

**NORTH RIDGEVILLE CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 2, 2024**

CALL TO ORDER:

President Jacobs called the Tuesday, January 2, 2024, 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, Eric Shaffer, Bruce Abens, President Pro-Tem Clifford Winkel, Georgia Awig, and Martin DeVries.

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

MINUTES - Corrections (if any) and approval:

1. President Jacobs asked if there were any corrections to the City Council Special Meeting Minutes dated December 18, 2023, and the City Council Meeting Minutes dated December 18, 2023. No discussion was offered.

The meeting minutes stand approved as submitted.

President Jacobs mentioned the minutes as follows:

Civil Service Commission Special Meeting Minutes dated December 5, 2023

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.

Emergency Clause and Sunshine Law Concerns

Shellie Kearsey, a resident of 37886 Stoney Lake Drive, expressed concern over the frequent addition of emergency clauses to legislation. According to her, there were 122 emergency clauses in Year 2022. Ms. Kearsey questioned the administration's lack of awareness regarding upcoming matters and suggested that legislation should be read three times. She also inquired about why the \$14,700 allocated for the Police Department investigation did not receive approval from the City Council.

ADMINISTRATORS REPORTS:

1. Mayor:

Mayor Corcoran remarked the following.:

- Under first readings, he would be requesting emergency passage on several pieces of legislation.
 - T 2024-1
- The Ridgeville Ready Steering Committee met over the last several months to review and refine recommendations to be included in the Master Plan. These recommendations were categorized by topic: land use, housing, mobility and infrastructure, economy, amenities, and leadership. The Committee also considered action items in support of creating a future Town Center.
- The planning team has reviewed the Committee's comments, made revisions, and is now ready to present the Master Plan's recommendations to the public. From now through January 15, 2024, residents could visit www.RidgevilleReady.com to participate in the Ready to Reveal online public engagement opportunity. This is your chance to view the content and submit feedback.
- Mayor Corcoran expressed that this is a special moment and that all voices and opinions matter to ensure the final plan is reflective of the community's vision and aspirations.
- Trash Collection Reminders - Republic Services is running on a one-day delay this week because of the New Year's holiday. Trash collection citywide is, on Wednesday, January 3, 2024. In addition, Christmas trees would be picked up at curbside on Wednesday, January 3, 2024, and also again on Tuesday, January 9, 2024.
- Closed – MLK - City Offices would be closed on Monday, January 15 in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day. As a result, the next Council meeting is scheduled on Tuesday, January 16.
- Coffee & Conversation - Tuesday, January 16 from 8:30-9:30 a.m. in Council Chambers for the Mayor's monthly coffee and conversation. This is a great way to get questions answered or just hear what others are asking and get updates on city projects.

Moved by Mayor Corcoran and seconded by Swenk reappoint Don Schiffbauer to the Civil Service Commission.

A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried.

Yes – 7 No – 0

Moved by Mayor Corcoran and seconded by Swenk to go into an Executive Session conference with the public body's attorney concerning pending or imminent court action.

A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried.

Yes – 7 No – 0

Adjourned into Executive Session at 7:08 p.m.

Reconvened into the Regular Council meeting at 7:42 p.m.

Mayor Corcoran concluded his report.

2. Engineer:

City Engineer Christina Eavenson provided the following updates:

- Engineering has identified around 15 residential properties that are not in compliance with the City's backflow prevention program. Despite attempts to contact the residents, there has been no response. As a result, citations will be issued and there is a possibility of a water shutoff.
- The Engineering Division has also identified approximately 45 commercial businesses that have been receiving discounted rates for the past five years for their stormwater utility fee. These businesses have implemented stormwater management measures or water quality features on their properties as outlined in the stormwater credit manual. However, the participants are required to submit an application every three years, along with evidence of their systems being in good working order. If the necessary documentation is not provided by March 29, 2024, their credits will be revoked.
- The Engineering Division is still actively pursuing finding an assistant city engineer.

City Engineer Eavenson concluded her report.

3. Director of Finance:

April Wilkerson, the Finance Director, requested the inclusion of an emergency clause to ensure that the Finance Department has the required resources to fulfill their responsibilities for 2024-5 and 2024-6.

4. Other Reports:

There was none.

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 Awig 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:

2024-4 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE ZONING MAP OF THE CITY OF NORTH RIDGEVILLE SUCH THAT PERMANENT PARCEL NUMBER 07-00-023-101-074 LOCATED AT 8371 AVON BELDEN ROAD BE REZONED FROM R-1 RESIDENCE DISTRICT TO I-2 LIGHT INDUSTRIAL DISTRICT.
(Introduced by Mayor Corcoran)

This Ordinance moved to second readings.

Clerk of Council Nicholas Ciofani:

2024-5 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 878.01 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF NORTH RIDGEVILLE, OHIO TO CLARIFY THE GENERAL INCORPORATION PROVISION OF SECTION 878.01(c).
(Introduced by Mayor Corcoran)

Moved by DeVries and seconded by Awig to dispense with the second and third readings for 2024-5.

A voice vote was taken and the motion carried.

Yes – 7 No – 0

Moved by DeVries and seconded by Awig to add the emergency clause to stay in compliance and provide the Finance Department with the financial resources to fulfill their responsibilities.

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

Yes – 7 No – 0

Moved by DeVries and seconded by Awig to adopt 2024-5 with the emergency clause.

A roll call vote was taken on the adoption, with the emergency, and the motion carried for **Ordinance Number 2024-5.**

Yes – 7 No – 0

Clerk of Council Nicholas Ciofani:

2024-6 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NUMBER 6043-2023 OF THE CITY OF NORTH RIDGEVILLE, OHIO, PROVIDING APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE PERIOD COMMENCING JANUARY 1, 2023, AND ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2023.
(Introduced by Mayor Corcoran)

Moved by DeVries and seconded by Awig to dispense with the second and third readings for 2024-6.

A voice vote was taken and the motion carried.

Yes – 7 No – 0

Moved by DeVries and seconded by Awig to add the emergency clause to provide the Department of Finance with the resources necessary to meet its obligations.

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

Yes – 7 No – 0

Moved by DeVries and seconded by Awig to adopt 2024-6 with the emergency clause.

A roll call vote was taken on the adoption, with the emergency, and the motion carried for **Ordinance Number 2024-6.**

Yes – 7 No – 0

SECOND READINGS:

Clerk of Council Nicholas Ciofani:

2024-3 AN ORDINANCE VACATING A PORTION OF PLEASANT AVENUE.
(Introduced by Mayor Corcoran; Formerly known as T 146-2023 for referral to Planning Commission on 12-12-2023 and First Reading on 12-18-2023)

Moved by Jacobs and seconded by Winkel to table 2024-3 until the February 5, 2024 meeting to allow time for the public hearing to be scheduled.

A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried.

Yes – 7 No – 0

This ordinance was moved to third reading.

THIRD READINGS:

Clerk of Council Nicholas Ciofani:

2024-1 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF NORTH RIDGEVILLE TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS AND ENTER INTO CONTRACT ACCORDING TO LAW AND IN A MANNER PRESCRIBED BY LAW WITH THE LOWEST AND BEST BIDDER FOR THE MADDOCK ROAD BOX CULVERT OVER WATSON DITCH AND OTHER APPURTENANCES IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$440,000.00.
(Introduced by Mayor Corcoran; Formerly known as T 135-2023 for First Reading on 12-04-2023 and Second Reading on 12-18-2023)

Moved by Swenk and seconded by Abens to adopt 2024-1.

A roll call vote was taken on the adoption, with the emergency, and the motion carried for **Ordinance number 2024-1.**

Yes – 7 No – 0

Clerk of Council Nicholas Ciofani:

2024-2 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE ZONING MAP OF THE CITY OF NORTH RIDGEVILLE SUCH THAT PERMANENT PARCEL NUMBERS 07-00-046-108-012 AND 07-00-046-108-113 LOCATED AT 39097 CENTER RIDGE ROAD BE REZONED FROM B-3 HIGHWAY COMMERCIAL DISTRICT TO I-2 LIGHT INDUSTRIAL DISTRICT.
(Introduced on the floor by Mayor Corcoran; Formerly known as T 140-2023 for First Reading on 12-04-2023, referral to Planning Commission on 12-12-2023, and Second Reading on 12-18-2023 in Special Meeting)

Moved by Swenk and seconded by Abens to adopt 2024-2.

A roll call vote was taken on the adoption, and the motion carried for **Ordinance number 2024-2.**

Yes – 7 No – 0

MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS:

President Jacobs noted the following:

1. The next Regular Council meeting will be on Tuesday, January 16, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers in observance of the Martin Luther King Holiday.

ADJOURNMENT:

President Jacobs adjourned the meeting at 7:52 p.m.

Approval of minutes on January 16, 2024:



Jason Jacobs
PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL



Nicholas Ciofani
CLERK OF COUNCIL