

**NORTH RIDGEVILLE CITY COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
November 6, 2023**

CALL TO ORDER:

President Jacobs called the Monday, November 6, 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 October 16, 2023. No discussion was offered.

The meeting minutes stand approved as submitted.

President Jacobs noted the following.:

Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes dated September 27, 2023
Building and Lands Committee Meeting Minutes dated October 16, 2023
Board of Zoning and Building Appeals Commission Meeting Minutes dated October 26, 2023
Finance Committee Budget Meeting Minutes dated November 14, 2022, November 16, 2022 and
November 17, 2022

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.

General Comments

Mr. J.D. Gontkovsky, residing at 34823 Cambridge Drive, encouraged everyone to go vote, and he encouraged everyone to donate blood because there was a blood shortage.

T 111-2023 Community Reinvestment Area (CRA) No. 14

Tara Rose, Attorney at Hahn Loeser & Parks Attorney Office, is speaking on behalf of North Ridgeville Technology Group. Ms. Rose requested the City Council to dispense with the third reading for Resolution T 111-2023 and adopt T 111-2023. T 111-2023 is an amendment to an existing CRA agreement due to the property ownership change. Ms. Rose added her client no longer owns the lot that was complained about, but did not contact the new owner to handle the lawn issues for the property.

ADMINISTRATORS REPORTS:

1. Mayor:

Mayor Corcoran remarked the following.:

- Under first readings, he would be requesting emergency passage on several pieces of legislation.
- Election Day, Tuesday, November 7, 2023. Polling locations are open from 6:30 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. There are many decisions for voters to make at the state, county, and local levels. Here in the city, He encouraged everyone to get out and vote. Residents could visit the Lorain County Board of Elections website for a complete listing of candidates and issues at voteloraincountyohio.gov.
- City Hall Offices Closed – Veterans Day - City Hall Offices will be closed on Friday, November 10, 2023, in observance of Veterans Day on Saturday, November 11, 2023. He thanked the men and women who have served in the U.S. armed forces.
- 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.
- Coffee & Conversation – He invited residents to his monthly coffee and conversation that is scheduled on Monday, November 13, 2023, from 8:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.

Moved by Mayor Corcoran and seconded by Abens to suspend the bylaws and add T 123-2023 to First Readings.

A voice 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 traffic paint stripping, full depth concrete pavement replacement, and catch basin repair projects are all complete.
- The Engineering department continues to persuade property owners to get into compliance with the EPA backload program.
- Encouraged everyone to drive past the new Police Station to see the construction.
- T 117-2023 – Engineering is requesting additional funds for the design services for the Mills Creek Conservation and Flood Control Project.

City Engineer Eavenson concluded her report.

3. Director of Finance:

Finance Director April Wilkerson requested the emergency clause to provide the Finance Department with the necessary resources to meet their obligations for the following.:

- T 120-2023, an ordinance requesting an additional fund transfer for the DUI Task Force Grant,
- T 121-2023, appropriation request for invoices, and
- T 122-2023, an ordinance amending the annual appropriations.

Finance Director Wilkerson concluded her report.

President Jacobs noted the following.:

September 2023 Financial Report

4. Other Reports:

President Jacobs noted the following report:

September 2023 Parks and Recreation Division Report

October 2023 Building Division Report

October 2023 Fire Department Report

COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORT(S):

BUILDING & LANDS COMMITTEE REPORT dated October 16, 2023 – The committee reviewed and considered T 97-2023. The Committee made a motion to send T 97-2023 back to the City Council for consideration.

(Council action required)

Moved by Winkel and seconded by Awig to accept the Building and Lands Committee Report dated October 16, 2023.

A voice vote was taken and the motion carried.

Yes – 7 No – 0

CORRESPONDENCE:

There was none.

OLD BUSINESS:

There was none.

NEW BUSINESS:

Board of Drainage & Flood Control Appointment:

Councilman Toth noted that Michael Borow resigned from the boards and he thanked him for his service. Mr. Toth spoke highly of Ellis S. Stevens.

Ward 2 Representative (vote required)

Motion to approve Ellis S. Stevens as Board of Drainage & Flood Control Ward 2 representative to an unexpired term expiring on December 31, 2023.

(Michael Borow resigned from the Board of Drainage & Flood Control on October 23, 2023.)

Moved by Toth and seconded by DeVries to appoint Ellis S. Stevens as Board of Drainage & Flood Control Ward 2 representative to an unexpired term expiring on December 31, 2023

A voice vote was taken and the motion carried.

Yes – 7 No – 0

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:

T 115-2023 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE NUMBERING SYSTEM FOR THE CITY OF NORTH RIDGEVILLE LEGISLATION STARTING IN THE YEAR 2024.

(Introduced by Councilman Jacobs)

This ordinance was referred to the Administrative Committee for further discussion.

Clerk of Council Nicholas Ciofani:

T 116-2023 AN ORDINANCE IMPOSING A MORATORIUM ON THE GRANTING OF PERMITS AND ON THE ACCEPTANCE OF PLANNING COMMISSION APPLICATIONS FOR TRUCK TERMINALS AS LISTED IN SECTION 1268.02 PERMITTED AND CONDITIONAL USES OF THE NORTH RIDGEVILLE CODIFIED ORDINANCES FOR A PERIOD NOT TO EXCEED 180 DAYS FROM THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS ORDINANCE, IN ORDER TO ALLOW THE PLANNING COMMISSION AND COUNCIL TO CONSIDER POSSIBLE CHANGES TO USE REGULATIONS IN THE B-3 HIGHWAY COMMERCIAL DISTRICT.
(Introduced by Mayor Corcoran)

Moved by Mayor Corcoran and seconded by Abens to dispense with the second and third readings for T 116-2023.

Mayor Corcoran explained that there are few parties zoned for B3 and it at come to the Administration's attention that most of the properties might not be a good use for truck terminals.

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 allow the Planning Commission and Council to consider possible changes to use regulations in the B-3 highway commercial district.

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 116-2023 with the emergency clause.

A roll call vote was taken on the adoption, with the emergency, and the motion carried. T 116-2023 becomes **Ordinance number 6108-2023**.
Yes – 7 No – 0

Clerk of Council Nicholas Ciofani:

T 117-2023 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE 5961-2022 WHICH AUTHORIZED THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH A CONSULTING ENGINEERING FIRM FOR ADDITIONAL DESIGN SERVICES FOR THE MILLS CREEK CONSERVATION AND FLOOD CONTROL PROJECT, BY INCREASING THE PRIOR APPROVED AMOUNT OF \$420,000.00 TO \$507,500.00.
(Introduced by Mayor Corcoran)

Moved by Mayor Corcoran and seconded by Awig to dispense with the second and third readings for T 117-2023.

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 for the project to be completed and avoid any potential delays.

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 117-2023 with the emergency clause.

A roll call vote was taken on the adoption, with the emergency, and the motion carried. T 117-2023 becomes **Ordinance number 6109-2023**.

Yes – 7 No – 0

Clerk of Council Nicholas Ciofani:

T 118-2023 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE 6104-2023 WHICH AUTHORIZED THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF NORTH RIDGEVILLE TO ENTER INTO CONTRACTS WITH SIX (6) INDIVIDUAL PROPERTY OWNERS WHOSE PROPERTIES SURROUND THE INTERSECTION OF AVON BELDEN ROAD (SR 83) AND CHESTNUT RIDGE ROAD FOR THE PURCHASE OF PERMANENT AND TEMPORARY RIGHT-OF-WAY FOR THE ROUNDABOUT IMPROVEMENT, PLUS ANY ADDITIONAL COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE EXECUTION OF THESE CONTRACTS.
(Introduced by Mayor Corcoran)

Moved by Mayor Corcoran and seconded by DeVries to dispense with the second and third readings for T 118-2023.

Mayor Corcoran explained there was an amendment to one of the properties purchased price. It increased by \$1300.

Councilman Abens wanted to know if the City was able to get all of the properties needed for the roundabout project.

Mayor Corcoran explained there is one property that the City is trying to acquire and they are not able to because the owners passed away. The City is going through the proper channels, like advertising a legal notice in the newspaper, to obtain the properties.

A voice vote was taken and the motion carried.

Yes – 7 No – 0

Moved by Mayor Corcoran and seconded by DeVries to add the emergency clause to obtain ownership of the property and move the project forward.

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

Yes – 7 No – 0

Moved by Mayor Corcoran and seconded by DeVries to adopt T 118-2023 with the emergency clause.

A roll call vote was taken on the adoption, with the emergency, and the motion carried. T 118-2023 becomes **Ordinance number 6110-2023**.

Yes – 7 No – 0

Clerk of Council Nicholas Ciofani:

T 119-2023 A RESOLUTION TO PROCEED WITH ELECTION ON THE QUESTION OF A RENEWAL TAX IN EXCESS OF THE TEN-MILL LIMITATION FOR CURRENT EXPENSES OF THE LORAIN PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEM, INCLUDING THE OPERATION OF A BRANCH LIBRARY LOCATED IN THE CITY OF NORTH RIDGEVILLE.
(Introduced by Mayor Corcoran)

Moved by President Jacobs and seconded by Winkel to amend T 119-2023 with the levy calculations from the County Auditor's.

A voice vote was taken and the motion carried.

Yes – 7 No – 0

Moved by Mayor Corcoran and seconded by Awig to dispense with the second and third readings for T 119-2023 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 for the immediate preservation of the public health, safety, and welfare of the City, and for the further reason that this resolution must be effective immediately so that it can be timely filed with the County Auditor and additional proceedings taken in order to submit the question of the levy to the electors at an election on March 19, 2024.

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 119-2023 Amended with the emergency clause.

A roll call vote was taken on the adoption, with the emergency, and the motion carried. T 119-2023 Amended becomes **Resolution number 1617-2023.**

Yes – 7 No – 0

Clerk of Council Nicholas Ciofani:

T 120-2023 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING FUND TRANSFERS.
(Introduced by Mayor Corcoran)

Moved by DeVries and seconded by Awig to dispense with the second and third readings for T 120-2023.

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 T 120-2023 with the emergency clause.

A roll call vote was taken on the adoption, with the emergency, and the motion carried. T 120-2023 becomes **Resolution number 1618-2023**.

Yes – 7 No – 0

Clerk of Council Nicholas Ciofani:

T 121-2023 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF THEN AND NOW CERTIFICATES BY THE CITY FISCAL OFFICER AND THE PAYMENT OF AMOUNTS DUE FOR VARIOUS PURCHASE ORDERS.
(Introduced by Mayor Corcoran)

Moved by DeVries and seconded by Abens to dispense with the second and third readings for T 121-2023.

A voice vote was taken and the motion carried.

Yes – 7 No – 0

Moved by DeVries and seconded by Abens 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 Abens to adopt T 121-2023 with the emergency clause.

A roll call vote was taken on the adoption, with the emergency, and the motion carried. T 121-2023 becomes **Resolution number 1619-2023**.

Yes – 7 No – 0

Clerk of Council Nicholas Ciofani:

T 122-2023 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NUMBER 6031-2022 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 Abens to dispense with the second and third readings for T 122-2023.

A voice vote was taken and the motion carried.

Yes – 7 No – 0

Moved by DeVries and seconded by Abens 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 Abens to adopt T 122-2023 with the emergency clause.

A roll call vote was taken on the adoption, with the emergency, and the motion carried. T 122-2023 becomes **Ordinance number 6111-2023**.
Yes – 7 No – 0

Clerk of Council Nicholas Ciofani:

T 123-2023 A RESOLUTION SUBMITTING TO THE ELECTORS OF THE CITY OF NORTH RIDGEVILLE THE QUESTION OF RENEWING AN EXISTING 2.25-MILL TAX LEVY FOR FIVE (5) YEARS FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING FOR AMBULANCE SERVICE AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL CARE AND TO MAINTAIN A PARAMEDIC PROGRAM AND TO EQUIP AND TO OPERATE THE SAME FOR THAT PURPOSE, PURSUANT TO SECTIONS 5705.19(U) AND 5705.191 OF THE REVISED CODE, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.
(Introduced by Mayor Corcoran on the floor)

Moved by Mayor Corcoran and seconded by Winkel to dispense with the second and third readings for T 123-2023.

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 for the immediate preservation of the public health, safety, and welfare of the City, and for the further reason that this resolution must be effective immediately so that it can be timely filed with the County Auditor and additional proceedings taken in order to submit the question of the levy to the electors at an election on March 19, 2024.

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 123-2023 with the emergency clause.

A roll call vote was taken on the adoption, with the emergency, and the motion carried. T 123-2023 Amended becomes **Resolution number 1620-2023**.
Yes – 7 No – 0

SECOND READINGS:

Clerk of Council Nicholas Ciofani:

T 111-2023 **Amended** A RESOLUTION AMENDING RESOLUTION NO. 1568-2022, WHICH AMENDED A PREVIOUSLY APPROVED AND RATIFIED APPLICATION FOR TAX INCENTIVE IN COMMUNITY REINVESTMENT AREA NO. 14 FOR YOUNG EXPLORERS MONTESSORI. **(Introduced by Mayor Corcoran; First Reading on October 16, 2023)**

Moved by President Jacobs and seconded by Swenk to dispense with the third reading for T 111-2023 Amended.

A voice vote was taken and the motion carried.

Yes – 7 No – 0

Moved by President Jacobs and seconded by Winkel to add the emergency clause being the immediate necessity for the property owner to continue the sale of their business.

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

Yes – 7 No – 0

Moved by Winkel and seconded by Awig to adopt T 111-2023 Amended with the emergency clause.

A roll call vote was taken on the adoption, with the emergency, and the motion carried. T 111-2023 Amended becomes **Resolution number 1621-2023.**

Yes – 7 No – 0

Clerk of Council Nicholas Ciofani:

T 113-2023 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 6044-2023, WHICH AUTHORIZED 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 CONSTRUCTION OF A SLUDGE PROCESSING/ STORAGE BUILDING FOR THE FRENCH CREEK WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT, BY INCREASING THE AMOUNT FROM \$900,000.00 TO \$1,300,000.00. **(Introduced by Mayor Corcoran; First Reading on October 16, 2023)**

Moved by Mayor Corcoran and seconded by Winkel to dispense with the third reading for T 113-2023.

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 to go back out to bid to construct a sludge processing/storage building for the safety of the public

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 113-2023 Amended with the emergency clause.

A roll call vote was taken on the adoption, with the emergency, and the motion carried. T 113-2023 Amended becomes **Ordinance number 6112-2023**.

Yes - 7 No - 0

THIRD READINGS:

Clerk of Council Nicholas Ciofani:

T 101-2023 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING N.R.C.O. CHAPTER 264 CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION.
(Introduced by Mayor Corcoran; First Reading on October 02, 2023; Second Reading on October 16, 2023)

Moved by Swenk and seconded by Winkel to adopt T 101-2023.

Mayor Corcoran explained this legislation is to add lateral transfers in the Fire Department for the future.

A roll call vote was taken on the adoption, and the motion carried. T 101-2023 Amended becomes **Ordinance number 6113-2023**.

Yes - 7 No - 0

MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS:

President Jacobs noted the following:

1. The next Regular Council meeting will be on Monday, November 20, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers.
2. The next Finance Committee Meeting will be on Tuesday, November 14, 2023, at 9:30 a.m., Wednesday, November 15, 2023, at 9:00 a.m., and Thursday, November 16, 2023, at 9:00 a.m. in Council Chambers to discuss the 2024 budget.

ADJOURNMENT:

President Jacobs adjourned the meeting at 7:40 p.m.

Approval of minutes on November 20, 2023:



Jason Jacobs
PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL



Nicholas Ciofani
CLERK OF COUNCIL