

## **Minutes of January 8, 2009 Council Meeting**

The Martins Ferry City Council met in regular session on Thursday January 8, 2009 at 6:00 PM in the City Council Chambers. The meeting was called to order by Council President, Bill Deaton, with the Pledge of Allegiance and was followed by a prayer by the Clerk.

Answering roll call were William Weekley, First Ward, Bruce Shrodes, Second Ward, Russell Armstrong, Third Ward, Anthony Sarratore, Fourth Ward, Robert Hunker, Paul Riethmiller, and Bill Suto, Council at Large.

**Reading of Minutes:** Approved as Received.

### **Reports of Officers of the City:**

#### **Mayor:**

Mayor Wallace explained that a decision would need to be made concerning the ozonators at the water plant. He suggested that one option would be to take the #1 ozonator off-line, remove the vessel, put the vessel on the #2 ozonator and use the #1 for spare parts. Mayor Wallace also thanked United Dairy for loaning the City an employee to weld the vessels at the water plant.

A train jumped the tracks at Nickels Bakery on the spur line. Both lanes of Route 7 had to be shut down. Norfolk Southern and ODOT were on the scene for the clean-up. The Mayor thanked Mr. Davies, Mrs. Mussard, the Police Dept., Fire Dept. EMS, and the City Employees for their work in re-routing the traffic through town. In the near future, a plan will be developed to re-route traffic in a faster manner.

**Service Director:** No Report.

**Department of Development:** Mr. Stein had no report. He did want to remind Council that the two resolutions being read would need quick consideration.

**Auditor:** No Report.

**Code Administrator:** No Report.

**Police Chief:** No Report. Councilman Armstrong commended the Police Department on their quick response to a call on New Year's Eve.

**Fire Chief #1:** No Report.

**Fire Chief #2:** No Report.

### **Reports of Committees of Council:**

**Finance/ Audit:** No Report

**Street:** No Report

**Ordinance:** Councilman Riethmiller thanked Mr. Stein for his hard work and said that the two resolutions for the meeting needed to be passed as soon as possible.

**Sewer/Sidewalk:** No Report

**Safety:** No Report

**Service:** Councilman Suto said the water plant would be the focus of the next service meeting.

**Citizens to be Heard:**

Richard Hord of 915 Virginia Street asked about the former Ernie's Auto Part building. Mr. Hord wanted to know if there were plans to tear it down. Mayor Wallace said the owners of the property had planned to rebuild. Those plans were abandoned and the City was working on getting it torn down. Mr. Hord then asked about the Ohio Job Stimulus Plan. He asked if there were plans to try an expedite receiving the money. Mr. Stein said that he had contacted the Ohio Public Works and was waiting to hear back.

**Ordinances and Resolutions:**

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH VAUGHN, COAST, AND VAUGHN, INC. AS ENGINEERING CONSULTANTS FOR THE WATER TREATMENT PLANT AND WELL-FIELD PROJECT FOR THE CITY OF MARTINS FERRY, PURSUANT TO SECTION 735.051 OF THE OHIO REVISED CODE, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY** received a first reading. Mr. Riethmiller made a motion to suspend the rules. Mr. Hunker seconded the motion. A roll call vote was heard with Messrs. Weekley, Shrodes, Armstrong, Sarratore, Hunker, Riethmiller, and Suto voting yea and the rules were suspended. A motion was made by Mr. Suto to pass the ordinance as read. Mr. Armstrong seconded the motion. A roll call vote was heard with Messrs. Weekley, Shrodes, Armstrtong, Sarratore, Hunker, Riethmiller, and Suto voting yea and the ordinance was declared passed.

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH OZONIA FOR THE PURCHASE, STARTUP, AND TRAINING FOR TWO NEW OZONATORS IN THE WATER DEPARTMENT, PURSUANT TO SECTION 735.051 OF THE OHIO REVISED CODE, AND DECLARING AND EMERGENCY** received a first reading. Mr. Shrodes made a motion to suspend the rules. Mr. Sarratore seconded the motion. A roll call vote was heard with Messrs. Weekley, Shrodes, Armstrong, Sarratore, Hunker, Riethmiller, and Suto voting yea and the rules were suspended. A motion was made by Mr. Suto to pass the ordinance as read. Mr. Riethmiller seconded the motion. A roll call vote was heard

with Messrs. Weekley, Shrodes, Armstrong, Sarratore, Hunker, Riethmiller, and Suto voting yea and the ordinance was declared passed.

**Miscellaneous Business:**

Mr. Riethmiller made a motion to authorize the administration to put the High School and South School properties up for sale. Mr. Suto seconded the motion. After an affirmative voice vote was heard, the motion was declared passed.

Mayor Wallace asked for an ordinance to allow him to advertise for bids and enter into contract for two dump trucks.

Mr. Hunker made a motion to accept the reports of Supervisors and Management. The motion was seconded by Mr. Suto and after hearing an affirmative voice vote, the motion was declared passed.

Mr. Hunker motioned that the meeting adjourn. The motion was seconded by Mr. Armstrong and after hearing an affirmative voice vote the meeting was adjourned with a salute to the flag.

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Lee Ann Cleary, Clerk of Council

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William Deaton, President of Council

## **Minutes of January 22, 2009 Council Meeting**

The Martins Ferry City Council met in regular session on Thursday January 22, 2009 at 6:00 PM in the City Council Chambers. The meeting was called to order by Council President, Bill Deaton, with the Pledge of Allegiance and was followed by a prayer by the Clerk.

Answering roll call were William Weekley, First Ward, Bruce Shrodes, Second Ward, Russell Armstrong, Third Ward, Anthony Sarratore, Fourth Ward, Robert Hunker, Paul Riethmiller, and Bill Suto, Council at Large.

**Reading of Minutes:** A correction was made under Miscellaneous Business. Councilman Armstrong said that the police call he referred to took place on December 27, not New Year's Eve.

### **Reports of Officers of the City:**

#### **Mayor:**

Mayor Wallace asked that Council revise the Ordinance regarding part-time workers. Mayor Wallace asked that it be revised to state that part-time workers may work 30 hours per week. This is a change from the 19 hours stated in the Ordinance. Mayor Wallace said that Dan Fry should be consulted to make sure of how it is stated in the AFSCME contract.

Two parties are interested in looking at the south School property for purchase. The building will be appraised in the next two weeks.

A regular maintenance and cleaning schedule has been implemented at the water Plant. The building has also been painted.

The new packer has arrived and is in service. The next packer should arrive in two months.

The dump truck bids have been received. Robinson Ford \$46,899 each, two for \$93,798. Doan Ford \$47,519 each, two for \$95,038. Whiteside Chevrolet \$47,923 each, two for \$95,846.

Mayor Wallace asked for an Executive session to discuss personnel, litigation, and sale of property.

Councilman Riethmiller asked if the three bids listed were the only bids received. Mayor Wallace said yes, they were the only ones received.

**Service Director:** No Report

#### **Development Department:**

Mr. Stein said that Richard Conaway and his wife would like to purchase property, owned by the City, located on 4<sup>th</sup> Street (part of the railroad property). Legislation has been distributed, Mr. Stein asked that it receive a first reading. The price of the property, at \$1 a square foot, \$1,625.

Wilson Blacktop would like to purchase the lot next to the High School. Council would need to set the price. At the current \$1 per square foot, the lot would cost approximately \$11,251. Councilman Riethmiller asked if that property is deeded separately from the High School property. Mr. Stein said more research would need to be done.

Councilman Armstrong commented that that piece of property butts against another. Mr. Stein said that if they are also interested in the property, both parties would need to place bids. A letter would be needed to show that they are not interested in purchasing the property.

Mr. Davies, Mr. Suto, and Mr. Stein updated Council on the plans for the water plant concerning the ozonators. A report was distributed, which will be made a part of these minutes. Mr. Stein said the City is looking at a closed loop system with generators. The total cost would be approx. \$456,000. If the City purchased only the generators the cost would be \$396,000. Mr. Suto said it is important to have the closed loop system because the initial damage to the generators we have now was done because of the chlorinated water we use. The rate of chloride in our well water is higher than what the system could handle. If we don't install a closed loop system, we will have the same problem in ten years that we have now. Councilman Hunker asked about the lifespan of the closed loop system. Councilman Suto said it has a 20 year life span. The dielectrics are guaranteed for 5 years.

Councilman Riethmiller asked if the price included two generators and two vessels. Mr. Davies said that the new vessels are smaller than the current vessels.

Mr. Stein said that delivery takes 12-14 weeks from the receipt of the approved drawings. Mr. Stein said that a decision needed to be made in the next week or so. Mr. Stein said that they were hopeful that the City could continue to use the old drying units. If not, the new dryer would cost an additional \$60,000 (approx.). Councilman Suto said that there is nothing wrong with our dryers. Mr. Stein said that a 5 year guarantee was given in writing. Mr. Davies said that the City would need to install the new unit. Councilman Riethmiller said that he believed the company said they would provide an employee to be there during installation. Mr. Stein said their employee will be on site to train our people.

Councilman Suto said that the weak link in our system is the dielectrics. Suto said that the fuse is relatively cheap. Dielectrics cost \$165. Our current dielectrics are much more fragile than the ones used in our system.

A tour of the Moundsville Treatment Plant will take place Tuesday. Everyone wanting to attend should be at the City Building at 8:00. Tour begins at 9:00.

**Auditor:** No Report.

**Fire Chief 1:** The Fire Department/EMS will be doing research on the property they want to purchase. An environmental study needs to be done. More info. will be given at a later date.

**Fire Chief 2:** No Report

### **Reports of Committees of Council:**

**Finance/ Audit:** A Finance Mtg. will be held on January 28 at 6:00 PM.

**Street:** No Report

**Ordinance:** Councilman Riethmiller asked Council to disregard the ordinance for the dump trucks. The Ordinance had incorrect wording. A voice vote to proceed will be taken later in the meeting to allow Administration to proceed.

**Sewer/Sidewalk:** No Report

**Safety:** Councilman Sarratore brought up the potholes on 4<sup>th</sup> Street by the hospital. Mr. Davies said that they will try to cold patch it on Friday.

**Service:** Councilman Suto said they would discuss the ozonators at the next meeting.

**Liaison to the Park Commission.** Councilman Riethmiller said that the Park Commission would be attending the next Council Meeting to discuss the recreation dept. year end report.

### **Citizens to be Heard:**

Richard Hord of 915 Virginia Street said that at the last Finance Meeting the cost to heat the south School property was \$3000. Mr. Hord wondered how much it costs to heat the current City Building. Ms. Randall said that without advance notice, she does not have that figure. Mr. Hord asked how the South School property was being marketed. Mayor Wallace said the property will be appraised and then it would probably go up for bid.

John Scott of 437 North 9<sup>th</sup> Street mentioned that he heard the City was considering using the Recreation Center for the City Building. He wanted to know where kids would go to play without the Rec. Center. President Deaton said it was never discussed by Council. Councilman Shrodes said that everything is on the table for discussion, no decisions have been made. Councilman Riethmiller said that the Park District has a right to show their hard work. Budget cuts could affect services provided. Mr. Scott said that he knows that they did a great job. He said that he is the president of the Civics and that they use the rec. center for basketball. Mayor Wallace said he brought up the idea. He said it was just an idea and nothing to worry about.

Ron Suto of 1300 North 7<sup>th</sup> Street said that he was going through information put out in 2000 for the proposal for a City Income Tax. The third item on the list was to bring the City Building up to code. Mr. Suto asked what had been done since 2000 to bring the City Building up to code. Mayor Wallace said not much had been done. 1.2 million was the estimate given to bring the City Building up to code. The tax money goes to wages and other things. Mr. Suto said that that was the third thing on the list for reasons to have an income tax.

### **Ordinances and Resolutions:**

Mr. Suto made a motion to suspend the 72 hour notification rule so that the ordinance could receive a first reading. Mr. Riethmiller seconded the motion. After an affirmative voice vote was heard the motion was declared passed.

**AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SALE OF CITY OWNED REAL ESTATE WHICH IS NO LONGER NEEDED FOR ANY MUNICIPAL PURPOSE** was given a first reading. No action was taken and the ordinance will go on to a second reading.

Mr. Riethmiller made a motion to authorize the Service Director to enter into contract for two-one ton dump trucks. Mr. Armstrong seconded the motion. After an affirmative voice vote was heard, the motion was declared passed.

Mr. Riethmiller made a motion to accept the reports of Supervisors and Management. The motion was seconded by Mr. Suto and after hearing an affirmative voice vote, the motion was declared passed.

Councilman Shrodes asked what could be done to further inform the citizens of the three can limit for garbage pick-up. Mr. Davies said it has appeared on the water bill. It was asked if the rule was being enforced. Mr. Davies said he would take care of it. Also, cars for sale are parked on the street. There is an ordinance against this as well.

Mr. Hunker made a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss personnel, sale of property, and litigation. Mr. Armstrong seconded the motion. A roll call vote was heard with Messers. Weekley, Shrodes, Armstrong, Sarratore, Hunker, Riethmiller, and Suto voting yea and the motion was declared passed.

Mr. Hunker motioned that the meeting adjourn. The motion was seconded by Mr. Shrodes and after hearing an affirmative voice vote the meeting was adjourned with a salute to the flag.

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Lee Ann Cleary, Clerk of Council

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William Deaton, President of Council

## **Minutes of February 5, 2009 Council Meeting**

The Martins Ferry City Council met in regular session on Thursday February 5, 2009 at 6:00 PM in the City Council Chambers. The meeting was called to order by Council President, Bill Deaton, with the Pledge of Allegiance and was followed by a prayer by the Clerk.

Answering roll call were William Weekley, First Ward, Bruce Shrodes, Second Ward, Russell Armstrong, Third Ward, Anthony Sarratore, Fourth Ward, Robert Hunker, Paul Riethmiller, and Bill Suto, Council at Large.

**Reading of Minutes:** Approved as received.

**Correspondence:** No correspondence was received.

### **Reports of Officers of the City:**

#### **Mayor:**

Mayor Wallace distributed a copy of his report to Council.

Mayor Wallace said an appraisal would soon be completed on the South School property. An interested party would be looking at the property in the coming week.

The backhoe was out of service. A new engine was put in instead of buying a new backhoe. Cost of the new engine was \$8,000. This saved approx. \$67,000.

An ordinance will be read concerning purchasing salt for next year and an ordinance concerning the annexation of Ayers Road. The Mayor asked that both of these be passed tonight if possible.

Mayor Wallace asked that an Executive Session be held to discuss sale of Property, wages, Litigation, and hiring.

**Service Director:** No Report.

#### **Department of Development:**

Mr. Stein distributed a report to Council.

Tuesday February 10 City Officials will tour the Moundsville water plant. Interested parties should be at the City Building in time to depart at 8:00 AM.

#### **Auditor:**

End of the month reports have been distributed.

Ms. Randall asked that a Finance Committee Meeting be scheduled.

#### **Treasurer:**

Mrs. Davis asked that the Ordinance Committee schedule a meeting. House Bill #9 established new standards for the retention and release of public records. The committee needs to discuss how to formalize City procedure.

**Fire Chief #1:**

The Fire Department passed to vehicles to the EMS. They would now like for the EMS to pay back the Fire Dept. for the vehicles.

An ordinance is being written for a new squad truck. Cost would be approximately \$89,000.

**Reports of Committees of Council:**

**Finance/ Audit:** A Finance Mtg. will be held on Wednesday February 11 at 6:00 PM.

**Street:** No Report

**Ordinance:** An Ordinance Meeting was scheduled for Wednesday February 11 at 7:00 PM.

**Sewer/Sidewalk:** No Report

**Safety:** No Report.

**Service:** No Report

**Liaison to the Park Commission:**

Mr. Ballint of the Park Commission addressed Council concerning the pool and recreation center. Mr. Ballint distributed a report which will be made a part of these minutes. He discussed the improvements in handling the budget in the last year. The pool, concessions, and recreation center are functioning more efficiently and with less money in the budget. Mr. Ballint reminded Council that the Recreation Department is positive for the community and has seen increased programming and rentals.

**Citizens to be Heard:**

Ron Suto of 1300 North 7<sup>th</sup> Street distributed 2001 City Income Tax information. He stated that one of the reasons given for the City to collect a City Income Tax was to repair and restore the City Building. Mr. Suto asked Ms. Randall how much of the City Income Tax has been used for repairing and restoring the City Building. Ms. Randall said she would have to look up those figures. The money from the City Income Tax is put into the General Fund. Improvement to the City Building has included the furnace, air conditioning, and roof.

Richard Hord 915 Virginia Street asked what areas of the budget are being considered for cuts. Councilman Hunker said that no decisions had been made at this time since the City does not know what revenues will be. Raising water rates and adding water meters are both options. Mr. Hord asked if there were other options. Councilman Hunker said not at this time. Mr. Hord also commended Parks and Recreation and said that the youth of our city benefit from lots of options when it comes to recreation that is safe and well supervised. Mr. Hord asked if there were plans to restore the skate park.

Mayor Wallace said not at this time. A new location has not been found to house the skate park.

Don Mew of 714 Grant Ave. said that as Union President he wanted everyone to work together to keep everyone working.

#### **Ordinances and Resolutions:**

Mr. Shrodes made a motion to suspend the 72 hour notification rule so that the ordinance could receive a first reading. Mr. Suto seconded the motion. After an affirmative voice vote was heard the motion was declared passed.

**AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SALE OF CITY OWNED REAL ESTATE WHICH IS NO LONGER NEEDED FOR ANY MUNICIPAL PURPOSE** was given a second reading. No action was taken and the ordinance will go on to a third reading.

**AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ANNEXATION OF PROPERTY** was given a first reading. Mr. Riethmiller made a motion to suspend the rules. Mr. Suto seconded the motion. A roll call vote was heard with Messrs. Weekley, Shrodes, Armstrong, Sarratore, Hunker, Riethmiller, and Suto voting yea and the rules were suspended. Mr. Hunker made a motion to pass the ordinance as read. Mr. Suto seconded the motion. A roll call vote was heard with Messrs. Weekley, Shrodes, Armstrong, Sarratore, Hunker, Riethmiller, and Suto voting yea and the ordinance was passed.

**AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF SERVICE/SAFETY TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS FOR TWO (2) ONE TON DUMP TRUCKS** was given a first reading. Mr. Riethmiller made a motion to suspend the rules. Mr. Sarratore seconded the motion. A roll call vote was heard with Messrs. Weekley, Shrodes, Armstrong, Sarratore, Hunker, Riethmiller, and Suto voting yea and the rules were suspended. Mr. Shrodes made a motion to pass the ordinance as read. Mr. Hunker seconded the motion. A roll call vote was heard with Messrs. Weekley, Shrodes, Armstrong, Sarratore, Hunker, Riethmiller, and Suto voting yea and the ordinance was passed.

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE/SAFETY OF THE CITY OF MARTINS FERRY, OHIO TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR THE PURCHASE OF SODIUM CHLORIDE** was given a first reading. Mr. Suto made a motion to suspend the rules. Mr. Armstrong seconded the motion. A roll call vote was heard with Messrs. Weekley, Shrodes, Armstrong, Sarratore, Hunker, Riethmiller, and Suto voting yea and the rules were suspended. Mr. Armstrong made a motion to pass the ordinance as read. Mr. Suto seconded the motion. A roll call vote was heard with Messrs. Weekley, Shrodes, Armstrong, Sarratore, Hunker, Riethmiller, and Suto voting yea and the ordinance was passed.

#### **Miscellaneous Business:**

Mayor Wallace thanked Mr. Hord for his work on getting a commissioner's Town Hall Meeting organized for the City. The Meeting will be held on Wednesday March 4 at 6:30 PM at the Martins Ferry Public Library.

Mr. Riethmiller made a motion to authorize the transfer of funds. Mr. Suto seconded the motion. An affirmative voice vote was heard and the motion was declared passed.

Mr. Riethmiller made a motion to allow the purchase of two one ton dump trucks at a cost of \$46,899 each to be made with the funds coming out of permanent improvement and to be paid back through various departments based on billable hours. Mr. Hunker seconded the motion. An affirmative voice vote was heard and the motion was declared passed.

Mr. Armstrong said that the Income Tax Committee had been notified that the City would receive \$60,313 in addition to the regular collected income tax. Mr. Armstrong asked that a portion of the windfall funds be put into the street department. Mr. Shrodes asked that the matter be discussed at the Finance Meeting.

Mr. Stein brought up item #5 on his report concerning the application for a grant to cover the cost of the 12 inch line between Union and Aetna Streets. Mr. Sarratore made a motion to allow the development department to request a grant for a new 12 inch water line replacement between Union and Grant Streets. Mr. Riethmiller seconded the motion. An affirmative voice vote was heard and the motion was declared passed. It was discussed that this job would need to be contracted out. Estimated cost is \$320,000.

Mr. Suto made a motion to accept the reports of Supervisors and Management. The motion was seconded by Mr. Riethmiller and after hearing an affirmative voice vote, the motion was declared passed.

Mr. Hunker made a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss sale of property, wages, hiring, and litigation. Mr. Armstrong seconded the motion. A roll call vote was heard with Messrs. Weekley, Shrodes, Armstrong, Sarratore, Hunker, Riethmiller, and Suto voting yea and the motion was declared passed.

Mr. Hunker motioned that the meeting adjourn. The motion was seconded by Mr. Shrodes and after hearing an affirmative voice vote the meeting was adjourned with a salute to the flag.

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Lee Ann Cleary, Clerk of Council

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William Deaton, President of Council

## **Minutes of February 19, 2009 Council Meeting**

The Martins Ferry City Council met in regular session on Thursday February 19, 2009 at 6:00 PM in the City Council Chambers. The meeting was called to order by Council President, Bill Deaton, with the Pledge of Allegiance and was followed by a prayer by the Clerk.

Answering roll call were William Weekley, First Ward, Bruce Shrodes, Second Ward, Russell Armstrong, Third Ward, Anthony Sarratore, Fourth Ward, Robert Hunker, Paul Riethmiller, and Bill Suto, Council at Large.

**Reading of Minutes:** Approved as received.

**Correspondence:** No correspondence was received.

### **Reports of Officers of the City:**

#### **Mayor:**

Mayor Wallace reported that Lou Gentile, Assistant director of the Governor's Office of Appalachia came to the City to discuss money that the City could be receiving.

The City received \$293, 248 through Belomar Regional Council Grant Funds to demolish houses.

The Mayor asked for an Executive Session to discuss wages and compensation.

Stanley Stein explained that the information being distributed by the Mayor came in late. Resolutions need to be passed as soon as possible. A Water Treatment and Project Well Field Application is being completed by the City for a grant in the amount of \$100,000. This would be used to pay for part of the water plant project. Everything is in order and the application will be delivered by hand to Omega. The resolutions have been presented to Mr. Fry and Mr. Riethmiller.

Mr. Stein asked to enter into an agreement with Ozonia to purchase \$461,000 in equipment, including a closed loop cooling system for the ozone generator which costs \$60,000. This was not originally in the plan. Only one pump is included with the closed loop cooling system and we need a back-up pump. That would cost an additional \$5,000. Total cost is \$461,000. Mr. Stein asked that Council give the Mayor permission to sign the agreement to start the purchase of the generators. Nothing will be signed and approved until the City receives a notice from Ohio Public Works that approves the City proceeding with the project under the emergency measure that was passed in January. It takes 4-6 weeks for the plans to be finalized and 12-14 weeks for the ozone generators to be constructed. This would the generators could be ready in June or July for installation. Also, \$24,000 had been appropriated for the dismantling and installation of the ozone generators, now the City is being told it will cost around \$40,000. Mr. Stein said the City is very fortunate to be able to apply for the \$100,000 grant. Mr. Stein felt that the City would need to use \$320,000 from permanent improvement for the project. The dryers need to be replaced for an estimated cost of \$40,000. Our current dryers are rusting. Administration forgot to bring a resolution for Council to allow administration to receive bids for the Sunset Heights PRV Vault Project. That resolution needs to be passed to

allow Administration to receive bids. A letter was distributed from the City's engineer regarding the issue. Bids came in lower than expected. A bid from Stanley Miller Construction Company came in at \$40,896. They have been approved from the engineer. Once the resolution is approved, a resolution needs to be passed to allow the mayor to enter into an agreement with Stanley Miller Construction Company. Mr. Deaton asked Mr. Fry if it was alright to pass both resolutions Mr. Fry said it was not a problem. The City received a request from Congressman Wilson's Office that if the City had a project in mind that information needed to be sent to him. Notice was also received from Senator Voinovich's Office. The water line between Zane and Union Streets is in bad shape. It is a 12" line and has had numerous breaks. The City would like Council's permission to submit an application to Congressman Wilson. Estimated cost for the project is \$326,000. The City is asking for the full amount. The City has no matching money for the project. The application will be sent to the state as well.

A joint water project involving the villages of Bridgeport and Yorkville and the City of Martins Ferry has been proposed. A water line would connect with Bridgeport and with Yorkville. Should any plants go down, water could be provided. This would be an emergency hook-up. Yorkville and Bridgeport have both passed resolutions supporting an application to Congressman Wilson and the state of Ohio for funding. The amount would be \$1,607,000. The City is not asking for matching money.

A resolution has been presented for a third reading to allow Mr. and Mrs. Conaway to purchase the ground requested. A check has been presented. Also, Mark Wilson inquired about lot #1086 next to the old high school property for \$11,000. Mr. Stein needs Council's direction on that sale of land. Mr. Tierany has been contacted to see if he is interested in the property. Mr. Stein asked him to submit a letter stating that he is not interested in purchasing that lot. No action will be taken until the letter is received. Mr. Shrodes asked where the \$11,000 came from. Mayor Wallace said that is based on the City's \$1/Sq. Ft. for railroad property. It has not been appraised.

**Service Director:** No report.

**Development Director:** No report.

**Auditor:** No report.

**Police Chief:** No report.

**Fire Chief #1:** Ordinance will be presented for a new squad truck.

**Fire Chief #2:** No report.

#### **Committees of Council:**

**Finance/ Audit:** A Finance Meeting will be held on March 11 at 6:00 PM.

**Street:** No report.

**Ordinance:** A meeting was held last week. Mrs. Davis distributed a report. The City needs to update the Public Record Policy as soon as possible. A meeting will be held Tuesday February 24 at 6:00.

**Sewer/ Sidewalk:** No report.

**Safety:** No report.

**Service:** No report.

**Citizens to be heard:**

Ron Suto of 1300 North 7<sup>th</sup> Street said that at the Feb. 5<sup>th</sup> meeting he brought up the City Income Tax and reminded Council that one of the reasons citizens were encouraged to pass the income tax was so the City Building could be brought up to code. Mr. Suto asked Ms. Randall if she had looked up the figures on how much has been spent. Ms. Randall said she did not have those figures. Ms. Randall said that the ordinance for the income tax did not specifically state what the money would be used for. The Mayor said that budgets have decreased every year. Hard to make upgrades when other things need done. The City Building was not a high priority.

Richard Hord of 915 Virginia Street asked about the Neighborhood Stabilization Plan. Mr. Hord had a copy of an ordinance passed by the County Commissioners designating a section of Martins Ferry for the project. Mayor Wallace was not aware of the ordinance. Mr. Hord asked what kind of projects the money would be used for. Mayor Wallace said that would be used to purchase property to be torn down and then the demolition of the property. Mr. Hord asked if South School would still be used as a polling place for the spring primaries. Mayor Wallace said yes, it would. Mr. Hord also asked about the street sweeper and when it would be ready in the spring. Mayor Wallace said it is already running.

**Ordinances and Resolutions**

Mr. Hunker made a motion to suspend the 72 hour notification rule. Mr. Shrodes seconded the motion. After an affirmative voice vote was heard the motion was declared passed.

**AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SALE OF CITY OWNED REAL ESTATE WHICH IS NO LONGER NEEDED FOR ANY MUNICIPAL PURPOSE** was given a third reading. Mr. Armstrong made a motion to pass the ordinance as read. Mr. Hunker seconded the motion. A roll call vote was heard with Messrs. Weekley, Shrodes, Armstrong, Sarratore, Hunker, Riethmiller, and Suto voting yea and the ordinance was passed as read.

**AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE/SAFETY TO PURCHASE A NEW 2009 MCCOY MILLER AMBULANCE THROUGH STATE TERM SCHEDULED PURCHASING** was given a first reading. Mr. Hunker made a motion to suspend the rules. Mr. Riethmiller seconded the motion. A roll call vote was heard with Messrs. Weekley, Shrodes, Armstrong, Sarratore, Hunker, Riethmiller, and Suto voting yea and the rules were suspended. Mr. Suto made a motion to pass the ordinance as read. Mr. Armstrong seconded the motion. A roll call vote was heard with Messrs. Weekley, Shrodes, Armstrong, Sarratore, Hunker, Riethmiller, and Suto voting yea and the ordinance was passed as read.

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO PREPARE AND SUBMIT AN APPLICATION FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE UNDER THE STATE OF OHIO GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF APPALACHIA FOR THE IMPROVEMENTS**

**NEEDED AT THE WATER TREATMENT PLANT AND CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW WATER WELL IN THE CITY'S WELLFIELD** was given a first reading. Mr. Hunker made a motion to suspend the rules. Mr. Sarratore seconded the motion. A roll call vote was heard with Messrs. Weekley, Shrodes, Armstrong, Sarratore, Hunker, Riethmiller, and Suto voting yea and the rules were suspended. Mr. Suto made a motion to pass the ordinance as read. Mr. Sarratore seconded the motion. A roll call vote was heard with Messrs. Weekley, Shrodes, Armstrong, Sarratore, Hunker, Riethmiller, and Suto voting yea and the ordinance was passed as read.

**AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE/SAFETY TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS AND ENTER INTO A CONTRACT FOR THE SUNSET HEIGHTS PRV VAULT PROJECT** was given a first reading. Mr. Hunker made a motion to suspend the rules. Mr. Shrodes seconded the motion. A roll call vote was heard with Messrs. Weekley, Shrodes, Armstrong, Sarratore, Hunker, Riethmiller, and Suto voting yea and the rules were suspended. Mr. Riethmiller made a motion to pass the ordinance as read. Mr. Armstrong seconded the motion. A roll call vote was heard with Messrs. Weekley, Shrodes, Armstrong, Sarratore, Hunker, Riethmiller, and Suto voting yea and the ordinance was passed as read.

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH STANLEY MILLER CONSTRUCTION COMPANY FOR THE SUNSET HEIGHTS PRV VAULT PROJECT THAT WILL PROVIDE REASONABLE WATER PRESSURE FOR THE RESIDENTS RESIDING IN THE EFFECTED AREAS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY** was given a first reading. Mr. Hunker made a motion to suspend the rules. Mr. Suto seconded the motion. A roll call vote was heard with Messrs. Weekley, Shrodes, Armstrong, Sarratore, Hunker, Riethmiller, and Suto voting yea and the rules were suspended. Mr. Suto made a motion to pass the ordinance as read. Mr. Armstrong seconded the motion. A roll call vote was heard with Messrs. Weekley, Shrodes, Armstrong, Sarratore, Hunker, Riethmiller, and Suto voting yea and the ordinance was passed as read.

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO PREPARE AND SUBMIT AN APPLICATION TO PARTICIPATE IN AN APPROPRIATION REQUEST TO CONGRESSMAN CHARLIE WILSON AND SENATOR GEORGE VOINOVICH FOR A GRANT TO REPLACE THE WATER LINE ON ZANE HIGHWAY FROM UNION TO AETNA STREET** was given a first reading. Mr. Sarratore made a motion to suspend the rules. Mr. Hunker seconded the motion. A roll call vote was heard with Messrs. Weekley, Shrodes, Armstrong, Sarratore, Hunker, Riethmiller, and Suto voting yea and the rules were suspended. Mr. Sarratore made a motion to pass the ordinance as read. Mr. Suto seconded the motion. A roll call vote was heard with Messrs. Weekley, Shrodes, Armstrong, Sarratore, Hunker, Riethmiller, and Suto voting yea and the ordinance was passed as read.

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO PREPARE AND SUBMIT AN APPLICATION TO PARTICIPATE IN AN APPROPRIATION REQUEST TO CONGRESSMAN CHARLIE WILSON FOR A GRANT TO CONSTRUCT**

**AND EMERGENCY WATER LINE CONNECTION FOR THE CITY OF MARTINS FERRY AND THE VILLAGES OF BRIDGEPORT AND YORKVILLE**

was given a first reading. Mr. Sarratore made a motion to suspend the rules. Mr. Shrodes seconded the motion. A roll call vote was heard with Messrs. Weekley, Shrodes, Armstrong, Sarratore, Hunker, Riethmiller, and Suto voting yea and the rules were suspended. Mr. Sarratore made a motion to pass the ordinance as read. Mr. Hunker seconded the motion. A roll call vote was heard with Messrs. Weekley, Shrodes, Armstrong, Sarratore, Hunker, Riethmiller, and Suto voting yea and the ordinance was passed as read.

**Miscellaneous Business:**

Mr. Riethmiller asked about the \$11,000 offered for the piece of land next to the old high school property. Mr. Riethmiller wanted to know why the railroad property figures were used. Mr. Riethmiller said that the piece of land is prime property. Mayor Wallace said that the property is around a quarter of an acre. Mr. Hunker said that the property had not been appraised and asked if the other properties in the City that were to be appraised had been completed. Mayor Wallace said they had not been appraised and the lot could be appraised at the same time. Mr. Armstrong said that he felt \$11,000 was fair and that we are not in the real estate business. Mr. Riethmiller said he agreed, but that the value of the property is in its location. The piece of property in discussion does not need to be cleared and is ready to use, unlike railroad property. Mr. Riethmiller said it should be appraised as well as the South School and High School Property. Mr. Hunker said we can't act because the letter had not been received from Mr. Tierany.

Mr. Riethmiller made a motion to allow the Mayor to enter into an agreement with Ozonia North America on proposal PO9-030G. Mr. Sarratore seconded the motion. The motion was declared passed after an affirmative voice vote was heard.

Mr. Suto thanked Chief Carpenter and the Police Department for stopping out of town drivers running stop signs in the 4<sup>th</sup> ward.

Mr. Shrodes asked about the continued problem of garbage in alleys. Residents are not complying to the three can limit. Five letters were issued by Mrs. Suto. Mayor Wallace suggested calling them into Mayor's Court. Mr. Hunker asked if the sanitation department could report problems. Mr. Davies said that they do.

Mr. Suto said that the Street Department did a great job clearing weeds on the short cut to Cemetery Road and Sixth Street.

Mr. Hunker asked about the property on 6<sup>th</sup> Street hill. Mr. Davies said the city's portion is secure.

Mr. Hunker made a motion to go into Executive Session for wages and compensation. Mr. Shrodes seconded the motion. A roll call vote was heard with Messrs. Weekley,

Shrodes, Armstrong, Sarratore, Hunker, Riethmiller, and Suto voting yea and the Council went into Executive session.

Mr. Hunker asked if the March meeting should be changed. Mr. Sarratore made a motion to move the March Council Meeting to the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays (March 12 & 26). Mr. Hunker seconded the motion. The meeting dates were moved after an affirmative voice vote was heard.

Mr. Davies said the water rate increase of \$3.36 would be put into effect immediately.

Mr. Shrodes asked if a sign could be put in pointing the way to the new school. Mr. Riethmiller said the county is willing to do a highway sign for the new school on the highway.

Mr. Davies said the City got a grant for \$5,500 for stop signs.

Mr. Hunker made a motion to accept the reports of Supervisors and Management. The motion was seconded by Mr. Suto and after hearing an affirmative voice vote, the motion was declared passed.

Mr. Hunker motioned that the meeting adjourn. The motion was seconded by Mr. Shrodes and after hearing an affirmative voice vote the meeting was adjourned with a salute to the flag.

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Lee Ann Cleary, Clerk of Council

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William Deaton, President of Council

## **Minutes of March 12, 2009 Council Meeting**

The Martins Ferry City Council met in regular session on Thursday March 12, 2009 at 6:00 PM in the City Council Chambers. The meeting was called to order by Council President, Bill Deaton, with the Pledge of Allegiance and was followed by a prayer by the Clerk.

Answering roll call were William Weekley, First Ward, Bruce Shrodes, Second Ward, Russell Armstrong, Third Ward, Anthony Sarratore, Fourth Ward, Robert Hunker, and Paul Riethmiller, Council at Large.

**Reading of Minutes:** Approved as received.

**Correspondence:** No correspondence was received.

### **Reports of Officers of the City:**

#### **Mayor:**

Mayor Wallace thanked the County Commissioners for holding a Town Hall Meeting in Martins Ferry.

Mayor Wallace asked that Council make a motion and pass tonight legislation to create the position of Operator of Records for the Water Plant. Legislation will be presented at the next meeting concerning this position. Mayor Wallace explained that the individual hired at the water plant has a class 1 operator's license. The EPA requires a class 2 license to sign documents. The new position will pay \$25 an hour and will only be in effect until the new hire receives his class 2 license. Mr. Deaton said that he thought an ordinance established several years ago required a class 2 operator's license to be hired as water superintendent. Mr. Deaton asked if that requirement had been changed by the EPA. Mr. Riethmiller asked why we had changed our requirements from a class 3 to a class 1 license. Mr. Deaton said that he believed the ordinance required a class 2 license for water superintendent and a class 1 for the assistant water superintendent. The ordinances were clarified by Mr. Shrodes. The ordinance states that the water superintendent must have a class 1 license. Mr. Davies said that we received notice from the EPA that we are considered a class 2 water plant. Mr. Shrodes asked if we sink another well or increase our volume to sell to other villages if our class would change. Mr. Davies said you can pump up to 5 million gallons and still be a class 2 operation. We currently pump 3 million gallons. Mr. Shrodes asked if it is possible to gain your class 2 license in 1 year. Mr. Davies said that exams are given in May and November.

Mayor Wallace thanked everyone for their hard work in dealing with the water break on Monday. He said that the media, utilities, businesses, and citizens all worked well. Mayor Wallace thanked the City Employees that worked until 3:00 AM on Tuesday to get the water break fixed. He also thanked Mr. Davies and Mrs. Mussard for being on the scene most of the time. Mayor Wallace said the utility companies acted quickly. Mayor Wallace also thanked Dave Ivan and Becky Horne from FEMA for providing lighting and radio back-up, Wilson Blacktop for gravel, and the Salvation Army canteen (Nelson and Betty Colson) for providing food for the workers.

Mayor Wallace said due to the question of watering, hanging baskets will not be hung throughout town this year. He said that Vince Keller is working on the project for next year.

A representative will speak at the March 26 Council Meeting regarding the gas aggregate program. This would need to be put on the ballot.

The Assistant water plant superintendent will attend the next meeting to be introduced to Council.

Spring Clean up will be held on May 9 for Martins Ferry residents only. There will be no charge. No tires, paint, or hazardous materials will be accepted. Mr. Weekley added that a clean up will also be sponsored by Pease Township. This will be held at Bridgeport High School.

Mr. Riethmiller asked about the appraisals. Mayor Wallace said the appraisals were completed on Wednesday and the numbers should be in next week.

Mr. Shrodes asked how long the position of Operator of records would be needed. Mr. Davies said that Mr. Minder must be off for 2 months for retirement. The operator of records would work 20 hrs a week to start and could hopefully be cut back to 10 hours a week. Mr. Riethmiller asked for the licenses to be clarified. A person with a class 1 license was hired as a permanent employee to take the place of Randy Shrodes. A person with a class 3 license was hired to take the place of Stanley Minder.

**Service/Safety Director: No Report**

Mr. Weekley asked how many hydrants need repaired. Mr. Davies said that outside work has started. A hydrant was fixed on 12<sup>th</sup> Street. There are plans to fix 1,000 this summer. The problem with the hydrant on Grant is a bad seal. This is the same problem as the hydrant just fixed on 12<sup>th</sup> Street. Service lines are also being fixed.

**Development Director:**

Mr. Stein said that the Ohio Governor's Office of Appalachia Grant has been approved. The agreement has been signed and returned. The grant is for \$100,000.00.

The City has received the contract agreement for the 0% loan for \$450,000 to purchase the ozone generators.

The deed has been prepared to sell the piece of property to Mr. & Mrs. Conaway. A letter has been received from the Moran family. They expressed an interest in purchasing a piece of property across from the Liberty Fire Station. Chief Duke said that this would be fine with the fire department since they really couldn't use the property for anything.

**Auditor:**

Ms. Randall said the end of the month reports had been distributed.

The appropriations ordinance will need acted upon this month. It needs to be filed with the county.

Ms. Randall said there was a 6% cut in government money. Extra money came in with the income tax, however the rest of the year is uncertain. There could be serious cutbacks.

**Code Administrator:** No report.

Mr. Shrodes said that 20 citizens were cited for trash and run down properties. He commended Mrs. Suto and said she is doing a great job.

**Park District:** No report.

**Police Department:** No report.

**Fire Chief 1:** No report.

**Fire Chief 2:** No report.

**Reports of Committees of Council:**

**Finance/Audit:** Mr. Hunker reminded everyone to keep an eye on the budget this year.

**Street:** No report.

**Ordinance:** Mr. Riethmiller said that the ordinance is being prepared for the Public Records.

**Sewer/Sidewalk:** No report.

**Safety:** No report. A Safety Meeting is to be held on March 18 at 5:30 PM in the Mayor's Office.

**Service:** No report.

**Citizen's to be Heard:**

April Brown of 1417 North 7<sup>th</sup> Street asked about the alley behind her house. The alley is a dead end and is extremely muddy. Mr. Davies and Mr. Wallace have looked at the problem before. Her elderly father uses the alley to access the family vehicle for doctor's appointments and recently fell due to the condition of the alley. Mrs. Brown said that the alley is sinking and needs more than just gravel. Mr. Davies explained that the money from the county used for paving does not cover the paving of alleys. He said that he would go up and look at the alley and that mill slag could be an option. Mrs. Brown also asked about the problem with stray animals. Mr. Deaton told her to call the Belmont County Health Department.

Dale Mussard of 1800 Colrain Pike asked if the operator of records position was to be part-time. He was told that yes, it would be part time.

Richard Hord of 915 Virginia Street invited Council to the Hall of Honors Induction on March 22 at 2:00 PM at the high school cafetorium. Mr. Hord asked if any other Town Hall type meetings could be planned, perhaps inviting our state representatives or congressmen. Mr. Deaton asked Mr. Hord to take on the project since

he did such a great job with the County Commissioners Town Hall Meeting. Mr. Riethmiller also thanked Mr. Hord for organizing the meeting. Mr. Hord inquired about the status of the Ernie's Auto Parts Lot. Recently, Mr. Hord has noticed lots of kids skateboarding on the property and wondered if that could be a location for the skatepark. Mr. Shrodes said that the lot is still private property and the owner will be liable for any injuries. Mr. Hord suggested a sign be posted.

#### **Ordinances and Resolutions:**

Mr. Shrodes made a motion to suspend the 72 hour rule to read all ordinances. Mr. Sarratore seconded the motion. The motion was declared passed after an affirmative voice vote was heard.

**AN ORDINANCE TO MAKE APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE EXPENSES OF THE CITY OF MARTINS FERRY, STATE OF OHIO, DURING THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2009 AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY** was given a first reading. Mr. Sarratore made a motion to suspend the rules. The motion was seconded by Mr. Hunker. A roll call vote was heard with Messrs. Weekley, Shrodes, Armstrong, Sarratore, Hunker, and Riethmiller voting yea and the rules were suspended. Mr. Sarratore made a motion to pass the ordinance as read. The motion was seconded by Mr. Hunker. A roll call vote was heard with Messrs. Weekley, Shrodes, Armstrong, Sarratore, Hunker, and Riethmiller voting yea and the ordinance was passed as read.

**AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SALE OF CITY OWNED REAL ESTATE WHICH IS NO LONGER NEEDED FOR ANY MUNICIPAL PURPOSE** was given a first reading. No action was taken and the ordinance will go on to a second reading.

**AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING MINIMUM JOB QUALIFICATIONS FOR THE POSITION OF ASSISTANT WATER SUPERINTENDENT** was given a first reading. No action was taken and the ordinance will go on to a second reading.

**AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING MINIMUM JOB QUALIFICATIONS FOR THE POSITION OF WATER SUPERINTENDENT** was given a first reading. No action was taken and the ordinance will go on to a second reading.

**A RESOLUTION DECLARING THE OFFICIAL INTENT AND REASONABLE EXPECTATION OF THE CITY OF MARTINS FERRY, OHIO ON BEHALF OF THE STATE OF OHIO TO REIMBURSE IT'S WATER IMPROVEMENT FUND FOR THE WATER TREATMENT PLANT AND WELLFIELD PROJECT WITH THE PROCEEDS OF TAX EXEMPT DEBT OF THE STATE OF OHIO** was given a first reading. No action was taken and the ordinance will go on to a second reading.

**2009 RESOLUTION ON THE SPENDING OF FEDERAL ECONOMIC RENEWAL GRANTS TO THE CITY OF MARTINS FERRY** was given a first reading. Mr. Hunker made a motion to suspend the rules. The motion was seconded by

Mr. Riethmiller. A roll call vote was heard with Messrs. Weekley, Shrodes, Armstrong, Sarratore, Hunker, and Riethmiller voting yea and the rules were suspended. Mr. Hunker made a motion to pass the ordinance as read. The motion was seconded by Mr. Armstrong. A roll call vote was heard with Messrs. Weekley, Shrodes, Armstrong, Sarratore, Hunker, and Riethmiller voting yea and the ordinance was passed as read.

**Miscellaneous Business:**

Mr. Sarratore thanked Mrs. Mussard and the City Employees for their work around the 4<sup>th</sup> ward. He also asked that someone take a look at the hole by Bumbico's.

Mr. Riethmiller made a motion to excuse Mr. Suto from the meeting. Mr. Shrodes seconded the motion. Mr. Suto was excused after an affirmative voice vote was heard.

Mr. Hunker made a motion to allow the creation of the position of operator of records for the water plant. Mr. Weekley seconded the motion. Mr. Shrodes went on record to say that this would not be a permanent position. A roll call vote was heard with Messrs. Weekley, Shrodes, Armstrong, Sarratore and Hunker voting yea and Mr. Riethmiller voting no. The motion was declared passed.

Mr. Hunker made a motion to accept the reports of Supervisors and Management. The motion was seconded by Mr. Armstrong and after hearing an affirmative voice vote, the motion was declared passed.

Mr. Davies asked to expand the working hours of part time ems employees to 30 hours. Mr. Deaton said that if AFSCME had no issue with the change and if it was not in the contract then it shouldn't be a problem. Everyone was reminded that this would come out of EMS money.

Mr. Hunker made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Armstrong seconded the motion and after hearing an affirmative voice vote the meeting was adjourned after a salute to the flag.

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Lee Ann Cleary, Council Clerk

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William Deaton, President of Council

## **Minutes of April 16, 2009 Council Meeting**

The Martins Ferry City Council met in regular session on Thursday April 16, 2009 at 6:00 PM in the City Council Chambers. The meeting was called to order by Council President, Bill Deaton, with the Pledge of Allegiance and was followed by a prayer.

Answering roll call were William Weekley, First Ward, Bruce Shrodes, Second Ward, Russell Armstrong, Third Ward, Anthony Sarratore, Fourth Ward, Robert Hunker, Paul Riethmiller, and Bill Suto Council at Large.

**Reading of Minutes:** Approved as received.

**Correspondence:** A letter was received from the Martins Ferry Ministerial Association inviting Council to participate in the National Day of Prayer Service on Thursday May 7 at 12:00 noon on the corner of 5<sup>th</sup> and Hanover Streets.

### **Reports of Officers of the City:**

#### **Mayor:**

Mayor Wallace discussed the recent article pertaining to the county's stimulus money. Possible projects would be the water line connection between Bridgeport and Yorkville and the water line replacement project on South Zane Hwy between Aetna and Crawford.

The Walter Drane Company has sent information concerning putting our Ordinances on-line. The cost would be \$1900 plus a \$300 a month charge. Mr. Deaton said he felt this was not necessary.

Mayor Wallace asked for an Executive Session to discuss the sale of property.

#### **Development Director:**

Mayor Wallace presented Mr. Stein's report. A copy of this report will be added to these minutes.

#### **Service Director:**

Mr. Davies said that the pump is out on the sewer truck. It would cost \$1200 to repair. The tank is bad and can't be welded anymore. Mr. Davies asked that Council consider purchasing a new sewer truck at a cost of approximately \$60,000. While ours is in need of repair the county will have to be called for emergencies.

Street paving list needs to be turned in as soon as possible. A Street Committee Meeting will be held on April 28 at 5:00 PM.

The water line will need to be moved off of the bridge on County Road 4. The water department is struggling and may need to borrow money. The water line needs to be moved by the end of april.

**Auditor:** No Report

**Code Administrator:** No Report

**City Solicitor:** No Report

**Fire Chief 1:** No Report

**Fire Chief 2:** No Report

**Committees of Council:**

**Finance/Audit :** No Report

**Street:** No Report

**Ordinance:** No Report

**Sewer/Sidewalk:** No Report

**Safety:** No Report

**Service:** No Report. Mr. Suto asked what was going on with the new ozonators. The drawings have been submitted and the order is in for the cooling unit. A service meeting will be held in the near future. Mayor Wallace added that the PRV project will break ground on the 20<sup>th</sup> and the project should be finished in a week.

**Citizens to be Heard:**

Don Mew of 714 Grant Ave. and the President of AFSCME said that the report is in to the local and audits were distributed. Mr. Mew asked if the budget issues with the dispatchers had been resolved and if so, how they were being paid. Mr. Mew was told that \$20,000 had been given by the EMS/Fire Department. This money will help overt the lay-offs until the matter is looked into more closely.

Glenna Adams of 54760 Old Orchard Drive opposes the water rate hikes. She compared her bill to that of Belmont County water customers. For 3,000 gallons of minimum water usage Martins Ferry customers in out lying areas pay \$46.05. Belmont County charged \$15.75 for 4,200 gallons. She felt that customers were being gouged and that it wasn't fair that every household is not metered.

Scott Spanner of 697 Sunset Heights, property owner for 237 North 7<sup>th</sup> Street said that the compactor knocked down a wall on his 7<sup>th</sup> Street property. He had the wall repaired by Theaker for \$6,000. Mayor Wallace said that he was aware of the situation. Mr. Spanner has owned the property for 10 months. The wall is deteriorated and Mayor Wallace doubted the packer hit the wall. Mr. Riethmiller asked if an investigation had taken place. Mr. Davies said the alley is in bad shape. He said that while he can't say if we damaged it or not there are no marks on the new packers or on the tires and rims. Mayor Wallace asked that it be looked at before a decision is made. Mr. Armstrong asked how many customers are in the alley and if their cans could be moved out of the alley and onto the street. Mr. Davies said that could lead to cars being damaged. Mr. Weekley asked if the wall was covered on the property insurance. Mr. Spanner said earth movement is not covered. He would have to get earthquake insurance which is hard to get in this area.

Jack Regis said that two young men from Martins Ferry competed in the regional history competition and will be going to state. He asked that the young men be recognized for their accomplishments with a resolution of appreciation.

John Scott of 437 North 9<sup>th</sup> Street, President of the Martins Ferry Civics, said he had already talked to the Mayor and wanted to voice his disgust over the kids in the park. Mr. Scott said they vandalize the property, including 4 new picnic tables, dugouts, and bleachers. They are also using foul language. The police are aware of the situation. Mr. Scott asked if anything could be done. Mayor Wallace said it is time we take the City back. He said that we had problems with the skate park and that it wasn't fair to the Civics after spending their own money to have it ruined. Mr. Riethmiller said we have an ordinance, we've posted signs, and the rules can be enforced when they are posted. He asked if the field can be locked since it is a City Park. Mr. Fry said the gates can be locked, but that the Park District must agree. Mr. Shrodes said similar problems have been happening for years and that locking the gates is better than nothing. Mayor Wallace said that parents no longer parent. The matter will be discussed more at the Park District meeting. Mr. Deaton said that we removed the skate park because of similar problems. It didn't solve the problems because we should be giving our youth more to do, not removing activities.

Richard Hord of 915 Virginia Street said that April 18 will mark one year since the passing of Don Myers. Mr. Hord asked if plans were being made to honor him. Mr. Sarratore said that everyone had good intentions. The Council Chamber was to be overhauled and named after Mr. Myers. The City ran into budget issues and did not have the money to continue with the plans. Mr. Weekley agreed with Mr. Sarratore. Mr. Riethmiller said that a bronze plaque would be posted at the Council Chambers and would be moved to a new location if the City Building ever moved. Mr. Riethmiller added that the family was not ready for a while and the City waited out of respect. Mr. Hord also said that he has continued work trying to set up a Town Hall Meeting. Mr. Hord has contacted Gov. Strickland and other state officials and a meeting could take place in late May.

## **Ordinances and Resolutions**

Mr. Deaton asked if the specifications were on file for the sale of property ordinances. Mayor Wallace said they are not. Mr. Hunker made a motion to waive the 72 hour notice. Mr. Sarratore seconded the motion. A roll call vote was heard with Messrs. Weekley, Shrodes, Armstrong, Sarratore, Hunker, Riethmiller, and Suto voting yea and the 72 hour notice was waived.

**AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE SAFETY TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS FOR THE SALE OF MUNICIPAL REAL ESTATE, SPECIFICALLY, THE FORMER MARTINS FERRY HIGH SCHOOL REAL ESTATE LOCATED AT HANOVER AND CARLISLE STREETS** was given a second reading. No action was taken and the resolution will go on to a third reading.

**AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE SAFETY TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS FOR THE SALE OF MUNICIPAL REAL ESTATE, SPECIFICALLY, THE FORMER MARTINS FERRY SOUTH SCHOOL REAL ESTATE LOCATED AT 1007 BROADWAY STREET** was given a second reading. No action was taken and the resolution will go on to a third reading.

**AN ORDINANCE TO REVISE THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES BY ADOPTING CURRENT REPLACEMENT PAGES, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY** was given a first reading. Mr. Hunker made a motion to suspend the rules. Mr. Shrodes seconded the motion. A roll call vote was heard with Messrs. Weekley, Shrodes, Armstrong, Sarratore, Hunker, Riethmiller, and Suto voting yea and the rules were suspended. Mr. Hunker made a motion to pass the ordinance as read. Mr. Shrodes seconded the motion. A roll call vote was heard with Messrs. Weekley, Shrodes, Armstrong, Sarratore, Hunker, Riethmiller, and Suto voting yea and the ordinance was passed.

### **Miscellaneous Business:**

Mr. Riethmiller said that the public records policy had been distributed. He asked that Council read over the policy so it could be passed at the next meeting. Mr. Riethmiller said that there had been money in the off street parking fund and that Council had considered using that money to help the police department with the dispatchers. Mr. Riethmiller asked how \$60,000 of the money in the off street parking fund had gotten moved. Mr. Davies said the money will be used to pave parking lots, including the lot across from McDonald's. Mr. Davies said that they eliminated 3 laborers and 2-3 people in water to stay within the budget. Mr. Davies said that all the avenues had not been explored and that street department constantly takes a hit. He said it was not fair to put that money into the general fund. Mr. Suto said that we should not spend \$60,000 to pave lots and lay off our dispatchers because that directly effects our City and it's safety. Mr. Suto said that money has been there all year. Mr. Suto said that Mr. Davies moved the money so it couldn't be used after it has been in that fund for two years and was never touched. Mr. Fry was asked if that was legal. Mr. Fry said as long as it was being used for

the purpose stated in the resolution when the fund was started. Mr. Shrodes said that Mr. Davies knew Council planned to use the money for the dispatchers. Mr. Shrodes said that Council had worked with him for years and that Mr. Davies had been given every truck and every piece of equipment he requested. Mr. Davies then pulled the money even though paving lots had never been discussed. Mr. Davies said that they were given a budget and that they need to live within that budget. Mr. Armstrong said that using the money to keep from laying off workers was discussed. Mr. Shrodes said the money is now encumbered and there was no notification at the finance meeting. Mr. Weekley suggested repealing the ordinance and putting future funds into the general fund.

Mr. Weekley said that he has heard people complaining about the City and he wanted everyone to know about everything that has been accomplished. Streets have been paved, new street signs erected, houses torn down, two new packers with no additional cost to the citizens, new vehicles and equipment, improvements to the water plant, and a playground at Crawford Heights. He said that the small things add up and commended our City employees for their hard work.

Mr. Sarratore made a motion to rename the Council Chambers the Donald R. Myers Council Chambers and that the name will move with the chambers if they are ever relocated. Mr. Weekley seconded the motion. A roll call vote was heard with Messrs. Weekley, Shrodes, Armstrong, Sarratore, Hunker, Riethmiller, and Suto voting yea and the motion was passed.

Mr. Davies said that the City would need to call in the county for sewer problems and asked that Council consider purchasing a new sewer truck.

Mr. Riethmiller said that resolutions would be presented to the students going to the state history competition, the final Rotary members, and the family of Don Myers in the coming weeks.

Mayor Wallace said that Council needs to consider that changing the off street parking ordinance would give no money to paving and caring for the City's lots. Mayor Wallace said he approved moving the money from the off street fund and that everyone needs to go back to working together.

Mr. Hunker said there would be a Finance Meeting on May 6 at 6:00 PM.

Mr. Sarratore made a motion to go into Executive Session for the sale of property. Mr. Hunker seconded the motion. A roll call vote was heard with Messrs. Weekley, Shrodes, Armstrong, Sarratore, Hunker, Riethmiller, and Suto voting yea and the Council went into Executive Session.

Mr. Hunker made a motion to accept the reports of Supervisors and Management. The motion was seconded by Mr. Riethmiller and after hearing an affirmative voice vote, the motion was declared passed.

Mr. Armstrong motioned that the meeting adjourn. The motion was seconded by Mr. Shrodes and after hearing an affirmative voice vote the meeting was adjourned with a salute to the flag.

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Lee Ann Cleary, Clerk of Council

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William Deaton, President of Council

## **Minutes of May 7, 2009 Council Meeting**

The Martins Ferry City Council met in regular session on Thursday April 16, 2009 at 6:00 PM in the City Council Chambers. The meeting was called to order by Council President, Bill Deaton, with the Pledge of Allegiance and was followed by a prayer.

Answering roll call were William Weekley, First Ward, Bruce Shrodes, Second Ward, Russell Armstrong, Third Ward, Anthony Sarratore, Fourth Ward, Robert Hunker, Paul Riethmiller, and Bill Suto Council at Large.

**Reading of Minutes:** Approved as received.

**Correspondence:** None received.

### **Reports of Officers of the City:**

#### **Mayor:**

Mayor Wallace thanked the Governor's Office of Appalachia and presenter Lou Gentile for the grant of \$100,000 to help cover the cost of the water plant upgrades. Mayor Wallace said this grant was not applied for but that the City had been talking to Mr. Gentile for a year about the project. Mayor Wallace also thanked council for allowing \$320,000 to come from permanent improvement for the project. He said that the City now has enough money to do the project.

Mayor Wallace said that he had spoken to the general manager of the Severstal Wheeling office and that there was no mention of the Severstal plants closing permanently.

Mayor Wallace distributed Mr. Stein's report.

Mayor Wallace asked for an executive session to discuss sale of property and personnel.

**Service Director:** No report.

#### **Development Director:**

A report was distributed. A reminder was given that applications for the CHIPS program need to be turned in on time.

\$50,000 grant for the packer was transferred on May 6. That project is now complete.

**Auditor:** No report.

#### **Park District:**

Mr. Deaton said the pool has been emptied and is now being filled. Personnel for the summer have been hired. The pool is scheduled to open on June 2.

Mr. Hunker asked about Mr. Scott from the Civics and if the recreation dept. was able to help him with his concerns about the vandalism in the park. Mr. Deaton said he can find no problems in the park. Mr. Deaton also said that only one picnic table was destroyed, the rest were moved by the Civics.

**Treasurer:** No report.

**Fire Chief #1:** Mr. Duke said the fire department was working with Mr. Fry to establish a Jr. Fire Fighter Program. When it is completed, it will be presented to Council. Stipulations include keeping a minimum G.P.A. and not being in the firehouse after 9:00 PM.

**Fire Chief #2:** No report.

**Committees of Council:**

**Finance/Audit :** Mr. Hunker said that the City received the estate tax from the county in the amount of \$72,904.60. Mr. Hunker also reminded Council that Wheeling Pitt paid \$107,000 to water each year. Their closure will impact the water dept. There will be a Finance Meeting on June 3 at 5:30 PM.

**Street:** Mr. Armstrong said a meeting was held on April 28. It was decided that 20 streets could be paved this year. Mr. Armstrong presented a map indicating which streets had been paved in the past. Everyone was encouraged to look at the map and make suggestions for paving. Mr. Riethmiller asked that the 400 and 500 blocks of Concord be paved. Mr. Davies suggested intersections be completed this year. He also said he would leave it up to Council to decide if any alleys will be paved.

**Ordinance:** Mr. Riethmiller said that he would make a motion to suspend the 72 hour rule to pass the resolutions of appreciation.

**Sewer/Sidewalk:** Mr. Shrodes said there were some ongoing problems with equipment and that what to do about the equipment would need to be discussed at a future meeting.

**Safety:** No Report

**Service:** No Report.

Mr. Weekley said that the Belmont Jefferson County Solid waste Authority would be holding a clean up day on June 13 in the old Giant Eagle lot in Bridgeport for the residents of Belmont and Jefferson Counties. This is for hazardous materials. The event is sponsored by WTI.

**Citizens to be Heard:**

William Graff of 514 North 8<sup>th</sup> Street said that the hillside across from his house has become a dumping ground for trash. The trash keeps the sweeper from coming down that side of the street. Mr. Graff said it has not been cleaned up and he has been talking to administration for a year. Mr. Sarratore said he has talked to Mr. Graff and administration and something will be done as soon as possible. Mr. Deaton asked if the property was owned by the City, which it is. Mr. Deaton suggested GR workers could clean the area up.

Richard Moore of 627 Washington Street said he has a house at 801 Euclid. He said that he acquired the house several months ago and is working to fix it up. Mr. Moore wanted to know what the problem was with the house because he has received a letter from Mrs. Suto about the property. Mr. Shrodes said that he filed a complaint because the windows were broken out and the porch railing was falling off. Mr. Shrodes said he noticed those things had been fixed. Mr. Riethmiller said several citizens had complained about the property because the broken windows were thrown in the backyard. The current letter was regarding high grass and weeds at the property. Mr. Shrodes said that citizens only receive one letter about high grass and weeds, the next step is being called into Mayor's Court. Mrs. Suto sends about 40 letters a month.

Richard Hord of 915 Virginia Street asked if Council had a preference as to where the Hall of Honor sign will be located in the park area on Hanover and Fifth Streets. Mr. Hord said a sign had been designed by Ultimate Signs and Graphics and will be 38 x 24. Council requested that it be placed as to not obstruct the view of traffic. Mr. Hord also asked about the appraised value of the South School property. Mayor Wallace said that would be discussed in Executive Session.

### **Ordinances and Resolutions**

Mr. Riethmiller made a motion to waive the 72 hour notice. Mr. Suto seconded the motion. A roll call vote was heard with Messrs. Weekley, Shrodes, Armstrong, Sarratore, Hunker, Riethmiller, and Suto voting yea and the 72 hour notice was waived.

**AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE SAFETY TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS FOR THE SALE OF MUNICIPAL REAL ESTATE, SPECIFICALLY, THE FORMER MARTINS FERRY HIGH SCHOOL REAL ESTATE LOCATED AT HANOVER AND CARLISLE STREETS** was given a third reading. The ordinance was tabled.

**AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE SAFETY TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS FOR THE SALE OF MUNICIPAL REAL ESTATE, SPECIFICALLY, THE FORMER MARTINS FERRY SOUTH SCHOOL REAL ESTATE LOCATED AT 1007 BROADWAY STREET** was given a third reading. The ordinance was tabled.

**A RESOLUTION APPROVING AND ADOPTING A POLICY ON PUBLIC RECORDS RETENTION FOR THE CITY OF MARTINS FERRY** was given a first reading. Mr. Riethmiller made a motion to suspend the rules. Mr. Shrodes seconded the motion. A roll call vote was heard with Messrs. Weekley, Shrodes, Armstrong, Sarratore, Hunker, Riethmiller, and Suto voting yea and the rules were suspended. Mr. Shrodes made a motion to pass the ordinance as read. Mr. Armstrong seconded the motion. A roll call vote was heard with Messrs. Weekley, Shrodes, Armstrong, Sarratore, Hunker, Riethmiller, and Suto voting yea and the ordinance was passed.

**A RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION FOR CHASE STUCKEY** was given a first reading. Mr. Riethmiller made a motion to suspend the rules. Mr. Armstrong seconded the motion. A roll call vote was heard with Messrs. Weekley, Shrodes, Armstrong, Sarratore, Hunker, Riethmiller, and Suto voting yea and the rules were suspended. Mr. Suto made a motion to pass the ordinance as read. Mr. Armstrong seconded the motion. A roll call vote was heard with Messrs. Weekley, Shrodes, Armstrong, Sarratore, Hunker, Riethmiller, and Suto voting yea and the ordinance was passed.

**A RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION FOR ZACK RIGGENBAGH** was given a first reading. Mr. Suto made a motion to suspend the rules. Mr. Armstrong seconded the motion. A roll call vote was heard with Messrs. Weekley, Shrodes, Armstrong, Sarratore, Hunker, Riethmiller, and Suto voting yea and the rules were suspended. Mr. Suto made a motion to pass the ordinance as read. Mr. Armstrong seconded the motion. A roll call vote was heard with Messrs. Weekley, Shrodes, Armstrong, Sarratore, Hunker, Riethmiller, and Suto voting yea and the ordinance was passed.

**A RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION FOR THE FINAL ROTARY MEMBERS: TOM TARAOWSKY, TOM THOMAS, ANDY SUTAK, JOHN SOLOVAN, GROVER SMITH, DOROTHY POWELL, YVONNE MYERS, GARY CLARK, JIM KNELLINGER, SCOTT EVERSON, KATHI CONNER, AND CHRIS BERHALTER** received a first reading. Mr. Suto made a motion to suspend the rules. Mr. Riethmiller seconded the motion. A roll call vote was heard with Messrs. Weekley, Shrodes, Armstrong, Sarratore, Hunker, Riethmiller, and Suto voting yea and the rules were suspended. Mr. Suto made a motion to pass the ordinance as read. Mr. Armstrong seconded the motion. A roll call vote was heard with Messrs. Weekley, Shrodes, Armstrong, Sarratore, Hunker, Riethmiller, and Suto voting yea and the ordinance was passed.

#### **Miscellaneous Business:**

Mr. Riethmiller made a motion to move the regularly scheduled Council Meeting of May 21 to Wednesday May 20 because of Martins Ferry's Commencement. Mr. Hunker seconded the motion. After an affirmative voice vote was heard, the motion was declared passed.

Mr. Riethmiller made a motion to allow the Service Director to purchase a used sewer vacuum truck for up to \$40,000 with the money coming from the Sewer Dept. Mr. Suto seconded the motion. After an affirmative voice vote was heard the motion was declared passed.

Mr. Davies announced that Clean Up Day would be held Saturday May 9 from 8-1 at the City Garage. No tires, paint, or hazardous materials will be accepted. Citizens must show ID.

Mr. Sarratore announced that a meeting of the 4<sup>th</sup> ward constituents would be held on June 9 at 6:00 at the Liberty Fire Station.

Mr. Hunker made a motion to go into Executive Session for sale of property and personnel. Mr. Suto seconded the motion. A roll call vote was heard with Messrs. Weekley, Shrodes, Armstrong, Sarratore, Hunker, Riethmiller, and Suto voting yea and the Council went into executive session.

Mr. Suto made a motion to un-table the two ordinances pertaining to sale of property. Mr. Armstrong seconded the motion. A roll call vote was heard with Messrs. Weekley, Shrodes, Armstrong, Sarratore, Hunker, Riethmiller, and Suto voting yea and the ordinances were un-tabled.

**AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE SAFETY TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS FOR THE SALE OF MUNICIPAL REAL ESTATE, SPECIFICALLY, THE FORMER MARTINS FERRY HIGH SCHOOL REAL ESTATE LOCATED AT HANOVER AND CARLISLE STREET** was read. Mr. Suto made a motion to pass the ordinance as read. Mr. Armstrong seconded the motion. A roll call vote was heard with Messrs. Weekley, Shrodes, Armstrong, Sarratore, Hunker, Riethmiller, and Suto voting yea and the ordinance was passed.

**AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE SAFETY TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS FOR THE SALE OF MUNICIPAL REAL ESTATE, SPECIFICALLY, THE FORMER MARTINS FERRY SOUTH SCHOOL REAL ESTATE LOCATED AT 1007 BROADWAY STREET** was read. Mr. Suto made a motion to pass the ordinance as read. Mr. Armstrong seconded the motion. A roll call vote was heard with Messrs. Weekley, Shrodes, Armstrong, Sarratore, Hunker, Riethmiller, and Suto voting yea and the ordinance was passed.

Mr. Hunker made a motion to accept the reports of Supervisors and Management. The motion was seconded by Mr. Armstrong and after hearing an affirmative voice vote, the motion was declared passed.

Mr. Riethmiller made a motion that an ordinance be brought before Council to make a section of the High School property a part known as High School Extension and that this property be bid like the other two pieces of property with specifications on file. The motion was seconded by Mr. Suto. After an affirmative voice vote was heard, the motion was declared passed.

Mr. Hunker motioned that the meeting adjourn. The motion was seconded by Mr. Armstrong and after hearing an affirmative voice vote the meeting was adjourned with a salute to the flag.

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Lee Ann Cleary, Clerk of Council

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William Deaton, President of Council



## Minutes of May 15, 2009 Special Council Meeting

The Martins Ferry City Council met in special session on Friday May 15, 2009 at 5:30 PM in the City Council Chambers. The meeting was called to order by President Pro Tem, Bob Hunker, with the Pledge of Allegiance and was followed by a prayer by the Clerk.

Answering roll call were Russell Armstrong, Third Ward, Anthony Sarratore, Fourth Ward, Robert Hunker, Paul Riethmiller, and Bill Suto, Council at Large.

Mayor Wallace reported that he had called Dan Fry about the property on 4<sup>th</sup> Street. Mr. Fry suggested that a motion be made to discuss any and all information. Mr. Suto made the motion. The motion was seconded by Mr. Armstrong. After an affirmative voice vote was heard, the motion was declared passed.

Mayor Wallace said that he had renegotiated the cost of the property on 4<sup>th</sup> Street. However, the price did not change. If the City wants to purchase the property at the asking price, the owner will sell. The owner is asking \$15,840 for the property and \$10,000 for the 4 years left on the contract with the gas company. Final price for the property is \$25,840. Mr. Armstrong said that if we own the other half, no one could really purchase the section that is for sale, since it would be too small to build. Mr. Suto said he had a problem with paying the \$10,000 for the remainder of the contract since the seller would be getting the money up front, instead of over the next four years. Mayor Wallace said that several years ago, lot was appraised at \$19,000.

Mr. Davies said that he had been looking for a sewer truck, however nothing has been available in the \$40,000 range. He found that \$60,000-\$70,000 was the current price for a used truck in the size we would need. Mr. Suto asked if the sewer department could afford a \$60,000 truck. Mr. Davies said that the department was making money. He also said that the city needs a good truck, especially since there are several storm sewers to be rebuilt.

Mr. Davies was asked if he could find a good truck for \$70,000. He said he could. Mr. Riethmiller said that Mr. Fry had said anything over \$25,000 needed to be bid. The only way to avoid the bid process is to declare an emergency.

Mr. Suto made a motion to allow Mr. Davies to spend up to \$70,000 on a sewer truck. After an affirmative voice vote was heard, the motion was declared passed.

Mr. Davies said he would make a call on Friday about a truck that could be a possible candidate. He was unsure of the reel size and the City needs to have a 500 ft reel. Mr. Riethmiller asked about the cost of shipping and Mr. Davies said the seller was going to waive the shipping fee.

Mr. Suto asked if Council wanted to make a decision on the 4<sup>th</sup> Street property. Mr. Hunker said that he thought it was a good idea to purchase the property, since it is located in the business district and could be sold to a business wanting to locate in Martins Ferry.

Mr. Suto made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Mr. Armstrong. The motion was declared passed after an affirmative voice vote.

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Lee Ann Cleary, Clerk of Council

Robert Hunker, President Pro Tem



## **Minutes of May 20, 2009 Council Meeting**

The Martins Ferry City Council met in regular session on Thursday May 20, 2009 at 6:00 PM in the City Council Chambers. The meeting was called to order by Council President, Bill Deaton, with the Pledge of Allegiance and was followed by a prayer.

Answering roll call were William Weekley, First Ward, Bruce Shrodes, Second Ward, Russell Armstrong, Third Ward, Anthony Sarratore, Fourth Ward, Robert Hunker, Paul Riethmiller, and Bill Suto Council at Large.

**Reading of Minutes:** Approved as received.

**Correspondence:** None received.

### **Presentation of Resolutions of Appreciation:**

Resolutions of Appreciation were presented to the final Martins Ferry Rotary Members, The members present at the meeting were Dorothy Powell, Yvonne Myers, John Solovan, Gary Clark, Andy Satak, and Grover Smith. Resolutions were presented by Paul Riethmiller.

### **Reports of Officers of the City:**

**Mayor:** No report.

**Service Director:** No report.

### **Committees of Council:**

**Finance/Audit :** Mr. Hunker said there would be a Finance Meeting on June 3 at 5:30 PM. The budget and other papers distributed should be brought to the meeting.

**Street:** No report

**Ordinance:** No report

**Sewer/ Sidewalk:** Mr. Shrodes said that 10 different storm sewers had been rebuilt.

**Safety:** No report

**Service:** No report

**Income Tax:** Mr. Armstrong said that income tax collection is approximately \$34,000 ahead of this time last year.

**Park Commission:** Mr. Larry Deaton said an article that ran in the newspaper made it sound like the pool would not open this year. He said that new filters are required to be installed and inspected before opening. Divers have offered to come in and bolt down the drain covers and that work will be completed and inspected so that the pool can open on Monday June 1<sup>st</sup> as scheduled.

**Citizens to be Heard:**

Richard Hord of 915 Virginia Street said that he was still working to get a Town Hall Meeting scheduled with Representative Wilson and our state officials. Mr. Deaton thanked Mr. Hord for all of his hard work. Mr. Hord asked about the status of the street sweeper. Mr. Davies said that the pump went out and that it was being repaired. It should be back in service next week. Mr. Hord asked if cars still need to be moved. Mr. Davies said yes. Mr. Hord asked Council what they see as their proudest achievement in 2009, the biggest disappointment, and things to work on. Mr. Deaton asked that Council have some time to think about the questions before answering.

Dorothy Powell thanked Council and administration for the Resolution of appreciation.

**Ordinances and Resolutions:****AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE/SAFETY TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS FOR THE SALE OF MUNICIPAL REAL ESTATE, SPECIFICALLY, A PORTION OF THE FORMER MARTINS FERRY HIGH SCHOOL REAL ESTATE REFERRED TO AS THE MARTINS FERRY HIGH SCHOOL EXTENSION, AND LOCATED AT HANOVER AND CARLISLE STREETS**

received a first reading. Mr. Suto made a motion to suspend the rules. Mr. Riethmiller seconded the motion. A roll call vote was heard with Messrs. Weekley, Shrodes, Armstrong, Sarratore, Hunker, Riethmiller, and Suto voting yea and the motion was declared passed. Mr. Suto made a motion to pass the ordinance as read. Mr. Armstrong seconded the motion. A roll call vote was heard with Messrs. Weekley, Shrodes, Armstrong, Sarratore, Hunker, Riethmiller, and Suto voting yea and the ordinance was declared passed.

**A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF MARTINS FERRY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2010, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY**

received a first reading. No action was taken and the resolution will go on to a second reading.

**Miscellaneous Business:**

Mr. Sarratore made a motion to go into Executive session for sale of property. Mr. Suto seconded the motion. A roll call vote was heard with Messrs. Weekley, Shrodes, Armstrong, Sarratore, Hunker, Riethmiller, and Suto voting yea and Council went into executive session.

Mr. Deaton asked if Council would like to have pictures taken to display in the City Building so that citizens would know them.

Mr. Sarratore asked if the City Building phone line could be updated to include the names of the current Council and administration. Mr. Deaton said he would look into the correcting the problem.

Mr. Davies said that he has been unable to find a sewer truck for \$40,000. He told the Council members that were not at the special meeting that Council had given approval for up to \$70,000. Mr. Riethmiller said that to keep Council from needing to put the truck up for bid, legislation will be brought in to declare an emergency.

Mr. Shrodes said that there are sewer problems in town that need addressed. Mr. Davies said he would contact the county.

Mr. Hunker made a motion to accept the reports of Supervisors and Management. The motion was seconded by Mr. Armstrong and after hearing an affirmative voice vote, the motion was declared passed.

Mr. Suto motioned that the meeting adjourn. The motion was seconded by Mr. Armstrong and after hearing an affirmative voice vote the meeting was adjourned with a salute to the flag.

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Lee Ann Cleary, Clerk of Council

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William Deaton, President of Council

## **Minutes of June 4, 2009 Council Meeting**

The Martins Ferry City Council met in regular session on Thursday June 4, 2009 at 6:00 PM in the City Council Chambers. The meeting was called to order by Council President, Bill Deaton, with the Pledge of Allegiance and was followed by a prayer.

Answering roll call were William Weekley, First Ward, Bruce Shrodes, Second Ward, Russell Armstrong, Third Ward, Anthony Sarratore, Fourth Ward, Robert Hunker, Paul Riethmiller, and Bill Suto Council at Large.

### **Presentation of Resolutions of Appreciation:**

Resolutions of Appreciation were presented to Chase Stuckey and Zach Riggenbaugh. These two young men participated in the National History Day competition on March 28 for District 10 Junior Group Documentary Division where they received first place. This allowed them to move on to the Ohio State History Day on April 24.

**Reading of Minutes:** Approved as received.

**Correspondence:** A letter was received from Yvonne Myers of the Martins Ferry Public Library thanking Council for the Resolution of Appreciation for the final members of the Martins Ferry Rotary. A letter was also received concerning the transfer of a liquor license from Kevin Marchbank to the owners of the Steel Mill Bar and Grill. Council made no objections to the transfer and the letter was signed and returned to the Department of Liquor Control.

### **Reports of Officers of the City:**

#### **Mayor:**

Mayor Wallace distributed reports for the Street Department and the Department of Development.

The County Road 4 Water Project has been completed for \$15,000. \$25,000 was saved by the City.

A 2" water line will be replaced on Beeson, Starlight, and Dawn Streets.

The PRV Vault Project is also complete.

A sewer truck was purchased for \$68,000.

Mr. Stein is working on a grant that would provide \$445,000 to fund the dispatchers for 2 years. This is a 100% grant. We should know the results by the end of July.

The City will be getting 5 summer help employees through a state program. They will be painting curbs and hydrants.

There are \$14,612 in unpaid tickets. If they are not paid, they will be brought into Mayor's Court.

Paving will begin June 5<sup>th</sup> weather permitting.

Street sweeper information was distributed.

Every purchase made since January 1, 2008 has been paid back to Permanent Improvement or arrangements have been made to pay it back.

Mr. Weimer would like to purchase a piece of railroad property north of James C. Dawes Company. Mr. Weimer is the abutting property owner.

Mayor Wallace asked that an ordinance be introduced that \$16,000 will be paid back to Permanent Improvement out of Capitol Improvement Fund for the \$320,000 loan for the water plant project.

Typed reports are to be attached to the minutes and kept for the permanent record.

Mayor Wallace asked for an Executive Session to discuss compensation and the sale of property.

**Service Director:**

A financial report was distributed. It was prepared at 2:00 and showed the current funds for the City.

The Water Department is in the red \$31,203.05 currently. Three jobs have been eliminated through attrition to reduce debt. Gas prices are up \$.61 a gallon. If current rates are continued there are no guarantees. Mr. Riethmiller asked about Severstal and how much it will affect the budget. Mr. Davies said they had been paying around \$20,000 a month. They are now paying \$7,800. A complete shutdown would eliminate \$7,800 plus income tax.

**Auditor:**

End of the month reports were distributed as well as the cash position report. Other than water, the reports are where they should be.

Funds for a new street sweeper could be borrowed from Permanent Improvement and paid back from street and sewer to save on interest charges.

**Park District:** No Report.

**Fire Chief #1:** A new ATV is parked in front of the City Building. It was purchase by the Fire Department for rescues. It has already been paid for by the Fire and EMS departments. Council is invited to check it out after the meeting.

**Committees of Council:**

**Finance/ Audit:** A meeting was held to review the budget. Funds are going to be tight. 2009 budget was also discussed. Revenue and Income Tax are both down at this point. A public hearing of the budget will be held on July 2 at 5:30 PM in the Council Chambers.

**Street:** Paving will begin Monday.

**Ordinance:** No report.

**Sewer/Sidewalk:** No report

**Safety:** Signs have been installed. The list on signs can be found in the Street Department report.

**Service:** No report

**Liaison to the Park Committee:** Mr. Riethmiller said that the pool opened Monday. The Health Department did their inspection. They will return to inspect the grates once they arrive and are installed. No money was received for the summer camp. There will be no camp this year. Staffing will be at a minimum. Monthly passes are being sold one month at a time.

**Citizens to be Heard:**

Gene Joseph of Colerain said the City is paying \$6million for the water plant, \$400,000 for the water line up State Route 250, and \$4million for the Sharon Road project because they did the project even though they didn't receive the grant. Mr. Wallace said that that decision was made by the previous administration. Mr. Joseph said that from now on he hopes that things aren't done if the money is not there to pay for it. Mr. Joseph said he is trying to find out about the agreement between the City and Tri-County. Mr. Joseph said that the City has the right to raise rates every 2 years but that they did not raise the rates of the Tri-County customers this year. He felt that the current rates are not fair to everyone and asked that the current system be reconsidered.

Ed Bell of Colerain asked why \$4million was spent on the Sharon Road project when there are only 20 houses on that road. It was explained that the new water tank supplies Colerain and Tri-County. There are frequent breaks in that area. Mr. Bell said that customers used to receive 5,000 gallons of water, now the rate is 3,000.

Darius Savage of Hickory Street said he has not been called back to work. When he asks why, he is not given an answer. He has been told that Mr. Davies said he is not bringing him back because he (Mr. Savage) brought in representation from the NAACP. Mr. Savage said a law suit will be filed against the City because of Mr. Davies and Mayor Wallace.

Ben Nieman said he had been a City employee for 15 years. Mr. Savage went above and beyond and listened to everything he was told. He was hired and laid off 8 days short of joining the union. Mr. Davies said that the reasons Mr. Savage was not called back will not be public knowledge. Mr. Nieman said that Mr. Davies told him that Mr. Savage wouldn't be hired back because he brought in the NAACP. This was also told to another employee. Mayor Wallace said the matter would not be discussed on the Council floor.

Wilbur Baker of Ferryview Rd. said that a small group of people are paying \$10 more a month on their water bill, before the \$3 surcharge.

Lawrence Wallace of Elmhurst Street said that since the yellow line across from his driveway has been painted black he cannot back out of his drive when a car is parked there. It is dangerous in the winter and he has nearly hit cars on the street. Mr. Wallace asked that the yellow line be repainted. Mr. Shrodes said that when these houses were built in the 1940's or 1950's the driveways were installed in unique ways.

They have been like that for 50 years. Mr. Shrodes suggested each case be looked at individually. Mr. Davies said that something should be in writing and a general rule be made. Mr. Riethmiller said because of the old houses this has to be looked at case by case. These yellow lines have been there for 50 years. You are not taking away parking spots. Some of these problems are not parking issues they are neighbor issues. Mr. Deaton suggested checking with other cities of our size.

Kevin Wolf asked how often water meters are read and how many meter readers are in the City. There is one meter reader. Mr. Wolf said his meter has not been read in 6 months.

Richard Hord of 915 Virginia Street asked how the minimum bid for the properties was determined and if the amounts can be revealed. Mr. Deaton said the figures are in the bid packet and that Mr. Hord was welcomed to pick one up. The appraisals are not public information and cannot be discussed. Will the bids be opened at a public meeting? They will be opened on June 26 at the time listed on the bid packet. Mr. Hord asked with the upcoming census if Martins Ferry was planning options to provide an accurate count. Mayor Wallace said the Census Bureau is doing a pre-census now.

Martha Smith of Concord Street thanked Mr. Shrodes and Mr. Riethmiller for getting the yellow line by her driveway repainted.

Bob Wilson of Sunset Heights said his meter gets read every three months. Mr. Wilson feels that it is unfair that some people pay less for water than others and felt that everyone should have a meter. Mr. Davies said he would like to see everyone metered but that funding is a dilemma and Council and Administration disagree on how it should be handled. Mr. Deaton suggested he read it himself and call in the results.

#### **Ordinances and Resolutions:**

**A RESOLUTION ADOPTING A BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF MARTINS FERRY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2010, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY** received a second reading. No action was taken and the resolution will go on to a third reading.

#### **Miscellaneous Business:**

The Mayor distributed a list of City owned properties. He said that Mr. Stein had been working on the list and that there are a few mistakes. A notebook is in Mr. Stein's office with the list of properties and a map.

Mr. Hunker made a motion to go into Executive session for sale of property and compensation. Mr. Shrodes seconded the motion. A roll call vote was heard with Messrs. Weekley, Shrodes, Armstrong, Sarratore, Hunker, Riethmiller, and Suto voting yea and Council went into executive session.

Mr. Davies asked that \$5,000 be moved from contractual services into wages, medicare, and PERS for grass cutting.

Mr. Hunker made a motion to move \$5,000 from contractual services into wages, medicare, and PERS and the off street parking fund for grass cutting. Mr. Weekley seconded the motion. After an affirmative voice vote was heard the motion was declared passed.

Mr. Hunker made a motion to allow Mayor Wallace to negotiate with the Kloss Family for the piece of property on 4<sup>th</sup> Street up to \$26,000 with the funds coming from off street parking. Mr. Weekley seconded the motion. A roll call vote was heard with Messrs. Weekley, Shrodes, Armstrong, Sarratore, and Hunker voting yea. Mr. Reithmiller and Mr. Suto voted no. With a 5-2 vote the motion was declared passed.

Mr. Hunker motioned that the meeting adjourn. The motion was seconded by Mr. Armstrong and after hearing an affirmative voice vote the meeting was adjourned with a salute to the flag.

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Lee Ann Cleary, Clerk of Council

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William Deaton, President of Council

## **Minutes of July 2, 2009 Council Meeting**

The Martins Ferry City Council met in regular session on Thursday July 2, 2009 at 6:00 PM in the City Council Chambers. The meeting was called to order by Council President, Bill Deaton, with the Pledge of Allegiance and was followed by a prayer.

Answering roll call were William Weekley, First Ward, Bruce Shrodes, Second Ward, Russell Armstrong, Third Ward, Anthony Sarratore, Fourth Ward, Robert Hunker, Paul Riethmiller, and Bill Suto Council at Large.

**Reading of Minutes:** Approved as received.

**Correspondence:** No correspondence was received.

### **Reports of Officers of the City:**

#### **Mayor:**

Mayor Wallace distributed reports for the Street Department and the Department of Development, as well as the Mayor's Report.

Mayor Wallace thanked everyone for their help with the recent water breaks. Mayor Wallace said that the City had applied for emergency funding to cover the cost of the breaks, which totaled \$83,989.93. On Sunday, July 12 water will be shut off to all of the City as the valve is replaced. Bridgeport and Tri-County will assist in supplying water. Everyone is asked to conserve.

The flag pole at the City Park was painted and repaired. Mayor Wallace thanked everyone who helped with the project.

Mr. Weekley asked about the procedure for announcing water breaks. WTRF-7 and WTOV-9 are notified.

**Service/Safety Director:** No report.

#### **Auditor:**

End of month reports were distributed. A public hearing was held before the Council Meeting for the 2010 budget. Mr. Hunker asked how income tax revenue was doing. \$643,000 has been collected in 2009. \$615,000 was collected in 2008.

**Department of Development:** No report.

**Code Administrator:** No report

#### **Police Chief:**

The Drug Task Force has made 65 arrests, confiscated 12 vehicles, and taken \$400,000-\$500,000 worth of drugs off the streets. A check for \$680 was paid to cover officer overtime. The Federal Government was been asked for assistance.

**Fire Chief #1:** No report

**Fire Chief #2:**

The squad that was wrecked 6-7 years ago, chassis totaled, had been repaired and put back in service. It continues to have problems. The department may trade it in. They will request an ordinance. The Robert's Pontiac purchase is moving forward. The Junior Fire Department proposal has been approved by Dan Fry. They asked that Council approve the proposal through an Ordinance. Betty Zane Days will be held July 28-August 1. The 5 K Race will be held on July 29 at 6:30 PM.

**Reports of Committees of Council:**

**Finance/Audit:**

Council was reminded that the third reading of the appropriations resolution would occur at this meeting.

**Ordinance:** No report

**Sewer/Sidewalk:** No report

**Street:** No report

**Safety:** No report

**Service:**

A meeting will be held on July 8 at 6:30 PM to discuss the water valve replacement on July 12. The Fire Chiefs were asked to attend.

**Citizens to be Heard:**

Richard Hord of 915 Virginia Street said he was still working to schedule a Town Hall Meeting with the State Officials. They have been very busy, but a meeting could take place as early as late July. The sign was completed for the Hall of Honor. An event will be held on July 11. All are invited. At the Commissioner's Meeting, Commissioner Favede said she was putting together a committee regarding the 2010 census. Mr. Hord asked if Council would consider inviting her to address Council.

**Ordinances and Resolutions:**

**A RESOLUTION ADOPTING A BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF MARTINS FERRY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2010 AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY** was given a third reading. Mr. Hunker made a motion to pass the resolution as read. Mr. Suto seconded the motion. A roll call vote was heard with Messrs. Weekley, Shrodes, Armstrong, Sarratore, Hunker, Riethmiller, and Suto voting yea and the resolution was passed.

**AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE/SAFETY TO PURCHASE A USED SEWER VACUUM TRUCK PURSUANT TO SECTION 735.051 OF THE OHIO REVISED CODE WITHOUT FORMAL BIDDING OR ADVERTISING** was given a first reading. Mr. Riethmiller made a motion to suspend the rules. Mr. Shrodes seconded the motion. A roll call vote was heard with Messrs. Weekley, Shrodes, Armstrong, Sarratore, Hunker, Riethmiller, and Suto voting yea and the rules were suspended. . Mr. Riethmiller made a motion to pass the ordinance as read. Mr. Suto seconded the motion. A roll call vote was heard with Messrs. Weekley, Shrodes, Armstrong, Sarratore, Hunker, Riethmiller, and Suto voting yea and the ordinance was passed as read.

Mr. Hunker made a motion to suspend the 72 hour rule. Mr. Suto seconded the motion. A roll call vote was heard with Messrs. Weekley, Shrodes, Armstrong, Sarratore, Hunker, Riethmiller, and Suto voting yea and the 72 hour rule was waived.

**AN ORDINANCE TO MAKE APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE EXPENSES OF THE CITY OF MARTINS FERRY, STATE OF OHIO, DURING THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 209, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY** was given a first reading. Mr. Hunker made a motion to suspend the rules. Mr. Suto seconded the motion. A roll call vote was heard with Messrs. Weekley, Shrodes, Armstrong, Sarratore, Hunker, Riethmiller, and Suto voting yea and the rules were suspended. Mr. Hunker made a motion to pass the ordinance as read. Mr. Armstrong seconded the motion. A roll call vote was heard with Messrs. Weekley, Shrodes, Armstrong, Sarratore, Hunker, Riethmiller, and Suto voting yea and the ordinance was passed as read.

**Miscellaneous Business:**

Mayor Wallace said that he had just received a call regarding the 2010 census and the estimated population of Martins Ferry is 6,600. Mayor Wallace said we really need to get out and knock on doors to get an accurate documentation of our population.

Mayor Wallace asked is Council wanted to proceed with the gas aggregation. It would need to be put on the ballot. Mr. Riethmiller asked if he could meet with a representative or if a public hearing could be held. He also asked if we could get a refernce from a similar sized city in Ohio to ask questions. Mayor Wallace said yes. Dan Fry said he also had several questions. He wanted to know the cost benefit and the overall cost.

Mr. Hunker made a motion to go into Executive Session for compensation and sale of property. Mr. Shrodes seconded the motion. A roll call vote was heard with Messrs. Weekley, Shrodes, Armstrong, Sarratore, Hunker, Riethmiller, and Suto voting yea and the Council went into Executive session.

Mr. Hunker made a motion to allow a new ordinance to be read authorizing the sale of city owned real estate. Mr. Weekley seconded the motion. After an affirmative voice vote was heard the motion was declared passed

Mr. Weekley made a motion to bring in an ordinance to adjust the salary of the street superintendent. Mr. Suto asked if there would be two different ordinances brought in concerning salary adjustments. Mr. Suto seconded the motion. After an affirmative voice vote was heard the motion was declared passed

Mr. Weekley made a motion to bring in an ordinance to adjust the salary of the service/safety director. Mr. Suto seconded the motion. After an affirmative voice vote was heard the motion was declared passed.

Mr. Suto made a motion to accept the reports of Supervisors and Management. The motion was seconded by Mr. Armstrong and after hearing an affirmative voice vote, the motion was declared passed.

Mr. Davies said an ordinance is needed stating that \$10,000 per month will be taken from sanitation and put into permanent improvement until the loan is paid off. Mr. Riethmiller will take care of the details.

A discussion was held regarding placing funds from the sale of property into a separate line in the general fund that is not spent without further approval of council.

Mr. Hunker motioned that the meeting adjourn. The motion was seconded by Mr. Armstrong and after hearing an affirmative voice vote the meeting was adjourned with a salute to the flag.

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Lee Ann Cleary, Clerk of Council

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William Deaton, President of Council

## **Minutes of July 23, 2009 Council Meeting**

The Martins Ferry City Council met in regular session on Thursday July 23, 2009 at 6:00 PM in the City Council Chambers. The meeting was called to order by Council President, Bill Deaton, with the Pledge of Allegiance and was followed by a prayer.

Answering roll call were William Weekley, First Ward, Bruce Shrodes, Second Ward, Anthony Sarratore, Fourth Ward, Robert Hunker, Paul Riethmiller, and Bill Suto Council at Large.

**Reading of Minutes:** An ordinance was left off of the minutes. Also a correction was made on page 3. Both were corrected.

**Correspondence:** No correspondence was received.

### **Reports of Officers of the City:**

#### **Mayor:**

Mayor Wallace distributed a copy of Mr. Stein's report. Two heatless regenerative dryers, two atlas capco dew point demand controls and two atlas capco 100 degree pressure dew point options were shipped on July 22 and should be delivered on July 24. The total cost is \$16,420.

Final design plans for the two ozone generators and closed loop cooling water system is scheduled for delivery on August 15. This phase will be funded by 0% loan money amounting to \$450,000 from OPWC, GOA grant money of \$100,000, and part of PI money not to exceed \$320,000. The balance remaining will fund the second phase of this project which includes engineering costs.

Mayor Wallace distributed a report. The census will be coming up next year. With the help of the Chamber of Commerce, Mayor Wallace will set a date for someone to explain the importance of this census.

The OPWC will be sending Martins Ferry a check for \$45,200 to help pay for the June 20<sup>th</sup> water break. This should cover man hours.

On Wednesday a meeting was held to discuss gas aggregation. The City will wait until 2010 to make a decision. This will allow Bridgeport and St. Clairsville to give input on how the program is working.

Mr. Suto asked if the City had heard anything on the grant for the dispatchers. Mayor Wallace said that he had not heard.

Mr. Riethmiller said a thank you should be sent to the OPWC. He will take care of the thank you.

#### **Park District:**

Mr. Deaton said that the treasurer had a report to present. He said things were going alright, but that the weather was hurting attendance.

#### **Fire Chief #1:**

Mr. Duke asked for the approval of Council for the Jr. Firefighter program. He also reported that a stage 1 hazmat test will be done on the Robert's Pontiac property. Mr. Fry felt this was a good idea. Betty Zane Days will be held next week. Mr. Suto said he spoke with Mr. Fry and Council could verbally approve the Jr. Firefighter program.

**Fire Chief #2:**

On July 10, the Fire Department applied for a fire department construction grant from Homeland Security. This is a 100% grant.

**Reports of Committees of Council:**

**Finance/Audit:**

A meeting will be held in early August to discuss end of the year adjustments. The Cemetery is running out of money. \$10,000 could be transferred from the General Fund to Cemetery.

**Ordinance:** No report

**Sewer/Sidewalk:** No report

**Street:** No report

**Safety:** No report

**Service:** No Report.

**Citizens to be Heard:**

Richard Hord of 915 Virginia Street followed up on the meeting with Commissioner Favade. The meeting will take place the 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> week in September and will include a power point presentation.

Council and Administration were invited to the Sign Dedication for the Hall of Honor Park. The dedication will be held Saturday July 25 at 11:00 AM.

Mr. Hord asked what the next step would be in the sale of property, since no bids were received. Mayor Wallace said it is up to Council to put up for bid again., this time with a lower starting price. Mr. Hord asked if there were possible tenants for South School. Mr. Hunker said there are no interested parties. Mr. Hord said he was concerned about the deterioration of the building. Mr. Riethmiller said several options are being considered. The building might sell at a lower price or the county could sell the building for the city.

**Ordinances and Resolutions:**

**AN ORDINANCE ADJUSTING AND ESTABLISHING THE ANNUAL SALARY FOR THE STREET SUPERINTENDENT** was given a first reading. No action was taken and the ordinance will go on to a second reading.

**AN ORDINANCE ADJUSTING AND ESTABLISHING THE ANNUAL SALARY FOR THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE/SAFETY** was given a first reading. No action was taken and the ordinance will go on to a second reading.

**Miscellaneous Business:**

Mr. Suto made a motion to allow the Fire Department to start the Jr. Firefighter and Cadet Program. The motion was seconded by Mr. Sarratore. After an affirmative voice vote was heard, the motion was declared passed.

Mr. Hunker made a motion to excuse Mr. Armstrong from the Council Meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Sarratore. After an affirmative voice vote was heard, the motion was declared passed.

Mr. Hunker made a motion to allow the auditor to transfer \$10,000 from the General Fund to the Cemetery Department to help fund operating costs. The motion was seconded by Mr. Sarratore. After an affirmative voice vote was heard, the motion was declared passed.

Chief Duke thanked the water break crew and administration for handling the repair to the water line on July 12. He said everyone did a great job.

Mr. Weekley congratulated the City Employees and the Fire Department for their work on the water break and providing citizens with water. Mr. Weekley said that these people are often thanked for their hard work, then threatened with lay-offs. Mr. Weekley suggested an emergency fund be established using a % of water revenue to improve infrastructure. Mr. Hunker said that was already being done. Mr. Weekley said that not enough was being saved because there is never money when problems occur.

Mr. Sarratore asked that Council send Mr. Ron Suto a get well card. Mr. Suto was in a very serious motorcycle accident. The clerk will take care of the details.

Mr. Sarratore said he and the Mayor are working on the details of the memorial for Don Myers.

Mr. Hunker made a motion to accept the reports of Supervisors and Management. The motion was seconded by Mr. Suto and after hearing an affirmative voice vote, the motion was declared passed.

Mr. Hunker motioned that the meeting adjourn. The motion was seconded by Mr. Sarratore and after hearing an affirmative voice vote the meeting was adjourned with a salute to the flag.

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Lee Ann Cleary, Clerk of Council

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William Deaton, President of Council



## **Minutes of August 6, 2009 Council Meeting**

The Martins Ferry City Council met in regular session on Thursday August 6, 2009 at 6:00 PM in the City Council Chambers. The meeting was called to order by Council President, Bill Deaton, with the Pledge of Allegiance and was followed by a prayer by the Clerk.

Answering roll call were William Weekley, First Ward, Anthony Sarratore, Fourth Ward, Robert Hunker, Paul Riethmiller, and Bill Suto, Council at Large.

**Reading of Minutes:** The minutes of the previous meeting were approved as read.

### **Reports of Officers of the City:**

**Correspondence:** A thank you note was read from the Martins Ferry Hall of Honor Committee to thank City Administration and Council for allowing the committee to place a sign commemorating inductees in the park at the corner of Fifth and Hanover Streets

### **Mayor:**

Mayor Wallace distributed a report for Mr. Stein.

Mayor Wallace requested an Executive Session for Sale of Property and Personnel.

Mr. Riethmiller asked if any answer had been received concerning the dispatcher grant. Mayor Wallace said the grant process will not end until September.

### **Service/Safety Director:**

Mr. Davies said that four auxiliary police officers had been hired. All but one of these officers work for other police departments. They are currently writing parking and sweeper tickets so they can learn the streets.

Mr. Davies said there are major problems with the bucket truck. It may need to be replaced.

Mr. Riethmiller asked the status of the paver. Mr. Davies said that they sheared a bolt. It should be ready soon.

### **Auditor:**

Ms. Randall said the end of the month report had been distributed. Finances were holding about normal. Property tax money will be in soon. An exit conference with the auditor will be held on Tuesday August 11 at 5:30. A budget hearing will be held Thursday at 2:30. Local government money collections are not coming in as expected. That could mean a \$60,000-\$70,000 cut to the General Fund.

**Code Administrator:** No report

**Park Commission:**

August has been a slow month. A meeting was held and it was decided to have a free swim on Monday August 10. Starting August 11, the pool will hold Dollar Days with \$1 admission until the pool closes.

Flag football will be held this year.

The locks have been removed from Fodor Field. Mr. Davies asked if a sign could be posted that bikes are not allowed on the field. Also, an aux. Officer will begin walking the park.

Renovations have been made to the dining room at the Recreation Center. Groups who use the room free of charge donated round tables.

**Chief #2:**

Chief Regis said Betty Zane Days went well.

The Phase #1 study for Roberts Pontiac has been distributed. Hopefully, everything can be finalized by next week. Several members of Council did not receive the report. More copies were made and distributed.

**Committees of Council:**

**Finance:** Mr. Hunker asked that everyone try to attend the meeting on August 13.

**Street:** No report.

**Ordinance:** No report.

**Sewer/Sidewalk:** No report.

**Safety:** No report.

**Service:** No report.

**Citizens to be Heard:**

William Deaton of 433 North 5<sup>th</sup> Street said that in the last two months there have been two thefts at his residence. First, 9 tires were stolen. There were no witnesses. Most recently, a woman was caught stealing Mr. Deaton's lawn lights. Mr. Deaton chased the woman but she entered a truck and drove off. Mr. Deaton called the police and gave a description. A neighbor was also able to give a description of the vehicle and the license

plate number. Mr. Deaton stopped in the Police Station to see if they had caught the robber and was told that if they ran the plate it might come back to Mr. Dojak. Mr. Deaton stopped back later in the week and was told that he should move to a better neighborhood. Mr. Davies asked for names and said he would take care of the issue.

### **Ordinances and Resolutions:**

Mr. Suto made a motion to suspend the 72 hour rule. Mr. Hunker seconded the motion. After an affirmative voice vote was heard, the motion was declared passed and the 72 hour rule was waived.

**AN ORDINANCE ADJUSTING AND ESTABLISHING THE ANNUAL SALARY FOR THE STREET SUPERINTENDENT** was given a second reading. No action was taken and the ordinance will go on to a third reading.

**AN ORDINANCE ADJUSTING AND ESTABLISHING THE ANNUAL SALARY FOR THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE/SAFETY** was given a second reading. No action was taken and the ordinance will go on to a third reading.

**AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE JUNIOR CADET FIREFIGHTER PROGRAM FOR THE MARTINS FERRY FIRE DEPARTMENT** was given a first reading. No action was taken and the ordinance will go on to a second reading.

**AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE/SAFETY TO REPAY THE LOAN FOR THE PACKERS TO THE PERMANENT IMPROVEMENT FUND FROM THE SANITATION DEPARTMENT** was given a first reading. No action was taken and the ordinance will go on to a second reading.

**AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SALE OF CITY OWNED REAL ESTATE WHICH IS NO LONGER NEEDED FOR ANY MUNICIPAL PURPOSE** was given a first reading. No action was taken and the ordinance will go on to a second reading.

**AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SALE OF CITY OWNED REAL ESTATE WHICH IS NO LONGER NEEDED FOR ANY MUNICIPAL PURPOSE** was given a first reading. No action was taken and the ordinance will go on to a second reading.

### **Miscellaneous business:**

Mr. Deaton asked about trucks parking on the Meigs property. Mr. Deaton asked why some businesses were being charged to park while others park for free. The matter was discussed and Mr. Davies said he would do whatever Council decided.

Mr. Deaton asked if a police officer could patrol around the park. Things are being thrown into the pool. It was felt that people would not hang out near the pool if an officer patrolled the area. Mr. Larry Deaton said that people sit behind the stage in the park and throw beer cans and whiskey bottles into the pool. Chief Regis said that the youth group from the First Christian Church cleaned the park on Sunday morning after Betty Zane Days. They even picked up all of the cigarette butts. The park was clean Sunday morning, but cans, bottles, and a cider block were found in the pool Monday morning. Signage in the park was discussed. Littering fine \$500 signs are posted on the trees. Chief Regis asked that a resolution of appreciation be drafted for the youth group for all of their help. Larry Deaton said they called and asked if they could volunteer in exchange for using the bandstand Sunday night for a concert.

Mr. Suto made a motion to go into Executive Session for personnel and sale of property. The motion was seconded by Mr. Hunker. A roll call vote was heard with Messrs. Weekley, Sarratore, Hunker, Riethmiller, and Suto voting yea and the motion was declared passed.

Mr. Hunker asked if Mr. Davies could call the paper and clarify that Chief Carpenter would continue to have health benefits paid for by the City.

Mr. Suto made a motion to accept the reports of Supervisors and Management. The motion was seconded by Mr. Hunker and after hearing an affirmative voice vote, the motion was declared passed.

Mr. Hunker made a motion to excuse Mr. Shrodes and Mr. Armstrong from the Council Meeting. Mr. Riethmiller seconded the motion and after hearing an affirmative voice vote, the motion was declared passed.

Mr. Hunker asked to be excused from the August 20 meeting.

Mayor Wallace asked for a resolution of appreciation for auditor Pappano's retirement.

Mr. Suto motioned that the meeting adjourn. The motion was seconded by Mr. Hunker and after hearing an affirmative voice vote the meeting was adjourned with a salute to the flag.

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Lee Ann Cleary, Clerk of Council

William Deaton, President of Council



## **Minutes of August 20, 2009 Council Meeting**

The Martins Ferry City Council met in regular session on Thursday August 20, 2009 at 6:00 PM in the City Council Chambers. The meeting was called to order by Council President, Bill Deaton, with the Pledge of Allegiance and was followed by a prayer by the Clerk.

Answering roll call were William Weekley, First Ward, Bruce shrodes, Second Ward, Russell Armstrong, Third Ward, Anthony Sarratore, Fourth Ward, Paul Riethmiller, and Bill Suto, Council at Large.

**Reading of Minutes:** The minutes of the previous meeting were approved as read.

**Correspondence:** No correspondence was received.

### **Reports of Officers of the City:**

#### **Mayor:**

Mayor Wallace reported that there had been a structure fire involving three homes on North Zane Highway. Two houses were occupied and one was vacant.

Lt. Phil Hartman is the Lt. in Charge of the Police Department until further notice.

A copy of a thank you letter was distributed. The letter was written to thank Sergeant Bumba for helping a family from Washington D.C.

Three new auxiliary police officers have been hired.

Streets are being paved and patched.

A meeting was held to discuss upgrading the water lines and running an additional line from the water plant to 5<sup>th</sup> Street. An overhead view of the plans is available for viewing.

On Thursday August 27 Congressman Charlie Wilson will meet with a contingent of business owners and city officials to discuss the water line project.

Mayor Wallace asked for an Executive Session to discuss personnel and sale of Property.

The order of the meeting was changed to go into Executive session immediately. Mr. Weekley made a motion to go into Executive Session for Sale of Property and personnel. The motion was seconded by Mr. Shrodes. A roll call vote was heard with Messrs. Weekley, Shrodes, Armstrong, Sarratore, Riethmiller, and Suto voting yea and Council went into Executive Session.

**Service Director:** No report.

Mr. Shrodes asked about applying reflectors to dumpsters and cones. Mr. Davies said he would get some reflective tape and take care of that issue. Mr. Shrodes also asked about signage for the back road to the school complex. The road needs to be named and a sign posted.

**Auditor:**

A budget hearing was held last week. Funding will be cut \$50,000 this year and \$50,000 next year. A finance committee meeting will be held as soon as more information is made available.

**Code Administrator:** No report.

**Committees of Council:**

**Finance:** No report

**Street:** No report.

**Ordinance:** No report.

**Sewer/Sidewalk:** No report.

**Safety:** No report.

**Service:** No report.

**Citizens to be Heard:**

Esther Kessler of 519 Ohio Ave. mentioned the odor in the Ohio Ave. section of the City. Mr. Davies is aware of the problem. The sewer lines have been checked and the lines are flowing. Mr. Davies said that dye would be put in the system next door to Mrs. Kessler to see if that is the problem. Mrs. Kessler also thanked Mrs. Betty Suto for getting the grass cut in her neighborhood.

Jeff Poreca of 508 Vine Street said that the alley behind his house is so bad that he has been unable to get his car out of his garage for three years. Mr. Poreca said that he paid for three ton of gravel to be placed in the alley but that the first rain washed it away. Mr. Davies said that if it didn't rain on Friday the City crew could grate the alley.

Don Woods of Seabrights Lane said he has been taking care of the grass at 305 North 7<sup>th</sup> Street all summer. He has been trying to purchase the property. Mr. Woods has parked several vehicles including 2 RV's on the lot. Mr. Woods was told by the police to move the vehicles. Mrs. Suto said that a residential lot cannot be turned into a parking place.

Mr. Woods said he would park the RV's on the street. This is an ordinance violation and would cause the vehicles to be towed. Mr. Shrodes explained a similar problem in his ward and supported Mrs. Suto's earlier comment that a residential lot cannot be turned into a parking lot. Mr. Woods was told that he would need to find another place to park the vehicles. Mr. Woods asked if he could install a gravel driveway. Mr. Deaton said he would look into the matter.

Richard Hord of 915 Virginia Street thanked Council for reading the Thank You note from the Hall of Honor committee. Mr. Hord asked if the no smoking sign in the area at the corner of Hanover and 5<sup>th</sup> Street could be moved so as to not distract from the Hall of Honor plaque. Mr. Hord asked if Council would consider naming the area "Hall of Honor Park". Mr. Hord also suggested a plaque in the City Building listing all of the City's Mayors. A Town Hall Meeting with State officials will be held on Tuesday September 22 at 2:00 PM at the Martins Ferry Public Library. A census meeting and power point presentation will be held on September 9 at 7:00 at the American Legion.

### **Ordinances and Resolutions:**

**AN ORDINANCE ADJUSTING AND ESTABLISHING THE ANNUAL SALARY FOR THE STREET SUPERINTENDENT** was given a third reading. Mr. Weekley made a motion to table the ordinance. Mr. Suto seconded the motion. A roll call vote was heard with Messrs. Weekley, Shrodes, Armstrong, Sarratore, and Suto voting yea, Mr. Riethmiller voted no and the ordinance was tabled.

**AN ORDINANCE ADJUSTING AND ESTABLISHING THE ANNUAL SALARY FOR THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE/SAFETY** was given a third reading. Mr. Suto made a motion to table the ordinance. Mr. Weekley seconded the motion. A roll call vote was heard with Messrs. Weekley, Shrodes, Armstrong, Sarratore, and Suto voting yea, Mr. Riethmiller voted no and the ordinance was tabled.

**AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE JUNIOR CADET FIREFIGHTER PROGRAM FOR THE MARTINS FERRY FIRE DEPARTMENT** was given a second reading. Mr. Shrodes made a motion to suspend the rules. Mr. Suto seconded the motion. A roll call vote was heard with Messrs. Weekley, Shrodes, Armstrong, Sarratore, Riethmiller, and Suto voting yea and the rules were suspended. Mr. Suto made a motion to pass the ordinance as read. Mr. Shrodes seconded the motion. A roll call vote was heard with Messrs. Weekley, Shrodes, Armstrong, Sarratore, Riethmiller, and Suto voting yea and the ordinance was declared passed.

**AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE/SAFETY TO REPAY THE LOAN FOR THE PACKERS TO THE PERMANENT IMPROVEMENT FUND FROM THE SANITATION DEPARTMENT** was given a second reading. Mr. Riethmiller made a motion to suspend the rules. Mr. Armstrong seconded the motion. A roll call vote was heard with Messrs.

Weekley, Shrodes, Armstrong, Sarratore, Riethmiller, and Suto voting yea and the rules were suspended. Mr. Riethmiller made a motion to pass the ordinance as read. Mr. Suto seconded the motion. A roll call vote was heard with Messrs. Weekley, Shrodes, Armstrong, Sarratore, Riethmiller, and Suto voting yea and the ordinance was declared passed.

**AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SALE OF CITY OWNED REAL ESTATE WHICH IS NO LONGER NEEDED FOR ANY MUNICIPAL PURPOSE**

was given a second reading. Mr. Shrodes made a motion to suspend the rules. Mr. Suto seconded the motion. A roll call vote was heard with Messrs. Weekley, Shrodes, Armstrong, Sarratore, Riethmiller, and Suto voting yea and the rules were suspended. Mr. Suto made a motion to pass the ordinance as read. Mr. Armstrong seconded the motion. A roll call vote was heard with Messrs. Weekley, Shrodes, Armstrong, Sarratore, Riethmiller, and Suto voting yea and the ordinance was declared passed.

**AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SALE OF CITY OWNED REAL ESTATE WHICH IS NO LONGER NEEDED FOR ANY MUNICIPAL PURPOSE**

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**Miscellaneous Business:**

Mayor Wallace invited council to view the overhead map of the purposed water line project after the Council meeting.

Mr. Armstrong made a motion to accept the reports of Supervisors and Management. The motion was seconded by Mr. Suto and after hearing an affirmative voice vote, the motion was declared passed.

Mr. Shrodes made a motion to excuse Mr. Hunker from the Council Meeting. Mr. Suto seconded the motion and after hearing an affirmative voice vote, the motion was declared passed.

Mr. Riethmiller said that a liaison to the School Board he would like to have a resolution of appreciation prepared for Mr. Stankovich since he will be retiring at the end of the school year.

Mr. Armstrong motioned that the meeting adjourn. The motion was seconded by Mr. Shrodes and after hearing an affirmative voice vote the meeting was adjourned with a salute to the flag.

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Lee Ann Cleary, Clerk of Council

William Deaton, President of Council

## **Minutes of September 3, 2009 Council Meeting**

The Martins Ferry City Council met in regular session on Thursday September 3, 2009 at 6:00 PM in the City Council Chambers. The meeting was called to order by Council President, Bill Deaton, with the Pledge of Allegiance and was followed by a prayer by the Clerk.

Answering roll call were William Weekley, First Ward, Bruce Shrodes, Second Ward, Russell Armstrong, Third Ward, Anthony Sarratore, Fourth Ward, Robert Hunker, Paul Riethmiller, and Bill Suto, Council at Large.

**Reading of Minutes:** The minutes of the previous meeting were approved as read.

**Correspondence:** No correspondence was received.

### **Reports of Officers of the City:**

#### **Mayor:**

Mayor Wallace distributed a copy of Mr. Stein's report. Mr. Stein reported that two ozone generators and the closed loop cooling water system had been delivered and are being stored in the garage at the water plant. Davidson Electric has been selected as the electrical contractor for this project. The cost of installation will be \$21,251.

The City is waiting to hear if the application for the Energy Efficiency and Block Grant for improvements to the City Building has been approved. Estimated cost of the project is \$225,000.

Two parties have purchased the railroad properties that Council approved for sale. Total sales came to \$7066. Another party is interested in purchasing a former piece of railroad property from the City. This will be presented in an ordinance tonight but Mr. Fry needs to look in over.

The Mayor asked that Council act on the resolution regarding the Ohio Public Works Commission State Capital Improvement and/or local transportation improvement program. This resolution concerns the \$45,200 applied for after the June 20 water break.

The ordinance regarding the payback of up to \$10,000 toward the sanitation trucks needs to be amended to add for the payback of the transfer station. This will be done at the next Council Meeting.

Jeff Vaughn of Vaughn, Coast, and Vaughn has been offering his advice to the City on several matters. Mayor Wallace asked that we contract with Vaughn, Coast, and Vaughn at \$100 per month starting in January 2010 to retain them as the City's engineering firm.

South School cannot be auctioned. Mayor Wallace said Mr. Fry suggested the bidding process begin again with the City stating no minimum bid would be set but that the City held the right to reject any and all bids.

Hydrants are being repaired. Valves are being replaced. Streets are being patched. The water breaks on Broadway and County Rd. 4 have been repaired. North 9<sup>th</sup> Street from Mackey to Ohio Street will be paved.

The City will be ordering a new police cruiser. \$28,000 will come from the cruiser fund. \$3088 will come from the Law Enforcement Fund.

Mayor Wallace requested an Executive Session concerning personnel and sale of property.

Council approved a change to the regular order of the meeting and allowed a representative from the Wheeling Area Chamber of Commerce to address Council. Invitations were distributed. Council, Administration, and business leaders were invited to luncheon at the McClure Hotel to discuss climate change and energy legislation currently being debated in Congress. The meeting will be held Thursday September 10 from 11:30-1:00 PM.

**Service Director:**

Mr. Davies said the cruiser being purchased will need an ordinance because it is not being purchased through state purchasing.

Mr. Suto asked about repairs to Vineway. Mr. Davies said repairs need to be made to the ditch lines. Mr. Hunker asked where the water goes. Mr. Davies said there is a catch basin. Mr. Shrodes suggested the matter be discussed at the Finance Meeting.

**Auditor:**

End of the month reports were distributed. Funds are holding steady, except water is not gaining funds. Personal property tax funds received are down \$4,000. Local government funds have also been reduced. Income tax funds are \$11,000 ahead of 2008. A Finance Meeting was scheduled for September 16 at 5:30 PM.

**Code Administrator:** No report

**Park District:**

Mr. Deaton said the pool has been closed and winterized. The liner in the baby pool needs replaced. A meeting will be held on September 8<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 at the Recreation Center. A Treasurer's report will be given at the meeting. Flag football draft day is Sunday. Games begin September 26-27. The season will last 5 weeks. K-1 games will be held at Hillandale Park. 2-7 games will be held on the High School Football Field. Mr.

Riethmiller asked if a report could be given at the next Council Meeting. Mr. Deaton said that was fine.

**Treasurer:** No report

**Fire Chief 1:**

Mr. Duke corrected the accounts of the recent structure fire on North Zane Hwy. as reported in the newspaper. Mr. Duke said that response time was 45 seconds for the first squad, 2 ½ minutes for the first fire truck, and 3 ½ minutes for the second fire truck. The time of day was rough because of work schedules; however the newspaper was incorrect in reporting that it took 17 minutes to respond. Chief Duke said work continues on straightening out the plugs and many hydrants need replaced.

**Fire Chief 2:** No report

**Committees of Council:**

**Finance:** No report

**Street:** No report.

**Ordinance:** Mr. Riethmiller asked that the rules be suspended and vote be taken on the ordinance concerning the demolition of the structure.

**Sewer/Sidewalk:** No report.

**Safety:** No report.

**Service:** No report.

**Citizens to be Heard:**

Carol Ann Simmons of the Steubenville Office of the NAACP addressed Council., She had been given authorization by Mr. Darius savage who was laid off be the City in 2008. From the last census report 3.5% of Martins Ferry's population was a minority. Their were no minorities working for the City in 2006. Mr. Savage represented the only minority working for the City at the time of him being laid off. Mr. savage received no letter of termination and no lay off notification letter. All of the other employees laid off were called back, except Mr. Savage. Ms. Simmons asked Council to look into the matter.

Richard Hord of 915 Virginia Street asked about the hole left on the 900 block of Virginia after the City repaired a leaky water valve. Mr. Davies said it would be patched next week.

Mr. Hord asked if the City administration and Council planned to honor Joseph Pappano before his retirement on September 30. Mr. Pappano asked that Council postpone any plans due to Mr. Pappano's wife being ill. Mr. Hord also asked about plans to honor Don Myers. Mr. Hord was told that plans are underway and should be ready by next spring. Mr. Hord said that he had seen several books, most recently a book about Bellaire, focusing on the history of the towns of the Ohio Valley. Mr. Hord asked if a book about Martins Ferry was being planned. Mr. Shrodes said that several books about Martins Ferry are available at the Sedwick Museum.

Mr. Hord reminded Council of the meeting on Wednesday September 9 at 7:00 PM at the American Legion concerning the 2010 census.

### **Ordinances and Resolutions:**

Mr. Riethmiller made a motion to waive the 72 hour rule and read the legislation presented to Council at the beginning of the meeting. Mr. Hunker seconded the motion. The motion was declared passed after an affirmative voice vote was heard.

**AN ORDINANCE APPROVING AND DIRECTING THE DEMOLITION AND REMOVAL OF A CERTAIN STRUCTURE LOCATED AT 1421 TERRACE STREET, MARTINS FERRY, OHIO** was given a first reading. Mr. Riethmiller made a motion to suspend the rules. Mr. Suto seconded the motion. A roll call vote was heard with Messrs. Weekley, Shrodes, Armstrong, Sarratore, Hunker, Riethmiller and Suto voting yea and the rules were suspended. Mr. Hunker made a motion to suspend the rules. Mr. Riethmiller seconded the motion. A roll call vote was heard with Messrs. Weekley, Shrodes, Armstrong, Sarratore, Hunker, Riethmiller and Suto voting yea and the ordinance was declared passed.

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO PREPARE AND SUBMIT AN APPLICATION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE OHIO PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION STATE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT AND/OR LOCAL TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM(S), AND TO EXECUTE CONTRACTS AS REQUIRED** was given a first reading. Mr. Riethmiller made a motion to suspend the rules. Mr. Armstrong seconded the motion. A roll call vote was heard with Messrs. Weekley, Shrodes, Armstrong, Sarratore, Hunker, Riethmiller and Suto voting yea and the rules were suspended. Mr. Hunker made a motion to suspend the rules. Mr. Armstrong seconded the motion. A roll call vote was heard with Messrs. Weekley, Shrodes, Armstrong, Sarratore, Hunker, Riethmiller and Suto voting yea and the ordinance was declared passed.

Council was asked if they planned to act on the legislation tabled at the last meeting. They did not choose to act until after the Finance Committee Meeting.

### **Miscellaneous Business:**

Mr. Deaton said that an envelope addressed to him was placed in the Council mailbox. The envelope was opened. Mr. Deaton asked that his mail not be opened in the future.

Mr. Deaton distributed truck parking rates and asked why some businesses are asked to pay while others park for free.

Mr. Sarratore made a motion to go into Executive Session for the sale of property and personnel. Mr. Suto seconded the motion. A roll call vote was heard with Messrs. Weekley, Shrodes, Armstrong, Sarratore, Hunker, Riethmiller and Suto voting yea and Council went into Executive Session.

Mr. Suto made a motion to accept bids for the South School property. There will be no minimum bid and any and all bids can be rejected. The motion was seconded by Mr. Armstrong. After an affirmative voice vote was heard the motion was declared passed.

Mr. Riethmiller made a motion to accept bids for the High School property. There will be no minimum bid and any and all bids can be rejected. The motion was seconded by Mr. Shrodes. After an affirmative voice vote was heard the motion was declared passed.

Mr. Hunker made a motion to accept the reports of Supervisors and Management. The motion was seconded by Mr. Suto and after hearing an affirmative voice vote, the motion was declared passed.

Mr. Shrodes motioned that the meeting adjourn. The motion was seconded by Mr. Hunker and after hearing an affirmative voice vote the meeting was adjourned with a salute to the flag.

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Lee Ann Cleary, Clerk of Council

William Deaton, President of Council

## **Minutes of September 17, 2009 Council Meeting**

The Martins Ferry City Council met in regular session on Thursday September 17, 2009 at 6:00 PM in the City Council Chambers. The meeting was called to order by Council President, Bill Deaton, with the Pledge of Allegiance and was followed by a prayer by the Clerk.

Answering roll call were William Weekley, First Ward, Bruce Shrodes, Second Ward, Russell Armstrong, Third Ward, Anthony Sarratore, Fourth Ward, Robert Hunker, Paul Riethmiller, and Bill Suto, Council at Large.

**Reading of Minutes:** The minutes of the previous meeting were approved as read.

**Correspondence:** No correspondence was received.

### **Reports of Officers of the City:**

#### **Mayor:**

Mayor Wallace distributed Mr. Stein's report.

The Mayor stated that the advertisement for the sale of South School would appear in the paper soon. The advertisement must be listed for five weeks.

A panel discussion will be held on September 22 at 2:00 PM at the Martins Ferry Public Library. The discussion will be about economic development assistance for businesses and communities in the Martins Ferry area.

Mayor Wallace said that a resident on Kuckuck Lane has been calling repeatedly to try to get the house next to her torn down. The house is empty, but not dilapidated. The City cannot enter private property.

Several ordinances were distributed that need to be passed tonight if possible. These include the sale of property, the Robert's Pontiac property, and Hillandale Ball Field.

Two bids were received for the demolition and installation of the new generators and dryers. Bids were opened today at 12 PM and are being evaluated by the City's engineer. More information will be available at the next meeting.

Information was distributed concerning Issue 2, Ohioans for Livestock Care.

Mr. Dwayne Pielech from Belmont County Job and Family Services discussed the Belmont County Social Service Levy.

**Service/Safety Director:** No report

**Law Director:** No report

**Park District:**

A report was distributed to Council members. The baby pool liner had to be removed and the concrete underneath crumbled.

**Lt. in Command:** No report

**Fire Chief 2:**

The Christmas Parade will be held on Friday November 27 at 6:30 PM and will follow its usual path.

The ordinance concerning the purchase of the Robert's Pontiac property is ready and will be read tonight.

**Committees of Council:**

**Finance:** A Finance Committee Meeting was held on Wednesday. Mr. Hunker thanked all those who attended. Water, Sewer, and Sanitation are doing well. The General Fund is not looking good. Income tax revenue is unsure. \$17,000 in back payments have been received this year in comparison to \$60,000 last year. A Finance Meeting will be held October 8 at 5:30 PM.

**Street:** No report.

**Ordinance:** Two new ordinances have been sent to Mr. Fry. Mr. Riethmiller asked that a voice vote be taken concerning the Auxiliary Dispatcher.

**Sewer/Sidewalk:** No report.

**Safety:** No report.

**Service:** No report.

**Citizens to be Heard:**

Richard Hord, 915 Virginia Street, reminded everyone about the Economic Development Discussion being held at the Martins Ferry Public Library on September 22 at 2:00 PM. Mr. Hord said that state elected officials including Jason Wilson would be speaking at the St. Clairsville Public Library on Friday Septemeber 18 from 11:30-12:30. Future sessions will be held to follow up the 2010 Census Meeting that was held at the American Legion. Mr. Hord asked how the current bid system for the school properties is different from the previous bid process. It was explained that there will be no minimum

bid and that the City has the right to reject any and all bids. Mr. Hord also thanked everyone for patching the hole on the 900 block of Virginia.

**Ordinances and Resolutions:**

Mr. Riethmiller made a motion to waive the 72 hour rule and read the legislation presented to Council at the beginning of the meeting. Mr. Shrodes seconded the motion. The motion was declared passed after an affirmative voice vote was heard.

**AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SALE OF CITY OWNED REAL ESTATE WHICH IS NO LONGER NEEDED FOR ANY MUNICIPAL PURPOSE** was given a first reading. Mr. Hunker made a motion to suspend the rules. Mr. Suto seconded the motion. A roll call vote was heard with Messrs. Weekley, Shrodes, Armstrong, Sarratore, Hunker, Riethmiller and Suto voting yea and the rules were suspended. Mr. Suto made a motion to pass the ordinance as read. Mr. Hunker seconded the motion. A roll call vote was heard with Messrs. Weekley, Shrodes, Armstrong, Sarratore, Hunker, Riethmiller and Suto voting yea and the ordinance was declared passed.

**AN ORDINANCE APPROVING THE FILING OF LITIGATION ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF MARTINS FERRY AGAINST ALL INDIVIDUALS AND/OR BUSINESSES THAT ARE PAST DUE ON THE PAYING OF CITY INCOME TAXES** was given a first reading. Mr. Riethmiller made a motion to suspend the rules. Mr. Sarratore seconded the motion. A roll call vote was heard with Messrs. Weekley, Shrodes, Armstrong, Sarratore, Hunker, Riethmiller and Suto voting yea and the rules were suspended. Mr. Riethmiller made a motion to pass the ordinance as read. Mr. Armstrong seconded the motion. A roll call vote was heard with Messrs. Weekley, Shrodes, Armstrong, Sarratore, Hunker, Riethmiller and Suto voting yea and the ordinance was declared passed.

**AN ORDINANCE DIRECTING THAT THE HILLANDALE BALL FIELD PROPERTY BE PERPETUALLY OPERATED AND MAINTAINED SOLELY FOR PUBLIC RECREATION OR NATURAL RESOURCE PURPOSES** was given a first reading. Mr. Hunker made a motion to suspend the rules. Mr. Shrodes seconded the motion. A roll call vote was heard with Messrs. Weekley, Shrodes, Armstrong, Sarratore, Hunker, Riethmiller and Suto voting yea and the rules were suspended. Mr. Hunker made a motion to pass the ordinance as read. Mr. Armstrong seconded the motion. A roll call vote was heard with Messrs. Weekley, Shrodes, Armstrong, Sarratore, Hunker, Riethmiller and Suto voting yea and the ordinance was declared passed.

**AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR, ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF MARTINS FERRY, TO ENTER INTO A LAND CONTRACT FOR THE PURCHASE OF THE ROBERT'S PONTIAC PROPERTY** was given a first reading.

Mr. Hunker made a motion to suspend the rules. Mr. Armstrong seconded the motion. A roll call vote was heard with Messrs. Weekley, Shrodes, Armstrong, Sarratore, Hunker, Riethmiller and Suto voting yea and the rules were suspended. Mr. Suto made a motion to pass the ordinance as read. Mr. Riethmiller seconded the motion. A roll call vote was heard with Messrs. Weekley, Shrodes, Armstrong, Sarratore, Hunker, Riethmiller and Suto voting yea and the ordinance was declared passed.

**AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE/SAFETY TO ADVERTIZE FOR BIDS AND ENTER INTO A CONTRACT FOR THE DEMOLITION AND INSTALLATION OF THE OZONE GENERATORS & DRYERS AND ALL EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES NECESSARY TO COMPLETE THIS PROJECT** was given a first reading. Mr.

Riethmiller made a motion to suspend the rules. Mr. Armstrong seconded the motion. A roll call vote was heard with Messrs. Weekley, Shrodes, Armstrong, Sarratore, Hunker, Riethmiller and Suto voting yea and the rules were suspended. Mr. Suto made a motion to pass the ordinance as read. Mr. Weekley seconded the motion. A roll call vote was heard with Messrs. Weekley, Shrodes, Armstrong, Sarratore, Hunker, Riethmiller and Suto voting yea and the ordinance was declared passed.

**A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE AMOUNTS AND RATES AS DETERMINED BY THE BUDGET COMMISSION AND AUTHORIZING THE NECESSARY TAX LEVIES AND CERTIFYING THEM TO THE COUNTY AUDITOR** was given a first reading. Mr. Hunker made a motion to suspend the rules.

Mr. Sarratore seconded the motion. A roll call vote was heard with Messrs. Weekley, Shrodes, Armstrong, Sarratore, Hunker, Riethmiller and Suto voting yea and the rules were suspended. Mr. Hunker made a motion to pass the ordinance as read. Mr. Armstrong seconded the motion. A roll call vote was heard with Messrs. Weekley, Shrodes, Armstrong, Sarratore, Hunker, Riethmiller and Suto voting yea and the ordinance was declared passed.

**Miscellaneous Business:**

Mr. Deaton said that the state audit revealed some matters that need to be addressed. They advised that an ordinance needed to be created that established minimum wage for seasonal employees. Mayor Wallace said he would get the information to Mr. Riethmiller. Also, the minutes need to be electronically published for public inspection. Since the City does not have a website, Martins Ferry Public Library will add the minutes to their website.

Mr. Armstrong asked if the City would advertise the High School property so it could be seen by interested parties out of the area. Mayor Wallace said he spoke to Sue Douglas and the property will be advertised on their website.

Mr. Riethmiller made a motion that all auxiliary desk personnel will be paid \$11 an hour. Mr. Suto seconded the motion. After an affirmative voice vote was heard, the motion was declared passed.

Mr. Riethmiller made a motion that the temporary position of Operator of Records get paid the amount of \$2,000 a month. Mr. Hunker seconded the motion. After an affirmative voice vote was heard, the motion was declared passed.

Mr. Weekley asked that Council consider a resolution of appreciation for Jim Nicholson honoring his time on Council and his appointment as with the National Elks Organization. Mr. Weekley also added that Mr. Hill was appointed National Commander of the American Legion and should also be recognized with a resolution of appreciation.

Mr. Shrodes asked Mr. Davies to make sure all City vehicles are outfitted with fire extinguishers and first aid kits and that training be provided. Mr. Suto asked Chief Regis if the fire department could do the training. Chief Regis said that the fire department could borrow the simulator from EORH and do the training. Larry Deaton said that water plant trucks have fire extinguishers. Street department vehicles have them as well. The issue is to make sure they are returned after being used. The water department has a monthly check of their extinguishers.

Mr. Riethmiller said that a gentleman had inquired about purchasing the property on Kuckuck Lane when it becomes available. Mr. Riethmiller asked that the man be notified.

Mr. Hunker made a motion to untable the two ordinances concerning pay increases. Mr. Suto seconded the motion. After an affirmative voice vote, the ordinances were untabled.

**AN ORDINANCE ADJUSTING AND ESTABLISHING THE ANNUAL SALARY FOR THE STREET SUPERINTENDENT** was read but was not acted upon. The ordinance died.

**AN ORDINANCE ADJUSTING AND ESTABLISHING THE ANNUAL SALARY FOR THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE/SAFETY** was read. Mr. Suto made a motion to pass the ordinance as read. Mr. Hunker seconded the motion. A roll call vote was heard with Messrs. Weekley, Armstrong, Hunker, and Suto voting yea Messrs. Shrodes, Sarratore, and Riethmiller voting no. The ordinance was passed with a 4-3 vote.

Mr. Hunker made a motion to accept the reports of officers and management. Mr. Riethmiller seconded the motion. An affirmative voice vote was heard and the reports were accepted.

Mr. Hunker made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Armstrong seconded the motion. After an affirmative voice vote the meeting was adjourned with a salute to the flag.

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Lee Ann Cleary, Clerk of Council

William Deaton, Council President

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Answering roll call were William Weekley, First Ward, Bruce Shrodes, Second Ward, Russell Armstrong, Third Ward, Anthony Sarratore, Fourth Ward, Robert Hunker, Paul Riethmiller, and Bill Suto, Council at Large.

**Reading of Minutes:** The minutes of the previous meeting were approved as read.

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### **Reports of Officers of the City:**

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Mayor Wallace distributed Mr. Stein's report.

The Mayor stated that the advertisement for the sale of South School would appear in the paper soon. The advertisement must be listed for five weeks.

A panel discussion will be held on September 22 at 2:00 PM at the Martins Ferry Public Library. The discussion will be about economic development assistance for businesses and communities in the Martins Ferry area.

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Two bids were received for the demolition and installation of the new generators and dryers. Bids were opened today at 12 PM and are being evaluated by the City's engineer. More information will be available at the next meeting.

Information was distributed concerning Issue 2, Ohioans for Livestock Care.

Mr. Dwayne Pielech from Belmont County Job and Family Services discussed the Belmont County Social Service Levy.

**Service/Safety Director:** No report

**Law Director:** No report

**Park District:**

A report was distributed to Council members. The baby pool liner had to be removed and the concrete underneath crumbled.

**Lt. in Command:** No report

**Fire Chief 2:**

The Christmas Parade will be held on Friday November 27 at 6:30 PM and will follow its usual path.

The ordinance concerning the purchase of the Robert's Pontiac property is ready and will be read tonight.

**Committees of Council:**

**Finance:** A Finance Committee Meeting was held on Wednesday. Mr. Hunker thanked all those who attended. Water, Sewer, and Sanitation are doing well. The General Fund is not looking good. Income tax revenue is unsure. \$17,000 in back payments have been received this year in comparison to \$60,000 last year. A Finance Meeting will be held October 8 at 5:30 PM.

**Street:** No report.

**Ordinance:** Two new ordinances have been sent to Mr. Fry. Mr. Riethmiller asked that a voice vote be taken concerning the Auxiliary Dispatcher.

**Sewer/Sidewalk:** No report.

**Safety:** No report.

**Service:** No report.

**Citizens to be Heard:**

Richard Hord, 915 Virginia Street, reminded everyone about the Economic Development Discussion being held at the Martins Ferry Public Library on September 22 at 2:00 PM. Mr. Hord said that state elected officials including Jason Wilson would be speaking at the St. Clairsville Public Library on Friday September 18 from 11:30-12:30. Future sessions will be held to follow up the 2010 Census Meeting that was held at the American Legion. Mr. Hord asked how the current bid system for the school properties is different from the previous bid process. It was explained that there will be no minimum

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**Miscellaneous Business:**

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Mr. Riethmiller made a motion that all auxiliary desk personnel will be paid \$11 an hour. Mr. Suto seconded the motion. After an affirmative voice vote was heard, the motion was declared passed.

Mr. Riethmiller made a motion that the temporary position of Operator of Records get paid the amount of \$2,000 a month. Mr. Hunker seconded the motion. After an affirmative voice vote was heard, the motion was declared passed.

Mr. Weekley asked that Council consider a resolution of appreciation for Jim Nicholson honoring his time on Council and his appointment as with the National Elks Organization. Mr. Weekley also added that Mr. Hill was appointed National Commander of the American Legion and should also be recognized with a resolution of appreciation.

Mr. Shrodes asked Mr. Davies to make sure all City vehicles are outfitted with fire extinguishers and first aid kits and that training be provided. Mr. Suto asked Chief Regis if the fire department could do the training. Chief Regis said that the fire department could borrow the simulator from EORH and do the training. Larry Deaton said that water plant trucks have fire extinguishers. Street department vehicles have them as well. The issue is to make sure they are returned after being used. The water department has a monthly check of their extinguishers.

Mr. Riethmiller said that a gentleman had inquired about purchasing the property on Kuckuck Lane when it becomes available. Mr. Riethmiller asked that the man be notified.

Mr. Hunker made a motion to untable the two ordinances concerning pay increases. Mr. Suto seconded the motion. After an affirmative voice vote, the ordinances were untabled.

**AN ORDINANCE ADJUSTING AND ESTABLISHING THE ANNUAL SALARY FOR THE STREET SUPERINTENDENT** was read but was not acted upon. The ordinance died.

**AN ORDINANCE ADJUSTING AND ESTABLISHING THE ANNUAL SALARY FOR THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE/SAFETY** was read. Mr. Suto made a motion to pass the ordinance as read. Mr. Hunker seconded the motion. A roll call vote was heard with Messrs. Weekley, Armstrong, Hunker, and Suto voting yea Messrs. Shrodes, Sarratore, and Riethmiller voting no. The ordinance was passed with a 4-3 vote.

Mr. Hunker made a motion to accept the reports of officers and management. Mr. Riethmiller seconded the motion. An affirmative voice vote was heard and the reports were accepted.

Mr. Hunker made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Armstrong seconded the motion. After an affirmative voice vote the meeting was adjourned with a salute to the flag.

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Lee Ann Cleary, Clerk of Council

William Deaton, Council President

## **Minutes of October 12, 2009 Council Meeting**

The Martins Ferry City Council met in special session on Monday October 12, 2009 at 6:00 PM in the City Council Chambers. The meeting was called to order by Council President, Bill Deaton, with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Answering roll call were William Weekley, First Ward, Bruce Shrodes, Second Ward, Russell Armstrong, Third Ward, Anthony Sarratore, Fourth Ward, Robert Hunker, and Paul Riethmiller, Council at Large.

The Special Meeting was called for legislation.

### **Ordinances and Resolutions**

**AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING THE SALARY OF THE POSITION OF AUXILIARY DESKMAN** received a first reading. Mr. Hunker made a motion to suspend the rules. The motion was seconded by Mr. Armstrong. A roll call vote was heard with Messrs. Weekley, Shrodes, Armstrong, Sarratore, Hunker and Riethmiller voting yea and the rules were suspended. Mr. Riethmiller made a motion to pass the ordinance as read. The motion was seconded by Mr. Weekley. A roll call vote was heard with Messrs. Weekley, Shrodes, Armstrong, Sarratore, Hunker and Riethmiller voting yea and the ordinance was passed as read.

**AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING THE SALARY FOR THE TEMPORARY POSITION OF OPERATOR OF RECORDS** was given a first reading. Mr. Hunker made a motion to suspend the rules. The motion was seconded by Mr. Armstrong. A roll call vote was heard with Messrs. Weekley, Shrodes, Armstrong, Sarratore, Hunker and Riethmiller voting yea and the rules were suspended. Mr. Riethmiller made a motion to pass the ordinance as read. The motion was seconded by Mr. Armstrong. A roll call vote was heard with Messrs. Weekley, Shrodes, Armstrong, Sarratore, Hunker and Riethmiller voting yea and the ordinance was passed as read.

A motion was made by Mr. Shrodes and seconded by Mr. Riethmiller to waive the 72 hour rule and read the resolution. After an affirmative voice vote, the motion was declared passed and the resolution was read.

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO PREPARE AND SUBMIT AN APPLICATION FOR THE USEPA PETROLEUM BROWNFIELD SITE ASSESSMENT GRANT** was given a first reading. Mr. Hunker made a motion to suspend the rules. The motion was seconded by Mr. Armstrong. A roll call vote was heard with Messrs. Weekley, Shrodes, Armstrong, Sarratore, Hunker and Riethmiller voting yea and the rules were suspended. Mr. Hunker made a motion to pass the ordinance as read. The motion was seconded by Mr. Armstrong. A roll call vote was heard with Messrs. Weekley, Shrodes, Armstrong, Sarratore, Hunker and Riethmiller voting yea and the ordinance was passed as read.

Mr. Shrodes made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Sarratore seconded the motion and after hearing an affirmative voice vote the meeting was adjourned after a salute to the flag.

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Lee Ann Cleary, Council Clerk

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William Deaton, President of Council

## **Minutes of October 15, 2009 Council Meeting**

The Martins Ferry City Council met in regular session on Thursday October 15, 2009 at 6:00 PM in the City Council Chambers. The meeting was called to order by Council President, Bill Deaton, with the Pledge of Allegiance and was followed by a prayer by the Clerk.

Answering roll call were William Weekley, First Ward, Bruce Shrodes, Second Ward, Russell Armstrong, Third Ward, Robert Hunker, Paul Riethmiller, and Bill Suto, Council at Large.

**Reading of Minutes:** The minutes of the previous meeting were approved as read.

**Correspondence:** No correspondence was received.

President Deaton said that a transfer of a liquor license had been received. The license would be transferred from Hook Super X LLC. To Ohio CVS Stores LLC. There were no objections and the Clerk will mail the necessary paperwork.

### **Reports of Officers of the City:**

#### **Mayor:**

Mayor Wallace said that the City would be entering into contract with Capitol Recovery Systems Inc. to collect unpaid parking tickets. The company has a main office in Columbus and a satellite office in Steubenville.

The City will be entering into contract negotiations with the FOP for their upcoming contract.

Four firms were interviewed to be the lead engineer firm for the emergency water line from the water plant to 5<sup>th</sup> Street. One firm will be notified for the project. The project has not been funded yet.

Mr. Bencur in the Development Department will be applying for funds for a new police cruiser for next year. Council needs to approve this if possible.

A Service/Safety report was distributed.

An Executive Session is needed per ORC 121.22 for personnel.

Mr. Riethmiller asked if the contract with Capitol Recovery Systems Inc. will be set up so that they don't get paid unless funds are received. Mr. Riethmiller also asked if the grant being applied for from the USDA for the new police cruiser is a matching grant. Capitol Recovery Systems will add 30% onto the ticket amount. The 30% will go to them, the full amount of the ticket will go back to the City. Also the USDA grant is just

awarded, no match is required. Mayor Wallace said starting December 1, 2009 tickets that are 30 days in arrears will go to collections.

**Service/Safety:** No report.

**Auditor:**

A Finance Meeting was held. The cost allocation explained at the Finance Meeting was distributed. Everyone was asked to read over the report before the next Finance Meeting to get an idea what it costs to run general government.

**Fire Chief #1:** No report

**Fire Chief #2:**

The Christmas Parade will be held on Friday November 27 at 6:30 PM. The parade will follow the same route as the last few years. The parade will line up by the Liberty.

Mr. Armstrong made a motion to go into Executive Session for personnel. Mr. Hunker seconded the motion. A roll call vote was heard with Messrs. Weekley, Shrodes, Armstrong, Hunker, Riethmiller, and Suto voting yea and the motion was declared passed.

**Reports of Committees of Council:**

**Finance/Audit:**

Mr. Hunker said that at the October 8<sup>th</sup> Finance Meeting water and general fund were discussed. Water is in the red. A Finance Meeting was scheduled for November 12 at 5:30 PM.

**Street:** No report

**Ordinance:**

Two Resolutions of Appreciation will be read.

**Sewer/Sidewalk:** No report

**Safety:** No report

**Service:**

Mr. Suto said that concrete work had been started at the Water Plant.

**Citizens to be Heard:**

Carol Ann Simmons of the NAACP said that they were currently working on two claims. Darius Savage has sued due to Race Discrimination and Rhonda Mussard has sued for Sex Discrimination.

Mr. Savage felt that he was treated differently due to his race. He was never recalled after being laid off. The City workers are 99% Caucasian. Mr. Savage was the only African American. It was recommended that Mr. Savage be rehired, he was not. Ms. Simmons said the Mayor stated that Mr. Savage was not rehired due to absentees and threats made to another employee. There is no documentation of these events. Mr. Savages pay stubs do not reflect absentees. Mr. Savage was not terminated during his probationary period. Mr. Davies gave him a good review and said he was a good worker. The statement was made that Mr. Savage would not be rehired because he went to the NAACP. That is against State and Federal Law. Mr. Savage was paid \$7 an hour when he replaced an employee making \$14.30 an hour. Ms. Simmons said that he should have been paid the same. She recommended that he be hired back, inducted into the union, and paid back wages retroactive to when he should have been recalled. Since not rehiring Mr. Savage, a Caucasian has been hired.

Mrs. Mussard felt that she was being treated differently because of her sex. She said that Mr. Davies harassed her daily. When she asked him when the picking was going to stop he said it wasn't. Mr. Davies was paid \$31,700 to be Street Superintendent. Mrs. Mussard was paid \$25,699. An Ordinance passed in 1994 said that non union employees should get wage increases the same as others. Mrs. Mussard asked about the salary increase and was terminated 2 weeks later. Witnesses will show she was harassed.

Mr. Deaton said that Council does not hire or fire. That is an Administrative decision. Ms. Simmons said that Council does set salaries and both were paid less than their counterparts. Mr. Deaton said that when jobs and positions change then salaries change. It was recommended that Ms. Simmons and the NAACP have a meeting with administration and the City's Law Director. Ms. Simmons said they tried but that the meeting ended abruptly.

Richard Hord of 915 Virginia Street thanked Council and Mayor Wallace for the September 22 Economic Forum. He felt that it was well done. Mr. Hord has contacted officials about a Town Hall Meeting. State officials seem receptive.

Mr. Hord announced that the Tri-County Help Center is having a March Against Domestic Violence on October 21 at 6:30 PM in St. Clairsville.

Mr. Hord asked about the renaming of the Council Chambers to honor Don Myers. Mr. Hord asked if Council would go forward with the renaming before the

renovations to the Council Chambers. Mayor Wallace said the City will wait until the spring.

Ben Nieman of 405 Center Street spoke as a resident and City Employee. Mr. Nieman felt that everyone needs to be aware of what is going on and aware of problems. He said that the NAACP has been trying to go through the proper channels and that they want to be respected. Mr. Riethmiller said that a meeting needs to be held with City Administration, Mr. Fry, Ms. Simmons and the NAACP. Mr. Riethmiller is going to ask the Law Director to hold another meeting.

### **Ordinances and Resolutions:**

**A RESOLUTION OF APPECIATION FOR NICK STANKOVICH** was given a first reading. Mr. Hunker made a motion to suspend the rules. Mr. Shrodes seconded the motion. A roll call vote was heard with Messrs. Weekley, Shrodes, Armstrong, Hunker, Riethmiller and Suto voting yea and the rules were suspended. Mr. Riethmiller made a motion to pass the ordinance as read. Mr. Suto seconded the motion. A roll call vote was heard with Messrs. Weekley, Shrodes, Armstrong, Hunker, Riethmiller and Suto voting yea and the ordinance was declared passed.

**A RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION FOR DONALD R. MYERS** was given a first reading. Mr. Hunker made a motion to suspend the rules. Mr. Armstrong seconded the motion. A roll call vote was heard with Messrs. Weekley, Shrodes, Armstrong, Hunker, Riethmiller and Suto voting yea and the rules were suspended. Mr. Suto made a motion to pass the ordinance as read. Mr. Riethmiller seconded the motion. A roll call vote was heard with Messrs. Weekley, Shrodes, Armstrong, Hunker, Riethmiller and Suto voting yea and the ordinance was declared passed.

### **Miscellaneous Business:**

Mayor Wallace said that the date of Trick or Treat would be October 29 from 6-7 PM.

Mr. Hunker made a motion to excuse Mr. Suto from the October 12 Special Meeting and Mr. Sarratore from the October 15 Regular Meeting. Mr. Riethmiller seconded the motion. After hearing an affirmative voice vote, the motion was declared passed.

Mr. Hunker asked that everyone look over the cost allocation before the Finance Meeting.

Mr. Riethmiller asked about paving the parking lot. It would cost \$1,000-\$1,500 to gravel and roll. There is still \$40,000 in the fund, but that may be needed with funds low in other areas. It was decided to gravel and roll for now, and look at paving in the spring.

Mr. Armstrong made a motion to allow the Mayor Wallace and/or Development Director Bencur to apply for the USDA for a Grant from the Rural Development Fund regarding a police cruiser. Mr. Suto seconded the motion. After an affirmative voice vote was heard, the motion was declared passed.

Mr. Hunker made a motion to accept the reports of officers and management. Mr. Riethmiller seconded the motion. An affirmative voice vote was heard and the reports were accepted.

Mayor Wallace asked if the railing should be removed when the Council Chamber is renovated. It was agreed that the railing should be removed.

Mr. Hunker made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Armstrong seconded the motion. After an affirmative voice vote the meeting was adjourned with a salute to the flag.

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Lee Ann Cleary, Clerk of Council

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William Deaton, Council President

## **Minutes of November 5, 2009 Council Meeting**

The Martins Ferry City Council met in regular session on Thursday November 5, 2009 at 6:00 PM in the City Council Chambers. The meeting was called to order by President Pro Tem, Anthony Sarratore, with the Pledge of Allegiance and was followed by a prayer by the Clerk.

Answering roll call were William Weekley, First Ward, Bruce Shrodes, Second Ward, Russell Armstrong, Third Ward, Anthony Sarratore, Fourth Ward, Robert Hunker, Paul Riethmiller, and Bill Suto, Council at Large.

**Reading of Minutes:** The minutes of the previous meeting and special meeting were approved as read.

**Correspondence:** No correspondence was received.

### **Reports of Officers of the City:**

#### **Mayor:**

Mayor Wallace distributed a report by Mr. Stein. Mayor Wallace directed Council's attention to #3 in Mr. Stein's report. Mr. Jeff Haught would like to purchase lot #141B for abutting property owner Louis Spinetti. Fair market value is \$1730. The property was acquired by the City through the Land Revitalization Act, therefore, by law it limits the selling price to fair market value. Proceeds of the sale must be sent to the County Auditors Office for distribution.

Mayor Wallace thanked the Fire Department and Police Department for their help with Halloween.

The movie "Unstoppable" will be filming on State Route 7 and First Street November 16-21.

On Friday October 30 a meeting was held with Nickles Bakery, East Ohio Regional Hospital, and United Dairy concerning the ozone generators. Installation should begin this week.

The City applied for a \$2,000 litter grant. If the grant is received, it would take effect in May 2010.

Winter salt has been ordered.

One bid for the South School property was received. The bid was for the amount of \$77,220.

Mayor Wallace asked Council to reconsider paving the parking lot on Fourth Street.

The City needs to get rid of old equipment at the City garage. This could be done by auction or sealed bid.

**Service/Safety Director:** No report

**Auditor:**

End of the month financial reports were distributed. Ms. Randall is pleased with the way things worked out in the three pay month. She said finances should make it through the year with no problems. The water funds are unsure.

Ms. Randall asked that the Finance Meeting be moved. She would like the meeting to be closer to the end of the year, possibly November 24.

Clean up ordinances are needed for the payback of vehicles and the Fire Department from Permanent Improvement. The pay backs for vehicles comes to \$9379.80 from water, \$5,628 from street, and \$1,876 each from sewer and sanitation over 5 years.

Income tax collections are down \$8451.34 from 2008.

**Park District:** No report

**City Solicitor:** No report

**Fire Chief:** The Robert's Pontiac Building should be finalized by Friday November 6.

**Reports of Committees of Council**

**Finance/Audit:** The Finance Meeting was scheduled for Tuesday November 24 at 5:30 PM.

**Street:** No report

**Ordinance:** Council will honor Nick Stankovich on Thursday November 19.

**Sewer/Sidewalk:** No report

**Safety:** No report

**Service:** Mr. Suto said the water plant project has begun.

**Citizens to be Heard:**

Richard Hord, 915 Virginia Street, updated Council on the progress of the Town Hall Meeting with State Senator Jason Wilson. Mr. Hord spoke with the scheduler and will hopefully have more information in the near future. Mr. Hord asked about the status of the City Building Renovations. Mayor Wallace said the City applied for a grant that would replace the windows and lights in the building. The City should know in the next month or so if they received the grant. Mr. Hord also asked about development of a walking trail along the waterfront. Mayor Wallace said that the waterfront property in

Martins Ferry is privately owned.

**Miscellaneous Business:**

Mr. Riethmiller made a motion to reject the bid of \$77,220 for the south school property. Mr. Suto seconded the motion. After an affirmative voice vote was heard, the motion was declared passed.

Mr. Riethmiller made a motion to allow Mr. Stein and the Mayor to sell lot #141 B. Mr. Suto asked if Mr. Fry had read over the information. Mr. Fry had not. Mr. Riethmiller rescinded the motion.

Mr. Riethmiller made a motion to move the meeting on November 19 to 7:00 PM. Mr. Suto seconded the motion. After an affirmative voice vote was heard, the motion was declared passed.

Mr. Shrodes asked if there was a list of the equipment that the City would like to sell. Mr. Davies said yes, there was a list. The equipment includes old packers, dump trucks, trucks, and tractors. Mr. Weekley asked if the equipment would be sold or bid. Mr. Fry said anything with a value of \$1,000 must be bid. Mr. Davies said he didn't know the value of the equipment. Mr. Suto suggested making a list and putting the items up for bid. Mr. Fry said statutory items must be bid, the rest could be auctioned.

Mr. Davies asked that Council approve approximately \$17,000 to pave the lot on Fourth Street. The cost would include grading, stone, asphalt, and adding drainage. The city would paint lines and put in necessary signage. Ms. Randall said there is \$40,000 in the fund. After paving there would be \$23,000 left to use elsewhere. Mr. Riethmiller asked how much comes in each month for rental. \$400 a month comes in on the parking spots. It would take 2-3 years to return the investment. Mr. Weekley asked if the City can do the work. No, the job would have to be done by an outside group. Mr. Armstrong suggested holding off until we see if the money is needed. Mr. Hunker made a motion to allow Mr. Davies to pave the parking lot on Fourth Street. Mr. Weekley seconded the motion. After an affirmative voice vote was heard, the motion was declared passed.

Mr. Shrodes asked about the off street parking lot on Fifth and Hanover in the area by the park. Mr. Shrodes said that cars parked in the lot are not being ticketed. Mr. Davies said signs are posted and tags are to be visible in cars. Mr. Shrodes said that the cars do use tags.

Mr. Suto asked how hiring the part-time officers was effecting Police overtime. Mr. Davies said that it hadn't been long enough to see a real change but that overtime was down.

Mr. Hunker made a motion to accept the reports of officers and management. Mr. Armstrong seconded the motion. An affirmative voice vote was heard and the reports were accepted.

Mr. Shrodes made a motion to excuse Mr. Deaton. Mr. Suto seconded the motion. An affirmative voice vote was heard and Mr. Deaton was excused.

Mr. Hunker made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Armstrong seconded the motion. After an affirmative voice vote the meeting was adjourned with a salute to the flag.

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Lee Ann Cleary, Clerk of Council

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William Deaton, Council President

## **Minutes of November 19, 2009 Council Meeting**

The Martins Ferry City Council met in regular session on Thursday November 19, 2009 at 7:00 PM in the City Council Chambers. The meeting was called to order by Council President William Deaton with the Pledge of Allegiance and was followed by a prayer by the Clerk.

Answering roll call were William Weekley, First Ward, Bruce Shrodes, Second Ward, Russell Armstrong, Third Ward, Anthony Sarratore, Fourth Ward, Robert Hunker, Paul Riethmiller, and Bill Suto, Council at Large.

**Reading of Minutes:** The minutes of the previous meeting were approved as read.

**Correspondence:** No correspondence was received.

### **Reports of Officers of the City:**

#### **Mayor:**

Mayor Wallace recognized County Commissioner, Matt Coughlan and thanked him for attending the Council Meeting.

Street paving has continued. The lot on Fourth Street is complete as well as Catawba Street from Elm to Concord and Neihart Road.

Headstones at the cemetery are back in place.

Fire hydrants are being worked on daily.

Filming of the movie "Unstoppable" will end on Saturday. Mayor Wallace said it was great to work with everyone from the film.

A letter was received from the U.S. Department of Justice regarding a grant for dispatcher wages. The City will not be receiving this grant.

Mayor Wallace asked for an Executive Session for sale of property.

**Service/Safety Director:** No report

#### **Park Commission:**

Mr. Deaton said that basketball will start in December and run through January. Practices have already started. The weight room is being moved to the men's spa.

### **Reports of Committees of Council**

**Finance/Audit:** No report

**Street:** Mr. Armstrong said the paving projects had already been discussed by the mayor.

**Ordinance:** No report

**Sewer/Sidewalk:** No report

**Safety:** No report

**Service:** Mr. Suto invited everyone to the Water Plant to see the progress of the Ozone Generator Project.

### **Citizens to be Heard:**

Richard Hord, 915 Virginia Street, asked about future plans for the South School property, since all bids were rejected. Mayor Wallace said an ordinance would be presented for a first reading tonight that would have the CIC as the agent to try and lease the property. Mr. Hord asked if the street sweeper would run again to pick up leaves. Mr. Davies said that the sweeper is broken needs \$5,500 to replace the top.

### **Ordinances and Resolutions:**

**AN ORDINANCE DESIGNATING THE COMMUNITY IMPROVEMEMT CORPORATION OF BELMONT COUNTY, OHIO, AS THE AGENCY OF THE CITY OF MARTINS FERRY, OHIO FOR THE INDUSTRIAL, COMMERCIAL, DISTRIBUTION AND RESEARCH DEVELOPMENT, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY** was given a first reading. Mr. Riethmiller asked for a copy of the ordinance. Mr. Suto made a motion to suspend the rules. The motion was seconded by Mr. Hunker. A roll call vote was heard with Messrs. Weekley, Shrodes, Armstrong, Sarratore, Hunker, Riethmiller, and Suto voting yea and the rules were suspended. Mr. Suto made a motion to pass the ordinance as read. The motion was seconded by Mr. Riethmiller. A roll call vote was heard with Messrs. Weekley, Shrodes, Armstrong, Sarratore, Hunker, Riethmiller, and Suto voting yea and the ordinance was passed as read.

### **Miscellaneous Business:**

Mr. Riethmiller thanked Council for the \$1,500 that was budgeted to help with the City's Christmas decorations. Mr. Riethmiller and Mr. Suto met with the Chamber of Commerce to discuss how the money would be used. It was decided that half of the

money would go to refurbishing the old decorations and half would go to purchasing new decorations. The Lions Club and the Chamber of Commerce decorated the light poles with new garland and lights. The comments from citizens have been positive. Mr. Riethmiller thanked the Administration, Council, the Lions Club, the Chamber of Commerce, and the City Employees for all of their help.

Mr. Shrodes made a motion to go into Executive Session for the sale of Property. The motion was seconded by Mr. Hunker. A roll call vote was heard with Messrs. Weekley, Shrodes, Armstrong, Sarratore, Hunker, Riethmiller, and Suto voting yea and the Council went into Executive Session.

Mr. Hunker made a motion to accept the reports of officers and management. Mr. Armstrong seconded the motion. An affirmative voice vote was heard and the reports were accepted.

Mr. Hunker made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Armstrong seconded the motion. After an affirmative voice vote the meeting was adjourned with a salute to the flag.

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Lee Ann Cleary, Clerk of Council  
President

William Deaton, Council

## **Minutes of December 3, 2009 Council Meeting**

The Martins Ferry City Council met in regular session on Thursday December 3, 2009 at 6:00 PM in the City Council Chambers. The meeting was called to order by Council President William Deaton with the Pledge of Allegiance and was followed by a prayer by the Clerk.

Answering roll call were Bruce Shrodes, Second Ward, Russell Armstrong, Third Ward, Anthony Sarratore, Fourth Ward, Robert Hunker, Paul Riethmiller, and Bill Suto, Council at Large.

**Reading of Minutes:** The minutes of the previous meeting were approved as read.

**Correspondence:** No correspondence was received.

President Deaton informed Council of the document received concerning the renewal of liquor licenses held by Martins Ferry businesses. All licenses will expire in 2010.

### **Reports of Officers of the City:**

#### **Mayor:**

Mayor Wallace distributed Mr. Stein's report. Flickinger Piping Co. has installed the two new ozone generators and all other supporting equipment. Mr. Suto will give a brief report later about the water plant project.

An invitation was received from the Belmont County Department of Development CIC. They will hold their open house on December 10.

Comcast will be raising their cable rates January 1, 2010.

#### **Service/Safety Director:** No report

Mr. Riethmiller asked about debris collecting in a creek off of 10<sup>th</sup> Street. Mr. Davies said that work would begin on Friday on that project.

#### **Auditor:**

End of the year appropriation ordinances were distributed. Both need to be passed this month. Also, an amendment needs to be passed to the appropriations ordinance. These amendments were needed because departments requested funds. This did not change the general fund total balance for appropriations. The other funds do have the money in them.

Ms. Randall said that the General Fund was doing better than expected. This is because of the carry-over from last year.

Ms. Randall suggested changing the dates of the December 2010 Council Meetings due to the appropriation ordinances needing passed.

**Park Commission:** No report

**Treasurer:** No report

**Fire Chief #1:**

The annual Fire Department Meeting will be held on December 12 at 7:30 at the Ladder Company.

Work has been done at the Robert's Pontiac property. The squad should be operating from there after the first of the year.

**Chief #2:** No report

Mr. Sarratore added that the Fourth Ward Meeting would be held Monday at the Liberty Fire Station at 6:00.

### **Reports of Committees of Council**

**Finance/Audit:** No report

**Street:** Paving projects have been completed. The lot on 4<sup>th</sup> Street has been paved.

**Ordinance:** No report

**Sewer/Sidewalk:** No report

**Safety:** No report

**Service:** Mr. Suto said that the pipes were done, the ozone generators are set. The electricians are working and should be finished soon. A complete report will be given at the next Council Meeting.

President Deaton formed a new committee of Council. Mr. Deaton said that Mr. Fry said that Council sets the off street parking rates. Rates should be established by ordinance. The Off-Street Parking Committee was formed to review current rates and report to Council so Council can make needed changes. An ordinance will then be drafted to state the rates for each lot. Member of that committee are Mr. Armstrong, Mr. Shrodes, and will be chaired by Mr. Weekley.

### **Citizens to be Heard:**

Richard Hord of 915 Virginia Street thanked those responsible for moving the no smoking sign away from the Hall of Honor Sign. Mr. Hord said it would also be nice if the trash receptacle could be moved as well.

Mr. Hord mentioned the recent news concerning the County auctioning the former Mediterranean property. He wondered if plans had been finalized concerning the South School property. Mr. Hord mentioned that at the last meeting it was discussed that the CIC might be handling the plans. Mayor Wallace said the City was working with the CIC to find the best way to sell or lease the property. Mr. Hord said he also attends the County Commission meetings and dealing with the Mediterranean property has been a major concern for years. Mr. Hord said that South School was no where near the same as the Mediterranean property but that no one wants South School to get to that point. Mr. Hord asked if the property was insured and Mayor Wallace said yes.

Mr. Hord updated Council on the plans for a Town Hall Meeting with Senator Wilson's office. Mr. Hord said they were receptive and said possibly after the first of the year.

### **Ordinances and Resolutions:**

**AN ORDINANCE TO MAKE APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE EXPENSES OF THE CITY OF MARTINS FERRY, STATE OF OHIO, DURING THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2009, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY** was given a first reading. Mr. Hunker made a motion to suspend the rules. The motion was seconded by Mr. Armstrong. A roll call vote was heard with Messrs. Shrodes, Armstrong, Sarratore, Hunker, Riethmiller, and Suto voting yea and the rules were suspended. Mr. Riethmiller made a motion to amend the ordinance as per the attached amendment. The motion was seconded by Mr. Shrodes. A roll call vote was heard with Messrs. Shrodes, Armstrong, Sarratore, Hunker, Riethmiller, and Suto voting yea and the ordinance was amended. Mr. Hunker made a motion to pass the ordinance as amended. The motion was seconded by Mr. Suto. A roll call vote was heard with Messrs. Shrodes, Armstrong, Sarratore, Hunker, Riethmiller, and Suto voting yea and the ordinance was passed as amended.

**AN ORDINANCE TO MAKE APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE EXPENSES OF THE CITY OF MARTINS FERRY, STATE OF OHIO, DURING THE FIRST QUARTER OF THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1010, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY** was given a first reading. Mr. Sarratore made a motion to suspend the rules. The motion was seconded by Mr. Riethmiller. A roll call vote was heard with Messrs. Shrodes, Armstrong, Sarratore, Hunker, Riethmiller, and Suto voting yea and the rules were suspended. Mr. Sarratore made a motion to pass the ordinance as read. The motion was seconded by Mr. Suto. A roll call vote was heard with

Messrs. Shrodes, Armstrong, Sarratore, Hunker, Riethmiller, and Suto voting yea and the ordinance was passed as read.

**Miscellaneous Business:**

Mayor Wallace said that the Street Sweeper would cost approximately \$5,000 to repair.

The Mayor asked that administration work with the new Off-Street parking Committee as rates are considered.

Mayor Wallace said that South School should not be compared to the Mediterranean Property. Mr. Hord said that he did not intend for his comment to imply that South School was like the Mediterranean.

Mr. Hunker asked to be excused from the December 17 meeting.

Mr. Hunker made a motion to accept the reports of officers and management. Mr. Armstrong seconded the motion. An affirmative voice vote was heard and the reports were accepted.

Mr. Shrodes made a motion to excuse Mr. Weekley from tonight's meeting. Mr. Suto seconded the motion. After an affirmative voice vote was heard, Mr. Weekley was excused.

Mayor Wallace said that legislation needed to be brought in to change the wording or amend the wording of the Operator of Records Ordinance. Mr. Suto said that the Water Superintendent had received his Class 2 license.

Mr. Hunker made a motion to accept the attached transfer and repayment schedule. Mr. Sarratore seconded the motion. After an affirmative voice vote was heard, the transfer and repayment schedule was passed.

Mr. Armstrong made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Suto seconded the motion. After an affirmative voice vote the meeting was adjourned with a salute to the flag.

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Lee Ann Cleary, Clerk of Council  
President

William Deaton, Council

## **Minutes of December 29, 2009 Council Meeting**

The Martins Ferry City Council met in regular session on Tuesday December 29, 2009 at 6:00 PM in the City Council Chambers. The meeting was called to order by Council President William Deaton with the Pledge of Allegiance and was followed by a prayer by the Clerk.

Answering roll call were William Weekley, First Ward, Bruce Shrodes, Second Ward, Russell Armstrong, Third Ward, Anthony Sarratore, Fourth Ward, Robert Hunker, Paul Riethmiller, and Bill Suto, Council at Large.

**Reading of Minutes:** The minutes of the previous meeting were approved as read.

**Correspondence:** No correspondence was received.

### **Reports of Officers of the City:**

#### **Mayor:**

Mayor Wallace thanked Mr. Suto for his time on Council and his help with the Water Plant project. He welcomed Kristie Davis to her new position as Council at Large. Mayor Wallace read Mrs. Davis' resignation from her position as City Treasurer. Mrs. Davis cannot retain this position as well as serve on Council.

Mayor Wallace said a resolution will be needed to honor the EMS honorary members. Chief Duke will provide the needed information for the resolutions.

Mayor Wallace said the list of repairs and work submitted by Council is 90% complete. Some of the items on the list cannot be completed due to budget concerns.

The Mayor asked that \$15,000 be allotted to refurbish the Council Chambers. Estimates are being collected and should be finished in the next few days.

Mayor Wallace said an ordinance is needed to change the water plant superintendent to the operator of records.

Mayor Wallace made a presentation to Mr. John Davies and Mr. Craig Harris regarding the 2008 water fluoridation quality award.

Mr. Bencur will be off work for two weeks due to hip replacement surgery.

Mayor Wallace said that an interim treasurer will need to be named to fill in the position until the democratic committee meets and appoints a treasurer. Mayor Wallace named Bill Suto the interim treasurer.

Mayor Wallace distributed a Mayor's midterm report.

Mayor Wallace requested an Executive Session for personnel and sale of property.

**Service Director:** No report.

Mr. Davies did request a Finance Committee Meeting early in 2010.

**Development Director:**

The ozone generators are installed and online. A pump was not working well, Ozonia has been asked to replace the pump.

The water softener is working well.

Two ordinances were distributed concerning the sale of property. Two different groups will be purchasing the property. Both pieces of property are exactly the same in dimensions.

Mr. Bencur needs to have a resolution passed tonight concerning the House Revolving Loan Fund.

**Auditor:**

Ms. Randall said that the appropriations amendment needs to be passed. Fund totals did not change, but money was realigned.

The General Fund has enough money to begin the new year. More money was spent from the General Fund than what was brought in. Much of that is because income tax revenue is down. Local government funds are also down. The Finance Committee needs to meet soon.

Street Department has funds to roll over. Water Department should have enough money to roll over. The amendment to the appropriation ordinance does allow for \$10,000 to be moved into the water department fund if needed.

Ms. Randall said that with Mrs. Davis resigning as treasurer and two signatures needed on checks, the bank will need documentation that Bill Suto is the interim treasurer and is permitted to sign checks.

**Code Administrator:**

Mrs. Suto said that the Mayor's Midterm Report includes her report.

One more structure is to be torn down. This may not be completed until 2010. 5 structures were torn down in 2009, including McDowell's, which is the structure that is in the process of being torn down.

\$300,000 is coming from Belomar for Habitat for Humanity and for demolition.

**City Solicitor:** No Report

**Fire Chief #1:** No Report

**Treasurer:**

Mrs. Davis thanked Council and Administration for allowing her to serve as Treasurer. She said that the records policy was developed in 2009 and that she looked forward to serving on Council in 2010.

### **Reports of Committees of Council**

**Finance/Audit:** No report

**Street:** No Report

**Ordinance:** No report

**Sewer/Sidewalk:** No report

**Safety:** No report

**Service:** No Report

**Citizens to be Heard:**

Richard Hord, 915 Virginia Street, thanked Council for allowing him to speak and ask questions. Mr. Hord wished everyone a happy new year.

Mr. Hord said that 2009 was very challenging economically and asked if a turn around is expected. Council was optimistic for the new year, especially with jobs returning to Severstal.

Mr. Hord asked if Council planned to honor Jim Nicholson as Grand Exalted Ruler of the Elks and as a past Council Member. Mr. Riethmiller said that Mr. Weekley had asked for Mr. Nicholson to be honored as well. Information is being obtained for the resolution, however, Mr. Nicholson travels so much that presenting the resolution would be difficult.

**Ordinances and Resolutions:**

**AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE AUDITOR TO ESTABLISH THE WATER CAPITAL PROJECT FUND** was given a first reading. No action was taken and the ordinance will go on to a second reading.

**AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SALE OF CITY OWNED REAL ESTATE WHICH IS NO LONGER NEEDED FOR ANY MUNICIPAL PURPOSE PARCEL # 24-900012.002, LOT #618, 3.653 ACRE TRACT BETWEEN JEFFERSON AND MADISON STREETS** was given a first reading. Mr. Hunker made a motion to suspend the rules. The motion was seconded by Mr. Shrodes. A roll call vote was heard with Messrs. Weekley, Shrodes, Armstrong, Sarratore, Hunker, Riethmiller, and Suto voting yea and the rules were suspended. Mr. Shrodes made a motion to pass the ordinance as read. The motion was seconded by Mr. Armstrong. A roll call vote was heard with Messrs. Weekley, Shrodes, Armstrong, Sarratore, Hunker, Riethmiller, and Suto voting yea and the ordinance was passed as read.

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**AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SALE OF CITY OWNED REAL ESTATE WHICH IS NO LONGER NEEDED FOR ANY MUNICIPAL PURPOSE PARCEL #24-03206.000 LOT # 1411B, .04362 ACRE TRACT 310 NORTH 7<sup>TH</sup> STREET** was given a first reading. Mr. Hunker made a motion to suspend the rules. The motion was seconded by Mr. Suto. A roll call vote was heard with Messrs. Weekley, Shrodes, Armstrong, Sarratore, Hunker, Riethmiller, and Suto voting yea and the rules were suspended. Mr. Suto made a motion to pass the ordinance as read. The motion was seconded by Mr. Armstrong. A roll call vote was heard with Messrs. Weekley, Shrodes, Armstrong, Sarratore, Hunker, Riethmiller, and Suto voting yea and the ordinance was passed as read.

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A HOUSE REVOLVING LOAN FUND ADMINISTRATION AGREEMENT WITH THE STATE OF OHIO, DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENT, ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF MARTINS FERRY, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY** was given a first reading. Mr. Riethmiller made a motion to suspend the rules. The motion was seconded by Mr. Suto. A roll call vote was heard with Messrs. Weekley, Shrodes, Armstrong, Sarratore, Hunker, Riethmiller, and Suto voting yea and the rules were suspended. Mr. Hunker made a motion to pass the ordinance as read. The motion was seconded by Mr. Suto. A roll call vote was heard with Messrs. Weekley, Shrodes, Armstrong, Sarratore, Hunker, Riethmiller, and Suto voting yea and the ordinance was passed as read.

**Miscellaneous Business:**

Mr. Riethmiller made a motion to accept the interim appointment of Mr. Suto to the position of treasurer. Mr. Armstrong seconded the motion. After an affirmative voice vote was heard the appointment was declared passed.

Mr. Riethmiller congratulated Mr. Craig Harris on passing his test and wished him well.

Mayor Wallace said that unpaid tickets had been turned over to Capitol Recovery and that 40 calls were received in the Mayor's Office last week concerning the unpaid tickets.

Mr. Shrodes made a motion to go into Executive Session for the Sale of Property and Personnel. Mr. Suto seconded the motion. . A roll call vote was heard with Messrs. Weekley, Shrodes, Armstrong, Sarratore, Hunker, Riethmiller, and Suto voting yea and the Council went into Executive Session.

Mr. Deaton asked that any changes to Committees of Council be given to him as soon as possible.

Mr. Hunker made a motion to accept the appropriations ordinance amendment. Mr. Sarratore seconded the motion. After an affirmative voice vote was heard the amendment was declared passed.

Mr. Hunker made a motion to accept the reports of officers and management. Mr. Armstrong seconded the motion. An affirmative voice vote was heard and the reports were accepted.

Mr. Sarratore made a motion to appropriate up to \$15,000 for renovations to the Council Chambers. Mr. Weekley seconded the motion. Ms. Randall said that the \$15,000 was in the appropriations amendment that was just passed, so no further action was needed. Mr. Sarratore rescinded his motion.

Mayor Wallace said that the City no longer owes anything to the state for the Meigs property. If a buyer is found, the City would not owe anything to the state.

Mr. Hunker made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Armstrong seconded the motion. After an affirmative voice vote the meeting was adjourned with a salute to the flag.

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Lee Ann Cleary, Clerk of Council

William Deaton, Council President