­City of Deer Park

City Council Meeting

Municipal Building

February 20, 2023

Mayor Donnellon opened the meeting at 7:00 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation. The mayor read the roll. Mr. Camp, Mr. Daily, Ms. Downs, Mr. Feldhaus, Mr. Kelly, Ms. Westmark, Mayor Donnellon.

**Approval of Minutes**

Ms. Downs motioned to approve the minutes from the February 6, 2023 Council Meeting. Mr. Feldhaus seconded the motion. Mr. Camp – abstain, Mr. Daily – yes, Ms. Downs – yes, Mr. Feldhaus – yes, Mr. Kelly – yes, Ms. Westmark – yes, Mayor Donnellon - yes. Motion carried.

**Commendation - Adalynn Stabler**

Chief Schlie and the Deer Park Police recognized student Adalynn Stabler for her heroic efforts on February 7 Adalynn let an adult know about another student who was texting her that they wanted to harm themselves. Chief Schlie said that due to Adalynn’s outstanding commitment to her friend, a tragedy was averted and commended Adalynn’s parents for raising a person who is an asset to the community. Adalynn was presented with a plaque and is the first civilian to receive a police challenge coin.

**Public Comment – Citizens and Guests** –

*Kerry Baker – 4169 Webster* *Avenue* – Ms. Baker cautioned against anyone going off their psychiatric medications without consulting with a physician first as this can have side effects such as suicidal thoughts. Ms. Baker has had personal tragedy within her family, and she does not want to see this happen to anyone else.

***Standing Committee Reports***

***Legislative and Finance Committee \*Chairman Chris Westmark*** -

**January 2023 Auditor Fund Report**

Ms. Westmark motioned to accept the January 2023 Auditor Fund Report. Mr. Camp seconded the motion. Mr. Camp – yes, Mr. Daily – yes, Ms. Downs – yes, Mr. Feldhaus – yes, Mr. Kelly – yes, Ms. Westmark – yes, Mayor Donnellon - yes. Motion carried.

**RESOLUTION 2023-02 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CITY COUNCIL TO ACCEPT THE DEDICATION OF WENTWORTH LANE IN DEER PARK, OHIO** Ms. Westmark asked the clerk to read Resolution 2023-02 by title only. So read. Ms. Westmark motioned to pull Resolution 2023-02 off the table. Mr. Feldhaus seconded the motion. Mr. Camp – yes, Mr. Daily – yes, Ms. Downs – yes, Mr. Feldhaus – yes, Mr. Kelly – yes, Ms. Westmark – yes, Mayor Donnellon - yes. Motion carried. Ms. Downs motioned to adopt Resolution 2023-02. Mr. Feldhaus seconded the motion. Mr. Camp – yes, Mr. Daily – yes, Ms. Downs – yes, Mr. Feldhaus – yes, Mr. Kelly – yes, Ms. Westmark – yes, Mayor Donnellon - yes. Motion carried.

***Safety Committee*** *\*****Chairman Tom Camp***

**January 2023 Police Report**

Mr. Feldhaus reported that in January 2023 there were 782 calls for service. 289 on first shift, 367 on second shift and 157 on third shift.

**January 2023 Fire Report**

Mr. Camp reported that in January 2023 there were 110 EMS runs and 8 fire runs in the city of Deer Park for a total of 118 runs. There was a monthly dollar loss of $250.00 in the city. There were 331 runs in the complete district.

***Public Works Committee******\*Chairman Kathy Downs*** – Ms. Downs reported that we have received a 1.8 million dollar grant from SORTA for Oakwood from the dead end at the railroad tracks to Plainfield Road. The grant will be announced on March 8, 2023. The city match is 10% of the 1.8 million which equates to $180,000.

***Park Board Committee \*Chairman Mark Feldhaus***

Mr. Feldhaus announced that the next Friends of Chamberlin Park Armchair Races takes place on February 25, 2023. Doors open at 6:30 pm with a 7:30 pm post time. The annual Easter egg hunt is on April 1, 2023. At the most recent Park Board meeting our Public Works Director Ron advised of improvements that need to be made in the Park Board office. Three of the new water fountains have been installed and the Park Board bought 10 garbage cans to replace the old ones. Ms. Westmark stated that the residents on St. John’s Terrace asked her to pass along their compliments on the new garbage cans as they do not blow away and look nice. Mayor Donnellon added that the Park Board is also looking at moving the green tables to a new area of the park and fixing them up and will purchase two new ones for their current location.

**Correspondence (Clerk of Council) & Miscellaneous** – None

**Old Business** – None

**New Business** – Executive Session – At 7:23 pm Mr. Daily motioned to go into executive session for the purpose of the appointment of a public employee and to include all city council members, Dr. Jetter, Mr. Pacheco and Mayor Donnellon. Mr. Camp seconded the motion. Mr. Camp – yes, Mr. Daily – yes, Ms. Downs – yes, Mr. Feldhaus – yes, Mr. Kelly – yes, Ms. Westmark – yes, Mayor Donnellon - yes. Motion carried. At 7:44 pm Mr. Daily motioned to come out of executive session. Ms. Downs seconded the motion. Mr. Camp – yes, Mr. Daily – yes, Ms. Downs – yes, Mr. Feldhaus – yes, Mr. Kelly – yes, Ms. Westmark – yes, Mayor Donnellon - yes. Motion carried.

**Reports from Other City Officials**

**Solicitor –** Mr. Pacheco stated that at 6:30 pm this evening a Civil Service Commission meeting was held in which the civil service invoked one of the recent charter amendment provisions allowing the civil service commission to dispense with competitive examination for a particular civil service position when it determines that it is in the best interest of the municipality. In this case it was determined that it is in the best interest of the city to not have competitive examination for fulfillment of the patrol officer position. One reason being the last time they tried to run a test only two people applied and the other is that people just do not want to apply for police officer jobs anymore, so they are difficult to find. This gives the city much more flexibility to secure experienced officers.

Ms. Westmark asked Lt. Battin when we will be hiring for the patrol officer position as she knows some officers that are interested. Lt. Battin responded that they are looking at April.

**City Manager** – Dr. Jetter announced that in the recent past, city council discussed that ordinances must be codified each year, though we held off due to cost. A resident inquired about it and why we were not doing this, so we negotiated to have these supported online for $465.00 on the Walter Drane company profile website. The transition of existing codes is $1995.00. There will be a link on our website so that residents can access the ordinances and resolutions, old and new, online.

A copy of the letter Dr. Jetter sent to the Ohr Torah Cincinnati school (formerly Howard School) is in council mailboxes regarding the request for a meeting to ask for their assistance with offsetting the cost of re doing the parking lot that they use between the community center and their school.

Dr. Jetter mentioned the issue regarding the railroad crossings that were torn out. Action to be complete by the end of March. The agreements were already signed with the railroad, who is responsible, and since they tore them out, they must put them back in or else we will bill and hold their lease agreement.

Dr. Jetter provided an update on the Townhomes. 35 have been sold and there are 10 remaining. Dr. Jetter spoke with the project manager, and he advised that by June they will all be finished. Mayor Donnellon inquired on the cost of each unit. Dr. Jetter stated that they are between $350,000 - $380,000.

Ms. Westmark asked what is transported on the railroad line. Dr. Jetter stated mostly alcohol, resin, fiberglass and paper. If there is a dangerous set of cargo, we are notified by Hamilton County.

**Mayor –** Mayor Donnellon thanked Adalynn Stabler and members of DP Police department for helping with the tough situation on February 7 and advised that if you need to get involved to help someone its better to get involved than to not say anything as one never knows how much of a difference they make in another one’s life and referenced the story in “It’s a Wonderful Life” Reach out if you need help as everyone does at some time.

**Schedule**

March 6, 2023 BZA 6:00 pm

March 6, 2023 Zoning Code Changes Hearing 6:30 pm

March 6, 2023 Council Meeting at 7:00 pm

March 13, 2023 Council Informational Session from 7:00 pm -8:00 pm at the Deer Park Library

March 20, 2023 Council Meeting at 7:00 pm

**Community Events**

February 21, 2023 Block Watch 7:00pm at the Community Center-State of the City Address by City Mgr.

Saturday February 25, 2023 Armchair Races Community Center Open at 6:30 pm Post time 7:30 pm

**Adjournment**

Mr. Feldhaus motioned to adjourn. Mr. Kelly seconded the motion. Mr. Camp – yes, Mr. Daily – yes, Ms. Downs – yes, Mr. Feldhaus – yes, Mr. Kelly – yes, Ms. Westmark – yes, Mayor Donnellon - yes. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:59 pm.

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John Donnellon Joan E. Perin

Mayor Clerk of Council