



**MINUTES REGULAR MEETING  
REYNOLDSBURG CITY COUNCIL  
February 10, 2025**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Council President Shanette Strickland called the meeting to order at 6:31 PM.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**ROLL CALL**

PRESENT: Cotner, Baker, Johnson, Strickland, Towns, Salvati, Pyakurel, Hill  
ABSENT:

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

The agenda was approved as submitted.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Regular Meeting Minutes of January 27, 2025**

The regular meeting minutes of January 27, 2025 were approved as submitted.

**COMMUNITY COMMENTS**

**Tanya Dexter  
7255 Sorrelwood Court**

Ms. Dexter stated that she does not understand why animals like Cane Corsos are legal within Reynoldsburg but chickens are not. These dogs were bred to be war dogs and guard dogs for farms. She further reiterated that she does not understand why chickens are not legal within the City. She explained that during this time of the avian flu and the egg shortage, it is more important to her now that chicken ownership will be an option for them. She stated that she has been coming to Council to discuss this issue since October 2024 and still has not been given any response except from one Councilmember. She feels as though this issue has not been addressed and would like for the issue to be discussed with some sense of urgency.

**Councilmember Pyakurel**



Councilmember Pyakurel wanted to address the terrible incident that happened recently at a warehouse in New Albany. One of his friends that he grew up with in the refugee camp was killed in this mass shooting. He stated that the shooting itself is very sad, but his friend leaves behind a small child and a wife who is due to give birth soon. He explained that he does not know what could be done to prevent situations like this but wants people to be aware of the tragedy.

### **Mayor Begeny**

Mayor Begeny stated that on February 18 at 6pm at the Reynoldsburg library there will be a town hall to discuss flooding as the City recently received a grant to address this issue.

The Mayor will be giving his State of the City address on February 19th at 7pm at City Hall and live-streamed on the City's website.

## **PROCLAMATIONS**

### **A Proclamation Recognizing Black History Month February 2025**

Councilmember Baker read the Proclamation.

Councilmember Baker stated that even though February is Black History Month, black history is celebrated year round. He hopes that people reflect on this and continue to create a world that is more equitable and prosperous for all. He also wanted to add that everyone should get out and volunteer, if they are able. There is always a great need for volunteers and time spent volunteering is always valuable.

Councilmember Johnson made a motion to approve this Proclamation. Second by Councilmember Pyakurel. Motion carried.

## **COMMUNICATIONS**

### **City of Reynoldsburg - Updated Utility Numbers and Final Budget**

**Job Fair March 13, 2025**

## REPORTS

### **Development, Parks & Recreation Committee**

This is the Development, Parks & Recreation Committee meeting for February 10, 2025.

Members in attendance are: Councilmember Cotner, Councilmember Towns, Councilmember Hill, Chair Salvati, and President Strickland.

#### **A Resolution Authorizing the Mayor to Sign and Execute a First Amendment for the Purchase Option Agreement with Metropolitan Housing Partners, Inc. for the Purpose of Future Sale and Re-Development of Real Estate**

Director Meyer stated that this amendment to the Resolution does not change any of the financial terms from the previous agreement but adds a firm end date to the agreement, which is December 31, 2025, with an option for extension. This legislation has been included because as CMHA moves through the funding process, they have requested to have a specific end date. A typo was also addressed in the previous legislation.

Councilmember Salvati made a motion to forward this Resolution to Council for approval. Second by Councilmember Towns. Motion carried.

### **Public Safety, Law & Courts Committee**

This is the Public Safety, Law & Courts Committee meeting for February 10, 2025.

Members in attendance are: Councilmember Cotner, Councilmember Towns, Councilmember Hill, Chair Johnson, and President Strickland.

#### **A Resolution Authorizing the City Attorney and Mayor to Enter into a Grant Agreement for 2025 with the Alcohol, Drug, and Mental Health Board of Franklin County for Continued Operation of the Reynoldsburg Recovery Court**

Attorney Shook stated that this is the annual contract with ADAMH which funds the Reynoldsburg Recovery Court. The funds they received are reimbursement funds for things like drug testing kits, alcohol monitoring ankle devices, treatment costs, and half of the salary of our recovery court administrator. This program has been tremendously successful since its implementation, but specifically over the last

year. In the past year, we have had 9 individuals graduate from the program. He stated that over the course of two years, you really get to know these people and even though he is happy to see them graduate, he is sad to see them go because they were strong, contributing members to the program. He is looking forward to seeing new people step up as leaders to fill their roles in the future.

President Strickland congratulated them on the great work they do on this program and is appreciative that our community provides resources like this to those who want to get better.

Councilmember Baker stated that they do a great job with this program and had the opportunity to sit in on a graduation ceremony and stated that it was a wonderful celebration.

Attorney Shook gave a special shout out to Maria Watson, the recovery court administrator. He stated that the participants in the program really connect with her in ways that many others cannot. She is compassionate but also shows tough love when needed. She was even named employee of the month at the end of 2024.

Councilmember Johnson made a motion to forward this Resolution to Council for approval. Second by Councilmember Hill. Motion carried.

### **Public Service & Transportation Committee**

This is the Public Service & Transportation Committee meeting for February 10, 2025.

Members in attendance are: Councilmember Cotner, Councilmember Towns, Councilmember Hill, Chair Pyakurel, and President Strickland.

### **An Ordinance to Amend Ordinance 67-2024 an Ordinance Appropriating Funds from Future Bonds for the Construction of the City's Parks and Public Service Facility (Owners Contingency), and Declaring an Emergency**

This item has been requested as a single-read emergency.

Director Dorman stated that this amendment is to change the funding source. They will now be pulling funding from the general fund rather than from bonding. This is just the City's contingency for unforeseen costs, so they will hopefully not have to use these funds, but the precautions must still be in place for the contractor. He stated that this is for an 8% contingency to account for the large volume of this project. The emergency language has been requested since this project has already begun.



Councilmember Pyakurel made a motion to forward this Ordinance to Council for a first reading and emergency approval. Second by Councilmember Hill. Motion carried.

**An Ordinance Authorizing the Mayor to Enter into a Contract with EMH&T for Implementation of 2025 Sanitary Sewer Program**

Director Dorman stated that this is the annual sewer program. The location is shown in the packet and this program is required by the EPA.

Councilmember Pyakurel made a motion to forward this Ordinance to Council for a first reading. Second by Councilmember Hill. Motion carried.

**A Resolution Authorizing Participation in the ODOT Road Salt Purchasing Contract**

Director Dorman stated that this Resolution is for an annual purchasing contract with ODOT for a cooperative purchasing agreement. We will provide anticipated quantities needed for road salt, and they will create one contract for all participants, allowing for a significantly cheaper purchasing price.

Councilmember Pyakurel made a motion to forward this Resolution to Council for approval. Second by Councilmember Towns. Motion carried.

**A Resolution Authorizing the Mayor to Enter into a Contract with Vector Disease Control International for Mosquito Management Services from January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025**

Director Dorman stated that several years ago, the Franklin County Board of Health used to do the mosquito management project for the county. When the West Nile became more prevalent, many communities wanted more options in their management program in terms of amount or frequency. They now use an independent contractor so that each community can have more control over their management. This is an annual contract with Vector for those services.

Councilmember Pyakurel made a motion to forward this Resolution to Council for approval. Second by Councilmember Hill. Motion carried.

**Finance & Administration Committee**

This is the Finance & Administration Committee meeting for February 10, 2025.

Members in attendance are: Councilmember Salvati, Councilmember Johnson, Councilmember Pyakurel, Chair Baker, and President Strickland.

**An Ordinance Appropriating Unencumbered Balances as of December 31, 2024, for Various Police Special Revenue Funds, Provided Revenue Funds Received during 2025 be Accepted, and Declaring an Emergency**

Chief Baker stated that these funds come from either forfeiture moneys or court fines. They are requesting emergency approval to make these funds available. They would like these funds for unexpected costs or purchasing.

Councilmember Baker made a motion to forward this Ordinance to Council for a first reading. Second by Councilmember Pyakurel. Motion carried.

**An Ordinance Authorizing the Mayor to Implement the 2025 Grant Program for Female, Minority, and Veteran-Owned Businesses in the City of Reynoldsburg, Appropriate Funds Therefor, and Declaring an Emergency**

Mayor Begeny stated that this legislation will re-institute the program that originally began with the use of ARPA funds. They plan to continue this program, but are now using our own funds. They are requesting that Council discuss the allocation of this funding for individual businesses, asking if more businesses should be given funds at a lower rate or fewer businesses at a higher rate. This would be a reimbursable grant for purchases that qualify. The total requested for this grant program is \$100,000.

Councilmember Cotner asked if we have used all \$100,000 in the past for this program. Mayor Begeny stated that the previous year the City had awarded around \$168,000 in funds. Since this money was from the America Recovers Act, they had to use up all the funds before the end of the year. Councilmember Cotner asked if all the businesses were still operating that had received this funding. Mayor Begeny stated that he is not 100% sure, but there may have been 2 businesses that closed after receiving funding. He stated that he would find out more information about that and send it to Council. Attorney Shook stated that businesses who receive the grant funding agree to operate in the City for at least 1 year after receiving it. They do have to sign a personal guarantee to return the funds if that agreement is not met.

President Strickland stated that this grant is to provide extra funding to our small businesses and has been able to help 28 businesses so far. On average, each business received around \$6,000.

Councilmember Baker made a motion to forward this Ordinance to Council for a first reading. Second by Councilmember Johnson. Motion carried.

**A Resolution to Authorize the Mayor to Enter into an Intergovernmental Agreement with Etna Township as it Pertains to Contracting a Taylor Road**

### **Traffic Study**

Mayor Begeny stated that this is for the possible expansion of the interchange at Taylor and 270. This was originally brought up in 2023, but they received no further information for a year. At the end of 2024, the purchase order had to be closed and then reopened once they received the information from ODOT. They were recently given that information and are now requesting an intergovernmental agreement with ODOT.

Councilmember Baker stated that this study is really needed and is glad they are moving forward with it.

Councilmember Baker made a motion to forward this Resolution to Council for approval. Second by Councilmember Salvati. Motion carried.

### **RESOLUTIONS - CONSENT AGENDA**

|                  |                                                                    |
|------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>RESULT:</b>   | <b>PASSED (UNANIMOUS)</b>                                          |
| <b>MOVER:</b>    | Baker                                                              |
| <b>SECONDER:</b> | Salvati                                                            |
| <b>AYES:</b>     | Cotner, Baker, Johnson, Strickland, Towns, Salvati, Pyakurel, Hill |

**A Resolution Authorizing the Mayor to Sign and Execute a First Amendment for the Purchase Option Agreement with Metropolitan Housing Partners, Inc. for the Purpose of Future Sale and Re-Development of Real Estate**

**A Resolution Authorizing the City Attorney and Mayor to Enter into a Grant Agreement for 2025 with the Alcohol, Drug, and Mental Health Board of Franklin County for Continued Operation of the Reynoldsburg Recovery Court**

**A Resolution Authorizing Participation in the ODOT Road Salt Purchasing Contract**

**A Resolution Authorizing the Mayor to Enter into a Contract with Vector Disease Control International for Mosquito Management Services from January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025**



**A Resolution Authorizing the Mayor to Enter into an Intergovernmental Agreement with Etna Township as it Pertains to Executing a Contract for a Taylor Road Traffic Study**

**CONSENT AGENDA FOR EMERGENCY APPROVAL**

|                  |                                                                    |
|------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>RESULT:</b>   | <b>PASSED (UNANIMOUS)</b>                                          |
| <b>MOVER:</b>    | Salvati                                                            |
| <b>SECONDER:</b> | Pyakurel                                                           |
| <b>AYES:</b>     | Cotner, Baker, Johnson, Strickland, Towns, Salvati, Pyakurel, Hill |

**An Ordinance to Amend Ordinance 67-2024 an Ordinance Appropriating Funds from Future Bonds for the Construction of the City's Parks and Public Service Facility (Owners Contingency), and Declaring an Emergency**

**CONSENT AGENDA FOR FIRST READING**

**An Ordinance Authorizing the Mayor to Enter into a Contract with EMH&T for Implementation of 2025 Sanitary Sewer Program**

**An Ordinance Appropriating Unencumbered Balances as of December 31, 2024, for Various Police Special Revenue Funds, Provided Revenue Funds Received during 2025 be Accepted, and Declaring an Emergency**

**An Ordinance Authorizing the Mayor to Implement the 2025 Grant Program for Female, Minority, and Veteran-Owned Businesses in the City of Reynoldsburg, Appropriate Funds Therefor, and Declaring an Emergency**

**OTHER COUNCIL MATTERS**

Councilmember Baker gave a shout-out to the Reynoldsburg boys basketball team as they are 19-1 this season. He also gave a shout-out to Attorney Shook and the mock trial team since they qualified to go to the state competition and to the bowling team for



their success as conference champions. He also thanked PRD, retail workers, teachers, nurses, and doctors.

## **UPCOMING MEETINGS**

**February 17, 2025 Presidents' Day City Offices Closed**

**February 20, 2025 Planning & Zoning Board**

**February 24, 2025 Council**

**March 6, 2025 Planning & Zoning Board**

**March 10, 2025 Council**

**March 20, 2025 Planning & Zoning Board**

**March 24, 2025 Council**

## **ADJOURNMENT**

As there was no further business, Council President Strickland adjourned the meeting.

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Shanette Strickland, Council President

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Mollie Prasher, Clerk of Council