

**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**  
**February 20, 2024**

The second monthly meeting of Mansfield City Council met on  
Tuesday, February 20, 2024 at 7:28 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 were present at roll call: Burns, Meier, Akuchie, Daley, Diaz, Mount, Zader, Falquette, and Scott (excused absence – passed 8-0).

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

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**  
*(NONE)*

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**AURELIO DIAZ:** Thank you Mr. President. I have a few here, I won't take long. Just to announce some events that will be occurring before our next council meeting. Friday, February 23<sup>rd</sup>, at 5:30pm, the monthly men's group called, "Men's Planning" is going to resume. That is for men from ages 14-90. This is a way for men to establish meaningful relationships. This month it's going to be at the NECIC building downtown. On Tuesday, February 27<sup>th</sup>, at OSU-Mansfield, the Domestic Violence Shelter is hosting an event to the public called "Expressions of the Heart." They will be using art and stories and touch on awareness of domestic violence, so please come out. It starts at 7:30pm. On March 1<sup>st</sup>, at the Richland Mall, at 11:00am, will be the kick-off of the event "Step into the Spring." This event is held every year from 11:00am – 12:00 noon. Come out and walk the mall with a lot of individuals who receive support from the County Board of DD. They love to meet new people and they will be coming to council I am sure pretty soon. Finally, beginning Saturday, March 2<sup>nd</sup> beginning at 9am, the Easter Bunny will be there to take pictures with the kids of all ages. There will also be animals there as well. So, every Saturday and Sunday, you can come and have breakfast and take pictures with the Easter Bunny also. That concludes my announcements.

**PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE FALQUETTE:** Thank you. Ms. Mount.

**DEBORAH MOUNT:** Just a quick update. Something that I have heard quite a bit, which are some concerns from residents about the state of the street lights and it has been a priority for me to work on. Just finished last week driving through the sixth ward and reported all of the streetlight outages that I could find. There was 175 street lights out, 93 have been repaired. And I'll be continuing to monitor the ones that are not and we will see if we can get them working again. Those are street lights is my understanding, the city pays for whether or not they are working. So, for safety sake and for getting our monies worth, I'm glad to see some of them getting fixed.

**PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE FALQUETTE:** Thank you for that. And anybody can turn in a street light that's out at Ohio Edison online or call their number or something like that. And you are very correct, it's a flat rate you pay whether the lights come on or not. Might as well have them turn them on. Alright, let's see here...Madam Mayor?

**MAYOR JODIE PERRY:** I have nothing further, but just to tag on. I think once a year we do contract to go out and look at those, is that correct Bob? Ok. But yes, encourage people. You can do that right on our website, it will connect you right to Ohio Edison or you can give our office a call and we can submit it for you. Thank you.

**PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE FALQUETTE:** Ms. Finance Director?

**FINANCE DIRECTOR KELLY BLANKENSHIP:** Nothing further, thank you.

**PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE FALQUETTE:** Alright, Public Works Director?

**PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR LOUIS ANDRES:** Thank you, I have nothing.

**PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE FALQUETTE:** Alright, Director May?

**ACTING SAFETY SERVICE DIRECTOR SHARON MAY:** Nothing further. Thank you.

**PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE FALQUETTE:** Alright. Director Harper.

**LAW DIRECTOR ROELIFF HARPER:** Nothing further. Thank you.

**MAYOR JODIE PERRY:** I'm sorry. I just realized this is our last meeting with Director May as the acting assessor, so I do want to thank her. She took that on in addition to her HR responsibilities. There's a lot that is a part of that role. Of course we are very excited for Chief Porch. He will assume that role on the 28<sup>th</sup>. But, I do want to thank Sharon for stepping up, doing that, in this interim. You've done a great job and appreciate your work. Thanks.

**PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE FALQUETTE:** Alright, Let's do legislation. Mr. Akuchie, do we have any late bills?

#### **LATE BILLS**

**ELEAZER AKUCHIE:** Yes, Mr. President. I move with respect to the Bill 24-025, that the rules requiring legislation by submitting by Monday at 4:00pm be suspended, and the Bill 24-025 be allowed on the floor this evening.

**STEPHANIE ZADER:** Second.

**PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE FALQUETTE:** It's been moved and seconded to allow late Bill 24-025 on the floor. Is there any further discussion? If not, let's go ahead and vote. Passes 8-0.

#### **SUSPEND RULES**

**ELEAZER AKUCHIE:** 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. Cast vote. Passes 8-0.

**PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE FALQUETTE:** Back to legislation. Mr. Diaz, Bill 24-018.

**AURELIO DIAZ:** Thank you Mr. President I move that Bill 24-018 be read and placed upon the floor for discussion.

**STEPHANIE ZADER:** Second.

**PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE FALQUETTE:** It's been moved and seconded. The clerk will now read Bill 24-018.

**DELAINE WEINER:** Bridge repair on Home Road over US30 within the City of Mansfield. This project is currently scheduled to be constructed summer of 2024.

**BRIDGE REPAIR – US 30**

BY: MR. DIAZ

BILL #24-018

ORDINANCE: 24-019

Bridge repair on Home Road over US30 within the City of Mansfield. This project is currently scheduled to be constructed summer of 2024.

Upon motion by Mr. Diaz that Bill 24-018 be read and placed upon the floor for final consideration, 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.

**PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE FALQUETTE:** Any further questions or comments? Mr. Diaz.

**AURELIO DIAZ:** Thank you Mr. President. I move Bill 24-018 be placed on the floor for final passage.

**STEPHANIE ZADER:** Second.

**PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE FALQUETTE:** It's been moved and seconded for final passage. Please cast your vote for Bill 24-018. Bill passes 8-0.

*END OF DISCUSSION*

**PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE FALQUETTE:** Mr. Diaz, Bill 24-019.

**AURELIO DIAZ:** Thank you Mr. President. I move that Bill 24-019 be read and placed on the floor for discussion.

**STEPHANIE ZADER:** Second.

**PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE FALQUETTE:** It's been moved and seconded. The clerk will now read Bill 24-019.

**DELAINE WEINER:** Approving reappointments by the Mayor to the Shade Tree Commission.  
**REAPPOINTMENTS – SHADE TREE COMMISSION**

BY: MR. DIAZ

BILL #24-019

ORDINANCE: 24-020

Approving reappointments by the Mayor to the Shade Tree Commission.

Upon motion by Mr. Diaz that Bill 24-019 be read and placed upon the floor for final consideration, 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.

**PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE FALQUETTE:** Questions, Comments? Mr. Diaz

**AURELIO DIAZ:** Thank you Mr. President. I move that Bill 24-019 be placed on the floor for final passage.

**STEPHANIE ZADER:** Second.

**PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE FALQUETTE:** It's been moved and seconded. Please cast your vote for Bill 24-019. Bill passes 8-0.

*END OF DISCUSSION*

**PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE FALQUETTE:** Mrs. Burns, Bill 24-020.

**LAURA BURNS:** Thank you Mr. President. I move that Bill 24-020 be read and placed upon the floor for discussion.

**STEPHANIE ZADER:** Second.

**PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE FALQUETTE:** It's been moved and seconded as amended. The clerk will now read Bill 24-020.

**DELAINE WEINER:** Approving a reappointment by the Mayor to the Board of Utility Appeals.

**REAPPOINTMENT – BOARD OF UTILITY APPEALS (MAYOR)**

BY: MRS. BURNS

BILL #24-020

ORDINANCE: 24-021

Approving a reappointment by the Mayor to the Board of Utility Appeals.

Upon motion by Mrs. Burns, that Bill 24-020 be read and placed upon the floor for final passage, 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.

**PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE FALQUETTE:** Further discussion? Hearing none, Mrs. Burns?

*DISCUSSION*

**LAURA BURNS:** I move that with respect to Bill 24-020 be placed upon the floor for final consideration.

**STEPHANIE ZADER:** Second.

**PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE FALQUETTE:** It's been moved and seconded. Please cast your vote for Bill 24-020. Bill passes 8-0.

*END OF DISCUSSION*

**PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE FALQUETTE:** Mrs. Meier, Bill 24-021.

**CHERYL MEIER:** Thank you Sir. I move that Bill 24-021 be read and placed upon the floor for discussion.

**STEPHANIE ZADER:** Second.

**PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE FALQUETTE:** It's been moved and seconded. The clerk will now read Bill 24-021.

**DELAINE WEINER:** Accepting a National PAL Mentoring Sub-grant in the amount of twenty-eight thousand eight hundred and 00/100 dollars (\$28,800.00) through the National Association of Police Athletic/Activities Leagues, Inc. to be used by the Mansfield Police Athletic League, and declaring an emergency.

#### **NATIONAL PAL MENTORING SUB GRANT**

BY: MRS. MEIER

BILL #24-021

ORDINANCE: 24-022

Accepting a National PAL Mentoring Sub-grant in the amount of twenty-eight thousand eight hundred and 00/100 dollars (\$28,800.00) through the National Association of Police Athletic/Activities Leagues, Inc. to be used by the Mansfield Police Athletic League, and declaring an emergency.

Upon motion by Mrs. Meier that Bill 24-021 be read and placed upon the floor for final consideration, 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.

**PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE FALQUETTE:** Any further questions or comments? Mrs. Zader?

*DISCUSSION:*

**STEPHANIE ZADER:** Just a quick comment. Twenty Eight Thousand Eight Hundred Dollars (\$28,800) isn't a lot of money. And Ginger does a lot with that. Her programming at the Friendly House, Safety Town Program, all those things are all things that she does either with this funding or money that she raises. So, thank you to her.

**PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE FALQUETTE:** Very good. Mrs. Meier?

**CHERYL MEIER:** Thank you sir. I move Bill 24-021 be placed upon the floor for final consideration.

**STEPHANIE ZADER:** Second.

**PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE FALQUETTE:** It's been moved and seconded. Please cast your ballot for Bill 24-021. Bill passes 8-0.

*END OF DISCUSSION*

**PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE FALQUETTE:** Alright, Finance Committee, that's me. Bill 24-022.

**DAVID FALQUETTE:** I move that Bill 24-022 be read and placed upon the floor for discussion.

**STEPHANIE ZADER:** Second.

**PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE FALQUETTE:** It's been moved and seconded. The clerk will now read Bill 24-022.

**DELAINE WEINER:** Authorizing payment to The Ohio Department of Transportation in the amount of thirty-seven thousand, two hundred, seventy- three and 42/100 dollars (\$37,273.42) by affirming a Then and Now Certificate of the Finance Director, and declaring an emergency.

**PAYMENT – OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

BY: MR. FALQUETTE

BILL #24-022

ORDINANCE: 24-023

Authorizing payment to The Ohio Department of Transportation in the amount of thirty-seven thousand, two hundred, seventy- three and 42/100 dollars (\$37,273.42) by affirming a Then and Now Certificate of the Finance Director, and declaring an emergency.

Upon motion by Mr. Falquette that Bill 24-022 be read and placed upon the floor for final consideration, 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.

**PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE FALQUETTE:** Questions or Comments? Hearing none, I move Bill 24-022 be placed on the floor for final consideration.

**STEPHANIE ZADER:** Second.

**PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE FALQUETTE:** It's been moved and seconded. Please cast your vote for Bill 24-022. Bill passes 8-0.

*END OF DISCUSSION*

**PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE FALQUETTE:** Mr. Diaz, Bill 24-023.

**AURELIO DIAZ:** Thank you Mr. President I move that Bill 24-023 be read and placed upon the floor for discussion.

**STEPHANIE ZADER:** Second.

**PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE FALQUETTE:** It's been moved and seconded. The clerk will now read Bill 24-023 as amended.

**DELAINE WEINER:** Grant an easement to the United States of America from the City of Mansfield for Fiber Communication Lines at Mansfield Lahm, Richland County, Ohio.

#### **GRANT – MANSFIELD LAHM AIRPORT**

BY: MR. DIAZ

BILL #24-023

ORDINANCE: 24-024

Grant an easement to the United States of America from the City of Mansfield for Fiber Communication Lines at Mansfield Lahm, Richland County, Ohio.

Upon motion by Mr. Diaz that Bill 24-023 be read and placed upon the floor for final consideration, 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.

**PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE FALQUETTE:** Questions and Comments? Hearing none, Mr. Diaz.

**AURELIO DIAZ:** Thank you Mr. President. I move Bill 24-023 be placed on the floor for final passage.

**STEPHANIE ZADER:** Second.

**PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE FALQUETTE:** It's been moved and seconded. Please cast your vote for Bill 24-023. Bill passes 8-0.

*END OF DISCUSSION*

**PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE FALQUETTE:** Bill 24-024.

**DAVID FALQUETTE:** I move that Bill 24-024 be read and placed upon the floor for discussion.

**STEPHANIE ZADER:** Second.

**PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE FALQUETTE:** It's been moved and seconded. The clerk will now read Bill 24-024.

**DELAINE WEINER:** 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.

**APPROVING FUNDS - ARPA**

BY: MR. FALQUETTE

BILL #24-024

ORDINANCE: 24-025

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. Falquette that Bill 24-024 be read and placed upon the floor for final consideration, 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.

**PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE FALQUETTE:** Question? Comments?

*DISCUSSION:*

**DAVID FALQUETTE:** Thank you Mr. President. I move that Bill 24-024 be placed upon the floor for final consideration.

**STEPHANIE ZADER:** Second.

**PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE FALQUETTE:** It's been moved and seconded. Please cast your vote for Bill 24-024. Bill passes 8-0.

*END OF DISCUSSION*

**PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE FALQUETTE:** Mr. Diaz, 24-025.

**AURELIO DIAZ** Thank you Mr. President I move that Bill 24-025 be read and placed upon the floor for discussion.

**STEPHANIE ZADER:** Second.

**PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE FALQUETTE:** It's been moved and seconded by Mrs. Zader that time. The clerk will now read Bill 24-025.

**DELAINE WEINER:** Authorizing the Mayor and Public Works Director to enter into an agreement with and accept funds from Work in Progress LLC, as agent for Domino's Pizza LLC, in the amount not to exceed \$25,000 for the "Plowing for Pizza" Program; authorizing the acceptance and appropriation and expenditure of \$25,000 for the "Plowing for Pizza" Program; and declaring an emergency.

**FUNDS – DOMINOS PIZZA LLC (WORK IN PROGRESS LLC)**

BY: MR. DIAZ

BILL #24-025

ORDINANCE: 24-026

Authorizing the Mayor and Public Works Director to enter into an agreement with and accept funds from Work in Progress LLC, as agent for Domino’s Pizza LLC, in the amount not to exceed \$25,000 for the “Plowing for Pizza” Program; authorizing the acceptance and appropriation and expenditure of \$25,000 for the “Plowing for Pizza” Program; and declaring an emergency.

Upon motion by Mr. Diaz that Bill 24-025 be read and placed upon the floor for final consideration, 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.

**PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE FALQUETTE:** Questions or Comments? Again, thank you Mrs. Zader. Mr. Diaz?

**AURELIO DIAZ:** Thank you Mr. President. Yes, thank you Mrs. Z, looking out for the city. I move Bill 24-025 be placed on the floor for final passage.

**STEPHANIE ZADER:** Second.

**PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE FALQUETTE:** Wonderful. It’s been moved and seconded. Please cast your vote for Bill 24-025. Bill passes 8-0.

*END OF DISCUSSION*

**PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE FALQUETTE:** Bill 24-026. I move that Bill 24-026 be read and placed upon the floor for discussion.

**STEPHANIE ZADER:** Second.

**PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE FALQUETTE:** It’s been moved and seconded The clerk will now read Bill 24-026.

**DELAINE WEINER:** An Ordinance making final cumulative annual appropriations for current expenses and other expenditures of the City of Mansfield, Ohio, for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2024, and declaring an emergency.

#### **ANNUAL APPROPRIATIONS – FISCAL YEAR ‘2024**

BY: MR. FALQUETTE

BILL #24-026

ORDINANCE: 24-027

An Ordinance making final cumulative annual appropriations for current expenses and other expenditures of the City of Mansfield, Ohio, for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2024, and declaring an emergency.

Upon motion by Mr. Falquette that Bill 24-026 be read and placed upon the floor for final consideration, 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.

**PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE FALQUETTE:** Questions and comments? Hearing none, I move Bill 24-026 be placed on the floor for final passage.

**STEPHANIE ZADER:** Second.

**PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE FALQUETTE:** Thank you. It's been moved and seconded. Please cast your vote for Bill 24-026. Bill passes 8-0.

*END OF DISCUSSION*

**PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE FALQUETTE:** Mrs. Meier, Bill 24-027.

**CHERYL MEIER:** Thank you Mr. President I move that Bill 24-027 be read and placed upon the floor for discussion.

**STEPHANIE ZADER:** Second.

**PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE FALQUETTE:** It's been moved and seconded. The clerk will now read Bill 24-027.

**DELAINE WEINER:** Amending Section 8 of Ordinance No. 23-201 adopting personnel positions, pay grades, and salaries for certain employees of the City of Mansfield 2024 payroll year, by reorganizing and creating new positions in the Finance Division, and declaring an emergency.

#### **ADOPTING PERSONNEL POSITIONS, PAY GRADES, SALARTIES – FINANCE DIVISION**

BY: MRS. MEIER

BILL #24-027

ORDINANCE: 24-028

Amending Section 8 of Ordinance No. 23-201 adopting personnel positions, pay grades, and salaries for certain employees of the City of Mansfield 2024 payroll year, by reorganizing and creating new positions in the Finance Division, and declaring an emergency.

Upon motion by Mrs. Meier that Bill 24-027 be read and placed upon the floor for final consideration, 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.

**PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE FALQUETTE:** Questions, Comments? Hearing none, Mrs. Meier?

**CHERYL MEIER:** Thank you Sir. I move Bill 24-027 be placed on the floor for final consideration.

**STEPHANIE ZADER:** Second.

**PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE FALQUETTE:** It's been moved and seconded. Please cast your ballot for Bill 24-027. Bill passes 8-0.

*END OF DISCUSSION*

**CLOSING COMMENTS:**

**PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE FALQUETTE:** Anything else to come before council?

**STEPHANIE ZADER:** Move to close.

**CHERYL MEIER:** Second

**PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE FALQUETTE:** It's been moved and seconded to close. All those in favor say aye.

**COUNCIL MEMBERS:** Aye

**PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE FALQUETTE:** Council is closed at 7:47pm council is now closed.

*END OF DISCUSSION*

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

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Delaine Weiner  
Clerk of Council

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David Falquette  
President Pro Tempore