

**ST. CLAIRSVILLE CITY COUNCIL**  
**July 18, 2022 Meeting**

Jim Velas, Council President  
Don Vincenzo, Council, 1<sup>st</sup> Ward  
Mark Thomas, Council, 3<sup>rd</sup> Ward  
Terra Butler, Council, 4<sup>th</sup> Ward  
Linda Jordan, Council-At-Large  
Beth Oprisch, Council-At-Large  
JC Thrash, Council 2<sup>nd</sup> Ward  
Mike Smith, Council-At-Large

Kathryn Thalman, Mayor  
Jeremy Greenwood, Public Service/Safety Director  
Don Smithberger, Super. of General Services  
Annette Williams, Finance Director  
Matthew Arbenz, Chief of Police  
Tom Murphy, Planning & Zoning Administrator  
Elizabeth Glick, Law Director

The meeting was called to order by Council President Jim Velas at 7:00 pm. President Velas led Council in the Pledge of Allegiance. Members of the public were thanked for their attendance.

**ROLL CALL:**

Butler	HERE	Thrash	HERE
Jordan	HERE	Thomas	HERE
Oprisch	HERE	Vincenzo	HERE
Smith	HERE		
	Seven (7) Present		Zero (0) Absent

**MINUTES:** President Jim Velas confirmed all Councilmembers received the minutes from the July 5<sup>th</sup> Council Meeting. Councilman Thomas made a motion to approve the minutes from July 5, 2022, Council Meeting; motion seconded by Councilwoman Butler.

**ROLL CALL:**

Butler	YES	Thrash	YES
Jordan	YES	Thomas	YES
Oprisch	YES	Vincenzo	YES
Smith	YES		

Roll Call Vote: Seven (7) YES Zero (0) NO Zero (0) ABSTAIN Zero (0) ABSENT

Minutes Approved

**NEW BUSINESS:** None

**CITIZEN HEARING:** None

**CORRESPONDENCE:** Councilwoman Jordan reported that the St. Clairsville High School Alumni Picnic would be held on July 30th at the Rec Center. The Doors will open at 10 am; the Distinguished Alumni Award will be announced at 11 am, with lunch following. The Alumni Association will also announce a new scholarship in memory of long-time teacher Emery Stewart.

**REPORTS:** Mayor Kathryn Thalman [ABSENT] No report.

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**Service/Safety Director Jeremy Greenwood** reported that to receive a new Gas Aggregation Program, the City must submit a request for qualifications to the firms expressing interest in the program. Ward One Sewer Smoke Testing continues, but the City has purchased a new machine due to the machine breaking frequently. All paving in Edinburgh Way is complete. The Water Distribution System bid will be open in October. Sourcing of materials will be an issue for the Contractor. The Contractor who paved Edinburgh is willing to pave South Marietta Street. Although there will be a Water Pipe that will go under South Marietta Street during the Water Distribution Project, the City will trench the road while the Contractor is paving and place the Waterline in that area so the road can be paved. Furthermore, Mr. Greenwood announced that ODOT is no longer willing to sell their property on Route 9. The other properties the City is looking at purchasing with the Clean Ohio Funds require resolution of support from both the County and Township. The new lights have been installed in the Rec Center. There have been 12 Waterline breaks so far this year. Lastly, Mr. Greenwood announced that there were five applicants for Program Supervisor at the Rec Center.

Councilman Thomas asked about the details of the Gas Lease, one of the pieces of Legislation that the Council will address further in the meeting. Mr. Greenwood stated that it is \$4,000 an acre at 18%. Furthermore, Councilman Thomas asked about the recent power outage in the City. Mr. Greenwood said he doesn't know for sure but suspected it was due to tree branches falling in the power lines.

Councilwoman Oprisch asked Mr. Greenwood about the cost of the new Sewer Smoke Testing Machine. Mr. Greenwood stated that it cost around \$2,000.

Councilwoman Jordan asked Mr. Greenwood if there had been an update on the South Park Renovations. Mr. Greenwood stated that he has met with the Army Corps of Engineers but has yet to hear back from them after the meeting.

**Police Chief Matt Arbenz [ABSENT]** No report.

**Finance Director Annette Williams** reported that the City is receiving funds from the Opioid Pharmaceutical Lawsuit, with the first payment being \$26,448 and the second payment being \$37,783 for a total of \$64,231. Lastly, Ms. Williams announced that Rec Director Gay had submitted several grants.

Councilwoman Jordan and Oprisch asked Ms. Williams for a list of things that the American Rescue Plan Funds and the One Ohio Settlement funds can be spent.

**Planning & Zoning Administrator Tom Murphy** reported that the Board of Zoning Appeals met on July 7, where they approved both variance requests before them. The First was related to signage at First Settlement Physical Therapy, and the second was to approve the location of a shed at 146 North Sugar Street. The Board of Zoning appeals will meet again on August 3, 2022, at 6 pm to discuss variances that Trinity Hospital requests related to their new site at the former NAPA property. Secondly, Edward Perzanowski is seeking approval for two parking spots on Forest Lawn Avenue within the right of way. Cedar One Realty had its grand opening at 168 East Main Street.

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**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Finance Chair Mike Smith** reported that revenues are at 45%, with expenditures only at 34%. Councilman Smith noted that both figures are suitable for halfway through the year. During the Finance meeting, the Committee discussed placing projects on hold to save money due to the excessive fuel deficit. During the meeting, the Committee also discussed the purchases of properties in the City.

**Utilities Chair Terra** No report.

**Police Chair Beth Oprisch** No report.

**Streets – North Side Chair Don Vincenzo** No report.

**Streets – South Side Chair JC Thrash** No report.

**Safety Chair JC Thrash** No report.

**Building and Grounds Chair Linda Jordan** No report.

**Planning Commission Chair Mark Thomas** No report.

**Fire Chair Linda Jordan** No report.

**Recreation Chair Mark Thomas** reported that the Rec Board would meet on July 28th at 4 pm. The Rec Center will host a Catfish Tournament at the Reservoir on August 12th from 6 pm to 6 am. Rec Director Gay reported that the Rec Center provided concessions at the Jr. Sports Complex, which became a success. Lastly, there will be a Children's Fishing Tournament on August 17th at the Reservoir from 6 pm to 8 pm.

**Park District Chair Linda Jordan** No report.

**ORDINANCES & RESOLUTIONS: Law Director Elizabeth Glick**

**FIRST READING**

**Ordinance No. 2022-31 - AN ORDINANCE ACCEPTING THE BID FOR THE OIL AND GAS LEASE WITH ASCENT RESOURCES - UTICA, LLC AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY**

A motion was made by Councilwoman Jordan that the rules requiring three separate readings be suspended on Ordinance No. 2022-31 and that the Ordinance, be passed on an emergency basis; seconded by Councilwoman Butler.

**ROLL CALL:**

Butler	YES	Thrash	YES
Jordan	YES	Thomas	YES
Oprisch	YES	Vincenzo	YES

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Smith            YES

Roll Call Vote: Seven (7) YES    Zero (0) NO    Zero (0) ABSTAIN    Zero (0) ABSENT

Motion Carried

Councilman Thrash made a motion to pass Ordinance No. 2022-31, seconded by Councilwoman Butler.

**ROLL CALL:**

Butler	YES	Thrash	YES
Jordan	YES	Thomas	YES
Oprisch	YES	Vincenzo	YES
Smith	YES		

Roll Call Vote: Seven (7) YES    Zero (0) NO    Zero (0) ABSTAIN    Zero (0) ABSENT

Motion Carried

**Resolution No. 2022-33 - RESOLUTION DECLARING THE NECESSITY FOR THE RENEWAL LEVY WITH NO INCREASE AND NO DECREASE OF A CONTINUOUS TAX IN EXCESS OF THE TEN (10) MILL LIMITATION FOR THE PURPOSE OF CURRENT OPERATING EXPENSES OF THE CITY OF ST. CLAIRSVILLE, OHIO, FOR A PERIOD OF FIVE (5) YEARS**

A motion was made by Councilman Thrash that the rules requiring three separate readings be suspended on Resolution No. 2022-33 and that the Resolution, be passed on an emergency basis; seconded by Councilman Thomas.

**ROLL CALL:**

Butler	YES	Thrash	YES
Jordan	YES	Thomas	YES
Oprisch	YES	Vincenzo	YES
Smith	YES		

Roll Call Vote: Seven (7) YES    Zero (0) NO    Zero (0) ABSTAIN    Zero (0) ABSENT

Motion Carried

Councilman Thrash made a motion to pass Resolution No. 2022-33, seconded by Councilman Thomas.

**ROLL CALL:**

Butler	YES	Thrash	YES
Jordan	YES	Thomas	YES
Oprisch	YES	Vincenzo	YES

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Smith            YES

Roll Call Vote:   Seven (7) YES   Zero (0) NO   Zero (0) ABSTAIN   Zero (0) ABSENT

Motion Carried

**Ordinance No. 2022-34 - AN ORDINANCE TO MAKE SUPPLEMENTAL REVENUE AND APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE NORMAL EXPENSES AND OTHER EXPENDITURES OF THE CITY OF ST. CLAIRSVILLE, STATE OF OHIO, FOR THE PERIOD JANUARY 1, 2022 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2022 AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY**

A motion was made by Councilwoman Oprisch that the rules requiring three separate readings be suspended on Ordinance No. 2022-34 and that the Ordinance, be passed on an emergency basis; seconded by Councilwoman Butler.

ROLL CALL:

Butler	YES	Thrash	YES
Jordan	YES	Thomas	YES
Oprisch	YES	Vincenzo	YES
Smith	YES		

Roll Call Vote:   Seven (7) YES   Zero (0) NO   Zero (0) ABSTAIN   Zero (0) ABSENT

Motion Carried

Councilman Thrash made a motion to pass Ordinance No. 2022-34, seconded by Councilwoman Jordan.

ROLL CALL:

Butler	YES	Thrash	YES
Jordan	YES	Thomas	YES
Oprisch	YES	Vincenzo	YES
Smith	YES		

Roll Call Vote:   Seven (7) YES   Zero (0) NO   Zero (0) ABSTAIN   Zero (0) ABSENT

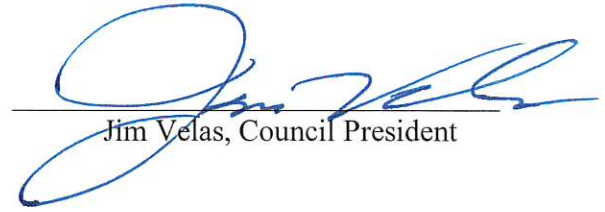
Motion Carried

**ADJOURNMENT:** With no further business to come before Council, Councilwoman Butler made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Councilman Thrash. The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 P.M.

The next meeting will be Monday, August 1, 2022, at 7:00 P.M. All Councilmembers will be present at the City Building for the next meeting. Members of the public are encouraged to attend the meeting in the Council Chambers.

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Jacob DeBertrand, Council Clerk

  
Jim Velas, Council President