

Council met in **REGULAR SESSION** on Monday, May 11, 2020 at 8:16 P.M. in the Council Chambers with President Megyes presiding. Members physically present: Greer, Heitic, and Jaber. Members remotely present: Angeloff, Coburn, Debevec, Frey and Griffin. The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was recited and Mrs. Frey gave the Invocation.

It was moved by Mrs. Debevec, seconded by Mr. Heitic, to approve the Minutes of the Public Hearing held on Monday, April 27, 2020, as presented. All Members voted “yea.” Motion carried.

It was moved by Mrs. Debevec, seconded by Mr. Heitic, to approve the Minutes of the Regular Legislative Session held on Monday, April 27, 2020, as presented. All Members voted “yea.” Motion carried.

It was moved by Mrs. Debevec, seconded by Mr. Heitic to approve the Minutes of the Special Session held on Monday, May 4, 2020, as presented. All Members voted “yea.” Motion carried.

It was moved by Mrs. Frey, seconded by Mrs. Debevec to approve the Finance Report for the month of April, 2020, as presented. All Members voted “yea.” Motion carried.

PETITIONS AND CLAIMS

None.

MATTERS REFERRED

Each Council Member that was present, the Mayor and Service Director were given a report prepared by the Council Clerk listing all matters before all committees. A copy of this report was placed in the mailboxes of those attending remotely.

CITIZENS ADDRESSING COUNCIL

None.

The following Minutes are not transcribed verbatim. This meeting has been recorded in its entirety and the tape is catalogued in the Clerk of Council’s office.

FIRST READING OF ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION NO. 55-2020

RESOLUTION NO. 55-2020. PRESENTED BY: ALL OF COUNCIL. SPONSORED BY: MR. GREER. TITLE: COMMENDATION – RON GABLE. A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BARBERTON TO HONOR AND GIVE PUBLIC RECOGNITION TO RON GABLE FOR HIS 36 YEARS OF DEDICATED SERVICE TO THIS CITY. It was moved by Mr. Greer, seconded by Mrs. Angeloff, that the rule as required by Section 5.10 of the Barberton City Charter be suspended. All Members voted “yea.” Motion carried. It was moved by Mr. Greer, seconded by Mrs. Angeloff, that **RESOLUTION NO. 55-2020 BE ADOPTED.** Mrs. Angeloff stated she has called Mr. Gable, for many years, a

walking encyclopedia because he is a book of knowledge and we should learn from him. She stated no matter what he had to do he was very specific with it and right to the point. She said it was a privilege to know and work with him. She said he was an outstanding man and such a gentle man. All Members voted “yea.” Motion carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 56-2020

RESOLUTION NO. 56-2020. PRESENTED BY: ALL OF COUNCIL. SPONSORED BY: MRS. DEBEVEC. TITLE: COMMENDATION – CHIEF KIM BALDWIN. A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BARBERTON TO HONOR AND GIVE PUBLIC RECOGNITION TO CHIEF KIM BALDWIN FOR HIS 31 YEARS OF DEDICATED SERVICE TO THE BARBERTON FIRE DEPARTMENT. It was moved by Mrs. Debevec, seconded by Mr. Greer, that the rule as required by Section 5.10 of the Barberton City Charter be suspended. All Members voted “yea.” Motion carried. It was moved by Mrs. Debevec, seconded by Mr. Greer, that **RESOLUTION NO. 56-2020 BE ADOPTED.** All Members voted “yea.” Motion carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 57-2020

RESOLUTION NO. 57-2020. PRESENTED BY: ALL OF COUNCIL. SPONSORED BY: MRS. DEBEVEC. TITLE: COMMENDATION – FIREFIGHTER DAVE CONNER. A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BARBERTON TO HONOR AND GIVE PUBLIC RECOGNITION TO FIREFIGHTER DAVE CONNER FOR HIS 28 YEARS OF DEDICATED SERVICE TO THIS CITY AS A MEMBER OF THE BARBERTON FIRE DEPARTMENT. It was moved by Mrs. Debevec, seconded by Mr. Greer, that the rule as required by Section 5.10 of the Barberton City Charter be suspended. All Members voted “yea.” Motion carried. It was moved by Mrs. Debevec, seconded by Mr. Greer, that **RESOLUTION NO. 57-2020 BE ADOPTED.** All Members voted “yea.” Motion carried.

SECOND READING OF ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

ORDINANCE NO. 46-2020

ORDINANCE NO. 46-2020. PRESENTED BY: MR. GRIFFIN. TITLE: PROPOSED CHARTER AMENDMENT - ELIMINATION OF PRIMARY ELECTION. AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE SUMMIT COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS TO SUBMIT A PROPOSED CHARTER AMENDMENT TO THE ELECTORS OF THE CITY OF BARBERTON, TO ABOLISH THE PRIMARY ELECTION HELD ON THE EIGHTH (8TH) TUESDAY PRIOR TO SUCH GENERAL MUNICIPAL ELECTION, TO REDUCE THE COST OF ELECTIONS FOR THE BARBERTON TAXPAYERS, TO BE VOTED UPON AT THE NOVEMBER 3, 2020 GENERAL ELECTION.

ORDINANCE NO. 47-2020

ORDINANCE NO. 47-2020. PRESENTED BY: MR. GRIFFIN. TITLE: PROPOSED CHARTER AMENDMENT - PRIMARY ELECTION DATE. AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE SUMMIT COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS TO SUBMIT A PROPOSED CHARTER AMENDMENT TO THE ELECTORS OF THE

CITY OF BARBERTON, TO ESTABLISH A MAY PRIMARY ELECTION DATE FOR MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS IN THE CITY OF BARBERTON, IN ORDER TO REDUCE THE COST OF THE PRIMARY ELECTION FOR THE BARBERTON TAXPAYERS TO BE VOTED UPON AT THE NOVEMBER 3, 2020 GENERAL ELECTION, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

ORDINANCE NO. 50-2020

ORDINANCE NO. 50-2020. PRESENTED BY: MRS. ANGELOFF. TITLE: FORMATION OF A COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT CORPORATION. AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE FORMATION OF A COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT CORPORATION FOR THE CITY OF BARBERTON, AND APPROVING ITS ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

THIRD READING OF ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

ORDINANCE NO. 39-2020

ORDINANCE NO. 39-2020. PRESENTED BY: MRS. FREY. TITLE: ENTER INTO CONTRACT - REGIONAL INCOME TAX AGENCY. AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE TO ENTER INTO CONTRACT WITH REGIONAL INCOME TAX AGENCY (RITA) TO ADMINISTER THE CITY'S INCOME TAX STARTING JANUARY 1, 2021, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

It was moved by Mrs. Frey, seconded by Mrs. Debevec, that **ORDINANCE NO. 39-2020 BE ADOPTED.** All Members voted "yea." Motion carried.

APPOINTMENTS

Charter Review Commission

Terry Avant
Tom Harnden
Amy Jones
Ken Masich
Mike Moore
Vic Myers
Ray Todd

It was moved by Mrs. Frey, seconded by Mrs. Debevec, to appoint Terry Avant, Tom Harnden, Amy Jones, Ken Masich, Mike Moore, Vic Myers and Ray Todd to the Charter Review Commission. Mr. Greer asked why have a process if it doesn't matter. Mr. Greer stated there was a public statement made by Mr. Brad Garrett on the live stream. He asked if he could quote this. President Megyes stated he could. He read it as follows: "To Justin P. Greer, my Representative for Ward 1. Brad Garrett stated he has been unable to have adequate engagement and would like to postpone the vote until the Mayor can get him the application which would be filed promptly within 48 hours. I am requesting in this manner because I am not physically present in council chambers." Mrs. Debevec stated she is taking Mr. Garrett's comments into consideration and she agrees with him, however, she will be reluctantly voting yes for two

reasons. She said the first reason is she believes the Charter Review Commission should have already been appointed to have enough time to properly review the charter. She said she is concerned to prolong that for another two weeks and she addressed this with the Mayor several weeks ago via email. She said, secondly, she knows these people, she knows they are good people and she knows they are going to do a good job but moving forward she wants to make it known that they have to get something in place for appointments. She said it is something she has been passionate about for many years and here we are back with the same conversation. She stated she will be voting yes because she believes they have to get this process underway if they want it done properly and this is what is best for the citizens. Mr. Jaber stated he also had Mr. Brad Garrett email him along with two other citizens. He said he will be voting no because of the communication and for the same reasons. He said since they have 3 resumes missing, he would like more time to look over other people. He stated these are positions the administrators are picking. Mr. Heitic stated he will be voting yes on these only because as being elected at-large and representing the entire city, his dealing with all seven, he knows them personally and knows their capabilities and the only thing he does not like is he sees some repeats and on the Charter Review Commission he thinks every five years they would try to get new names. He said he knows these people and they are well capable of the job. Mayor Judge said he respects everyone's opinion on this but do note the process was held up because of the public meetings and COVID. He said there was a lot of talk back and forth on how to conduct public meetings. He said there were some members who served on this previously but he thinks that really goes to provide great historical knowledge on what has happened in the past. He said not only did they post this twice in the paper and received zero resumes for this spot. He said this made him go out and ask people - some people said they did not want to be a part of this commission. He said he sent an email on Saturday to council that had the questionnaire filled out by the candidates he had on hand and said he was anticipating the rest of them very soon. He said that had not happened so that morning he sent out a second email with a short bio on the three that he is still waiting on the questionnaires. He said those questionnaires could be downstairs because he had to run out for an appointment and he came right into council. He stated he received no questions over the weekend or on that day from council. He said he encourages council to vote yes to confirm the appointees – they do meet the qualifications per charter. He said they would like to get this moving forward. Mr. Jaber stated these are all good people, good requirements, good history but again they have to find a better way to reach out to the people instead of just the newspaper. He said they need to update the city website. Mayor Judge stated for clarification, they put it in the newspaper which is per Ohio Revised Code and they also used social media for both advertisements. Angeloff, Coburn, Debevec, Frey, Griffin and Heitic voted “yea.” Greer and Jaber voted “no.” Motion carried.

MISCELLANEOUS AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Mr. Greer thanked the parks commissioners for approving to go forward with some form of the Mum Fest. He said he knows this was a hard decision for them to make but he believes it is the right decision.

Mr. Greer announced that on June 1st his nonprofit “Better Barberton” will be starting up. He asked if any council members have any residents that would like to get involved, outside of the Parks Beautification. He said they have clean-ups twice a month and the locations will be as needed for safety.

Mr. Jaber reminded the President to speak with Mrs. Angeloff regarding cutting him off during the Planning Meeting. He said this is the second time she has done this and he thinks if she keeps doing this she should go through some guidelines or read the books on how council runs things. He said if still doesn't understand, he thinks she should step down from her position because obviously she does not run it the right way being a council member cutting other council members off. He said he wants it on the record for President Megyes to speak with her. He said President Megyes is in charge and this is his office and he would like him to acknowledge that and if she does it again there should be consequences and she should step down because she is not following the rules.

President Megyes announced the yard sale scheduled for the second week of June will be postponed until a later date. He said if we had it a lot of people would be skeptical about coming out to it.

President Megyes stated the next meeting will be Tuesday, May 26th. He said Monday the 25th is Memorial Day.

Mr. Griffin thanked the administration, the Mayor and all of the people involved in helping with the flooding in Elson Park. He said the water has gone down and he saw where they worked on a curb and made way for the water to escape. He stated the person at 545 Van Buren was able to light his hot water tank after over a month of no hot water. He thanked Kyle and David from the building department regarding two residents calling him on what they have done for them. He said if they do one thing at a time it means a lot to the citizens because most people, generally, want to keep their property cleaned up. He said sometimes you have to lean on the perpetrators just a little bit to let them know that they are looking at them. He stated it is a really good feeling to have people call him and tell him that it looks good and they have a better feel for our community even in these circumstances that we still can accomplish something. He said hats off to the administration and all people involved.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE MAYOR

Mayor Judge announced the Barberton Community Foundation approved the City's technology grant which will be matched with the other organization that stepped up to the plate – which will be announced soon. He said they are working with them to start to order the equipment and making the install.

Mayor Judge stated he held a meeting that day which is a committee that was formed for the reopening of the State and how it affects our community “Barberton for Today and Tomorrow” is the name of the committee and they are looking at not only community events but the local economy, stimulus programs, safeguards and things of that nature. He said they are working

with the Foundation, BCDC on the second phase of stimulus programs for small businesses and that should be rolling out pretty quickly.

Mayor Judge said there was talk earlier this evening and in the meeting this morning about closing streets for pedestrian traffic and he believes this is key and vital to the continuation to build the downtown area. He said this is not a new idea and they have been doing this the past few years as with downtown events and different things going on. He stated a lot of the downtown businesses rely on community events and since those events are somewhat in jeopardy of functioning then there are other things to do to assist the downtown businesses. He said they are taking that under advisement and moving forward. He said when they talk about community events, ones that are planned for the year and how to hold those events, the goal is to hold the event but if you can't hold it as they typically do, how can they hold the event in a modified version. He said they are looking at that or do they cancel the event. He said they would like to hold the event, or at least modify it, for the quality of life aspect for the public. He said or do they schedule different events. He stated they are thinking about those things and moving swiftly. He said the other things like youth baseball leagues, adult leagues are really out of their hands at this point and they are waiting for more input from the State but at some point, it may be too late for a summer league. He said he has been in contact with the youth and adult league organizers and they are keeping them informed and communicating back and forth.

Mayor Judge stated he is continuing with business visits and trying to help them as much as possible. He said they are going to keep working with the state, county and federal government to do what they can to protect the citizens and also boost the local economy.

It was moved by Mrs. Debevec, seconded by Mr. Heitic, to adjourn.

Adjourned: 8:50 P.M.

Craig Megyes
President of Council

Renee Fox
Clerk of Council