

**NORTH RIDGEVILLE CITY COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
April 17, 2023**

CALL TO ORDER:

President Jacobs called the Monday, April 17, 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, Dennis Boose, President Pro-Tem Bruce Abens, Clifford Winkel, Martin DeVries, and Georgia Awig.

Also present were 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 April 3, 2023. No discussion was offered. The meeting minutes stand approved as submitted.

President Jacobs noted the following report:

Safety Committee Meeting Minutes Dated February 21, 2023
Civil Service Commission Meeting Minutes Dated March 27, 2023
Planning Commission Meeting Minutes Dated March 28, 2023

LOBBY:

No lobby session.

ADMINISTRATORS REPORTS:

1. Mayor:

Mayor Corocran remarked the following.:

- Presented an Oath of Office to the following people for the North Ridgeville Fire Department.:
 - New Firefighters/Paramedics:
 - Richard Kenney
 - Noah Tanzilli
 - New Lieutenants:

- Christopher Federan
- Justin Silvi
- New Captain:
 - Alex Shear

Moved by Mayor Corcoran and seconded by Winkel to go into executive session to discuss the hiring of personnel.

A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried.

Yes – 7 No – 0

Adjourned into Executive Session at 7:15 p.m.

Reconvened into the Regular Council meeting at 7:49 p.m

- An emergency passage for the following.:

Requested an emergency passage for T 39-2023, T 40-2023, T 41-2023, and T 42-2023 to purchase pieces of equipment before the warm months start. The equipment is needed for the upcoming season.

Requested an emergency passage for T 43-2023 to support federal legislation to protect the residents of the City of North Ridgeville from the inherent dangers of a train derailment on the tracks located at or near the City of North Ridgeville.

Requested an emergency passage for T 44-2023 to amend appropriation.

Requested an emergency passage for T 45-2023, a resolution authorizing the Mayor to make an application to Lorain County for Community Development Block Grant Funds for the Luanne Drive, Carolyn Drive, and Monica Drive resurfacing project. The application deadline is April 20, 2023.

Requested an emergency passage for T 46-2023, a resolution authorizing the Mayor to make an application to the Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency (NOACA) for congestion mitigation air quality funds for the Sugar Ridge Road/Bender Road roundabout project. The NOACA application deadline is May 5, 2023.

- Parks & Recreation Commission Appointments:

Moved by Mayor Corcoran and seconded by Boose to reappoint Keri Roach to the Parks & Recreation Commission expiring on April 1, 2026.

A voice vote was taken and the motion carried.

Yes – 7 No – 0

Mayor Corcoran remarked that Keri Roach has done an outstanding job on the Commission and we appreciate her time and talents. This is her second term.

Moved by Mayor Corcoran and seconded by Boose to appoint Jillian (Jill) Timoteo to the Parks & Recreation Commission expiring on January 21, 2026.

A voice vote was taken and the motion carried.

Yes – 7 No – 0

Mayor Corocran remarked that Ms. Timoteo would be filling the vacancy left by Jessica Shuleva who did a phenomenal job during her three-year term. He publicly thanked Ms. Shuleva for her time spent on the commission. Mayor Corcoran added that Jill Timoteo is the program director for the Help Me Grow Home Visiting Program at the Achievement Centers for Children in Westlake. Ms. Timoteo has been a resident of North Ridgeville for nine years and has two children. She and her children utilize city parks and have also participated in the Parks & Recreation activities and programs. Ms. Timoteo would be a great asset to the Parks & Recreation Commission.

- Remarked that Lorain County is in the process of updating its transportation plan. Sharon Pearson, Lorain County Mobility Manager, would be conducting a focus group on April 24, 2023, from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m., at the Senior Center. All are invited to attend to share their opinions and views of transportation in the community and how they could help make it better.
- Announced that the Master Plan Steering Committee is meeting on April 26, 2023, at 6:00 p.m., at the Senior Center. The meeting is open to the public. He encouraged anyone interested to attend to learn more about the evolving new master plan.
- Encouraged the residents to mark their calendars for the Senior Center Spaghetti Dinner on Friday, April 28, 2023, from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. The cost is \$8 for adults; \$7 for seniors and \$5 for children 10 & under. Dine-in or take-out is available. Mayor Corocran thanked Liston Funeral Home for sponsoring this event.
- Added that the North Ridgeville Community Garden is now accepting registrations for this year's growing season. The garden is located at the roundabout on Chestnut Ridge Road and Alternate SR 83. There are 94 plots available on a first-come first-served basis. Registrations are accepted starting May 12, 2023, and until all plots are reserved. The registration form and details are available on the City's website at nridgeville.org.
- Remarked that NOPEC has announced eligible residents and small business owners would be receiving natural gas and electric enrollment letters for the community's energy aggregation programs through NOPEC for the period beginning with customers' June 2023 meter read dates. NOPEC would be conducting informational meetings, virtual and in-person. The nearest in-person meeting to North Ridgeville is in Elyria at the Elyria Public Library Central Branch on April 18, 2023, from 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Residents could find this information on the City's website at nridgeville.org or on NOPEC's website at nopec.org/letter.

Mayor Corocran concluded his report.

2. Engineer:

Engineer Eavenson provided the following updates.:

- Added that the City would be delaying the replacement of the Chestnut Ridge Road bridge over the Dixon ditch east of Root Road to revisit the designs to allow pedestrian traffic.
- The Board of Drainage and Flood Control has a scheduled meeting on Tuesday, April 25, 2023, at 7:00 p.m., in the Mayor's Conference Room to review the major stormwater maintenance items of 2022 that the City of North Ridgeville Service Department has completed.

Engineer Eavenson concluded her report.

3. Director of Finance:

No Director of Finance Report.

4. Other Reports:

President Jacobs noted the following reports:

March 2023 Building Department Report
March 2023 Police Department Report
March 2023 Fire Department Report

COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORT(S):

There was none.

CORRESPONDENCE:

There was none.

OLD BUSINESS:

There was none.

NEW BUSINESS:

Clerk of Council Nicholas Ciofani:

- 1. PPZ2023-0172: Harvest Ridge Church, 35600 Lorain Rd, PPN 07-00-024-101-114, 07-00-024-101-109, 07-00-024-101-107**

Proposal consists of constructing a new pavilion and sand volleyball court. Property zoned R-1 Residence District.

PC ACTION: Approved by a vote of 3-1

Moved by Abens and seconded by Swenk to approve the Planning Commission action for the Harvest Ridge Church project.

A voice vote was taken and the motion carried.

Yes – 7 No – 0

2. PPZ2023-0174: Victory Park Cabins, Victory Lane, PPN 07-00-003-102-091, 07-00-003-102-090

Applicant: Joe Boo Entertainment LLC, Joe Borkey, 9091 Hilo Farm Dr, Mentor, OH 44060.

Proposal consists of constructing cabins and a RV campground facility. Property zoned B-4 Commercial Parkway District.

PC ACTION: Approved by a vote of 4-0 (Similar use determination)

PC ACTION: Approved by a vote of 4-0 (Plans)

Councilman Abens explained that the project would enhance the Victory Park tournament process and allow some of the teams to camp there during the weekends for tournaments. They would not be constructing cabins they would be putting in modular cabins.

Moved by Abens and seconded by Swenk to approve the Planning Commission action for the Victory Park Cabins project.

A voice vote was taken and the motion carried.

Yes – 7 No – 0

3. PPZ2023-0177: Victory Sports Park Storage Garage, 7777 Victory Lane, PPN 07-00-003-102-107

Owner: City of North Ridgeville. Applicant: PMJ Park Holdings LLC, Joe Borkey, 9091 Hilo Farm Dr, Mentor, OH 44060. Proposal consists of constructing a new storage garage. Property zoned I-2 Light Industrial.

PC ACTION: Approved by a vote of 4-0

Councilman Abens remarked that the organization is replacing three storage containers to improve and enhance its operation.

Moved by Abens and seconded by Swenk to approve the Planning Commission action for the Victory Sports Park Storage Garage project.

A voice vote was taken and the motion carried.

Yes – 7 No – 0

RECESS:

Moved by Boose and seconded by Swenk 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 39-2023 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF NORTH RIDGEVILLE TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS AND ENTER INTO A CONTRACT FOR THE PURCHASE OF AN EXCAVATOR ACCORDING TO LAW AND IN A MANNER PRESCRIBED BY LAW WITH THE LOWEST AND BEST BIDDER, NOT TO EXCEED \$56,000.00 NET OF TRADE.
(Introduced by Mayor Corcoran)

Moved by Boose and seconded by Winkel to dispense with the second and third readings for T 39-2023.

A voice vote was taken and the motion carried.

Yes – 7 No – 0

Moved by Boose and seconded by Winkel to add the emergency clause to purchase the necessary equipment for the upcoming season, and 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 Boose and seconded by Winkel to adopt T 39-2023 with the emergency clause.

A roll call vote was taken on the adoption, with the emergency, and the motion carried. T 39-2023 becomes
Ordinance number 6058-2023.

Yes – 7 No – 0

Clerk of Council Nicholas Ciofani:

T 40-2023 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF NORTH RIDGEVILLE TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT FOR THE PURCHASE OF A CARGO VAN AND RELATED EQUIPMENT, NOT TO EXCEED \$60,000,00.
(Introduced by Mayor Corcoran)

Moved by Winkel and seconded by Awig to dispense with the second and third readings for T 40-2023.

A voice vote was taken and the motion carried.

Yes – 7 No – 0

Moved by Winkel and seconded by Awig to add the emergency clause to purchase the necessary equipment for the upcoming season, and 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 Winkel and seconded by Awig to adopt T 40-2023 with the emergency clause.

A roll call vote was taken on the adoption, with the emergency, and the motion carried. T 40-2023 becomes
Ordinance number 6059-2023.

Yes – 7 No – 0

Clerk of Council Nicholas Ciofani:

T 41-2023 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF NORTH RIDGEVILLE TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS AND ENTER INTO A CONTRACT FOR THE PURCHASE OF A STREET SWEEPER ACCORDING TO LAW AND IN A MANNER PRESCRIBED BY LAW WITH THE LOWEST AND BEST BIDDER, NOT TO EXCEED \$215,000.00 NET OF TRADE.
(Introduced by Mayor Corcoran)

Moved by Winkel and seconded by Awig to dispense with the second and third readings for T 41-2023.

A voice vote was taken and the motion carried.

Yes – 7 No – 0

Moved by Winkel and seconded by Awig to add the emergency clause order to purchase the necessary equipment for the upcoming season, and 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 Winkel and seconded by Awig to adopt T 41-2023 with the emergency clause.

Councilwoman Swenk added that this purchase was discussed in appropriations.

Mayor Corcoran explained that all of the equipment that is being requested was discussed at appropriations in November 2022.

A roll call vote was taken on the adoption, with the emergency, and the motion carried. T 41-2023 becomes
Ordinance number 6060-2023.

Yes – 7 No – 0

Clerk of Council Nicholas Ciofani:

T42-2023 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF NORTH RIDGEVILLE TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS AND ENTER INTO A CONTRACT FOR THE PURCHASE OF BOBCAT AUXILIARY EQUIPMENT ACCORDING TO LAW AND IN A MANNER PRESCRIBED BY LAW WITH THE LOWEST AND BEST BIDDER, NOT TO EXCEED \$6,445.00 NET OF TRADE.
(Introduced by Mayor Corcoran)

Moved by Winkel and seconded by Awig to dispense with the second and third readings for T 42-2023.

A voice vote was taken and the motion carried.

Yes – 7 No – 0

Moved by Winkel and seconded by Awig to add the emergency clause order to purchase the necessary equipment for the upcoming season, and 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 Winkel and seconded by Awig to adopt T 42-2023 with the emergency clause.

A roll call vote was taken on the adoption, with the emergency, and the motion carried. T 42-2023 becomes
Ordinance number 6061-2023.

Yes – 7 No – 0

Clerk of Council Nicholas Ciofani:

T 43-2023 A RESOLUTION URGING THE LEGISLATIVE BRANCHES OF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AS WELL AS THE STATE OF OHIO TO ENACT LEGISLATION TO FURTHER PROTECT THE CITIZENS OF THE CITY OF NORTH RIDGEVILLE, OHIO, FROM THE INHERENT DANGERS OF A TRAIN DERAILMENT ON THE TRACKS LOCATED AT OR NEAR OUR CITY.

(Introduced by Mayor Corcoran)

Moved by Abens and seconded by Swenk to dispense with the second and third readings for T 43-2023.

A voice vote was taken and the motion carried.

Yes – 7 No – 0

Mayor Corcoran noted that the City of North Ridgeville Fire Department already had emergency plans for trail derailments. Mayor Corcoran added that they don't know what is on the trains coming through the city.

Moved by Abens and seconded by Winkel 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 Abens and seconded by Winkel to adopt T 43-2023 with the emergency clause.

A roll call vote was taken on the adoption, with the emergency, and the motion carried. T 43-2023 becomes
Resolution number 1591-2023.

Yes – 7 No – 0

Clerk of Council Nicholas Ciofani:

T 44-2023 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. 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 Boose to dispense with the second and third readings for T 44-2023.

A voice vote was taken and the motion carried.

Yes – 7 No – 0

Moved by DeVries and seconded by Boose to add the emergency clause to provide the Department of Finance with the necessary financial resources.

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

Yes – 7 No – 0

Moved by DeVries and seconded by Boose to adopt T 44-2023 with the emergency clause.

A roll call vote was taken on the adoption, with the emergency, and the motion carried. T 44-2023 becomes
Ordinance number 6062-2023.

Yes – 7 No – 0

Clerk of Council Nicholas Ciofani:

T 45-2023 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO MAKE APPLICATION TO LORAIN COUNTY FOR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT FUNDS FOR THE LUANNE DRIVE, CAROLYN DRIVE, AND MONICA DRIVE RESURFACING PROJECT.
(Introduced by Mayor Corcoran)

Moved by Boose and seconded by Swenk to dispense with the second and third readings for T 45-2023.

A voice vote was taken and the motion carried.

Yes – 7 No – 0

Moved by Boose and seconded by Swenk to add the emergency clause to meet the application deadline of April 20, 2023

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

Yes – 7 No – 0

Moved by Boose and seconded by Swenk to adopt T 45-2023 with the emergency clause.

A roll call vote was taken on the adoption, with the emergency, and the motion carried. T 45-2023 becomes
Resolution number 1592-2023.

Yes – 7 No – 0

Clerk of Council Nicholas Ciofani:

T 46-2023 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO MAKE APPLICATION TO THE NORTHEAST OHIO AREA WIDE COORDINATING AGENCY (NOACA) FOR CONGESTION MITIGATION AIR QUALITY (CMAQ) FUNDS FOR THE SUGAR RIDGE ROAD/BENDER ROAD ROUNDABOUT PROJECT.
(Introduced by Mayor Corcoran)

Moved by Abens and seconded by DeVries to dispense with the second and third readings for T 46-2023.

A voice vote was taken and the motion carried.

Yes – 7 No – 0

Moved by Winkel and seconded by DeVries to add the emergency clause to meet the NOACA application deadline of May 5, 2023.

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

Yes – 7 No – 0

Moved by Winkel and seconded by DeVries to adopt T 46-2023 with the emergency clause.

A roll call vote was taken on the adoption, with the emergency, and the motion carried. T 46-2023 becomes
Resolution number 1593-2023.

Yes – 7 No – 0

SECOND READINGS:

Clerk of Council Nicholas Ciofani:

T 32-2023 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE OF DEPARTMENTS AND DIVISIONS WITHIN THE CITY OF NORTH RIDGEVILLE, OHIO.
(Introduced by Mayor Corcoran; First Reading on April 3, 2023)

Moved by President Jacobs and seconded by Swenk to amend Section 5, to read Chapter 238 the American Disability Act Coordinator, and not Chapter 240 Computer Services Department on page 2.

A voice vote was taken and the motion carried.

Yes – 7 No – 0

Mayor Corcoran explained that T 32-2023, T 33-2023, and T 34-2023 are related to the reorganization plan. He explained that this is a big change for the City and it was an efficient way to move the City internally after the Safety Service Director resigned. The departments are broken into groups to allow more interactions with employees. The reorganization plan should save the City more money in the future.

Law Director Brian Moriarty explained that Section 7.1 of the Charter allows the legislation to move forward with the reorganization.

Mayor Corcoran continued to explain that the reorganization is common in other municipalities. The new seven groups are Public Works, Community Services, Planning and Development, Police, Fire, Law, and Finance. He explained there would be divisions under each group.

Moved by Mayor Corocran and seconded by Boose to dispense with the third reading for T 32-2023 Amended.

A voice vote was taken and the motion carried.

Yes – 6 No – 1 (Abens)

Moved by Mayor Corcoran and seconded by Abens to add the emergency clause to conduct the restructuring of the departments and divisions and appoint a department head to the Department of Public Works, Department of Community Services, and the Department of Planning and Development.

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

Yes – 6 No – 1 (Abens)

Moved by Mayor Corcoran and seconded by Boose to adopt T 32-2023 Amended with the emergency clause.

Councilman Abens explained that he does not disagree with the reorganization, but believed the legislation should go through three readings.

A roll call vote was taken on the adoption, with the emergency, and the motion carried. T 32-2023 Amended becomes **Ordinance number 6063-2023.**

Yes – 7 No – 0

Clerk of Council Nicholas Ciofani:

T 33-2023 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORD. 2814-93, WHICH ESTABLISHED THE SALARY FOR THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF NORTH RIDGEVILLE, OHIO.

(Introduced by Mayor Corcoran; First Reading on April 3, 2023)

Moved by Mayor Corcoran and seconded by Boose to dispense with the third reading for T 33-2023.

Mayor Corcoran explained that T 32-2023 eliminated the need for a Safety Service Director. The original Mayor's salary ordinance was based on the Safety Service Director's Salary. T 33-2023 is keeping the same structure to have the Mayor's salary 5% higher than the highest-paid employee in the City of North Ridgeville. There is no change in the salary for the Mayor.

A voice vote was taken and the motion carried.

Yes – 7 No – 0

Moved by Mayor Corcoran and seconded by Boose to add the emergency clause for the Mayor's salary to continue based on the new organization structure change under Ordinance Number 6063-2023.

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

Yes – 7 No – 0

Moved by Mayor Corcoran and seconded by Boose to adopt T 33-2023 with the emergency clause.

Mayor Corcoran noted that the Mayor's Salary is normally not the highest paid person in the City due to overtime that is available to other employees.

A roll call vote was taken on the adoption, with the emergency, and the motion carried. T 33-2023 becomes **Ordinance number 6064-2023.**

Yes – 7 No – 0

Clerk of Council Nicholas Ciofani:

T 34-2023 AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING THE RATES OF COMPENSATION AND CERTAIN BENEFITS FOR THE NON-BARGAINING EMPLOYEES OF THE CITY OF NORTH RIDGEVILLE, OHIO.
(Introduced by Mayor Corcoran)

Moved by Mayor Corcoran and seconded by Boose to dispense with the third reading for T 34-2023.

Mayor Corcoran explained that this legislation is to establish salary ranges for the new department head positions under Ordinance Number 6063-2023, and it does not change any other salary structures for any other employees, except the IT position.

A voice vote was taken and the motion carried.

Yes – 7 No – 0

Moved by Mayor Corcoran and seconded by Boose to add the emergency clause to pay the newly appointed department heads.

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

Yes – 7 No – 0

Moved by Mayor Corcoran and seconded by Boose to adopt T 34-2023 with the emergency clause.

A roll call vote was taken on the adoption, with the emergency, and the motion carried. T 34-2023 becomes
Ordinance number 6065-2023.

Yes – 7 No – 0

Appointment of Department Heads:

Moved by Mayor Corcoran and seconded by Boose to appoint Jon Montgomery as the Public Works Director.

A voice vote was taken and the motion carried.

Yes – 7 No – 0

Moved by Mayor Corcoran and seconded by Boose to appoint Tara Peet as the Community Services Director.

A voice vote was taken and the motion carried.

Yes – 7 No – 0

Moved by Mayor Corcoran and seconded by Winkel to appoint Kim Lieber as the Planning and Development Director.

A voice vote was taken and the motion carried.

Yes – 7 No – 0

THIRD READINGS:

There were none.

MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS:

President Jacobs noted the following:

1. The Utilities Committee meeting will be on Monday, May 1, 2023, at 6:15 p.m. in Council Chambers, to discuss T 36-2023.
2. The next Regular Council meeting will be on Monday, May 1, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers.

Councilman Boose reminded everyone about the Memorial Day Parade. The parade is on May 29, 2023. Information on how to register a parade unit is on the City's website.

ADJOURNMENT:

President Jacobs adjourned the meeting at 8:42 p.m.

Approval of minutes on May 1, 2023:



Jason Jacobs
PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL



Nicholas Ciofani
CLERK OF COUNCIL