

MINUTES COUNCIL MEETING
REYNOLDSBURG CITY COUNCIL
March 24, 2014

President Pro Tempore Chris Long called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

Members of Council present: Daniel J. Skinner, Esq., Scott A. Barrett, Leslie Kelly, Barth R. Cotner, Chris Long.

President of Council Doug Joseph was not present.

Approval of minutes of regular Council meeting held March 10, 2014.

Approval of Agenda-

Mr. Long: I do have one, we will be adding and Executive Session which will become item 21a.

Community Comments and Requests:

Mr. Long: We do have a couple of speaker slips tonight. The first one is Lori Schwartzkopf. Ms. Schwartzkopf, I'd like to remind you again that there is a 3 minute time limit on speaking.

Lori Schwartzkopf: Yes sir, Thank you. Good evening members of Council, Mayor McCloud. I wanted to present some new information to you today. I guess it's new but it's old. These are 2013 Reynoldsburg stats for dogs. I wanted to kind of do a year end review for you all. So I wanted to talk about citations first both vicious dogs and then dangerous dogs. So for 505.35 A which is control and harboring of a vicious dog, you had 23 citations written for 505.35A (In comparison, 4 were written in 2012). 22 were to dogs labeled pit bull type dogs. 1 dog not labeled by breed. Only 2 of the dogs receiving that citation actually caused an injury to a human. One was labeled "pit bull" and the other was not labeled by breed. That leaves 21 pit bull type dogs received citations for the way they look. NOTE: Some charges were dropped in court when dogs charged as pit bulls were shown not to be pit bulls as originally charged. So for dangerous dog which is 505.37, this is dangerous dog and other animals permit required fee impounding. This is typically a citation typically given for dogs chasing or menacing behavior, attempting to bite, cause physical harm to property, including other people's dogs, all of this while not under the control of the owner. No dangerous dog permits were issued in 2013. In fact, no dangerous dog permits have been issued for the past nine (9) years which is as far back as RPD records seem to go. RPD Data: 13 dogs caused injuries to humans. 11 of those dogs were not listed as pit bull type dogs. 2 were listed as a pit bull type dogs. Franklin County Public Health Data (dog bites from all 3 Reynoldsburg counties) and as I've explained before, I remember Councilwoman Kelly you asked, it's because most people, when bitten by a dog, don't typically call the police, they'll go to seek care immediately so, they bypass the police department. 49 dog bites in 2013 highest number in the past 12 years. In 2007, you had 40 bites, this exceeds even that. If you look on the back of the handout, you can see all of the bites by breed, you can also see the parameters that the county used to search. This includes all 3 counties in Reynoldsburg by the

way, because they manage all three. 7 of those bites were by mixed breeds, 5 were by Labrador Retrievers, we usually see those guys in the top 5 because they're popular, 4 of them are unknown, meaning it was a bite and run, these people were bitten but the dog ran off, we're not sure what kind of dog it was, and then a tie for 4th place for the Dachsund and Pit Bull with 3 bites and you can see a variety of other dogs in there, German Shepherd, Pomeranian... So my question, and this is a question that has never been asked to my knowledge and never been answered by any of you up here: How is this ban making your city safer? And I know this isn't a back and forth but someone needs to answer that question. I hope the press will ask you this so that you can answer your citizens that question because, there are people in the audience that come up here and say this ban is working for us and yet you've shown them absolutely no evidence to that fact. Absolutely nothing. I hope they don't say there have never been any maulings or serious bites by a Pit bull, there's actually never been a mauling or bites or death by a Pit Bull in Reynoldsburg ever, so that's neither here nor there. Hopefully you will answer this question, I know you won't do it today. That's all I have.

Mr. Long: Thank you, are there any more questions for Ms. Schwartzkopf from the members of Council?

Mr. Barrett: So this is Reynoldsburg's statistics and we have a pit bull ban.

Ms. Schwartzkopf: Yes, you have a pit bull ban.

Mr. Barrett: Wouldn't it make sense that there would be a lack of pit bull attacks?

Ms. Schwartzkopf: Actually no. I mean, you would think that the ban would affect the numbers, typically what you see when there is, and I wrote this down but I didn't include it. What you actually see when there is a ban in a town that is enforcing its ban, which you didn't start doing until last year, when you start enforcing a ban on pit bulls, your bite numbers actually go up and that's reflected in your 2013 data. And the reason for that is because you're all looking at a very small number of breeds, in this case 3 or 4 different breeds of dog, while the other dogs, your citizens tend to think are safe and not something to worry about. So if you do your research, if you go home and you google this, you will see that bites in cities with bans actually go up when a ban is enforced. Also, you can see from your data, from the city, or from the county, typically, you'll have the most popular breeds of dog up in the top 5 or so. So actually, you probably have quite a few pit bulls in the city. Rough estimates are about 600 actually, and you can see that they're just not biting in the numbers of the other dogs. They're up there, they're number 4, but you have mixed breeds that have bitten 7 people, Labradors 5 people and etc. down the list. So the answer to your question is no, not necessarily. That's not what research shows. I urge you to please research that.

Mrs. Kelly: For the mix, the 7, the highest number, is there any data that tells us what mix it is?

Ms. Schwartzkopf: No. It just says mixed breed on the County's sheet.

Mr. Long: Any further questions from members of Council? Thank you Ms. Schwartzkopf.

Next speaker is Mr. Dan Bender, would you please come to the microphone and state your name and address. And once again, 3 minute limit on your time.

Daniel Bender: 6441 Rugosa Ave: Good evening Mayor McCloud and members of council. Thank you for the opportunity to speak to you tonight. My name is Dan Bender and I am a resident of Reynoldsburg. I live on Rugosa Avenue. I'm here tonight to speak about the proposal to overturn the ban on pit bull ownership in the city. I love most animals we had a couple of different dogs when I was growing up and my family currently has two cats that we adopted from a rescue facility that we love and enjoy very much. We believe that pets bring much joy into people's lives. However, I do have serious concerns about pit bulls and believe that Reynoldsburg's ban on owning this breed is justified. I have read too many stories through the years about these dogs attacking humans and other dogs and animals, causing serious injury and death. This ban is intended to protect both people and animals and in no way to cause harm. I know that proponents of overturning this ban heartily disagree with me and that's fine. I can certainly appreciate their efforts to lobby on behalf of an issue they believe in. But something I read in one of the local newspapers over the weekend prompted me to come and talk to you tonight. I really don't appreciate people who don't live here and don't have to live with the ramifications of your votes,

coming to council meetings and issuing threats about lawsuits and political retribution if you don't bow to their agenda. That makes me angry because the actions you take and the decisions you make, on this and other issues, do have an impact on my quality of life, and that of everyone in Reynoldsburg. Our community has the right to pass and enforce laws that we as citizens support. So for those of you who already support keeping the ban in place and those who are on the fence, I hope you are willing to stand up to those who resort to threats and bullying to get their way. In closing, for the sake of my family's safety and the quality of life for everyone in Reynoldsburg, I respectfully ask that you keep this ban in place. Thank you for your time.

Communications:

Mrs. Beggerow: We are in receipt of the February, 2014 Budget by Classification and February, 2014 Departmental Budget.

Reports:

Mary Hudson from the Visitors and Convention Bureau.

Good evening, Council Members and Mayor McCloud. I am happy to be here once again this evening to share with you the successes of the Reynoldsburg Visitors Bureau during 2013. We have entered our 24th year at the bureau and as the one and only director, I am still as excited to promote Reynoldsburg every day as I was 24 years ago when I first started my job. I would like to take this opportunity to welcome Mr. Skinner as the newest Council Member, and also Dan Havener as our new development director. We wish you both the best and please feel free to call upon the bureau if there is anything you need from us. I also want to thank my board of directors and welcome our two newest members, Pam Bowen of Uno Chicago Grill, and Brent Carroll of PNC Bank, and thank those here to support me tonight. As we move forward I also took a look

back and thought it might be fun to share with you some interesting statistics from throughout the years. I have worked with 2 mayors, 2 superintendents, soon to be three, 4 police chiefs, 3 fire chiefs, 2 City attorneys, 5 auditors, 5 parks and recreation directors, 9 service directors, 4 Development directors, 4 council presidents, 34 members of council, 20 school board Members, 38 visitors bureau board of directors, 2 council clerks, 4 clerks of court, 1 Safety director, and 10 Truro township trustees. The Reynoldsburg Visitors Bureau is a direct marketing organization formed to bring visitors into Reynoldsburg and contribute to the economic development of our area. We also work very closely with the State of Ohio, Franklin County and Columbus in promoting all our tourism entities, tourism is a wise investment for Ohio communities and the state. In recent years higher demand and market prices have resulted in stronger bottom line for Ohio businesses, more tax revenues for state and local governments, and more jobs. The statewide industry snapshot indicates 433,132 jobs supported by tourism, \$2.7 billion in state and local tax revenues \$10.6 billion in payroll And a total of approximately \$40 billion in total business sales, in Franklin county tourism supports one in every 12 salaried jobs and visitors pay \$1.4 billion in local, state and federal taxes, with \$7.8 billion visitor generated spending in Columbus. Here in Reynoldsburg our 2013 revenues were up 17% up from an 11% increase in 2012. The bed tax generated \$285,412.94, and as i stated a \$47,677.79 increase over 2012. The Visitors bureau is capped at \$75,000. So that our efforts help generate \$210,412.94 going into the general fund for the city of Reynoldsburg. As the main marketing organization representing and selling our city the visitors bureau in its' efforts to promote the city had media buys and ads in the following publications in 2013: Ohio Magazine., Summer Travel Issue, Official State of Ohio Travel Guide, Experience Columbus Visitors Guide..... Spring and Fall Issues, AAA Home and Away Magazine, Central Ohio Heritage Circle Visitors Guide and Senior Times. The cost of print media continues to rise so it help tremendously that part of our advertising is done through co-ops with the Central Ohio Heritage Circle, Experience Columbus, and the Ohio Association of Convention and Visitors Bureaus. In your packet I have included the official Ohio State Travel Guide which publishes a couple hundred thousand copies a year, in which we have an ad, and our 2014 Reynoldsburg Community Activities Calendar. We work with target business services and they do a Zip Pack mailing to all residents and businesses in our city and I also have 6,000 extra copies for distribution. We have done this the last couple of years and it is a great way to get our calendar out. When sharing information as to what brings visitors to Reynoldsburg, I would be remiss if I did not mention that our location on 1-70 and 270 really helps whenever really large events come into Columbus examples would be Mopar, the Quarter Horse Congress and the Arnold Classic just this month our hotels were full and our restaurants were pleased to host so many visitors to the Arnold. With the completion of the new Hilton downtown Columbus has increased room nights to the extent that it an now try for much larger conventions, such as the 2016 Republican and Democratic Conventions, which if they were to receive the bid would benefit all of us in central Ohio. Last year we once again partnered with SUNY 95 the Columbus radio group to bring a block party to our Huber neighborhood. I am working with them again this year to see if we can get them back it is a great event for our neighborhoods. We once again had many successful family oriented events such as concerts, at the senior center and the Livingston House, school concerts, the community clean-up day and week, Pioneer day, the new Mount Carmel Firecracker 5k on the fourth of July, the Farmers Market, taste of Reynoldsburg and the annual Tomato Festival, just to name a few. As The bureau looks forward to its' 25 anniversary, next year with be the 50th annual Reynoldsburg

Tomato Festival, let the festivities begin! Since we are a municipal bureau and most do not have membership we work very closely with the Reynoldsburg area Chamber of Commerce to aid in membership, especially those in the hospitality industry. I am very pleased to share what great working relationships we have with our home grown Reynoldsburg establishments such as the Hickory House, Scali's Italian Ristorante, Pies, Eastern Palace, 5 Bean Coffee, the Sunset Grill, Block's great community partners and are not chain restaurants. We will continue to market Reynoldsburg to the best of our ability through membership And participation in the following organizations: Ohio Association of Convention and Visitors bureaus, Capital Area Tourism Alliance, Central Ohio Heritage Circle, Columbus Events Council, Reynoldsburg Area Chamber of Commerce and the Reynoldsburg Community Association. Most importantly we will continue to assess our advertising and marketing programs for the most effective use of our resources. In closing I would once again like to thank all of you in the city for your support over the past 24 years, and also to mayor mc cloud and his staff for all the support and help. Really in closing I have a couple of great events that are coming up that I think you will enjoy and hopefully add to your calendars. 1. Chamber of Commerce Community Business Expo on April 1. We are partnering with the Reynoldsburg city schools and it will take place in the performing arts center at the Summit Road High School. 2. The Reynoldsburg Pickerington Rotary Club will once again be hosting the very entertaining Harlem Wizards for a basketball game at Summit where the Wizards take on a Reynoldsburg community team- any takers. This is set for the evening of April 8th. Keep your calendars handy, and I hope to see all of you out in the community soon.

Respectfully submitted:

Mary hudson, executive director

Reynoldsburg visitors & community activities bureau

Mr. Long: Any questions for Mrs. Hudson from members of Council?

Mrs. Kelly: I just wanted to point something out that I think is just great and speaks to positive direction hopefully that *** that our 2013 revenues were up 17%, so I think that that is fantastic, I know that's on the bottom of the first page and that it basically equated to a \$47,677 increase over 2012 so that is wonderful and I thought that needs pointed out.

Mrs. Hudson: our two facilities, our hotels, Fairfield Inn and Suites and the Holiday Inn Express on Taylor Road are just going gangbusters. Their occupancy rates are at an all-time high and I think, you know, when I talked about being on I-70, when you're coming into town, entering from the east, you know, we're first. And if you're on the west, you're downtown and then there's not a lot between downtown and us now, so we really, we just need to market and let everybody know we're there and keep those.. and there's so much to do at Taylor Square, it has been such a wonderful thing for the community that is really easy to sell.

Mrs. Kelly: So that was great to see.

Mrs. Hudson: yes, Thank you.

Mr. Long: Thank you Mrs. Hudson.

LEGISLATION REQUIRING ONE READING

ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE REYNOLDSBURG DIVISION OF POLICE TO ACCEPT THE OHIO OFFICE OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE ASSISTANCE GRANT for emergency P25 Radio Project UPON RECEIPT; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.--- Long. Safety.

Mr. Long: Thank you, this item does come from the Safety Committee with recommendation for adoption as an emergency and I so move. Second by Councilman Cotner.

Clerk called the roll, votes as follows: Dan Skinner "Aye", Scott Barrett "Aye", Leslie Kelly "Aye", Barth Cotner, "Aye", Chris Long "Aye". 5 affirmative 0 negative, motion passes as Ordinance 09-14.

ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING MAYOR TO ENTER INTO CONTRACT FOR HUBER SUBDIVISION WATERLINE REPLACEMENT PROJECT, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFORE, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.--- Clemens. Service.

Mr. Barrett: This comes from the Service Committee with recommendation for adoption as an emergency, I so move.

Mr. Long: Councilman Barrett recommends adoption as an emergency, Second by Councilwoman Kelly.

Clerk called the roll, votes as follows: Dan Skinner "Aye", Scott Barrett "Aye", Leslie Kelly "Aye", Barth Cotner, "Aye", Chris Long "Aye". 5 affirmative 0 negative, motion passes as Ordinance 10-14.

ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING MAYOR TO ENTER INTO CONTRACT FOR CMOM PROGRAM, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFORE, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.--- Clemens. Service.

Mr. Barrett: This again comes from the Service Committee with recommendation for adoption as an emergency, I so move.

Mr. Long: Councilman Barrett recommends adoption as an emergency, Second by Councilman Skinner.

Clerk called the roll, votes as follows: Dan Skinner "Aye", Scott Barrett "Aye", Leslie Kelly "Aye", Barth Cotner, "Aye", Chris Long "Aye". 5 affirmative 0 negative, motion passes as Ordinance 11-14.

ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH EMH&T TO PROVIDE PROJECT MANAGEMENT AND INSPECTION SERVICES FOR THE BRICE ROAD IMPROVEMENT PROJECT; APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFORE; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. --- Cotner. Finance.

Mr. Cotner: This comes Finance Committee with recommendation for adoption as an emergency, I so move.

Mr. Long: Councilman Cotner makes a motion for passage as an emergency, Second by Councilman Barrett.

Clerk called the roll, votes as follows: Dan Skinner "Aye", Scott Barrett "Aye", Leslie Kelly "Aye", Barth Cotner, "Aye", Chris Long "Aye". 5 affirmative 0 negative, motion passes as Ordinance 12-14.

ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO CONTRACT WITH SHELLEY & SANDS INC., FOR THE BRICE ROAD IMPROVEMENT PROJECT; APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFORE; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. --- Cotner. Finance.

Mr. Cotner: This comes Finance Committee with also recommendation for adoption as an emergency, I so move.

Mr. Long: Councilman Cotner moves a motion for passage as an emergency, Second by Councilman Skinner.

Clerk called the roll, votes as follows: Dan Skinner "Aye", Scott Barrett "Aye", Leslie Kelly "Aye", Barth Cotner, "Aye", Chris Long "Aye". 5 affirmative 0 negative, motion passes as Ordinance 13-14.

ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO INCLUDE FUNDING FOR ALTERNATE BID #1 IN THE CONTRACT WITH SHELLEY & SANDS INC., AS PART OF THE BRICE ROAD IMPROVEMENT PROJECT; APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFORE; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. --- Cotner. Finance.

Mr. Cotner: This comes Finance with recommendation for adoption as an emergency, I so move.

Mr. Long: Councilman Cotner makes a motion for passage as an emergency, Second by Councilman Skinner.

Clerk called the roll, votes as follows: Dan Skinner "Aye", Scott Barrett "Aye", Leslie Kelly "Aye", Barth Cotner, "Aye", Chris Long "Aye". 5 affirmative 0 negative, motion passes as Ordinance 14-14.

ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO INCLUDE FUNDING FOR ALTERNATE BID #2 IN THE CONTRACT WITH SHELLEY & SANDS INC., AS PART OF THE BRICE ROAD IMPROVEMENT PROJECT; APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFORE; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. --- Cotner. Finance.

Mr. Cotner: This also comes Finance Committee with recommendation for adoption as an emergency, I so move.

Mr. Long: Councilman Cotner makes a motion for passage as an emergency, Second by Councilman Barrett.

Clerk called the roll, votes as follows: Dan Skinner "Aye", Scott Barrett "Aye", Leslie Kelly "Aye", Barth Cotner, "Aye", Chris Long "Aye". 5 affirmative 0 negative, motion passes as Ordinance 15-14.

LEGISLATION FOR FIRST READING

ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING ITEMS ON FIXED ASSET LIST FOR AUCTION; AND AUTHORIZING APPROPRIATION OF MONIES RECEIVED FROM SALE OF ITEMS. (Water Dept) --- Cotner. Finance.

Mr. Cotner: Thank you, this comes from Finance Committee would like to stand for its first reading and be sent back please.

Mr. Long: Councilman Cotner would like this to stand for its first reading, refer back to committee.

ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING ITEMS ON FIXED ASSET LIST FOR AUCTION; AND AUTHORIZING APPROPRIATION OF MONIES RECEIVED FROM SALE OF ITEMS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. (Parks & Rec. to pass at second reading) --- Cotner. Finance.

Mr. Cotner: Thank you, this comes from Finance Committee would like to stand for its first reading and return to committee.

Mr. Long: Councilman Cotner would like this to stand for its first reading, refer back to committee.

LEGISLATION FOR SECOND READING

ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING MAYOR TO ENTER INTO CONTRACT WITH KUSTOM SIGNAL, INC., FOR THE PURCHASE OF NEW CAMERAS FOR MARKED VEHICLES AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. (to pass after second reading) 1st reading on 3/10/2014-- Long. Safety.

Mr. Long: This item comes from the Safety Committee with a recommendation of adoption as an emergency, I so move. Second by Councilwoman Kelly.

Clerk called the roll, votes as follows: Dan Skinner "Aye", Scott Barrett "Aye", Leslie Kelly "Aye", Barth Cotner, "Aye", Chris Long "Aye". 5 affirmative 0 negative, motion passes as Ordinance 16-14.

ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING DONATED FUNDS TO ACCOUNT 110.111.5362 FROM THE UNAPPROPRIATED GENERAL FUND. 1st reading on 3/10/2014 --- Cotner. Finance.

Mr. Cotner: Thank you, this item comes from Finance and I would like it to stand for its second reading and return to committee please.

Mr. Long: Councilman Cotner would like this to stand for its second reading and return back to committee.

Takes us to item 21a. I will entertain a motion from Council to enter into Executive Session. Motion by Mr. Skinner, Second by Councilman Barrett.

Clerk called the roll, votes as follows: Dan Skinner "Aye", Scott Barrett "Aye", Leslie Kelly "Aye", Barth Cotner, "Aye", Chris Long "Aye". Individuals present will be all elected officials Mr. Havener and the Clerk of Council.

Reconvene

Members present: Dan Skinner, Scott Barrett, Leslie Kelly, Barth Cotner, Chris Long.

Mr. Long: I will be setting a public hearing for what do you think Jed, 6:30? Time on the?

Mr. Hood: It will be 5 minutes I'm sure.

Mr. Long: 7 p.m. on April 3. No further business to come before this Council we're adjourned.

Meeting adjourned.

Chris Long, President Pro Tempore

April L. Beggerow, Clerk of Council