

ORGANIZATIONAL-REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
January 6, 2020  
MINUTES

The Organizational-Regular Council Meeting of the Village of Moreland Hills was called to order by Mayor Fritz at 7:01pm, in the Village Council Chambers.

PRESENT AT ROLL CALL: Mr. Emerman, Mrs. Kozminski-VanderHart, Mr. Richman, Mr. Spencer, Mr. Stanard, Ms. Sturgis

Also Present: R. Todd Hunt, Legal Counsel, Chief Kevin Wyant, Ted DeWater, Service Director, Sherri Arrietta, Clerk of Council

Mayor Fritz introduced Judge Michelle Paris, who will be administering the oaths to him and Council. He stated that he selected her for many reasons, one being that she is a Moreland Hills resident, but more importantly, she is a good person and is well respected in the Moreland Hills community. For two decades, Judge Paris was a Cleveland Court Magistrate, which is one of the largest and busiest courts in the State of Ohio. She currently sits on the Bedford Municipal Court where she presides as judge. Bedford Municipal Court serves 14 communities with Moreland Hills being one of them, and we are very thankful to have her as a judge making important decisions for our community. Most of his police officer friends, who have had the pleasure and honor of being before her, have nothing but accolades for her. Mayor Fritz told Judge Paris that there were many reasons she was there tonight, but that perhaps the biggest one is that she is a fellow Ohio University Bobcat.

He stated that there are a number of oaths to give tonight, and they will start with his. Judge Paris stated that it is her honor and privilege to swear in the next Mayor of the beautiful Village of Moreland Hills. Susan Renda was a wonderful mayor and now we are passing the baton to Mayor Fritz.

At this time, Judge Paris swore in new Mayor Daniel Fritz, new Council members Laura Kozminski-VanderHart and Ethan Spencer, and returning Council members Steve Richman and David Emerman.

Mr. Richman made a motion seconded by Mr. Stanard to approve the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting of December 11, 2019.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Mr. Emerman, Mr. Richman, Mr. Stanard, Ms. Sturgis

NAYS: None

ABSTENTIONS: Mrs. Kozminski-VanderHart, Mr. Spencer

MOTION CARRIED

**Resident Comments:**

There were no residents present wishing to speak.

## **Reports from the Mayor and Other Municipal Officials**

### **Mayor**

Mayor Fritz stated that it was an honor to be before everyone. He stated that sitting in front of Mayor Renda is an odd feeling. She has been a mentor to so many of them in so many ways, whether it was working together as Council, her leadership as Council President, or of course as mayor. We can only hope that we can continue the civility and efficiency of government that she helped lead. Mayor Fritz welcomed Mrs. Kozminski-VanderHart and Mr. Spencer. He stated that he and Council are proud to have them onboard. He wished them both success and stated that he is looking forward to their valued input.

### **Appointments and Confirmations**

Mayor Fritz asked Council to confirm his appointment of Susan Renda to serve on the Parks Commission for a four-year term, ending December 31, 2023.

After announcing her retirement, Mayor Fritz stated that he always knew that Mrs. Renda would find a way to benefit the community. Everyone knows about her hard work with the Parks Commission, and that she was instrumental in securing a Natureworks Grant to help with improvements to Forest Ridge. Additionally, she has been working on getting capital budget money from the state for the park as well, and has been meeting with Senator Dolan and Representative Robinson. Having said all that, it certainly makes sense that Susan Renda would stay with the Parks Commission.

Ms. Sturgis made a motion seconded by Mr. Stanard to confirm the appointment of Susan Renda to the Parks Commission for a four-year term.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Mr. Emerman, Mrs. Kozminski-VanderHart, Mr. Richman, Mr. Spencer, Mr. Stanard, Ms. Sturgis

NAYS: NONE

MOTION CARRIED

At this time, Mayor Fritz swore in Susan Renda as a Parks Commission member.

Mayor Fritz asked Council to confirm his re-appointment of William Janke to serve on the Planning Commission for a six-year term, ending December 31, 2025. Mr. Janke has been a stalwart contributor to the BZA and Planning Commission and therefore he believes Mr. Janke should be reappointed to another term.

Mr. Stanard made a motion seconded by Mr. Emerman to confirm the reappointment of William Janke to the Planning Commission for a six-year term.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Mr. Emerman, Mrs. Kozminski-VanderHart, Mr. Richman, Mr. Spencer, Mr. Stanard, Ms. Sturgis

NAYS: NONE

MOTION CARRIED

At this time, Mayor Fritz swore in Mr. Janke as a Planning Commission member.

Mayor Fritz asked Council to confirm his reappointment of Peter Bolek to serve on the Planning Commission for a six-year term, ending December 31, 2025. Mr. Bolek is a distinguished architect who brings a lot of insight and suggestions to the Planning Commission, and he is thankful that he has agreed to continue to serve.

Mr. Stanard made a motion seconded by Mr. Emerman to confirm the reappointment of Peter Bolek to the Planning Commission for a six-year term.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Mr. Emerman, Mrs. Kozminski-VanderHart, Mr. Richman, Mr. Spencer, Mr. Stanard, Ms. Sturgis

NAYS: NONE

MOTION CARRIED

At this time, Mayor Fritz swore in Peter Bolek as a Planning Commission member.

Mayor Fritz stated that the next order of business is to elect a Council President for 2020.

Ms. Sturgis nominated Mr. Richman to serve as Council President for 2020. She stated that he has been a guiding force on Council as well on the committees he has served on. He has always done his due diligence and a thorough evaluation of the materials presented to Council. Mr. Richman is also objective in his opinions when sharing information. He has also served as our Juvenile Magistrate utilizing his legal background and has done an excellent job serving in that capacity. His background in real estate has been of help to council when evaluating certain issues. Ms. Sturgis thanked him for his work and stated that he is invaluable to Council, especially to those just joining them this year.

There being no other nominations, Mayor Fritz declared nominations closed.

Ms. Sturgis made a motion seconded by Mr. Stanard to accept the nomination of Mr. Richman to serve as Council President for 2020.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Mr. Emerman, Mrs. Kozminski-VanderHart, Mr. Richman, Mr. Spencer, Mr. Stanard, Ms. Sturgis

NAYS: NONE

MOTION CARRIED

Mr. Richman stated that he was honored and privileged to lead Council. He stated that while he has some experience as Council President, he does have some big shoes to fill from last year; however, the good news is that Mayor Fritz is still here, so he may need to borrow those shoes every now and then. Mr. Richman stated that he appreciates Council's confidence in him and is looking forward to the year.

Mr. Richman stated that one Council Member from the 2017 election cycle (Emerman, Stanard, Sturgis) needs to be elected to the Planning Commission for a two-year term. He stated that the Planning Commission is important and he is always impressed year after year by everyone who serves on it.

Mr. Spencer nominated Mr. Stanard to serve on the Planning Commission for a two-year term.

There being no other nominations, Mr. Richman declared nominations closed.

Mr. Spencer made a motion seconded by Mr. Emerman to accept the nomination of Mr. Stanard to serve on the Planning Commission for a term of two-years.

**ROLL CALL:**

**AYES:** Mr. Emerman, Mrs. Kozminski-VanderHart, Mr. Richman, Mr. Spencer, Mr. Stanard, Ms. Sturgis

**NAYS:** NONE

**MOTION CARRIED**

Mr. Stanard thanked Council for their confidence and support. He stated that it is truly an honor to serve on the Planning Commission and the BZA. In his experience, the Village and the Planning Commission have been vastly improved over the past several years, and one of the reasons is Ms. Theresa Dean, who is here tonight. She puts a lot of effort into organizing the applications as they come in and informing the applicants of the rules and regulations. Together with Paul Kowalczyk, they do a great job putting all the data together. He stated that the resident members are also very dedicated, honest, and impartial. Those are the reasons that he is excited to be on the Planning Commission again.

Mr. Richman stated that one Council Member from the 2019 election cycle (Kozminski-VanderHart, Richman, Spencer) needs to be elected to the Planning Commission for a one-year term, finishing Mr. Buczek's term.

Mr. Stanard nominated Mrs. Kozminski-VanderHart to serve on the Planning Commission for a one-year term, finishing Mr. Buczek's term.

There being no other nominations, Mr. Richman declared nominations closed.

Mr. Stanard made a motion seconded by Mr. Emerman to accept the nomination of Mrs. Kozminski-VanderHart to serve on the Planning Commission for a term of one-year.

**ROLL CALL:**

**AYES:** Mr. Emerman, Mrs. Kozminski-VanderHart, Mr. Richman, Mr. Spencer, Mr. Stanard, Ms. Sturgis

**NAYS:** NONE

**MOTION CARRIED**

Mr. Kozminski-VanderHart thanked everyone and said she was excited to get started.

Mr. Richman stated that one Planning Commission Member needs to be appointed as the Planning Commission Chair for 2020.

Mr. Richman nominated Mr. Stanard to continue to serve as the Planning Commission Chair in 2020. He has been incredibly capable, efficient, passionate, and prepared during his leadership on the Planning Commission. The Village is in good hands as far as Planning Commission with Mr. Stanard at the helm.

There being no other nominations, Mr. Richman declared nominations closed.

Mr. Richman made a motion seconded by Ms. Sturgis to accept the nomination of Mr. Stanard to serve as the Planning Commission Chair for 2020.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Mr. Emerman, Mrs. Kozminski-VanderHart, Mr. Richman, Mr. Spencer, Mr. Stanard, Ms. Sturgis

NAYS: NONE

MOTION CARRIED

Mr. Stanard thanked everyone again for their confidence, and stated that he will give it everything he has.

### **Schedule of Council Meetings**

Mayor Fritz stated that he has not heard any dissension about changing the Council meeting dates. He feels that it would be in their best interest to continue holding the Committee of the Whole on the first Wednesday of the month and Council on the second Wednesday of the month. He asked if anyone disagreed. Council members agreed to continue with that schedule.

Mayor Fritz stated that he and Mrs. Arrietta went through the calendar for the year and found two scheduling conflicts; one is a personal commitment on his behalf in August and the other is due to the Passover holiday in April. He asked if anyone would be opposed to moving those two Council Meetings a week earlier, on the first Wednesday of the month in place of the Committee of the Whole meetings; April 8 is Passover so the Council meeting would be April 1 instead; the August 12 Council meeting would be held August 5 instead. Council members agreed.

### **Committee Structure/Schedule Committee Meetings for 2020**

Mr. Richman determined the committee members and they are as follows:

Ms. Sturgis, Chair of the Roads and Safety Committee

Mr. Spencer, member of Roads and Safety Committee

Mr. Emerman, Chair of the Facilities Committee

Mr. Richman, member of the Facilities Committee

Council agreed with those assignments.

Mr. Richman stated that we usually meet the Tuesday after the Monday Planning Commission Meeting each month. If we do not have pending business, we will not meet.

Last year Roads and Safety met at 8:00am and Facilities met at 8:30am and he asked if that still worked for everyone. Everyone agreed.

Mr. Stanard stated that of course all members are welcome at all meetings and suggested that they attend the different committee/commission meetings, especially the new members so that they can cross-train.

Mr. Richman informed Council that they can feel free to call him if they have an issue and that they are welcome to bring something up at the end of the Committee of the Whole meetings as well. Mr. Spencer asked if a Council member is able to call into a meeting if they cannot attend in person. Mr. Hunt stated that it is legally permitted however, one would not be able to vote and would not count as part of the quorum, only participate in the discussion. Mr. Richman stated that he understands that on occasion a Council member will have to miss a meeting, and advised that they let him or Mrs. Arrietta know as soon as possible so that they can ensure there will be a quorum.

### **Reports of Committees**

None

### **ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS**

#### **Ordinance 2020-01-Introduced by Mr. Stanard**

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH WALTER|HAVERFIELD LLP FROM THE JANUARY 2020 ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mayor Fritz introduced R. Todd Hunt, who is with Walter|Haverfield. He is here tonight to answer questions that may arise on the contract with Walter|Haverfield, which includes Bill Hanna as our Law Director and Mr. Hunt as legal counsel to the BZA/Planning Commission.

Mr. Stanard stated that he is honored to introduce the first ordinance of 2020.

Mr. Stanard made a motion seconded by Ms. Sturgis to suspend the rules for Ordinance 2020-01.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Mr. Emerman, Mrs. Kozminski-VanderHart, Mr. Richman, Mr. Spencer, Mr. Stanard, Ms. Sturgis

NAYS: NONE

MOTION CARRIED

Mr. Stanard stated that the agreement was included in the Council packet along with the redlined agreement to see what changes were made from the previous contract. He went through a few items in the contract; work expectations, length of term (one year), attendance at meetings, writing legislation, and providing legal advice, to name a few. It outlines the pay, including the salary for Mr. Hanna and allows for 500 hours of routine service.

The redlined copy from our previous two-year contract shows a rate of compensation change - 2.7% increase, however it is important to note that there was no increase from 2018 to 2019. We also received a rebate for hours unused in December. It clarifies the title of the Law Director and what would be

expected of him and that R. Todd Hunt will provide legal services to the BZA and Planning Commission. There is a default rate for any extra work, which must be pre-approved by the Mayor first.

Mr. Stanard stated that Council has had experience with both this firm and with Mr. Hanna. The firm is experienced, qualified, and has experience with our Village. Mr. Hanna has come to the Committee of the Whole Meetings to explain some lengthy and complicated ordinances pertinent to the right-of-way and small cell facilities. We found him to be thoughtful, articulate, knowledgeable, personable, well experienced and very capable. Mr. Hanna will be joined by Mr. Todd Hunt who possesses an extremely impressive and impeccable CV. He is a seasoned professional who is sure to become a valuable asset to the BZA and Planning Commission.

Mr. Emerman asked what other municipalities Mr. Hunt serves as Law Director. Mr. Hunt stated that he is the Law Director in Richmond Heights and Gates Mills and serves as Special Counsel in Hudson. He stated that he also does special work for two to three other municipalities. Mr. Hunt stated that he used to attend BZA meetings here in Moreland Hills in the early 1990's and stated that it is nice to be back.

Mr. Stanard made a motion seconded by Mr. Richman for passage of Ordinance 2020-01.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Mr. Emerman, Mrs. Kozminski-VanderHart, Mr. Richman, Mr. Spencer, Mr. Stanard, Ms. Sturgis

NAYS: NONE

MOTION CARRIED

Mr. Hunt left the meeting at 7:57pm.

**Ordinance 2020-02 - Introduced by Mr. Richman**

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH CHAGRIN VALLEY ENGINEERING, LTD. AND JEFFREY J. FILARSKI FOR VILLAGE ENGINEERING SERVICES, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mr. Richman stated that this ordinance would engage Chagrin Valley Engineering and Mr. Filarski for another year. The attached contract provides a good summary of the duties of the engineer. The contract is the same as the previous contract with two exceptions; an increase to Mr. Filarski's salary (\$500 increase) and an increase to the hourly rate schedule for additional services for various persons at CVE. Also included in the Council packet, was the 2019 agreement for comparison of rate increases. Mr. Filarski and Chagrin Valley Engineer have more than earned their fees over the years with all the money they have saved the Village in grants that they have gotten for us. He stated that he has found them to be capable, compassionate, and caring, which is the approach that Mr. Filarski brings to each project.

Mr. Richman made a motion seconded by Mr. Stanard to suspend the rules for Ordinance 2020-02.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Mr. Emerman, Mrs. Kozminski-VanderHart, Mr. Richman, Mr. Spencer, Mr. Stanard, Ms. Sturgis

NAYS: NONE

MOTION CARRIED

Mr. Richman made a motion seconded by Mr. Stanard for passage of Ordinance 2020-02.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Mr. Emerman, Mrs. Kozminski-VanderHart, Mr. Richman, Mr. Spencer, Mr. Stanard, Ms. Sturgis

NAYS: NONE

MOTION CARRIED

**Ordinance 2020-03\*- Introduced by Ms. Sturgis**

AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE CONTINUED EMPLOYMENT OF SANTO T. INCORVAIA AS PROSECUTOR, FIXING COMPENSATION, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Ms. Sturgis stated that Mr. Incorvaia has been the Village Prosecutor since 2000. The contract is for two years, ending in 2022. The prosecutor has the responsibility to assist the Village in any criminal situation that may occur through Bedford Municipal Court as well as carrying out such routine matters as outlined in the ordinance. Other work performed outside the scope of routine matters are compensated at an hourly rate. Ms. Sturgis stated that Mr. Incorvaia has done a wonderful job ensuring that the Police and Council have information they need and stated that he is invaluable to the Village. Chief Wyant stated that Mr. Incorvaia does a phenomenal job; he always gets back to them quickly with answers and handles any issues professionally and expeditiously. He stated that Mr. Incorvaia is also responsible for training officers on legal updates or issues from the courts that are important for them to know, such as changes in the laws.

Ms. Sturgis made a motion seconded by Mr. Stanard to suspend the rules for Ordinance 2020-03

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Mr. Emerman, Mrs. Kozminski-VanderHart, Mr. Richman, Mr. Spencer, Mr. Stanard, Ms. Sturgis

NAYS: NONE

MOTION CARRIED

Ms. Sturgis made a motion seconded by Mr. Richman for passage of Ordinance 2020-03

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Mr. Emerman, Mrs. Kozminski-VanderHart, Mr. Richman, Mr. Spencer, Mr. Stanard, Ms. Sturgis

NAYS: NONE

MOTION CARRIED

**Ordinance 2020-04 Introduced by Mr. Emerman**

AN ORDINANCE CONFIRMING THE REAPPOINTMENT BY THE MAYOR OF THE VILLAGE OF MORELAND HILLS OF SHERRI ARRIETTA AS CLERK OF COUNCIL FOR A TERM BEGINNING AT THE ADJOURNMENT OF THE JANUARY 2020 ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING AND ENDING AT THE ADJOURNMENT OF THE JANUARY 2022 ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mr. Emerman stated that Mrs. Arrietta has done a great job making sure these meeting run efficiently and he said that taking quality meeting minutes is a unique skill that not everyone possess and he is very impressed with her ability to take them accurately.

Mr. Emerman made a motion seconded by Mr. Stanard to suspend the rules for Ordinance 2020-04.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Mr. Emerman, Mrs. Kozminski-VanderHart, Mr. Richman, Mr. Spencer, Mr. Stanard, Ms. Sturgis

NAYS: NONE

MOTION CARRIED

Mr. Spencer stated that being new to Council, he appreciates Mrs. Arrietta providing him with information to get him set up and for her responding to his questions so that everything went smoothly. Mrs. Kozminski-VanderHart thanked Mrs. Arrietta as well for her help.

Mr. Emerman made a motion seconded by Ms. Sturgis for passage of Ordinance 2020-04.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Mr. Emerman, Mrs. Kozminski-VanderHart, Mr. Richman, Mr. Spencer, Mr. Stanard, Ms. Sturgis

NAYS: NONE

MOTION CARRIED

**\*Ordinance 2020-03 (as amended)**

Mr. Richman pointed out a discrepancy in the amount for Ordinance 2020-03, for Santo Incorvaia's continued employment as Prosecutor. In Section 1(a), it is written out as twenty one thousand one hundred seventy-eight dollars but the numerical amount written is \$20,178. The correct amount is \$20,178.00 and both the written and numerical amounts should match.

Mr. Richman made a motion seconded by Ms. Sturgis to amend Ordinance 2020-03 so that both the written amount matches that of the numerical amount in Section 1(a) to read "twenty thousand one hundred seventy eight."

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Mr. Emerman, Mrs. Kozminski-VanderHart, Mr. Richman, Mr. Spencer, Mr. Stanard, Ms. Sturgis

NAYS: NONE

MOTION CARRIED

**Ordinance 2020-05- Introduced by Mr. Richman**

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CUYAHOGA COUNTY JUVENILE COURT, CUYAHOGA COUNTY AND THE VILLAGE OF MORELAND HILLS FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE JUVENILE COURT COMMUNITY DIVERSION PROGRAM FOR 2020 AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mr. Richman stated that this ordinance will continue the agreement that Moreland Hills has with the

County to participate in this program. He stated that 40% of juveniles that go to court for their first offense end up coming back. The goal of this program is to make a juvenile's first offense, their last offense. If they go to juvenile court, they have a record, which can hurt their future chances for college or employment because of one youth related mistake. The basis of the program is to help prevent these kids from ruining their future with a misdemeanor charge (drugs, alcohol, and vandalism). Instead of a driver's license suspension, record and huge fines, they get rehabilitation and accountability, which consists of family counseling sessions, community service, online drug and alcohol programs, apology letters to those offended, etc. It is a probation period that helps prevent future offenses because after one year, if that juvenile is not charged with another offense, their file is shredded. Mr. Richman stated that he has been one of the court magistrates for ten years and has seen the excellent results of this program. This year's agreement is the same as we have had before and the Village does get \$1,000 in funds from the county for this program.

Mr. Richman made a motion seconded by to suspend the rules for Ordinance 2020-05.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Mr. Emerman, Mrs. Kozminski-VanderHart, Mr. Richman, Mr. Spencer, Mr. Stanard, Ms. Sturgis

NAYS: NONE

MOTION CARRIED

Chief Wyant stated that this program works. Officer Scott Bennett is their Juvenile officer and he does a great job. Mr. Spencer asked why the contract runs from March to December, which appears different than the other contracts he has seen so far. Mr. Richman answered that he thinks it is the way the county handles their books.

Mr. Richman made a motion seconded by Mr. Stanard for passage of Ordinance 2020-05.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Mr. Emerman, Mrs. Kozminski-VanderHart, Mr. Richman, Mr. Spencer, Mr. Stanard, Ms. Sturgis

NAYS: NONE

MOTION CARRIED

**Ordinance 2020-06- Introduced by Mr. Emerman**

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING CHANGE ORDER NO. 1 WITH UNITED SURVEY, INC. FOR THE SEWER LATERAL SEALING PROJECT IN THE WINTERBERRY PUMP STATION SERVICE AREA, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mr. Emerman stated that two years ago, the Village performed I & I (inflow and infiltration) surveys on our wastewater sewer system, which is a requirement based on our agreements with NEORSD. Inflow and infiltration is essentially non-wastewater getting into our wastewater system, which is more expensive to treat and contributes to overflow of NEORSD's treatment systems. Wastewater leaking out of our system is an environmental problem so we have an obligation to identify it, which we did through a number of dye tests in 2018. We are now taking steps to seal those areas that have I & I issues. This ordinance is a change order that will close out our contract with United Survey for that work at the Winterberry Pump Station. There were four changes that resulted in a decrease amount of \$13,664.17.

Mr. Emerman made a motion seconded by Mr. Stanard to suspend the rules for Ordinance 2020-06.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Mr. Emerman, Mrs. Kozminski-VanderHart, Mr. Richman, Mr. Spencer, Mr. Stanard, Ms. Sturgis

NAYS: NONE

MOTION CARRIED

Mr. Emerman made a motion seconded by Mr. Richman for passage of Ordinance 2020-06.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Mr. Emerman, Mrs. Kozminski-VanderHart, Mr. Richman, Mr. Spencer, Mr. Stanard, Ms. Sturgis

NAYS: NONE

MOTION CARRIED

### **Miscellaneous**

Mr. Richman thanked everyone for their confidence in him by naming him Council President. He stated that he knows they all take their jobs on Council very seriously. As he looks around the room, it is extremely comforting to see Mrs. Arrietta, Mr. DeWater, Chief Wyant, as well as the fact they just voted to keep Mr. Filarski and the legal team, because they all make Councils job a lot easier. Council is extremely fortunate, because they have a team surrounding them and working with them. He is happy and proud to continue working with Council.

Mayor Fritz told Council that his door is always open; they can find out his office hours from Mrs. Arrietta. He would encourage everyone to come in and discuss anything with him. As far as communication flow, Council President Richman will be communicating with them what his expectations are. He does not want to dictate that, he would like to keep that separate and let Mr. Richman do that. This Council has functioned very effectively when a Council member goes to the Council President with an issue, and the Council President then discusses it with the Mayor, and ultimately reports to Council the resolution that was discussed with the Mayor. He feels that system worked well with him and Mayor Renda and would like to continue to do so.

Mayor Fritz stated that in the past, the mayor used to assign the ordinances but eventually that duty was delegated to the Council President, which he is open to continuing, depending how Mr. Richman would like to proceed. Mr. Richman agreed to continue assigning ordinances. He informed Council that they can defer to having the Mayor introduce a piece of legislation if there is ever one they do not feel comfortable introducing. As far as Council President-Mayor meetings, he would like to increase those meetings and perhaps have monthly sit-downs or they can do it more frequently if Mr. Richman would prefer.

He told Council that it is interested to see things from the other side and the different relationships he has with the staff, and he is eager to share that with them. Mayor Fritz stated that his number one goal is their continued air of civility, continuity, and positive working relationships, which he does not feel will be difficult. They are fiscally responsible and need to keep that going, as well. He stated that he feels that

the Council – Mayor relationship is very important and he knows that the Mayor’s job is only as good as the Council members. These relationships are very important and he values them.

Mr. Richman asked how Mayor Fritz would prefer Council to engage with the department heads, for example, to ask a question about an ordinance. He stated that the message in the past has been that it is okay as long as Council does not over monopolize the time of the administrative staff. Mayor Fritz stated that was accurate and it is important because they have had examples over the years where members of Council did monopolize the time of the Finance Department, Mr. Filarski, and the Legal Department, which really becomes an issue because of the retainer hours. He advised that Council is permitted to contact the professional staff with a question on an ordinance, but he would ask as a professional courtesy that they not over monopolize staff as much as possible, but he certainly does not want them to think they cannot ever call them. There is a balance. If all else fails, Council can always call him first to ask the question and he can get back to them with the answer.

Mr. Richman asked that everyone get Mrs. Arrietta their preferred contact information so that he can provide that to everyone.

Mr. Spencer thanked everyone for their help, comments, and advice and he looks forward to working with everyone.

Mr. Stanard made a motion seconded by Mr. Emerman to adjourn the Organizational-Regular Council Meeting at 8:38pm

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Mr. Emerman, Mrs. Kozminski-VanderHart, Mr. Richman, Mr. Spencer, Mr. Stanard, Ms. Sturgis

NAYS: NONE

MOTION CARRIED

The meeting was adjourned at 8:38pm.

Attest:

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Sherri Arrietta, Clerk of Council

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Steve Richman, Council President