

SPECIAL SESSION

March 21, 2019

The Council of the City of Chardon met in Special Session on Thursday, March 21, 2019 at 6:30 P.M. in Council Chambers of the Chardon Municipal Center.

Jeffrey Smock, President of Council presiding.

The meeting opened with the pledge of allegiance and roll call.

Members of Council present: Andrew Blackley, Deborah Chuha, Chris Grau, David Lelko, Nancy McArthur, Daniel Meleski, Jeffrey Smock.

Members of Council absent: none.

Others Present: City Manager Randal Sharpe, Finance Director Mate Rogonjic, Law Director James Gillette, Public Service Director Paul Hornyak, Police Chief Scott Niehus, Community Development Administrator Steven Yaney, City Engineer Doug Courtney, Deputy Finance Director/H.R. Director Heidi Delaney, Clerk of Council Amy Day, Director of Parks and Recreation Joe Rodriguez, Judge Terri Stupica, Clerk of Court Victoria Dailey, Chief Probation Officer Judy Jonke-Thrasher, Lands and Buildings Supervisor Mike Butt, Street Superintendent Chris Moore, Joe Koziol, Amy Patterson.

**Regarding the FY 2019 Annual Budget**, Mr. Sharpe provided an overview of the process for preparing and adopting the budget.

Mr. Sharpe began reviewing the budget document through a Power Point presentation. He explained that the projected revenue for all funds in the 2019 budget is \$20,798,139. Included in this total is projected General Fund revenue of \$8,274,843. He noted that income tax revenue continues to be the major source of General Fund Revenue and for 2019 is projected at \$6,350,500, a decrease of 2.7% from 2018.

Mr. Sharpe reviewed notable items in the personnel expenditures which included a potential 3.5% wage increase for bargaining and non-bargaining staff members, employment of a full-time Parks and Recreation Director, and increased costs of the City's health insurance plan.

Mr. Sharpe reviewed notable items in the operating expenditures including the continued funding of the residential sidewalk repair and maintenance program, funding of a street maintenance program, support for Chardon Tomorrow Main Street and Chardon Square Retail Business Grant Programs, updates to the zoning code, continued installation of automated water/sewer meter reading equipment, Well #15 rehabilitation, City-wide replacement of computers with a transition to a thin-client technology environment, and continued use of a cleaning services contractor.

Mr. Sharpe reviewed capital projects for 2019 totaling \$4,519,800.

Mr. Sharpe reviewed the budgeted 2019 revenues and expenditures as compared to prior years.

Municipal Court Judge Terri Stupica and Clerk of Court Victoria Dailey spoke to review the court's proposed revenue and expenditures for 2019.

Mr. Blackley inquired about the increase in costs for transfers to the Probation Department since 2015.

Ms. Dailey and Ms. Thrasher explained that personnel costs have doubled since 2015.

Ms. Thrasher further explained that additional training and testing supplies have increased costs and she reviewed ways they have tried to minimize these costs.

Mr. Rogonjic further explained that prior to 2015, the Court's Special Projects Fund was able to be used to pay for the part-time probation staff; however, those funds are gone which is a large reason for the transfer of funds.

Mr. Blackley stated that he would like to see the State provide financial assistance to local courts to defray some of the court's costs.

Law Director James Gillette reviewed the notable expenditures in the Legal Department budget for 2019.

Mrs. McArthur inquired about the computer purchases in the Law Director's budget.

Mr. Gillette explained that a new computer is necessary in the Police Prosecutor's office so that video is able to be viewed.

Mr. Blackley inquired if the hiring of a new Law Director would affect the budget.

Mr. Sharpe stated that the overlap in training and salary adjustments may result in some slight changes to the budget.

Mr. Gillette added that the arrangement for secretarial services for the new Law Director may also be different which could affect the budget.

Public Service Director Paul Hornyak reviewed the notable expenditures in the water & sewer operating, street maintenance, cemetery, and lands and buildings 2019 budgets.

Recreation Director Joe Rodriguez reviewed the notable expenditures in the Park and Recreation Department budget for 2019.

Community Development Administrator Steve Yaney reviewed notable expenditures in the Planning and Zoning Department budget for 2019.

Police Chief Scott Niehus reviewed the notable expenditures in the Police Department 2019 budget.

Mrs. McArthur noted that the City's dispatch center is one of only two in the County.

Chief Niehus briefly reviewed the services the dispatch center provides.

Mr. Sharpe reviewed Fire and EMS 2019 budget.

Mr. Sharpe reviewed notable expenditures in the Manager, Legislative and General Administration budgets for 2019.

Mr. Rogonjic reviewed the notable expenditures in the Finance Department budget for 2019.

Mr. Rogonjic reviewed the notable expenditures in the 2019 budget for water and sewer billing.

Mr. Rogonjic provided an overview of the areas that capital will be spent in 2019, noting that a vast majority will be spent on the City's land development.

Mr. Sharpe concluded the budget presentation by thanking Council for their support and thanked staff, especially the Finance Director, for his efforts in preparing the budget.

Council thanked staff for their work on the budget and commented on the remarkable quality of the budget document.

**ORDINANCE NO. 3070**

AN ORDINANCE TO MAKE ANNUAL APPROPRIATIONS FOR CURRENT EXPENSES AND OTHER EXPENDITURES OF THE CITY OF CHARDON, STATE OF OHIO DURING THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2019, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY was read for the first time by title only.

Mr. Blackley moved and Mr. Meleski seconded the rules be suspended and the Ordinance be read for the second and third time by title only. Upon roll call vote the motion passed unanimously.

Ordinance No. 3070 was then read for the second and third time by title only.

Mrs. McArthur moved and Mr. Grau seconded for the adoption of Ordinance No. 3070.

Upon roll call vote the motion passed unanimously.

**Regarding an amendment to Classification and Pay Plan**, Mrs. McArthur moved and Mr. Grau seconded to adopt the amendment to the classification and pay plan effective April 1, 2019. Upon roll call vote the motion passed unanimously.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Mrs. McArthur moved and Mr. Meleski seconded to adjourn to Executive Session at 8:08 p.m. for the purpose of discussing the acquisition of property. Upon roll call vote the motion passed unanimously.

Discussion occurred regarding the acquisition of property.

Meeting reconvened at 9:03 p.m.

**ADJOURN**

Mr. Lelko moved and Mrs. McArthur seconded to adjourn. Upon voice vote the motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 9:04 P.M.

Attest:

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JEFFREY L. SMOCK, Mayor  
President of Council

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AMY DAY  
Clerk of Council