

**15<sup>TH</sup> REGULAR SESSION:**

Kenton City Council met in their 15<sup>th</sup> regular session on August 9, 2021 at 7PM. Present: President Joel Althaus, John McEntee, Antwillia Davis, Ray Lawrence, Pegg Wren, Robin Jones, Law Director John Schwemer, Mayor Lynn Webb & Safety Service Director Cindy Murray. Absent: David Beazley & Patti Risner.

Prayer given by Mrs. Wren and the Pledge of Allegiance recited.

**MINUTES:**

Althaus: Are there any additions or corrections to the minutes as they were printed? Hearing none, they'll stand approved as submitted.

**CITIZENS REQUESTING TIME TO SPEAK:**

Althaus: We have no citizens on our agenda this evening. There will be time at the end of the meeting for anyone who wants to speak during public comments.

**DEPARTMENTAL NEWS/UPDATES:**

Chief Dennis Musser: I just want to make you guys aware we did bring two more people on to the police department. One started today & one will be starting tomorrow. They're both local individuals. School will be back in session here in a few weeks so we'll have our two SRO's back in the schools and we'll have our two new guys to help fill that void on the road so that will work out very nicely. I'll get them up here to introduce them when they're on their 2<sup>nd</sup> shift rotation of their FTO (Field Training Officer program). So I just want to thank Council...I don't know if you remember back then when we were moving through all that, but we finally came to an end & got it taken care of so it's kind of a big deal. Thanks.

**COMMUNICATIONS/PETITIONS:**

Althaus: We had a communication in the packet...the minutes from the Kenton Hardin Health Department meeting on June 22, 2021. It's interesting reading if you read through those. I have no other communications...well, I'll take that back. The Farm Bureau did get a hold of us & they're having a program called Seeding the Harvest, it's a farm tour on Aug. 28<sup>th</sup>. It's kind of like a progressive dinner & it's a neat idea. If someone would like to attend you are welcome to, I have the postcard here...I will try to attend since I'm a member. There will be 3 stops...appetizers at Ralston Farms in Alger, dinner at DuLynn Farms, & dessert at Layman Farms.

**MONTHLY/ANNUAL REPORTS:**

Althaus: Those in your packets were from the Treasurer & Auditor to the Mayor and on the back is the balancing worksheet. Any questions on that? We also have the Income Tax report. I don't know if there are any comments to be made there, but the spreadsheet they've been attaching to that show Income Tax is coming along fine...a bit of a drop off maybe in July but just for that month. Questions?

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

Althaus: David did not give me anything for Finance, did anyone on Finance want to share anything? Does anyone else have reports in regards to committees they may be involved in?

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**ORDINANCE NO. 21-018, 3<sup>RD</sup> READING, TITLE ONLY; AN ORDINANCE TO ACCEPT THE MATERIAL TERMS OF THE ONE OHIO SUBDIVISION SETTLEMENT PURSUANT TO THE ONE OHIO MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING AND CONSISTENT WITH THE TERMS OF THE JULY 21, 2021 NATIONAL OPIOID SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

Althaus: Before I ask for a motion, are there any questions or concerns? Do I hear a motion to consider this ordinance?

**Motion by Mrs. Wren & second by Ms. Jones to accept Ordinance 21-018.**

Althaus: Is there any discussion? **(Roll call vote, 5 ayes; motion carried)** That passes with enough Councilmembers to enact the emergency language. Is there any other old business?

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**ORDINANCE NO. 21-019, 1<sup>ST</sup> READING, TITLE ONLY; AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE YEAR 2021 FOR THE CITY OF KENTON, OHIO AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

Althaus: I guess I don't know if there is anything to explain on this right now. Does Finance or Cindy have any comments?

Auditor Brian Hattery: This ordinance I'm not sure of the urgency...I know we can't pass it tonight, but I'll defer to the administration. The next legislation we will want passed at the next meeting.

Murray: The \$8500...we'd like to get this one passed at the next meeting too.

Wren: The fire school...the Chief talked about that & I think there's not a lot of urgency, but I think he wants that passed at the next meeting

Althaus: Well, we don't have a choice. I'm trying to remember what the sewer engineering was.

Murray: It was Drier Mallor cleaning out the sewer lines for setting our flow meters.

Althaus: Right. We'll read this again at our next meeting on 8/23/21 & we'll try to have everyone here to vote.

**ORDINANCE NO. 21-020, 1<sup>ST</sup> READING, TITLE ONLY; AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR TRANSFERRING FUNDS FOR THE YEAR 2021 FOR THE CITY OF KENTON, OHIO AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

Althaus: You heard Brian comment about this one...there are several transfers. We're into the cycle for that time of year.

Hattery: Unfortunately, we are. These are all for line items that are short (can't hear).

Althaus: So be prepared...if you've got questions on either of these two, please seek out the proper individuals like Brian or Cindy to find out more. So if everyone is here in 2 weeks we can do this. Is there any other new business?

**COMMENTS:**

Murray: We started out the night with the tour of the WWTP. I know most people see the pride in the Fire Dept. & the pride the Police have, but I think tonight you saw the pride that most of the City employees have for working for the City. So, I'd like to thank Mike (Heilman), Chet (Baughman), Brett (Hayter) & Cody (Barker) for giving us the tour tonight & thank them for a job well done that they do down there. The Leighton Street bridge will be closed...Leighton Street going across the bridge will be closed August 11<sup>th</sup> thru August 22<sup>nd</sup>. There is some major work...we're going to take off all the asphalt & replace some of the decking. On the north side of the bridge where it goes up...if you ever drive the Leighton Street bridge you'll see 2 big holes. So I just want to get it out there that the bridge will be closed 8/11-8/22. August 23<sup>rd</sup> school starts so hopefully we have it open so the buses don't have to detour around. The Lynn Street project, the main line is installed & it's being disinfected right now. Once they're done disinfecting, they'll come back in & do the taps to each of the houses. So we're still working on that project. Negotiations start with the AFSCME group which are the public works employees (street, water & sewer) and that will be August 12<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup>. Our public works employees are going tomorrow for trenching & shoring training in Celina & they're teaming up with the Celina employees & St. Mary's employees. So we're getting our guys out there & getting them some much needed training on different things and they can talk with other groups & see how other departments work. Any questions for me?

Hattery: I heard from Pam & she gave me permission to share she hopes to see you in a couple of weeks. She's been released back to fulltime employment...she's still on oxygen so she's trying to figure out the oxygen supply (can't hear). Hopefully she'll be in attendance at the next meeting.

Althaus: That's very good news.

Schwemer: Just appreciate everyone's help in meeting the last few days. I said this last night, but I do appreciate everyone taking the time so we could get 3 reads in. Just a last note...if anyone needs help baling hay or straw, reach out to the Mayor & Safety Service Director. Ha. Somebody lost a bale of hay over here on the corner & of course they're doing something they're not required to do working on getting it off the street at 9AM or 8:45AM or something like that.

Althaus: Did the bale break?

Mayor Webb: Um hmm. Cindy had 2/3 of it done by the time I got over there.

Althaus: If it becomes regular maybe you guys need to buy one of those little mini balers.

Mayor Webb: I just thought we should buy a horse.

Murray: The Amish came by while I was out there & I was about ready to go hey come get this.

Althaus: Maybe the Chief ought to start a mounted posse...we could have a stable.

Chief: We wouldn't have to worry about cars.

McEntee: How about horse drawn ladder trucks?

Mayor Webb: I just want to give a shoutout to Cindy & Stephanie (Carson)...Cindy touched on the training our guys are going to tomorrow & that's a pretty big thing for our guys. What's been happening prior to this is all the training they're getting & Stephanie & Cindy are really bringing that department up

to speed. I think they're getting a lot out of it. I think there are other communities now in confined space training so it's a real neat piece...we did have Jamie Hall (Ada Village Administrator) stop in & he gave us kudos & he's really excited on where the county seat is going. Our team is really exceptional. Also, just a reminder the last day of the pool is Friday, August 13<sup>th</sup>. That's basically due to staffing with college kids going back to school and most of our high school kids are hanging in there as much as they can with practice & everything else...again, I appreciate all that they've done. I think they're going to do a doggie swim sometime. And, let me just touch base really quick so everybody in your ward...I get this call quite a bit & I'm sure you guys get it too about the cats. I don't have an answer to cats...you probably wouldn't like my answer but anyways it has become an issue where I receive multiple, multiple calls so if anybody wants to come up with an idea...I tell people it needs to be a volunteer basis because I don't know what the City can do when there are cats that aren't owned by anyone. So, there you go Council. I just wanted to make sure I brought it up in a Council meeting.

Schwemer: We've trudged through that before several times.

Althausen: My solution to cats is I thought we got everybody trained that we'd never bring cats up in Council again. Ha.

Mayor Webb: It's because of the number of calls I get & I just want to share the love. Ha.

Althausen: Thanks Lynn. I do want to echo John's comments & thank Councilmembers for putting up with me pestering you last week on Tuesday & Wednesday morning. I appreciate you jumping through some hoops to get in here Friday at 5PM & Sunday at 7PM. And, please read up on those 2 ordinances that were read tonight & if you have any questions make certain you get those answered. Our next meeting is August 23<sup>rd</sup> right here at 7PM. Thanks everybody. We're adjourned.

---

Joel Althausen  
President of Council

---

Brenda Hanna  
Clerk