

**NORTH RIDGEVILLE CITY COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
August 21, 2023**

CALL TO ORDER:

President Jacobs called the Monday, August 21, 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, President Pro-Tem Bruce Abens, Clifford Winkel, Martin DeVries, and Georgia Awig.

Also present were Mayor Kevin Corcoran, Law Director Brian Moriarty, Director of Finance April Wilkerson, and Clerk of Council Nicholas Ciofani.

Excused was Councilman Dennis Boose.

MINUTES - Corrections (if any) and approval:

President Jacobs asked if there were any corrections to the City Council Meeting Minutes dated August 7, 2023. No discussion was offered.

The meeting minutes stand approved as submitted.

President Jacobs noted the following minutes:

Board of Zoning and Building Appeals Meeting Minutes dated July 27, 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.

City of North Ridgeville City Services

Shellie Kearsey at 37886 Stoney Lake Drive, addressed the issues regarding the Police Chief, Mike Freeman, and the Police Department. She explained that the investigation report was supposed to be completed by the end of July 2023 but was not. She continued to express that there has been no update on where the investigation stands. Ms. Kearsey expressed negatively towards Police Chief Mike Freeman and

remarked that employees have left the Police Department in the past because of Police Chief Mike Freeman. Ms. Kearsey asked for the investigation report.

City of North Ridgeville Police Department

Cali Zingale at 35112 Jason Drive, addressed the issues regarding the Police Chief, Mike Freeman, and the Police Department. She explained that she has been very vocal about the challenges the Police Department faces. Ms. Zingale listed some of the factors that the Police Department currently faces like captains and lieutenants are set to retire within six months. She continued to express her feelings regarding the proposed Civil Service bylaws changes. Ms. Zingale asked for the Mayor to be present and accessible to the Police Department.

ADMINISTRATORS REPORTS:

1. Mayor:

Mayor Corcoran remarked the following.:

- Under first readings, he would be requesting emergency passage on several pieces of legislation - T 83-2023, T 86-2023, T87-2023, T 88-2023, and T 89-2023.
- Street Paving - The Service Department has been busy milling and paving roadways, chipping away at their list of streets for this year. They are scheduled to pave Root Road south of Lorain Road to Reed Road on August 22, 2023, and Wednesday, August 23, 2023. Traffic would be maintained; however, expect delays. It is always subject to change depending on weather conditions or other extenuating circumstances.
- Full Depth Concrete Pavement Repairs - Fabrizi Trucking & Paving was awarded the bid for full depth concrete repairs. They did begin work on Oakhurst Drive, Woodridge Court, and Albert Avenue. For the complete list of streets, visit the City's website at nridgeville.org.
- Summer Concert Series - The first in the series of Summer Concerts at South Central Park Gazebo is scheduled for Tuesday, August 22, 2023, from 6:30 p.m. until 9:30 p.m., with Disco Inferno featuring music from the 70s. Then, on Sunday, August 27, 2023, from 6:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m., you can enjoy the explosive rock band, The Michael Weber Show. These concerts were canceled and rescheduled due to weather conditions. There are two additional concerts scheduled for September 2023. The concerts are free.
- Ridgeville Ready Master Plan Steering Committee - Residents are invited to attend the Ridgeville Ready Master Plan Steering Committee meeting on Tuesday, August 29, 2023, in Council Chambers from 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
- Labor Day and Trash Collection Delay - As a reminder, City Hall offices are closed on Monday, September 4, 2023, in observance of the Labor Day holiday. Republic Services would also be running on a one-day delay for trash collection. North Ridgeville collection is scheduled for Wednesday, September 6, 2023 - all items at curbside by 6:00 a.m.

- School Resumes - Reminded everyone that schools would be back in session on Thursday, August 24, 2023. With schools resuming, there would be increased traffic at varying times throughout the day including school bus traffic. Passing a stopped school bus is illegal on all two- or three-lane roads. The Ohio Revised Code 4511.75 stated drivers “shall stop at least ten feet from the front or rear of the school bus and shall not proceed until such school bus resumes motion, or until signaled by the school bus driver to proceed.”
- Reminded everyone that the speed limit in school zones is 20 mph during recess and during the opening and closing hours of schools. Please pay close attention in order to keep the children in the community safe.

Mayor Corcoran concluded his report.

2. Engineer:

No report.

3. Director of Finance:

Finance Director April Wilkerson had no report.

4. Other Reports:

President Jacobs noted the following reports:

July 2023 Fire Department Report
July 2023 Water Distribution and EPA Report
July 2023 Parks and Recreation Division 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 Awig to dispense with recess.

A voice vote was taken and the motion carried.

Yes – 6 No – 0

FIRST READINGS:

Ordinance and Resolution submittal(s)

Clerk of Council Nicholas Ciofani:

T 83-2023 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PARTICIPATION IN THE ODOT COOPERATIVE PURCHASING PROGRAM.
(Introduced by Mayor Corcoran)

Moved by Mayor Corcoran and seconded by Abens to dispense with the second and third readings for T 83-2023.

Mayor Corcoran explained that the cooperative purchasing program is for certain vehicles the City owns.

A voice vote was taken and the motion carried.

Yes – 6 No – 0

Moved by Mayor Corcoran and seconded by Abens to add the emergency clause to enter into the program to obtain the necessary machinery, materials, supplies, or other articles for the safety of the public.

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

Yes – 6 No – 0

Moved by Mayor Corcoran and seconded by Abens to adopt T 83-2023 with the emergency clause.

A roll call vote was taken on the adoption, with the emergency, and the motion carried. T 83-2023 becomes
Resolution number 1602-2023.

Yes – 6 No – 0

Clerk of Council Nicholas Ciofani:

T 84-2023 AN ORDINANCE CREATING A NEW CHAPTER 867 MASSAGE ESTABLISHMENTS OF THE NORTH RIDGEVILLE BUSINESS REGULATION AND TAXATION CODE.
(Introduced by Mayor Corcoran)

This Ordinance was moved to second reading and there was no need for the emergency clause.

Clerk of Council Nicholas Ciofani:

T 85-2023 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 5952-2022 PROVIDING ADDITIONAL PARAMETERS FOR THE USE OF LATERAL HIRES TO COMPLEMENT THE SAFETY FORCES AND FURTHER DEFINING LATERAL HIRE EMPLOYMENT CONDITIONS.
(Introduced on the floor by Mayor Corcoran)

This Ordinance was moved to second reading and there was no need for the emergency clause.

Clerk of Council Nicholas Ciofani:

T 86-2023 A RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR THE OHIO PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION PRIORITIES, BY AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF NORTH RIDGEVILLE TO PREPARE AND SUBMIT AN APPLICATION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE OHIO PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION STATE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT AND/OR LOCAL TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM(S) AND TO EXECUTE CONTRACTS AS REQUIRED.
(Introduced on the floor by Mayor Corcoran)

Moved by Mayor Corcoran and seconded by Awig to dispense with the second and third readings for T 86-2023.

Councilwoman Swenk wanted to know the plans for the rest of Sugar Ridge Road after the roundabout.

Mayor Corcoran explained that the City is currently working through the process to receive money from the State for the resurfacing and reconstruction of Sugar Ridge Road. The Roundabout project includes the roadway, but the funds are coming from separate funding. The funds are also approved at different times.

A voice vote was taken and the motion carried.

Yes – 6 No – 0

Moved by Mayor Corcoran and seconded by Awig to add the emergency clause to accept the funds and participate in the State Capital Improvement Program and the Local Transportation Improvement Program.

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

Yes – 6 No – 0

Moved by Mayor Corcoran and seconded by Awig to adopt T 86-2023 with the emergency clause.

A roll call vote was taken on the adoption, with the emergency, and the motion carried. T 86-2023 becomes
Resolution number 1603-2023.

Yes – 6 No – 0

Clerk of Council Nicholas Ciofani:

T 87-2023 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 5880-2021 AUTHORIZING THE LEASE/PURCHASE OF A NEW SINGLE AXLE DUMP TRUCK WITH ACCESSORIES NOT TO EXCEED \$150,000.00.
(Introduced on the floor by Mayor Corcoran)

Moved by Mayor Corcoran and seconded by Winkel to dispense with the second and third readings for T 87-2023.

Mayor Corcoran explained that there is a delay in receiving vehicles, so vehicles have to be purchased early to receive the vehicles in a reasonable amount of time.

A voice vote was taken and the motion carried.

Yes – 6 No – 0

Moved by Mayor Corcoran and seconded by Winkel to add the emergency clause to replace a previous Ordinance currently in place and purchase the necessary vehicles for the safety of the public.

A voice vote was taken on the emergency clause and the motion carried.
Yes – 6 No – 0

Moved by Mayor Corcoran and seconded by Winkel to adopt T 87-2023 with the emergency clause.

A roll call vote was taken on the adoption, with the emergency, and the motion carried. T 87-2023 becomes
Ordinance number 6094-2023.
Yes – 6 No – 0

Clerk of Council Nicholas Ciofani:

T 88-2023 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF NORTH RIDGEVILLE TO ENTER INTO A LEASE/PURCHASE AGREEMENT FOR THE PURCHASE OF A NEW FORD F750 SINGLE AXLE DUMP TRUCK WITH PLOW AND ACCESSORIES, NOT TO EXCEED \$187,000.00.
(Introduced on the floor by Mayor Corcoran)

Moved by Mayor Corcoran and seconded by Winkel to dispense with the second and third readings for T 88-2023.

Councilwoman Swenk wanted to know if the vehicle that is being requested was budgeted.

Mayor Corcoran explained that it was appropriated and discussed at the 2023 Budget meeting.

A voice vote was taken and the motion carried.
Yes – 6 No – 0

Moved by Winkel and seconded by Abens to add the emergency clause to place and purchase the necessary vehicle for the safety of the public.

A voice vote was taken on the emergency clause and the motion carried.
Yes – 6 No – 0

Moved by Winkel and seconded by Abens to adopt T 88-2023 with the emergency clause.

A roll call vote was taken on the adoption, with the emergency, and the motion carried. T 88-2023 becomes
Ordinance number 6095-2023.
Yes – 6 No – 0

Clerk of Council Nicholas Ciofani:

T 89-2023 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF NORTH RIDGEVILLE TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH GO2IT GROUP FOR MANAGED IT SERVICES AT A MONTHLY COST OF \$8,550.00 PER MONTH.
(Introduced on the floor by Mayor Corcoran)

Moved by President Jacobs and seconded by Swenk to amend T 89-2023 with the revised version that was submitted to the City Council before the meeting.

President Jacobs explained that the contract was amended to remove the line item for licensing and data storage.

A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried.

Yes - 6 No - 0

Moved by Mayor Corcoran and seconded by President Jacobs to dispense with the second and third readings for T 89-2023 Amended.

Mayor Corcoran explained the IT issues that the City faced. The cost to have the company is the same amount that it would cost for one full-time IT employee.

Councilman Winkel wanted to know if the City needed to do legislation to remove the IT position.

Mayor Corcoran explained that it is not needed to remove the position because the City would want the possibility of hiring a full-time IT employee in the future. As of now, the City would use an outside company instead of a full-time employee.

Councilman DeVries wanted to know if the IT company can handle the City's needs, and has the City appropriate funds to hire the IT company.

Mayor Corcoran explained that the salaries that were set aside would be used for the IT company and the company can handle the City's needs.

Councilwoman Swenk wanted to know would the IT company cover any issues before September 1, 2023.

Mayor Corcoran responded with a yes.

A voice vote was taken and the motion carried.

Yes - 6 No - 0

Moved by Mayor Corcoran and seconded by President Jacobs to add the emergency clause to hire an IT company to provide IT services and coverage for the City immediately.

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

Yes - 6 No - 0

Moved by DeVries and seconded by Awig to adopt T 89-2023 with the emergency clause.

A roll call vote was taken on the adoption, with the emergency, and the motion carried. T 89-2023 becomes

Ordinance number 6096-2023.

Yes - 6 No - 0

SECOND READINGS:

There was none.

Clerk of Council Nicholas Ciofani:

T 67-2023 **Amended** AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE DELETION AND REPLACEMENT OF CHAPTER 1024 SIDEWALKS OF THE NORTH RIDGEVILLE STREETS, UTILITIES, AND PUBLIC SERVICES CODE.

(Introduced by Mayor Corcoran; First Reading on 06-05-2023; Streets, Sidewalks & Bridges Committee on 07-10-2023; Report to Council on 07-24-2023; Second Reading on 08-07-2023, Amended on the floor on 08-07-2023)

Moved by President Jacobs and seconded by Awig to amend T 67-2023 Amended with the revised version that was submitted to the City Council before the meeting.

{Clerk notes: The following are the amended changes.}

1024.06 SIDEWALK FEE IN LIEU OF DEPOSIT

(a) It shall be the option of the property owner, upon application and as approved by the City Engineer, to forgo the installation of a required sidewalk and to make payment of a sidewalk fee in lieu of the sidewalk deposit required in Section 1024.05 where **compliance is impractical due to site conditions, safety concerns or engineering concerns as determined by the City Engineer and documented in writing** ~~a property meets one or more of the criteria listed below~~. The fee shall be paid at the time of building permit issuance in an amount equivalent to the deposit that would otherwise be required by this chapter.

~~(1) A sidewalk does not exist within 2,500 feet in any direction from any property corner, and it is unlikely that there will be development nearby that would require the installation of sidewalks.~~

~~(2) The property is not within 2,500 feet of a City park or a public or private school measured from any property corner.~~

~~(3) Compliance is impractical due to site conditions, safety concerns, or engineering concerns as determined by the City Engineer and documented in writing.~~

(b) Any fee paid under this section shall be earmarked and used for general sidewalk construction purposes, which include, but are not limited to, installing sidewalks and multi-purpose paths, drive aprons, extension of culverts or bridges, drainage improvements relating to sidewalk construction, acquisition of rights-of-way, etc.

Councilwoman Swenk agreed with the changes due to the 2-mile school bus pick-up restrictions.

A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried.

Yes – 6 No – 0

Moved by Swenk 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 – 6 No – 0

Moved by Winkel and seconded by Swenk to adopt T 67-2023 with the emergency clause.

A roll call vote was taken on the adoption, with the emergency, and the motion carried. T 67-2023 becomes
Ordinance number 6097-2023.

Yes – 6 No – 0

THIRD READINGS:

There was none.

MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS:

President Jacobs noted the following:

1. The next Regular Council meeting will be on Tuesday, September 5, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

Mayor Corcoran added that GO2IT Group has a representative who lives in North Ridgeville. The company has an invested interest in making sure things work.

ADJOURNMENT:

President Jacobs adjourned the meeting at 7:38 p.m.

Approval of minutes on September 5, 2023:



Jason Jacobs
PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL



Nicholas Ciofani
CLERK OF COUNCIL