown merchants are having their open houses for the holidays. We have had a tremendous response to this. They have the gift certificate program that will be kicked off. There are 14 businesses participating in that downtown. We have 17 businesses participating in the window decorating contest. I think this is just great. It tells me that the business owners are positive and confident of the outlook of downtown. So, along with that, make sure you mark your calendars for that event because...

Councilman Jaehnig: That same night, Leadership Clinton is offering up Polar Express at the Murphy Theatre free of charge. Now that one you have to get tickets for...you can get them at the Pattery and Books 'N' More, but they are free.

Councilwoman Mongold: So, make a point to walk around and see all of the vendors decorated downtown. I know what some are doing now, and it is fabulous. They are just going way out with their decorations this year. Thank you.

Councilman Jaehnig: Thank you. I appreciate you reminding me.

President Ertel: Well, excellent. Super good news. Thank you. At this point, that concludes my portion. Mr. Mayor?

Mayor – Mayor Raizk: Thank you, Mr. President. I don't have any official things to say, other than I believe I said earlier, and you may have seen it on the news already, but our community and our entire area was awarded our second round of the National Emergency Grant for training of \$4.4 million. This is very good news. One of the things that I am most proud of with the people of our community and the surrounding communities. As Rob said, it is not just Wilmington and Clinton County, it is Highland County and Fayette County. Our take grade on folks who believe in themselves enough to change and get more training is higher here than it is any place else around that is going through the same situation. I had an opportunity to meet with some representatives of the State Board of Regents several weeks ago. They said, "We wish that you would talk to some of the other communities that are going through this." As you know, the National Emergency Grants are generally spawned and applied for based on warn notices – the notice of the layoffs. In other places, they are just not taking this money and doing the training. We said, "Send it down here. Everybody wants to retrain. They are taking the education dollars." You've heard that Southern State is full and looking to add space on campuses and all of the institutions as well. It just speaks volumes to me about the people that live and work and that are members of community. It is the same spirit that carries over into things like Holidazzle. As you said, the folks from out of town who met everybody...I just wanted to talk about that for a minute. It is very, very, very important. I just hope that we continue on doing that and everybody keeps pitching in like they're doing, because I think our community is going to be really well off sometime in the future. We have troubles now, but we can see light at the end of the tunnel. I think that is improvement. I also want to tell everybody to have a great Thanksgiving. Hopefully, you will be able to spend time with your families. We could have a lot to be mad about, but I still think we have a lot to be thankful for in our community. So, I want to wish everybody a happy and warm Thanksgiving. I hope to see everybody at Holidazzle. One other little ad...we're talking about all of this entertainment and everything...I had the opportunity to go to dress rehearsal last night for the 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee at the college. It is absolutely a joy, and if you have an opportunity to get out this weekend, it is tonight, Friday and Saturday. You will really enjoy yourself. It is great entertainment. It is a Tony Award Winning show, and the students do an absolutely marvelous job. If you go, there might be a chance that you get to participate as well. So, make sure you study your dictionary. Anyway, that is all I have, Mr. President.

President Ertel: Thank you so much. Committee reports. Asset, Acquisition and Use?

Asset, Acquisition and Use – Chairperson Sandy Mongold: No report, Mr. President.

President Ertel: Thank you. Mr. Auditor?

Auditor – Auditor David Hollingsworth: Nothing tonight, Mr. President.

President Ertel: Thank you. Finance Committee?

Finance Committee – Chairperson Sandy Mongold: We have a report. The first item we have tonight is an ordinance making miscellaneous transfers.

A motion was made by Mongold and seconded by Popp to give the first reading only on the ordinance Making Miscellaneous Transfers.

Motion passed

In absence of Director of Law Kathryn Hapner, Jason Besser read ordinance by title only.

A motion was made by Mongold and seconded by Popp to suspend the rules and give the second and third reading on the ordinance by title only.

Roll call: Jaehnig, yes; Wells, yes; Peterson, yes; Wallace, yes; Popp, yes; Mongold, yes; McKay, yes.

Jason Besser read the ordinance by title only.

A motion was made by Mongold and seconded by McKay to pass the ordinance as read.

Roll call: Jaehnig, yes; Wells, yes; Peterson, yes; Wallace, yes; Popp, yes; Mongold, yes; McKay, yes.

Motion passed.

President of Council declared Ord. No. 4884 passed as read.

Councilwoman Mongold: I want to thank Judge Carey for coming tonight. We discussed earlier. Any questions on the supplementals?

Judge Carey: That is why I came, in case there were any questions. That is all done?

Councilwoman Mongold: It's all done.

Judge Carey: Okay. So, I'm off the hook.

President Ertel: Thank you for coming.

Judge Carey: I love what I've heard so far, but I think I'll go home and spend time with my [inaudible for transcription].

Mayor Raizk: Before you all finish that, Judge, I want to thank you publically for working together with us so that we can make sure that we have...

Judge Carey: I want to thank you. I hope to make you proud and grow the program. I told a couple of folks on the different committees that I went in front of earlier that maybe this had to happen to bring it to the next level. We have been doing a lot of good things with our community service program and our probationers. We hope to make you proud.

Mayor Raizk: Thank you, Judge.

Councilwoman Mongold: The second item tonight is an ordinance making... Well, I did the appropriations. They're reversed on here. Miscellaneous Transfers. Did I say transfers on the first one?

Clerk Laura Curliss: The first one is transfers. This is supplementals.

Councilwoman Mongold: Okay. Maybe [inaudible for transcription].

[Laughter]

A motion was made by Mongold and seconded by McKay to give the first reading only on the ordinance Making Supplemental Appropriations.

Motion passed

Jason Besser read ordinance by title only.

A motion was made by Mongold and seconded by McKay to suspend the rules and give the second and third reading on the ordinance by title only.

Roll call: Jaehnig, yes; Wells, yes; Peterson, yes; Wallace, yes; Popp, yes; Mongold, yes; McKay, yes.

Jason Besser read the ordinance by title only.

A motion was made by Mongold and seconded by McKay to pass the ordinance as read.

Roll call: Jaehnig, yes; Wells, yes; Peterson, yes; Wallace, yes; Popp, yes; Mongold, yes; McKay, yes.

Motion passed.

President of Council declared Ord. No. 4885 passed as read.

Councilwoman Mongold: That is all. Just a reminder. There is a finance meeting at noon on Monday, November 23. Thank you.

President Ertel: Very good. Thank you. Water Committee?

Water Committee – Chairperson Mike Wallace: No report, Mr. President.

President Ertel: Thank you. Streets Committee?

Streets Committee – Chairperson Peterson: No report.

President Ertel: Thank you. Solid Waste/Recycling?

Solid Waste/Recycling Committee: Chairperson Don Wells: No report, Mr. President.

President Ertel: Thank you. Wastewater/Sewer?

Wastewater/Sewer Committee: Chairperson Mark McKay: We have three items tonight, Mr. President. The first item is the resolution having to do with participation in the Clean Ohio Revitalization Fund. We had the first reading at our last meeting.

A motion was made by McKay and seconded by Popp to suspend the rules and give the second and third reading on the resolution Authorizing the City of Wilmington to File an Application to the State of Ohio, to Participate in the Clean Ohio Revitalization Fund, by title only.

Roll call: Jaehnig, yes; Wells, yes; Peterson, yes; Wallace, yes; Popp, yes; Mongold, yes; McKay, yes.

Jason Besser read the resolution by title only.

A motion was made by McKay and seconded by Popp to pass the resolution as read.

Roll call: Jaehnig, yes; Wells, yes; Peterson, yes; Wallace, yes; Popp, yes; Mongold, yes; McKay, yes.

Motion passed.

President of Council declared Res. No. 2180 passed as read.

Councilman McKay: The second item is the continued deferral of the sewer system rate increase. Once again, the first reading was at the last meeting.

A motion was made by McKay and seconded by Popp to suspend the rules and give the second and third reading on the ordinance Authorizing the Continued Deferral of the Sewage System Rate Increase Scheduled for January 1, 2009, and Authorizing the Deferral of the Sewage System Rate Increase Scheduled for January 1, 2010, for a Period of One Year, and Declaring an Emergency, by title only.

Roll call: Jaehnig, yes; Wells, yes; Peterson, yes; Wallace, yes; Popp, yes; Mongold, yes; McKay, yes.

Jason Besser read the ordinance by title only.

A motion was made by McKay and seconded by Popp to pass the ordinance as read.

Roll call: Jaehnig, yes; Wells, yes; Peterson, yes; Wallace, yes; Popp, yes; Mongold, yes; McKay, yes.

Motion passed.

President of Council declared Ord. No. 4886 passed as read.

Councilman McKay: The third item is a resolution having to do with the purchase of the Union Building on Nelson Avenue. There is a time element associated with this. Are there any questions or discussions?

Councilwoman Peterson: I have a question, and I apologize. I did not realize it was on for three readings. I just have a quick question. It has been a few weeks, and I need my memory... This building is interwoven with the deal...

Mayor Raizk: Yes. The Union Hall. If you look at the property at the Kautex-Textron facility, you may not realize it, but the Union Hall is not part of it. It is about 1.15 acres, I believe, that is out of it. It is kind of essential to the development of the whole property. Especially, that portion which the county is going to acquire for the parking, because their interest will go right next to it. Then, it would just kind of complete it. All of the other properties kind of surround it. The question was asked, and appropriately so, number one, if we could get an option on it (which I did try to do) until the grant was approved. But, it is a small piece of property, they were not willing to do that, and they did have other interested parties. The building is viable and it is zoned appropriately and so forth. We were able to negotiate what we think is a very, very good price. In the unlikely event that we do not pursue the project, this is a piece of property that we could very easily get rid of without hurting us.

Councilwoman Peterson: Thank you.

A motion was made by McKay and seconded by Peterson to give the first reading only on a resolution Authorizing the Mayor to Enter into a Purchase and Sale Agreement for Real Property Owned by United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America (1.154 Acres More or Less) and Declaring an Emergency. .

Motion passed

Jason Besser read resolution by title only.

A motion was made by McKay and seconded by Popp to suspend the rules and give the second and third reading on the resolution by title only.

Roll call: Jaehnig, yes; Wells, yes; Peterson, yes; Wallace, yes; Popp, yes; Mongold, yes; McKay, yes.

Jason Besser read the resolution by title only.

A motion was made by McKay and seconded by Popp to pass the resolution as read.

Roll call: Jaehnig, yes; Wells, yes; Peterson, yes; Wallace, yes; Popp, yes; Mongold, yes; McKay, yes.

Motion passed.

President of Council declared Res. No. 2181 passed as read.

Councilman McKay: That is all I have, Mr. President.

President Ertel: Thank you so much. Judiciary Committee?

Judiciary Committee: Chairwoman Leilani Popp: No report, Mr. President.

President Ertel: Thank you. Safety Committee?

Safety Committee- Chairperson Councilman Jaehnig: No report, Mr. President.

President Ertel: Thank you. Downtown Revitalization Committee?

Downtown Revitalization Committee - Convener Leilani Popp – No report, Mr. President.

President Ertel: Thank you. Parks & Recreation?

Parks and Recreation Committee - Convener Mike Wallace: No report, Mr. President.

President Ertel: Excellent. Thank you. Mr. Service Director?

Service Director- Service Director Larry Reinsmith: We finished up Warren Drive. We're doing a little cleanup there, but that project turned out real nice. We have started the Nelson Road project. You'll find delays at times out there on the south end of Nelson right now, but Warren Drive, as we got down there toward Nelson Road, we got into some real muck. We had a milling machine that was milling up the old asphalt. It was

taking it out in layers. When we went back out there, it was buried about three feet deep. We had a quite of bit of stuff backed in there. It turned out real nice.

Councilman McKay: On Nelson, did we anticipate it would be closed at all, or will it always remain open?

Service Director Larry Reinsmith: I think it is going to remain open. They are working on storm lines right now, and they have been working around it.

President Ertel: Okay. Anything else, Larry?

Service Director: That is it, Mr. President.

President Ertel: Thank you. Safety Director?

Safety Director – Nick Babb: No report.

President Ertel: Thank you.

Reports:

A motion was made by Jaehnig and seconded by Wells to approve the Hotel Lodging Tax – 3rd Quarter and the Auditor-Treasurer Report – October 2009, as received.

Motion passed.

Reports accepted as received.

President Ertel: At this point, I would like to open the meeting up to the general public and/or members of council to address council while in session.

President Ertel again asked if anybody else from the public or the council wished to address council while in session.

Seeing no one else who wished to speak, President Ertel asked for a motion to adjourn.

A motion was made by McKay and seconded by Peterson to adjourn.

Motion passed.

Council adjourned.

ATTEST:

President of Council

Clerk