

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of

Minutes of the Vermilion City Council Meeting

Meeting

BARRETT BROTHERS - DAYTON, OHIO

Form 6101

Monday, October 22, 2018

Held

Videos and minutes of council meetings are available to the public to view online at www.vermilion.net under meeting videos/minutes.

Vermilion City Council: Steve Herron, Council President; Monica Stark, Council at Large; John Gabriel, Ward One; Frank Loucka, Ward Two; Steve Holovacs, Ward Three; Barb Brady, Ward Four; Brian Holmes (late arrival), Ward Five; G. Fisher, Certified Municipal Clerk

Administrative Staff: Jim Forthofer, Mayor; Amy Hendricks, Finance Director; Tony Valerius, Service Director; Kenneth Stumphauzer, Law Director; Chris Howard, City Engineer

CALL TO ORDER:

Steve Herron, President of Council called the Monday, October 22, 2018, Vermilion City Council meeting to order.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

The members of Council, administrative staff, and audience participants recited the Pledge of Allegiance; a moment of silence followed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

S. Holovacs MOVED; J. Gabriel seconded to approve the minutes of the October 1, 2018 meeting. Roll Call Vote 6 YEAS. MOTION CARRIED.

CORRESPONDENCE:

G. Fisher reported she received an email from Terry Parker, Parks & Recreation Board Chairman dated October 18, 2018, which read as follows:

In response to comments made by Mr. Taft at the October 1 Council Meeting about Parks Board Accountability, I respectfully offer the following:

1. The City Parks and Recreation Board was established by Ordinance (Charter Article VII-A) to be an "advisory board that shall make recommendations to the Director of Public Service for the maintenance of the parks, playgrounds, playfields, gymnasiums, public beaches and swimming pools, provided however that such Board shall have the power to plan, schedule, govern and direct the operations of all recreational programs it shall sponsor consistent with the appropriations of City Council.

That .5 mill continuing levy may only be used for capital expenses as stipulated above. These are the only funds the Parks Board votes to expend.

2. Operating monies for Parks and Recreation personnel, supplies, etc. are allocated by City Council and are under the Direction of the Service Director and the Parks Operations Manager and Recreation Director.

3. Six of the members are nominated by the Mayor and appointed by Council to three-year terms, which require re-nomination and re-approval if the members are to continue. The seventh member is appointed yearly by the Vermilion Local Schools Board. All serve without pay.

4. Meetings are announced in advance and open to the public. There is opportunity to correspondence and audience participation at every regular meeting.

5. Minutes and video recordings are public record and available on the city's website.

6. Large group use permits brought to the board for approval are reported in the minutes. Requests for small gatherings, shelter rentals, etc. are handled through the Mayor's office.

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7. The Administration is represented at our meetings by the Service Director and often the Mayor. The City Council is in the loop through our designated Council representative (Brian Holmes at present) and the Clerk of Council, Boards and Commissions (Gwen Fisher).

I believe there to be significant accountability throughout this system, and I hope that this brings some clarity to our relationship with the public's interest.

G. Fisher reported she received a petition signed by 14 retail downtown businesses dated October 6, 2018. The petition read as follows: We, the undersigned business owners, propose a halt to park permits issued for the following events in Downtown/Harbourtown Vermilion. At which time an equitable agreement can be reached by all concerned parties, due to the detrimental effect that these events have on small businesses in downtown Vermilion: Farmers Market; Car Show; Any Chalk Event.

PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL'S REPORT:

S. Herron said three weeks ago, School Superintendent Phil Pempin spoke to council regarding the school safety levy. He said council received an email dated October 19, 2018 from David Terken, which reads as follows:

False School Security

I am against the present security plan prepared by the school administration.

Security is important and needs to be done properly.

When there is an active shooter/killer killing student's seconds count. One unarmed person in another school is not the answer.

The present bill up for consideration on this ballot does not provide appropriate security when seconds count.

The present bill spends too much money to achieve too little.

One armed person for several schools is a basic waste of time and lives.

If there is a problem a bad person with a gun must be stopped by a good person with a gun.

If I am going to pay for security I want properly secured gun lockers with shotguns strategically placed in the schools.

I want to see teachers and administrators who care about students properly trained with the training overseen by the police department.

Signs can be paced around the schools stating, "OUR STAFF IS ARMED".

It is fun for cowards to shoot unarmed people. It is not so much fun to face armed angry teachers armed with shotguns and handguns who are trying to protect their students.

The students should be trained to deal with dangerous situations.

Barricading students in a room is great until the shooter is inside.

I had an acquaintance from Israel. In their schools they teach young children to fight back if attacked.

They say if you have a pencil and a piece of paper, throw the pencil, ball up the paper and throw it, then attack with your hands and teeth if that's what you have. Twenty angry children can slow a shooter down while help is coming.

Running for your life in a closed room gets you killed.

In almost all the incidents where there were school shootings there were substantial indications a problem was brewing. This does not mean you hire more people and raise taxes. This means you teach students and faculty to pay attention to what is going on around them.

If a student is being bullied and he is ignored there will be trouble eventually.

If a student has mental problems and is not given help there will be a problem.

Teachers and students showing respect for each other is essential.

If a shooter cannot get inside the school the shooting will take place when school opens in the morning, when school closes in the evening, or on the athletic fields.

Taking care of problems when they develop will stop a lot of shootings. More money and people are not the answer to this problem, but intelligent use of the money and people we have now will help with this problem.

If a shooter approaches the school and is shot dead, there will not be likely to be another incident.

Carrying guns and killing people is not what teachers want to do, but in a world where there are bad people good people must get out of their comfort zone and do what is necessary to protect their lives and the lives of those they care about.

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It is important to address the security problem, but let's do it in a way that really addresses the problem. The present plan is high cost, does not really address the problem. If parents want their children to survive an attack fast response is essential. It is a shame we must turn educational staff into lifeguards, but dead children are the result of inadequate security plans.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Historic Design & Review Board:

J. Gabriel reported on the meeting held October 3. The next meeting has been scheduled for November 7, 2018 at 6:00 pm.

Planning Commission:

J. Gabriel reported on the meeting held October 3. The next meeting has been scheduled for November 7, 2018 at 7:00 pm.

Town Hall Meeting:

J. Gabriel reported he called a Town Hall Meeting on October 16, 2018, inviting members of the business community and members of Main Street Vermilion to address some of the issues that council has heard during recent meetings. He felt the meeting was productive and a lot of ideas were exchanged, and the various parties are meeting separately. He expects to hear shortly from Main Street on some changes they are willing to do immediately which he hopes will have a positive impact on some of the concerns that has been presented to council.

Streets, Buildings and Grounds Committee:

F. Loucka reported on the meeting held October 15. The next meeting has been scheduled for November 19, 2018 at 7:00 pm.

Port Authority:

F. Loucka reported the next meeting has been scheduled for November 8, 2018 at 6:30 pm at the South Street Ramp.

Utilities Committee:

S. Holovacs reported on the meeting held October 15. The next meeting has been scheduled for November 19, 2018 at 7:00 pm.

Contractors Registration Board of Examiners:

S. Holovacs reported the next meeting has been scheduled for October 23, 2018 at 6:00 pm.

Finance Committee:

The next meeting has been scheduled for November 19, 2018 at 7:00 pm.

Parks & Recreation:

The next meeting has been scheduled for November 20, 2018 at 7:00 pm.

Tree Commission:

S. Herron reported the next meeting has been scheduled for November 14, 2018 at 7:00 pm at Ritter Public Library.

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Legislative Committee:

M. Stark reported on the meeting held October 15. The next meeting has been scheduled for November 19, 2018 at 7:00 pm.

Vermilion Community Services Board:

M. Stark reported on the meeting held October 17. The next meeting will be held in January, but the date and location has not been announced at this time.

Health & Safety Committee:

B. Brady reported on the meeting held October 15. The next meeting has been scheduled for November 19, 2018 at 7:00 pm.

Board of Zoning Appeals:

B. Brady reported the next meeting has been scheduled for October 23, 2018 at 7:00 pm.

MAYOR/SAFETY DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Mayor Forthofer reported the Fire House Committee met on October 17 and potential site plans were reviewed by the City Engineer. The committee reviewed the respective lots. He noted the Finance Director advised the committee of the available resources. It's hopeful they can have a request for bid out by January 1, 2019. He continues to meet with property owners who have potential sites or who are volunteering their sites and depending on when he has his last meeting with those property owners is when they will have their next meeting. He will bring this report back to committee. He noted that he along with Steve Holovacs met with the Fire Department personnel last Wednesday at the invitation of Chief Stempowski to hear their opinions and factors affecting site locations. The collective opinion of the firefighters is pertaining to concerns with maintaining the excellent response time they have achieved for the residents of Vermilion.

He reported the Joint Health Care Committee met on October 18 and members of the police dispatch and labor unions met with the administration staff and Councilman Gabriel to discuss and learn more about the city's health care program.

He said they are continuing to work on the employee manual. With regards to economic development, Mayor Forthofer announced that Defense Soap's project is going full speed ahead and abatement approval is before City Council. He appreciates Council's cooperation in this matter. The building should begin in December.

He reported the land for Ed's Equipment has transferred and he expects for them to go before the Planning Commission on November 7.

He announced that new business is showing possibility on Liberty Avenue which would involve renovating an existing building. He said it's a frequent challenge to find ways to keep businesses in town who want to possibly expand or relocate somewhere outside of Vermilion, but he gives a lot of appreciation to the Lorain County Community Development Bureau for providing him with data and information that keeps them in town, and they have had that success with two businesses recently.

SERVICE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

T. Valerius mentioned the contract with Pittsburgh Tank & Tower for the Water Tower Stem Replacement Project was signed last week. As per the contract, the contractor will have 60 days to complete the EPA mandated project.

He said now that autumn is officially here, and the leaves are beginning to fall he asked the citizens to not rake the leaves into the street. The city does not have leaf collection services and the leaves clog the

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catch basins and prevent rain water from entering the storm sewers. He said citizens can bag the leaves in biodegradable bags and Republic will provide unlimited pickup through December 14.

M. Stark asked if the city offers any services to the residents to pick up all the branches that fell this past weekend during the storm. T. Valerius said technically this is the homeowner's responsibility to clean this up. The street department will go out and clean the branches off the street and right of way. M. Stark asked if Republic will pick it up because she has noticed a lot of branches on the tree lawn. T. Valerius said for Republic to pick it up it would have to be cut up and bundled into 4' bundles.

FINANCE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Amy Hendricks said at the last council meeting there was a question asked of the administration from a member of the audience regarding the non-cash collection system and the legalities of that process. She confirmed they had talked previously with the law director and determined it was within the city's prerogative to make this decision and implement those practices. It is compliant with state and federal laws and the desired outcome is to keep the city's payment procedures, so they have the most cost-effective and efficient services for customers. They have several payment methods that are available with little or no cost to customers, and even those who have convenience fees for the online payment options are competitive with other governments and businesses for similar types of services. It's important to point out that with minimal staffing to not only accept and process payments, answer phones, and assist residents with a variety of other needs, they need to meet best practices for internal controls for cash processing and this is something they can't adequately do.

She said the biggest project within the last week is working on their debt refinancing and they had a Moody's rating call last Monday with the goal of maintaining the City's current rating for the upcoming financing. This was done by phone with representatives of Sudsina & Associates as well as legal counsel from Squire, Patton & Boggs. The city should have the rating report back on October 23, so she will send an email to everyone letting them know the results. She said things are looking well for this transaction; while interest rates have been rising the savings are not as extensive as they had originally planned on or estimated they would be. However, the city is still in that range of saving in the 3%, which is kind of a benchmark that municipal advisors use as to whether it's feasible to do a refinancing. She said converting bonds to notes allows for predictable budgeting of payments going forward on an annual basis and with the terms of those bonds, as well as a savings in the debt service. Also, the rates are set into what each years debt service is going to be at the time those bonds are issued; where right now with one year bond rates the fed is predicting that very soon those will actually approach the 25 year bond rates, so that would be where the one year money would be paying the same; they are locking that rate in now to make those payments. She said they were also able to roll the 2004 bond issue into that transaction as well to allow for effective budgeting and a little bit of interest savings. Moving the notes to bonds has saved almost \$518,000 over the life of those bonds in issuance costs. In addition, with the scheduled payments that the city is predicting with that sale, over the repayment term the city will save an additional almost \$1.1 million over the life of that debt in the debt service and it will regulate the city's cash flow and they will be able to predict those things a little more steadfast going forward. They are looking at being able to move the debt service payment that would have been due in 2019 into 2020, so it will give the city an almost \$200,000 easement in the cash flow in the next year that should help the city move on with some other projects and stabilize on an annual basis. Savings range anywhere from \$32,000 to \$42,000; give or take a little bit depending on the interest rates on each of the years that is estimated into the issue, so it's a very successful project for the city, despite the increase in interest rates. She said Sudsina & Associates and Squire, Patton & Boggs have been extremely helpful in preparing the city for the Moody's phone call.

F. Loucka asked if the million dollars savings is approximately over 20 years and A. Hendricks replied, yes. J. Gabriel said this is all great news!

CITY ENGINEER'S REPORT:

C. Howard reported the Highbridge Road Bridge Project is almost completed as there are a couple loose items the contractor is finalizing. He hopes to have the bridge open next week.

LAW DIRECTOR'S REPORT: No report.

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RESPONSE TO THE AUDIENCE:

T. Valerius said at the last council meeting an audience member had some questions regarding the city's dump site at the service center. It was also stated that the city is illegally dumping sanitary sewer waste at the site. This statement is false! The city does not, nor have they ever dumped sanitary sewer spoils at their dump site. They do dump hard cleaned fill (dirt, stone, or concrete) primarily from main breaks and street sweepings, which they allow to dry in a separate area and then dispose of in a dumpster. Last week he organized an onsite inspection at the service center with Melissa Fetter from Erie Conversation District and a representative from the Ohio EPA Office of Compliance Assistance and Pollution Prevention. The results of the inspection were very positive. He asked council to have this issue put on the next Streets, Buildings & Grounds committee agenda where he will give a brief power point presentation that Melissa Fetter put together on the results and on several improvements that were made at the service center this past summer.

OPEN TO THE AUDIENCE:

Brian Crandall of 657 Main Street (The Silly Goose) provided council with correspondence he read into the record. This letter is attached hereto and incorporated herein as the official record of proceedings.

Sandra Coe of the Vermilion Chamber of Commerce, 5495 Liberty Avenue, was present to address council on the food truck ordinance as her concerns are on behalf of the Chamber and the Festival of the Fish and Woollybear Festival. She said the Festival of the Fish has been going on for 52 years and Woollybear for 46 years and asked council if they could grandfather both festivals in Section 872.04 for the permit fee terms. When she spoke to the mayor regarding this he had said it's usually waived for their vendors that come into the festival. They already sign a contract with the Chamber going over all the details for liability insurance, health insurance, and fire inspections as they follow all the rules pertaining to the laws for food concessions. She would like the permit fee and application waived through the city.

Laura Gongos of 5413 Portage Drive stated she has never been before council or has met any of them, including her own council person, but she feels she is like a lot of the constituents as she sits back and assumes they are doing a great job of which she thanked them for as she knows they are working hard on behalf of the community. She said they always assume council is doing the right thing, however, when she read the latest Photojournal she got a little upset; not to mention she was upset about the fact that they are taking a prime piece of property and turning it into parking lot in the middle of town.

She addressed food trucks and mentioned she didn't own a food truck or restaurant or is she invested in any of them, but she does like to eat good food. She said food trucks are the fastest growing segment of the food industry today because people like good food and they are expecting good food. She said there are food trucks in communities around the country that are really benefitting from this explosion in the food industry. She mentioned that if you read some of the articles that are being written; in Boulder, Colorado – Food trucks are driving communities closer together; in Raleigh, North Carolina – Food trucks in a sense of community; in Washington, D.C. – Food trucks are a win-win, and in Pittsburgh she said food trucks are so popular they actually created a food truck park. She said there is a culinary explosion happening across the United States today. If you travel you see small towns that are getting chefs that are coming in and people are expecting better food, especially millennials are expecting better food. There is an article in a food industry publication that says, The rise of food truck culture and its effect on food tourism. Millennials – 88% of millennials surveyed are interested in trying new kinds of food; 47% of millennials have eaten at a food truck and want to eat at a food truck. They are now integrating major events and festivals in a way to attract young attendees and increase spending and cater to the increased taste bud. Younger people are used to eating better. She asked council why they would limit this option in Vermilion; in a city where they already have limited food choices. She would think they would want to provide those choices to the constituents. She said food trucks provide a different purpose in restaurants. She visits restaurants because she is looking for a leisurely relaxed meal where she can sit down with her husband; have a glass of wine and talk things over in an environment and have an experience. Food trucks quite frankly are a fast way to get a meal. When she doesn't want to cook she wants to be able to have this choice because she doesn't want to go to a fast food restaurant.

She went on to say that food trucks are a faster, more healthier option for people to eat. Honestly to suggest that food trucks are going to hurt the restaurants in this city is like saying that McDonald's is

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going to hurt the business of Chez Francois. It's an apples and oranges type of business and she doesn't think it makes sense to compare the two. She asked council to step back and take a more balance and thoughtful approach to this issue. She suggested they talk to the restaurant owners around town because she has talked to the owners where she goes, and they could care less if food trucks come to the city. She doesn't see this as a big problem. She also asked council to talk to their constituents because if they are like her they will like to have a better faster option than fast food when they don't feel like cooking and want to go out and get a quick meal.

Finally, she told council to go online and look at what other communities are doing with food trucks because it's something that smaller communities all around the country are dealing with and they are dealing with it successfully. She would hate to see Vermillion ban food trucks. To her it's a step back into the dark ages for this community. She said if a private business such as Pence's wants to have a food truck; this is a business that has invested a lot of money to upgrade a bowling center that quite frankly was old and stale; they've upgraded it to try to attract young people and make it fresh and unique, and young people like food trucks. If they want to put a food truck in their parking lot who is it for council to tell them how to run their business. This is something that meets their demographic audience, so don't tell them they can't put a food truck on a private business.

S. Herron reported that food trucks will be discussed at the November 19 Legislative meeting. He noted that Clerk Fisher provided council with several ordinances from other communities and there are different approaches they are looking at.

Reading of the Ordinances:

Third Reading – Ordinance 2018-55: AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ORDINANCE 2011-58 ADOPTED AUGUST 15, 2011, BY AUTHORIZING THE FINANCE DIRECTOR TO REESTABLISH THE CLASSIFICATION OF FUND 405 ENTITLED "MUSEUM PROPERTY ACQUISITION" TO "HARBOR VIEW PROJECT" AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

F. Loucka MOVED; S. Holovacs seconded to adopt this ordinance by emergency. Roll Call Vote 7 YEAS. MOTION CARRIED.

Third Reading – Ordinance 2018-56: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 1440.02 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF VERMILION, OHIO ENTITLED "RESIDENTIAL BUILDING PERMIT FEES & ZONING PERMIT FEES" AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

S. Holovacs MOVED; B. Holmes seconded to adopt this ordinance by emergency. Roll Call Vote 7 YEAS. MOTION CARRIED.

Third Reading – Ordinance 2018-57: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 1282.05 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF VERMILION, OHIO ENTITLED "PERMIT APPLICATIONS" AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

F. Loucka MOVED; B. Holmes seconded to adopt this ordinance by emergency. Roll Call Vote 6 YEAS; 1 ABSTENTION (Gabriel). MOTION CARRIED.

Third Reading – Ordinance 2018-58: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 1274.17 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF VERMILION, OHIO ENTITLED "PERMIT FEES" AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

S. Holovacs MOVED; M. Stark seconded to adopt this ordinance by emergency. Roll Call Vote 6 YEAS; 1 NAY (Gabriel). MOTION CARRIED.

Third Reading – Ordinance 2018-59: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 1030.05 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF VERMILION, OHIO ENTITLED "RETAINING WALLS" AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

J. Gabriel MOVED; S. Holovacs seconded to adopt this ordinance by emergency. Discussion: B. Brady questioned if this ordinance is to make the city legal with the Ohio Revised Code, and G. Fisher clarified it's the Ohio Building Code. B. Brady asked if engineering drawings are required for retaining walls and it was explained that anything over 5' requires drawings. S. Holovacs said after 5' you get into drainage, geo-grid, and safety issues, so therefore the engineering is required to protect people around it. Roll Call Vote 7 YEAS. MOTION CARRIED.

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Third Reading – Ordinance 2018-60: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 1272 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF VERMILION, OHIO ENTITLED "SUPPLEMENTAL USE, HEIGHT, AREA AND YARD REQUIREMENTS", AND AMENDING SECTION 1272.12 ENTITLED "UTILITY BUILDINGS" AND ENACTING SECTION 1272.17 ENTITLED "TEMPORARY STORAGE CONTAINERS" AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

S. Holovacs MOVED; F. Loucka seconded to adopt this ordinance by emergency. Roll Call Vote 7 YEAS. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Second Reading – Ordinance 2018-63: AN ORDINANCE ENACTING NEW CHAPTER 872 ENTITLED "MOBILE FOOD SERVICES" OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF VERMILION AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. (Referred to November 19, 2018 Legislative Meeting)

Second Reading – Ordinance 2018-64: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 1262 ENTITLED "ADMINISTRATION, ENFORCEMENT AND PENALTY, AND SECTION 1262.04 ENTITLED "BUILDING PERMITS; CERTIFICATES OF OCCUPANCY" AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

S. Herron MOVED; F. Loucka seconded to suspend the rules. Roll Call Vote 7 YEAS. **MOTION CARRIED.**

S. Holovacs MOVED; F. Loucka seconded to adopt this ordinance by emergency. Roll Call Vote 7 YEAS. **MOTION CARRIED.**

First Reading – Ordinance 2018-67: AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF VERMILION, OHIO (THE "EMPLOYER") TO ENTER INTO A CONFIDENTIALITY AGREEMENT WITH DALE REISING (THE "EMPLOYEE") AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

S. Herron MOVED; S. Holovacs seconded to suspend the rules. Roll Call Vote 7 YEAS. **MOTION CARRIED.**

F. Loucka MOVED; S. Holovacs seconded to adopt this ordinance by emergency. Roll Call Vote 7 YEAS. **MOTION CARRIED.**

First Reading – Ordinance 2018-68: AN ORDINANCE CONFIRMING THE APPOINTMENT BY THE MAYOR AND THE VERMILION PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD OF CHAD KUHN AS RECREATION DIRECTOR TO THE CITY OF VERMILION FOR THE 2019 RECREATIONAL PROGRAMS; ESTABLISHING A SALARY FOR SUCH APPOINTEE; ESTABLISHING COMPENSATION OF CERTAIN AUTHORIZED POSITIONS WITHIN THE VERMILION DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION AS HAVE BEEN FAVORABLY RECOMMENDED BY THE CITY'S PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

First Reading – Ordinance 2018-69: AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF VERMILION TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT, PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 5709.61 ET. SEQ. OF THE OHIO REVISED CODE, WITH DEFENSE SOAP HOLDINGS LLC DBA DEFENSE SOAP (THE "ENTERPRISE") UNDER WHICH THE ENTERPRISE AGREES TO CONSTRUCT A NEW FACILITY AND CREATE NEW EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES IN CONSIDERATION OF THE CITY OF VERMILION PROVIDING TO THE ENTERPRISE THE INCENTIVE OF A TAX EXEMPTION ON REAL PROPERTY AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

First Reading – Ordinance 2018-70: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE 2018-15 TO MAKE APPROPRIATIONES FOR CURRENT EXPENSES AND OTHER EXPENDITURES FOR THE CITY OF VERMILION, OHIO FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2018 AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

F. Loucka MOVED; J. Gabriel seconded to suspend the rules. Roll Call Vote 7 YEAS. **MOTION CARRIED.**

S. Holovacs MOVED; B. Holmes seconded to adopt this ordinance by emergency. Roll Call Vote 7 YEAS. **MOTION CARRIED.**

First Reading – Ordinance 2018-71: AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING FUND 217 'PLAYGROUND DONATIONS' AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

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First Reading – Resolution 2018R-12: A RESOLUTION URGING THE ELECTORATE OF THE CITY OF VERMILION OF ERIE AND LORAIN COUNTIES TO SUPPORT ISSUE 13 – VERMILION LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT FOR A FIVE (5) YEAR ADDITIONAL 0.68 MILL AD VALOREM PROPERTY TAX OUTSIDE OF THE TEN-MILL LIMITATION FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING FOR SCHOOL SAFETY AND SECURITY TO BE OFFERED TO THE ELECTORATE AT ALL PLACES OF POLLING AT THE NOVEMBER 6, 2018 GENERAL ELECTION, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

S. Holovacs MOVED; F. Loucka seconded to suspend the rules. Roll Call Vote 7 YEAS. **MOTION CARRIED.**

M. STARK MOVED; F. Loucka seconded to adopt this resolution by emergency. Roll Call Vote 7 YEAS. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Announcement of Meeting Dates

Steve Herron

- October 29, 2018 – Fifth Monday – No Meeting*
- November 5, 2018 – Vermilion City Council Meeting – 7pm*
- November 12, 2018 – Veterans Day – City Offices Closed – No Meeting*
- November 19, 2018 – Vermilion City Council Committee Meetings (All) – 7pm*
- November 26, 2018 – Thanksgiving – No Meeting*

ADJOURNMENT:

Upon no further business coming before the body, Steve Herron, President of Council adjourned the Vermilion City Council meeting.

Gwen Fisher, Certified Municipal Clerk

On Oct. 16th at 6:30 p.m. I along with others attended a meeting to try and resolve problems that retail businesses are having with Mainstreet Vermilion events. They are the Farmers market and Chalk it up.

A meeting was also held by the parks and recreation board. A signed petition was delivered, but obviously not considered concerning the the car show.

The blocking of Main St. is of great concern to retail businesses. It is my understanding a permit was approved for park use, does that mean the road will be closed?

An option would be to hold that event at Sherod Park where food vendors could offer their various menus and still raise money for various causes.

As for Chalk it up several options were discussed. One being collaborate with the library, block off the west parking area and still raise funds for Mainstreet Vermilion. As it was stated this was a fund raiser for that organization.

When the Farmers market was discussed it was mention to sell produce only. The response was telling. Local farmers were busy with their own road side stands. When asked about moving the day it was stated the market vendors did not approve of that, we were told. Also members of Mainstreet were going to seek vendors from out of town. So much for supporting and buying local.

So, the year round merchants do not matter?

I was told next month I would get more information.

As a city council you do have a say. \$2800 tax dollars are spent yearly to Heritage Ohio for Mainstreets dues. You have a stake in what happens.

Taken from a Vermilion Photo Journal article Steve Herron stated "we don't need food trucks where we have restaurants" as it pertained to protect brick and mortar businesses.

Then, I think you would agree, we don't need outside retail vendors at a farmers market when we have year round retail stores.

It is understood the Fish Festival and Woollybear Festival are exceptions, but for Mainstreet Vermilion to actively seek outside vendors to the detriment of local merchants is inexcusable.

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