

NEW PHILADELPHIA CITY COUNCIL MET IN REGULAR SESSION IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS ON DECEMBER 28, 2020 WITH PRESIDENT OF NEW PHILADELPHIA CITY COUNCIL DON KEMP. COUNCILMAN ZUCAL OFFERED A PRAYER, AND ALL IN ATTENDANCE RECITED THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

COUNCIL MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

MR. DEAN HOLLAND
MR. DAN LANZER
MR. ROB MAURER
MRS. AIMEE MAY
MR. KELLY RICKLIC
MR. JOHN ZUCAL

EXCUSED ABSENSES

MRS. CHERYL RAMOS
AUDITOR BETH GUNDY
SAFETY DIRECTOR GREG POPHAM

- MR. ZUCAL MOTIONED TO ADD RESOLUTION 31-2020 TO TONIGHT’S AGENDA
MR. MAURER SECONDED THE MOTION
6 YEAS
RESOLUTION 31-2020 HAS BEEN ADDED TO TONIGHT’S AGENDA
- MR. ZUCAL MOTIONED TO ACCEPT TONIGHT’S AGENDA AS AMENDED
MR. LANZER SECONDED THE MOTION
6 YEAS
TONIGHT’S AGENDA HAS BEEN ACCEPTED
- MRS. MAY MOTIONED TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES FROM THE DECEMBER 14 , 2020
REGULAR SESSION OF COUNCIL
MR. LANZER SECONDED THE MOTION
6 YEAS
MINUTES FROM THE DECEMBER 14, 2020 REGULAR SESSION OF COUNCIL HAVE BEEN APPROVED

CORRESPONDENCE CLERK, JULIE COURTRIGHT

1. *To Council and Administration from Mayor Day, dated December 28, 2020. This is the Mayor’s Report.*

Administrative Reports.....

MAYOR’S REPORT/REQUESTSMAYOR JOEL B. DAY

Mayor Day had the following report:

It’s Official: the County’s Port Authority is the New Owner of the Howden Buffalo Property Last Tuesday I received word from Executive Director Harry Eadon that the donation was completed, and the Economic Development and Finance Alliance – the county’s port authority, is officially the owner of the former Howden Buffalo property on South Broadway. Now the environmental assessment and cleanup of the site can be completed, and studies can get underway to determine how best to redevelop the property. The fact that it’s located along a railroad track, at the edge of downtown and near US 250 and the Tuscarawas River presents unique opportunities for redevelopment.

New Firefighter/Paramedics Receive their Oaths of Office this week This morning I gave the oath of office to the first of three new firefighter/paramedics hired under the Federal Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency (SAFR) grant program. By the end of the week, all will have received their oaths and on duty in the Fire Department. The department's three shifts will have the minimum staffing increase to six firefighter/EMTs, which will give the department the capability to handle the increased call volume, and greatly reduce the need to call in off-duty personnel. The SAFR grant will pay the new employees' wages and benefits over the next three years.

A New Dispatcher is on Duty in the New Philadelphia Police Department Fleecia Thrash was given her oath of office on December 16th to join the New Philadelphia Police Department as its newest dispatcher. With her hiring, all dispatcher/jailer positions in the department have been filled.

The Effect of the Coronavirus Pandemic on the City's Workforce City Human Resources Director Mary Kurtz recently conducted a study that revealed 22 percent of the City's workforce has taken time off due to COVID-19: either because of quarantine or to recover from catching the virus. The time period of the study was from the month of March to the first week of December. The teamwork shown by our department heads and their staffs to maintain City services during this period has been very gratifying.

Thoughts on the Year 2020... I am proud of how our community has responded to the pandemic. We have rallied to support families, first responders and businesses. And I hope that the compassion, grit, determination and patience that we have shown continues in 2021. The vaccine has given us hope that we still see the pandemic end next year. In the meantime, we must continue to practice the safety measures and take care of each other. I want to thank the members of New Philadelphia City Council for the support and guidance that they have given me and our community this year. None of us ever bargained for having to govern during a pandemic. But given these circumstances I feel we've done the best job we can. I am grateful to those City workers who were called out on Christmas Eve and on Christmas Day to plow streets and roadways. It's been a while since we had snow for Christmas. No other department has felt the impact of the pandemic more than our City Health Department. To say that those employees have gone above and beyond in their duties would be a gross understatement. The New Philadelphia Health Department is the hardest working health department in Ohio. That's been proven this year. I would like to yield the remainder of my time to City Health Commissioner Vickie Ionno, so that she can update you on the current coronavirus situation in our City and answer any questions you may have about the vaccine and what we should expect in the coming New Year.

Mayor Day yielded the remainder of his time to Health Commissioner for New Philadelphia Vickie Ionno.

Health Commissioner Ionno gave an update on the Covid-19 Pandemic in the City of New Philadelphia. In her report she stated that as of December 28, 2020 there are 304 active cases in the City of New Philadelphia. She stated that 11 New Philadelphia residents died in the City of Covid (more residents died of Covid in hospitals outside of the City from Covid and their deaths weren't counted as City deaths). In Tuscarawas County there have been a total of 6,001 cases of Covid this year. New Philadelphia has had about 20 percent of the County's total numbers of Covid. 137 Tuscarawas County residents have passed away from Covid this year. Right now 12,098 Covid cases are active in the County.

Last week The New Philadelphia City Health Department received their first cases of the Moderna vaccine. Ms. Ionno stated that she took the vaccine today. She said she knows people worry about it being rushed. She explained that there is no live virus in the vaccine and it's safe. She said the Health Department will continue to educate, lead the best they can and answer questions when they can.

Mr. Ricklic had the following question:

Do you have to take two doses or just one?

Ms. Ionno had the following reply:

Two doses. Mederna can be at normal refrigerated temperature and the doses are 28 days apart.

Mr. Zucal had the following comment:

I received my notice today I'm in group 1B. I agree we need to move residents past the initial fear so we can all get vaccinated. I gladly signed up

to be immunized. After people are immunized should they still wear masks and social distance?

Ms. Ionno had the following response:

Correct, they're asking us to continue to do what we're doing because we just don't know enough about whether we'll still be carriers if we're immune from contracting the disease.

Ms. Ionno noted that people who have had Covid and recovered have about 90 days of immunity from the virus. They're still urging us to give everyone the vaccine whether they've had the virus and recovered or not.

Ms. Ionno stated that since September 11, 2001 the Health Department has had a plan for mass vaccination. One of the sites that they have mapped out is Tuscora Park.

Mr. Maurer asked when the 1B Group might be vaccinated. Ms. Ionno said according to the Governor the goal is in-person school by March 1, 2021. Phase 1B may start mid-January to last January.

Law Director Fete asked how residents in Group 1B will know that they are eligible to receive a vaccination. Ms. Ionno said during H1N1 the County Health Department administered the vaccine alphabetically according to the person's last name.

Ms. Ionno said she doesn't have any noticeable symptoms from the Covid vaccine she was administered today aside from a sore arm. She said the second dose will have more symptoms. After the first dose the body starts to build antibodies, after the second dose the body recognizes them and reacts. Which is an immune response. The side effects usually last less than 24 hours if you have any, and it's worth it.

SERVICE DIRECTOR.....MR. RON MCABIER

Mr. McAbier had the following report:

I'd like to bring everybody up to date on a couple of projects and grant opportunities we've been working on. We'll start with the cemetery office building. The windows were installed last week and the brick work has been started as well as the interior electric. Soon the electric, dry wall, and drop ceiling will be installed. Also at Southside Park the three bridges have been completed, the two pedestrian bridges and the vehicular bridge. We'll do a final checklist to sign off on those next week. We still have the dog park, the nature trail, the pollinator garden, and most of the underground electric to finish. We're still working for a right of way issue moving through there. They don't want to change patterns and have to go through another right of way. Last week we got an update on the OPWC Grant. If we remember right that was to help start the Glen Dr. project. We were awarded a grant and we also qualified for a loan. We were happy to learn that news last week through a Zoom meeting. A big thank you to everybody on the Committee and a big thank you to Joe Bachman as he heads up that group. Late today I learned out of the Statehouse we were granted \$50,000 from the state biannual budget to go toward developing the Towpath Trail Connector which we've been working on to start at the Waterworks Boat Ramp. The ODNR will be our contact for that.

AUDITORMS. BETH GUNDY.....EXCUSED ABSENSE

SAFETY DIRECTORMR. GREG POPHAM.....EXCUSED ABSENSE

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

LAW DIRECTOR MR. MARVIN FETE

Mr. Fete had the following report:

I recently accepted a resignation letter from our Victim Advocate. She has accepted a job working in Stark County. It's a fantastic job for her and her family where she's going to be working with families to facilitate adoptions for at risk kids. The day I received her resignation I made a job posting on the City's website. I'd like to ask the President to assign it to a Committee to recognize Ms. Liebold for her efforts in getting this program up and running. The Victim Advocate Debbie Liebold has gone above and beyond what she needed to do and I'm just in awe of the job that she's done. It's a very stressful and demanding job. I'd like to have her recognized for her efforts. Her last day would be the 20th of January, but she's offered to stay on past that to help us train anyone.

**President Kemp asked Mr. Ricklic to take the recognition of the Victim Advocate into his Committee.*

BOARD/COMMISSION REPORTS:

PLANNING COMMISSION.....MAYOR JOEL DAY

The Planning Commission will be meeting on Tuesday, January 12, 2021 at 1:00 PM in Council Chambers. Right now on the Agenda are two rezonings on West High Avenue.

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

The Board of Zoning Appeals will meet January 12, 2021 at 5:00 PM in Council Chambers. Right now there is one variance request.

AIRPORT COMMISSION.....MR. JOHN ZUCAL

The next meeting of the Airport Commission will be Tuesday, January 12, 2021 at 6:00 PM here in Council Chambers.

PARK BOARD.....MRS. AIMEE MAY.....NO REPORT

CEMETERY BOARD.....MRS. AIMEE MAY.....NO REPORT

HEALTH BOARD MR. JOHN ZUCAL

The Health Board will meet on Wednesday, January 20th at 12 Noon here in Council Chambers.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

FINANCE COMMITTEEMR. ROB MAURER

Mr. Maurer had the following report:

The Finance Committee met tonight at 6:15 PM to discuss a new stadium lease. The Finance Committee along with Councilmembers and some school officials had good dialogue and I will type up the Minutes soon.

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SALARY COMMITTEEMR. JOHN ZUCAL.....NO REPORT

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE.....MR. DEAN HOLLAND.....NO REPORT

SAFETY HEALTH & SERVICE COMMITTEE... .MR. KELLY RICKLIC

Mr. Ricklic stated that on January 11, 2021 there will be a Safety, Health, and Service Committee Meeting at 6:45 PM.

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

SPECIAL & CONTACT COMMITTEEMR DAN LANZER

Mr. Lanzer had the following report:

The Special and Contact Committee met this evening to discuss Proposed Resolution 31-2020. We had a short discussion and voted unanimously to add Resolution 31-2020 and we're asking for emergency passage on 1st Reading.

VISITOR'S COMMENTS: NONE

COUNCIL COMMENTS: NONE

READING OF ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

ORDINANCES:

21-2020 AN ORDINANCE BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NEW PHILADELPHIA, OHIO, AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A COMMUNITY REINVESTMENT AREA (CRA) TAX EXEMPTION AGREEMENT WITH SAI HOSPITALITY AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY IN ORDER TO FACILITATE CONSTRUCTION AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE
2nd Reading

MR. MAURER MOTIONED FOR SUSPENSION OF RULES ON ORDINANCE 21-2020
MR. ZUCAL SECONDED THE MOTION
6 YEAS
RULES HAVE BEEN SUSPENDED ON ORDINANCE 21-2020

MR. MAURER MOTIONED FOR APPROVAL OF ORDINANCE 21-2020
MR. ZUCAL SECONDED THE MOTION
6 YEAS
ORDINANCE 21-2020 HAS BEEN APPROVED

RESOLUTIONS:

26-2020 A RESOLUTION BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NEW PHILADELPHIA TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH THE TUSCARAWAS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS AND THE TUSCARAWAS COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE FOR THE HOUSING OF INMATES IN THE TUSCARAWAS COUNTY JAIL AND PAYMENT OF HOUSING COSTS TO THE TUSCARAWAS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS.
3rd Reading

MR. LANZER MOTIONED FOR APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION 26-2020
MRS. MAY SECONDED THE MOTION
6 YEAS
RESOLUTION 26-2020 HAS BEEN APPROVED

27-2020 A RESOLUTION BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NEW PHILADELPHIA, OHIO TO APPROVE THE APPOINTMENT OF HOLLY PAGE BY THE NEW PHILADELPHIA CITY COUNCIL TO THE LOCAL BOARD OF TAX REVIEW FOR THE TERM OF TWO YEARS COMMENCING JANUARY 1, 2021 AND ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2022.
3rd Reading

MR. LANZER MOTIONED FOR APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION 26-2020
MRS. MAY SECONDED THE MOTION
6 YEAS
RESOLUTION 27-2020 HAS BEEN APPROVED

28-2020 A RESOLUTION BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NEW PHILADELPHIA, OHIO TO APPROVE THE APPOINTMENT OF PAT COOPER BY THE NEW PHILADELPHIA CITY COUNCIL TO THE LOCAL BOARD OF TAX REVIEW FOR THE TERM OF TWO YEARS COMMENCING JANUARY 1, 2021 AND ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2022.

3rd Reading

MR. RICKLIC MOTIONED FOR APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION 28-2020
MR. LANZER SECONDED THE MOTION
6 YEAS
RESOLUTION 28-2020 HAS BEEN APPROVED

29-2020 A RESOLUTION BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NEW PHILADELPHIA, OHIO TO APPROVE THE APPOINTMENT OF DAVE FRANTZ BY THE MAYOR TO THE LOCAL BOARD OF TAX REVIEW FOR THE TERM OF TWO YEARS COMMENCING JANUARY 1, 2021 AND ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2022.

3rd Reading

MR. LANZER MOTIONED FOR APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION 29-2020
MRS. MAY SECONDED THE MOTION
6 YEAS
RESOLUTION 29-2020 HAS BEEN APPROVED

30-2020 A RESOLUTION BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NEW PHILADELPHIA, OHIO AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR OF THE CITY TO ACT AS THE SIGNATURE DESIGNEE FOR THE PURCHASE OF THE 2ND STREET SE BASKETBALL COURT PROPERTY OWNED BY THE NEW PHILADELPHIA BOARD OF EDUCATION FOR THE PURCHASE PRICE OF \$1.00 AND AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING HIM TO EXECUTE ANY AND ALL DOCUMENTS NECESSARY TO FACILITATE THE SAME

2nd Reading

31-2020 A RESOLUTION BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NEW PHILADELPHIA, TUSCARAWAS COUNTY, OHIO, AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR OF THE SAID CITY OF NEW PHILADELPHIA TO ACT AS THE SIGNATURE DESIGNEE AND TO FILE AN APPLICATION FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE UNDER TITLE 1 OF THE HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 1974 (PL 93-383) TO THE OFFICE OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, DIVISION OF THE OHIO DEVELOPMENT SERVICES AGENCY, OFFICE OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT SERVICES.

1st Reading

MR. LANZER MOTIONED FOR SUSPENSION OF RULES ON RESOLUTION 31-2020
MRS. MAY SECONDED THE MOTION
6 YEAS
RULES HAVE BEEN SUSPENDED ON RESOLUTION 31-2020

MR. LANZER MOTIONED FOR APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION 31-2020
MRS. MAY SECONDED THE MOTION
6 YEAS
RESOLUTION 31-2020 HAS BEEN APPROVED

UNFINISHED OR OLD BUSINESS: NONE

NEW BUSINESS:

Mr. Zucal had the following comment:

Mr. Zucal wished everyone a Happy and Healthy New Year.

Mr. Maurer motioned to adjourn at 8:18pm

CLERK OF COUNCIL _____
Julie Courtright

APPROVED _____

PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL _____
Don Kemp