

MINUTES REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
REYNOLDSBURG CITY COUNCIL
September 26, 2011

President of Council William L. Hills called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

Members of Council present: Fred Deskins, Jr., Leslie Kelly, Doug Joseph, Mel Clemens, Barth R. Cotner, Chris Long, Nathan Burd.

The Invocation was given by Mr. Hills, who also led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes of the regular Council meeting held September 12, 2011 were approved without objection.

The agenda was approved.

Community Comments and Requests:

Mr. Hills said there were several speaker slips; and the first speaker would be Madeleine McDaniel.

Ms. McDaniel: My name is Madeleine McDaniel, 36 Hampton Lane, Reynoldsburg. I am here this evening to give our support to save the Senior Center and the Recreation Department. The Senior Center does so much for so many people. We have a lot of activities, we have a large membership, and we do support the income tax, whatever it takes to save the Recreation and the Senior Center.

Mr. Hills: Thank you. I thank you for your comments. Any questions of Ms. McDaniel? Thank you very much. Second speaker slip I have is Frank D. Bolen.

Mr. Bolen: Good Evening. My name is Frank D. Bolen. I'm a Viet Nam Veteran, I also belong to the VFW, American Legion, AmVets, Moose Lodge, and I'm here representing the Seniors club. I've been a member approximately about eight years. I do a lot of volunteering over there. I run several games, help the people out. A friend of mine, I'm also a representative at the VA Clinic Chalmers P. Wylie, we run soup and sandwich once a month for the Veterans, also the Seniors club for \$3.00 and we have anywhere from fifty to sixty people looking forward to this. If the Senior club closes or whatever's going to happen, this is going to put a hurt on all these people. We've got, I think we've got about 1,600 members. I'm not sure. I know it started back in the '70's and from that time on, they built up and I've noticed in the last year, they've spent a lot of money on the roof, the gutters, and they fixed the place up real nice and it would be a hardship on all these older people, not that I'm young, but it would be a hardship on all these people not to have something to do. You go over there during the day, you go over at 8:00 a.m. in the morning until 4:00 p.m. in the afternoon, you'll see the place is full. I was over there today visiting and it is full of people, Senior citizens

enjoying themselves. If you take that away from them, they're not going to have anything to do. They're going to stay home and pass away and we don't want that. So whatever we can do to help this Senior club to get back on track and I heard that the possibility, there's a possibility that Jenny and Judy might possibly be laid off or whatever; I'm not sure, it's just a rumor. I think you could run it if you had to in an emergency with one person with the volunteers helping the people. I would volunteer over there as much as I could. I know we have all the friends of mine over there would help volunteer. So thank you very much for listening and if you have any questions, I'm here to answer them.

Mr. Hills: Thank you for your comments. Any questions or comments? Thank you, Mr. Bolen.

Mr. Bolen: Okay.

Mr. Hills: The third speaker slip for this evening is Bill Purcell.

Mr. Purcell: Good Evening. I'm Bill Purcell, I live at 9192 Ruston Lane. For a lot of these Seniors, that center is a lifeline. That's where they go and communicate with people their own age. A lot of them are on a fixed income, a lot of them are lonely spouses. They need that center, and we also need to keep our Police Department and we just don't want to cut them. We really need the Police Department. So anything you guys can do, we're acceptable to. If you have to raise that 1%, raise it. Let's get it done, let's save our people. Thank you.

Mr. Hills: Thank you, Mr. Purcell. Questions or comments? Thank you. I have no other speaker slips. Is there anyone else that would like to address Council? Would you please bring that forward and if you would give it to Ms. Frazier on the end, right down there. What do you have, two more slips? Are there any other slips coming in, speaker slips? Okay, go ahead and come to the mike and give us your name and address for the record please.

Ms. Wherley: I'm Jeanne Wherley. I've been a resident of Reynoldsburg since '77. Let's see, 1941 Redwood Street, Reynoldsburg, okay. Yeah, I just have a quick story. I have a dear friend who comes to the Senior Center and drives from Newark every week, three times or more, and she just loves it. She's got her house up for sale in Newark and is looking for property in Reynoldsburg, but now she's thinking otherwise because she wants to know if the place, if the Senior Center will be, she's moving for the Senior Center. So I don't know if there's other stories like hers, but I know that we have an outstanding Senior Center from what other people say. Jenny Walsh is, we are so lucky to have her in any capacity. She sets the mood for the, the whole ambiance of the place is upbeat. I'm sure you've heard, if you haven't had a dinner for her yet, you should. She's a, I've heard stories of other Senior Centers and I won't name them, but they're just nothing compared to Reynoldsburg's. Reynoldsburg is known for its tutoring and its Senior Center; I think it might be heresay, but I just think that anybody, I think she should run for Mayor next time or something because she's just such, I don't know if she'd accept, but she's just so multi-talented in so many ways,

knows everybody's names, goes to everybody's funeral or anybody who's got a family member, she, and people will come back and they'll say..... Stan Campbell last month lost three family members and said 'you know, Jenny showed up at the funeral that was in town. I will never forget that'. So I don't know if she's supposed to, if it's part of her job, but she does it. On the trip that they took out to Nova Scotia, I heard that for the eight hours that it takes to get to New Jersey or wherever they got the boat, she had the activities for the people. You didn't even get a wink of sleep because she had them, I don't know where she gets her energy but I tried to walk across that thing at the, that big a, at the State Fair last year. I could not keep up with her and we're the same age. I was hurting for two days just trying to catch her stride, but I can't say enough good things about her, and Judy falls right after her. Just another really, she has another style, but she won't stand for any, bottom line, just a great person and I don't know if there are other people like myself, but it's a lifesaver. I'm also disabled and retired and it's a lifesaver for me. I mean, I will be so depressed in the morning that I just have to get out of my home and go to the Senior Center. First thing, I walk in and I'm a bear, I just don't want to talk to anybody. Ten minutes into the exercise program, I'm 180 degrees the other way. I'm smiles, I'm everybody's friend and if it weren't there, I don't think I would force myself to exercise on my own, but I have the, I mean that place is just a lifesaver. It's not to be taken lightly or considered a disposable thing, well you know. There's people that volunteer tutoring to the grade schools from there. You have to go to the schools, but the music for people, the therapy, it's you know, when we, really when it comes down to it, the worst human condition is loneliness and, not the worst, I mean starvation is worse, but one of the greatest epidemics is loneliness and a lot of disease comes from that and you're just not lonely if you're a member there. You just don't have to be lonely and a lot of people's grandchildren and family are somewhere else and that's just a real lifeline, like so many people have expressed and I could go on and on and you can tell I'm a loquacious son of a gun so I'll say thanks for listening and I would, I know that I would give time to donate if there had to be, you know, as far as cleaning, or anything else that has to be cut, but please don't cut the two women that run that place. They're just, I don't know what they're getting paid, but they are just worth every dime. So thank you very much.

Mr. Hills: Thank you for your comments, and it is always nice to hear nice comments about employees; and could you give me your last name again? Is it Wherley?

Ms. Wherley: Yeah, Wherley. Wherley.

Mr. Hills: Okay, thank you very much. The last speaker slip I have, I don't know if it's Donald or Donna, but it's Donna, okay, it's ...?

Ms. Schiffer: It's Schiffer.

Mr. Hills: Schiffer, okay.

Ms. Schiffer: I'm here in regards to the Senior Center also because I realize that the people that

come there, I work in a skilled nursing home, which is my job, and I know that the Senior Center is good for the senior citizens, because I can see how they just light up like a Christmas tree when they're there. They get to meet everybody in general and they have communication that they provide with other people and I know since I've been going there that I have met the most wonderful people going. They have provided programs that are outstanding. They have a thing for the poor, as far as their feeding the needy. In fact, we're going to sponsor a dance come here October, no, it's November. We're going to sponsor a dance in which we are going to bring food in place of paying money to dance, we're going to bring food so that the people that are really in need have something to look forward to. They also bring in bread and vegetables of all different kinds from the Farmer's Market and everything for and they provide this for people that don't have something that they, that they at least have something that is substantial to sustain them and they provide a dance every second Thursday in which we take and participate in and we decorate and people get a chance to go out and enjoy themselves and have a fantastic time and they don't have to worry. In fact, this one lady, she had a double knee operation because she just wanted to be able to get up and dance and she did. We have a guy by the name of Stan that teaches us the steps in dancing and he offered to dance with her and if you would have just seen how she was just glowing, you would understand what this Senior Center really means to the senior citizens of Reynoldsburg. They have all kinds of programs in which they provide tours that you get to go and see things and do things that are outstanding and they have programs which you can see their work of art in the building itself. They have things that they have made and have hung up in the place itself and they have just been overwhelming in providing the needs for these senior citizens and I just wish if you could do anything, please keep it open. Thank you very much.

Mr. Hills: Thank you for your comments and I thank all of the speakers tonight for their comments.
Mr. Clemens.

Mr. Clemens: Yeah, I think it would be important, Council hears everything and I'm sure they all understand, we all understand that members would be here like next Monday night on our Committee meeting when these items are discussed and the reasons why they're being discussed would be brought up and the situation that we're in would be brought up and our budget would be brought up. That's the important time to be here so you can hear really the situation the city is in and comments from different members of Council and what we try to plan and what we hope we can do and why we have the 1% on the election coming up in November and what it's for. So I think it would be important if you would, if you would come like next Monday night because the way Council operates is, one night is Council meeting which is tonight, next Monday which is Committee Meeting. So Committee Meetings are when we really get down and discuss everything, when everybody gets mad at each other and then we're friends afterwards. That's when everything's discussed and the Administration and Council and these items are very important to the Police Department, everything we discuss, recreation, but there's reasons for everything and I think Council would appreciate it and we do appreciate it when people are here. That's the important thing, to look out there and see people. Most of the time, we look out there and we see nobody and we have to make the decisions ourselves

which you know, is not really what we like. So I think Bill and the rest of Council and everybody would like to see as many people as possible here. That way we could get the understanding through in the discussion with the Mayor and Council and on our Committees, and thank you, Bill.

Mr. Hills: Thank you. Any other questions, comments, statements? We meet at 7:30 p.m. on Mondays.

Clerk read report from Clerk of Court- -total monies collected from courts held during August

2011 - \$52,259. Monies also collected during that same period pursuant to Ordinance

Numbers 146-94 and 104-02- - \$3,600 for the Computerization Needs Fund; and \$205 for the Enforcement and Education Fund.

Clerk also read into the record that Council was in receipt of the Budget by Classification document received from the City Auditor on August 11th, through the date July 31, 2011; and also the Budget by Classification document from the City Auditor received on the 19th of September, which was dated through August 31, 2011.

ORDINANCE MAKING TRANSFER OF FUNDS FROM HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT TO SAFETY/SERVICE DEPARTMENT IN ORDER TO HAVE SUFFICIENT FUNDS TO PAY RECEPTIONIST AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY- - Clerk read ordinance by title for the one required reading. Mr. Joseph moved adoption; Mr. Clemens seconded. With the roll called, members voted: Mr. Deskins "Yea"; Mrs. Kelly "Yea"; Mr. Joseph "Yea"; Mr. Clemens "Yea"; Mr. Cotner "Yea"; Mr. Long "Yea"; Mr. Burd "Yea". Motion passed; Ordinance No. 38-11 adopted.

ORDINANCE MAKING TRANSFER OF FUNDS WITHIN THE BUILDING DEPARTMENT IN ORDER TO HAVE SUFFICIENT FUNDS TO PAY VENDORS FOR WORK BEING DONE AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY- - Clerk read ordinance by title for the one required reading. Mr. Joseph moved adoption; Mr. Long seconded. With the roll called, members voted: Mr. Deskins "Yea"; Mrs. Kelly "Yea"; Mr. Joseph "Yea"; Mr. Clemens "Yea"; Mr. Cotner "Yea"; Mr. Long "Yea"; Mr. Burd "Yea". Motion passed; Ordinance No. 39-11 adopted.

ORDINANCE MAKING TRANSFER OF FUNDS IN ORDER TO PAY 2011 DEBT SERVICE PAYMENTS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY- - Clerk read ordinance by title for the one required reading. Mr. Joseph moved adoption; Mr. Cotner seconded. With the roll called, members voted: Mr. Deskins "Yea"; Mrs. Kelly "Yea"; Mr. Joseph "Yea"; Mr. Clemens "Yea"; Mr. Cotner "Yea"; Mr. Long "Yea"; Mr. Burd "Yea". Motion passed; Ordinance No. 40-11 adopted.

ORDINANCE TO AMEND ORDINANCE NO. 118-10 THAT MADE A FINAL APPROPRIATION FOR CURRENT EXPENSES AND OTHER EXPENDITURES OF THE CITY OF REYNOLDSBURG, STATE OF OHIO, DURING THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING

DECEMBER 31, 2011 AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY- -Clerk read ordinance by title for the one required reading. Mr. Joseph moved adoption; Mr. Deskins seconded. With the roll called, members voted: Mr. Deskins “Yea”; Mrs. Kelly “Yea”; Mr. Joseph “Yea”; Mr. Clemens “Yea”; Mr. Cotner “Yea”; Mr. Long “Yea”; Mr. Burd “Yea”. Motion passed; Ordinance No. 41-11 adopted.

RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE AMOUNTS AND RATES AS DETERMINED BY THE BUDGET COMMISSION AND AUTHORIZING THE NECESSARY TAX LEVIES AND CERTIFYING THEM TO THE COUNTY AUDITOR AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY- -**(Franklin)** Clerk read resolution by title for the one required reading. Mr. Joseph moved adoption; Mr. Clemens seconded. With the roll called, members voted: Mr. Deskins “Yea”; Mrs. Kelly “Yea”; Mr. Joseph “Yea”; Mr. Clemens “Yea”; Mr. Cotner “Yea”; Mr. Long “Yea”; Mr. Burd “Yea”. Motion passed; Resolution No. 42-11 adopted.

RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE AMOUNTS AND RATES AS DETERMINED BY THE BUDGET COMMISSION AND AUTHORIZING THE NECESSARY TAX LEVIES AND CERTIFYING THEM TO THE COUNTY AUDITOR AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY- -**(Licking)** Clerk read resolution by title for the one required reading. Mr. Joseph moved adoption; Mr. Deskins seconded. With the roll called, members voted: Mr. Deskins “Yea”; Mrs. Kelly “Yea”; Mr. Joseph “Yea”; Mr. Clemens “Yea”; Mr. Cotner “Yea”; Mr. Long “Yea”; Mr. Burd “Yea”. Motion passed; Resolution No. 43-11 adopted.

ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF REYNOLDSBURG, OHIO: SECTION 141.01 “COMPENSATION” OF CHAPTER 141 MAYOR; SECTION 147.03 “COMPENSATION” OF CHAPTER 147 DEPARTMENT OF LAW; SECTION 127.01 “COMPENSATION” OF CHAPTER 127 PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL; and SECTION 121.02 “COMPENSATION” OF CHAPTER 121 COUNCIL- -Clerk read ordinance by title for the first reading. Item referred to Finance Committee.

ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF REYNOLDSBURG, OHIO: SECTION 160.09 “Group Insurance” OF CHAPTER 160 EMPLOYEE COMPENSATION- -Clerk read ordinance by title for the first reading. Item referred to Finance Committee.

ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF REYNOLDSBURG, OHIO: AMENDING SECTION 513.01 “Definitions”; and SECTION 513.03 “Drug Abuse; Controlled Substance Possession or Use” OF CHAPTER 513 DRUG ABUSE CONTROL; and AMENDING SECTION 545.05 “Petty Theft” OF CHAPTER 545 THEFT AND FRAUD- -Clerk read ordinance by title for the second reading. Item referred to Safety Committee.

Meeting adjourned at 7:56 p.m.

William L. Hills, President of Council

Nancy C. Frazier, Clerk of Council