

**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**  
**May 3, 2023**

The first monthly meeting of Mansfield City Council met on  
Wednesday May 3, 2023 at 7:04 pm in the  
Council Chambers of the City Building.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by the audience.

Eleazer Akuchie led the audience in prayer.

**ROLL CALL:** The following answered present at roll call: Burns, Meier, Akuchie, Davenport, Diaz, Moton, Zader, Scott, and Falquette.

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

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

**ACTING PRESIDENT SCOTT:** I do believe we have one person signed up to speak to Council this night. Mr. McNeil. Come on buddy, let's go. I don't know, maybe. Of course, I'm not really taking over as new president but ya know, Mr. Falquette gives ya 3 minutes. I might only give ya 2.

**ESTHER MCNEIL:** I don't care. Cuz I'm not gonna be that long. But, I do have a question on that water tower.

**STEPHANIE ZADER:** Point of order. Mr. President, his name and address for the record.

**ACTING PRESIDENT SCOTT:** Ope, I'm sorry, yes. Your name and address Mr. McNeil.

**ESTHER MCNEIL:** Name is Esther McNeil, 304 East Arch Street Mansfield Ohio 44902. Phone number 419-610-1308. My draft number if ya want that, I'll give it to ya.

**ACTING PRESIDENT SCOTT:** Your wasting your time sir.

**ESTHER MCNEIL:** I don't care. I'm gonna sit here till I get ready to leave. But I have a question on that water tower. Who owns the land and who owns the tower? Can somebody tell me that?

**ACTING PRESIDENT SCOTT:** We can get with...well...we can get with you after the meeting.

**ESTHER MCNEIL:** I'll be gone.

**ROBERT BIANCHI:** City of Mansfield.

**ESTHER MCNEIL:** City. They own the tower?

**ROBERT BIANCHI:** City of Mansfield does.

**ESTHER MCNEIL:** And the land?

**ROBERT BIANCHI:** Yea.

**ESTHER MCNEIL:** In another town?

**ROBERT BIANCHI:** Correct.

**ESTHER MCNEIL:** How did they do that?

**ROBERT BIANCHI:** In 1956, part of the GM construction.

**ESTHER MCNEIL:** Then it should have been a part of GM when they tore it down. Not the City. That's about all I have to say. I don't agree with the City paying for it. Not coming out of our tax money. I don't agree with it.

**ACTING PRESIDENT SCOTT:** Thank you. Are there any committee reports? None. Acting Mayor Falquette?

**ACTING MAYOR FALQUETTE:** No thank you sir.

**ACTING PRESIDENT SCOTT:** Director Remy?

**DIRECTOR REMY:** Nothing, sir.

**ACTING PRESIDENT SCOTT:** Assistant Director Kemerer?

**ASSISTANT LAW DIRECTOR KEMERER:** Nothing.

END OF DISCUSSION

**ACTING PRESIDENT SCOTT:** We shall now proceed with legislation. Mrs. Burns do we have any late bills?

### **SUSPEND RULES**

**LAURA BURNS:** We do not. But I would like to move with respect to all bills that come before council this evening that the rule requiring reading on three different days be suspended and that each bill be read one time by title only. Seconded by Mrs. Zader. The vote was taken and resulted as follows: Ayes: 8, Nays: 0

**ACTING PRESIDENT SCOTT:** We will now proceed with legislation. Starting with bill 23-055, Mrs. Zader.

**STEPHANIE ZADER:** Thank you Mr. President. I move that bill 23-055 placed on the floor for discussion.

**CHERLY MEIER:** Second.

**AMY YOCKEY:** Authorizing payment of the claim of Jennifer Atwell of 222 Buckeye Avenue Mansfield, Ohio 44906, and declaring an emergency.

**FIRE PURCHASE-2023 FORD EXPEDITION-SSV**

BY: Mrs. Zader

BILL #23-055

ORDINANCE: 23-056

Authorizing payment of the claim of Jennifer Atwell of 222 Buckeye Avenue Mansfield, Ohio 44906, and declaring an emergency.

Upon motion by Mrs. Zader that Bill 23-055 be read and placed upon the floor for second read, seconded by Mrs. Zader 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.

**ACTING PRESIDENT SCOTT:** Is there any discussion on the bill? Hearing none, Mrs. Zader.

**DISCUSSION:**

**STEPHANIE ZADER:** Thank you Mr. President. I move that bill 23-055 be placed upon the floor for final passage.

**CHERLY MEIER:** Second.

**AMY YOCKEY:** Seconded, Council will now cast their vote.

**ACTING PRESIDENT SCOTT:** Ope, sorry I'm new to this job. It's moved and seconded. Council will now cast their vote on bill 23-055. Bill passes 8-0.

END OF DISCUSSION

**ACTING PRESIDENT SCOTT:** Bill 23-056, Mr. Davenport.

**ALOMAR DAVENPORT:** Thank you Mr. President I move that bill 23-056 be read and placed upon the floor for discussion.

**STEPHANIE ZADER:** Second.

**ACTING PRESIDENT SCOTT:** It's been moved and seconded. The clerk shall read bill 23-056.

**AMY YOCKEY:** Authorizing the Mayor and Public Works Director to execute a Standard Software Maintenance Agreement with Tyler Technologies Corporation for a term of one (1) year, and declaring an emergency.

**TYLER TECHNOLOGIES CORPORATION**

BY: MR. DAVENPORT

BILL #23-056

ORDINANCE: 23-057

Authorizing the Mayor and Public Works Director to execute a Standard Software Maintenance Agreement with Tyler Technologies Corporation for a term of one (1) year, and declaring an emergency.

Upon motion by Mr. Davenport that Bill 23-056 be read and placed upon the floor for second read, seconded by Mrs. Zader The vote was taken and resulted as follows: Ayes: 7 Nays: 0

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

**ACTING PRESIDENT SCOTT:** Mr. Davenport.

**DISCUSSION:**

**ALOMAR DAVENPORT:** Thank you Mr. President. I move bill 23-056 be placed on the floor for final consideration.

**STEPHANIE ZADER:** Second.

**ACTING PRESIDENT SCOTT:** It's been moved and seconded...ope wait a minute. Did ya? Ok. It's been moved and seconded that we cast our vote for bill 23-056. Bill passes 8-0.

END OF DISCUSSION

**ACTING PRESIDENT SCOTT:** Bill 23-057, Mrs. Burns.

**LAURA BURNS:** Thank you Mr. President I move that bill 23-057 be read and placed upon the floor for discussion.

**STEPHANIE ZADER:** Second.

**ACTING PRESIDENT SCOTT:** The clerk shall read 23-057.

**AMY YOCKEY:** Authorizing the Public Works Director to allocate an additional \$9,500.00 from the Water Fund (#502) to Davis & Newcomer Elevator Co. Inc. for emergency repairs to the service elevator at the Water Treatment Plant, and declaring an emergency.

**DAVIS & NEWCOMER ELEVATOR CO. INC**

BY: MRS. BURNS

BILL #23-057

ORDINANCE: 23-058

Authorizing the Public Works Director to allocate an additional \$9,500.00 from the Water Fund (#502) to Davis & Newcomer Elevator Co. Inc. for emergency repairs to the service elevator at the Water Treatment Plant, and declaring an emergency.

Upon motion by Mrs. Burns that Bill 23-057 be read and placed upon the floor for second read, seconded by Mrs. Zader 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.

**ACTING PRESIDENT SCOTT:** Is there any discussion and bill 23-057? Mrs. Burns.

**DISCUSSION:**

**LAURA BURNS:** Thank you Mr. President. I move bill 23-057 be placed upon the floor for final consideration.

**STEPHANIE ZADER:** Second.

**ACTING PRESIDENT SCOTT:** It's been moved and seconded that bill 23-057 be placed on the floor for final passage. Council shall vote. Bill passes 8-0.

END OF DISCUSSION

**ACTING PRESIDENT SCOTT:** Bill 23-058, Mrs. Burns.

**LAURA BURNS:** Thank you Mr. President I move that bill 23-058 be read and placed upon the floor for discussion.

**STEPHANIE ZADER:** Second.

**ACTING PRESIDENT SCOTT:** It's been moved and seconded. The clerk shall read 23-058.

**AMY YOCKEY:** Authorizing the Public Works Director to enter into a contract or contracts for the demolition of Shaker Water Tower, and declaring an emergency.

#### **SHAKER WATER TOWER DEMOLITION**

BY: MRS. BURNS

BILL #23-058

ORDINANCE: 23-059

Authorizing the Public Works Director to enter into a contract or contracts for the demolition of Shaker Water Tower, and declaring an emergency.

Upon motion by Mrs. Burns that Bill 23-058 be read and placed upon the floor for second read, seconded by Mrs. Zader 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.

**ACTING PRESIDENT SCOTT:** Is there any discussion on bill 23-058? Hearing none, Mrs. Burns.

**DISCUSSION:**

**LAURA BURNS:** Thank you Mr. President. I move bill 23-058 be placed upon the floor for final consideration.

**STEPHANIE ZADER:** Second.

**ACTING PRESIDENT SCOTT:** It's been moved and seconded. Council shall cast their vote for final passage of bill 23-058. Passes 8-0.

END OF DISCUSSION

**ACTING PRESIDENT SCOTT:** And last but not least, bill 23-059, Mr. Davenport.

**ALOMAR DAVENPORT:** Thank you Mr. President I move that bill 23-059 be read and placed upon the floor for discussion.

**STEPHANIE ZADER:** Second.

**ACTING PRESIDENT SCOTT:** It's been moved and seconded. The clerk shall read bill 23-059.

**AMY YOCKEY:** Approving the expenditure of funds received under the American Rescue Plan Act in the manner prescribed by and consistent with the requirements of the American Rescue Plan Act, and declaring an emergency.

## **ARPA FUNDS**

BY: MR. DAVENPORT

BILL #23-059

ORDINANCE: 23-060

Approving the expenditure of funds received under the American Rescue Plan Act in the manner prescribed by and consistent with the requirements of the American Rescue Plan Act, and declaring an emergency.

Upon motion by Mr. Davenport that Bill 23-059 be read and placed upon the floor for second read, seconded by Mrs. Zader 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.

**ACTING PRESIDENT SCOTT:** Is there any discussion on bill 23-059? Hearing none, Mr. Davenport.

## **DISCUSSION:**

**ALOMAR DAVENPORT:** Thank you Mr. President. I move bill 23-059 be placed upon the floor for final consideration.

**STEPHANIE ZADER:** Second.

**ACTING PRESIDENT SCOTT:** Been moved and seconded. Council shall cast their vote. Passes 8-0.

END OF DISCUSSION

## **CLOSING COMMENTS:**

**ACTING PRESIDENT SCOTT:** Ok, Is there anything further to come before council this evening? legislation or comments to come before Council this evening? Mr. Diaz.

**AURELIO DIAZ:** Thank you Mr. President. I want to take the opportunity to...I spoke to a lot of residents and community leaders and they wanted me to acknowledge and really denounce as a city, as all of us, about the increase in violence that's been happening. We know that is you read the media, there's been an increase in shootings in certain areas of town and it's become a huge epidemic. With the law enforcement being below staff, with summer time coming, with a lot of programs not necessarily geared

towards kids 15 and up in our parks, there is a lot of fear in these neighborhoods. And we just had, as you know, two shootings recently. I spoke to Ms. Bridgette Coles, as you all know, huge community leader involved with Children Services. When these types of situations have happened before, which we can recall, there's such a momentum. We talk about it. We have town hall meetings. We do marches. And then it goes away. Nothing really happens with it. So, I did also kinda want to update you that there is a program that was based in Chicago Cease Fire. It is now called Cure Violence. That's an initiative and partnership with Ohio Health and NECIC that's going to be implemented fairly soon. There's a training for it virtual on the 19<sup>th</sup>, which is a Friday. And I have some notes here. But Cure Violence is basically a public health approach to violence reduction. It aims to stop the spread of violence in communities by using methods and strategies associated with epidemic disease control. It helps detect and interrupt conflicts and to identify the highest risk individuals. Speaking with Ms. Deanna West-Torrence, Bridget, and some faith-based pastors in our community, it's something we really need to figure out what to do. We don't know the solution. We know that everyone may be doing their own types of programs, which is good. But the fact that there's been such a huge absence of talking about it from us has been really impactful to our city. And I think because of that we have residents who are discouraged, they're fearful, and they want to hear us talk about it. And they want to see all of us here be involved with it as much as possible. I think we were all having discussions with people in our neighborhoods. Again, I'm just reiterating the fear and trembling of people. They're not looking forward to summer at all. The friendly house can only do so much. We have no rec centers right now. And if we do they're only geared toward little kids, which is good, but it's not helping out. So, that's really what I wanted to bring up. Also, for those, and we have the media here we can spread some information. The importance of neighborhood watch groups is so important, but I'm still kind of shocked that there are people in our neighborhood who doesn't realize where their neighborhoods and wards all gather. There is a number, this is actually what Officer Ahles has. He's a very important well-known community officer, and he conducts these. It's 522-CRIME...um actually it's 52-CRIME, which is 522-7463 for those who are watching on this live broadcast. The neighborhood watch groups that I have gone to recently...um...there so important. I mean, we have seniors who are looking for protection basically. We're having more discussions about ya know maybe they don't know the updated technology with cameras and Ring bells and stuff like that. We need to keep updating our community and our members on their options for being protected. Especially for those who are in areas who may not have a next-door neighbor. But, again, I just wanted to acknowledge this because it's been something we've...if you go on Facebook it's its frustration. It's ya know, especially those who are, you know have lost their family members. And when they hear us say things like I'm saying, they roll their eyes. Because they used to hearing it all the time. So, this is really just a cry...outcry of the urgency of us really needing, figuring out something to do all together. So, thank you so much.

**ACTING PRESIDENT SCOTT:** Is there anything else to come before council this evening? Hearing none.

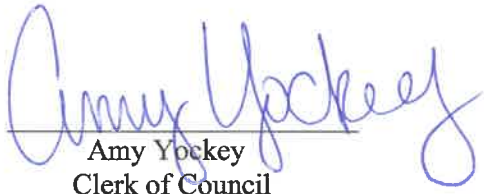
**STEPHANIE ZADER:** Move to close.

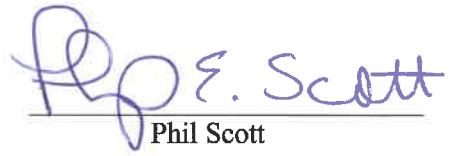
**CHERYL MEIER:** Second

**ACTING PRESIDENT SCOTT:** It's been moved and seconded we adjourn. All in favor.

**END OF DISCUSSION**

**ADJOURN:** Upon motion by Mrs. Zader, seconded by Mrs. Meier, and passed by voice vote, the meeting was adjourned.

  
Amy Yockey  
Clerk of Council

  
Phil Scott  
Acting President