June 4, 2024 City Council, Cheviot, Ohio

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Council President Smyth called the meeting to order at 7:30PM with the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silent prayer. Roll was then called, and the following members were in attendance:

President of Council	Kerry Smyth
Mayor	Sam Keller
Law Director	Kimberlee Rohr
Safety Services Director	Steve Braun
Council Ward 1	David Voss
Council Ward 2	John Hardig
Council Ward 3	Brian Smyth
Council Ward 4	Lindsay Keeble
Council At Large	Stefanie Hawk
Council At Large	Amy Richter

Borgmann was excused with a motion by Hawk, second by Voss.

Minutes from the May 28 meeting were approved with a motion by Hardig, second by Voss.

Smyth read into record his report from the May 28 meeting of the Laws, Rules and Ordinances Committee where the proposed flag ordinance was the topic of discussion. Motion to receive and file was made by Smyth, second by Hardig.

Legislation:

ORDINANCE 24-12 An Ordinance To Amend Sections 150.03, 150.06 and 150.07 Of The Cheviot Code Of Ordinances To Remove The Prohibition On The Cultivation, Processing, And Sale Of Medical Marijuana In Certain Zoning Districts Of The City Of Cheviot. There was a motion to introduce made by Hardig, second by Smyth. This constitutes the first reading of the ordinance following the Public Hearing.

ORDINANCE 24-14 To Increase The Pay Rate For Certain City Employees; And To Declare An Emergency. Hardig motioned to introduce. There was much discussion and council decided to re-word the ordinance, allowing council to establish a pay range and leave it to the discretion of the hiring body to determine the rate pf pay commensurate with the individual's experience and skillset. Hawk seconded the motion to introduce. There was then a motion to amend the existing wording made by Hawk, second by Smyth. Hawk then motioned to suspend the rules, Second by Richter. Motion to adopt made by Hawk, second by Hardig.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

-Mayor Keller stated that he had been in communication with Eric Reckers of ICM Ventures seeking an alternate location for the dispensary in the event the lease agreement for the UDF location falls through. Mayor will be requesting executive session to discuss a matter concerning the former Cappel's building. There is a full time position open in public works for a waste collector. There was much discussion about wages for this position, and other positions as it becomes increasingly difficult to hire and retain good help in a highly competitive hiring market.

-Safety Service Director Braun stated that the Harrison Ave Road Diet project is moving into the punch list phase. Harvest Home Park seal coating will take place in the very near future. The amended mural ordinance has been received and was forwarded to the Community Investment Corporation. A public hearing will be held on July 16, at 7pm regarding the mural ordinance.

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-Law Director Rohr reported that a plan was submitted to set up a Community Investment Corporation (CIC), which will act as an agent of the city to hold the former Cappels building before it is transferred to the end user. The CIC would be bound to act in the direction of the City. She received a proposed agreement from the county for accepting the grant to demolish the building and the terms for acceptance of that grant. Mrs. Rohr has proposed revisions to work out with the county's attorney before she can recommend that Council approve the SSD to sign this agreement. Negotiations with the proposed owner are being handled by Mrs. Rohr, Mayor, SSD, and Economic Development Director. Outside counsel has been retained to draft the agreement and deed restrictions, as well as to oversee the CIC agency. She will supervise the outside counsel.

OTHER BUSINESS:

-Mayor's Court Receipts from April 2024 were received and filed with a motion by Voss, second by Smyth

There was a motion by Hardig to move to executive session at 8:27. Second by Richter and Hawk. Topic of discussion was use of the former Cappel's building.

Council re-convened at 9:06. Motion to adjourn was made by Smyth, second by Hardig.

Jenny M. Eilermann, Clerk of Council

Kerry Smyth, President of Council