

NEW PHILADELPHIA CITY COUNCIL MET IN REGULAR SESSION IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS ON JULY 10, 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  
MRS. CHERYL RAMOS  
MR. STEVE RIPPETH

EXCUSED ABSENCES: MR. TOM GERBER  
COUNCILMAN RICKLIC

- MR. LANZER MOTIONED TO ADD ORDINANCE 11-2023 TO TONIGHT’S AGENDA FOR 1<sup>st</sup> Reading  
MR. RIPPETH SECONDED THE MOTION  
6 YEAS  
ORDINANCE 11-2023 HAS BEEN ADDED TO TONIGHT’S AGENDA
- MR. HOLLAND MOTIONED TO APPROVE TONIGHT’S AGENDA AS AMENDED  
MR. RIPPETH SECONDED THE MOTION  
6 YEAS  
TONIGHT’S AGENDA HAS BEEN APPROVED
- MRS. LANZER MOTIONED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM THE JUNE 26 ,2023 REGULAR SESSION OF COUNCIL  
MR. HOLLAND SECONDED THE MOTION  
4 YEAS 2 ABSTAINED (MRS. MAY AND MR. PACE)  
MINUTES FROM THE JUNE 26, 2023 COUNCIL MEETING HAVE BEEN APPROVED

CORRESPONDENCE . . . . . CLERK, JULIE COURTRIGHT

1. *To Council and Administration from Mayor Day, dated June 30, 2023. This is an email titled “Buckeye Energy Broker’s Presentation at the July 10, 2023 Council Meeting”.*
2. *To Council and Administration from Jami Bailey, Executive Administrative Assistant to the Mayor, dated June 30, 2023. This is the June Mayor’s Office End of Month Report.*
3. *To Council and Administration from Vickie Daniels, Income Tax Administrator for the City, dated July 3, 2023. This is the June Income Tax Report.*
4. *To Council Clerk from Treasurer Gerber, dated July 7, 2023. This is the City of New Philadelphia Investment and Savings Report for June of 2023.*
5. *To Council and Administration from Heather Denham with the Auditor’s Office, dated July 10, 2023. This is the June 2023 Month-End Report.*
6. *To Council and Administration from Mayor Day, dated July 10, 2023. The Mayor’s Report.*

MAYOR’S REPORT/REQUESTS ....MAYOR JOEL B. DAY  
Mayor Day had the following report:

***Quote to Determine the Cost of Moving Municipal Court Records***

Last Wednesday Service Director McAbier and I, and Municipal Court officials, met with representatives of Patterson Pope, the company that installed the Court’s filing system in the basement of the Police Department. I asked for the meeting so that the company reps could develop a quote for moving the filing system into the north bay of the old fire station. The Police Department building is near capacity and needs to reclaim the basement space. Plus, locating the records in the old fire station would make access to them more convenient for the Court. The Fire Department has a new building. So now it’s time to focus on the future needs of the Police Department and law enforcement in the City. I plan to include the hiring of additional officers and the cost of moving the filing system in my 2024 budget proposal to City Council.

***City Planning Commission to Hear a Rezoning Request from The Little Theatre***

The Board of Trustees of The Little Theatre of Tuscarawas County will be presenting a rezoning request to the City Planning Commission tomorrow (Tuesday) during the Commission’s monthly meeting. The board owns five parcels at Carrie Avenue and 5<sup>th</sup> Street NW. The trustees’ request is to rezone the parcels from residential to business to complete The Little Theatre’s renovation project. The Planning Commission meeting begins at 1pm in the City Council chamber.

***ProVia Announces Its New Use of the Former TR Building on Wabash Avenue NW***

As you read in Sunday’s Times-Reporter and heard on the local radio news last week, ProVia has purchased a lamination company and is moving into the vacant Times-Reporter building on Wabash Avenue NW. It’s encouraging to see the expansion of manufacturing in New Philadelphia. Credit goes to City Council and the City Administration working together to support our businesses, which helps inspire employers in the City to grow.

***Another Successful First Town Days Festival***

I want to thank President Joe Croft and the other volunteers of the First Town Days Festival Committee for giving the community another festival to remember. Friday evening’s Grand Parade featured the final ride of now retired Police Chief Mike Goodwin in the lead car. The City Slickers thumped the County Terminators 18-1 in Saturday’s annual softball game, and the fireworks show by the Northeast Ohio Pyrotechnics Group was spectacular.

***Buckeye Energy Brokers Proposes an Electric Aggregation Program***

I have invited representatives of Buckeye Energy Brokers to address Council tonight, to propose an electric aggregation program. As we know, the cost of electricity is on the rise and residents are looking for options. Aggregation may be one of them. That will be up to Council to decide. I would like to yield the remainder of my time to Mr. Tom Bellish, so he can explain Buckeye Energy Brokers’ aggregation proposal.

***Mr. Tom Bellish gave a presentation to Council explaining Buckeye Energy Broker’s Proposal.***

Mr. Holland had the following question for Mr. Bellish:

Do you have a program for local residents that have solar power?

Mr. Bellish:

That’s based on a supplier accepting that. Normally you’re just with a local utility for distribution and generation. Since the utility needs to schedule the supplier in advance, they don’t know if it’s going to be a sunny day or a cloudy day. It’s very difficult for a supplier to schedule that. You just don’t know if they’re actually going to use any, or if they’re system is down. It’s very hard to schedule so most suppliers do not offer something for solar as well.

Mrs. Ramos had the following question for Mr. Bellish:

Are you on Apples to Apples so people can compare prices?

Mr. Bellish:

We represent the City and send out requests for proposals for the ones who bid. Not everyone on Apples to Apples will bid, but the ones that do are usually getting better pricing than the ones on Apples to Apples.

Mrs. Ramos asked Mr. Bellish to clarify that Council decides on a supplier. Mr. Bellish said yes, that is correct.

Mrs. Ramos replied:

So we would take that away from our 18,000 residents, and we seven would decide a supplier.

Mr. Bellish:

Well, it would be an opt-out program, so residents have many ways of avoiding it. The first one is to already sign up for another program. They wouldn't even get a letter in the mail.

Mrs. Ramos:

So, can this be an opt-in program, like the gas?

Mr. Bellish said they haven't had an electric supplier offer that.

Mr. Rippeth had the following question:

Some of our areas are serviced by rural cooperatives. Does this apply to those areas or is it just AEP?

Mr. Bellish:

It's just AEP serviced areas.

Mr. Pace had the following question:

At the end of the 2024 billing cycle, do you send out another notice saying this is what your new rate is going to be?

Mr. Bellish:

It needs to go out 45 days in advance of the new update, so we would need to have something negotiated in advance to send out.

Mrs. Ramos:

So what I hear is that the people who aren't shopping, you're going to kind of have Council force them to make a decision, because we choose for them.

Mr. Bellish:

Well, the first step is to have them vote for it, because if they vote no Council can't do anything.

Mr. Holland:

How does someone who has already chosen a provider find out about this programs?

Mr. Bellish:

We could get the word out through other ways such as a press release.

Mr. McAbier

I think the hardest thing, the hurdle is going to be is the fact that it's an August 9<sup>th</sup> deadline to get it on the ballot.

*President Kemp asked Mr. Lanzer to take this issue into his Committee.*

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

Mr. McAbier had the following report:

I want to start with the Franklin Square Project, Phase 1 that we've been waiting on, everything has been cleared there, and the contractor is supposed to come in next Monday. Phase 1 is from the Tuscarawas River through Gradall's property, up onto Mill Ave through the railroad trestle, come up Mill Ave., go east on Bank Lane and end at 5<sup>th</sup> Street. The following year we'll do Phase 2, we got the grant for it. They are supposed to start, before they put the 5 foot pipe in there's two different manholes before they make that connection. Glen Drive, today they went outside of the original construction zone today, because when they came down the hill there was the outlet that they dumped into again. That piece was compromised, so they put that piece in today. Also, Wednesday afternoon the City paving will start. The signs went out today, they'll be down on Springbrook on the Southeast side. They'll mill that and the biggest part of the work will be done on Thursday. On Friday after they finish they'll go to Commercial Ave. on the Southwest side. After that they'll update the schedule and I'll make everyone aware of that at the next Council meeting.

AUDITOR .....MS. BETH GUNDY.....NO REPORT

SAFETY DIRECTOR .....MR. GREG POPHAM

Mr. Popham had the following report:

In the Police Department in the end of June the State of Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Corrections did their yearly inspection of the jail and the Police Department received a 100% on their inspection.

TREASURER . . . MR. TOM GERBER.....EXCUSED ABSENSE

LAW DIRECTOR.....MR. MARVIN FETE.....NO REPORT

**BOARD/COMMISSION REPORTS:**

PLANNING COMMISSION.....MAYOR JOEL DAY

The Planning Commission will be meeting tomorrow at 1:00 PM here in Council Chambers to consider The request from the Little Theater Board of Trustees.

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

The Board of Zoning Appeals will meet tomorrow evening at 5:00 PM here in Council Chambers with One variance request to be heard.

AIRPORT COMMISSION.....MR. DAN LANZER

The Airport Commission will be meeting in Council Chambers tomorrow night at 6:00 PM pending Quorum.

PARK BOARD.....MR. MITCH PACE

I think the First Town Days Festival and the fireworks were a great success. I'd like to congratulate The park and the City Administration.

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

HEALTH BOARD ..... MR. DEAN HOLLAND.....NO REPORT

**STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

FINANCE COMMITTEE .....MR. KELLY RICKLIC.....EXCUSED ABSENSE

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 7:15. We had one item to discuss, Proposed Ordinance 11-2023, in regards to the CHIP Grant dealing with removal of lead paint. The Committee voted unanimously to have that added to tonight’s agenda, and our Committee is asking to suspend the rules and pass that on 1<sup>st</sup> Reading tonight.

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

ZONING AND ANNEXATION COMMITTEE.....MRS. CHERYL RAMOS.....NO REPORT

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

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

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

**VISITOR’S COMMENTS**

Corey Brinton of 1147 Seven Mile Dr. had the following comment:

I came today to see if there’s anything in the works to decrease the drug and homeless issue happening in the City. I go to work early, between 5:00 and 5:15 every morning. Over the past two months I’ve seen a significant increase in drugs, homelessness, people laying on the street in our town of New Philadelphia. I see this almost every morning on my way to work. While I was driving to work last Thursday I saw a man who looked like he was on meth by the post office, as I came around the corner there was a person sleeping on a bench in the Square. By the time I made it to the Methodist Church there was a gentleman with what I would assume was a booze bottle in a paper bag in his hand, who stumbled right in front of me. That was just Thursday morning. Two weeks ago, my son and I went to the eye doctor on the Square. Our appointment was at 8:00am. When we got there, there was a homeless person curled up in the doorway of the Red Wing Boots store. I see homelessness every morning. I’m just wondering, is there anything being done, is there any work, are we increasing patrols? I also see a lot of runners in the morning and elderly people walking their dogs. It’s a safety concern and I’m just wondering what is being done.

Mayor Day had the following reply:

The police are aware of it and we’re trying to deal with it as best we can.

Mr. Pace had the following comment:

Earlier this year Council passed an Ordinance regarding loitering. On paper it violates the City code. City Council is working to curb that but it is tough.

**COUNCIL COMMENTS** .....NONE

**READING OF ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS**

ORDINANCES:

11-2023 AN ORDINANCE BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NEW PHILADELPHIA, OHIO AUTHORIZING THE ORDC TO SUBMIT THE PY 2023 COMMUNITY HOUSING IMPACT AND PRESERVATION LEAD ABATEMENT PROGRAM (CHIP LAP) PROGRAM APPLICATION WITH THE STATE OF OHIO ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF NEW PHILADELPHIA AND ADMINISTER SAID PROGRAM.  
1<sup>st</sup> Reading

MR. LANZER MOTIONED FOR SUSPENSION OF RULES ON ORDINANCE 11-2023  
MR. RIPPETH SECONDED THE MOTION  
6 YEAS  
RULES HAVE BEEN SUSPENDED ON ORDINANCE 11-2023

MR. LANZER MOTIONED FOR APPROVAL OF ORDINANCE 11-2023  
MR. RIPPETH SECONDED THE MOTION  
6 YEAS  
ORDINANCE 11-2023 HAS BEEN APPROVED

RESOLUTIONS: NONE

**UNFINISHED OR OLD BUSINESS: NONE**

**NEW BUSINESS: NONE**

With no other business to discuss Mr. Holland motioned to adjourn at 8:08 PM.

CLERK OF COUNCIL \_\_\_\_\_  
Julie Courtright

APPROVED \_\_\_\_\_

PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL \_\_\_\_\_  
Don Kemp

