



Swearing in Ceremony - 6:15 p.m. – Council Chambers
 “By Judge Tom Januzzi”

Members of Council for the 2012 – 2013 Oberlin City Council term were sworn into office by Judge Tom Januzzi. Charles Peterson was not in attendance.

Minutes of the Regular City Council Meeting
 Held on Monday, January 2, 2012
 6:30 p.m.

1. COUNCIL BUSINESS

(a.) Call Regular City Council Meeting to Order and Roll Call – 6:30 p.m.

A regular meeting of the Oberlin City Council was held on January 2, 2012 in the Council Chambers of the Oberlin City Hall, located at 85 S. Main Street Oberlin, Ohio. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m., by President pro tem, Belinda Anderson. Roll call was taken as follow:

Council Members:	Present	Absent
Charles Peterson (excused)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bryan Burgess	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sharon Soucy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Elizabeth Meadows	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Scott Broadwell	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Aaron Mucciolo	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ronnie Rimbart	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
 Appointees:		
Belinda Anderson, Clerk of Council	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Eric Severs, Law Director	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Eric Norenberg, City Manager	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sal Talarico, Finance Director (excused)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

b.) Election of Council President and Vice - President

Clerk Anderson advised the members of the assembly that the purpose of the meeting was to conduct the election of the Council President and Vice–President. After reading an excerpt from Council Rules, pertaining to the procedure, she then stated that the nominations were now in order and asked if there were any recommendations at this time.

ELECTION OF PRESIDENT

Motion to elect Ronnie Rimbart as the President of Council was moved by Soucy, seconded by Meadows. Being that there were no additional recommendations brought to the floor, nominations were closed.

Motion to elect Ronnie Rimbart as President of Council was unanimously approved.

Ronnie Rimbart thanked all of his colleagues for nominating him as the President of Council and thanked members of the public for coming out to the meeting.

ELECTION OF VICE – PRESIDENT

Presiding officer Rimbart then called for nominations for the position of Vice–President.

A motion to nominate Scott Broadwell as Vice–President of Council was moved by Mucciolo. A second nomination was made by Elizabeth Meadows to nominate Sharon Soucy as Vice–President of Council. The motion to elect Sharon Soucy was seconded by Broadwell. Being that there were no additional recommendations, nominations were closed.

VOTE FOR BROADWELL

A voice vote was taken by the members of Council to vote for nominee Scott Broadwell as Vice–President. The motion failed 1/5; Mucciolo voting in the affirmative, all other members dissenting.

A voice vote was taken by members of Council to vote for Sharon Soucy as Vice–President. The motion passed by a voice vote of 5/1, Mucciolo dissenting.

President Rimbart took the time to acknowledge public officials who were in attendance. Public officials acknowledged included:

- John Hunter, Mayor/ President of Council for the Village of Sheffield.
- Chris Cook, prosecutor for the Village of Sheffield, candidate for the general division of the Common Pleas Court.
- James M. Slone, Democratic Candidate for the 4th District Congressional Race for the State of Ohio 2012.
- Ken Kelleher, Member of the Democratic Executive Committee.
- John Miraldi, Candidate for the Lorain County Court of Common Pleas.

The Council President called for a 2 - 3 minute recess, to allow members of the audience to exit. The meeting reconvened at 6:45 p.m.

(c.) Appointment of Council Liaison to boards and commissions.

Sharon Soucy moved that the following City Council liaison assignments to City boards and commissions be approved. The motion was seconded by Broadwell.

<u>Board/Commission/Committee</u>	<u>Nominee</u>	<u>Term Ending</u>
Ambulance District (2)	Bryan Burgess	12/31/12
Alternate (AMENDED)	Aaron Mucciolo	12/31/12
Fire Fighter's Dependents Board (2)	Charles Peterson	12/31/12
	Scott Broadwell	12/31/12
Oberlin Early Childhood Center (1)	Charles Peterson	Extend term through 2013
		Due to term limitations

Roll Call: 6 Ayes 0 Nays Motion Carried

(e.) Discuss and consider setting alternative City Council meeting dates that conflict with holidays.

Motion to approve alternative meeting dates that conflict with Oberlin City holidays was moved by Soucy, seconded by Meadows. The alternative meeting dates were approved as follows:

- Tuesday, January 17, 2012
- Tuesday, February 21, 2012
- Tuesday, September 4, 2012

Roll Call: 6 Ayes 0 Nays Motion Carried

(g.) Establish February 4, 2012 as the date for the 2012 City Council Retreat.

Shirley R. Johnson, Oberlin resident asked where the retreat would be held. The City Manger said that the tentative plan was to hold the meeting at the fire station in the new community meeting room. The proposed start time would be 8:30 a.m. and would last until' about 2:00 p.m.

Burgess asked who would be facilitating the program and if there would be enough time to cover the material in one day.

Norenberg noted that the facilitator would be the Public Service Institute (PSI) and since a great deal of goal setting had been done while putting together a strategic plan for the City. It was decided that one day should be plenty of time especially given the fact that there were only two new Council members.

Motion to establish February 4, 2012 as the date for the City Council retreat was moved by Meadows, seconded by Broadwell.

Roll Call: 6 Ayes 0 Nays Motion Carried

2. ANY CONCERNS THAT ARE NOT ON THE AGENDA MAY BE BROUGHT TO THE ATTENTION OF COUNCIL AT THIS TIME.

VICE-PRESIDENT PRO TEM

Soucy remarked that she would be out of town for an extended stretch in January and would miss additional time due to a scheduled surgery in February. As a result she moved to nominate Scott Broadwell to take her position as Vice-President on a temporary basis until she would be able to return.

Point of order was raised by Mucciolo. He noted that the Council Rules state that if neither the President nor Vice-President were at the meeting, then the members who were present at that meeting would vote on the matter.

Severs remarked that article 10 of the Council Rules would not apply in this case, since article 10 spoke to both the President and Vice-President being absent from the meeting. Soucy remarked that this was only a temporary nomination to fill the Vice-President's seat. It was her opinion that it was appropriate to vote on the matter at this time.

Burgess said he failed to see the reason for appointing Mr. Broadwell as the temporary Vice-President for any meeting since the VP had no official duties during the course of the meetings. In the event that neither Soucy nor Rimbart were present then the Chair would not automatically fall to Mr. Broadwell.

Severs remarked that Burgess' comments were true if Mr. Broadwell were nominated Vice-President Pro tem and if it happened that neither the President nor Vice-President were at the meeting, then according to the Council Rules those that are present would have to appoint a President pro tem during the meeting, and it may not be Mr. Broadwell.

Broadwell remarked that they could cross that bridge when they get to it. Rimbart asked if it were necessary to proceed. Law Director Severs remarked that they could proceed for the sake of the agenda sessions.

Roll Call: 4 Ayes

2 Nays
(Mucciolo, Burgess)

Motion Carried

Mark Chesler reiterated comments from the previous meeting related to postings on City Manager Norenberg's twitter site – from a principal of SCA – against a candidate running for office in the November 2011 elections. The comments claimed that the postings constitute a violation of municipal appointee political neutrality.

Burgess remarked that he believed that it was the City Manager's responsibility to keep an eye on what is happening in the community. The way that twitter works, anyone can say anything, the internet is infinitely democratic, and he is very happy that Mr. Norenberg pays attention to what is being said by the people of Oberlin. Just because it appears on a site under Eric Norenberg's name does not mean the City Manager endorses these things, it means that Mr. Norenberg is paying attention to what the people in the community are saying and he is happy that the City Manager is doing so.

Norenberg said that he appreciated the support of the Council particularly the comments just made by Burgess and those made by Broadwell at the last meeting. He confirmed that he did spend a fair amount of time trying to communicate two-way with the community to pay attention to what the business people and residents are saying in the community. In order to do this, he tries to use new and different technologies as a means of outreach to make sure that the news of the City of Oberlin is getting out in an ever increasingly diverse community that pays attention to what the City is doing. It was noted that there was no one way to reach the community, twitter was just one of many mediums currently being used.

3. OLD BUSINESS:

4. NEW BUSINESS:

5. OTHER NEW BUSINESS: None

6. COUNCIL COMMUNICATIONS:

- (A). Referrals**
- (B). Advocacy**
- (C). Correspondence**
- (D). Reports**

Vice –President Soucy commended the City Manager and the Fire Chief Dennis Kirin for achieving the Gold LEED Certification.

7. CITY MANAGER’S REPORT:

Several updates were mentioned by the City Manager which included:

- A Martin Luther King Jr. event will be held at Finney Chapel on Sunday, January 15, 2012 at 5 p.m. The event is called “The Language of the Unheard”. The Keynote Speaker will be Harry Boomer, of Cleveland 19 Action News.
- On MLK Jr. Day, The traditional “Remembering and Rededicating Yourself to the Dream” event that will be at Martin Luther King Park on Monday, January 16, 2012 at 12:00 p.m.
- A comic book has been created at the Oberlin Heritage Center.
- Reminder that The Oberlin Connector will be operating on Tuesday instead of Monday because of the holiday and on Tuesday January 17, 2012 instead of Monday due to the Martin Luther King Jr. Day holiday.
- Ohio Magazine is out this month featuring some local businesses in Oberlin.
- Pulse Magazine has two articles featuring Oberlin businesses as well.

8. FINANCE DIRECTOR’S REPORT:

Not present

9. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

Shirley R. Johnson said that Council must do whatever is necessary to speak up when making comments. It seems like a lot of Council members are holding private discussions making it difficult for the public to hear what is going on.

10. ADJOURNMENT:

Being that there was no further business to come before Council the meeting adjourned at 7:13p.m.

Attest:

BELINDA B. ANDERSON, CMC
CLERK OF COUNCIL

RONNIE J. RIMBERT
PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL

APPROVED: 02/06/2012

POSTED: 02/07/2012