

NEW PHILADELPHIA CITY COUNCIL MET IN REGULAR SESSION IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS ON NOVEMBER 13, 2023 WITH PRESIDENT KEMP PRESIDING. COUNCILMAN RIPPETH OFFERED A PRAYER, AND ALL IN ATTENDANCE RECITED THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

COUNCIL MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

MR. DEAN HOLLAND
MR. DAN LANZER
MRS. AIMEE MAY
MR. MITCH PACE
MR. KELLY RICKLIC
MR. STEVE RIPPETH

EXCUSED ABSENSES: MRS. CHERYL RAMOS

- MR. RICKLIC MOTIONED TO ADD ORDINANCE 27-2023 TO TONIGHT’S AGENDA
MRS. MAY SECONDED THE MOTION
6 YEAS
ORDINANCE 27-2023 HAS BEEN ADDED TO TONIGHT’S AGENDA

- MR. LANZER MOTIONED TO ADD RESOLUTION 19-2023 TO TONIGHT’S AGENDA
MR. RIPPETH SECONDED THE MOTION
6 YEAS
RESOLUTION 19-2023 HAS BEEN ADDED TO TONIGHT’S AGENDA

- MRS. MAY MOTIONED TO ADD ORDINANCE 25-2023 TO TONIGHT’S AGENDA
MR. HOLLAND SECONDED THE MOTION
6 YEAS
ORDINANCE 25-2023 HAS BEEN ADDED TO TONIGHT’S AGENDA

- MRS. MAY MOTIONED TO APPROVE THE AGENDA TONIGHT WITH THE ADDITIONS
MR. RICKLIC SECONDED THE MOTION
6 YEAS
TONIGHT’S AGENDA HAS BEEN APPROVED

- MR. LANZER MOTIONED TO APPROVE MINUTES FROM THE OCTOBER 23, 2023 REGULAR SESSION OF COUNCIL
MR. HOLLAND SECONDED THE MOTION
6 YEAS
MINUTES FROM THE OCTOBER 23, 2023 REGULAR SESSION BEEN APPROVED

CORRESPONDENCE CLERK, JULIE COURTRIGHT

1. *To Council President from Auditor Gundy, dated November 10, 2023. This is an email titled “New Ordinance Regarding the 2023 Appropriations”. Auditor Gundy asked President Kemp to assign the legislation to the Finance Committee.*

2. *To Council Clerk from Councilman Holland, dated November 13, 2023. This is an email titled Ambulance Committee Meeting. Councilman Holland asked the Clerk to set a meeting for the Ambulance Committee prior to the November 27, 2023 Council Meeting.*
3. *To President Kemp from Law Director Fete, dated November 12, 2023. This is an email titled "Please Assign to Parks and Recreation" with Resolution 20-2023 as the attachment. President Kemp asked Mr. Pace to take this issue into his Committee.*
4. *To Council and Administration from Mayor Day, dated November 13, 2023. This is an email titled "MWCD Makes Historic Economic Impact Across the Region".*
5. *To Council and Administration from Mayor Day, dated November 13, 2023, The Mayor's Report.*

MAYOR'S REPORT/REQUESTSMAYOR JOEL B. DAY

Mayor Day had the following report:

New Attractions in the City's Christmas Lighting Ceremony

You don't want to miss it! Make plans to bring the family to the annual Downtown Christmas Lighting Ceremony this coming Friday, November 17th at 6:45pm. The City has purchased several new pieces of decorative lighting for the street light poles. But the most impressive new addition is a 20-foot LED lighted Christmas tree, which will be located on the House of Stones downtown quadrant. The tree was purchased by local arts supporters Don and Susie Whittingham and donated to the City by the Rotary Heritage Fund. The tree will feature LED lighting displays programmed to music throughout the holiday season. In addition, the Southside Neighbors Facebook group has brought back a Christmas holiday tradition. This past weekend they put up a number of original Christmas displays on the lawn at the corner of South Broadway and Commercial Avenue SE. The lighting of those displays will be included in Friday's ceremony, which will also feature holiday music and performances by New Philadelphia students and community members.

As an added touch to our Thanksgiving and Christmas celebrations, the Mayor's office is encouraging downtown merchants and restaurants to decorate their storefronts. I want to thank everyone for their efforts to make this a very special holiday season and the beginning of new traditions in New Philadelphia.

The City Health Department Has Its First Accreditation Visit

The New Philadelphia Health Department has completed the first of two site visits by the Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB), which are required to achieve national accreditation. State law now mandates that health departments in Ohio become accredited to show that they meet or exceed a common set of national standards. Members of the PHAB will be in New Philadelphia on November 30th to meet with the City Board of Health and with community stakeholders. The Health Department should learn by February if it earned accreditation or if it will be put on a work plan to reach that goal.

Finalizing Plans for a 2nd School Resource Officer

The Police Department has been successful in finding a new cruiser. So now all that's left to have a second School Resource Officer (SRO) in place is for Police Chief Tessa Pohovey and New Philadelphia Schools Superintendent Amy Wentworth to finalize contract details. An officer has completed the required training. The new SRO should be on duty in January.

A Reminder about Where to Rake Your Leaves

The City's annual fall leaf collection is underway. Remember to rake or blow your leaves to the tree lawn, not into the street. Leaf piles on the street can end up blocking storm sewer grates. City crews will be working throughout the months of November and December and will make it around the City at least twice for leaf pickup. If you bag your leaves, please contact General Services at 330-339-2121 to arrange for pickup. Thank you!

City Hall will be closed for the Thanksgiving holiday on November 23rd and November 24th. Enjoy your time with family and friends. Join me in giving thanks for the blessings in our community.

SERVICE DIRECTOR..... Service Director Ron McAbier:

Mr. McAbier had the following report:

The 250 Waterline has been completed. The bacteria test sample has come back clean. We have not done a pressure test that will come up next. We don't know when that will be but we hope it will be as quick as possible, because we know we only have the other line servicing the South Side. Everything is completed, the vault got filled last Wednesday. Once we get the pressure test completed I'm sure at the next Council Meeting I'll be able to report back on that. As most of you know, the Franklin Square Project Phase One has been completed. The restoration was done early last week. I have not done a final walk-through yet and they're going to have to go back and re-seed. Also, Small Cities Paving, all the paving is done and all the berm work is done. They still need to do some double yellow in some areas and underneath the underpass. Also, some directional arrows still need to be completed. They'll get that done by the end of this week. That's all done in thermal plastic, it's a better product versus just a latex paint, so we spec that out. Usually it lasts about 5 years, so it helps us in the long-run also. Also, the last of City Paving is finally here. They did Forbes Avenue, then 6th Street, East High to the creek, then down to Streb, First Drive, and Ashwood. Nobody has been over there and they know why. There's a few things they have to do for us over there. We need to dig some of that out, then put base in the same side of the street southwest, the 700 block there. When that's done that will be the end of the City Paving. Also, just a quick reminder about leaves, continue to rake them into the curb strip, please not the streets. Right now the small truck is on the Southeast of the Southside.

Mr. Pace had the following question:

Is the leaf clean-up this year going smoother or faster?

Mr. McAbier:

It's about the same progress as it was last year.

AUDITORMS. BETH GUNDY

Mrs. Gundy had the following report:

Today I received the retirement letter from our Income Tax Administrator Vickie Daniels. She's leaving December 31, 2023. I will be looking for a new Income Tax Administrator.

SAFETY DIRECTORMR. GREG POPHAM.....NO REPORT

TREASURER . . . MR. TOM GERBER.....NO REPORT

LAW DIRECTOR.....MR. MARVIN FETE

Mr. Fete has the following report:

I just wanted to add onto some comments that I touched on earlier. Dee Grossman has informed me that it looks like the State Legislature will be passing some legislation in the next 13 weeks that deals with Air BnBs and Short-term rentals and give us all some guidance on what to do in that regard. So, I'm hopeful I will know what to do in the City of New Philadelphia on how we handle those issues.

BOARD/COMMISSION REPORTS:

PLANNING COMMISSION.....MAYOR JOEL DAY

The Planning Commission will meet here in Council Chambers at 1:00 PM on Tuesday, November 21. We're going to be looking at possibly rezoning some City land on Commercial Ave. SE and after that Wendy Moehler will be back to give us another update and we'll have another work session. I Encourage everyone to attend.

BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS.....MR. RON MCABIER

The Board of Zoning Appeals will meet tomorrow at 5:00 PM in Council Chambers with three Variance requests to be heard.

AIRPORT COMMISSION.....MR. DAN LANZER

The Airport Commission will be meeting on November 14th here in Council Chambers at 6:00 PM.

PARK BOARD.....MR. MITCH PACE.....NO REPORT

CEMETERY BOARD.....MR. MITCH PACE.....NO REPORT

HEALTH BOARD MR. DEAN HOLLAND

The Tire Drop-off that we've been working on for quite some time in October had increased. We are now at around 1300 tires that had been dropped off at the General Services Department. The flu and Covid vaccines are now readily available at the Health Department. We had 56 Cases of Covid that were reported in October, and more than 20 were reported in September.

The Accreditation Board that the Health Department has been working with had a virtual meeting With the Health Department this past Monday. The next visit is an on-site meeting with the Health Department and involves the community. That occurs on November 30, 2023. We're Working toward that accreditation. I'll be passing out the Accreditation Site Visit to Councilmembers To be placed in your box. Rosso's Pizza, which is connected to Lee's Chicken will be moving into the Pizza building that's directly across from the High School. That should be occurring within the next Month.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

FINANCE COMMITTEEMR. KELLY RICKLIC

Mr. Ricklic had the following report:

The Finance Committee met this evening at 6:15 PM to discuss Ordinance 27-2023 and the memorandum that was handed out by the Auditor. After passing and amending we have added the memorandum to Ordinance 27-2023 for the Agenda. The Auditor asked if we could suspend rules and pass on 1st Reading. It was unanimously moved forward to the full Council body 3-0. My meeting ended at 6:25 PM.

PUBLIC WORKS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE...MR. DAN LANZER

Mr. Lanzer had the following report:

The Public Works and Economic Development Committee met this evening at 7:05 PM. We discussed Resolution 19-2023 which is an airport grant application and we voted unanimously on the Committee to add it to tonight's agenda for 1st Reading, and we just had some open dialogue about rental registration. We got some more information for everyone to study before the next time we have a meeting about it. The Meeting adjourned at 7:22.

SAFETY, HEALTH, AND SERVICE COMMITTEE.....MR. DEAN HOLLAND.....NO REPORT

ZONING AND ANNEXATION COMMITTEE.....MRS. CHERYL RAMOS.....EXCUSED ABSENSE

SALARY COMMITTEE.....NO REPORT.....MRS. AIMEE MAY

Mrs. May had the following report:

The Salary Committee met this evening at 6:30 and we were discussing at length again the proposed non-bargaining salary increases. The Meeting adjourned this evening 7:13 PM.

PARKS AND CEMETERY COMMITTEE.....MR. MITCH PACE.....NO REPORT

SPECIAL AND CONTACT COMMITTEE.....MR. STEVE RIPPETH.....NO REPORT

VISITOR’S COMMENTS

Dee Grossman, Executive Director of the Tuscarawas County Convention and Visitor’s Bureau:

I’m here tonight to give you an update on our Travel Tusc Ticket Program. In past years we did this program in 2018, 2019, and 2020. We did not do it in 2021 and 2022 because of the pandemic. We averaged about \$8,000 to \$12,000 in reimbursements to our partners. This year you can see that we have exceeded that by \$79,000. We reimbursed our partners for the full ticket price of their tickets, and we paid them \$79,000. New Philadelphia leads the way. We reimbursed our partners in New Philadelphia by \$43,500. The next highest is Dover, followed by Sugarcreek, Bolivar, Zoar, and Dennison. You have in front of you a breakdown of those tickets by month and by total for those months. We also had returned to us \$6,800 tickets. We want to thank the County Commissioners that did approve the ARPA Grant to pay for this. That was \$60,000 in funding. Directors than felt that this program was so beneficial and so important that they earmarked the remaining money out of our marketing budget. I don’t know what we’re going to do next year, which is the secondary reason I am here to speak to you tonight. I would like that you would consider sponsoring the New Philadelphia attractions out of the line item for Lodging Tax Revenue. Those moneys are collected at New Philadelphia hotels. I respectfully request that you earmark some of that money, upwards of \$45,000 to help pay for the tickets for the New Philadelphia properties.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Mr. Ricklic had the following comment:

I just wanted to mention the Veteran’s Day Program at the Square and thank everyone who came out. It’s great that we can honor our veterans. Veterans from World War II are almost all gone. We did honor an Ohioan who received the Congressional Medal of Honor and passed away in October. The family was from Uhrichsville and he had actually been corresponding with my wife. He sent here a children’s book and wanted her opinion on it. The book was actually about fighting in the Korean War and what that had done to America. He had fallen on a grenade in a fox hole. He survived but was severely injured. Definitely war has an effect on all people. As a nation we can always agree to disagree but do the best we can for everyone.

President Kemp thanked all the veterans for their service.

READING OF ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

ORDINANCES:

19-2023 AN ORDINANCE BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NEW PHILADELPHIA, OHIO TO AMEND ORDINANCE 1141.05 WITH REGARDS TO THE DEFINITION OF RECREATIONAL VEHICLES TO INCLUDE ALL TRAILERS.
3rd Reading

MR. RIPPETH MOTIONED FOR APPROVAL OF ORDINANCE 19-2023
MR. RICKLIC SECONDED THE MOTION
6 YEAS
ORDINANCE 19-2023 HAS BEEN APPROVED

21-2023 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF NEW PHILADELPHIA, OHIO, TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE TUSCARAWAS COUNTY PUBLIC

DEFENDER'S OFFICE FOR THE PROVISION OF LEGAL REPRESENTATION FOR INDIGENTS CHARGED WITH VIOLATIONS OF NEW PHILADELPHIA CITY ORDINANCES IN THE MUNICIPAL COURT WHERE SUCH OFFENSES CARRY A POSSIBLE LOSS OF LIBERTY, ESTABLISHING COMPENSATION AND TERMS THEREOF.

3rd Reading

MR. RIPPETH MOTIONED FOR APPROVAL OF ORDINANCE 21-2023

MR. LANZER SECONDED THE MOTION

6 YEAS

ORDINANCE 21-2023 HAS BEEN APPROVED

25-2023

AN ORDINANCE BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NEW PHILADELPHIA, OHIO TO ENACT SALARY RATE INCREASES FOR DESIGNATED NON BARGAINING UNIT EMPLOYEES AND ELECTED OFFICIALS FOR 2024 IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE ATTACHED NON BARGAINING WORKSHEET AS LISTED THEREIN, AND SUBJECT TO THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS LISTED THEREIN.

1st Reading

26-2023

AN ORDINANCE TO MAKE TEMPORARY APPROPRIATIONS FOR CURRENT EXPENSES AND OTHER EXPENDITURES OF THE CITY OF NEW PHILADELPHIA, STATE OF OHIO, DURING THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2024.

1st Reading

MR. RICKLIC MOTIONED FOR SUSPENSION OF RULES FOR ORDINANCE 26-2023

MR. HOLLAND SECONDED THE MOTION

6 YEAS

RULES ARE SUSPENDED ON ORDINANCE 26-2023

MR. RICKLIC MOTIONED FOR APPROVAL OF ORDINANCE 26-2023 (MR. RICKLIC HANDED OUT AN ATTACHMENT TO THE ORDINANCE FOR ALL COUNCILMEMBERS)

Mr. Fete had the following comment:

For future reference, my preference is to have these things in black and white in the Committee before it's voted on. I know that when I'm sitting here and we're discussing the budget I pay attention to the part that involves my budget that I present to Council.

Mr. Ricklic had the following comment:

All the capital improvements were discussed during that meeting. I discussed them with the Service Director. We talked about the restroom, the roof on the swimming pool office and the resurfacing of the tennis courts. Those are all additional letters that the Mayor had sent me that I added during that meeting. They were capital improvements out of the fund. There was that and the Mayor also made the adjustment on the pickup trucks from \$177,000 to \$16,500.

Mr. McAbier had the following comment:

The only thing I don't see, Beth and I talked about the \$50,000 for the Al Maloney restroom.

Mrs. Gundy stated that that item is already in the budget.

Mr. McAbier continued:

Who added the Field One Project?

Mr. Ricklic:

The Mayor and I spoke last year that he'd do it in two phases, one this year and next year. We'll be going to the school to ask them to participate in the same dollar fund this year.

Mr. McAbier:

Is it something that you should be voting on? You're the leader of getting the funds. What do we get for \$100,000?

Mr. Ricklic:

You get part of the scoreboard and you get part of the backstop portion that will be added to the \$100,000 we have in the Park Foundation. We're going to try to bring tournaments in to raise money, and we're going to advertise on the scoreboard to raise money. The money will go to the Park Foundation. The money goes to the City, the money will never go to individuals.

Mr. Ricklic recused himself from voting on this legislation.

MR. HOLLAND MOTIONED FOR APPROVAL OF ORDINANCE 26-2023
MR. RIPPETH SECONDED THE MOTION
5 YEAS
ORDINANCE 26-2023 HAS BEEN APPROVED

27-2023 AN ORDINANCE BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NEW PHILADELPHIA, OHIO, AMENDING AND ADJUSTING THE PERMANENT APPROPRIATIONS ORDINANCE FOR THE YEAR 2023.
1st Reading

MR. RICKLIC MOTIONED FOR SUSPENSION OF RULES ON ORDINANCE 27-2023
MR. RIPPETH
6 YEAS
RULES HAVE BEEN SUSPENDED ON ORDINANCE 27-2023

MR. RICKLIC MOTIONED FOR APPROVAL OF ORDINANCE 27-2023
MR. RIPPETH SECONDED THE MOTION
6 YEAS
ORDINANCE 27-2023 HAS BEEN APPROVED

RESOLUTIONS:

19-2023 A RESOLUTION BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NEW PHILADELPHIA, TUSCARAWAS COUNTY, OHIO, AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF NEW PHILADELPHIA TO ACT AS THE SIGNATURE DESIGNEE AND TO SUBMIT A GRANT APPLICATION TO THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, OFFICE OF AVIATION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$144,606.00 FOR THE PARALLEL TAXIWAY A RELOCATION PROJECT AND ONCE THE GRANT OFFER IS RECEIVED FROM THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, OFFICE OF AVIATION, FURTHER AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ACCEPT AND EXECUTE THE GRANT CONTRACT AND ALL RELATED DOCUMENTS AND TO MANAGE THE GRANT AS NECESSARY INCLUSIVE OF SUBMISSION OF APPLICATION FOR PAYMENT ASSOCIATED WITH THE GRANT AS REQUIRED BY THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, OFFICE OF AVIATION.
1st Reading

UNFINISHED OR OLD BUSINESS:

Kris Kreinbihl had the following comment:

I just wanted to address the Salary Committee, anytime you're dealing with people's money it's probably the toughest conversation you're going to have. I've worked at the same organization for 12 years, and I just wanted to say how much I respect you guys for trying to work to get something done before the end of the year, because it would put the three of us in a tougher spot.

NEW BUSINESS: NONE

With no other business to discuss Mr. Holland motioned to adjourn at 8:14 PM.

CLERK OF COUNCIL _____
Julie Courtright

APPROVED _____

PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL _____
Don Kemp