

MADEIRA CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
APRIL 13, 2020

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Spencer at 7:33 p.m.

II. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance were led by Mayor Spencer.

III. ROLL CALL

Members present:

Nancy Spencer, Mayor  
Scott Gehring  
Tom Henning  
Chris Hilberg  
Doug Moormann  
Brian Mueller  
Traci Theis

Officials/Staff present:

Brian Fox, Law Director  
Tom Moeller, City Manager  
Lori Thompson, Assistant City Manager  
David Schaefer, Police Chief  
C. Robert Paul, Treasurer  
Kristie Lowndes, Tax Commissioner  
Christine Doyle, Clerk of Council

IV. ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA AND MINUTES

1. Changes to the agenda:

- Mr. Moormann asked to add a Planning Commission report to Committee and Official Reports.
- Mr. Mueller asked to add an April 22 Parks and Recreation Board meeting to Notices of Other Meetings and Events.

2. Changes to the City Council Special Meeting minutes from March 9, 2020:

- None

3. Changes to the City Council Regular Meeting minutes from March 9, 2020:

- None

4. Res. No. 19-20: Authorizing the City Manager to Execute an Agreement with Brandstetter Carroll Inc. for Design and Inspection Services for the Euclid Avenue Improvement Project

5. Res. No. 20-20: Authorizing the City Manager to Execute a Contract with Allgeier & Son, Inc. for Demolition of the Structures at 7401 and 7409 Dawson Road

6. Res. No. 21-20: Authorizing the City Manager to Contract with Midwest Flooring, 7875 Palace Drive, Cincinnati, OH, to provide Materials and Labor to Replace Flooring Surfaces in the Madeira Police Department

7. Res. No. 22-20: Authorizing the Adoption of an Alternative Method of Apportioning the Local Government Fund

8. Res. No. 23-20: Removing Assessments for Sidewalk Replacement

**Motion to accept the agenda; the March 9, 2020 Special Meeting minutes; the March 9, 2020 Regular Meeting minutes; Res. No. 19-20: Authorizing the City Manager to Execute**

**an Agreement with Brandstetter Carroll Inc. for Design and Inspection Services for the Euclid Avenue Improvement Project; Res. No. 20-20: Authorizing the City Manager to Execute a Contract with Allgeier & Son, Inc. for Demolition of the Structures at 7401 and 7409 Dawson Road; Res. No. 21-20: Authorizing the City Manager to Contract with Midwest Flooring, 7875 Palace Drive, Cincinnati, OH, to provide Materials and Labor to Replace Flooring Surfaces in the Madeira Police Department; Res. No. 22-20: Authorizing the Adoption of an Alternative Method of Apportioning the Local Government Fund; and Res. No. 23-20: Removing Assessments for Sidewalk Replacement made by Ms. Theis, second by Mr. Hilberg. Motion passed by unanimous roll call vote.**

V. MAYOR'S MOMENT

1. Public Comment Reminder
2. Mayor's Moment
  - Mayor Spencer spoke about people in the community stepping up to help each other in this time of crisis. She thanked residents for being gracious to each other and for finding ways to be candles in the dark when it is needed most.
3. Special Recognition
  - None

VI. NOTICES OF OTHER MEETINGS AND EVENTS

- Planning Commission April 20, 2020, 7:00 p.m.
- Parks and Recreation Board April 22, 2020, 7:00 p.m.
- Budget and Finance Committee April 27, 2020, 6:30 p.m.

VII. COMMITTEE AND OFFICIAL REPORTS

1. Parks and Recreation Board meeting on March 11, 2020
  - Mr. Mueller reported the Board discussed ways to combine the St. Nick Night sleigh ride and Light Up Madeira, as they are on the same night this year.
  - Tree City USA work is continuing. The national organization relaxed the requirement to hold an Arbor Day event in 2020 due to the COVID-10 restrictions.
  - The Board is considering suggestions for Parade Marshal for the Independence Day Parade. The selection will be made at the April meeting.
2. Economic Development Committee meeting on March 12, 2020
  - Mr. Moormann reported the Committee met with members of the Chamber of Commerce and had a productive conversation that included highlighting key vacancies in the business district.
  - Mr. Moormann acknowledged the Chamber of Commerce for doing a tremendous job of promoting Madeira businesses that are still open.
3. Public Works Committee meeting on March 18, 2020
  - Mr. Gehring reported the Committee is looking into a new initiative for an annual sweeping of all City streets. The sweeping will remove dirt and rocks that abrade the streets, prolonging the life of the asphalt.

- The Committee is looking into a maintenance program for the paint on City fire hydrants. It appears there would be minimal cost to get on a 5- to 7-year program.
  - The street-paving schedule for the next three years is on target with the goals set forth by Budget and Finance. The City Engineers will be presenting options later in the week for making the Euclid/Camargo interchange more vehicle and pedestrian friendly.
4. Planning Commission meeting March 16, 2020
- Mr. Moormann reported the Commission reviewed proposals for updating the zoning code from Graydon and Manley Birch. The Commission favors Graydon as they offered a compressed timeline and required less start-up. The Commission will discuss costs with the Budget and Finance Committee before making a recommendation to Council.
  - Susie Thomas has resigned her position on the Commission because she is moving out of Madeira. The Administration and Personnel Committee will begin the search for a new member.

#### VIII. COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION

1. Guests and Registered Visitors
- None
2. Correspondence
- The State of Ohio Division of Liquor Control sent a letter asking for objections to the renewal of any current liquor permits.

#### IX. ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

1. Ord. No. 20-06: Amending Portions of Section 30.02 of the Madeira Code of Ordinances; Authorizing Remote Attendance, Participation and Voting for Members of Public Bodies; And Establishing Guidelines for Conducting Meetings in the City of Madeira, Ohio
- Mr. Fox stated the legislation is responsive to changes made by State House Bill 197, section 12. The legislation allows more flexibility for communities to remotely participate and allows remote attendance to count toward quorum requirements. The legislation is intended to be passed as an emergency.
  - Mr. Mueller asked to strike the requirement that questions for Council must be submitted two hours before the meeting. After discussion, Council agreed to change it to read that questions must be submitted prior to the public comment portion of the subject meeting.
  - Mr. Mueller asked to add Twitter to the modes of communication for information about meetings.
  - Council discussed changing the communication requirements for emergency meetings; they decided in favor of keeping the wording the same as House Bill 197 rather than put restrictions around unforeseen circumstances. However, they agreed to make it a practice to communicate emergency meetings through all available modes as possible.
  - Council discussed how long the ordinance would be in affect. Mr. Fox said the requirements would stay on the books until Council chooses to amend the legislation.

**Motion to amend Ord. No. 20-06 to add Twitter to Section 1D and Section 2A5 and to change the language in the last sentence of Section 3 1G1 to read "... prior to the commencement of the public comment portion of the subject meeting" made by Ms. Theis, second by Mr. Hilberg. Motion passed by unanimous roll call vote.**

**Motion to dispense with the three-reading requirement for Ord. No. 20-06 made by Mr. Hilberg, second by Ms. Theis. Motion passed by unanimous roll call vote.**

**Motion to approve amended Ord. No. 20-06: Amending Portions of Section 30.02 of the Madeira Code of Ordinances; Authorizing Remote Attendance, Participation and Voting for Members of Public Bodies; And Establishing Guidelines for Conducting Meetings in the City of Madeira, Ohio and Declaring an Emergency made by Mr. Mueller, second by Ms. Theis. Motion passed by unanimous roll call vote.**

Mayor Nancy Spencer	yes
Scott Gehring	yes
Tom Henning	yes
Chris Hilberg	yes
Doug Moormann	yes
Brian Mueller	yes
Traci Theis	yes

2. Res. No. 24-20: Declaring a State of Emergency within the City of Madeira for COVID-19 Pandemic
- Mr. Moeller explained the resolution allows the City to make decisions swiftly and makes the City eligible for FEMA money. Council discussed putting an end date on the resolution but decided to leave it open-ended, as expenses could be realized well after the end of the emergency. Council would need to repeal the legislation in the future.
  - Mr. Mueller asked for confirmation that Sections 3 and 4 apply to only COVID-19 topics. Mr. Moeller confirmed that was the case.
  - Mr. Moormann questioned the start date of the declaration, as he wanted to be sure all expenses incurred would be covered. Mr. Fox was not sure a City could retroactively apply an emergency declaration but he would look into it. Ms. Thompson said she has submitted a request for public assistance to the State of Ohio to let them know the City would be requesting reimbursement of expenses.

**Motion to approve Res. No. 24-20: Declaring a State of Emergency within the City of Madeira for COVID-10 Pandemic made by Mr. Moormann, second by Mr. Henning. Motion passed by unanimous roll call vote.**

Mayor Nancy Spencer	yes
Scott Gehring	yes
Tom Henning	yes
Chris Hilberg	yes
Doug Moormann	yes
Brian Mueller	yes
Traci Theis	yes

X. NEW BUSINESS

- None

XI. OLD BUSINESS

1. Train Station Lease Update

- Mr. Moeller said there have been communications with a potential tenant, and he was working with Ms. Lowndes on the availability of funds to make the requested improvements. If the goal was to break even on the lease, it was not looking good.
- Mayor Spencer said given the extreme unknowns at this time, she found it difficult to support strategic investments in that property. She said she would rather hit pause and let the property be vacant than invest in the property at this time. Mr. Gehring agreed. Mr. Moormann agreed and said it was important to relay the message to the potential tenant in a positive light, saying the City would like to revisit it in the future. Mr. Hilberg suggested the vacant property could be used for pop-up events
- Mr. Mueller expressed his support for moving ahead as planned with the improvements. He said the potential tenant offered to make some investment himself in exchange for a lower rent, which would have an outcome similar to the building being left empty.

2. City Taxes for Residents Working From Home

- Mr. Moeller said he and Treasurer Paul were working on a communication to residents who are working from home during the crisis. These residents could pay earnings tax of 1% to Madeira instead of a potentially higher percentage to the municipality in which they normally work. This would allow the residents to save on taxes and the City to recoup some lost earnings tax. Mr. Moormann suggested researching House Bill 197, as it was his understanding that some larger cities protected themselves against having their earnings tax collected elsewhere.

3. Recent Storm

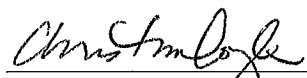
- Mr. Moormann thanked the Fire, Police, and Service departments for their work after the recent storm.
- Ms. Theis asked if the siren went off at St. Gertrude. Mr. Moeller said Hamilton County had not yet confirmed that was the case. Mayor Spencer noted the siren is meant to alert residents who are outside; those inside their homes should use additional means for more information.

XII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

- None

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

**Motion made by Mr. Gehring, second by Mr. Hilberg, to adjourn the regular meeting at 9:06 p.m. Motion passed by unanimous roll call vote.**

  
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Christine Doyle, Clerk of Council