

Council met in **REGULAR SESSION** on Monday, December 18, 2023 at 6:05 P.M. in the Council Chambers with President Greer presiding. The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was led by President Greer. The Invocation was given by President Justin Greer.

The Clerk called the roll: Members present: President Greer, Mr. Heitic, Mrs. Thompson, Mrs. Bailey, Mrs. Angeloff, Mr. Griffin, Mr. Jaber, Mrs. Coburn, Mrs. Frey. Absent:

It was moved by Mr. Heitic, seconded by Mrs. Thompson to approve the Minutes of the Regular Legislative Meeting held on Monday, December 11, 2023, as presented. No remarks made. All Members present voted “Aye.” Motion carried.

It was moved by Mr. Heitic, and seconded by Mrs. Frey to approve the Finance Department’s report for the month of November, 2023 as presented. No remarks made. All Members present voted “Aye.” Motion carried.

PETITIONS AND CLAIMS

There were none.

MATTERS REFERRED

Each Council Member, the Mayor, the Safety and Service Directors were given a report prepared by the Council Clerk listing all matters before all committees with their packets.

CITIZENS ADDRESSING COUNCIL

FIRST READING OF ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

ORDINANCE 160-2023

PRESENTED BY MRS. ANGELOFF TITLE: ENTER INTO CONTRACT GPD GROUP INC. AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO CONTRACT WITH GPD GROUP INC. (GPD), FOR PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR THE CONSTRUCTION ADMINISTRATION AND INSPECTION SERVICES FOR THE SOUTH VAN BUREN PROJECT, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

It was moved by Mrs. Angeloff and Seconded by Mrs. Bailey, that the rule as required by Section 5.10 of the Barberton City Charter be suspended. All Members present voted “Aye.” Motion carried. It was moved by Mrs. Angeloff and Seconded by Mrs. Bailey, that **ORDINANCE NO. 160-2023 BE ADOPTED.** All Members present voted “Aye.” Motion carried.

ORDINANCE NO. 161-2023

PRESENTED BY MR. HEITIC TITLE: AUTHORIZE PAYMENT BROUSE MCDOWELL AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE TO PAY AN INVOICE TO BROUSE MCDOWELL, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$7,975.00, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

It was moved by Mr. Heitic, seconded by Mrs. Coburn, that the rule as required by Section 5.10 of the Barberton City Charter be suspended. All Members present voted “Aye.” Motion carried. It was moved by Mr. Heitic, seconded by Mrs. Coburn, that **ORDINANCE NO. 161-2023 BE ADOPTED.** All Members present voted “Aye.” Motion carried.

ORDINANCE NO. 162-2023

PRESENTED BY MR. HEITIC TITLE: 2024 TEMPORARY BUDGET
AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING A TEMPORARY BUDGET FOR OPERATING EXPENSES
FOR THE CITY FOR THE PERIOD BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2024, AND PROVIDING FOR THE
ADMINISTRATION THEREOF, AND DECLARING IT AN EMERGENCY.

It was moved by Mr. Heitic, seconded by Mrs. Coburn, that the rule as required by Section 5.10 of the
Barberton City Charter be suspended. All Members present voted “Aye.” Motion carried. It was
moved by Mr. Heitic, seconded by Mrs. Coburn, that **ORDINANCE NO. 162-2023 BE ADOPTED.**
All Members present voted “Aye.” Motion carried.

ORDINANCE NO. 163-2023

PRESENTED BY MR. HEITIC TITLE: YEAR END APPROPRIATIONS
AMENDMENTS AN ORDINANCE MODIFYING APPROPRIATIONS WITHIN
CERTAIN FUNDS IN ORDER TO COVER EXPENDITURES TO THE END OF THE FISCAL
YEAR AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

It was moved by Mr. Heitic, seconded by Mrs. Coburn, that the rule as required by Section 5.10 of the
Barberton City Charter be suspended. All Members present voted “Aye.” Motion carried. It was
moved by Mr. Heitic, seconded by Mrs. Coburn, that **ORDINANCE NO. 163-2023 BE ADOPTED.**
All Members present voted “Aye.” Motion carried.

Before reading Resolution 164-2023 the Clerk read the following statement into the minutes;

THIS RESOLUTION WAS VOTED ON IN THE PLANNING , ANNEXATION AND CODES COMMITTEE MEETING
AND ADDED TO THE AGENDA. THE COMMITTEE INVOKED COUNCIL RULE 702 TO SUSPEND RULE 302,
(THE 10 DAY RULE)

RESOLUTION NO. 164-2023

PRESENTED BY MRS. THOMPSON TITLE: AMENDING RESOLUTION NO.
2–2023 VARIOUS TYPES OF BUSINESSES MORATORIUM AN
ORDINANCE AMENDING RESOLUTION 2-2023 BY ADDING TOBACCO SHOPS AND THE
CULTIVATION, PROCESSING, AND/OR RETAIL DISPENSING OF MARIJUANA TO THE LIST
OF USES PROHIBITED BY THE MORATORIUM, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

It was moved by Mrs. Thompson, seconded by Mrs. Angeloff, that the rule as required by Section 5.10
of the Barberton City Charter be suspended. All Members present voted “Aye.” Motion carried. It was
moved by Mrs. Thompson, seconded by Mrs. Angeloff, that **RESOLUTION NO. -2023 BE
ADOPTED.** Mr. Jaber stated that he will be abstaining from voting on this Resolution this evening as
he has property used as a dispensary. Mr. Heitic, Mrs. Thompson, Mrs. Bailey, Mrs. Angeloff, Mr.
Griffin, Mrs. Coburn, and Mrs. Frey voted “Aye.” Motion carried.

This Ended the First Readings

SECOND READING OF ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

There were none.

THIRD READING OF ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

There were none.

APPOINTMENTS

There were none.

MISCELLANEOUS AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Mr. Heitic wanted to acknowledge and express his gratitude to the outgoing Councilpersons for all they have done. Mr. Heitic listed many of the anomalies of the past few years including Covid, holding meetings at the Active Adult Center at tables separated by 6 feet and the use of plexiglass dividers, the overseeing of the Cares Act, ARPA Funds and many others. Mr. Heitic listed the different projects and discussions handled in the past 4 years and stated that all these were handled honorably with excellence by all who served and that he is proud to have served with all.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE BODY

Mrs. Angeloff stated that this is one of the best and most rewarding jobs that she has ever had. Mrs. Angeloff listed the many challenges and difficulties she has faced throughout her term via the internet and stories on social media but she always considered herself an elected official who served her constituents.

Mrs. Frey wanted to state that this was her most favorite job that she has ever had. She stated that there are negatives and positives but through this job and she listed the many and varied issues she has tackled throughout her 12 years of service but stated that she has met people that she would have otherwise never met. Echoing Mrs. Angeloff, there are reasons that some things can not be done but there are always reasons. Finally, as a bit of advice to the new incoming Councilpersons, Mrs. Frey stated to always say that they will “Try” as otherwise they could possibly be making a promise that they are unable to keep.

Mrs. Thompson wanted to say 12 years ago she was sitting in the gallery as a reporter for the Barberton Herald and was encouraged by Mrs. Frey to run for office. She wanted to say Thank you for the encouragement and the advice and all that she has learned from each one leaving. Finally, to thank them for all that they have done for the City.

Mrs. Coburn wanted to say that this was one of the best jobs she has ever had. The pay is not why you do this job. She has greatly appreciated the opportunity to be there for her residents and for what her ward needed. She enjoys getting out and meeting the people having started at the age of 18 working to lower the voting age to 18 years.

Mrs. Bailey stated it was an honor being appointed to her seat. She stated that within hours of being appointed she saw negative comments in social media regarding her appointment. Believing in leading with kindness and with no agenda as to personal differences success is always possible.

President Greer stated he agreed that public service can often be a thankless job. With so many things coming fast paced and back-to-back before Council, it is easy to lose sight of the positives. But once you sit down and reflect you realize there is a huge list of positives that you have been a part of and that is important to remember. President Greer reflected on his own personal growth due to his service and that he has seen that same growth in the Council as a whole. Each person on Council has devoted a piece of their life to better the City of Barberton. Their names will be forever in the archives right alongside of all the other great Barbertonians that have gone before and will be another layer in the foundation of this City. The legacy each Councilperson has created will always be here. President Greer stated that he wanted to say Thank you for the commitment and for the commitment and patience of the families of each Councilperson as the family serves as well as the elected official. In closing President Greer stated that he wishes each outgoing Councilperson the very best and hopes that they continue their service and active participation in betterment the City of Barberton.

Mrs. Ries-Price, Council Clerk stated that it has been a privilege and an honor to serve as the Clerk for the Barberton City Council and its members.

President Greer stated that our next meeting will be Tuesday, January 2, 2024 at 7:30 P.M. This will be the Sine Die meeting, the swearing in of all newly elected officials, the Organizational Meeting followed by all the Committee Meetings and the Committee of the Whole Meeting.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE MAYOR

The Mayor stated that we are currently under a winter weather advisory calling for two to seven inches and warned everyone to drive safe .

The collection of non-perishables for BACM and the Salvation Army is ongoing until the end of January, 2024. The Mayor listed the donation sites . He also stated that the Board of Health meeting was cancelled for December 27th.

The Board of Health Meeting is cancelled for Wednesday, December 27th.

The Mayor stated that he is looking forward to the many things being planned for 2024 that are built off the 2023 successes. Coming to City Council there will be an ordinance request to modify our Property Maintenance Rules. This is currently being reviewed by our Law Director.

To the outgoing Council Persons, the Mayor wanted to thank them for their years of service. He echoed the statements made earlier this evening that it is not an easy job. The Mayor further stated that social media has made it more difficult. That with every council, city board, trustee meeting, state and federal issue posted about, many persons get elected based on one issue and it cannot only be about one issue. You have made a real impact in peoples lives by doing real work. The Mayor stated that he admires each one and it has been a pleasure to work with each outgoing member.

In closing, the Mayor wished everyone a very Happy Holidays.

With nothing further, it was moved by Mr. Heitic and seconded by Mrs. Thompson to adjourn. All Members present voting “Aye” and none apposed.

Meeting Adjourned 6:36 P.M.

Justin Greer
President of Council

Laura J. Ries-Price
Clerk of Council