

**City Council Meeting
City of Richmond Heights
February 26, 2020**

President of Council, Eloise Henry, called the meeting to order at 8:58pm

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

Roll Call: Alexander, Henry, Lentine, Nelson, Thomas, Ursu

Excused: Lewis

Motion to excuse Lewis by Lentine, seconded by Ursu; passed 6-0.

Consent Agenda:

1. Minutes of the City Council Meeting from February 11, 2020.

Motion by Nelson, seconded by Ursu to approve the Consent Agenda; passed 6-0.

Presentation by Officer Jake, Police Dept: Anti-Vaping/E-Cigarettes

- Risks of e-cigarettes and vaping.
- Gave a PowerPoint presentation for Council.
- Discussed the legislation of outlawing it for minors.
- All e-cigarettes are not safe for use. Commented on the dangers for brain cells and development. Heat a liquid into an aerosol and into the lungs; contain nicotine as well.
- JUUL e-cigarettes have a higher level of nicotine.
- Emergency calls number at 271 (2011) to almost 4,000 cases currently (2019) in US. There have been explosions in the face causing facial damage as well.
- Ads are targeting kids by adding flavors.
- Tobacco industry is in the e-cigarette game with major corporations behind these.
- He said they are bad for everyone, but legally difficult to ban for adults. Focus on banning for youth.
- Prices for devices only about \$12-20, and cartridges are replaced every few days.
- Hunt added that the use of these devices is rampant in the high schools; made comments from a colleague with daughter in Bay Village who sees it firsthand during school hours.
- Chief Wetzel said the trend is pushing hard, need to stop this.
- He will also do this presentation for the school, for the students at an assembly this week.

Reports:

Mayor David Roche: Will hear from Directors tonight.

Fire Chief Marc Neumann:

- Devices exploding—short circuit battery and can occur for various reasons (e-cig) and charging activity issues, as well as temp changes. Per the FDA, that is why this is happening.
- CPR course will be on Sunday March 22, from 1-4pm at Fire Dept, ages 16 and older.

Police Chief Tom Wetzel:

- K9 Fundraising breakfast is this Saturday, from 9am-12 at Lodge.
- School outreach—tutoring at elementary school every Wed from 2-3pm.

- Thanked Officer Jake for doing a vaping presentation at school this week, as well as a safety presentation on dangers of sending inappropriate content on phones.

Building Commissioner, Jim Urankar:

- Things Remembered will be opening in the city.

Finance Director, Jim Teknipp:

- 2020 Budget request from Chiefs and Directors—working on budget. Finance accounts will be looked at by council.
- Lisa D’Alessandro is the new Payroll Clerk, with more than 8 yrs. of payroll experience, and just started this week. Happy to have her here.

Recreation Director, Rick Dula:

- Thanked Juanita Lewis and Aire Roche for putting on a fantastic Black History luncheon at Lodge last Wed.
- Shred Day—grant received—Sat March 28 9am-12
- Sat April 4—Easter Egg Hunt
- Community Garage Sale—Sat May 4th 9am—1pm.
- Pancake Breakfast at Lodge on April 4th—9am -12, Easter Bunny will be there as well

Economic Development Director, Brian Gleisser:

- Res 19-2020—ask for support on Mayor to re-submit for ODNR grant for trails. Public hearing was held on Feb 17th and hope to submit proposal on Friday.
- In the midst of projects for Belle Oaks and Hilltop house.

Acting City Engineer, Chris Courtney:

- Tomorrow sending over Phase 1 of Belle Oaks, with comments on plans.
- Road program letter from county awarding grant for material of maintenance on roads. Mayor to get letter on this.

Service Director Don Kerniskey: -No report tonight-

- Lentine thanked Service Dept for the handicapped sign at City Hall in parking lot.
- Kerniskey said he was bedridden sick for 3 weeks and thanked his dept. for taking care of things. This is his first week back.

Audience: -no comments-

OLD BUSINESS:

ORDINANCE NO.: 12- 2020, INTRODUCED BY LENTINE, THIRD READING

AN ORDINANCE ENACTING NEW SECTION 335.14, “USE OF ELECTRONIC WIRELESS COMMUNICATIONS DEVICES WHILE DRIVING,” OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

HOLD ON.

ORDINANCE NO.: 15- 2020, INTRODUCED BY LENTINE, SECOND READING

AN ORDINANCE ENACTING NEW SECTION 537.19, "PROHIBITING JUVENILE FROM POSSESSING, USING, PURCHASING OR RECEIVING AN ELECTRONIC SMOKING DEVICE," OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

HOLD ON.

RESOLUTION NO.: 19- 2020, INTRODUCED BY MAYOR ROCHE, SECOND READING

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO APPLY FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FROM THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES 2020 RECREATIONAL TRAILS PROGRAM AND COMMITTING TO MATCHING FUNDS FOR PARK TRAIL MAINTENANCE AND RESTORATION.

- MOTION WAS MADE BY LENTINE AND SECONDED BY ALEXANDER TO SUSPEND THE RULES OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCE AS PROVIDED IN SEC. 121.22 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCE. MOTION PASSED 6-0.
- MOTION WAS MADE BY LENTINE, SECONDED BY ALEXANDER TO PASS RESOLUTION NO. 19-2020. THE MOTION PASSED 6-0.

NEW BUSINESS:

ORDINANCE NO.: 21-2020, INTRODUCED BY URSU, FIRST READING

AN ORDINANCE TO MAKE APPROPRIATIONS FOR CURRENT EXPENSES AND OTHER EXPENDITURES OF THE CITY OF RICHMOND HEIGHTS, STATE OF OHIO, DURING THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2020; TO REPEAL ORDINANCE NOS. 135-2019; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

(on agenda, but withdrawn before the COW—still working on the budget, per Mayor)

RESOLUTION NO: 22-2020, INTRODUCED BY MAYOR ROCHE, FIRST READING

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN AMENDMENT TO THE TRANSPORTATION SERVICES CONTRACT WITH SENIOR TRANSPORTATION CONNECTION TO PROVIDE SENIOR CITIZEN AND DISABLED PERSON TRANSPORTATION IN THE CITY.

- MOTION WAS MADE BY ALEXANDER AND SECONDED BY LENTINE TO SUSPEND THE RULES OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCE AS PROVIDED IN SEC. 121.22 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCE. MOTION PASSED 6-0.
- MOTION WAS MADE BY ALEXANDER, SECONDED BY LENTINE TO PASS RESOLUTION NO. 22-2020. THE MOTION PASSED 6-0.

CORRESPONDENCE: -none-

ADDITIONS:

MOTION FOR AN EXECUTIVE SESSION TO CONFERENCE WITH THE ATTORNEY FOR THE CITY CONCERNING DISPUTES INVOLVING THE CITY THAT IS SUBJECT OF PENDING OR IMMINENT COURT ACTION BY HENRY, SECONDED BY ALEXANDER; PASSED 6-0.

EXECUTIVE SESSION WAS HELD FROM 9:31PM – 10:28PM

Henry reconvened the meeting at 10:28PM and roll was called.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion was made by Henry, seconded by Thomas to adjourn this February 26, 2020 City Council Meeting at 10:28PM.

Betsy Traben, Clerk of Council

Eloise Henry, Council President