



City of Mentor-on-the-Lake

5860 Andrews Road, Mentor-on-the-Lake, OH 44060-2827

Phone: (440) 257-7216 Fax: (440) 257-2766

www.CityMOL.org

**MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL
CITY OF MENTOR-ON-THE-LAKE
SEPTEMBER 12, 2023**

The Regular Meeting of Council for the City of Mentor-on-the-Lake for September 12, 2023, was called to order at 7:00 P.M. by Council President Rob Johnson.

CALL TO ORDER

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL:

Aye At Large: MICHELLE MOORE, Vice President
Aye Ward 4: DESIREA THOMPSON
Aye Ward 2: PAUL MORRIS
Aye At Large: KEVIN BITTNER
Aye Ward 1: DAVID CHABUT
Aye At Large: JIM LUNDER
Aye Ward 3: ROB JOHNSON, President

READING OF MINUTES: Regular Meeting of Council –August 22, 2023

MOTION MADE BY MR. MORRIS, Seconded by Mr. Chabut, for Approval of the Minutes of the August 22, 2023, Regular Meeting of Council. **ROLL CALL:** Ayes: Council Member Moore, Thompson, Morris, Bittner, Chabut, Lunder, Johnson. Nays: None.

MOTION CARRIED: 7/0

CORRESPONDENCE:

Mr. Johnson read an email from Susan Lenihan, 7359 Salida Road, regarding last night's Planning and Zoning Commission Meeting and how unprepared Sommers Group was. A copy of her email is attached.

Mr. Bittner read an email from Ken Reed regarding the speed limit sign and lowering the speed on Munson Road entering Mentor-on-the-Lake. A copy of his email is attached.

ADMINISTRATIVE AND DEPARTMENT HEADS

Mayor and Safety Director - Mr. Eva

Mayor Eva advised Mr. Bittner the trees on Munson have been trimmed. Mr. Ness and the Service Department have looked into a solar powered flashing sign there which would cost \$4,500.00. The idea of possibly putting a reduced speed sign would have to be approved by the City of Mentor and ODOT because they would be outside our City limits. They are going to try trimming the trees so that the speed limit sign can be seen, and see if there is anything else they can do.

Mayor Eva read the Fire Department Monthly Report for August 2023. For the month of August 2023, the Fire Department received a total of 153 calls as follows: Fire/Service – 38 calls; Rescue/EMS – 115 calls, of which there were 19 calls for Invalid Assist, there were no calls requiring Narcan. Fire Department activities for

August: alarm system test at Lake Elementary, annual inspection of Andrews Place, suppression testing at Mr. Hero and Giant Eagle. In August members who celebrated service anniversaries: Firefighter Corbe – 8 years; Firefighter Sedmak – 7 years; and Firefighter Brown – 2 years.

Mayor Eva said we had talked earlier in the year about the 2023 Appropriations for the Fire Department and adding an additional Full-Time Firefighter/Paramedic. The Fire Department has a Part-Time individual who has completed all of his certifications. He said he would come back to Council and let Council know when they were ready to bring that person on, and at this time, since he passed all of his certifications, we would like to offer him the full-time position as soon as possible. Financially, this has been looked at and we are good through the end of 2023 and into 2024 to do that.

He was approached at the Fall Festival by Lisa Savoca, President of the Lake Elementary PTA, and they discussed making the school's Trunk or Treat event a community-wide event. She messaged him today, and he has given her permission to have the event this year at the City Hall Park. The date will be Saturday, October 28th, 2023, from 2:00 P.M. until 4:00 P.M.

Mayor Eva again mentioned the Charter Review Commission. We have five people interested and we need another four to fill out the Commission. Interest letters should be sent to the Clerk of Council.

Administrative Director - Mr. Ness

Regarding the speed sign on Munson Road, Mr. Ness stated Chief Forsythe said he will have the police monitor it a little more than usual. As far as ODOT goes, it is their road so the way he understands it, it would not be warranted to put a reduced speed sign there.

He thinks the Fall Festival was a great success, and they could not have done it without Jennell's hard work, and he thanked her for that. It did not cost the City anything.

Law Director – Mr. Lyons

Mr. Lyons stated the Lake County Board of Elections sent the City the ballot language for the four issues on the ballot in November. He looked at them and they were consistent with what had been submitted. Early voting starts October 7th, so they have to finalize their paperwork, and Mr. Ness is about to send back to the Board a short Memo advising the ballot language is acceptable.

QUESTIONS TO ADMINISTRATION AND DEPARTMENT HEADS:

Mrs. Thompson said regarding the Fall Festival, not to take away from Jennell, who did an amazing job, she wanted to thank the Service Department for setting everything up, the Mayor for helping set up, the Park and Rec Board for their personal donations they made for the rock painting that was a great success, it was a hands on for everybody, everybody did a great job.

BOARD/COMMITTEE/COMMISSION REPORTS:

Parks and Recreation Board / August 24, 2023 / Mrs. Thompson

Mrs. Thompson advised the Parks and Recreation Board met on August 24, 2023, at 6:00 P.M. The Board discussed the Fall Festival that was held this past Saturday; they had a table set up for rock painting. They plan to have a rock scavenger hunt, possibly in October. They are set to have the next Star Gazing Event on September 22, 2023, at 7:15 P.M. at Overlook Beach Park with a rain date of September 23, 2023, at 7:15 P.M. Their meetings will be changing to 6:30 P.M. on the same Thursdays it is held now.

Ordinance Committee / August 29, 2023 / Mr. Bittner

Mr. Bittner advised the Ordinance Committee met on August 29, 2023, at 7:00 P.M. Present were Council Members Bittner (Chair), Morris, Chabut, Council Vice-President Moore, Council President Johnson, and a resident. The Committee went over Zoning - BZA Appeals regarding fences, and collectively they decided to just leave it alone as it is spelled out in the Ordinances. The Meeting adjourned at 7:47 P.M.

Zoning Committee / August 31, 2023 / Mr. Chabut

Mr. Chabut advised the Zoning Committee met on August 31, 2023, at 6:00 P.M. to discuss the CRA Chapter 893. Present were Council Members Chabut (Chair), Lunder, Thompson, Bittner, Council President Johnson, Mr. Rose and a resident. Some of the changes they are suggesting: (1) delete multi-family units from the Ordinance, (2) change the tax rebate on single family residences to up to 45% for up to five years, depending on the project, (3) for commercial property, the tax rebate will be up to 75% for up to ten years, depending on the project, (4) pending applications will be grandfathered, and (5) these changes will be effective when the Ordinance is approved. The Meeting adjourned at 6:55 P.M.

Utility Committee / August 31, 2023 / Mr. Lunder

Mr. Lunder advised the Utility Committee met on August 31, 2023, at 7:00 P.M. to discuss the upcoming garbage contract. Present were Council Members Lunder (Chair), Bittner, Chabut, Morris, Thompson, Council President Johnson, Mayor Eva, and a resident. The Committee discussed the current contract given to them by Mr. Ness and asked that we change the date that we send the contract out for bid. The Committee feels it should go out as soon as possible even though the contract is not due until next May. They would also like a representative from each company that bids come to a Council Meeting so that Council can ask any additional questions they may have. The Committee also asked for the bid to show five- and ten-year bid prices and also price differences between two large containers versus what we have at the present time. The Meeting adjourned at 7:30 P.M.

Service Committee / August 31, 2023 / Mr. Lunder

Mr. Lunder advised the Service Committee met on August 31, 2023, at 7:30 P.M. to discuss cutting of lawns that are not being cut by the owners. Present were Council Members Lunder (Chair), Chabut, Thompson, Morris, Council President Johnson, Mayor Eva, and a resident. The Committee discussed how we can increase the cost of cutting lawns because we were told by one resident that it was cheaper for the City to cut their lawn than a lawn service. The Committee also discussed how to charge owners that have non-manicured back yards or rubbish stored in their back yard that is causing the yard to have rodents living in their yards. Mr. Lunder has sent this information to Mr. Lyons for his review and he will update the Committee when he receives this information from Mr. Lyons. The Meeting adjourned at 7:50 P.M. Mr. Lunder said Mr. Lyons has responded to him and Mr. Ness, and they will have a meeting to discuss the results.

Planning and Zoning Commission / September 11, 2023 / Mr. Chabut

Mr. Chabut advised the Planning and Zoning Commission met on September 11, 2023, at 6:00 P.M. Present were Commission Members Suzanne Cason (Chair), Mike Sweeney, Gary Leonard, Brent Moore, Council Members Chabut, Lunder, Morris, Council Vice-President Moore, Council President Johnson, Mayor Eva, and several residents. Greg Sommers of the Sommers Group presented his preliminary plan for Crane's Landing. After a lengthy discussion by the Members of the Commission and residents, the Commission gave Mr. Sommers a list of what they wanted from him. Mr. Sommers gave us a preliminary plan and the Commission requested a plan of architectural drawings and a layout of the units. The Commission also wanted a clean and final contract with the City to review. The next Meeting will be October 3, 2023, at 6:00 P.M. The Meeting adjourned at 7:45 P.M.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC TO SPEAK: 7:17 P.M.

Jason Morris, 5845 Lake Road. Mr. Morris is Co-Chair of the Roar by the Shore car show. He discussed the event and the misunderstanding that the car show was a City of Mentor-on-the-Lake event, as well as a history of the car show. He thanked Mayor Eva of use of the City Park and shutting down part of Holly Drive, the Service Department for use of traffic cones and blockades, the Police Department for bringing out its drone and taking a video of the event, everyone who showed their support, and the people of Mentor-on-the-Lake. Next year's event is scheduled for August 31, 2024.

Bill Cleveland, 7607 Salida Road. Mr. Cleveland commented on the Planning and Zoning Commission meeting last night and the possibility of the CRA giving a tax abatement to develop Crane's Landing.

Earle Kurrass, 7523 Salida Road. Mr. Kurrass commented on the Planning and Zoning Commission meeting last night and getting a master plan for the City.

CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC TO SPEAK: 7:29 P.M.

LEGISLATION BEFORE COUNCIL:

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-R-21

A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE RATES AS DETERMINED BY THE LAKE COUNTY BUDGET COMMISSION FOR TAX YEAR 2024, AUTHORIZING THE NECESSARY TAX LEVIES AND CERTIFYING THEM TO THE LAKE COUNTY AUDITOR

Mr. Johnson said this is due by October 2, 2023, so we can have it stay on the Agenda for another Meeting or suspend the Rules.

MOTION MADE BY MR. LUNDER, Seconded by Mrs. Thompson, for Suspension of the Rules. ROLL CALL: Ayes: Council Member Moore, Thompson, Bittner, Chabut, Lunder, Johnson. Nays: Council Member Morris.

MOTION CARRIED: 6/1

Mr. Johnson asked for discussion. Mrs. Moore asked if this was housekeeping we do every year to certify to the Auditor so we can collect those monies. Mr. Ness said that was correct.

MOTION MADE BY MR. LUNDER, Seconded by Mrs. Thompson, for Passage of Resolution No. 2023-R-21. ROLL CALL: Ayes: Council Member Moore, Thompson, Morris, Bittner, Chabut, Lunder, Johnson. Nays: None.

MOTION CARRIED: 7/0

ORDINANCE No. 2023-O-07 (THIRD READING) (AMENDED) (ASSIGNED TO COUNCIL OF THE WHOLE)

AN ORDINANCE CREATING NEW ORDINANCE 1022.12 LOCAL TREE LAWN REGULATION NOT INVOLVING UTILITIES AND/OR TELECOMMUNICATION DEVICES.

Mr. Johnson stated this is still assigned to Council of the Whole. He had sent a draft of proposed legislation to Mr. Lyons for his review.

ORDINANCE NO. 2023-O-17

AN ORDINANCE REPEALING CHAPTER 893 – COMMUNITY REINVESTMENT AREA

LEGISLATION BEFORE COUNCIL (Continued):

ORDINANCE NO. 2023-O-17 (Continued):

Mr. Johnson stated this is still assigned to the Zoning Committee.

OLD BUSINESS

Amendments to Council Rules. Mr. Johnson stated he is still working on this.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mrs. Thompson said, regarding the Star Gazing Event being hosted by the Parks and Recreation Board, it is getting harder and harder to check out telescopes from the Library. They are able to have the use of them by just using a library card, there are no fees. The rental is open January 1st for the whole year so you can go four to six months in advance. The issue they are running into is getting ahold of telescopes to use and borrow. They have reached out to Lakeland, Mentor, Mentor Libraries. She asked Council to consider giving a line-item budget of \$350.00 to at least purchase one telescope so Parks and Recreation will have at least one on hand when they have these events. Mr. Johnson suggested she come back with exactly what they want to purchase. Mrs. Thompson said she has three samples and will forward them to Council tonight. Mr. Johnson said this can be discussed at the next Meeting.

Mr. Johnson asked if a vote was needed to go forward with hiring the new firefighter. It has been budgeted for and the intent at the time was that Council would approve it. He asked for discussion. Mr. Morris said he would rather wait until after the election to see what happens with the Charter Amendments. He would hate to see us hire this person and then not have the money to keep him employed. A couple of months will not make or break anything. Mrs. Moore said this money was appropriated at the beginning of the year so we do not have to look anywhere for additional money or funding to be able to afford this. Mrs. Thompson said it is already in the line items. Mr. Ness said the only issue they are having is overtime, and this will help with that. Mr. Lyons said, in response to Mr. Morris' comment, this Charter Amendment is on one year early. We are collecting that money next year also. On levies and also using the same idea for Charter Amendments for renewal, it can go before the voters three times in order to get it through.

MOTION MADE BY MR. LUNDER, Seconded by Mr. Bittner, to hire another full-time firefighter. ROLL CALL: Ayes: Council Member Moore, Thompson, Bittner, Chabut, Lunder. Nays: Council Member Morris, Johnson.

MOTION CARRIED: 5/2

OPEN TO PUBLIC: 7:36 P.M.

Bill Cleveland spoke again on a separate issue about revetment of Overlook Beach Park, and asked why asking additional companies, including the ones he has mentioned before, to come in has not been done.

CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC: 7:40 P.M.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND SETTING OF MEETINGS:

Community Development Committee
Zoning Committee

Thursday, September 14, 2023, at 7:00 P.M.
Thursday, September 21, 2023, at 6:30 P.M.

Next Regular Agenda Meeting
Next Regular Meeting of Council

Thursday, September 21, 2023, at 6:00 P.M.
Tuesday, September 26, 2023, at 7:00 pm


ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION MADE BY MR. MORRIS, Seconded by Mr. Chabut, for Adjournment. **ROLL CALL:** Ayes: Council Member Moore, Thompson, Morris, Bittner, Chabut, Lunder, Johnson. Nays: None.
MOTION CARRIED: 7/0

The Regular Meeting of Council Adjourned at 7:42 P.M.

APPROVED:

September 26, 2023
Date



ROBERT JOHNSON
President of Council

Attest: Joyce M. Day
Clerk of Council