

The Council of the City of North Royalton met in the North Royalton City Hall caucus room, 13834 Ridge Road on **March 6, 2007, at 7:30 p.m.**

PRESENT: President of Council Robert Stefanik, Council Representatives Denise Bobulsky, Vincent Gentile, Kurt McKee, Larry Antoskiewicz, Lisa Uffman-Kirsch; Legislative Services Director Laura Haller, Finance Director Karen Fegan, City Engineer Clark Merdes, Police Chief Paul Bican, Fire Chief Michael Fabish, Office on Aging Director Debbie Duffy, Recreation Director Ed Swim, Community Development Director Michael Kosdrosky.

Agenda reviewed.

Based on discussion held at the Streets Committee meeting on March 5, 2007, it was agreed to add the authorization of the Mayor and City Engineer to advertise for bids for the Wallings Road Rehabilitation project to this evening's consent agenda for approval.

The Council of the City of North Royalton met in the North Royalton City Hall Council Chambers, 13834 Ridge Road on **March 6, 2007**, in regular session. The meeting was called to order at 8:00 p.m. by President of Council Robert A. Stefanik and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

PRESENT: Council: President of Council Robert Stefanik, Council Representatives Denise Bobulsky, Vincent Gentile, Kurt McKee, Larry Antoskiewicz, Lisa Uffman-Kirsch; Legislative Services Director Laura Haller.

Moved by Mr. Gentile, seconded by Mr. Antoskiewicz to **excuse Mr. Willey**. Roll Call: Yeas: **Six** (Stefanik, Bobulsky, Gentile, McKee, Antoskiewicz, Uffman-Kirsch). Nays: **None**. (Absent: Willey). **Motion carried.**

Administration: Mayor Luks, Law Director Thomas O'Donnell, Finance Director Karen Fegan, City Engineer Clark Merdes, Police Chief Paul Bican, Fire Chief Michael Fabish, Office on Aging Director Debbie Duffy, Recreation Director Ed Swim, Community Development Director Michael Kosdrosky, Building Commissioner Rito Alvarez.

ABSENT: Service Director Skip Mayer, Wastewater Supt. Charles Johnson.

CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Approval of minutes: February 20, 2007
- b. Authorize the Mayor and City Engineer to advertise for bids for the Wallings Road Rehabilitation project.

No one on Council wished to have an item removed from the Consent Agenda for discussion.

Moved by Mr. Gentile, seconded by Mr. Antoskiewicz to **approve the consent agenda as presented and read**. Roll Call: Yeas: **Six** (Stefanik, Bobulsky, Gentile, McKee, Antoskiewicz, Uffman-Kirsch). Nays: **None**. (Absent: Willey). **Motion carried.**

COMMUNICATIONS: None.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Mayor Luks addressed the 2007 budget and gave a brief overview of the budget process. Mayor Luks said that this year there was heavy focus on road projects and flooding solution projects that were recommended by the Citizens Oversight Flooding Committee Report, being mindful of the fact that we will not see full collection this year of the new income tax dollars. It will take 3 years for us to fully receive all these new revenues.

In order to perform the road repairs and flooding solutions, it means that we need certain equipment and certain levels of manpower in the Service Department. Some of the work will be contracted out because in some instances this is more efficient. We had to prioritize the worst projects first, knowing that we could certainly not accomplish all repairs that need to be done in

one year. The Service Director requested manpower to accomplish all this, and while he requested a great deal more than we were able to put into a balanced budget, the budget that we proposed to Council included manpower for a maintenance crew that would be able to clean storm sewers and perform routine maintenance. It would provide manpower to do Inflow and Infiltration work which would uncover where we have storm water getting into sanitary sewer lines.

Mayor Luks said that it is of great concern to her that our proposed budget went through the Finance Committee's review rather quickly and with little discussion or planning in terms of knowing what would be involved. The committee recommended an amendment to the budget that would cut some of the additional laborers in the Service Department in order to move this money to purchase leaf collection equipment.

The Administration has not been able to perform a full detailed study of exactly what a leaf collection system would entail and what impact that would have on our ability to provide all of the other services we have prioritized for this year. We did perform a survey of other communities who provide leaf collection services, which summarizes as follows: Brecksville uses a 3 man crew with 5 crews 2-3 times per week throughout the leaf collection season; Broadview Hts. uses 3 crews consisting of 4 people; Parma has 3 units with 3-4 people, with 3-4 people on a back up truck; Strongsville has 7-8 units with a 4-5 man crew devoted to leaf collection during this time of year.

This service is being proposed for North Royalton as preventive maintenance by collecting leaves and therefore they would not be getting into our drainage system. Parma's comment in the survey was while this tends to be popular with the residents, it can cause blockage or drainage problems in some areas because residents rake the leaves up by the road either in ditches or on the curb near the catch basins.

If you compare us in size to these communities, in most case we are larger in area and have more residential homes. This tells her that we are going to need a significant amount of manpower in order to execute a leaf collection system. Council is proposing an amendment that would give her money to purchase equipment but yet cutting the manpower she needs to perform the duties that we have already prioritized and promised to the voters when we asked them to pass the income tax to address the road repairs and flooding problems. Now we are going to struggle to do those priorities on top of creating a new service.

Mayor Luks said she questions the legitimacy of using these new tax dollars for a leaf collection system because so far they have not been able to come up with any studies that have shown that leaf collection reduces flooding problems. She thinks that it is disingenuous to the voters that we tell them that we are going to make roads and flooding our priority and right out of the gate we are going to have to cut back on what we have planned to do this year because we are going to start up a new system. Mayor Luks said that she has no problem with leaf collection and thinks that it is a great service. The more that this city can do to continue to improve and provide newer services to its residents, the better. There is a lot she could put on a wish list in terms of providing services to our community, but with a limited amount of funding, she feels that it is incumbent upon the elected officials to prioritize and address first the basic needs. When we catch up with those, then it will be the time to look at introducing new services and looking for new ways that we can enhance services for the community.

Mayor Luks said that she wanted full discussion about this tonight because she fears that at the next Council meeting it will come down to a choice. In between now and then she is going to work to gather more answers to questions that were raised at last night's Streets Committee meeting about manpower and how it would effect our scheduling and whether or not we would be able to maintain the concrete repairs that we had planned on performing this year, whether or not we can perform the I&I, and whether or not we would be able to open the recycling yard given the fact that the two part time laborers that were proposed in the budget for this purpose are being cut in this amendment. The money allocated this year for road repairs is significant at \$5 million, but a vast majority of this money will be on roads such as Drake Road and Edgerton Road and the crumbling concrete roads in front of homes in the subdivisions that have been neglected for years because there has been no outside funding assistance for those, will continue to sit and wait even longer if we make these cuts. She wants to hear from the residents. She wants to know if the community feels we should introduce a new leaf collection system or do we continue to address the flooding solutions and the road work as top priority and hold off on bring about this new service until the time is right.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS: No Reports.

PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL'S REPORT: No Report.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

All Committees, Boards, and Commissions announced the dates and times of their next regularly scheduled meetings. All meetings are held at City Hall, 13834 Ridge Road, unless otherwise noted. A complete meeting schedule is available from the Council Office. ***Any changes to the regular schedule of Council or committee meetings are noted below.***

- Utilities Committee is changing the time for all its meetings **from 7:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.** effective with the April 2007 meeting.

PUBLIC DISCUSSION: No one requested to speak.

LEGISLATION

THIRD READING CONSIDERATION: No Action: 05-187, 06-151, 07-10.

SECOND READING CONSIDERATION

ORDINANCE 07-24

AN ORDINANCE TO MAKE APPROPRIATIONS FOR CURRENT EXPENSES AND OTHER EXPENDITURES OF THE CITY OF NORTH ROYALTON, STATE OF OHIO, DURING THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2007, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. Title read.

Placed on **third reading**.

ORDINANCE 07-25

AN ORDINANCE ACCEPTING THE DEDICATION OF 1,680 FEET OF BENTLEY DRIVE AND 200 FEET OF COVENTRY COURT IN THE VILLAS OF WORTHINGTON SUBDIVISION PHASE 1 FROM YORK/ROYALTON LLC, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. Title read.

Placed on **third reading**.

ORDINANCE 07-26

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AMENDMENT OF THE OHIO ENTERPRISE ZONE AGREEMENT WITH INDUCTION TOOLING, INC., AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. Title read.

Moved by Mr. Gentile, seconded by Mr. Antoskiewicz to **suspend the rules requiring 3 readings and referral to committee.** Roll Call: Yeas: **Six** (Stefanik, Bobulsky, Gentile, McKee, Antoskiewicz, Uffman-Kirsch). Nays: **None.** (Absent: Wiley). **Motion carried.** Moved by Mr. Gentile, seconded by Mr. Antoskiewicz to **adopt Ordinance 07-26.** Roll Call: Yeas: **Six** (Stefanik, Bobulsky, Gentile, McKee, Antoskiewicz, Uffman-Kirsch). Nays: **None.** (Absent: Willey). **Motion carried.**

FIRST READING CONSIDERATION

ORDINANCE 07-28

Introduced by: Gentile. **AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A LEASE WITH PAUL AND FRANCES FAFRAK FOR PPN 489-25-085 COMMONLY KNOWN AS THE VALLEY-VISTA PUMP STATION SITE, TO BE USED BY THE LESSEE FOR HORTICULTURAL PURPOSES, GARDENING ONLY, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.** Title read.

Placed on **second reading** and referred to the **Building & Building Codes Committee.**

ORDINANCE 07-29

Introduced by: Uffman-Kirsch. **AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF NORTH ROYALTON, PART 2 ADMINISTRATION, CHAPTER 220 COUNCIL, SECTION 220.06 RULES OF COUNCIL, RULE XII, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.** Title read.

Placed on **second reading** and referred to the **Rules & Ordinances Committee.**

ORDINANCE 07-30

Introduced by: Mayor Luks. **AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 880 EARNED INCOME TAX, SECTION 880.27 DISBURSEMENT OF FUNDS, OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF NORTH ROYALTON, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.** Title read.

Placed on **second reading.**

ORDINANCE 07-31

Introduced by: Willey. **AN ORDINANCE GRANTING A CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT FOR SOUTH POINT COMMUNITY CHURCH TO RELOCATE THEIR ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES, CLASSROOMS AND CHURCH AUDITORIUM TO 13390 YORK ROAD, PPN 483-14-004, GENERAL INDUSTRIAL ZONING, PROPERTY OWNER ALPHA PROPERTIES, LTD., AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.** Title read.

Placed on **second reading** and referred to the **Building & Building Codes Committee.**

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Mr. Gentile, seconded by Mr. Antoskiewicz **to adjourn the March 6, 2007, City Council Meeting.** Roll Call: Yeas: **Six** (Stefanik, Bobulsky, Gentile, McKee, Antoskiewicz, Uffman-Kirsch). Nays: **None.** (Absent: Willey). **Motion carried.**

Meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

APPROVED: _____ DATE APPROVED: ____/____/____
PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL

ATTEST: _____
DIRECTOR OF LEGISLATIVE SERVICES