

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
February 4th, 2025

The first monthly meeting of Mansfield City Council met on
Tuesday, **February 4th, 2025** at 7:28pm in the
Courtroom One 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: Meier, Akuchie, Daley, Diaz, Mount, Robertson, Falquette, and Scott. {*Excused Absence: Mrs. Burns, vote taken: Pass – 7-0*}

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

PRESIDENT PHIL SCOTT: I do believe we have a couple of people signed up for public comment this evening. First, we have Paul Robinson. Please state your name and address, and you have three minutes.

PAUL ROBINSON: Paul Robinson, *3077 Possum Run Road, Mansfield, Ohio*. I live out of the city, but I love the children of the city. I've been involved with the children in the city for many, many years. I moved here first in 1970, left for a while, then came back. I'm here tonight, after having talked with the Mayor last night. I appreciate your call very much. Mike Dick and I want to advocate for the community pool. And, if you look at the handout I gave you, I suggest you do already probably have this, not anything new. Just six questions I'd like you for to consider as you think about as you think about spending some of the grant money. In respect for what we could do for the children. The again, it's probably a big part of your deliberations anyway. I want to make that clear. Then if you'd turn to the second page, I did some research in terms of how a pool would benefit the children in this community. I think we need to talk about it's not just a place for people to come and swim, but a place where it is a good mental health place and all these benefits that I listed there. That's what a pool really is, not just for swimming. I wanted to change whatever ideas you have about a pool. It's more than just a place to come swim. It has all these benefits for kids. I've talked to Terry Carter, at the Friendly House. I talked to Tony Shiny at DSEC. I haven't had the opportunity to talk to anyone at the YMCA yet. They're all busy whenever I am there. But all of them are geared up and interested about a pool. So, I just want to say let's build a pool. Our kids need a pool. They need that more than some of the things that we're doing I would suggest. Not to be critical, but I think this has to be a priority. And I was pleased to hear that there have already been some studies done about this, and that really excites me. So, I just want to say I support you in whatever you want to do about a pool. I'll be willing to help in any manner that I could. If you care to call on me and do some research, speak and answer some questions you think you'll have on that, less concern about our children. They need a pool. Thank you very much.

PRESIDENT PHIL SCOTT: Okay next we have Mike Dick. Mike, if you will give your name and address, please.

MIKE DICK: *Mike Dick, 4894 State Route 13 North*. I did some work recently interviewing two people that have a lot of experience with swimming pools. That would be the Executive Director of the Galion YMCA, Harry Gribble and the City Services Director of Ashland, Jason Conns. I had questions and they explained to me lots of things about pools and I've got spreadsheets more than one here tonight. You will

see my notes about thoughts on a swimming pool. Just to give you a thumbnail script sketch on what's involved with a pool. And, it's real clear, it's not a minimal make to happen. It's also real clear, the kids in Mansfield deserve a pool. And if Shelby, Marion, Galion, Ashland all have public pools, why not Mansfield? And I learned this morning that Lima, kind of like the sister city of Mansfield, they haven't a swimming pool. They closed them in 2020. Right now, Lima is building an aquatic center, with not one but two pools. One with a retractable roof, so they can use it in the winter. It's time, kids become more a priority for something good in the summer, for learning skills, certainly last them a lifetime. I just want to encourage you to investigate, do whatever is you can to see to it that our kids deserve a pool. And, certainly it won't be without problems. And I know like in Ashland they said, "Hey, if you are under age 10, our parent or an adult has to come with you. As defined as someone 16 years or older." You know, pools aren't daycare centers. So, a lot of good thought has to go into that. Things that maybe we didn't have worry about before like having cameras available so that everything can be seen at all times to keep our kids safe. The one thing I thought between Ashland and Galion I thought really interesting...

PRESIDENT PHIL SCOTT: Thirty Seconds ...

MIKE DICK: was that Ashland has heaters in their pool. And that makes it a lot better for swimming lessons in the morning. Unfortunately, Galion says their pools would be a little chilly. Thank you for your support.

PRESIDENT PHIL SCOTT: Thank you Mr. Dick.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

No Committee Reports

PRESIDENT PHIL SCOTT: Okay. Going down the line, Mayor?

MAYOR JODIE PERRY: No.

PRESIDENT PHIL SCOTT: Director Andres.

DIRECTOR LOUIE ANDRES: Nothing further.

PRESIDENT PHIL SCOTT: Director Blankenship.

DIRECTOR KELLY BLANKENSHIP: No thank you.

PRESIDENT PHIL SCOTT: Director Porch.

DIRECTOR KEITH PORCH: No Sir.

PRESIDENT PHIL SCOTT: Director Harper.

DIRECTOR ROELIFF HARPER: Nothing.

LATE BILLS

(No Late Bills)

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 Miss Robertson. A voice vote was taken and resulted as follows: Ayes: 7, Nays: 0

LEGISLATION

PRESIDENT PHIL SCOTT: Mr. Diaz, Bill 25-015.

AURELIO DIAZ: Thank you Mr. President I move with respect to Bill 25-015 that it be read and placed upon the floor for discussion.

SHARI ROBERTSON: Second.

PRESIDENT PHIL SCOTT: It's been moved and seconded. The clerk will now read Bill 25-015.

DELAINE WEINER: Authorizing the Public Works Director to enter into a contract or contracts for the replacement of a culvert across Stanfield Run in Middle Park.

REPLACEMENT OF A CULVERT

BY: MR. DIAZ

BILL #25-015

ORDINANCE: 24-015

Authorizing the Public Works Director to enter into a contract or contracts for the replacement of a culvert across Stanfield Run in Middle Park.

Upon motion by Mr. Diaz that Bill 25-015 be read and placed upon the floor for final consideration, seconded by Miss Robertson. 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.

PRESIDENT PHIL SCOTT: Is there any discussion on Bill 25-015? Mr. Falquette.

DAVID FALQUETTE: Do we have a rough amount for this?

MAYOR JODIE PERRY: \$224.25

DAVID FALQUETTE: My apologies, Thank you.

PRESIDENT PHIL SCOTT: Is there any other questions? Moving on, Mr. Diaz.

AURELIO DIAZ: Thank you Mr. President. I move Bill 25-015 be placed on the floor for final passage.

SHARI ROBERTSON: Second.

PRESIDENT PHIL SCOTT: It's been moved and seconded. Please cast your vote for Bill 25-015. Bill Passes 7-0.

END OF DISCUSSION

PRESIDENT PHIL SCOTT: Miss Mount, Bill 25-016.

DEBORAH MOUNT: Thank you Mr. President. I move that Bill 25-016 be read and placed on the floor for discussion.

SHARI ROBERTSON: Second.

PRESIDENT PHIL SCOTT: It's been moved and seconded. The clerk will now read Bill 25-016.

DELAINE WEINER: Assenting to the Petition for detachment of certain land from the City of Mansfield, Ohio, pursuant to the Ohio Revised Code 709.38, and declaring an emergency.

DETACHMENT – CERTAIN LAND

BY: MISS MOUNT

BILL #25-016

ORDINANCE: 25-016

Assenting to the Petition for detachment of certain land from the City of Mansfield, Ohio, pursuant to the Ohio Revised Code 709.38, and declaring an emergency.

Upon motion by Miss Mount that Bill 25-016 be read and tabled. The vote was taken and resulted as follows: Ayes: 5 Nays: 2 {*Meier & Falquette*}

PRESIDENT PHIL SCOTT: Is there any discussion on Bill 25-016? Miss Mount.

DEBORAH MOUNT: I have put a lot of research into this, but I have not been able to get answers to everything I'm looking for. I was hoping the resident, the people petitioning would be here so that I might have been able to learn more. Umm, I 'm not comfortable with bringing it up for a vote tonight. I prefer to postpone the vote. So, at the proper time, I 'd like to make a motion to postpone this until they can get further information. Both on this and the surrounding properties. The outcome of that. Where there is no access to this property at this point.

PRESIDENT PHIL SCOTT: Is there any other further discussion? I guess now would be the time to make the motion Miss Mount.

DEBORAH MOUNT: Thank you Mr. President. I'd like to move that we table Bill 25-016 until February 18th or at such point that the people can come and give us more information on it.

SHARI ROBERTSON: Second.

PRESIDENT PHIL SCOTT: It's been moved and seconded that Bill 25-016 be tabled until February 18th or at such point that the people can come and give us more information on it. Is there discussion on the motion? Mr. Falquette?

DAVID FALQUETTE: My only reason not to put this off is the fact that the city is unable to provide water and sewer. It was a hardship to the city. And for that reason, I would just assume to get it over with. But I do know I was in conversation with Miss Mount for some time trying understand what this was all

about up until last week, So, I 'm sorry if it sounds like I'm changing my mind, but I think I am. But it seemed apparent during caucus that that's something that we want to back up on it. Extend utilities.

PRESIDENT PHIL SCOTT: Miss Mount.

DEBORAH MOUNT: Just a couple other things. Because the house is already built, and the water and septic are already placed and it happened four years ago, I don't know if that is an immediate pressing necessity. That's why I would like to get more information, because what's been done was done in the past. And their looking to change the status now even though it's already in place. And, my understanding is this doesn't go to the township, it goes to the county commissioners and then I don't think it ever comes back to us for anything further. I think this is our last say before going to the commissioners and then it is over.

PRESIDENT PHIL SCOTT: Miss Robertson.

SHARI ROBERTSON: I just have a little bit of concerns by what was stated, how it looks, that there might be a couple other residences there. I understand that is something that the city has to work through, but I do have some concerns about that. That's probably my biggest concern at this point, is how this is going to impact those other homes that's there. Because, trust me. I have seen that and it is not pretty. So, that is a concern why I would want some more information.

PRESIDENT PHIL SCOTT: Any other discussion from any of the other council members? Miss Yockey.

AMY YOCKEY: There was an attorney that filed the petition and researched this as well on behalf of the owner.

SHARI ROBERTSON: That's the one that is in here, right?

PRESIDENT PHIL SCOTT: Any other discussion before we call for the vote. Okay, the motion is before you. Okay, the motion passes 5-2 {*Meier & Falquette*}

Bill 25-016 has been tabled.

END OF DISCUSSION

PRESIDENT PHIL SCOTT: Next is Bill 25-017, Mr. Akuchie.

ELEAZER AKUCHIE: Thank you Mr. President. I move that Bill 25-017 read and placed upon the floor for discussion.

SHARI ROBERTSON: Second.

PRESIDENT PHIL SCOTT: It's been moved and seconded. The clerk will now read Bill 25-017.

DELAINÉ WEINER: Authorizing payment of the claim of Jeff Fairchild of 1824 S. Lexington-Springmill Rd, Lexington, Ohio 44904, and declaring an emergency.

CLAIM – JEFF FAIRCHILD

BY: MR. AKUCHIE

BILL #25-017

ORDINANCE: 25-017

Authorizing payment of the claim of Jeff Fairchild of 1824 S. Lexington-Springmill Rd, Lexington, Ohio 44904, and declaring an emergency.

Upon motion by Mr. Akuchie, that Bill 25-017 be read and placed upon the floor for final passage, seconded by Miss Robertson. 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.

PRESIDENT PHIL SCOTT: Any discussion on Bill 25-017? Hearing none, Mr. Akuchie?

DISCUSSION:

ELEAZER AKUCHIE: Thanks Mr. President. I move that Bill 25-017 be placed upon the floor for final discussion.

SHARI ROBERTSON: Second.

PRESIDENT PHIL SCOTT: It's been moved and seconded. Please cast your vote for Bill 25-017. Bill Passes 7-0.

END OF DISCUSSION

PRESIDENT PHIL SCOTT: Next is Bill 25-018, Mr. Akuchie.

ELEAZER AKUCHIE: Thank you Mr. President. I move that Bill 25-018 be read and placed upon the floor for discussion.

SHARI ROBERTSON: Second.

PRESIDENT PHIL SCOTT: It's been moved and seconded. The clerk will now read Bill 25-018.

DELAINÉ WEINER: Authorizing payment of the claim of Philip Enzerra of 95 Brinkerhoff Ave, Mansfield, Ohio 44906, and declaring an emergency.

CLAIM – PHILIP ENZERRA

BY: MR. AKUCHIE

BILL #25-018

ORDINANCE: 25-018

Authorizing payment of the claim of Philip Enzerra of 95 Brinkerhoff Ave, Mansfield, Ohio 44906, and declaring an emergency.

Upon motion by Mr. Akuchie, that Bill 25-018 be read and placed upon the floor for final passage, seconded by Miss Robertson. 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.

PRESIDENT PHIL SCOTT: Any discussion on Bill 25-018? Hearing none, Mr. Akuchie?

DISCUSSION:

ELEAZER AKUCHIE: Thanks Mr. President. I move that Bill 25-018 be placed upon the floor for final passage.

SHARI ROBERTSON: Second.

PRESIDENT PHIL SCOTT: It's been moved and seconded. Please cast your vote for Bill 25-018. Bill Passes 7-0.

END OF DISCUSSION

PRESIDENT PHIL SCOTT: Alright, Mr. Diaz, Bill 25-019.

AURELIO DIAZ: Thank you Mr. President I move that Bill 25-019 be read and placed upon the floor for discussion.

SHARI ROBERTSON: Second.

PRESIDENT PHIL SCOTT: It's been moved and seconded. The clerk will now read Bill 25-019.

DELAINE WEINER Authorizing the Mayor and Public Works Director to accept a grant from the Ohio Department of Natural Resources in the amount of One Hundred Fifty Thousand and 00/100 Dollars (\$150,000.00) to be used for the Mansfield B & O Trail Connector Project.

GRANT- ODNR

BY: MR. DIAZ

BILL #25-019

ORDINANCE: 25-019

Authorizing the Mayor and Public Works Director to accept a grant from the Ohio Department of Natural Resources in the amount of One Hundred Fifty Thousand and 00/100 Dollars (\$150,000.00) to be used for the Mansfield B & O Trail Connector Project.

Upon motion by Mr. Diaz that Bill 25-019 be read and placed upon the floor for final consideration, seconded by Miss Robertson. 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.

PRESIDENT PHIL SCOTT: Is there any further discussion for Bill 25-019? Hearing none, Mr. Diaz.

AURELIO DIAZ: Thank you Mr. President. I move that Bill 25-019 be placed on the floor for final passage.

SHARI ROBERTSON: Second.

PRESIDENT PHIL SCOTT: It's been moved and seconded. Please cast your vote for Bill 25-019. Bill Passes 7-0.

END OF DISCUSSION

CLOSING COMMENTS:

PRESIDENT PHIL SCOTT: Is there anything further to come before council this evening?

DAVID FALQUETTE: Move to close.

SHARI ROBERTSON: Second

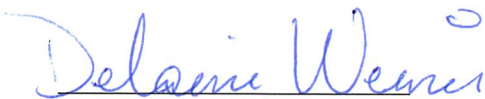
PRESIDENT PHIL SCOTT: It's been moved and seconded to close. All those in favor say aye.

COUNCIL MEMBERS: Aye

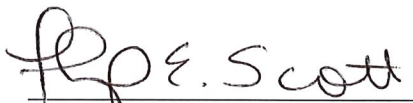
PRESIDENT PHIL SCOTT: We are adjourned. At 7:47pm, council is closed.

END OF DISCUSSION

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



Delaine Weiner
Clerk of Council



Phil Scott
President