

The Council of the City of North Royalton met in the North Royalton City Hall Council Chambers, 13834 Ridge Road on **July 22, 2010, in special session**. The Special Meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by President of Council Vincent Gentile and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

PRESENT: President of Council Vincent Gentile, Council Representatives John Nickell, Gary Petrusky, Don Willey, Paul Marnecheck, Larry Antoskiewicz, Dan Kasaris, Legislative Services Director Laura Haller, Mayor Robert A. Stefanik, Law Director Thomas Kelly, Finance Director Karen Fegan.

- The Director of Legislative Services read the Notice of Special Meeting. Meeting notice posted and distributed as required.

SPECIAL MEETING ITEMS:

LEGISLATION

THIRD READING CONSIDERATION

ORDINANCE 10-80

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE REDUCTION OF COMPENSATION FOR APPOINTED DEPARTMENT HEADS, SALARIED EMPLOYEES AND CONTRACT EMPLOYEES OF THE CITY OF NORTH ROYALTON, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. Title read.

Moved by Mr. Nickell, seconded by Mr. Willey to **remove Ordinance 10-80 from the Finance Committee.**

Mr. Kasaris said this body is governed by its rules, ordinances, Roberts Rules of Order and, as he learned from Mr. Willey, custom. Custom is an important function of good government. Abiding by custom and tradition fosters good relationships, good will and good work. A few months ago, Mr. Antoskiewicz asked to move the Cutter Oil lease agreement back to the Utilities Committee. Mr. Kasaris said that he and Mr. Nickell vehemently objected. However, Mr. Willey stated that he would take this legislation back to committee out of respect for Mr. Antoskiewicz. This was done and we didn't hold a special meeting to try and wrestle the legislation out of committee to vote on it. We honored the custom and Mr. Antoskiewicz wishes out of respect. The legislation then went back to committee where Mr. Antoskiewicz was able to speak on the legislation offering further insight into the matter with regard to the Heasley Field lease. Earlier this week, Mr. Petrusky, Chairman of the Finance Committee, removed an item from the Council agenda and placed it back on the Finance Committee agenda. We are here tonight in an attempt to wrestle the legislation back from the Finance Committee and to eradicate a Council custom by wiping from existence the honoring of a request of a member of this body, a committee chairman no less, to refer a matter back to committee. Mr. Kasaris said that he does not see the difference between this situation and the situation mentioned earlier regarding Heasley Field. Mr. Kasaris felt that if we dishonor Mr. Petrusky's request, the hypocrisy and inconsistent treatment of a similar issue will further erode this Council's authority to act independently with other branches of this government. Mr. Kasaris said he is not willing to surrender such authority. He felt that we should honor the custom Mr. Willey taught him a few months ago. Mr. Kasaris said that if this issue is taken away from the Finance Committee against the wishes of the Finance Committee Chairman, what good is a chairman and his ability to run his committee. He said that if this can happen with the Finance Committee, then it can happen to all committees.

Mr. Antoskiewicz said that with all due respect to Mr. Kasaris, he believes the Heasley Field oil well matter was a totally different situation than this one because a lot of things changed between what we were originally going to vote on and what we were actually going to vote on at the time of that meeting. This is why it was brought back into committee. Mr. Antoskiewicz said in this situation, he does not see where anything has changed based on the ordinance and what we are trying to accomplish here. He said that every situation is handled differently. In the past we have always tried to honor the request to refer matters back to committee. But as history has also shown, there have been a few instances where that has not been the case, and those cases were very similar to this one.

Mr. Gentile said a few years ago, Mr. Willey had an item in the Finance Committee regarding the purchase of vehicles from the Ohio Cooperative Purchasing Program using confiscated drug money which Mr. Willey did not want removed from committee. The remaining members of Council overwhelming disagreed with Mr. Willey and Council removed it from committee on the floor and passed it that evening. It does happen from time to time. It happens when the

majority feels that it is time to call the question and put it to a vote. Mr. Gentile said that we are here tonight asking for the roll call to remove Ordinance 10-80 from the Finance Committee.

Roll Call: Yeas: **Five** (Gentile, Nickell, Willey, Marnecheck, Antoskiewicz). Nays: Two (Petrusky, Kasaris). **Motion carried.**

Moved by Mr. Antoskiewicz, seconded by Mr. Marnecheck **to adopt Ordinance 10-80.** Roll Call: Yeas: **Five** (Gentile, Nickell, Willey, Marnecheck, Antoskiewicz). Nays: Two (Petrusky, Kasaris). **Motion carried.**

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Mr. Willey, seconded by Mr. Marnecheck **to adjourn the July 22, 2010 Special City Council Meeting.** Roll Call: Yeas: **Seven** (Gentile, Nickell, Petrusky, Willey, Marnecheck, Antoskiewicz, Kasaris). Nays: **None.** **Motion carried.**

Meeting adjourned at 6:39 p.m.

APPROVED: /s/ Vincent A. Gentile DATE APPROVED: September 8, 2010
PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL

ATTEST: /s/ Laura J. Haller
DIRECTOR OF LEGISLATIVE SERVICES