

President Vicki Hoppe called the regular Sharonville Council meeting of September 28, 2021 to order at 7:00 p.m. A moment of silence was held followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Mike Wilson.

ROLL CALL

- ◆ In attendance for Roll Call were Council Members: Rob Tankersley, Mike Wilson, Charles Lippert, Glen Lovitt, Sue Knight and Paul Schmidt. Also in attendance were Mayor Kevin Hardman, President Vicki Hoppe, Safety/Service Director Jim Lukas, Law Director Mark Piepmeier, Auditor Ed Cunningham, Treasurer Kurt Irey, and Department Heads: Human Resources Director Noah Powers, Public Works Director Steve Busam and Acting Police Chief Mark Preuss. Dave Koch was absent with notice.

MINUTES

- ◆ The Minutes from the regular council meeting of September 14, 2021 were approved as written and distributed.

REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

◆ MAYOR – KEVIN HARDMAN

- Oath of Office given to Eric Asbrock who was newly promoted to Police Sergeant. He was celebrated and congratulated by family, friends, fellow officers and staff as well as Council.
- With the retirement of Fire Chief Mackey, the City brought in an Acting Fire Chief for the next several months as the selection process ensues for the next chief, the Mayor introduced Frank Cook as the acting Fire Chief. He comes to the City highly recommended after 40 years in the field as Chief of Colerain Fire.
 - Chief Cook addressed the meeting stating he was honored to be selected and is looking forward to getting started.
- Invitation to all to attend the Princeton Homecoming Parade which will be on Chester Road from Sharon Road to the Stadium.
- Thanked Lt. Mark Preuss for accepting the Acting Police Chief role as the City goes through the process of selecting the next chief.
 - Councilmember Tankersley made the following comments regarding the hiring of Acting Fire Chief Cook and the retirement of Chief Mackey:
 - From last Friday during Chief Mackey's retirement, I received feedback from individuals who didn't want to say anything because they were somewhat worried about their job. One of the things was that Chief Mackey served for 45 years to the City and the citizens. It was great to see that the Mayor did swear him in as Fire Chief for two weeks prior to his retirement and evidently, during that 2 week period, he was asked by Mr. Lukas and Mr. Powers if he was interested in staying on until the new chief came in and help in the transition and training. Chief Mackey said he would need to look in to his options. He found out his options and responded back to Mr. Lukas regarding what those options were. The day of his retirement party he was told by Mr. Lukas that his services will no longer be needed at the end of the day, after his party. The men and women of the Fire Department were happy thinking that Chief Mackey would've been able to return to help with the transition. Evidently that didn't happen. Instead an email was sent out by Mr. Lukas to all the Elected and to all fire personnel stating that there would be a new interim chief starting next week. I know that we've talked about trying to raise moral in our departments. From what I was told, the way John was treated, being told the day of his retirement ceremony, that totally shot down the moral. One

member on Council made a comment to me, “well we were kept under the mushroom again”. We have said many times in meetings how the employees feel about the administration and Council, because the employees think that council was aware of what took place. I want to make it perfectly clear that Council found out via an email from Mr. Lukas. The way everything was done was unprofessional toward Chief Mackey and the Fire Department. A 45 year dedicated employee to his job and to his employees and I will say if this option could’ve came in front of council I believe everybody would’ve voted yes to let Chief Mackey hang on for the 2 more months during the transition. Then look at having Mr. Cook come in down the road. But I personally want to wish Chief Mackey the best on his retirement. Chief Cook, I commend you and have heard stellar things about you and I hope you are able to help the men and women of the fire department out during your assignment.

- Mayor Hardman responded with the following comments:
 - First of all, it’s not a Council decision it’s a Mayor’s decision and I made that decision. I can get into the details about what Chief Mackey wanted to come back, in order to do that, that was not something we wanted to do from a budget standpoint. More importantly, this department needs new eyes. It needs an experienced leader in the fire services to be in there, to take a look at some of the issues that have been going on in that department for the last two years. There are a multitude of issues that go beyond just moral that exist within the fire department. I’m extremely excited about the opportunity that we have in this transition to do that. I’m very disappointed that this is the first I’ve heard from you on this particular issue. It would’ve been nice to have this conversation other than sitting here so I could share with you some of the information and the reasons that went into the decision making process that occurred. Chief Mackey retired as of Friday. He was never told he was going to be hired on. He was never promised to be hired beyond that. We looked into options, we talked about what options might be available to do that for him, to make sure we weren’t having an impact on his retirement and what is due to him over 45 years’ worth of service to Sharonville. We appropriately both honored him by swearing him in as our Fire Chief, which we didn’t have to, but I was very honored and pleased to do it at this last council meeting, to swear him in as our fire chief for that 45 years’ worth of service he did for this City, and was very honored to be at his recognition last Friday for the years of service that he has had for this City because he has done great work for this City. I am very much looking forward to this opportunity to be able to work with this fire department, work with our fire department, to be the strong and capable department that I know that they are and to get past some of these issues that have existed within that department for way too long. And I think this is the right way to do it and that’s why I decided to do it, as Mayor of this City.

◆ **SAFETY SERVICE DIRECTOR – JIM LUKAS**

- Explanation of Legislation:
 - 2021-55 authorizes the City to make an addendum to the current contract with SwimSafe Pool Management extending the contract out to 2022 and approving the fee schedule.
 - 2021-48-E authorizes the City to enter into a collective bargaining agreement with the FOP, representing Sharonville Patrol Officers, to cover through 2022. The fact-finder’s report was accepted by Council on July 20, 2021. Noah Powers was present at the meeting to review the ordinance and answer any questions. No questions were raised.

- 2021-49-E authorizes the City to enter into a collective bargaining agreement with the FOP, representing Sharonville Police Sergeants, to cover through 2022. The fact-finder's report was accepted by Council on July 20, 2021. Noah Powers was present at the meeting to review the ordinance and answer any questions. No questions were raised.
- 2021-R-14-E authorizes the City to submit an application to the Ohio Public Works Commission for grant funds for the repair of the Cornell Road culvert. Public Works Director Steve Busam was present at the meeting to review the resolution and answer any questions. This project has been coming since 2008. CT Consultants has been monitoring the movement of the culvert for several years and while it is not moving fast, it is still moving and will have to be addressed in the future. The City has applied for this funding in the past with little success; therefore the scope of the project was altered in order for it to score better in the application process.
 - In response to President Hoppe's questions, Mr. Busam stated the culvert is by Swing Road, on Cornell.
- Executive Session requested under ORC 121.22(G)(1) for employment purposes.

◆ **PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL – VICKI HOPPE**

- Introduced Mary Cleveland who asked to speak at the meeting. Mary Cleveland is a Princeton Board of Education Member and thanked council for the continued support of the students; ecstatic to co-sponsor the 4th of July fireworks. Invited all listeners to come to the Homecoming Parade on October 6th at 6pm and also to attend the Homecoming Football Game on October 8th at 7pm. The dedication of the Princeton mural will be on October 9th at 11am and then in the evening will be the Annual Athletic Hall of Fame Dinner. So happy to have the kids back in the classroom. Be on the lookout for games, concerts and all other programs that are back this year. For more information please visit www.princeton.schools.net. Lastly, she announced she is running again for Princeton School Board where she proudly represents Sharonville, and is the only member from Sharonville. Asked for a vote on November 2nd. Cleveland still rocks! More information can be found at www.marycleveland.com. Go Vikes!

◆ **CLERK OF COUNCIL – TERI BUCHEIT**

- No report.

◆ **AUDITOR – ED CUNNINGHAM**

- The Auditor's report for the month of August was submitted to Council.
- With 67% of the year completed, 59.4% of the General Fund budget has been spent and 57.8% of the Fire Fund budget has been spent.

◆ **TREASURER – KURT IREY**

- The Treasurer's report for the month of August was submitted to Council.
- The Tax report for the month of August was submitted to Council and is attached to the Minutes.
- Tax collections are up 13.22% year to date; lodging tax is up 5.34% year to date which is the first positive number for the lodging tax this year.

◆ **LAW DIRECTOR – MARK PIEPMEIER**

- No report.

RESIDENTS DESIRING TO BE HEARD BEFORE COUNCIL

- ◆ Mike from Motel 6 on Chester Road commented on the new legislation creating nuisance laws and asked how he can control what happens in the rooms rented. He also asked if people vote on this.
 - President Hoppe advised him to get in contact with Sharonville's Hotel Liaison Mike Mathis, stationed at the police department. He was hired to help all of the hotels in Sharonville. President Hoppe also advised him that this ordinance is just on the Agenda for the first reading.
 - Mr. Lukas advised that all hotels were given a complete packet with Mr. Mathis's business card attached and were advised to call him regarding this proposed new ordinance.
- ◆ Another hotel owner asked if they could discuss changing this with Mr. Mathis and told the meeting that it would've been nice to be able to give input on this considering it is affecting hotel owners.
 - President Hoppe advised him to contact Mr. Mathis and discuss with him any changes he would like to see to this new ordinance and if Council were to agree, they could put an addendum to the Ordinance. This is the reason why it will be read once over three different meetings, to allow time for discussions. It will be voted on October 26th.

COUNCIL COMMITTEES

◆ **COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT – ROB TANKERSLEY**

- No report.

◆ **COMMUNITY SERVICES – CHARLES LIPPERT**

- The next Community Development Committee Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, October 06, 2021 at 4:00 p.m. in the Administration Conference Room.

◆ **BUDGET & FINANCE – DAVE KOCH**

- The Budget & Finance Committee met and discussed the finances for the Convention Center Expansion Project.

◆ **PROJECT OVERSIGHT – DAVE KOCH**

- No report.

◆ **HONORED CITIZENS – SUE KNIGHT**

- Honored the Public Works Department and the representation at the Annual Snow Plow Rodeo. Sharonville had 3 of the 4 top drivers: 1st Place was Matt Baum, 3rd Place was Joe Lisi, and 4th Place was John Schroder. These drivers will represent Sharonville in the 2021 Public Works Officials of Southwest Ohio Snow Plow Rodeo on October 13th. The City should feel quite at ease this winter knowing the streets are in good hands.
- At last meeting, when honoring all the departments who covered for Sharonville during Chief Vanover's funeral, Springdale Police Chief Tom Wells was left from that list. Mrs. Knight sincerely apologized for the error. Chief Wells was Sharonville's Acting Police Chief while the department attended the funeral services.

◆ **LAW & PUBLIC SAFETY – PAUL SCHMIDT**

- The next Law & Public Safety Committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, October 05, 2021 at 4:00 p.m. in the Administration Conference Room.

RULE SUSPENSION MOTIONS

- ◆ The motion by Mr. Lippert for the suspension of the regular rules of Council to allow for a first and only reading on Ordinance 2021-48-E, 2021-49-E and Resolution 2021-R-14-E was seconded by Mr. Lovitt. Voice Vote on passage. Motion approved unanimously.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- ◆ **ORDINANCE 2021 - 55**, Authorizing Safety/Service Director to Enter Into an Addendum to the Current Contract with SwimSafe Pool Management for Aquatic Operations Extending the Contract for One Year for the Calendar Year 2022 and Approving a Fee Schedule for that Year. Clerk of Council gave the third reading of the ordinance. The motion for passage by Mr. Tankersley was seconded by Mrs. Knight. There being no discussion, the Clerk proceeded with a Roll Call Vote on passage. Motion approved unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

- ◆ **ORDINANCE 2021 – 48 – E**, Authorizing the Safety Service Director to Enter into a Contract, Which the Council of Sharonville Hereby Approves, Approving the Collective Bargaining Agreement with Fraternal Order of Police, Representing Sharonville Patrol Officers, for Calendar Years Beginning 2020 Through Calendar Year 2022. Clerk of Council gave the first and only reading of the ordinance. The motion for passage by Mr. Wilson was seconded by Mr. Lippert. There being no discussion, the Clerk proceeded with a Roll Call Vote on passage. Motion approved unanimously.
- ◆ **ORDINANCE 2021 – 49 – E**, Authorizing the Safety Service Director to Enter into a Contract, Which the Council of Sharonville Hereby Approves, Approving the Collective Bargaining Agreement with Fraternal Order of Police, Representing Sharonville Police Sergeants, for Calendar Years Beginning 2020 Through Calendar Year 2022 Clerk of Council gave the first and only reading of the ordinance. The motion for passage by Mr. Tankersley was seconded by Mrs. Knight. There being no discussion, the Clerk proceeded with a Roll Call Vote on passage. Motion approved unanimously.
- ◆ **ORDINANCE 2021 – 59**, Creating New Health, Safety, and Sanitation Code Chapter 521.17 Chronic Nuisance Property or Premise. Clerk of Council gave the first reading of the ordinance.
- ◆ **RESOLUTION 2021 – R – 14 – E**, Resolution to Appoint a Chief Executive Officer, a Chief Financial Officer, and Project Manager; to Submit a State Capital Improvement Program Application to the State District Public Works Integrating Committee and Authorizing the Execution of an Agreement with the Ohio Public Works Commission for the Cornell Road Culvert Repair Project. The Clerk of Council gave the first and only reading of the resolution. The motion for passage by Mrs. Knight was seconded by Mr. Lovitt. There being no discussion, the Clerk proceeded with a Roll Call Vote on passage. Motion approved unanimously.

RESIDENTS DESIRING TO BE HEARD BEFORE COUNCIL

- ◆ Mr. Patel, hotel owner in Sharonville, concerned with the violations listed in the new ordinance and how they can control what occurs in their room and is unfair.
 - President Hoppe advised him to contact Mr. Mathis to discuss. There is time for voices to be heard.
 - Councilmember Wilson noted that Mr. Mathis is a great listener and will listen to what you want.

- Mayor Hardman commented that the City and hotels all want the same thing, which is flourishing businesses and renters that follow the law. Being at the meeting shows you want to be good partners with the City and the reason Mr. Mathis was hired was to work with the hotels in getting rid of the unwanted tenants and problems and together be proactive in that common goal.
- ◆ Hotel owner stated he has no control over the drug overdoses that occur in the rooms. How can a hotel owner control that?
 - President Hoppe again advised him to contact Mr. Mathis.
 - Acting Chief Preuss spoke and advised that Mr. Mathis studied all of the calls in Sharonville and there were maybe three hotels that were close to reaching the definition of nuisance. There has to be a lot of calls to reach that level, plus there are safeguards purposely placed in this law as to not blame the hotel for certain things and will not count against the hotel. This ordinance is not just geared towards hotels, it can be a bar, a home, a business, and it is not just specifically hotels. Urged the owners to reach out to Mr. Mathis.

OTHER MATTERS TO BE HEARD BEFORE COUNCIL

- ◆ Wear pink shirts in October and blue shirts in November.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

- ◆ At 8:01 p.m. the motion by Mr. Schmidt to move to go into Executive Session pursuant to section 121.22(G)(1) of the Ohio Revised Code, to discuss employment was seconded by Mr. Lovitt. Roll Call Vote to move into Executive Session. Motion approved unanimously. At 8:13 p.m. the motion by Mr. Tankersley to come out of Executive Session was seconded by Mr. Lippert. Roll Call Vote to come out of Executive Session. Motion approved unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

- ◆ The motion by Mr. Lippert to adjourn the meeting was seconded by Mrs. Knight. President of Council Vicki Hoppe adjourned the meeting at 8:14 p.m.

ATTEST

Teresa Bucheit, Clerk of Council Date

Vicki Hoppe, President of Council Date

AUDITOR & TREASURER'S REPORT
August 31, 2021
Tax Report

Income Tax										
MONTH-TO-DATE	<u>2017</u>		<u>2018</u>		<u>2019</u>		<u>2020</u>		<u>2021</u>	
AUGUST										
BUSINESS PROFITS	\$ 118,886.51	10.09%	\$ 130,884.36	11.72%	\$ 146,222.21	30.86%	\$ 191,348.40	2.96%	\$ 197,009.19	
INDIVIDUAL	\$ 76,519.71	-38.44%	\$ 47,107.01	46.72%	\$ 69,113.38	-5.55%	\$ 65,279.77	24.90%	\$ 81,532.40	
WITHHOLDING	\$ 1,567,795.21	4.13%	\$ 1,632,585.58	7.03%	\$ 1,747,310.61	17.20%	\$ 2,047,856.10	-3.07%	\$ 1,985,081.23	
INTEREST & PENALTY	\$ 16,769.26	-29.18%	\$ 11,876.22	64.06%	\$ 19,483.84	-34.31%	\$ 12,799.32	97.03%	\$ 25,218.52	
TOTAL	\$ 1,779,970.69	2.39%	\$ 1,822,453.17	8.76%	\$ 1,982,130.04	16.91%	\$ 2,317,283.59	-1.23%	\$ 2,288,841.34	
	\$ 18,559,029.16		\$ 18,750,043.42		\$ 19,460,723.19		\$ 18,810,083.76		\$ 21,302,554.17	
YEAR-TO-DATE	<u>2017</u>		<u>2018</u>		<u>2019</u>		<u>2020</u>		<u>2021</u>	
BUSINESS PROFITS	\$ 2,711,079.40	11.85%	\$ 3,032,363.80	-11.43%	\$ 2,685,844.31	-15.12%	\$ 2,279,622.32	102.91%	\$ 4,625,564.11	
INDIVIDUAL	\$ 1,033,238.52	-7.91%	\$ 951,531.48	15.13%	\$ 1,095,539.11	-4.37%	\$ 1,047,683.08	5.18%	\$ 1,101,929.45	
WITHHOLDING	\$ 14,710,080.63	-0.38%	\$ 14,654,557.40	5.78%	\$ 15,501,391.61	-1.02%	\$ 15,342,733.40	0.24%	\$ 15,380,192.58	
INTEREST & PENALTY	\$ 104,630.61	6.65%	\$ 111,590.74	59.46%	\$ 177,948.16	-18.63%	\$ 144,791.57	34.59%	\$ 194,868.03	
TOTAL RECEIPTS	\$ 18,559,029.16	1.03%	\$ 18,750,043.42	3.79%	\$ 19,460,723.19	-3.32%	\$ 18,814,830.37	13.22%	\$ 21,302,554.17	

Note: The income tax amounts above are from the tax system and may differ during the year from other finance reports due to timing differences. The tax system recognizes revenue as documentation is available. While the receipts are posted to the finance system based on the month deposits posted on the bank statement. Efforts are made at year end for annual receipts to balance.

Lodging Tax			
	<u>2020</u>		<u>2021</u>
Lodging Tax YTD	532,067.03	5.34%	560,465.95