

November 7, 2024

City of Northwood
City Council Meeting Minutes

CALL TO ORDER

The Regular meeting of the Northwood City Council was called to order by Mayor Schimmel at 07:00 PM on November 7, 2024 in the Council Chambers and via Live Stream.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE Mayor Schimmel

Pledge of Allegiance was given.

ROLL CALL

The roll was called by Clerk of Council Popovitch and those in attendance were as follows: Mayor Schimmel, Councilor Edwards, Councilor Melnyk, Councilor Huntermark, Councilor Kozina, Councilor Stoner City Administrator Kevin Laughlin, and City Attorney Brian Ballenger.

MOTION: Councilor Edwards made a motion to excuse Council President Fahrbach and Councilor Barton; seconded by Councilor Melnyk. **ROLL CALL:** Yes: Councilor Edwards, Councilor Melnyk, Councilor Huntermark, Councilor Kozina, Councilor Stoner; No: None; Abstain: None. **Result: Passed**

Councilor Stoner nominated Councilor Kozina as President Pro-Temp, seconded by Councilor Melnyk. **ROLL CALL:** Yes: Councilor Edwards, Councilor Melnyk, Councilor Huntermark, Councilor Stoner. **Abstain:** Councilor Kozina. **Motion Passed.**

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

October 24, 2024 Council Meeting Minutes

MOTION: Councilor Stoner made a motion to Approve; seconded by Councilor Huntermark. **ROLL CALL:** Yes: Councilor Edwards, Councilor Melnyk, Councilor Huntermark, Councilor Kozina, Councilor Stoner; No: None; Abstain: None
Result: Passed

PRESENTATION

Brian King from the King Insurance Agency shared more information regarding what led the city to seek alternative insurance options. He stated that Medical Mutual offered a 9.5% renewal rate for 2 years but needed approval in 7 days; They were told we were unable to present to Council for approval that quick so they came back with the 19.5% renewal rate. Aetna came in with great rates and it gives the city the opportunity to get away from Medical Mutual. Mr. King also stated with the Aetna plans we will receive \$400 per member off of the month two bill. Furthermore, the plans have a lot to offer with some additional benefits.

An ordinance will be prepared to present to council for passage at the November 14th meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT

COMMUNICATIONS

COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS

Economic Development Councilor Jim Barton

No Report.

Finance Council President Louis Fahrbach - Next Meeting November 7, 2024 @6P

Councilor Stoner gave report. Discussed the budget, announcement from Stellantis and how it could affect Northwood. Gave the administration some direction on what the committee would like to see presented at the next meeting.

Looked at the insurance proposals and the committee agreed to move forward with offering Aetna alternative options 1 & 2

MOTION: Councilor Stoner made a motion to move forward with offering Aetna insurance alternatives 1 & 2 ; seconded by Councilor Kozina. **ROLL CALL:** Yes: Councilor Edwards, Councilor Melnyk, Councilor Huntermark, Councilor Kozina, Councilor Stoner; No: None; Abstain: None **Result: Passed**
An ordinance will be prepared for the 11/14 Council meeting.

Recreation Board Councilor Jim Barton

No Report.

Safety Councilor Mark Stoner

No Report.

Tree Commission Councilor Michael Melnyk

Tree farm was established at Nature Trails Park. 130 seedlings were planted. Next meeting is November 11th @ 6P.

Service Councilor Dean Edwards

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No Report. Next Meeting: November 14th @ 6:30P.

Parks, Rec & NCC Councilor Pat Huntermark - Next Meeting November 7, 2024 @5:45P

Discussed proposed new facility hours: Monday - Thursday 5:30am to 8:30pm Friday 5:30am to 6pm and Saturday 8am to 3pm; effective January 1, 2025. Committee recommended change the facility hours as recommended.

MOTION: Councilor Huntermark made a motion to **change the NCC facility operating hours effective January 1, 2025.** ; seconded by Councilor Melnyk. **ROLL CALL:** **Yes:** Councilor Edwards, Councilor Melnyk, Councilor Huntermark, Councilor Kozina, Councilor Stoner; **No:** None; **Abstain:** None **Result: Passed**

Discussed lowering the NCC facility age restrictions to encourage more family membership. Proposed changes to allow ages 10-12 to walk on the track and use the gymnasium while an adult is in the building and Ages 13+ allowed to use the facility without adult supervision after completing fitness orientation. The committee agreed with the recommendations.

MOTION: Councilor Huntermark made a motion **to lower the NCC facility age restrictions** ; seconded by Councilor Stoner.**ROLL CALL:** **Yes:** Councilor Edwards, Councilor Melnyk, Councilor Huntermark, Councilor Kozina, Councilor Stoner; **No:** None; **Abstain:** None

Result: Passed

Discussed offering veterans a 25% discount on membership rates with proper proof. The committee agreed with the recommendation.

MOTION: Councilor Huntermark made a motion to **offer veterans a 20% discount on membership rates with proper proof**; seconded by Councilor Melnyk. **ROLL CALL:** **Yes:** Councilor Edwards, Councilor Melnyk, Councilor Huntermark, Councilor Kozina, Councilor Stoner; **No:** None; **Abstain:** None

Result: Passed

Committee of the Whole Council President Louis Fahrbach

No Report.

CEREMONIAL ITEMS

NEW RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION 2024-12 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF NORTHWOOD MAYOR, CITY ADMINISTRATOR, CITY CLERK AND FINANCE DIRECTOR TO OBTAIN A FAITHFUL PERFORMANCE INSURANCE POLICY TO REPLACE SURETY BONDS; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

1st Reading - Kozina

PENDING RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION 2024-11 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR TO APPLY FOR THE LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUNDS THROUGH THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND AGREE TO OBLIGATE THE NECESSARY FUNDS TO COMPLETE THE PROJECT; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

2nd Reading - Edwards

NEW LEGISLATION

ORDINANCE 2024-42 AN ORDINANCE IMPOSING A MORATORIUM UNTIL DECEMBER 1, 2025, ON THE GRANTING OF ANY PERMIT ALLOWING RETAIL DISPENSARIES, CULTIVATORS, OR ANY PROCESSORS OF RECREATIONAL MARIJUANA WITHIN THE CITY OF NORTHWOOD, OHIO; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

1st Reading - Kozina

ORDINANCE 2024-43 AN ORDINANCE MAKING APPROPRIATIONS FOR CURRENT EXPENSES AND OTHER EXPENDITURES OF THE CITY OF NORTHWOOD, OHIO DURING THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2025, AND ESTABLISHING ACCOUNTS THEREON; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

1st Reading - Kozina

PENDING LEGISLATON

MAYOR Mayor Schimmel

Mayor's Report

Recommendation to appoint Terry Hartman to the Planning Commission.

MOTION: Councilor Melnyk made a motion to **Appoint Terry Hartman to the Planning Commission**; seconded by Councilor Huntermark. **ROLL CALL:** **Yes:** Councilor Edwards, Councilor Melnyk, Councilor Huntermark, Councilor Kozina, Councilor Stoner; **No:** None; **Abstain:** None

Result: Passed

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Recommendation to appoint Diana Ruffalo to the Board of Zoning Appeals.
MOTION: Councilor Kozina made a motion to **appoint Diana Ruffalo to the Board of Zoning Appeals** seconded by Councilor Stoner.**ROLL CALL:** **Yes:** Councilor Edwards, Councilor Melnyk, Councilor Huntermark, Councilor Kozina, Councilor Stoner; **No:** None; **Abstain:** None
Result: Passed

FIRE:
Amanda Hughes has received her paramedic certification from the State of Ohio and I completed her training requirements to operate as a paramedic with the Northwood Fire Department. She should be promoted to a firefighter/paramedic, effective 10/21/2024.
MOTION: Councilor Kozina made a motion to **promote Amanda Hughes Firefighter/paramedic effective October 21, 2024;** seconded by Councilor Huntermark. **ROLL CALL:** **Yes:** Councilor Edwards, Councilor Melnyk, Councilor Huntermark, Councilor Kozina, Councilor Stoner; **No:** None; **Abstain:** None
Result: Passed

Chief Whitmore recommended hiring Damien Boyer as a part-time firefighter EMT. Mr. Boyer already has the required training and should be an immediate asset to our department.
MOTION: Councilor Stoner made a motion to **hire Damien Boyer as a part-time firefighter/EMT;** seconded by Councilor Kozina. **ROLL CALL:** **Yes:** Councilor Edwards, Councilor Melnyk, Councilor Huntermark, Councilor Kozina, Councilor Stoner; **No:** None; **Abstain:** None
Result: Passed

CITY ADMINISTRATOR Kevin Laughlin

City Administrator's Report

Extension of Existing Listing Agreement with Miller Diversified	Listing Miller Diversified has requested an extension of 90 days, providing enough time for the various parties currently involved in negotiations to come to terms. <i>Request a motion to authorize City Administrator to extend the existing listing agreement with Miller Diversified 90 days.</i> MOTION: Councilor Melnyk made a motion to extend the listing agreement with Miller Diversified 90 days; seconded by Councilor Huntermark. ROLL CALL: Yes: Councilor Edwards, Councilor Melnyk, Councilor Huntermark, Councilor Kozina, Councilor Stoner; No: None; Abstain: None Result: Passed
Nature Trails GLRI Project	Work is anticipated to be substantially complete this week with final acceptance walk-through scheduled for November 12, 2024 at 1:30 PM.
NCC Drainage Issue Update	Received a quote from Lathrop for approximately \$20,000. Discussing role of project into Phase II parking for 2025 with City Engineer. Councilor Huntermark stated he believes the fall was wrong on the concrete curb and we shouldn't have to pay to fix it. City Administrator agreed to bring it up to Lathrop.
Other Project Updates	Some updates on various projects: • Enclave Ditch enclosure is on schedule to begin November 11, weather permitting. • The Bridges will begin work on water and sewer for Phase III so that Phase II should be wrapped up in the next few months. • Anticipate Wallick senior/assisted living submission to ARC on November 13. • 84 Lumber project is proceeding nicely on Wales Road. • Discussions with various entities and agencies for funding to complete Dalling Drive at the Enclave. • Cases for both Great Eastern and 2551 Woodville Road (former Smokey for Less) have been filed in Wood County Court of Common Pleas.

CITY FINANCIAL REPORT(S)

OCTOBER EXPENDITURES

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MOTION: Councilor Stoner made a motion to **acknowledge receipt of the October 2024 Financial Reports;** seconded by Councilor Kozina. **ROLL CALL:** **Yes:** Councilor Edwards, Councilor Melnyk, Councilor Huntermark, Councilor Kozina, Councilor Stoner; **No:** None; **Abstain:** None
Result: Passed

LIST OF EXPENDITURES OVER \$10,000

Invoice	Description	Amount
DAVEY RESOURCE GROUP	NATURE TRAILS RESTORATION PROJECT	\$93,303.56
CITY OF PERRYSBURG	SHARE OF ASTRO SITE REPEATER FOR 2025	\$10,000.00
MENARDS	TIF PAYMENT FOR DEBT	\$122,035.00
ERARD CUSTOM PAINTING	PAINTING OF BIG GARAGE, BACK OF BUILDING & LIGHT POLES	\$14,150.00

MOTION: Councilor Huntermark made a motion to **Approve the list of Expenditures over \$10,000;** seconded by Councilor Melnyk. **ROLL CALL:** **Yes:** Councilor Edwards, Councilor Melnyk, Councilor Huntermark, Councilor Kozina, Councilor Stoner; **No:** None; **Abstain:** None
Result: Passed

CITY ATTORNEY’S REPORT/DISCUSSION Brian Ballenger

No Report.

CITY ENGINEER’S REPORT/DISCUSSION Dave Kuhn

1. The Enclave – Contract A: Contractor is working on finishing the remaining punch list items. The final few trees that have been marked will be planted in the next couple of weeks. The pond pump is working and the irrigation people are finishing fixing the breaks this week.
2. Wheeling & Curtice Intersection: This is complete except for installing the signs on the mast arms.
3. Farnstead Dr.: NWWSD are presently installing meters and fixing the remaining sidewalks. Project will be completed by Thanksgiving.
4. Curtice Rd. over I-280 new curb installation and resurfacing: We are finishing plans and will submit to ODOT for approval. Once we receive ODOT approval we will bid the project.
5. Arbor Dr.: The project has been completed.
6. Dry Creek Aquatic and Riparian Restoration project: This project is located on Waste Management property and being 100% funded by a US EPA grant. The design-built team has started the design of the improvements. We expect the 30% plans to be completed in mid- November 2024.
7. Nature Trails Aquatic and Wetland Restoration project. The project should be completed this week and we will have a final inspection next week.
8. We are also getting estimates from the splash pad vender on in the water recycling system and possible well pump system.
9. The Enclave Ditch Enclosure contracts are signed. The contractor will begin work during the week of November 11th.
10. The Lemoyne-Woodville intersection traffic signal. This project has been completed except for some minor seeding and mulching. We are inquiring with ODOT to get the traffic signals sequenced along Woodville Road and Curtice Road to prevent all the stop and go along these sections of road.
11. We have discussed with ODOT the Williston Rd. (SR 579) and Fostoria Rd. intersection. They are planning to perform a safety study of the intersection which will be completed in the first quarter of next year. The safety study will look at the feasibility of installing a roundabout at the intersection to slow down the traffic going through the intersection.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

PERSONS APPEARING BEFORE THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL

1. Jasmine Viola - resident for about 3 years now. Stated she is in attendance tonight as an advocate for the safe, regulated, and beneficial use of cannabis. Addressed concerns with Delta 8, an unregulated cannabis product being sold in the City. She stated that Delta 8, unlike state regulated cannabis products, often bypasses the necessary safety requirements. Delta 8 is unregulated, untested and is a psychoactive compound found in the cannabis plant. Ms. Viola stated she was able to purchase these Delta 8 products from a local shop with no license required and is concerned with the possibility of a new vape shop coming to the city within a mile from the school. She stated that she has spent the last 6 years opening dispensaries across the country and when Ohio brought their laws here, she counseled the division of cannabis control, and the governor. Ms. Viola stated the difference between what's being served inside these local vape shops and gas stations in Northwood and regulated cannabis is the childproof packaging on regulated cannabis, a metric number that shows where the product came from; from the minute it's planted until the minute it's harvested and sold, testing date, a packaging date, and an expiration date along with the license showing where it came from. These products that are sold in Northwood have none of that and are

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accessible to children. She concluded that with information regarding the tax revenue that could be generated by allowing dispensaries and funding they could provide to the school and offered her assistance in implementing community safety programs.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

NA

ADJOURNMENT

07:27 PM

ATTEST: _____
Council Clerk

APPROVED: _____
Mayor