

**MINUTES OF THE APRIL 16, 2018
REGULAR MEETING OF THE ALLIANCE CITY COUNCIL**

The meeting was called to order by President Garnes at 7:00 P.M. Council President Garnes then gave the invocation and led the meeting in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL: Larry Dordea, James Edwards, Julie Jakmides, Cindy King, Roger Rhome, and Brian Simeone.

Motion and second to excuse Councilwoman Cherry due to illness. **MOTION PASSED BY ACCLAMATION OF ALL MEMBERS.**

Minutes of the April 2, 2018 Regular Council Meeting were distributed electronically to all members prior to the meeting. No additions, deletions or corrections were offered by Council Members. Minutes were received and filed as presented.

COMMUNICATIONS:

1. Notice of April 19, 2018 Parks Board Commission Meeting
2. Memorandum From Mayor Andreani RE: Receipts Collected in March 2018
3. Memorandum From Mayor Andreani RE: Appointment of David Thomas to Downtown Special Events Commission
4. Notice from Liquor Control RE Transfer Application for Thornes to Alliance Supermarkets LLC
5. Sisters of Charity 2017 Annual Report
6. Agenda for the April 18, 2018 Planning Commission Meeting
7. Minutes for the March 21, 2018 Planning Commission Meeting

Motion and second to receive and file all communications tendered to the Clerk. **MOTION PASSED BY ACCLAMATION OF ALL MEMBERS.**

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

Mayor Andreani: Reviewed Ordinance 32-18.

Asked for Council ratification of the appointment of David Thomas to the Downtown Special Events Commission.

Motion and second to approve the appointment of David Thomas to the Downtown Special Events Commission. **MOTION PASSED BY ACCLAMATION OF ALL MEMBERS.**

Question from Councilman Edwards regarding the various name changes of the Business incubator in Ordinance 32-18. Mayor Andreani explained the various changes in form of the incubator during the existence of the program over the years.

Safety Service Director Dreger: Updated Council on the water quality and the disinfectant byproduct testing results. Informed Council that due to the increased rainfall recently algae levels are low causing less UV usage and lowering levels.

Informed Council of the Mission of Calvary rehab program for owner occupied properties in need of assistance. Announced that any candidates should be referred to Michelle Cutler.

Reviewed the status of the recycling program and stated that the numbers are still running about double of what they were before the new cart program which generates increased revenue for the keep alliance beautiful program,

Announced that the street department is using Court CIP workers to sweep sidewalks on State Street to remove the winter grit and salt debris.

Law Director Arnold: Announced that assistant prosecutor Matt Kuhn as resigned to take a full time position at the Summit County Prosecutor's Office. Stated that she has hired Angel Ruhl to fill the vacancy but that requires Council approval.

Motion and Second to approve the appointment of Angel Ruhl as an Assistant Law Director (there was a unanimous approval of an intervening request to excuse Councilman Rhome from the vote due to a conflict of interest) **MOTION PASSED BY ACCLAMATION OF ALL REMAINING 5 MEMBERS.**

Announced that the City was served with a new public records lawsuit and stated it can be discussed if Council wishes to hold an executive session to discuss pending litigation.

Councilwoman Jakmides questioned that the matter "may" be discussed in executive session but is not required under the statute and Law Director Arnold explained that Attorney Client privilege is waived if it is discussed openly in front of witnesses such as an open Council Meeting. Councilwoman Jakmides further questioned that if the Client (Council Members) voted to waive privilege would that not allow it to be discussed in open meetings. Law Director Arnold went on to explain that the "City" is the client and not individual Council members. Therefore, unless the Council and Administration unanimously agreed, privilege could not be waived.

Motion by Councilman Dordea to enter executive session following committee reports to discuss pending litigation and the mayor's fiscal recovery plan. A discussion ensued regarding the specific language of a motion and the category permitting executive session discussion of the fiscal recovery plan. Further discussion was had regarding making two separate motions for each topic. Following the discussion Mr. Dordea withdrew his original motion.

Motion and Second to enter executive session following the standing committee reports to have a conference with the City's legal counsel concerning a dispute involving the public body that is the subject of pending or imminent court action including the members of the administration, Mayor, Safety Service Director, Law Director and Auditor, all of the Council members, the Council President, and the Council Clerk. Roll Call: 4 in favor 2 (Jakmides and King) opposed: **MOTION PASSED.**

There was a discussion of making a motion to hold a second executive session to discuss the Mayor's Fiscal Recovery plan but Council decided the topic did not easily fit one of the reasons for an executive session and no formal motion was made.

Auditor Knowles: Reviewed General Fund balances and stated that he would like to have a meeting with the Finance Committee in the not too distant future to discuss the budget numbers and projections.

Reminded everyone that tomorrow (April 17th) is the deadline to file Municipal income taxes or request an extension.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Properties and Lands: Cherry: Absent. No formal report.

Safety & Judiciary: Dordea: Reviewed Ordinance 33-18 and asked for passage and action tonight to be ahead of the filing deadline for the grant.

Noted the Thornes to Sanders Bros. Liquor license transfer application and stated we should do what we can to give Sanders Bros. an equal footing with other establishments so they are successful and there is no basis to object to the transfer.

Motion and Second to waive a hearing on the Thornes to Sanders Bros. Liquor license transfer application. **MOTION PASSED BY ACCLAMATION OF ALL MEMBERS.**

Utilities: Edwards: No formal report.

Finance: Jakmides: No formal report.

Community Development: King: Reviewed Ordinance 32-18 and asked for passage and action tonight.

Announced the Stark County Regional Planning Commission is holding a Fair Housing seminar celebrating the 50th anniversary of the Federal Fair Housing act on April 24th at the Hampton Inn in Alliance.

Streets & Alley: Rhome: No formal report

Planning Zoning and Housing: Simeone: No formal report.

Council entered executive session with Council Members, Council President, Council Clerk, Mayor, Safety Service Director, Auditor and Law Director to have a conference with the City's legal counsel concerning a dispute involving the public body that is the subject of pending or imminent court action pursuant to the earlier motion at 7:25 PM

Council re-entered regular session at 8:05 PM.

Public Speaks: None

ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION:

Councilwoman Cherry: Absent, No discussion.

Councilman Dordea: Apologized to the public for the inconvenience of the Executive session and the length of time it took. Mr. Dordea went on to stated that in all of his years in public service and associated with Alliance City Council, he can never remember a Council and administration so divided. Mr. Dordea expressed dissatisfaction that he felt Ms. Jakmides was mistreated at the last meeting expressed concern over the manner in which issues have being debated at City Council. Mr. Dordea stated that City Council and the Administration have been “kicking the can down the road” for years instead of fixing the City’s financial problems and now we are in fiscal caution and need to get the City’s business done without personal attacks on the Council floor.

Councilman Edwards: Mr. Edwards expressed support for Ordinance 33-18 and expressed that this is a positive move to keep staffing in the emergency services. Mr. Edwards further stated that he hopes that the projected savings listed Mayor’s Financial Recovery Plan would not negatively affect this ordinance.

Councilwoman Jakmides: Ms. Jakmides stated that she had a long telephone conversation with Director Dreger regarding the proposed fiscal recovery plan and thanked him for taking the time to attempt to satisfy her concerns over the vagueness of the plan. However Ms. Jakmides further stated that Mr. Dreger was supposed to e-mail her further information and that never happened. Mr. Dreger did leave her a phone message but since she did not get the promised information via e-mail, she never returned his call and still feels she has no further clarification on the issue. Ms. Jakmides stated that without a public disclosure of specifics so that she can share with the voting public, she will not support the mayor’s plan.

Councilwoman King: Nothing to report or discuss.

Councilman Rhome: Nothing to report or discuss.

Councilman Simeone: Thanked Director Dreger for taking the time to take him on a tour of City Facilities including the Water and Wastewater plants, Street Department, Cemetery, and Police and Fire Departments. Stated he learned a lot about how these departments run and what they do on their limited budgets.

Mr. Simeone also expressed concerns supporting the Mayor’s fiscal recovery plan given the lack of specific answers of where savings is coming from in the Fire Department.

THIRD READINGS:

Resolution 29-18: Introduced by Council as a Whole: A Resolution approving the Mayor’s Financial (Fiscal Recovery) Plan in accordance with Section 118.025(A) of the Ohio Revised Code and declaring an emergency for the public safety and welfare. Question by Councilman Edwards of what can be discussed in open Council. Mayor responded with his concerns. Motion to adopt. Motion failed for lack of a second. **NO FORMAL ACTION.**

SECOND READINGS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

Ordinance 32-18: Introduced by King: An Ordinance authorizing the City of Alliance to continue to partner and contribute to the Development of a business incubator, directing the Director of Public Safety and Service to authorize the contributions; and declaring an emergency. Motion and Second to suspend the rule requiring 3 readings. Voice Vote: Unanimous. Motion and Second to Adopt. Voice Vote: Unanimous. **ADOPTED.**

Ordinance 33-18: Introduced by Dordea: An Ordinance authorizing and directing the Director of Public Safety and Service to apply for a Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) Grant for the purpose of funding the salary for four (4) firefighters for the Alliance Fire Department for a period of three years; and declaring an emergency. Motion and Second to suspend the rule requiring 3 readings. Voice Vote: Unanimous. Motion and Second to Adopt. Voice Vote: Unanimous. **ADOPTED.**

ADJOURNMENT: Noting no further business to come before this Council, President Garnes adjourned the meeting at 8:26 PM

SUMMARY OF ACTIONS TAKEN:

Ordinance 29-18	THIRD READING
Ordinance 32-18	ADOPTED
Ordinance 33-18	ADOPTED

ARTHUR GARNES, COUNCIL PRESIDENT

GERARD T. YOST COUNCIL CLERK