

**MINUTES OF THE MARCH 1, 2021
REGULAR MEETING OF THE ALLIANCE CITY COUNCIL**

The meeting was called to order by President Garnes at 5:30 P.M. Councilwoman King then gave the invocation and led the meeting in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL: Kris Bugara (remotely), Sheila Cherry (remotely), James Edwards (Remotely), Andrew Grove (remotely), Cindy King (remotely), Edward Lohnes (remotely) and Phillip Mastroianni (remotely).

Minutes of the February 17, 2021 Regular Council Meeting were distributed electronically to all members prior to the meeting. No deletions or corrections were offered by Council Members. Minutes of the meeting were received and filed.

COMMUNICATIONS:

1. Memorandum from Auditor Knowles RE: Municipal Income Tax Recapitulation
2. Minutes of the February 4, 2021 Civil Service Commission Meeting
3. Letter from Ohio Liquor Control RE: License location transfer for Circle K

Motion and Second to record and file the communications tendered to the Clerk. Roll Call: Unanimous. **MOTION PASSED BY ACCLAMATION OF ALL MEMBERS.**

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

Mayor Andreani: (remotely): Updated Council on the Covid numbers for the month of February 2021 with 146 new cases and 1 death reported. The numbers are coming back down and but citizens still need to be vigilant so they don't escalate again. Vaccines are being given and they are working through the levels of classification.

Stated that no action is needed on Ordinance 86-20 as the paperwork is still proceeding and action would be premature. Also stated that the three replat ordinances in old business are still in the planning commission so no action is needed on those yet as well.

Congratulated Councilwoman Cherry on being awarded the Pathfinder Award from Alliance City Schools.

Safety Service Director Dreger: (remotely): Reviewed Ordinances 14-21 and 15-21.

Noted Councilwoman Cherry's request for a list of chronic blighted houses and stated that there isn't such a list at this time. Director Dreger stated that there is a desire to create such a list and the Administration wants to be more pro-active in areas such as this. This is one of the reasons they are looking at bringing on more part-time staffing to do this type of investigation and make priority lists to take action.

Councilman Edwards questioned the number of recent water breaks due to changing weather and the affect on the budget. Director Dreger explained that there have actually been less this year than most years and the consistently cold weather rather than freezing and thawing cycles may be the reason. These types of breaks are expected and it hasn't had an unusual effect on the budget.

Councilman Mastroianni asked about water quality and cloudiness in the water. Director Dreger explained high oxygen levels in the water is typical this time of year but it is safe and normal. Director Dreger stated that if you let the water sit for a minute the oxygen escapes and all looks

normal.

Law Director Arnold: Noted the Liquor permit transfer application for Circle K. Noted this is necessary as they prepare to build the new location up the street and move.

Stated that she confirmed the Legislature has extended the virtual meeting option through July.

Updated Council on the opioid litigation and stated there may be a marketing added as an additional defendant.

Stated that one of her prosecutors is resigning to take a job as a Magistrate and again leaving an opening in her office. Stated that she is looking to restructure the office to create a better salary structure in an attempt to retain staff. Looking to meet with Safety and Judiciary and/or Finance Committee Chair to discuss her plan. Councilman Lohnes agreed to meet with Director Arnold.

Councilman Edwards asked Director Arnold to prepare a Proclamation recognizing the YMCA on its 100th anniversary.

Auditor Knowles: Reviewed the Income Tax Recapitulation. Stated that the Income Tax department is looking into opening back up to the public in some fashion. The move to the front of the office and installation of barriers will make this easier.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Streets & Alley: Bugara: No Formal Report but congratulated Councilwoman Cherry on being awarded the Pathfinder from Alliance City Schools.

Properties and Lands: Cherry: Stated she is looking forward to assisting in compiling a chronic blighted housing list as most of these houses are in the 1st or 2nd ward.

Councilwoman Cherry asked about the cleanup at 834 Noble and who directed it or paid for it. Director Dreger stated that the City did not direct the clean up and it is believed it was a neighborhood group that did it.

Utilities: Edwards: No Formal Report.

Finance: Grove: No Formal Report

Community Development: King: No Formal Report.

Safety & Judiciary: Lohnes: No formal report.

Planning Zoning and Housing: Mastroianni: No Formal Report but congratulated Councilwoman Cherry on being awarded the Pathfinder Award from Alliance City Schools.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Mayor Andreani reported that there were none

THIRD READINGS: None

SECOND READINGS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

Ordinance 14-21: Introduced by Edwards: An Ordinance authorizing the Director of Public Safety and Service to advertise a request for qualifications (RFQ) for professional engineering services to provide inspections and project wastewater treatment plant NFA improvements Phase I, to select qualified firm and to negotiates a contract: and declaring an emergency. Motion and Second to suspend the rule requiring 3 readings. Roll Call: Unanimous. Motion and Second to adopt. Roll Call: Unanimous. **ADOPTED.**

Ordinance 15-21: Introduced by Edwards: An Ordinance authorizing the Director of Public Safety and Service to apply for and accept a loan from the water pollution control loan fund for construction of the wastewater treatment plant NFA improvements Phase I, for an amount not to exceed \$12,350,000.00; and declaring an emergency Motion and Second to suspend the rule requiring 3 readings. Roll Call: Unanimous. Motion and Second to adopt. Roll Call: Unanimous. **ADOPTED.**

Ordinance 16-21: Introduced by Mastroianni: An Ordinance accepting and approving the replat of all of lots 9113 and 9114 Located at 930 West Summit Street in the City of Alliance, County of Stark and State of Ohio Motion and Second to refer to the Planning Commission.. Roll Call: Unanimous. **REFERRED TO THE PLANNING COMMISSION.**

OLD BUSINESS:

Ordinance 80-20: Introduced by Bugara: An Ordinance vacating all of a twenty (20) foot alley bounded on the North by Prospect Street; bounded on the South by part of a twenty (20) foot alley; bounded on the East by lot 505; and bounded on the West by lot 13102 in the City of Alliance, County of Stark and State of Ohio. **NO FORMAL ACTION.**

Ordinance 81-20: Introduced by Bugara: An Ordinance vacating all of a twenty (20) foot alley bounded on the North by Norfolk Southern Railroad; bounded on the South by Prospect Street; bounded on the East by part of lot 482; and bounded on the West by lot 2094 in the City of Alliance, County of Stark and State of Ohio. Motion and Second to set a Public Hearing for December 21, 2020 at 6:00 PM. Roll Call: **NO FORMAL ACTION.**

Ordinance 82-20: Introduced by Bugara: An Ordinance vacating all of a twenty (20) foot alley bounded on the North by a twenty (20) foot alley; bounded on the South by lot 11829; bounded on the East by part of lot 231; and bounded on the West by lot 221 in the City of Alliance, County of Stark and State of Ohio. **NO FORMAL ACTION.**

Ordinance 86-20: Introduced by Council as a Whole: An Ordinance declaring the improvement to certain parcels of real property in the City to be a public purpose and exempt from taxation; providing for the collection and deposit of service payments and specifying the purpose for which those service payments may be expended; and authorizing compensation payments to the Marlinton Local School District. **NO FORMAL ACTION.**

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS:

Councilman Bugara: Wished everyone stay safe, healthy and enjoy the sunny warmer weather we are experiencing

Councilwoman Cherry: Advised everyone to be safe, healthy and kind safe and continue to follow the rules and wear your mask.

Councilman Edwards: Congratulated Councilwoman Cherry on being awarded the Pathfinder Award from Alliance City Schools and advised everyone to get vaccinated. It was easy and nothing to worry about.

Councilman Grove: Wished congratulations to Councilwoman Cherry on being awarded the Pathfinder Award and stated God bless everyone so that we get through this.

Councilwoman King: Questioned why schools were virtual again and it was explained it was a short term thing due to teacher vaccinations. Congratulated Councilwoman Cherry on being awarded the Pathfinder Award from Alliance City Schools

Councilman Lohnes: Congratulated the High School Girls Wrestling Team on coming in 6th in the State and also Councilwoman Cherry on being awarded the Pathfinder Award.

Councilman Mastroianni: Stated everyone be safe and well.

President Garnes: Congratulated Councilwoman Cherry on being awarded the Pathfinder Award from the School and noted efficiency of the vaccination process at the Senior Center.

Law Director Arnold noted that the Liquor License transfer application for Circle K did not get acted upon tonight.

Motion and Second to waive a hearing on the Circle K Liquor License transfer. Roll Call: Unanimous. **MOTION PASSED BY ACCLAMATION OF ALL MEMBERS.**

Motion and Second to adjourn the meeting. Roll Call: Unanimous. **MOTION PASSED BY ACCLAMATION OF ALL MEMBERS.**

ADJOURNMENT: Noting no further business to come before this Council President Garnes adjourned the meeting at 6:09 PM.

SUMMARY OF ACTIONS TAKEN:

Ordinance 80-20	NO FORMAL ACTION
Ordinance 81-20	NO FORMAL ACTION
Ordinance 82-20	NO FORMAL ACTION
Ordinance 86-20	NO FORMAL ACTION
Ordinance 14-21	ADOPTED
Ordinance 15-21	ADOPTED
Ordinance 16-21	REFERRED TO THE PLANNING COMMISSION

**ARTHUR GARNES,
COUNCIL PRESIDENT**

**GERARD T. YOST
COUNCIL CLERK**