

NEW PHILADELPHIA CITY COUNCIL MET IN REGULAR SESSION IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS ON FEBRUARY 28, 2022 WITH PRESIDENT DON KEMP PRESIDING. PRESIDENT KEMP OFFERED A PRAYER, AND ALL IN ATTENDANCE RECITED THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

COUNCIL MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

MR. DAN LANZER
MR. MITCH PACE
MRS. CHERYL RAMOS
MR. KELLY RICKLIC
MR. JIM SELDENRIGHT

EXCUSED ABSENSES

MRS. AIMEE MAY
MR. DEAN HOLLAND
AUDITOR BETH GUNDY

- MR. SELDENRIGHT MOTIONED TO ACCEPT TONIGHT’S AGENDA
MRS. RAMOS SECONDED THE MOTION
5 YEAS
TONIGHT’S AGENDA HAS BEEN APPROVED

- MR. LANZER MOTIONED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM THE FEBRUARY 14, 2022 REGULAR SESSION OF COUNCIL
MRS. RAMOS SECONDED THE MOTION
5 YEAS
MINUTES FROM THE FEBRUARY 14, 2022 COUNCIL MEETING HAVE BEEN APPROVED

CORRESPONDENCE CLERK, JULIE COURTRIGHT

1. *To Clerk of Council from Treasurer Tom Gerber, dated February 15, 2022. This is the Investment and Savings Report.*
2. *To Clerk of Council from Alex McCarthy with the Tuscarawas County Homeland Security Agency, dated February 16, 2022. This is an invoice for \$4,419.25, which is a renewal of the City’s 2022 Contractual Agreement with the Homeland Security and Emergency Management Agency.*
3. *To President Kemp from Councilwoman Aimee May, dated February 25, 2022. This is a request for an Excused Absence from tonight’s Council Meeting.*
4. *To President Kemp from Law Director Fete, dated February 25, 2022. This is an email that states: Urgent, please assign to Salary Committee for Monday, with Ordinance 5-2022 as the attachment. President Kemp asked Mr. Seldenright to take this into his Committee.*
5. *To President Kemp from Law Director Fete, dated February 25, 2022. This is an email that states: “Urgent, please assign to Public Works” with Ordinance 9-2022 as the attachment. President Kemp asked Mr. Lanzer to take this into his Committee.*
6. *To Council and Administration from Jami Bailey, Executive Administrative Assistant for the Mayor, dated February 28, 2022. This is the Mayor’s Month End Report.*
7. *To Council and Administration from Mayor Day, dated February 28, 2022. The Mayor’s Report.*

MAYOR’S REPORT/REQUESTSMAYOR JOEL B. DAY

Mayor Day had the following report:

- School Crossing Guards are Needed: There are not enough crossing guards at New Philadelphia's schools. Last week, crossing guard coordinator Captain Joe Skinner informed Safety Director Popham and myself that two more guards resigned their positions. I reached out to New Philadelphia Schools Superintendent Wentworth to ask if the school district could help. But she replied saying the school district also is suffering from staff shortages. Currently, the position pays ten dollars an hour. Raising that rate is under consideration if that would generate more interest. Crossing guards work 10-12 hours per week. If any residents can help, please contact the Mayor's office at 330-364-4491 extension 1242 or Captain Skinner at the Police Department at 330-364-4491 extension 1332.
- Congratulations to Harry Eadon on his Retirement from the TCEDC: On behalf of the residents and businesses in New Philadelphia, I send our best wishes to Harry Eadon, following his retirement as the Executive Director of the Tuscarawas County Economic Development Corporation. For the past 20 years, Mr. Eadon had been at the forefront of many key business developments in our county, including the redevelopment of the former Reeves Mill property in Dover, the former AlSCO plant in Gnadenhutten and most recently, the location of ProVia in Strasburg. Here in New Philadelphia, Mr. Eadon was responsible for the restoration of the former ODOT property on West High Avenue and was instrumental in the donation, cleanup, and redevelopment of the former Howden Buffalo/Joy property on South Broadway. The TCEDC board of directors hired Ohio native Marla Akridge as his successor. Ms. Akridge has an extensive economic development background. Once she's settled in, I will invite her to speak to City Council. She recently stopped by the Mayor's office. The conversation we had was very encouraging.
- Putting the Finishing Touches on my Annual State of the City Report: My annual State of the City Report is nearly finished. It will be issued later this week after it's proofread, and necessary revisions are made. The report will be posted on the City's website and linked on the City's social media. Despite the challenges our City faced last year in the second year of the pandemic, the state of our city as we enter 2022 remains strong and optimistic.
- Attending the NADO DOAA Policy Conference in Washington DC: On March 13th I will be traveling to Washington DC with members of the Ohio Mid-Eastern Governments Association Executive Board and staff. We will be attending the three-day National Association of Development Organizations (NADO) and the Development District Association of Appalachia (DDAA) conference. Conference sessions will focus on regional development, the federal landscape and programs and policies that matter most to Regional Development Organizations and their stakeholders. We also plan to attend a lunch meeting on Capital Hill with congressional staff and members of other Ohio Local Development Districts. I was recently elected as secretary of OMEGA's Executive Board.

Commendations of New Phila Police Officers

New Philadelphia Police Auxiliary Officers Bob Everett and Brian Klopfer are with us tonight (Monday) to receive Certificates of Commendation for the life-saving action they took earlier this month.

On February 4th, Bob Everett and Brian Klopfer were off duty, plowing snow in the neighborhood of Lakeview Road NW, when they heard a call come over the radio of a house at 1306 Lakeview being on fire. Both went to the house and were able to rescue an elderly woman who was inside before fire consumed the house. To show our appreciation of their efforts, City Safety Director Greg Popham and myself would like to present Certificates of Commendation to each officer. Their certificates read:

Given this 28th day of February 2022, on behalf of the residents of the City of New Philadelphia,

Mayor Joel B. Day and Safety Director Greg Popham are pleased to commend ROBERT EVERETT And BRIAN KLOPFER for their heroic actions on February 4, 2022.

At approximately 10:30 a.m., the New Philadelphia Police Department received a call of a fire inside of a residence at 1306 Lakeview Road NW. The fire department was enroute to this location. Auxiliary officers Bob Everett and Brian Klopfer were out clearing snow in the area as civilians. They heard the call come over the radio and responded to the area to attempt to help if they were able. When they arrived, they noticed that smoke was starting to fill the house. They saw an elderly female inside trying to get an elderly male out of the residence. Everett and Klopfer were able to get the female from the house and saved her from being overcome by the smoke. They made multiple attempts to go back inside and get the male subject to safety but were overpowered by the smoke. Officers Everett and Klopfer have gone above and beyond the scope of their appointment and

have shown the outstanding qualities of heroism and selflessness which embody those of the auxiliary members of our police department.

- Mayor Day presented Commendations to Officers Bob Everett and Brian Klopfer.

Mr. Ricklic had the following comment:

I want to commend both gentlemen for going above and beyond the call of duty. Both are good men. I'm glad to have you, and the Citizens of New Philadelphia are glad to have you a part of the Community.

Officer Bob Everett had the following comment:

Quite frankly, Brian and I are very thankful that the City of New Philadelphia allows us to be in this position. For me it's not just a position it's a life, and I'm thankful to the Safety Director, the Mayor, and everyone else to continue in this position. We did what we needed to do and what we felt we had to do.

Mayor Day gave the balance of his time to Mr. Tom Farbizo.

Tom Farbizo had the following statement:

I'm here representing QDA Educational Services Foundation and Superintendent Dr. Richard Veratti. First of all, thank you to the Mayor, Service Director, and Council Members. We appreciated the opportunity that you afforded us a few years back. In our report we've given out 10 scholarships to date totaling \$9,000. We gave out \$3,500 last year in scholarships. We raise money through advertisements on City Sanitation Trucks and on the energy efficient windows at the airport. With that tonight, I'm happy to present the Mayor with two trucks, one for the airport windows and one for the sanitation trucks, totaling \$6,240.

SERVICE DIRECTOR.....MR. RON MCABIER

Mr. McAbier had the following report:

We've got two bigger projects going on that everybody is going to start noticing. If you remember last year we had the big gas line project. The pamphlet I handed you tonight is just as large if not larger. 13500 feet of new gas line, 241 new services. We don't have a start date there yet but I just want to put this on everybody's radar. When this does start most of it is in different wards. Take note of it. Any questions please just ask. The biggest part will be on Front, all the way to Bank Lane and St. Clair in some areas. Right now we do not have a start date. We have another big project that's going to start. This one is on Tuscarawas Avenue at the Frontier Office. They're going to put fiber to houses now. This will start by the end of the month. You'll see fiber optic hubs, they're about as big as a traffic box. That will start at the end of March. Also, I want to update everybody of the fence that we relocated down at Gradall. The project is complete as far as fencing, but the 23rd and 24th Southway will come in and put the gates on. Once the gates are installed the Mayor and I will do a walk-through and that will be completed.

Mrs. Ramos had the following question:

Where did you say the fiber was going in?

Mr. McAbier:

Tuscarawas Ave.

Mr. Pace had the following question:

What is the timeline as far as the duration of the gas line project?

Mr. McAbier:

It will take about 2 and a half months.

Law Director Fete asked if the fiber optic would allow homeowners to jump on and get fiber optic internet. Mr. McAbier said it would.

AUDITORMS. BETH GUNDY.....EXCUSED ABSENCE

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

Mr. Popham wanted to echo from the Mayor's Report the shortage of the crossing guards. If anyone knows someone we definitely need help.

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

LAW DIRECTOR MR. MARVIN FETE

Mr. Fete had the following report:

I don't have an official report but I wanted to comment on current events. I heart really goes out to the people of Ukraine right now. There's a story that's true. I saw it and I researched it. There were four brothers during WWII, four Jewish brothers. Three of them were murdered by the Nazis in concentration camps. The fourth brother joined the army and fought against the Nazis and died fighting against the Nazis. His son is President Zelenskyy, the President who's fighting the Russians today. When the United States offered to help him retreat he said "the fight is here. Send me ammunition". There's ways online that you can look to help contribute to that. They're fighting our enemies. They're extremely heroic. Their leadership is praiseworthy.

BOARD/COMMISSION REPORTS:

PLANNING COMMISSION.....MAYOR JOEL DAY

The Planning Commission will be meeting on March 8th at 1:00 PM. We'll continue our discussion on Airbnbs and what possible and what possible regulations could be adopted by Council to handle those. Dee Grossman, the Executive Director of the Convention and Visitor's Bureau will be attending to give her input.

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

With no variance requests to be heard the March 14 Board of Zoning Appeals Meeting is cancelled.

AIRPORT COMMISSION.....MR. JIM SELDENRIGHT

Mr. Lanzer had the following report:

We finally got a quorum and were able to meet on Feb. 22 at 6:00 PM. We voted for Mr. Kennedy as now the Airport Chair and for Alex McCarthy as Secretary. We're still trying to figure out the money for the airport, what we're going to get from the Infrastructure Bill.

Mr. McAbier:

Right now, early talks on the Infrastructure Bill. Everyone on the Zoom Meeting would like to update the lobby of the FBO. We'll back that money up for four years and possibly look at a new T Hangar.

PARK BOARD.....MR. MITCH PACE

The Park Board met on February 16th. The hot topic was the pickle ball courts at Tuscora Park. They're very close to meeting their funding goals. If anyone is interested in donating to that Project contact the Tuscora Park Foundation.

Mr. Farbizo mentioned that a banner concerning the fundraising for pickle ball courts should hung up in the square on March 1.

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

HEALTH BOARD MR. DEAN HOLLAND.....EXCUSED ABSENCE

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

FINANCE COMMITTEEMR. KELLY RICKLIC

Mr. Ricklic had the following report:

The Finance Committee met this evening at 7:00 PM. Present was myself the chair and Cheryl Ramos. We basically went over the appropriations for 2022, had some questions for the Mayor and Service Director to clarify. We will be meeting at probably a Special Meeting between now and the next Council meeting to start a review of appropriations with Council members. We have to pass it by April 1 to have a balanced budget for the City. The meeting was adjourned at 7:21.

SALARY COMMITTEEMR. JIM SELDENRIGHT

The Salary Committee met this evening at 6:15 PM. Myself and Kelly Ricklic were in attendance. We discussed Ordinance 3-2022 in regards to the hours worked for the custodians, setting a wage to help offset the hours worked. We continued on to the non-bargaining salary positions and started discussing Proposed Ordinance 5-2022 which is going to be tabled for further discussion.

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE.....MR. DAN LANZER

Mr. Lanzer had the following report:

We met this evening directly following the Finance Committee meeting. We discussed Proposed Ordinance 4 which has to do with a proposal by the Service Director to raise sanitation rates by \$1.25. After discussions and a proposal by Mr. Pace we asked to have the legislation drawn up for a \$.50 increase instead of \$1.25. We will revisit that after 1 year.

SAFETY HEALTH & SERVICE COMMITTEE... .MR. DEAN HOLLAND.....EXCUSED ABSENCE

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

SPECIAL & CONTACT COMMITTEEMRS. AIMEE MAY.....EXCUSED ABSENCE

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

VISITOR'S COMMENTS: NONE

COUNCIL COMMENTS: NONE

READING OF ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

ORDINANCES: NONE

RESOLUTIONS: NONE

UNFINISHED OR OLD BUSINESS: NONE

NEW BUSINESS: NONE

With no other business to discuss Mrs. Ramos motioned to adjourn at 8:11 PM.

CLERK OF COUNCIL _____
Julie Courtright

APPROVED _____

PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL _____
Don Kemp