

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
June 16, 2020

The Second monthly meeting of Mansfield City Council met on Tuesday,
June 16, 2020 at 7:00 PM via Zoom Meeting,
due to COVID-19 pandemic

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by the audience.

Councilman Lawrence led the audience in prayer.

ROLL CALL: The following answered present at roll call, via Zoom: Burns, Meier, Van Harlingen (in Chambers), Davenport, Lawrence, Taddie, Scott, Falquette, and Mears.

There being no objections, the reading of the Journal and Correspondence was dispensed with.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

NOTE: All emails are currently being ready proxy by ward Council Members due to COVID-19 requirements.

PRESIDENT MEARS: We are at the public comment Sections of Council. I did want to review a couple of the guidelines that have been suggested. Mostly, by me, because of the amount of public comments that we have received. As before, as has been our standing rule, as we've been working as a remote Council meeting, I've asked for the public comments to come via, specific published email and those that come in have a name address and with that they can be forwarded to the appropriate Ward Council Person to be read. So, I ask that Council members please do, as we do in person, ask the person their name and address, please state their name and address to begin with along with their comments. Be assured they need to have a Mansfield address, at this point we're only recognizing those who are Mansfield residents, as Councilwoman Taddie indicated, that there will be a later meeting, which public comments from people outside the city, can voice their concerns about particular bills and because of the number of comments that we've gotten and supposedly that will be read shortly, I leave it to the area, the Ward representatives that to, if they feel appropriate, to summarize or paraphrase as an option to reading each Public Comment in its entirety. That's entirely up to you, but I will still enforce, as we did in person, a three-minute time restriction on each individual Public Comment. So, with that, I'd like to go ahead and actually go through the Wards, one at a time and start that way and organize our Public Comments by Wards. So, First Ward; Councilwoman Burns, would you like to start with any Public Comments you've received?

LAURA BURNS: I have one and it is from Mary Sue Edmisten of 1415 Brook Park Drive here in Mansfield: "Council Members, I would like to support the recognition of Racism as a public health crisis. I believe that instituting this Resolution would help improve our community and make it stronger. As a white person, I have recently learned much from all the discussions going on about Black Lives Matter and I'm thankful for that. I know that our institutions could all use more education, understanding race and the issues they face. Thank you." And that is the only comments that I got today in my inbox.

PRESIDENT MEARS: Thank you Councilwoman Burns. Councilwoman Meier, your comments please.

CHERYL MEIER: Thank you Mr. President, I have three. The first from Philip Mazzocco at 366 North Townview Circle. I am writing in my capacity as Board Secretary of NECIC and as a Ward Two resident. I wanted to express my support for Councilperson Taddie's racism and public health Legislation and the co-funding purposed; Five Year Task Force. Twenty years of research, experience in the field of racism

and racial inequality as a Sociology faculty, at Ohio State, has convinced me that this Legislation is both necessary and has a high likelihood of leading to positive changes in Richland County and for all residents. The specifics of this legislation aside, I think this is an opportunity to provide a model for longer term Legislation. I feel like that would be a win in and of itself. Thank you for your consideration. The second is from Jodi Nash 545 Stewart Lane. Greetings. First, I wish to applaud you on your bold, honest, and forthright resolution declaring racism a public health issue. You're doing the right thing. This is and will continue to be hard work. Please, remember that many many of us know it will take all of us to get it done and we are here to help you and stand by you. Secondly, I applaud your leadership in these trying times. Your work is much appreciated. Stand proudly and continue to do what is right. Thank you, Jodi Nash. And the third is from Tiffany Mitchell 451 Overlook Road. As a resident of Richland County, I am concerned about the health and wellbeing of all Mansfield Richland County residents. I endorse the Resolution before the Mansfield City Council, recognizing racism is intolerable and taking other's lives is morally reprehensible; making racism a public health emergency for our community.

PRESIDENT MEARS: Okay. Thank you, Councilwoman Meier. Councilman Van Harlingen, any from the Third Ward?

JON VAN HARLINGEN: Yes, Sir. Thank you, Mr. President. First off, I have to make an apology. I received a, well the Clerks received an email, and it was from a young lady in the Third Ward, she mentioned my name and also, mentioned her address which I believe was in the Boulevards, there was so many emails by the end of the day I got short on time and I couldn't find it. So, we'll wait for it to next week. Okay, anyways, uh, this is one from a gentleman by the name of Rev. Al and he does live in the Third Ward off of Maple Street. It says; Dear Mr. Van Harlingen, thank you for talking with me regarding Resolution Bill 123. As my Ward Councilman this a letter I promised to send to you, or send you and to read on the floor. As a black man who has lived in the United States of America for nearly forty years, I know and have experienced racism in many ways. Yes, racism exists in America and Mansfield is no exception. I have been a victim of racism numerous times. I have been overlooked for promotions at workplaces, kicked out of the churches, watched while shopping by security if I would steal something, have been profiled, police dog was used to search my van for drugs, and the list goes on. Must we do something to deal with racism in our City? Absolutely. But, the issue with the Resolution is declaring Racism as a mental health crisis and demanding that the Health Department declared a crisis emergency. I was a mental health therapist for years. Racism is not nor has ever been diagnosed as a mental health problem. Racism is a spiritual problem of the heart it comes from an ingenerated wicked heart. Racism, prejudice, and bigotry is not listed as a mental health condition and the diagnostics and statistical mental disorders, currently there is no support for including extreme racism, under any diagnostic category. City Council will be voting on the draft Resolution, declaring Racism as a public health crisis. The Resolution Bill 123, comes in the wake of George Floyd, murder case that has engulfed the Nation. Bill 123 is currently written, seems to emerge from the same playbook of movements, calling for the defunding of Police, Police Departments and will be the next step if the measure passes. Cities across the Nation are declaring Racism as a public health emergency and then singling out Police Departments as their culprit. While this may leave the Law Enforcement as a budget casualty, businesses and neighborhoods will become the real victims. The Cities of Minneapolis and Boston recently declared mental health emergencies and are defunding their Police Departments. In addition, City schools' districts in, Denver, Portland and Seattle are terminating ties with their Police Departments. Each declared Racism as a Public Health Emergency. The Bill states, there is a need to lift collective voices to improve the lives of people of color living in Mansfield and Richland County, to that I say, amen. We have to work hard at it. It also states, that Racism, is not, Racism causes disproportionately high rates of homelessness, incarceration, poor education, health issues, including mental health and economic hardships for African American particularly. Get my tongue all wrapped up. Excuse me. Okay. Bill 123 names Racism as the root cause for all these social problems without listing any footnoted references. There are no local examples listed and there is no evidence president, presented demonstrating a relationship between these issues and Racism and Richland County.

How then can this Governed body positively support a resolution when it comes more questions than answers? The Resolution as written falls short of combatting the problem of Racism and working together we can come up with meaningful plans for combatting Racism in Richland County, without declaring Racism a mental health crisis emergency.

PRESIDENT MEARS: Do you have any other comments Councilman Van Harlingen?

JON VAN HARLINGEN: What's that now?

PRESIDENT MEARS: Did you have comments other than that from the Third Ward?

JON VAN HARLINGEN: No Sir, I don't.

PRESIDENT MEARS: Okay. Thank you. Councilman Davenport, do you have any comments from the Fourth Ward?

ALOMAR DAVENPORT: Uh, yes, I received a comment from Antoinette Daley, as well as Sarah Stort. Um, the Sarah Stort email for some reason there's no body, so um, I don't know what happened but I know she's in my ward. Um, and both of them and I've spoken to Sarah in regard to this so I know her position, so both of them are in support of the Resolution uh, and would like to see it passed, but unfortunately, I am unable to read Sarah's email.

PRESIDENT MEARS: Okay, thank you Councilman. Councilman Lawrence, anything from the Fifth Ward?

JASON LAWRENCE: Yes Sir, I have Anna Marie Durtschi, I hope I said her last name right, 238 West Third Street and she says good afternoon Councilmembers. I am writing you today to support the City of Mansfield in adopting Racism as a public health crisis. Let me start with an introduction. I am the mother of two biracial daughters. One is my biological child and the other one adopted. I am also a registered nurse, with many years working in the mental health field and twenty of those and over twenty of those working in the department of Rehab and Corrections. I am currently the board President of the North End Community Initiative Collaborative. I am resident of Mansfield and I have lived in the North End, up town for over twenty-eight years. It's interesting that so many residents are opposed to this initiative, which makes it even more imperative. Many of our neighbors have no idea that these problems are in fact. They often deny that there is any problem, would rather not talk about it and are frightened by what this all means and what outcomes could happen as a result. This is by no means anything to be frightened of but something to look forward to as a way to improve the lives of everyone of our residence. According to the Author Jonathan Mitzel, in Dying of Whiteness, links have been found between received Racism and sleep disturbances. Lifetime discrimination is associated with higher risks of hypertension among adult African Americans. Additionally, Neuroscientist claim racist attitudes lead to increase in blood pressure and cortisol levels, fight or flight and the person is at greater risk for heart attack or stroke. By recognizing Racism as a public health crisis, the City of Mansfield can be the leader in addressing these issues. Task force can be developed to gather data, analyze the information, develop a wellness plan, implement the plan, and evaluate the effectiveness of such plan. Our community can only benefit by adopting this resolution. Thank you all for your time and consideration of this essential plan. That's all I have Mr. Mears.

PRESIDENT MEARS: That's it? Thank you, Councilman Lawrence. Councilwoman Taddie, from the Sixth ward, comments?

JEAN TADDIE: I received two comments before three-thirty today, and I have not been back, I apologize if I've missed any further. So, um, this first one here is from Deborah Mount, 114 Cliffbrook. She writes,

Mansfield City Council, I'm concerned about Bill 123, that it does not fully or sufficiently address that public health crisis, racial inequity and hardship facing African Americans. I strongly agree that Police killings of unarmed, defenseless people are appalling and tragic. According to the Washington Post fourteen unarmed black people were killed by Police in 2019. From U.S. Census data that means one in three million three hundred thousand and some change, chance at an unarmed black person is killed by Police. Every time an innocent life is lost it is tragic. Also, horrifically tragic is the most recent data on the CDC website showing one in three defenseless black men and women are killed before they are even born. One in every three black American lives are robbed of a voice of an equal opportunity of their impact in society of having a life. In New York City the number is even worse. African American's have a one in two chance of being killed before they are born. Margret Sanger, founder of Planned Parenthood, was a proponent of eugenics and racism. In 1939, she told Dr. Clarence Gamble, "We don't want the word to go out that we want to exterminate the Negro population," and she cites a quote, Libex...something... "Her extreme racist view was resulted in the disproportionate killings of our African American brothers and sisters," and when we are talking about a public health crisis as the one in Bill 123 it is incomplete and very remiss to fail to recognize and to decry the annual killing of over two-hundred thousand unborn African Americans. Over twenty million unborn African Americans have been killed in the last forty-seven years. These injustices must be addressed, corrected and remedied at all levels of government and society. Please, amend and update the Legislation before you vote to recognize the entirety of at times racially motivated and always tragic killings of African Americans of all ages. Yes, we can institute a Task Force or organize a committee to fight the battle, but we truly must all lift our collective voices to speak up, speak out, and end and dismantle the killing of the innocent and defenseless in our Country and all over the world and I concur with section 4. it is an emergency. Okay, and the second comment is, um, brief. This is from Carol Lyles 610 Bennington Drive. I'm writing to encourage your consideration for the declaration of Racism as a public health crisis. I worked in public education, for many years, and the inequalities for minority families in our communities, were and are tremendous. Professionals in education, mental health, public health, housing, financial, and job opportunities, have struggled to support African American families. This declaration and subsequent effort by our community, could begin to make a difference for Mansfield. How exciting that would be. Let's take positive steps to be on the right side of this issue. Um, Mr. President I noticed that none of the organizations, some of which are housed in Mansfield, were read by the Council members. At this point can I mention the names and just briefly summarize a quick overview; some of the organizations that have sent in their support letters...and then we can address further.

PRESIDENT MEARS: Yeah, sure as long as we're within the three-minute guideline, sure, that's fine.

JEAN TADDIE: Sure. Okay, well, WE ACT, of course Bridget and her team NECIC, as you've heard from some of the board members, if you look at their letter, each one of their board members, each one of us have somebody on their board in their Ward, so I would encourage you to reach out if you have questions to NECIC. Um, and they also presented a multi... a very intense...um...a very intense report on African American conditions here locally and I hope I...I'm pretty confident that they would be willing to come and present some more information about that, but I do encourage the... we each received a copy of that in our mailbox today, this afternoon, so encourage you to check that out as well as Dr. Phil Mazoko's, research and statistics Racism is indeed a public health crisis and looking at some of the evidence that supports that directly. Uh, so, that's from NECIC. Also, the Mansfield interdenominational in Wisteria Ohio, has endorsed it. A number of churches, obviously, in Mansfield. The Woman's Democratic Caucus, the, I can't remember them all off the top of my head and I apologize for that, but there have been a number of partners and I say that not just to through their names out there, but each of them are committing time and resources. They're already doing the work, and you know it's a shame, because they've been doing this work, for some time now and it can't seem to get any media coverage, but suddenly it covered and only not them and not the tremendous work that they are already doing on this issue. Suddenly it became about defunding the Police, and I want to reiterate one last time, there is, please read the Legislation, this has nothing to do with defunding the Police and I'm sorry to hear that anybody ever made that association. I think we owe those

organizations some credit to respect the work that they are already doing and they are asking the legitimacy of the blessing of Council to recognize their work and to, you know, be a partner in change in our community. I thank you very much for your time Mr. President.

PRESIDENT MEARS: Okay, Councilwoman Taddie. Councilman At Large Scott, have you received any comments?

PHILLIP SCOTT: I have not, other than there was a couple of that were already referred to that were cc.'d to me, But I have none particularly.

PRESIDENT MEARS: Okay. Councilman Falquette, do you have any that have come your way for At Large?

DAVID FALQUETTE: I do have one from the Chairman from the Richland County Board of Health; who is David Remy. Dear Council, as Chairman of the Richland County Board of Public Health, I would like to address concerns relative to the Resolution pending before you. Last night at our monthly meeting the board discussed your proposed Resolution. The primary concerns are two, first, no one at the Richland County Health, staff or Board wise was contacted by any Resolution drafters or concerned Citizens about the Richland County Health views, the issue at hand, RPH is a joint or combines health board representative of the Cities of Mansfield, Ontario, and all the Villages and Townships within Richland County. It is a stand-alone Board defined by the Ohio Revised Code to ensure autonomy from County Commissioners, or City, and or Village Mayors or Council. The twelve board members are representative cross-section of the citizen jury of Richland County and they include a Medical Doctor, Dentist, Pharmacist, Veterinarian, Nurse, Lawyer as well as representatives from the urban, rural, and farming communities. Second, RPH is designed to be a non-political organization, that, by its nature, is designed as does provide a plethora of health-related services to all on a daily basis. This is done irrespective of race, color or creed or economic status. While all board members recognize there is a health and equity issue to be addressed, as identified in the Richland County Community Improvement Plan; which identified race, economics, poverty and education as factors that affect health status. The consensus is that the Richland County Health Board, of Health, does not wished to be placed in taking a small p, political stance, but will continue to provide robust Public Health Services on a non-political basis to engage in community initiatives that will bring health equity to all and will continue to asses health status and continue to prioritize those areas of health concern that can most help out Richland County Residents in need. That's from David Remy.

PRESIDENT MEARS: Okay. That concludes Public Comment. I thank you all for sharing those with us and I thank you all listening, via Facebook, for your patience in listening to all the comments as well. I know it's getting to be a rather long night so we'll continue on with the rest of our City Council Meeting.

END OF DISCUSSION

COMMITTEE REPORTS: NONE

ADMINISTRATION COMMENT:

MAYOR THEAKER: Yes, Mr. President I apologize for earlier, my computer and phone has not been working to great this evening. Hopefully one of these days we will be back in Council Chambers and we'll be able to be face to face, but I do have a Proclamation from, for Richland Strong, or Richland County Strong Month which is June 2020. If I may read that Proclamation, Sir?

PRESIDENT MEARS: Please do.

MAYOR THEAKER: Okay.

WHEREAS, Richland County & Mansfield have been deeply impacted by the effects of the COVID-19 crisis; and

WHEREAS, we honor the work of our frontline employees, healthcare workers, emergency responders, and others who have bravely helped throughout this crisis; and

WHEREAS, we honor the work our local residents and businesses have done to protect each other during the crisis; and

WHEREAS, we recognize the deep economic impact that has been felt by our local business community and their employees; and

WHEREAS, we know that small businesses have been particularly impacted by the crisis and are vital our area's economic health and vitality; and

WHEREAS, the people of Mansfield and Richland County are grateful to the small businesses of the area for their generous contribution to the quality of life we all enjoy; and

WHEREAS, we know that our local small business community needs extra support as they recover from the crisis and adapt to new regulations; and

WHEREAS, we believe that a resilient community must work together to overcome challenges; and

WHEREAS, we join with the Richland Area Chamber & Economic Development, Destination Mansfield, Downtown Mansfield, Inc. and other municipalities in the County to support our local business community;

Now, therefore, I, Tim Theaker, mayor of the city of Mansfield, Ohio, do hereby proclaim the month of June 2020, as; Richland County STRONG Month. And we will be meeting tomorrow in front of the City Hall and I know you are invited also, President Mears, to address the Public on opening up the City and County again with a Ribbon Cutting.

PRESIDENT MEARS: Thank you Mayor Theaker. I appreciate that very much, and thank you for the Proclamation. Safety Service Director Cope, do you have anything for Council?

SAFETY SERVICE DIRECTOR COPE: I do. Mr. President, thank you, and to address Council. The last Council meeting we had Councilwoman Taddie had mentioned about the openness and making sure we have that communication. I think it's brought to light this evening; we have been in contact with Bridget from WE ACT and she had addressed her concerns about this particular issue, but wasn't yet made into a legislation format, but we have an actual meeting scheduled for Thursday, of course being respectful of the numbers that can attend and social distancing, but we have had conversations with her. We feel once we saw this legislation, no one in the Administration had any conversation from um, reference this Legislation, so again we also like very adamant about, please being involved in this in order to best respond to our constituents as well. So, we're meeting on Thursday, Councilman Davenport put this meeting together, which we appreciate and will give us the opportunity to discuss some of the concerns. Again, without this being a Proclamation or a legislation yet, we do think it's premature to vote this evening on such an issue,

so again we appreciate moving it to the twenty-first. At the earliest, we hope that we can have more discussions on it. So, just again just to say thank you for those that said this is not reference to defunding the police, we obviously, adamantly oppose that. Leaving our neighborhoods and businesses to fend for themselves; there's no win in that. So, um, we 'll be back in touch with you after or meeting on Thursday and make sure Council's involved again on what came from that, and I'm sure that Councilman Davenport will fill you in further. So, thank you Mr. President.

PRESIDENT MEARS: Thank you very much Safety Service Director Cope. Thank you for those comments.

MONDAY DEADLINE

NONE

SUSPEND RULES

COUNCILWOMAN BURNS: I move with respect to all the bills that the rule requiring reading on three different days be suspended and that each bill be read one time by title only, seconded by Mr. Falquette. The vote was taken and resulted as follows: Ayes: 8 Nays: 0.

AUTHORIZING PWD TO ACCEPT DONATION FROM BO LACEY TO REPAIR SOUTH PARK GAZEBO

BY: MRS. MEIER

BILL # 20-110 **Amended**

ORDINANCE #20-105

Authorizing the Public Works Director to accept an in-kind donation from the employees of Bo Lacey Construction, as private citizens, of labor and materials for construction to repair South Park's Gazebo roof and declaring an emergency.

Upon motion by Mrs. Meier Bill 20-110 be read and placed upon the floor for discussion, seconded by Mr. Falquette. The bill was placed upon the floor for final passage, seconded by Mr. Falquette. The vote was taken and resulted as follows: Ayes: 8, Nays: 0.

DISCUSSION:

CLERK AMY: We did get an email from the Law Director's office to amend this piece, the language, so that's in yellow.

PRESIDENT MEARS: I'm assuming that since the Law Director made these changes that we don't have to make a motion and pass an amended Bill for this Bill.

CLERK AMY: I'm assuming that as well.

PRESIDENT MEARS: Okay. Given that is there any discussion on this Bill? Okay. Hearing none.

END OF DISCUSSION

TRANSFERRING APPROPRIATIONS WITHIN THE GENERAL FUND

BY: MR. VAN HARLINGEN

BILL # 20-111

ORDINANCE # 20-106

Transferring appropriations in the amount of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) within the General Fund (#101) for mowing services, and declaring an emergency.

Upon motion by Mr. Van Harlingen, that Bill 20-111 be read and placed upon the floor for discussion, seconded by Mr. Falquette. The bill was placed upon the floor for final passage, seconded by Mr. Falquette. The vote was taken and resulted as follows: Ayes: 8, Nays: 0

The bill was declared passed, signed by the President, approved by the Mayor and attested by the Clerk.

ACCEPTING FUNDING FROM THE OHIO SUPREME COURT \$45,000.00

BY: MR. VAN HARLINGEN

BILL # 20-112

ORDINANCE # 20-107

Authorizing the acceptance of funding from the Ohio Supreme Court in the amount of forty-five thousand dollars (\$45,000) for the purpose of developing a text messaging notification system, and declaring an emergency.

Upon motion by Mr. Van Harlingen, that Bill 20-112 be read and placed upon the floor for discussion, seconded by Mr. Falquette. The bill was placed upon the floor for final passage, seconded by Mr. Falquette. The vote was taken and resulted as follows: Ayes: 8, Nays: 0

The bill was declared passed, signed by the President, approved by the Mayor and attested by the Clerk.

DISCUSSION: NONE

THEN & NOW PAYMENT: R&D EXCAVATING \$11,222.00

BY: MR. VAN HARLINGEN

BILL # 20-113

ORDINANCE # 20-108

Authorizing the payment to R & D Excavating, in the amount of eleven thousand two hundred twenty-two dollars (\$11,222.00) by affirming a Then and Now Certificate of the Finance Director, and declaring an emergency.

Upon motion by Mr. Falquette, that Bill 20-113 be read and placed upon the floor for discussion, seconded by Mr. Lawrence. The bill was placed upon the floor for final passage, seconded by Mr. Falquette. The vote was taken and resulted as follows: Ayes: 7, Nays: 0 (Davenport was unavailable for vote)

The bill was declared passed, signed by the President, approved by the Mayor and attested by the Clerk.

DISCUSSION: NONE

AUTHORIZING PWD TO ACCEPT GRANT FROM RICHLAND COUNTY FOUNDATION

BY: MR. LAWRENCE

BILL # 20-114

ORDINANCE # 20-109

Authorizing the Public Works Director to accept a Grant from the Richland County Foundation in the aggregate amount of four thousand two hundred dollars (\$4,200) for the purpose of hiring an intern in the Community Development Department, and declaring an emergency.

Upon motion by Mr. Van Harlingen that Bill 20-114 be read and placed upon the floor for discussion, seconded by Mr. Falquette. The bill was placed upon the floor for final passage, seconded by Mr. Falquette. The vote was taken and resulted as follows: Ayes: 7, Nays: 0 (Davenport was unavailable for vote)

The bill was declared passed, signed by the President, approved by the Mayor and attested by the Clerk.

DISCUSSION: NONE

VACATING UNNAMED ALLEY WEST OF BOWMAN ST. FROM WEST THIRD TO THE SOUTH END

BY: MR. LAWRENCE

BILL # 20-117

ORDINANCE # 20-110

Vacating an Unnamed Alley west of Bowman Street from West Third Street to the South end, along Outlot No.51 and Lot No. 1748, and retaining the utility rights and easements therein, and declaring an emergency.

Upon motion by Mr. Lawrence, that Bill 20-117 be read and placed upon the floor for discussion, seconded by Mr. Falquette. The bill was placed upon the floor for final passage, seconded by Mr. Falquette. The vote was taken and resulted as follows: Ayes: 7, Nays: 0 (Davenport was unavailable for vote)

The bill was declared passed, signed by the President, approved by the Mayor and attested by the Clerk.

DISCUSSION: NONE

AUTHORIZING PWD TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS & ENTER INTO CONTRACT

BY: MR. LAWRENCE

BILL # 20-118

ORDINANCE # 20-111

Authorizing the Public Works Director to advertise for bids and to enter into a contract for leasing multi-function document devices, and declaring an emergency.

Upon motion by Mr. Van Harlingen, that Bill 20-118 be read and placed upon the floor for discussion, seconded by Mr. Falquette. The bill was placed upon the floor for final passage, seconded by Mr. Falquette. The vote was taken and resulted as follows: Ayes: 8, Nays: 0

The bill was declared passed, signed by the President, approved by the Mayor and attested by the Clerk.

DISCUSSION:

ALOMAR DAVENPORT: I apologize my call dropped. I missed the last vote, but I, I'm ...so, do I abstain from that last vote? Is that what happens there?

PRESIDENT MEARS: The measures passed 7-0, so that's fine. We're, okay.

ALOMAR DAVENPORT: Okay.

END OF DISCUSSION

AUTHORIZING PWD TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS FOR CUSTODIAL SERVICES

BY: MR. LAWRENCE

BILL # 20-119

ORDINANCE # 20-112

Authorizing the Public Works Director to advertise for bids and enter into a contract or contracts for custodial services in the Municipal Building, the Wastewater Treatment Plant Office Building, the Water Treatment Plant Office Building, the Utility Collection Building, and declaring an emergency.

Upon motion by Mr. Lawrence, that Bill 20-119 be read and placed upon the floor for discussion, seconded by Mr. Falquette. The bill was placed upon the floor for final passage, seconded by Mr. Falquette. The vote was taken and resulted as follows: Ayes: 8, Nays: 0

The bill was declared passed, signed by the President, approved by the Mayor and attested by the Clerk.

DISCUSSION: NONE

AUTHORIZING PWD TO ACCEPT FUNDING FROM THE FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION (CARES ACT) FOR MANSFIELD LAHM AIRPORT

BY: MR. SCOTT

BILL # 20-120

ORDINANCE # 20-113

Authorizing the Public Works Director to accept and appropriate funding from the Federal Aviation Administration for the purpose of acquiring grant funds through the CARES Act, to be used for purposes directly related to the Mansfield Lahm Regional Airport, and declaring an emergency.

Upon motion by Mr. Scott, that Bill 20-120 be read and placed upon the floor for discussion, seconded by Mr. Falquette. The bill was placed upon the floor for final passage, seconded by Mr. Falquette. The vote was taken and resulted as follows: Ayes: 8, Nays: 0

The bill was declared passed, signed by the President, approved by the Mayor and attested by the Clerk.

DISCUSSION: NONE

AMENDING SECTIONS OF PERSONNEL ORDINANCE ADJUSTING PAYGRADES

BY: MS. TADDIE

BILL # 20-122 **Amended *1st Read ORDINANCE #20-114

Amending sections of the personnel ordinance (ORD #20-066) by creating and adjusting positions, pay grades and salaries for certain employees of the City of Mansfield 2020 payroll year, and declaring an emergency.

Upon motion by Mr. Taddie that Bill 20-122 be read and placed upon the floor for discussion, seconded by Mr. Falquette.

DISCUSSION: NONE

RESOLUTION: RACISM VIEWED AS A PUBLIC HEALTH CRISIS

BY: MS. TADDIE

BILL # 20-123 *1st Read ORDINANCE# 20-115**

Strongly supporting the recognition of racism as a public health crisis and requesting that the Richland Public Health Board make a similar declaration and partner with the local community to create a task force or organizing committee to address this issue as detailed below, and declaring a public health emergency.

Upon motion by Ms. Taddie, that Bill 20-123 be read and placed upon the floor for discussion, seconded by Mr. Scott.

DISCUSSION:

PRESIDENT MEARS: This is a First Reading, but is there any further discussion on this Bill?

JEAN TADDIE: Um, I would just like to, if I could Mr. President, clarify, I'm not sure David, if you did receive the response that Dr. Donna Height sent back to Director Remy, I did just want to assure my Council Members, and you can read it in your email, your inbox and see the copy of the letter that was sent May

18th, to the Public Health Director, at 555 Lexington Avenue and at the same time of course, I remember council received that letter as well and I'm told that it went out to all the Mayors in Richland County, so I do believe that it did get delivered to Mayor Theaker as well as all the Mayor's in our County and their conversations are ongoing with other Communities as well. Thank you.

END OF DISCUSSION

CLOSING COMMENTS:

PRESIDENT MEARS: I do want to make a comment before we make a motion for adjournment; that is as reminder as we enter our Summer Recess, we do not have a First Tuesday Meeting in July. The next time we will be meeting will be July 21st, just as a reminder to those following us on Facebook. Do I have a motion for adjournment?

DAVID FALQUETTE: I so Move.

CHERYL MEIER: Mr. President?

PRESIDENT MEARS: Yes.

CHERYL MEIER: I'm sorry, I had myself on mute, and I apologize.

PRESIDENT MEARS: Go ahead.

CHERYL MEIER: I wondered if we could get any kind of an update on the Fire Department situation? Whether that's changed in any way? Whether Director Cope could speak to that or possibly the Mayor? Whether we're moving...

SAFETY SERVICE DIRECTOR COPE: What specifically? I'm sorry.

CHERYL MEIER: Are we...how mu...at what time, when do we expect to be letting them go back to a regular overtime if that's needed?

SAFETY SERVICE DIRECTOR COPE: Well, we're still following the revenue that, income; tax revenue. I haven't even checked it this week at all to see where we are. We try to do it about every week, at the longest, every other week so we don't know. It certainly is our hope that we can get back to full staffing, as we left, and hope the revenue shows, or continues to show that we can. We're concerned about maybe what's ahead, but we hope that this time that we've reduced the overtime, that has helped prolong anything that may come, so it is certainly our hope to get back.

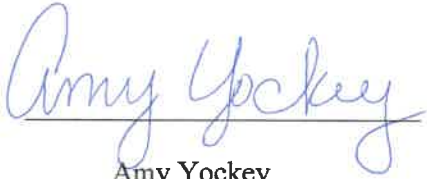
CHERYL MEIER: Thank you.

SAFETY SERVICE DIRECTOR COPE: Yes, Ma'am.

PRESIDENT MEARS: Is there anything else to come before Council tonight? Oaky. I will say, I thank you for your patience, this has been a little over a three hour and a half meeting, so thank you all very much, May I have a motion for adjournment?

END OF DISCUSSION

ADJOURN: Upon motion by Mr. Falquette, seconded by Mr. Scott and passed by voice vote, the meeting was adjourned.



Amy Yockey
Clerk of Council



Cliff Mears
President