



**MINUTES REGULAR MEETING
REYNOLDSBURG CITY COUNCIL
April 27, 2020**

Council President Leanora Jenkins called the meeting to order at 6:02 PM

Invocation - Mayor Begeny

Moment of Silence for Sarah Cannella (former Councilmember)

Mayor Begeny recognizes resident and former member of the Reynoldsburg city council who recently passed away, Sarah Cannella. Ms. Cannella certainly left her mark on the City. She was a part of numerous volunteer organizations and she was even awarded the key to the City in 1998. Mr. Begeny called for moment of silence to honor the great impact she had on the City of Reynoldsburg.

President Jenkins also acknowledges the number of achievements she has within the City and wants to honor her impact on the City as well.

PRESENT: Cotner (Remote), Baker (Remote), Bryant (Remote), Strickland (Remote), Salvati (Remote), Pyakurel (Remote), Lawson-Rowe (Remote), Jenkins (Remote)

ABSENT:

Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved as submitted.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the Special Council meeting of April 13, 2020 were approved as submitted.

a. City Council – Regular Meeting – April 13, 2020

The minutes are approved as submitted.

RESULT:	ACCEPTED
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Community Comments

James Smith, 8334 Priestley Drive

Christine and I watched the council meeting last night, which would have been April 13th, and did our best to hear what was said since there was a lot of interference at the beginning with Joe's comments but I certainly heard everything you said and I kept saying right on. I was very glad you raised the challenge of what were the procedures and the previous administration for approving change orders and the related money commitment. We know that while the former City attorney said that all was in order, he was wrong in the whole limited process of having the service director, who was not a person in authority, commit the City to large change orders and payments and was hardly the person who should approve those large amounts. Both questionable of \$1.3 million of mid 2019 were the \$450,000.00 and change orders that the City was considering approving. I applaud your questioning and I must say that I think it was very good that Councilmember Cotner questioned how come the change order approval process did not include Council approval. I'm not even sure that Mayor McCloud was that involved. The approvals were sloppy and should have been in writing and signed by a city official at least. So here we are with the albatross of paying a large sum to the contractor to hopefully finish the job. We are stuck. The money should be approved but there should be something added to the resolution that the Council will pay with but vigorously protest the method by which this came about. I'm one who firmly believes that one should speak out on these issues. I guess that goes back to my years of experience as an independent auditor, CPA of many types of governments cities, County school districts where confident council's had no problems with challenging and even holding up payments until everything was explained and supported. The new Reynoldsburg City Council and Administration shows that it is a kind of competent Council. As a citizen I really appreciate your involvement in ensuring that the city of Reynoldsburg is doing the right thing.

Brett Luzader, 1116 Gibson Rd.

Thank you President Jenkins and Members of Council,

I would like to re-iterate what I stated 2 weeks ago. Whoever signed the Authorization to Proceed orders for additional work on the Community Center, without an appropriation approved should no longer be working for the City of Reynoldsburg. This is a direct violation of State of Ohio finance laws.



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Thank you,

Councilmember Pyakurel recognizes Les Somogyi for organizing the food drive event for the Reynoldsburg Helping Hands. It was very good thing within the community. Mr. Pyakurel also shares how he has been coping with this Covid-19 crisis. He states that it's very difficult situation mentally and physically. Around 2017 he started practicing meditation yoga with an international organization. With the current crisis they are offering the program at little cost and free for front line workers. Mr. Pyakurel provides some background about the foundation. It is an international non-profit, non-religious organization dedicated to human well-being. Founded by Sadhguru, Yogi visionary. Isha has been a leader of offering the simple and scientifically structured yoga and meditation program for over 30 years to millions of people all over the world. It is estimated that over 9 million people around the world have benefited from the scientifically designed yoga and meditation program. Isha foundation is offering powerful medicine webinars. Meditation for health to help people cope with the uncertainty of our time. This medicine has been helping people around the world boost the immune system and respiratory capabilities to fight the virus and give them an inner sense of peace and well-being. It has also helped them respond to this time uncertainty as well as balance work/family and other places. In this webinar they will learn to help boost immunity and enhance the lungs capacity, harness the power of mind to manifest health, success and peace and bring balance. As well as the psychological well-being and reduce stress and anxiety. If someone is interested, they can go to the website ishafoundation.org.

President Jenkins suggest sharing the information on Reynoldsburg connect as well so that everyone that isn't listening today can be informed and she appreciates Mr. Pyakurel sharing. She also recognizes Mr. Somogyi for organizing the food pantry event and all of the Citizens who helped make it a success.

Ms. Lawson-Rowe recognizes and thanks the Parks and Recreation team for changing plans and figuring out a way to still bring joy to the community and its children for the breakfast with Easter Bunny. She also wants to thank superintendent Brown and his staff and board for their work among this crisis.

Mr. Baker also wants to thank the Parks and Rec team as well as the service industry members who are continuing to work during this crisis.



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Communications

There are no communications.

Motions

There are no motions.

Reports

Police Department First Quarter Report - Deputy Chief Curtis
Police Department First Quarter Report - Acting Chief Curtis

REYNOLDSBURG POLICE DEPARTMENT FIRST QUARTER REPORT

Acting Chief Curtis reviewed the first quarter report of the Reynoldsburg Police Department with Council.

Development, Parks & Recreation Committee

This is the Development, Parks & Recreation Committee meeting for April 27, 2020.

Members in attendance are: Councilmember Cotner, Councilmember Pyakurel, Councilmember Lawson-Rowe, Chair Baker and President Jenkins.

**An Ordinance to Transfer Funds Among Various General Fund Accounts Within the
Economic Development Department**

Mayor Begeny explained this is a good housekeeping issue and wanted to take care of things prior to the end of the year. The City has given Emily Wheeler extra compensation for additional duties that she was going to be performing. These are things that were established before the Covid crisis and should be accounted for earlier rather than later towards the end of the year. She is working with us to get recognition for the city as a green city of sustainability city as well as a potential Main Street City also these are additional things that will be coming out for the City of Reynoldsburg and things that we can work on to kind of get some recognition for all the great things are in the city of Reynoldsburg. There's also additional funds in there for an intern through MORPC. Prior to the Covid crisis the City was approached by MORPC for them to supply an intern for the Development Department. This



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person will come in for about eight hours a week starting a towards the end of May and normally we wouldn't have accepted this however MORPC was very insistent, they are going to cover half the cost of this intern for the summer that will be coming in. The City will be responsible for \$650 where MORPC would be covering the other \$650. With some of the development that is coming into Reynoldsburg it will be good to have a few other hands on deck.

President Jenkins questions as to whether Emily is being promoted or a new position is being created.

Mayor Begeny clarifies that there is not going to be a change in positions but compensation for additional duties within her current position. He also explains that the summer intern position that is going to begin mid-to-late May and it will end sometime in August for 8 hours a week. There is a plan in place to begin reopening City Hall, the Council and general public will be informed of that by Thursday or Friday, these plans are based on the Governors guidelines.

Councilmember Lawson-Rowe questions if the intern still plans to work within the City building during the Covid-19 crisis.

Mayor Begeny states that the Development Director did have a sort of interview with this intern and they do plan on completing the internship, they will be treated as any other employee with the proper precautions taken place for their safety and health as well as being able to work from home.

Councilmember Strickland questions of the increase in pay for Emily was in the budget.

Mayor Begeny explains that they are asking to move the funds from the 5300's to the 5100's, which is salary. The funds are available, they just need to be moved from one account to the other. The City is doing this now so that they are aware of where we are financially due to the impact from the Covid crisis.

Ms. Strickland questions if this will impact any other areas financially and Mayor Begeny explains that it should not be based on the restrictions being placed moving forward to deal with the Covid-19 impact and responsibly using the taxpayer dollars.



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Councilmember Lawson-Rowe questions if the half of the summer interns salary falls within the budget even with the restrictions taking place.

Mayor Begeny explains that the working being brought in by the intern will be beneficial with the small amount that it will cost the City.

Councilmember Baker moved to forward the ordinance to Council for a first reading. Second by Councilmember Pyakurel. Motion carried.

Public Safety, Law & Courts Committee

There was no Public Safety, Law & Courts Committee meeting.

Public Service & Transportation Committee

This is the Public Service & Transportation Committee meeting for April 27, 2020.

Members in attendance are: Councilmember Cotner, Councilmember Pyakurel, Councilmember Lawson-Rowe, Chair Strickland and President Jenkins.

**An Ordinance to Establish Chapter 1399, Registration of Vacant Properties for the
Codified Ordinances of the City of Reynoldsburg, Ohio**

Mr. Shook explains that this discussion item began back on March 9th before the Covid crisis really started to hit so we put it off until now. There have been no changes since that discussion item back in March and the highlights of this legislation to require the registration of vacant buildings within the City. To have a designated agent for each owner of a vacant building within the City. To have a plan or duration of vacant buildings and to secure the premises of those vacant buildings. To ensure these do not become eyesores within the community and people cannot enter these buildings and squat. Mr. Shook explains this ordinance is up for first reading tonight if anybody has any questions he as well as Michael Shaw, the Assistant City Attorney, who played a significant role in drafting this ordinance.

Councilmember Strickland thanks Attorney Shook and Assistant Attorney Shaw for drafting the legislation that originally came from discussion and conversation with Councilmember Strickland's neighbor and were some empty homes have been sitting



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for a period of time. Ms. Strickland explains this is one of the big things that she wanted to make sure that were taken care of as well as commercial buildings.

Councilmember Strickland moved to forward the ordinance to Council for a first reading. Second my Councilmember Lawson-Rowe. Motion carried.

An Ordinance to Repeal and Replace Chapter 741 of the Reynoldsburg Codified Ordinance on Solicitors

Mr. Shook explains this is a request of the Service Department to rewrite our solicitor ordinance so that we can clean certain issues. The first thing to do would be to transfer the permitting process over to the Police Department. That's the way it's done in most municipalities because required background checks for the applicant for their solicitor permits. The second significant change would be to address some constitutional considerations. There have been issues that have been brought up in the past regarding the solicitor ordinance, that it is unconstitutionally restrictive in the manner of time that is allotted to solicitors during the course of a day and the time limit in which permits are being issued. The third thing the ordinance would create is a no soliciting notice. This would allow residents who put up the notice on the door of their property to notify any potential solicitors that they are exercising their right not to be solicited and it would create the potential for criminal penalties for solicitors who continue to attempt to solicit residents who have one of those signs on their door. This differs from the ordinance that was created about a year ago for a do not knock registration. This ordinance is not registering people. They are being given the option to put the signs up on their door so that they can exercise their right to not be solicited and then we are putting in place measures by which we can hold solicitors accountable. Mr. Shook explain this is a discussion item only. Council is free to make suggestions changes additions or deletions as needed. Ms. Jenkins questions in the ordinance, once the resident puts up the no solicitation sign then who would they report to if someone is being a nuisance and not following the sign that they have placed at the residence. Mr. Shook explains that a solicitor who continues to solicit in violation of the no solicitation notice would actually be in violation of the criminal code, Criminal Trespass, which is a fourth degree misdemeanor. The resident would call the police department. The notice itself has to be in very specific language and this is something that other political subdivisions have done, townships and cities, to ensure that the residents are notifying the solicitor that they are a resident exercising the right not to be solicited and it acts as a deterrent. Mr. Shook explains that there are some entities who are exempt from this ordinance like politicians along with others,



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those details are provided in the subsection of the ordinance 74-17. Some examples are non-profits, school related activities and the Boys and Girls Scouts. These entities would not need to apply for a permit. This ordinance is currently drafted to read that they would not be exempt from the no solicitation notice. Meaning if there is a no solicitation notice on the door, even those organizations that are exempt from obtaining a permit, not be permitted to knock on a door that had a no soliciting. Council can decide whether they want that to be in place. The law would not be enforced on those types of entities but the law should be applied uniformly and be respectful of residents who may have young children napping or something of that sort that do not want to be disturbed.

President Jenkins questions what the cost involved with obtaining a permit.

Mr. Shook explains that applicants that apply for a permit under the drafting of the ordinance would be a \$50 administrative fee. Previously it was \$15, because administrative costs go up over time of what other local political subdivisions are doing. One of the things that other cities are doing is that they are providing options to applicants to apply for permits for limited periods of time for 1 week, 2 weeks or up to six months and up to a year. The cost would then be associated with the period of time, that is not currently in the Ordinance but Council can decide to add that language. Mr. Shook advises Council to consult him with any questions, changes, discussions regarding the ordinance.

Councilmember Strickland recommended that this legislation be brought to the May 11th Council meeting for a first reading.

Finance & Administration Committee

This is the Finance & Administration Committee meeting for April 27, 2020.

Members in attendance are: Councilmember Baker, Councilmember Bryant, Councilmember Strickland, Chair Salvati and President Jenkins.

An Ordinance to Amend the Personnel Procedure Manual Regarding Non-Uniform Clothing and Drug and Alcohol Testing Policy



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Ms. Boller explains that this ordinance has three changes to the personal procedure manual are the first one is on page 10 of the PPM, which does include the police Command Staff and promotion. This is a process in which we must follow in hiring the Chief of Police, Deputy Chief of Police and Lieutenant. The department's current Chief, Chief Plesich's last day with the city was on April 24th. The position has been posted. The Mayor made some changes in who reviewed applications and interview candidates. The second item is page 62 of the PPM; this is the drug and alcohol testing. The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration created a Clearing House that individuals with CDLs or temporary CDLs must register with license or temporary license. The language that was added was taken straight from the law and now defines exactly how reporting a positive drugs or alcohol test are to be reported. We must do this Clearing House also on the hiring of all drivers required to have a CDL. The last item is on page 65 on personal appearance. This will allow for the City to have a consistent look for staff at the City that wears uniforms. This new section would allow us to add the ability to provide shirts or hats for staff when they are out at events representing the City. Given the current financial situation though, all directors have been advised that until further direction from the Mayor, this clothing should not be purchased by the City. Any staff member choosing to purchase it with the logos themselves may do so.

Ms. Bryant questions now that medical marijuana is legal, are there exceptions that will be made for somebody with a medical card?

Ms. Boller explains that under the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration if you have a CDL there is no exception, even if you do have a medical card. Non-driving employees are not subject to random testing as those with a CDL and there have not been any discussion yet nor updated our policy on that. There seems to be quite a bit of confusion still out there on what the medical card actually allows. There's no way for the City to tell if an employee is following said the recommendations because when you're giving that medical card it is a suggestion that you take it to one of the pharmacies for medical marijuana. There is no real regulation of that yet.

Councilmember Salvati moved to forward this ordinance to Council for a first read. Second by Councilman Baker. Motion carried.



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An Ordinance to Amend Chapter 160 Employee Compensation, Section 160.02 (E) and (F) Authorized Positions and Section 160.11 City Clothing Provided of the Code of Ordinances for the City of Reynoldsburg, Ohio

The changes that are being proposed in chapter 160 regarding staffing is to change the title and pay the assistant ground superintendent which is a pay grade 12 currently. The City is requesting to change the title of this position to the Assistant Grounds Superintendent / Arborist at a pay grade 14. The current employee is a certified Arborist and having him not only work in the Parks Department but also on streets scape and various projects. The City wants the title and pay grade to reflect the expectations of the position now. The other staff change is the title of one of the Public Safety Records Technicians to a Public Safety Record / Research Technician. The police department has a software that allows for a lot of data and input for various reports that will be presented back out. The Police Department was able to identify a suspect of a crime based upon the data. There is not a current need for this to be a full-time position but having them spend part of their time working on records as a records technician as they currently do and then part of their time as a research technician. This one position would be changed from a pay grade 9 to a pay grade 10. In the last part of this chapter 160 change is the exact same language that is in the PPM for the clothing that was addressed previously.

Ms. Crawford from the auditor's office questions if the job titles need to be changed or if their duties and pay grades would suffice?

Ms. Boller explains that as it pertains to the arborist yes, there is a need for those skills that we have found and that we have been short on is having an arborist. As said before this position and skill is used in other departments to assist the needs and it's important to notate this is part of the job duties and the title as well and they pay grade should be reflected. Regarding the public safety records technician position, this is the compromise with the administration at the police department. They wanted to have a soul research technician at this point and had an entirely different title but at this point we felt that we should take the smaller step and see how this works out. Their duties would be more complicated than what the other records technicians would have so that's why we reached these decisions.

Councilmember Strickland questions if this is the right time to increase compensation given the current financial situation of the City and the impact of Covid-19.



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Mayor Begeny explains that Reynoldsburg was recognized as a tree city back in 1993. This employee was actually able to bring that designation back to us. These are all the statues that we've had prior Covid-19 expenses that you're talking about. There is hiring freeze right now in the City as well as the Reynoldsburg Police Department. These positions were being addressed early on but because of Covid-19 they were put aside. The impact on finances both short-term and long-term are unknown. As we move forward we have to be very careful with any funds in any decisions that we do make.

Ms. Crawford for giving an outside perspective to the title and pay changes as Ms. Strickland is still learning and does not know the in depth history of these items. Ms. Crawford explains that in 2008 and 9 when things were very bad and the tax rate was lower a lot of people did things outside their job duties and extra duties employees did not get raises. There is always a clause in most jobs that duties can be added by the supervisor if needed. She is concerned that a president will be set moving forward that if a job changes and has duties added, it will deserve a job title change and raise.

Mayor Begeny explains that these discussions were had with the City Auditor to ensure the fund were available for these changes.

Ms. Boller adds that these discussions are in depth with supervisors and directors and the title changes are only made when appropriate and not just because a little extra work is being done. She adds that these changes should also not be made for the simple fact that it may be a challenge to change in the payroll system.

Ms. Crawford repeats she feels that just the duties can be added to the job description and the titles do not need changed but whatever is approved is what the auditor's office will do.

Councilmember Strickland explains those are some concerns because there are from a financial perspective and with Covid-19 everyone is struggling at this point. From a City perspective her concern is the fact that they just don't know where the City my land at the end of this.



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Auditor Cicak advises on the street scape they did pay for tree trimming, 60 days \$15,000 for Street tree trimming and he thinks that's something that they might want to include in the arborist job duties.

Councilmember Lawson-Rowe also weighs in on the financial state of the City when it comes to giving raises to employees and feels those decisions can be tough to make and wants to be sure it's financially responsible to do at this time.

Councilmember Cotner asks for the actually numbers in these changes.

Ms. Boller explains that they are not significant, as the pay grades are only moving up small amounts and she will send the detailed information onto all of the Councilmembers.

Councilmember Salvati suggest moving the legislation to its first reading in order to allow for time for research and questions based on all of the information provided.

Councilmember Baker questions if these are budgeted changes. Mayor Begeny explains that most departments has this built into their individual budgets. President Jenkins asks for clarification on the raises in 2019.

Ms. Boller explains that an across the board 3% raise was given and in July 2019 the step raises were implemented. Employees whose anniversary dates fell after July, received the step raise through June 30th 2020, when there will be a freeze in step raises due to Covid-19. Ms. Boller explains the changes for the proposed potions pay grade changes. Step nine is \$18.32. According to the ordinance the most we could go to in someone starting at \$21.78. Step 10 is \$18.78 and goes up to as starting could be up to \$22.53. That's at the very top. \$0.75 on the hour and then going from a 12 to 14 at the top that we would be moving to our we would go from \$ 24.16 and currently has \$23.23 so that would be \$0.93 on the hour. Those positions would not be entitled to a step increase for the remainder of the year. Ms. Boller will send the detailed information for pay increases, anniversary dates and steps for these positions to Council.

Councilmember Salvati moved to forward this ordinance to Council for a first read. Second by Councilman Bryant. Motion carried.



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LEGISLATION FOR EMERGENCY ADOPTION

36-2020

AN ORDINANCE REQUESTING COUNCIL APPROPRIATE \$450,000.00 FROM THE UNAPPROPRIATED CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT (CIP) FUND FOR THE REYNOLDSBURG COMMUNITY CENTER, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY --- Salvati. Finance and Administration Committee.

Councilmember Bryant motion to amend the ordinance to include new language, Second by Councilmember Salvati. Motion carries.

Attorney Shook gives the history back to December 2016 when City Council passed a resolution that a tax increase on the ballot fall through. The voters' approval of that tax increase and then the various contract agreements are signed to follow through with this particular project. The prior City Attorney had a reasonable basis that some of these contracts did not need to go to Council. There is a subsection D under City ordinance on 75101 that appears to allow contracts regardless of size that are Professional Services should go through without legislative authorization and that there is an unencumbered appropriation. There is a couple of problems with that with this particular project. The first is that really promote it a lack of transparency with Council. Council did not know how much the City had agreed to pay a construction manager and it put us in a position where ultimately the last Mayor and current Mayor ended up signing documents said that put us over the appropriations which meant that it absolutely did need to come to Council. There are certain requirements that need to be met before the Mayor can sign a contract that requires the exponent of taxpayer dollars and that process is set forth in our Charter and in the ordinance that before the Mayor can sign a contract, the City Auditor has to certify that the funds have been appropriated and are available and then the City attorney has to approve those. In most of the contracts or agreements that are laid out, in this particular ordinance they did not contain the approval as to form they did not contain the certification from the officer before they were signed by the Mayor. We find ourselves in a position now where we have certain financial obligations to the construction manager that quite frankly we're not properly authorized. They would be considered if this matter where to go to court potentially void. The ordinance is drafted to create a basis for which Council if you so choose, could pass this appropriation as at the very least a moral obligation. That is something that Council can do under the charter to the City under Section 8 .04. Something that is upheld throughout various court case is over the decades. That is a decision that is up to Council. There are very good reasons why you would pass



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an ordinance of a moral obligation to pay this contractor. Those are also set forth in the specific terms of this.

Councilmember Salvati reads a personal statement into the minutes regarding the legislation.

I have been following the YMCA money situation for some time now. I first started hearing about issues several months before the first request for 1.3 million in additional funds. Rather than get into the weeds on what did or didn't happen I would like to skip to the two biggest points I took away from that first request. The first being that the amount of communication and collaboration within the city's government for this project was woefully inadequate. As has been stated before this was a 28-million-dollar project which is by large margin the biggest undertaking of this city in decades. While the rules may place the sitting service director in charge of the project, not only should it have been highly collaborative with the Mayor, City Attorney, Auditor and Council, but there should have been many updates, and progress checks and there just were not. This observation has led to the numerous changes that have talked about that have been made by this administration. I feel comfortable with those changes. The second take away was that this project was from day one supposed to be a 28-million-dollar project, in fact the Mayor mentioned it may have been closer to 29 million. It has been said many times that the industry standard contingency amount of a project of this magnitude is 10% or 2.8 million dollars. The Auditors office for prudent reasons decided that 28 million dollars was all that the City could bond for this project. At that point in my opinion there were two options. Either the City had to go back to the drawing board and come up with a 26 million dollar YMCA to build or the project would need to fund to level of at least 30 million dollars. This would have meant putting up 2 million from the general fund as contingency. Neither of these things were done and the project was allowed to go forward with basically no contingency fund which again in my opinion almost guaranteed we would be right where we are now, at some point. So my final thought on this is that we additionally need to learn from this mistake and not let it happen again. However to date there have been two asks for additional funds for this project one for \$1.3M and now an additional \$500K. While the steps leading us here were not to be ignored, and have not been, we still remain under the industry standard contingency by about a million dollars. This is not necessarily comforting, but it provides perspective. Lastly I just wanted to say that for the record I found that the auditor's office did their job on this project as it is outlined and were in my opinion not part of the blame for any of this drama. I thank them for diligence.



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Councilmember Bryant agrees with Councilman Salvati and is happy with this legislation as well as the procedures put in place to ensure this sort of thing does not happen again. She is disappointed in how this project turned out and feels blaming any one area will not solve anything and the City needs to pay the bills owed. Mr. Baker wants to apologize to the community as these funds are from taxpayer dollars and the project was not on time or on budget. He is also pleased that there are steps in place to again ensure this will not happen again.

Auditor Cicak comments the original budget for the project was 34 million dollars, but based on the numbers the project was budgeted for 28 million dollars. He would like for Council to read through and research this large packet. In the packet there is an email on February 17th from our owner's rep CT and Brian Sabala and he writes in here that this overage, the YMCA has asked for numerous things that were above and beyond what were shown in the contract documents and were not valued engineered items that were put back in the project. Mr. Cicak appreciates that the City is going back and following the rules strictly. He appreciates the work from the Mayor and City Attorney on this but would like for there to be some really good transparency on to what they are spending this money for.

Councilmember Cotner questions Mr. Shook if change order 8 in February is when they became legally obligated to pay the bill. Mr. Shook states that I not the case for two reasons. One being insufficient funds and the second being the money needed to be certified by the Auditor before the change order could be signed to confirm the money had been appropriated and was available. This is a state law. Going back to the beginning of the project, the change orders were being signed by the Mayor without having first gone to the Auditors office. This issue goes back to July when the 1.3 million dollars was requested.

Ms. Crawford explains that when the last GMP was requested, there was not enough money to appropriate and she advised that is why the purchase order was not authorized until permission was received from Council. Mr. Shook clarifies that there were three GMPs, they were signed June 26, 2018, September 26, 2018 and the last being February 6, 2019. Those couples with all of the change orders put the City over budget, there were already signed documents that put the project over budget before returning to Council in July.



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Attorney Shook also clarifies that it is Council's responsibility to appropriate the funds and approve the contracts. Mr. Shook believes the problems start in the very beginning with the first contract signed July 24, 2017 where the Mayor signed a 2.2 million dollar contract and Council had only appropriated \$100,000.00.

Councilmember Cotner explains that this is the first time they have been made aware of these early on problems. Mr. Shook speculates that the administration wanted to move this project along quickly for the community and were willing to do whatever it took to get that done. Mr. Cotner wants to make sure the project is completed legally and that Council fulfills their responsibilities. His other concern is in regards to the repeater that was brought up at the last meeting and being held until tomorrow when they know the results of this evenings meeting. In July the 1.3 million included the repeater, he would like to know where that money has been spent.

Mayor Begeny explains there is a spreadsheet to show where that money was allocated and it was not purchased or paid for until the fire department verified it was the appropriate unit for that building.

Auditor Cicak also states that Ms. Crawford communicated with the previous City Attorney and this was not an over site and was done under the direction of the previous City Attorney.

Attorney Shook explains that in May 2018, Council had bonded \$28M and under the City Ordinance 175.01(d), City officials could then sign it onto contracts as long as the money had been appropriated without coming back to Council. The contracts and change orders should have been circulated through the City Attorney, City Auditor and then the Mayor for signature. There is a lot more accountability when that system is followed and ensuring when the Mayor signs these documents he has the legal authority to do so. Mr. Baker questions if in this agreement the contractor had the authority to remove items from the agreement. Mr. Shook explains that is not the case. At the time the designated City representative which was the Service Director who works directly with the architect and construction manager to put together the design of the building and what would and would not be in the building. During this time the community was promised certain items and they were not put into the design in order to make room for other architectural items. Most people in City Hall were not aware that was taking place and when it was brought to light that is when they returned to Council and asked for the additional 1.3 million.



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Councilmember Cotner reiterates that back in July, they were told this was the only additional money that would be asked for and obviously that is not the case and would like to know if this current ordinance will cover the remainder of the items like to pool and other summer items.

Mayor Begeny explains that they asked Gilbane and CT to send to them any items to include the final punch out list. This legislation accounts for what is owed and to include a cushion of around \$67,000.00. This also included the pool certification inspection items of \$21,485.00. This is the maximum of what could be charged and how the budgeted number was calculated. Any unused funds will be returned to the CIP. There is a possibility of some return from CT as they still have contingency money. There is no way to know how much money will be returned, if any, until the project is complete.

Auditor Cicak explains that he has discussed these issues with those who complete the audit on the City and there will most likely be citations from these problems that have occurred. President Jenkins questions if all of the expenditures have been reviewed with CT and Gilbane to ensure that the City has not overpaid.

Mayor Begeny explains that multiple people have completed this process extensively as well as with CT and Gilbane to verify any questions or changes. He explains that Ms. Crawford did a great job in verifying these numbers.

Auditor Cicak explains that Ms. Crawford found a one million dollar error in the beginning of this process and discovered that the project has been overspent twice.

Councilmember Baker thanks Ms. Crawford.

Councilmember Salvati moved to amend the ordinance to include all of the added language as presented in the April 27th Council packet. Second by Councilmember Bryant. Roll call vote: Baker - yes; Bryant - yes; Strickland - yes; Salvati - yes; Pyakurel - yes; Lawson-Rowe - yes; Cotner - yes. Motion to amend the ordinance passed 7-0.

Councilmember Baker moved to approve the ordinance as amended. Second Councilmember Bryant. Roll call vote: Baker - yes; Bryant - yes; Strickland - yes; Salvati - yes; Pyakurel - yes; Lawson-Rowe - yes; Cotner - no. Motion to approve the ordinance as amended passed 6-1.



**MINUTES REGULAR MEETING
REYNOLDSBURG CITY COUNCIL
April 27, 2020**

RESULT:	ADOPTED AS AMENDED [6 TO 1]
MOVER:	Stacie Baker, At-Large Councilmember
SECONDER:	Kristin Bryant, At-Large Councilmember
AYES:	Baker, Bryant, Strickland, Salvati, Pyakurel, Lawson-Rowe
NAYS:	Cotner

LEGISLATION FOR FIRST READING

AN ORDINANCE TO TRANSFER FUNDS AMONG VARIOUS GENERAL FUND ACCOUNTS WITHIN THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT --- Baker. Development, Parks and Recreation Committee.

RESULT:	REFERRED TO COMMITTEE	Next: 5/11/2020 6:00 PM
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AN ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH CHAPTER 1399, REGISTRATION OF VACANT PROPERTIES FOR THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF REYNOLDSBURG, OHIO --- Strickland. Public Service and Transportation Committee.

RESULT:	REFERRED TO COMMITTEE	Next: 5/11/2020 6:00 PM
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AN ORDINANCE TO REPEAL AND REPLACE CHAPTER 741 OF THE REYNOLDSBURG CODIFIED ORDINANCE ON SOLICITORS --- Strickland. Public Service and Transportation Committee.

RESULT:	REFERRED TO COMMITTEE	Next: 5/11/2020 6:00 PM
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**MINUTES REGULAR MEETING
REYNOLDSBURG CITY COUNCIL
April 27, 2020**

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 160 EMPLOYEE COMPENSATION, SECTION 160.02 (E) AND (F) AUTHORIZED POSITIONS AND SECTION 160.11 CITY CLOTHING PROVIDED OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES FOR THE CITY OF REYNOLDSBURG, OHIO --- Salvati. Finance and Administration Committee.

RESULT:	REFERRED TO COMMITTEE	Next: 5/11/2020 6:00 PM
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AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE PERSONNEL PROCEDURE MANUAL REGARDING NON-UNIFORM CLOTHING AND DRUG AND ALCOHOL TESTING POLICY --- Salvati. Finance and Administration Committee.

RESULT:	REFERRED TO COMMITTEE	Next: 5/11/2020 6:00 PM
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Other Council Matters

Mr. Cotner thanks Chief Plesich for his service and wants to wish him well and thank him for his service to the City.

Mr. Baker recognizes the Reynoldsburg High School Seniors for their hard work.

Ms. Strickland also congratulates the class of 2020 and thanks the administrators who are still working to finish out the school year.

Upcoming Meetings

May 7, 2020 Planning Commission
May 11, 2020 Council 6:00pm
May 21, 2020 BZBA
May 26, 2020 (Tuesday) Council 6:00pm

Adjournment

Leanora Jenkins

Leanora Jenkins, President of Council

Mollie Prasher



**MINUTES REGULAR MEETING
REYNOLDSBURG CITY COUNCIL
April 27, 2020**

Mollie Prasher, Clerk of Council