

NEW PHILADELPHIA CITY COUNCIL MET IN REGULAR SESSION IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS ON AUGUST 24, 2020 WITH PRESIDENT OF NEW PHILADELPHIA CITY COUNCIL DON KEMP PRESIDING. PRESIDENT KEMP 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. KELLY RICKLIC
MR. JOHN ZUCAL

EXCUSED ABSENSES

MR. ROB MAURER
MRS. CHERYL RAMOS
AUDITOR BETH GUNDY

- MR. MAY MOTIONED TO ADD RESOLUTION 21-2020 TO TONIGHT’S AGENDA
MR. RICKLIC SECONDED THE MOTION
5 YEAS
RESOLUTION 21-2020 HAS BEEN ADDED TO TONIGHT’S AGENDA

**Safety Director Popham requested an Executive Session during tonight’s Meeting regarding Personnel.*

- MR. ZUCAL MOTIONED FOR AN EXECUTIVE SESSION AT THE SAFETY DIRECTOR’S REQUEST FOLLOWING TONIGHT’S LEGISLATIVE AGENDA
MR. LANZER SECONDED THE MOTION
5 YEAS
AN EXECUTIVE SESSION WILL BE HELD DURING TONIGHT’S MEETING

- MR. HOLLAND MOTIONED TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES FROM THE AUGUST 10, 2020 REGULAR SESSION OF COUNCIL
MRS. MAY SECONDED THE MOTION
5 YEAS
MINUTES FROM THE AUGUST 10, 2020 REGULAR SESSION OF COUNCIL HAVE BEEN APPROVED

CORRESPONDENCE CLERK, JULIE COURTRIGHT

1. *To Clerk of Council from Treasurer Tom Gerber, dated August 11, 2020. This is the City of New Philadelphia Investment and Savings Report*
2. *To Council from Executive Assistant to the Service Director Maureen Wenger, dated August 11, 2020. This is an email with the subject “Small City Paving Project”. It has the attachment Small City Paving Overview Map pdf Phase 1 Scope and Description pdf.*
3. *To Service Director McAbier from Councilman Zucal dated August 13, 2020. This is an email the subject is OPWC Grants. This was replied to by Service Director McAbier.*
4. *To Council and Administration from Executive Assistant to the Mayor Lacey McKain, dated August 14, 2020. This is an email the subject is Southside Community Park Groundbreaking. It has the attachment Groundbreaking of Southside Community Park Notice, which will be Tuesday, August 25, 2020 at 9:00am.*
5. *To Council and Administration from Councilwoman Ramos, dated August 20, 2020. This is a reply to an email that had the subject Finance Committee Meeting Cancelled Monday, August 24, 2020. This is Mrs. Ramos’ lengthy thoughts on Mr. Holland’s Neighborhood Watch Program.*
6. *To Councilwoman May from President of Council Kemp, dated August 20, 2020. This is an email,*

the subject is Tuscora Park and it has the attachment 8-2020 pdf. It states "Aimee, please take this into your Committee for a Resolution Monday night.

7. *To Council from Auditor Gundy, dated August 24, 2020. This is an email, the subject is August 24 Council Meeting. It states "with no items on the Agenda and no Finance Committee Meeting, I don't believe I'll be attending tonight's Council Meeting.*
8. *To Council from Treasurer Tom Gerber, dated August 24, 2020. This is the City of New Philadelphia July 2020 Deposits.*
9. *To Council from Mayor Day, dated August 24, 2020. This is the Mayor's Report.*

Administrative Reports.....

MAYOR'S REPORT/REQUESTS ...MAYOR JOEL B. DAY

Mayor Day had the following report:

- **The Final Countdown for the U.S. Census is Underway:** The September 30th deadline to complete U.S. Census forms is fast approaching. If you haven't completed your form, please do! You can do it online at www.2020Census.gov, by telephone by calling 1-844-330-2020 for English, 1-844-426-2020 for Spanish, or complete the form and drop it in the mail. Responding is completely confidential. An accurate census count for New Philadelphia and Tuscarawas County helps return more federal tax dollars to our community for economic development, major infrastructure projects and social programs. \$1800.00 of federal and state funding is lost for each uncounted individual every year for 10 years. Census data is used to determine if a company stays, leaves, grows or relocates here. A lot rides on your participation in the census.

- **Official Groundbreaking Ceremony for the Southside Community Park Project:** Tomorrow (Tuesday) morning members of the City Parks and Recreation board, The Tuscora Park Foundation board and City officials will put shovels in the ground to celebrate the construction of the first phase of the Southside Community Park project. Vizmeg Landscaping of Stow, the general contractor, actually started the project a couple of weeks ago. W.E. Quicksall and Associates of New Philadelphia did the project engineering and is overseeing the construction. I would like to thank the Tuscora Park Foundation trustees and the park board members for their roles in making this \$2.2 million dollar project a reality. The funding came from State Clean Ohio and Nature Works grants, money from the State biennial budget, and a grant from the Ohio and Erie Canal Coalition. The construction site area on Oldtown Valley Road is closed to traffic during daylight hours.

- **CARES Act Funding Used to Purchase Equipment to Fight COVID-19 :** The City has used a portion of the \$519,000.00 it received in federal CARES Act funding to purchase disinfection equipment to fight the spread of the coronavirus. Portable foggers are being used in the Cemetery and Parks departments to disinfect areas used by the public. Plans are to use them in other City departments. The Fire department has purchased UV lights to install in each ambulance. The lights are turned on for 20 minutes after each ambulance run to kill off any viruses that may be present. We are looking into purchasing portable UV units that could be used in all departments. The Fire department has also used the money to purchase protective coveralls and gloves and is stockpiling personal protective equipment and hand sanitizer

- **Coronavirus Cases are on the Decline in New Philadelphia:** City Health Commissioner Vickie Ionno reported to me today (Monday) that the number of active COVID-19 cases in the City has declined this month. She said there are currently six cases in the City. Two of those persons are hospitalized. She attributes the decline to our residents and businesses trying to do the right things to slow the spread of the virus. The Commissioner also reported that the City Health Department is working with the New Philadelphia, Tuscarawas Central Catholic and Buckeye Career Center school districts on their back-to-school plans, and also their plans for sporting events. The City Board of Health recently approved the hiring of Dana Fischio as the department's new Accreditation Coordinator. She replaces Kelly Friar, who left to take a position with the Ohio Department of Health. Ms. Fischio will also assist with Contract Tracing of positive COVID-19

cases in the City. She holds a masters in business administration, a bachelors in public health and is currently pursuing a masters in public health.

Mr. Zucal had the following question for Mayor Day:

Is there any way that you know ahead of time any preliminary information that's provided from the Federal Government as to where we stand with the Census?

Mayor Day had the following reply:

No, we have to wait to see what happens and then we'll find out. We do get weekly reports that show what our participation rate is. We're ahead of Ohio overall but we're still at around 65%. I'd like to get as close to 100% as possible because that just benefits all of us.

SERVICE DIRECTOR.....MR. RON MCABIER

Mr. McAbier had the following report:

I'd like to start with a couple updates. Schoenbrunn Meadows Cemetery. The Board of Control will meet this Thursday, August 27, 2020 at 10:15 am to go over the contract for the lowest and best bid for the office. Right now they continue to do the maintenance garage. Also, at the last Council Meeting I reported on Superior Paving on Route 39 that their machine had broken down. It's running again so they got the West High Avenue Bridge. Looking at the contract today they have 7 days to grind but the way they're working it will be much faster than that. Also, near Harry Clever Field the new John Glenn Mural is progressing. Also the CDBG Project, Poplar Avenue there's a few approaches from the sidewalk to the road that need done. North Avenue is 95% done. 2nd Street is probably 90% done also. We'll see the bulk of the work being done this week on Poplar Avenue.

AUDITORMS. BETH GUNDY.....EXCUSED ABSENSE

SAFETY DIRECTORMR. GREG POPHAM

Mr. Popham had the following report:

First of all I'd like to make a correction. When we were discussing giving a grant back in June for Muskingum. I made a statement that the grant was from Muskingum Watershed. To be specific it is Muskingum Watershed Conservancy District Foundation. In the police department we have two new dispatchers; Darren Avon and Bill Morgan. They both had quite an interesting first couple weeks on the job.

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

LAW DIRECTOR MR. MARVIN FETE

Mr. Fete had the following report:

Among the things that I had been working on, I had to issue a legal opinion regarding bids that we received. In addition to that we've had a very high number of public information requests recently. What I want to stress to the public is a lot of larger cities or government entities have what's called a Public Information Officer. The City of New Philadelphia does not. When we receive a public information request it's done by whatever individual it's directed at. It's organized through the Mayor's office and everybody's doing the best they can to comply with these, but when they come in in large volumes it does take time to do that. The people who are doing it are doing it in addition to their regular jobs. I know they're giving it their priority. We had one recently that took in excess of 14 hours to complete. Also, I'm working with the Fire Chief on some plans to curb the drug problem. I'll hopefully have more information on that next time we meet. There has been some drug activity that has become a real public safety hazard beyond just the fact that drugs are involved. I'm going to be prepared to address that at the next Council Meeting. I've had a couple discussions with the Fire Chief regarding this and I think we have some good ideas going forward.

BOARD/COMMISSION REPORTS:

PLANNING COMMISSION.....MAYOR JOEL DAY

The Planning Commission's will be meeting in Council Chambers on Tuesday, September 8, 2020 at 1:00 PM. We'll be getting input from the Planning Commission members on the research we're doing

on abandoned or vacant properties.

BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS.....MR. RON MCABIER
Our next meeting will be Tuesday, September 8 at 5:00 PM in Council Chambers.

AIRPORT COMMISSION.....MR. JOHN ZUCAL.....NO REPORT

PARK BOARD.....MRS. AIMEE MAY
The Groundbreaking for the Southside Community Park is tomorrow at 9:00 AM.

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

HEALTH BOARD MR. KELLY RICKLIC.....NO REPORT

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

FINANCE COMMITTEEMR. ROB MAURER.....EXCUSED ABSENSE

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

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

SAFETY HEALTH & SERVICE COMMITTEE... MR. KELLY RICKLIC.....NO REPORT

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

SPECIAL & CONTACT COMMITTEEMR DAN LANZER.....NO REPORT

PARKS & CEMETERY COMMITTEE.....MRS. AIMEE MAY

Mrs. May had the following report:

The Parks and Cemetery Committee met this evening regarding support of Resolution 21-2020 regarding a historical marker for Tuscora Park. We added that to tonight's Agenda with amendments to read Ohio History Connection and adjusted the day to September 1. There weren't enough in attendance tonight to pass it on an emergency for the September 1 Deadline so we'll have a Special Meeting on Monday, August 31 to pass it on 2nd Reading. The Meeting was adjourned at 6:20 PM.

VISITOR'S COMMENTS:

William Bevan of Delaware Dr. SE New Phila. had the following comment:

I am here to make some complaints about paving in the City of New Philadelphia. A year ago the State of Ohio increased the gasoline taxes. The City of New Philadelphia paved 3rd St. SW, got Wabash Ave, went up to the top of the hill and stopped. Then they started on Broadway and went across Donahey Dr. to the golf course. My complaint is this, in 1937 I started 1st grade in New Philadelphia. I walked to Central School. We moved to the country and I had to walk to Central School. Back in the 1930s there was a lot of work done putting in highways. This year they finally did pave Park Ave. to Union Ave. Here I am, 88-years-old. 5th St. NW hasn't been paved in I don't know how long. I'm here tonight to ask when the side streets of New Philadelphia will be paved?

Sue Kloc of Hicks Ave. NE New Philadelphia had the following comment:

I'm here concerning the property that is located where the Rutledge Farm used to be. Grass is growing high and my neighbor had tried to cut it down. There are 3 huge holes in the ditch and someone could get hurt. I'm just coming as a concerned citizen.

Tom Farbizo of 936 3rd St. SW New Phila had the following comment:

I'm here tonight representing Quaker Digital Education Foundation. Richard Varatti our Superintendent. This is the 2nd round of scholarships. We've actually given out \$5,000 in scholarships to students through this foundation. This actually comes from advertisement on the airport windows and on the sanitation trucks.

Mr. Holland had the following question:

Is there anything we can do to further your effort?

Mr. Farbizo had the following response:

No, we appreciate what you've done so far.

Dave Bursch of Easy St. SE had the following comment:

I lost my daughter Rachel on May 30th to a drug overdose. I'm a concerned parent and I sure don't want to see that happen to someone else. I'll do anything I can to help eliminate this problem.

COUNCIL COMMENTS:

Mr. Zucal had the following comment:

Senator J. Hottinger announced a few hours ago that the State of Ohio announced the release of another \$175 million dollars of CARES Act funding for townships and municipalities. So I'm anxious to see how we'll use that funding for the second round of the CARES Act. I'm very glad to hear the Control Board has authorized that type of commitment to the State of Ohio.

READING OF ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

ORDINANCES: NONE

RESOLUTIONS:

21-2020 A RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NEW PHILADELPHIA TO HAVE THE OHIO HISTORY CONNECTION RECOGNIZE TUSCORA PARK FOR IT'S HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL SIGNIFICANCE AS A LANDMARK IN OUR COMMUNITY.
1st Reading

**COUNCIL ADJOURNED INTO A 5 MINUTE RECESS AT 8:21, RECONVENED AT 8:26 BEFORE ADJOURNING INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 8:26.
AT 8:50 PM COUNCIL RECONVENED INTO REGULAR SESSION OF COUNCIL**

UNFINISHED OR OLD BUSINESS:

Mr. Ricklic had the following comment:

As far as the computers for Council and Administration, half the devices have shown up and 9 cases. I think there's a total of 17 ordered. So when the rest of them get here, Mayor, would you like Mr. Erb to inventory them and then distribute at a Council Meeting?

Mayor Day replied yes.

Mr. Zucal had the following comment:

School officially starts on August 31 for the New Philadelphia City School District. First time since March. Please pay attention to buses and kids on the street.

NEW BUSINESS: NONE

Mr. Zucal motioned to adjourn at 8:52pm

CLERK OF COUNCIL _____
Julie Courtright

APPROVED _____

PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL _____
Don Kemp