

**MINUTES OF THE JUNE 18, 2018
REGULAR MEETING OF THE ALLIANCE CITY COUNCIL**

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

ROLL CALL: Sheila Cherry, Larry Dordea, James Edwards, Andrew Grove, Cindy King, Roger Rhome, and Brian Simeone.

Minutes of the June 4, 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.

COMMUNICATIONS: :

1. Notice of June 18, 2018 Finance Committee Meeting
2. Notice of July 13, 2018 Water and Sewer Advisory Board Meeting
3. Minutes of the June 14, 2018 Treasury Investment Board Meeting
4. Memorandum from Auditor Knowles RE: General Fund Summary Review
5. Agenda for the June 19, 2018 Board of Zoning Appeals Meeting
6. Minutes of the May 15, 2018 Board of Zoning Appeals Meeting
7. 2018-2019 City Council Information Sheet
8. Memorandum from Mayor Andreani RE: Receipts collected in May 2018

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 the Resolution 46-18 and asked that Council at least proceed to suspend rule requiring 3 readings tonight. Noted that the new Recovery plan has been reviewed by the State Auditor and will meet their requirements.

Safety Service Director Dreger: Reviewed Ordinances 42-18; 43-18; and 44-18.

Noted there will be an Ordinance coming in July related to Small Cell Telecommunications installation related to what regulations we can do and what fees can be charged.

Question from Councilman Dordea on the status of the rehab efforts at the Clark Street Water tower. Mr. Dreger stated it is nearing the painting stage but delayed by rain.

Question from Councilman Dordea on a drainage ditch / culvert in the 2300 block of Bellflower. Mr. Dreger stated the parties should contact him and he will discuss the situation to attempt to resolve it.

Question from Councilman Simeone on how the out of town Engineering firm was selected for the Union Avenue Project. Mr. Dreger explained the selection process and the fact that it is grant money involved which limits choices as well.

Question from Councilwoman King on Ordinance 42-18 about the location. Mr. Dreger explained.

Question from Councilwoman Cherry on remediation of other abandoned gas stations such as the Bonded station on Arch and the USA station of State Street. Mr. Dreger explained the process and the difficulties with these situations.

Law Director Arnold: Reviewed Ordinance 45-18 and explained how it may or may not affect the budget and recovery plan.

Auditor Knowles: Reviewed the General Fund Summary Review and thanked all that attended the 6PM finance committee meeting and the progress as working through the budget and fiscal recovery plan.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Properties and Lands: Cherry: No formal report but stated that she will be meeting with representatives from First Energy regarding the vacant MPG Properties on Front Street, Wood Street and Franklin Street.

Safety & Judiciary: Dordea: Expressed concern over the Mayor's fiscal recovery plan and concern that it may result in "meddling" in the structure of the safety forces. We had a lot of unnecessary unrest in the safety forces last year due to this type of meddling and don't want see that happen again. Also expressed concern that the plan is all "Cut and Gut" philosophy rather than a focus on increasing revenue.

Utilities: Edwards: Noted the next Water and Sewer Advisory Board meeting is July 13th at 10:00 AM in the Administration 2nd floor conference room.

Finance: Grove: Reviewed the Finance Committee meeting held June 18, 2016 at 6 PM. Stated the Committee extensively reviewed the budget and fiscal recovery plan. Stated the Committee voted to give favorable recommendation to Resolution 46-18 and the Recovery Plan.

Mr. Grove went on to state the budget needs reviewed line item by line item and he would like any recommendations from council by July 15th so that it can be addressed at the July 16th meeting.

Community Development: King: Reviewed Ordinance 39-18 and asked for support on Ordinances 39-18 and 44-18.

Streets & Alley: Rhome: Reported that the streets need some paving and repair but there is no money available to do it. Until we address the budget and fiscal warning situation we can't do any major repairs. Noted that the Street Department is doing the best they can to address the situation with the available resources.

Planning Zoning and Housing: Simeone: No formal report.

Public Speaks: None.

ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION:

Councilwoman Cherry: Nothing to report.

Councilman Dordea: Expressed concern over the Mayor's fiscal recovery plan and concern that it may be viewed by some as a solution. Stated it may satisfy State Auditors that don't live here but doesn't truly address the problems. Stated the Plan is not a final answer to solve the financial situation. The Plan won't get the streets paved because it is based on cuts rather than increasing revenue. Further he stated that if this plan starts to include cuts to City Employees and in particular the safety forces, he will not support those actions. The Parks Levy helps the situation but is merely a bandaid rather than a way to stop the bleeding.

Councilman Edwards: Stated he too believes the Plan is merely a start but not a solution. Mr. Edwards stated that the State government has balanced the budget and built up the rainy day fund at the expense of cuts to local governments. Expressed that we need to find new sources of revenue in order to survive..

Councilman Grove: Stated he reviewed the Mayor's fiscal recovery plan in detail and notes that it meets the State's minimum mandates. Agrees that it is not the final answer but states it is a method to get us "back in the Game.". We have to move forward and this is a start. It is time to leave the bickering and squabbling behind and work toward a solution.

Councilwoman King: Noted that she has mixed emotions about supporting the Mayor's fiscal recovery plan especially if it results in layoffs and loss of benefits to City employees. Stated she will support the plan to get us moving forward but is not happy about it. Stated it is terrible that we are "Beautifying" South Union Avenue with new lights and other things while the street is so rough you can't drive down it.

Ms. Cherry Stated that if main concern is city employees, we need to move forward to keep the State from coming in and mandating layoffs..

Councilman Rhome: Hopes that everyone understands that the Mayor's fiscal recovery plan won't immediately provide money for things such as paving streets but it does represent the end of bickering in City Council. Further stated that fixing morale among City employees starts with ending the feuding among City Council members and between Council and the administration..

Councilman Simeone: Stated that the Mayor's fiscal recovery plan is just a piece of paper and an attempt to satisfy the State Auditor but does not address the ultimate problem. We need to attract industry to the City to boost revenue and that means businesses with decent wages not another Starbucks or fast food restaurant. Doesn't believe the Administration is taking the steps to attract real industry to town.

THIRD READINGS: None

SECOND READINGS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

Ordinance 39-18: Introduced by King: An Ordinance accepting the proposed annual Consolidated plan for the City of Alliance pursuant to the FY-2018 Community Development Block Grant program in an amount not to exceed \$736,691.00; 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 40-18: Introduced by Simeone: An Ordinance accepting and approving the replat of part of Outlot 322 and all of lots 8167, 8168, 8169, and 8170 located at 576 West Main Street in the City of Alliance, County of Stark and State of Ohio. Motion and Second to refer to the Planning Commission. Voice Vote: Unanimous. **REFERRED TO THE PLANNING COMMISSION.**

Ordinance 41-18: Introduced by Simeone: An Ordinance accepting and approving the replat of part of lots 13007 and 13008 located on the Northwest site of Park Commons Circle N.E. in the City of Alliance, County of Stark and State of Ohio. Motion and Second to refer to the Planning Commission. Voice Vote: Unanimous. **REFERRED TO THE PLANNING COMMISSION.**

Ordinance 42-18: Introduced by Council as a Whole: An Ordinance accepting an abandoned gas station cleanup grant from the Ohio Development Services Agency, authorizing the City Auditor to establish a special project fund, appropriating grant funds, and authorizing and directing the Director of Public Safety and Service to advertise for bids and enter into contracts as necessary to affect the cleanup of a former gas station site at 105 W. State Street; and declaring an emergency. Motion and Second to suspend the rule requiring 3 readings. Voice Vote: Unanimous. Motion and Second to suspend the rule requiring finance committee review. Voice Vote: Unanimous. Motion and Second to Adopt. Voice Vote: Unanimous. **ADOPTED.**

Ordinance 43-18: Introduced by Edwards: An Ordinance authorizing and directing the Director of Public Safety and Service to advertise a request for qualifications and enter into a professional services contract with the most qualified firm for the purpose of conducting a no feasible alternative study (NFS) at the Wastewater Treatment Plant and appropriating funds; and declaring an emergency. **NO FORMAL ACTION**

Ordinance 44-18: Introduced by King: An Ordinance authorizing and directing the Director of Public Safety and Service to advertise for bids and enter into contracts for the providing of concrete work for sidewalk and curb replacement at the sites of building demolitions; 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 45-18: Introduced by Council as a Whole: An Ordinance authorizing the City of Alliance to file application with the Ohio Attorney General for victims of Crime Act Grant funds; 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.**

Resolution 46-18: Introduced by Council as a Whole: A Resolution approving the Mayor's Fiscal (Fiscal Recovery) Plan in accordance with Section 118.023(A) of the Ohio Revised Code and declaring an emergency for the Public Safety and Welfare. Motion and Second to suspend the rule requiring 3 readings. Voice Vote: Unanimous. Motion and Second to Adopt. Voice Vote: Unanimous. **ADOPTED.**

Auditor Knowles noted that if the major concern with the Mayor's fiscal recovery plan is the effect on City Employees and a belief that the Administration is out to get the City employees everyone needs to keep in mind the annual re-allocation is mainly to cover payroll and avoid lay-offs. If Council really thinks the Administration is after the employees, don't approve a re-allocation. The cuts to the City workforce would have to be tremendous.

Motion and Second to hold a Special Workshop session of City Council on Monday July 2, 2018 at 6:00 PM to discuss the merits of a Charter form of Government verses a Statutory form of Government and determine if there is sufficient interest to put the issue to the voters. Roll Call Vote: 5 to 2 (Cherry and Grove against). **MOTION PASSES.**

ADJOURNMENT: Noting no further business to come before this Council, President Garnes adjourned the meeting at 8:07 PM

SUMMARY OF ACTIONS TAKEN:

Ordinance 39-18	ADOPTED
Ordinance 40-18	REFERRED TO THE PLANNING
Ordinance 41-18	REFERRED TO THE PLANNING
Ordinance 42-18	ADOPTED
Ordinance 43-18	FIRST READING
Ordinance 44-18	ADOPTED
Ordinance 45-18	ADOPTED
Resolution 46-18	ADOPTED

ARTHUR GARNES, COUNCIL PRESIDENT

GERARD T. YOST COUNCIL CLERK