

**NORTH RIDGEVILLE CITY COUNCIL  
MEETING MINUTES  
November 20, 2023**

**CALL TO ORDER:**

President Jacobs called the Monday, November 20, 2023, Council meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**INVOCATION:**

Led by President Jacobs.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

Led by President Jacobs.

**ROLL CALL:**

Present were Council members President Jason Jacobs, Holly A. Swenk, Frank Toth, President Pro-Tem Bruce Abens, Clifford Winkel, Georgia Awig, and Martin DeVries.

Also present were Mayor Kevin Corcoran, Law Director Brian Moriarty, City Engineer Christina Eavenson, Clerk of Council Nicholas Ciofani, and Assistant Clerk of Council Fijabi Gallam.

**MINUTES - Corrections (if any) and approval:**

President Jacobs asked if there were any corrections to the City Council Meeting Minutes dated November 6, 2023. No discussion was offered.

The meeting minutes stand approved as submitted.

**LOBBY:**

President Jacobs opened the lobby session. He reminded everyone that the lobby session is not meant to be an interactive question and answer session, but it is an opportunity for the public to address the City Council and the City's administration. He asked anyone who would like to speak to come to the podium and state their name and address. He further added that each person is allowed three minutes to speak.

**North Ridgeville Community Garden Report**

Bob and Terri Marquis, residents of 9424 Foxboro Drive, presented the City Council and the administration with a summary of the 2023 progress and wrap-up. Notably, the community garden has experienced significant growth. Over the past two years, organizers had to incorporate 4 additional plots, bringing the total number of plots to 95. Unfortunately, due to high demand, 20 individuals were turned away for the 2023 gardening season.

The arrangement of plots was well-organized, with 19 individuals managing two plots, 52 being repeat gardeners, the west end of the garden utilized by Community Care, and 24 newcomers joining as

gardeners. Three key contributors to the gardening efforts were Major Stone, Gardener John Brown, and Gary Prince.

In 2023, the garden yielded approximately 2,466 pounds of produce, with 1,344 pounds donated to both the North Ridgeville Community Care and the North Ridgeville Senior Center. Mrs. Marquis highlighted the collaborative efforts of everyone involved in the Community Garden.

## **ADMINISTRATORS REPORTS:**

### **1. Mayor:**

Mayor Corcoran remarked the following.:

- Under first readings, he would be requesting emergency passage on several pieces of legislation.
  - T 127-2023, T 128-2023, T 129-2023, T 130-2023, and T 131-2023.
- City Hall Offices Closed – City Hall Offices are closed Thursday, November 23, 2023, and Friday, November 24, 2023, in observance of the Thanksgiving holiday. The Mayor wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.
- Fall Clean-Up Time at the North Ridgeville Cemeteries - It's fall clean-up time at the North Ridgeville Cemeteries. The City is asking for assistance in removing all plastic and artificial flowers and any other weathered decorations by November 27, 2023. All remaining weathered and out-of-season items would be disposed of beginning November 28, 2023, and would not be able to be retrieved thereafter.
- Holiday Food & Toy Drive Underway - The Holiday Food & Toy Drive is underway for North Ridgeville Community Care. Non-perishable food items and new toys in original packaging could be dropped off at City Hall, Parks & Recreation, and Senior Center through December 1, 2023.
- Lorain County Strategic Action Plan - The Community Foundation of Lorain County is assisting with the outreach for the Lorain County 5-year Strategic Action Plan being developed by the Lorain County Commissioners and Future iQ. Residents are invited to participate by completing a stakeholder survey and/or attending a workshop. Residents could find the link to the survey on the city's website at [nridgeville.org](http://nridgeville.org) as well as the 9 workshops being held throughout Lorain County. There would be one held in North Ridgeville at the Sandy Ridge Reservation on Tuesday, December 5, 2023, from 10:00 a.m. -11:30 a.m.
- Holiday on the Ridge - The 23rd annual Holiday on the Ridge will be held on Saturday, December 2. 26 locations are participating including a pancake breakfast with Santa at the Academic Center, a number of craft shows, and business open houses throughout the city, and a Jewelry Extravaganza at our Senior Center. Then, at 5:00 pm at South Central Park Gazebo, the High School Choir will perform, local scouts will decorate the tree, and the Mayor will flip the switch to light up the tree.

Moved by Mayor Corcoran and seconded by Swenk to go into an Executive Session to consider the appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion, or compensation of a public official or employee; to consider the purchase or sale of property; and to confer with the public body's attorney concerning imminent Court action.

A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried.

Yes – 7                      No – 0

Adjourned into Executive Session at 7:10 p.m.

Reconvened into the Regular Council meeting at 8:20 p.m.

Moved by Mayor Corcoran and seconded by Winkel to suspend the bylaws to place T 132-2023 under First Readings.

A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried.

Yes – 7                      No – 0

Mayor Corcoran concluded his report.

**2. Engineer:**

City Engineer Christina Eavenson provided the following updates:

- The railroad contractor anticipates completing their work on the culvert alongside Maddock Road on Wednesday, November 22, 2023.
- Requests T 128-2023, T 129-2023, and T 130-2023 involve appropriating three properties, or a portion thereof, for the State Route 83 and Chestnut Ridge roundabout project. Mrs. Eavenson requested that the legislation be passed with the emergency clause to enable the City to file a petition for appropriation in the Lorain County Court of Common Pleas. This is needed to stay on track with the Ohio Department of Transportation's (ODOT) schedule for the project, which is expected to commence construction in the spring.

City Engineer Eavenson concluded her report.

**3. Director of Finance:**

Finance Director April Wilkerson had no report.

**4. Other Reports:**

President Jacobs noted the following report:

October 2023 Water Distribution and EPA Report

**COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORT(S):**

There was none.

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

There was none.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

There was none.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

There was none.

**RECESS:**

Moved by Winkel and seconded by DeVries to dispense with recess.

A voice vote was taken and the motion carried.

Yes – 7                      No – 0

**FIRST READINGS:**

**Ordinance and Resolution submittal(s)**

**Clerk of Council Nicholas Ciofani:**

T 124-2023      AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 4268-2006, NO. 2752-93, NO. 1922-84, NO. 1559-79, AND NO. 1275-77 PROVIDING FOR SALARY CHANGES FOR COUNCIL MEMBERS AND COUNCIL PRESIDENT EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2026.  
(Introduced by Councilman Abens)

This ordinance was moved to second reading.

**Clerk of Council Nicholas Ciofani:**

T 125-2023      AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CODE OF ORDINANCES, CITY OF NORTH RIDGEVILLE, OHIO TO PROVIDE AMENDMENTS TO GENERAL OFFENSES NORTH RIDGEVILLE CITY CODE SECTIONS 606.01, 606.10, 606.12, 606.15, 606.17, 606.19, 606.21, 606.29, 618.20, 624.01, 624.025, 624.03, 624.04, 624.05, 628.10, 630.10, 636.00, 636.02, 636.05, 636.09, 636.10, 636.11, 636.12, 636.20, 636.23, 642.01, 642.02, 642.035, 642.145, 642.31, 648.05, 648.07, 666.01, 666.05, 666.07, 666.11, 666.99, 672.02, 672.04, 672.15, 672.16, 698.02, 698.03, 698.05; TO PROVIDE FOR PENALTIES; TO PROVIDE FOR CODIFICATION; TO PROVIDE FOR SEVERABILITY; TO REPEAL CONFLICTING ORDINANCES; TO PROVIDE AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.  
(Introduced by Mayor Corcoran)

This ordinance was moved to second reading.

**Clerk of Council Nicholas Ciofani:**

T 126-2023      AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CODE OF ORDINANCES, CITY OF NORTH RIDGEVILLE, OHIO TO PROVIDE AMENDMENTS TO TRAFFIC NORTH RIDGEVILLE CITY CODE SECTIONS 402.075, 402.24, 402.36, 402.37, 412.04, 416.06, 432.14, 432.22, 432.28, 432.30, 432.33, 432.39, 434.01, 434.011, 434.03, 434.035, 434.07, 434.08, 434.09, 436.021, 436.09, 438.16, 436.165, 438.17, 438.23, 438.28, 440.11, 440.15, 442.01, 442.04, 442.025, 476.01, 476.03, 476.04, 476.08; TO PROVIDE FOR PENALTIES; TO PROVIDE FOR CODIFICATION; TO PROVIDE FOR SEVERABILITY; TO REPEAL CONFLICTING ORDINANCES; TO PROVIDE AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.  
(Introduced by Mayor Corcoran)

This ordinance was moved to second reading.

**Clerk of Council Nicholas Ciofani:**

T 127-2023      AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS AND ENTER INTO A CONTRACT ACCORDING TO LAW AND IN A MANNER PRESCRIBED BY LAW WITH THE LOWEST AND BEST BIDDER FOR THE 2023 HYDRANT REPLACEMENTS AND OTHER APPURTENANCES, NOT TO EXCEED \$420,000.00.  
**(Introduced by Mayor Corcoran)**

Moved by Mayor Corcoran and seconded by Winkel to dispense with the second and third readings for T 127-2023.

A voice vote was taken and the motion carried.

Yes – 7                  No – 0

Moved by Mayor Corcoran and seconded by Winkel to add the emergency clause the immediate necessity to provide for the health, safety, and welfare of the Citizens of the City of North Ridgeville.

A voice vote was taken on the emergency clause and the motion carried.

Yes – 7                  No – 0

Moved by Mayor Corcoran and seconded by Winkel to adopt T 127-2023 with the emergency clause.

A roll call vote was taken on the adoption, with the emergency, and the motion carried. T 127-2023 becomes **Ordinance number 6114-2023.**

Yes – 7                  No – 0

**Clerk of Council Nicholas Ciofani:**

T 128-2023      AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING, VALUING, AND TAKING IMMEDIATE POSSESSION OF AN INTEREST IN REAL PROPERTY FOR THE PURPOSE OF CREATING A ROUNDABOUT AT THE INTERSECTION OF STATE ROUTE 83 AND CHESTNUT RIDGE ROAD OVER/ACROSS REAL PROPERTY (PARCEL 14A-WD) HAVING NO COUNTY AUDITOR PARCEL NUMBER.  
**(Introduced by Mayor Corcoran)**

Moved by Mayor Corcoran and seconded by Awig to dispense with the second and third readings for T 128-2023 Amended.

A voice vote was taken and the motion carried.

Yes – 7                  No – 0

Moved by Mayor Corcoran and seconded by Awig to add the emergency clause to file a petition for the appropriation in the Lorain County Court of Common Pleas to stay on track with the Ohio Department of Transportation's Schedule.

A voice vote was taken on the emergency clause and the motion carried.

Yes – 7                      No – 0

Moved by Mayor Corcoran and seconded by Awig to adopt T 128-2023 Amended with the emergency clause.

A roll call vote was taken on the adoption, with the emergency, and the motion carried. T 128-2023 Amended becomes **Ordinance number 6115-2023.**

Yes – 7                      No – 0

**Clerk of Council Nicholas Ciofani:**

T 129-2023            AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING, VALUING, AND TAKING IMMEDIATE POSSESSION OF AN INTEREST IN REAL PROPERTY FOR THE PURPOSE OF CREATING A ROUNDABOUT AT THE INTERSECTION OF STATE ROUTE 83 AND CHESTNUT RIDGE ROAD OVER/ACROSS REAL PROPERTY (PARCEL 12-WD) HAVING PERMANENT PARCEL NO. 07-00-025-103-034.  
**(Introduced by Mayor Corcoran)**

Moved by Mayor Corcoran and seconded by Abens to dispense with the second and third readings for T 129-2023 Amended.

A voice vote was taken and the motion carried.

Yes – 7                      No – 0

Moved by Mayor Corcoran and seconded by Abens to add the emergency clause to file a petition for the appropriation in the Lorain County Court of Common Pleas to stay on track with the Ohio Department of Transportation's Schedule.

A voice vote was taken on the emergency clause and the motion carried.

Yes – 7                      No – 0

Moved by Mayor Corcoran and seconded by Abens to adopt T 129-2023 Amended with the emergency clause.

A roll call vote was taken on the adoption, with the emergency, and the motion carried. T 129-2023 Amended becomes **Ordinance number 6116-2023.**

Yes – 7                      No – 0

**Clerk of Council Nicholas Ciofani:**

T 130-2023            AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING, VALUING, AND TAKING IMMEDIATE POSSESSION OF AN INTEREST IN REAL PROPERTY FOR THE PURPOSE OF CREATING A ROUNDABOUT AT THE INTERSECTION OF STATE ROUTE 83 AND CHESTNUT RIDGE ROAD OVER/ACROSS REAL PROPERTY (PARCEL 14-T1, T2) HAVING PERMANENT PARCEL NUMBER 07-00-023-101-081.  
**(Introduced by Mayor Corcoran)**

Moved by Mayor Corcoran and seconded by Abens to dispense with the second and third readings for T 130-2023 Amended.

A voice vote was taken and the motion carried.

Yes – 7                      No – 0

Moved by Mayor Corcoran and seconded by Abens to add the emergency clause to file a petition for the appropriation in the Lorain County Court of Common Pleas to stay on track with the Ohio Department of Transportation’s Schedule.

A voice vote was taken on the emergency clause and the motion carried.

Yes – 7                      No – 0

Moved by Mayor Corcoran and seconded by Abens to adopt T 130-2023 Amended with the emergency clause.

A roll call vote was taken on the adoption, with the emergency, and the motion carried. T 130-2023 Amended becomes **Ordinance number 6117-2023.**

Yes – 7                      No – 0

**Clerk of Council Nicholas Ciofani:**

T 131-2023                      A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF NORTH RIDGEVILLE, OHIO, TO APPLY FOR, ACCEPT, AND ENTER INTO A WATER POLLUTION CONTROL LOAN FUND (WPCLF) AGREEMENT ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF NORTH RIDGEVILLE FOR PLANNING, DESIGN AND/OR CONSTRUCTION OF THE CM TANK BLOWER UPGRADE PROJECT AT THE FRENCH CREEK WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT FACILITY IN THE AMOUNT OF \$8,284,679.00; AND DESIGNATING A DEDICATED REPAYMENT SOURCE FOR THE LOAN.  
**(Introduced by Mayor Corcoran)**

Moved by Mayor Corcoran and seconded by Winkel to dispense with the second and third readings for T 131-2023.

Mayor Corcoran clarified that the discussed project had been thoroughly reviewed during the appropriation meeting and emphasized its necessity for the plant's operation.

Councilwoman Swenk inquired about the designated source of payment.

Finance Director Wilkerson clarified that the funding would come from charges for services from participating cities contributing to the plant. This funding source aligns with the rates paid by residents of those participating cities.

A voice vote was taken and the motion carried.

Yes – 7                      No – 0

Moved by Mayor Corcoran and seconded by Winkel to add the emergency clause to purchase the necessary machinery for the French Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant and to provide the health, safety, and welfare of the Citizens of the City of North Ridgeville.

A voice vote was taken on the emergency clause and the motion carried.

Yes – 7                      No – 0

Moved by DeVries and seconded by Abens to adopt T 131-2023 with the emergency clause.

A roll call vote was taken on the adoption, with the emergency, and the motion carried. T 131-2023 becomes **Resolution number 1622-2023**.

Yes – 7                      No – 0

**Clerk of Council Nicholas Ciofani:**

T 132-2023            AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CIVIL SERVICE RULES AND REGULATIONS ON CERTAIN MATTERS AND, IN SOME INSTANCES, DIFFERING FROM STATE REGULATIONS BY EXERCISING THE POWER OF LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT CONTAINED IN THE NORTH RIDGEVILLE CHARTER.  
**(Introduced by Mayor Corcoran)**

This ordinance was moved to second reading.

**SECOND READINGS:**

**Clerk of Council Nicholas Ciofani:**

T 97-2023            AN ORDINANCE VACATING ELM STREET, AN UNUSED, UNDEVELOPED STREET, BETWEEN WALLACE BLVD. AND CORNELL AVENUE AND ABUTTING FOUR PROPERTIES, ONE OF WHICH ENCROACHES INTO ELM STREET, UPON ACTION INITIATED BY CITY COUNCIL.  
**(Introduced by Mayor Corcoran; Planning Commission on 09-28-2023; First Reading on 10-02-2023; Building and Lands on 10-16-2023, Public Hearing on 11-06-2023; Committee Report to Council on 11-06-2023)**

This ordinance was moved to third reading.

**THIRD READINGS:**

There was none.

**MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

President Jacobs noted the following:

1. The next Regular Council meeting will be on Monday, December 4, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

President Jacobs wished everyone a happy Thanksgiving holiday.

Mayor Corcoran reminded everyone about the Holiday on the Ridge on December 2, 2023, from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., lighting of the tree at 5:00 p.m.



**ADJOURNMENT:**

President Jacobs adjourned the meeting at 8:38 p.m.

Approval of minutes on December 4, 2023:



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Jason Jacobs  
PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL



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Nicholas Ciofani  
CLERK OF COUNCIL