



**WESTLAKE CITY COUNCIL MEETING
PROCEEDINGS OF A REGULAR SESSION
APRIL 16, 2020**

The regular session of Council was called to order at 8:05 p.m. by President of Council Michael F. Killeen.

Present: President of Council Michael F. Killeen; Councilmembers Lynda M. Appel, Nick C. Nunnari, Dennis J. Sullivan, Michael F. O'Donnell, Kenneth R. Brady, Mark R. Getsay.

Also present: Mayor Dennis Clough, Law Director Michael Maloney, Service Director Paul Quinn, Director of Engineering Robert Kelly, Finance Director Prashant Shah, Recreation Director Bob DeMinico, Planning Director James Bedell, Director of Purchasing Larry Surber, IT Infrastructure Manager Mike Stybel, Director of Inspections Donald Grayem, Director of Community Services Lydia Gadd, Police Chief Kevin Bielozer, Fire Chief Jim Hughes, Clerk of Council Denise L. Rosenbaum.

This meeting was a live-streamed teleconference in accordance with recent amendments to Ohio Revised Code Section 121.22 in light of the current COVID-19 declared emergency.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Councilmember O'Donnell moved, seconded by Councilmember Getsay, that the reading of the minutes of the regular session of April 2, 2020, be waived and that they be approved as received.

Yeas: Killeen, Appel, Nunnari, Sullivan, O'Donnell, Brady, Getsay.

Nays: None; motion carried.

SELECTED CORRESPONDENCE:

Communication from Mayor Clough dated April 13, 2020, requesting authorization to purchase audiovisual equipment for the new Community Services Center through the state of Ohio cooperative purchasing program from Audio Visual Innovations in an amount not to exceed \$314,266.32. (Ordinance No. 2020-56)

PETITIONS FROM THE PUBLIC:

The following were submitted via email to the Clerk prior to the meeting:

Herb Nussle's questions:

1 - What savings is the city experiencing as a result of COVID-19?

2 - What is the estimate of income tax lost as a result of COVID-19?

3 - Where can I find the latest information about COVID-19 cases that are in Westlake?

Mayor Clough responded to these questions, indicating that the city is not experiencing any savings due to layoffs at this time. The income tax loss is still unknown but estimated to be 25-28%. Reports will come in a couple months. As to the number of COVID-19 cases in Westlake, the Cuyahoga County department of health provides figures each Friday, and currently there are 18-24 cases in Westlake.

Elaine Evenhouse wrote:

My husband and I are medical professionals quite involved with medical research and the medical community. There is well-documented evidence showing the direct negative impact, on a molecular level, from electromagnetic radiation from 5G frequencies. Are 5G towers already installed in the city of Westlake, and if so, what is the city doing to protect residents from the excess electromagnetic radiation coming from them. If these higher frequencies have not been implemented within the city as of yet, are there any plans in doing so? We know Federal guidelines do not include the medical repercussions of such a change, especially those with new information regarding the signals and the coronavirus. We are happy to provide you with evidence and more information.

Mayor Clough stated that the equipment used for these types of communications is ultimately controlled by the FCC. So the city has very limited control as to the placement of such equipment. He referred any legal issues of this request to the law department for a more detailed response, if one can even be given.

REPORT OF THE MAYOR:

Mayor Clough read his seventh report of the year.

REPORTS OF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICIALS:

Director of Community Services Lydia Gadd gave an update on the food pantry and the donations they are receiving and distributing; activities and services offered to members; efforts to assist with the needs of nursing homes; coordinating volunteers to make masks for University Hospitals; and collaborations with the Recreation department for virtual fitness options.

Fire Chief Jim Hughes expressed appreciation for the donations of personal protective equipment they are receiving from businesses and residents as well as donated food for the crews.

Police Chief Kevin Bielozer reported that officers have been helping people in need, making food deliveries and keeping everyone safe.

Council President Killeen thanked all the directors and their departments for their efforts to help the citizens of Westlake in this difficult time.

**REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES – AD HOC INFORMATION
TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE:**

Councilmember Sullivan reported on the April 7, 2020, Ad Hoc Information Technology committee meeting.

Councilmember O'Donnell moved, seconded by Councilmember Nunnari, that the report of the April 7, 2020, Ad Hoc Information Technology committee meeting be received and filed.

Yeas: Killeen, Appel, Nunnari, Sullivan, O'Donnell, Brady, Getsay.

Nays: None; motion carried.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE:

The Committee of the Whole meeting normally held prior to the Council meeting was not held. No committee meetings were scheduled.

LEGISLATION:

ORDINANCE NO. 2020-55: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 2020-40 AS TO THE GRANTING OF A UTILITY EASEMENT TO COLUMBIA GAS OF OHIO, INC. FOR THE INSTALLATION OF GAS UTILITY FACILITIES IN THE CITY OF WESTLAKE, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Councilmember O'Donnell moved, seconded by Councilmember Getsay, that the rule requiring the ordinance to be read in full on three separate dates be suspended, and that the same be placed on third reading.

VOICE VOTE ON SUSPENSION:

Yeas: All.

Nays: None; motion carried.

Councilmember Nunnari moved, seconded by Councilmember Sullivan, that Ordinance No. 2020-55 be adopted.

ROLL CALL ON ADOPTION:

Yeas: Nunnari, Sullivan, O'Donnell, Brady, Getsay, Killeen.

Nays: None; Ordinance No. 2020-55 adopted.

(Councilmember Appel's connection to the meeting disconnected during the roll call, so her vote was not included. She was able to rejoin the meeting immediately after the roll call.)

ORDINANCE NO. 2020-56: AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO PURCHASE AUDIO VISUAL EQUIPMENT AND INSTALLATION SERVICES FOR THE NEW WESTLAKE CENTER FOR COMMUNITY SERVICES THROUGH THE STATE OF OHIO COOPERATIVE PURCHASING PROGRAM, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Councilmember O'Donnell moved, seconded by Councilmember Nunnari, that the rule requiring the ordinance to be read in full on three separate dates be suspended, and that the same be placed on third reading.

Yeas: Nunnari, Sullivan, O'Donnell, Brady, Getsay, Killeen, Appel.

Nays: None; motion carried.

Councilmember Sullivan moved, seconded by Councilmember Nunnari, that Ordinance No. 2020-56 be adopted.

ROLL CALL ON ADOPTION:

Yeas: Nunnari, Sullivan, O'Donnell, Brady, Getsay, Killeen, Appel.

Nays: None; Ordinance No. 2020-56 adopted.

MISCELLANEOUS:

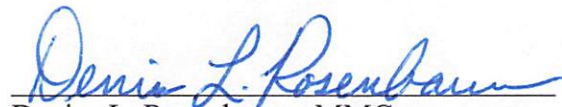
Council President Killeen stated that he hopes to resume in-person Council meetings with the required social distancing restrictions possibly next month.

Councilmember Nunnari thanked IT Manager Mike Stybel and his team for coordinating these virtual meetings.

Mayor Clough stated that he has been in constant communication with the county health department, the Statehouse and the Whitehouse to keep informed with current information and best practices with respect to the virus.

ADJOURNMENT:

President of Council Killeen declared the meeting adjourned at 8:33 p.m.



Denise L. Rosenbaum, MMC
Clerk of Council



Michael F. Killeen
President of Council