

**MINUTES OF THE APRIL 20, 2020
SPECIAL MEETING OF THE ALLIANCE CITY COUNCIL**

The meeting was called to order by President Garnes at 4:30 P.M. Councilman Lohnes then gave the invocation and led the meeting in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL: Kris Bugara (remotely), Sheila Cherry (remotely), James Edwards (remotely), Andrew Grove (remotely), Cindy King (remotely), Edward Lohnes (remotely) and Phillip Mastroianni (remotely).

Clerk Yost read the notice of the special meeting and compliance with S.B. 197 permitting public meetings by teleconferencing.

Minutes of the April 8, 2020 Special Council Meeting were distributed electronically to all members prior to the meeting. No deletions or corrections were offered by Council Members. Minutes of the meeting were received and filed.

COMMUNICATIONS:

1. Notice of the Cancellation of the April 20, 2020 Regular City Council Meeting
2. Notice of the April 20, 2020 Special City Council Meeting
3. Memorandum from Auditor Knowles RE: 2020 Income Tax Information
4. Notice of Stark Business 911 Website
5. Notice of Cancellation of the April 23, 2020 Parks Board Meeting
6. Memorandum from Mayor Andreani RE: Receipts collected in March 2020

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

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

Mayor Andreani: (remotely): Reviewed the Community Operation Plan in place for City operations during pandemic restraints and commended City employees for keeping day to day operations going. Gave thanks and recognition to the Health Department and Commissioner Flint for their efforts in tracking and other restraints placed on them lately. The Mayor further asked that Citizens direct day to day business questions to the Health email so that the phone system doesn't get overwhelmed with all of the pandemic business calls.

The Mayor reviewed things that will need to be addressed by the various Council Committees in the near future and in light of the changes due to the Covid-19 pandemic:

Planning and Development Committee: Administration is sending out the latest CDBG virus relief award and its mandates for review. There are needs assessments that need to be done to appropriate funding to agencies and the Committee will have to development and approve this.

Finance Committee: The committee will have to review the recently approved budget for potential adjustment. There is a projected 40% loss in the State Gas tax will mean the State will have to adjust road projects and that will affect our matching funds budgeted but will also mean we may have to adjust our planned paving projects. Local Government funding is projected to be down 20% as the State has to make adjustments. We may have to look at scaling back capital projects and other things.

Planning Zoning and Housing Committee: The Committee will need to meet to review

Ordinance 25-20 and the adjustments to the Zoning Code. The Committee will have to adjust the public hearing on the ordinance and figure out when and how a public hearing will be conducted with meetings currently being conducted remotely.

Property and Lands Committee: The Committee will have to review the Land Reutilization as properties are coming to the City Land Bank from the Neighborhood Initiative Program and they will have to be evaluated for productive use.

Safety and Judiciary Committee: The Committee will need to meet and proposed Animal Nuisance Legislation that has been pending review.

Streets and Alleys Committee: The Committee is going to have to re-evaluate the summer paving program and evaluate the City's position with potential scaled back grants for street repair.

Utilities Committee: The Committee is going to have to evaluate how to handle delinquent water and sewer bills. We are mandated to not shut off for non-payment currently but at some point we are going to have to deal with the delinquent bills.

The Mayor reminded everyone that in spite of the pandemic the Census is still going on through mail, phone and online processes. Everyone is encouraged to report to the Census because the information is essential to the funding for the City and other government services the City gets. It is reported that the City reply rate is about 54% which is above the national average.

The Mayor announced that the parks are open in accordance with Governor DeWine's closure order. The parks are available for walking and exercising but the playgrounds and pavilions are closed to prevent social gathering and there are no team sports at the parks. The hope is that the public utilize the parks for more hiking type activities and the public is reminded to maintain the 6' social distancing.

Safety Service Director Dreger: Stated that the water department quarterly testing for disinfectant bi-products is ongoing and proceeding.

The Westville lake boat ramps are open for recreational activities but the campground remains closed

Stated that the hydrant flushing program that normally occurs in the spring is being postponed. Instead of hydrant flushing near Memorial Day, we will likely flush near Labor Day.

Law Director Arnold: Suggested that Council set a time to temporarily set meetings to teleconference the meetings so that we don't have to set a special meeting each time. Suggested that we re-schedule through the month of June. Council members all suggested and agreed to re-set meetings for first and third Monday afternoons at 4:30 through the month of June and Director Arnold stated she would prepare legislation to do that for the next meeting.

Auditor Knowles: Discussed the impact of the COVID 19 shut down and the possible impact on City finances. Stated there is an expected significant reduction in the gas tax due to less travelling during the shut down. Auditor Knowles further stated that there is expected to be a significant reduction in Income Tax due to pandemic closures and loss of wages by residents. Due to these reductions, the 2020 Budget will have to be re-evaluated and adjusted once we start to see the impact.

Stated that the 2019 Income tax filings are at about 50% but that the deadline has been extended to July 15 to be in line with State and Federal extensions. The Auditor did stated that citizens can still file any time and they can do it electronically online, by mail, or using the drop box in the administration lobby but that the Office Counter is currently closed to the public.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Streets & Alley: Bugara: No formal report.

Properties and Lands: Cherry: No formal report.

Utilities: Edwards: No formal report

Finance: Grove: No formal report.

Community Development: King: No formal report.

Safety & Judiciary: Lohnes: No formal report.

Planning Zoning and Housing: Mastroianni: Stated that Ordinance 25-20 needs reviewed by the committee and a meeting is necessary to do so. Suggested it be a virtual meeting as well. Announced the Committee will meet virtually on May 12, 2020 at 4:30 PM to review Ordinance 25-20. Further stated that the public hearing on Ordinance 25-20 needs to be re-set to a later date.

Motion and Second to re-set the public hearing on Ordinance 25-20 to June 15, 2020 at 7:30 PM. Roll Call: Unanimous. **MOTION PASSED. PUBLIC HEARING RE-SET.**

Asked for action on Ordinances 29-20; 30-20; and 31-20.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None were presented

THIRD READINGS:

Ordinance 25-20: Introduced by Mastroianni: An Ordinance amending the Alliance City Zoning Code as adopted by Ordinance 130-05 and subsequently amended. **NO FORMAL ACTION.**

SECOND READINGS:

Ordinance 27-20: Introduced by Edwards: An Ordinance granting John W Neidert and Kimberly N. Neidert, Trustees, an exclusive easement over approximately 500 square feet of land in the Southwest Quarter of Section 1, Knox Township, Columbiana County, Ohio (Westville Lakes Reservoir) for the maintenance of a driveway and bocce court. **NO FORMAL ACTION.**

Ordinance 29-20 – Introduced by Mastroianni: An Ordinance accepting and approving the replat of all of outlots 734 and 735 located at 200 East State Street in the City of Alliance, County of Stark and State of Ohio. Motion and Second to suspend Council rules. Roll Call: Unanimous. Motion and Second to adopt. Roll Call: Unanimous. **ADOPTED.**

Ordinance 30-20 – Introduced by Mastroianni: An Ordinance accepting and approving the replat of all of lots 4857 and 4855 located at 2305 Ridgewood in the City of Alliance, County of Stark and State of Ohio. Motion and Second to suspend Council rules. Roll Call: Unanimous. Motion and Second to adopt. Roll Call: Unanimous. **ADOPTED.**

Ordinance 31-20 – Introduced by Grove: An Ordinance accepting and approving the replat of part of lot 6753 and all of lots 6754, 6755 and 6756 located at 400 Overlook Drive in the City of Alliance, County of Stark and State of Ohio. Noted Councilman Mastroianni was previously excused from discussion and voting on this Ordinance due to a conflict. Motion and Second to suspend Council rules. Roll Call: Unanimous. Motion and Second to adopt. Roll Call: Unanimous. **ADOPTED.**

NEW BUSINESS: None

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS:

Councilman Bugara: Asked everyone to stay safe and healthy

Councilwoman Cherry: Reminded everyone to be kind during the pandemic situation.

Councilman Edwards: Expressed a desire for everyone to stay healthy and safe.

Councilman Grove: Expressed the desire that everyone stay healthy

Councilwoman King: Expressed her desire that everyone stay safe and healthy

Councilman Lohnes: Expressed his hope that everyone stays healthy and reminded everyone to maintain their social distancing

Councilman Mastroianni: Confirmed with everyone that May 12th is still a good time for the Planning Zoning and Housing Committee meeting since it is a Tuesday and not Thursday as originally thought. Committee members confirmed May 12th works for the meeting.

President Garnes: Noted the Fact Finder’s Report in the Police union grievance situation. He noted to Council that if Council does not act to reject the report it will be adopted. Hearing no desire to take any action, none was taken.

ADJOURNMENT: Noting no further business to come before this Council President Garnes adjourned the meeting at 5:05 PM.

SUMMARY OF ACTIONS TAKEN:

Ordinance 25-20	THIRD READING
Ordinance 27-20	SECOND READING
Ordinance 29-20	ADOPTED
Ordinance 30-20	ADOPTED
Ordinance 31-20	ADOPTED

**ARTHUR GARNES,
COUNCIL PRESIDENT**

**GERARD T. YOST
COUNCIL CLERK**