

**NORTH RIDGEVILLE CITY COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
December 4, 2023**

CALL TO ORDER:

President Jacobs called the Monday, December 4, 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:

1. President Jacobs asked if there were any corrections to the Public Hearing Meeting Minutes dated November 6, 2023, and the City Council Meeting Minutes dated November 20, 2023. No discussion was offered.

The meeting minutes stand approved as submitted.

President Jacobs mentioned the minutes as follows:

Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes dated October 25, 2023
Civil Service Commission Meeting Minutes dated November 8, 2023
Administrative Committee Meeting Minutes dated November 20, 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.

T 134-2023 - AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH WILLIAM D. FARVER AND CHERYL A. FARVER FOR THE PURCHASE OF REAL PROPERTY.

J.D. Gontkovsky, a resident of 34823 Cambridge Drive, expressed his support for T 134-2023. This legislation would enable the city to acquire property in order to preserve land for commercial or industrial

purposes. Mr. Gontkovsky believed that increasing commercial and industrial development would benefit the city.

T 132-2023 - Confirming Rule of 3

Shellie Kearsey, who resides at 37886 Stoney Lake Drive, inquired about the expense of an impartial investigation for the Police Department. Kearsey expressed her reservations about the Rule of 3 proposal put forth by the Mayor. She stated that the Mayor does not have the training in safety forces and believed that the individual responsible for selecting officers should possess relevant experience. Kearsey emphasized the importance of providing Police Officers with leadership opportunities and urged the City Council to show their support for them.

ADMINISTRATORS REPORTS:

1. Mayor:

Mayor Corcoran remarked the following.:

- Under first readings, he would be requesting emergency passage on several pieces of legislation.
 - T 132-2023, T 133-2023, T 134-2023, and T 136-2023.
- 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 as well as the nine workshops being held throughout Lorain County. The outreach would be held in North Ridgeville at the Sandy Ridge Reservation on Tuesday, December 5, 2023, from 10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.
- Master Plan Steering Committee Meeting – The Master Plan Steering Committee is scheduled to meet this Wednesday, December 6, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. in the Police Department Training Room. For more information, including agenda, visit the City's website at nridgeville.org.
- Coffee & Conversation is on Wednesday, December 13, 2023, from 8:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. in Council Chambers for my monthly coffee and conversation. This is a great way to get questions answered or hear what others are asking and to get updates on city projects and more.
- Holiday Wreath Donations – Mayor Corcoran extended a heartfelt thank you to the Starting Line Church in North Ridgeville for the donation of nine handmade holiday wreaths that were displayed proudly throughout City Hall and in Council Chambers. He appreciated their thoughtfulness and their creativity.
- Mayor Corcoran reported that the Holiday on the Ridge event and the treelighting ceremony had a successful turnout and received positive feedback from local businesses.

Moved by Mayor Corcoran and seconded by Swenk to suspend the bylaws to add T 140-2023 under first readings.

A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried.

Yes – 7

No – 0

Moved by Mayor Corcoran and seconded by Swenk to suspend the bylaws to add T 115-2023 under second readings.

A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried.

Yes – 7 No – 0

Moved by Mayor Corcoran and seconded by Swenk to remove T 97-2023 by tabling the legislation until the survey is received for the vacate of Elm Street.

A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried.

Yes – 7 No – 0

- Life Saving Award - Mayor Corcoran invited Lt. Pat West to present a life Saving Award to Patrolman Chad Siebeneck.

Lt. West clarified that the award is given to an officer or employee whose actions contributed to the preservation of life to the extent that the victim was able to be transferred to medical authorities. It is possible for the recipient to receive the award even if the victim passes away later on. The nominations are carefully reviewed by a committee comprised of command and patrol officers, who reviews the nomination and vote on whether it should be upheld, modified, or rejected. In this particular instance, the committee agreed to uphold the award Chad Siebeneck.

Moved by Mayor Corcoran and seconded by Swenk to go into an Executive Session to consider the purchase of property and to conderence 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 7:16 p.m.

Reconvened into the Regular Council meeting at 8:35 p.m.

Mayor Corcoran concluded his report.

2. Engineer:

City Engineer Christina Eavenson provided the following updates:

- The Engineering Department has scheduled a project to replace at least 36 fire hydrants and their corresponding valves across the city.
- Ordinance 135-2023 authorizes the Engineering Department to proceed with the advertising of a specific project for the construction of a new box culvert over the Watson Ditch on Maddock Road, located north of the turnpike bridge. The current three-sided culvert, which was constructed around 1950, has experienced significant deterioration. The project has been granted funds from the Ohio Public Works Commission (OPWC) in the form of a \$335,000 grant and a \$64,000 loan.

- The Engineering Department recently issued letters to all commercial property owners, approximately 45 properties, notifying them that their storm water credits on their monthly utility bill may be in jeopardy if they do not apply for the credit by March 29, 2024. The application can be found in the storm water utility manual or on the Engineering Department's homepage. Businesses can contact the Engineering Department to obtain a copy of the application and qualify for the credit. To be eligible, certain requirements must be met, including confirming the proper functioning of all storm water management controls, and submitting a \$170 application fee.

City Engineer Eavenson concluded her report.

3. Director of Finance:

President Jacobs noted the following report:

October 2023 Financial Report

4. Other Reports:

President Jacobs noted the following report:

October 2023 Parks and Recreation Division Report

COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORT(S):

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE REPORT dated November 20, 2023 – The committee reviewed and considered T 115-2023. The Committee made a motion to send T 115-2023 back to the City Council for consideration.

(Council action required)

Moved by Abens and seconded by Winkel to accept the Administrative Committee Report dated November 20, 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:

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:

T 133-2023 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF NORTH RIDGEVILLE TO ENTER INTO AN AMENDED AGREEMENT WITH THE CITY OF AVON REGARDING SANITARY SEWER USE AND TAP-IN FEES FOR COUNTRYSIDE ESTATES #1 (FORMERLY KNOWN AS WYANDOTT SUBDIVISION #2) OF J & R LAND COMPANY.
(Introduced by Mayor Corcoran)

Moved by Mayor Corcoran and seconded by Abens to dispense with the second and third readings for T 133-2023.

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 start collecting the required fee.

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 133-2023 with the emergency clause.

A roll call vote was taken on the adoption, with the emergency, and the motion carried. T 133-2023 becomes **Ordinance number 6118-2023**.

Yes – 7 No – 0

Clerk of Council Nicholas Ciofani:

T 134-2023 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH WILLIAM D. FARVER AND CHERYL A. FARVER FOR THE PURCHASE OF REAL PROPERTY.
(Introduced by Mayor Corcoran)

Moved by Mayor Corcoran and seconded by Swenk to dispense with the second and third readings for T 134-2023.

Mayor Corcoran provided an explanation that the purpose of acquiring the property is to explore opportunities for expanding the industrial sector and attracting more businesses to the city. There were two residential developments that approached the owner as well.

A voice vote was taken and the motion carried.

Yes – 7 No – 0

Moved by Mayor Corcoran and seconded by Swenk to add the emergency clause to obtain possession of land for the 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 Swenk to adopt T 134-2023 with the emergency clause.

A roll call vote was taken on the adoption, with the emergency, and the motion carried. T 134-2023 becomes **Ordinance number 6119-2023.**

Yes – 7 No – 0

Clerk of Council Nicholas Ciofani:

T 135-2023 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)

This ordinance was moved to second reading.

Clerk of Council Nicholas Ciofani:

T 136-2023 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH THE CITY OF ELYRIA FOR SANITARY SEWER SERVICE AT TAYLOR STREET.

(Introduced by Mayor Corcoran)

Moved by Mayor Corcoran and seconded by Winkel to dispense with the second and third readings for T 136-2023.

A voice vote was taken and the motion carried.

Yes – 7 No – 0

Moved by Mayor Corcoran and seconded by Winkel to to secure the contract prior to the end of the year.

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 136-2023 with the emergency clause.

A roll call vote was taken on the adoption, with the emergency, and the motion carried. T 136-2023 becomes **Ordinance number 6120-2023.**

Yes – 7 No – 0

Clerk of Council Nicholas Ciofani:

T 137-2023 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING EXHIBITS A, B, AND C OF ORDINANCE NUMBER 6065-2023 BY UPDATING FULL AND PART-TIME CLASSIFICATIONS AND SECTION 8 VACATION.

(Introduced by Mayor Corcoran)

This ordinance was moved to second reading.

Clerk of Council Nicholas Ciofani:

T 138-2023 AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING APPROPRIATIONS FOR CURRENT EXPENSES AND OTHER EXPENDITURES OF THE CITY OF NORTH RIDGEVILLE, OHIO, FOR THE PERIOD COMMENCING JANUARY 1, 2024 AND ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2024.
(Introduced by Mayor Corcoran)

Moved by DeVries and seconded by Awig to dispense with the second and third readings for T 138-2023.

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 necessary financial resources for the year 2024 and submit to the Lorain County Auditor's Office.

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 138-2023 with the emergency clause.

A roll call vote was taken on the adoption, with the emergency, and the motion carried. T 138-2023 becomes **Ordinance number 6121-2023.**

Yes – 7 No – 0

Clerk of Council Nicholas Ciofani:

T 139-2023 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 Awig to amend T 139-2023 with the correct caculation from the Director or Finance on December 1, 2023.

A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried.

Yes – 7 No – 0

Moved by DeVries and seconded by Awig to dispense with the second and third readings for T 139-2023 Amended.

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 necessary financial resources for payment in a timely manner.

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 139-2023 Amended with the emergency clause.

A roll call vote was taken on the adoption, with the emergency, and the motion carried. T 139-2023 becomes **Ordinance number 6122-2023**.

Yes – 7 No – 0

Clerk of Council Nicholas Ciofani:

T 140-2023 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 Councilman Mayor Corcoran)

This ordinance was moved to second reading.

SECOND READINGS:

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 Abens; First Reading on 11-06-2023)

This ordinance was moved to third reading.

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; First Reading on 11-20-2023)

This ordinance was moved to third 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; First Reading on 11-20-2023)

Moved by President Jacobs and seconded by DeVries to dispense with the third reading for T 125-2023.

A voice vote was taken and the motion carried.

Yes – 7 No – 0

Moved by President Jacobs and seconded by DeVries to add the emergency clause being 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 President Jacobs and seconded by DeVries to adopt T 125-2023 with the emergency clause.

A roll call vote was taken on the adoption, with the emergency, and the motion carried. T 125-2023 becomes **Ordinance number 6123-2023**.

Yes – 7 No – 0

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; First Reading on 11-20-2023)

Moved by Swenk and seconded by Awig to dispense with the third reading for T 126-2023.

A voice vote was taken and the motion carried.

Yes – 7 No – 0

Moved by Swenk and seconded by Awig to add the emergency clause being the immediate necessity to update the codified ordinance 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 Swenk and seconded by Awig to adopt T 126-2023 with the emergency clause.

A roll call vote was taken on the adoption, with the emergency, and the motion carried. T 126-2023 becomes **Ordinance number 6124-2023**.

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; First Reading on 11-20-2023)

This ordinance was moved to third reading.

THIRD READINGS:

Clerk of Council Nicholas Ciofani:

Clerk notes: T 97-2023 was removed from the agenda and tabled.

MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS:

President Jacobs noted the following:

1. The next Regular Council meeting will be on Monday, December 18, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers.

President Jacobs thanked Lt. West for the presentation and thanked Patrolman Chad Siebeneck for his bravery.

ADJOURNMENT:

President Jacobs adjourned the meeting at 9:01 p.m.

Approval of minutes on December 18, 2023:



Jason Jacobs
PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL



Nicholas Ciofani
CLERK OF COUNCIL