

# **RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS**

## **MEETING OF COUNCIL**

**September 11, 2017**

Mayor O'Callaghan called the City of Union council meeting to order on Monday, September 11, 2017 at 7:30 p.m.

Attendance was taken and the following council members were present: Mayor O'Callaghan, Mr. Bruns, Mrs. Huggins, and Mrs. Kyle.

Other city staff members attending the meeting were John Applegate, City Manager, Denise Winemiller, Clerk of Council, and Joe Moore, Law Director.

Mayor O'Callaghan called for a moment of silence.

Mayor O'Callaghan said that Mrs. Oberer had called in and was ill and not able to attend the meeting. He moved that her absence be excused. Mr. Bruns seconded the motion. All concurred and Mrs. Oberer's absence was excused.

Mayor O'Callaghan said that Mrs. Perkins had called in and she was on vacation and not able to attend the council meeting. He moved that her absence be excused. Mr. Bruns seconded the motion. All concurred and Mrs. Perkins's absence was excused.

Mayor O'Callaghan said that Mr. Blackwell had called in and had a prior commitment and not able to attend the meeting. He moved that his absence be excused. Mr. Bruns seconded the motion. All concurred and Mr. Blackwell's absence was excused.

Mayor O'Callaghan said before they had their moment of silence, he would like everyone to think of the people in Florida and Texas with all of their misfortunes due to the hurricanes and also the people that died and were injured in 911, since it was the 16<sup>th</sup> anniversary of that tragedy. He said his thoughts and prayers were with all those people. The Mayor then called for a moment of silence.

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1. Mayor O'Callaghan asked if there were any additions, corrections, or deletions for the minutes of the August 28, 2017 council meeting. There were no corrections so Mr. Bruns moved that the minutes be accepted as prepared. Mrs. Kyle seconded the motion. All the council members voted in favor of the motion. The minutes of the August 28, 2017 meeting were accepted as prepared.

2. Citizen's and Visitor's Comments

There was no one in the audience that needed to address the council.

3. Jeff Cooper has a presentation regarding the Human Services Levy that will appear on the November 2017 ballot.

Mr. Cooper said he appreciated the opportunity to address the council. He had volunteered to provide information to the communities and said he had a slide presentation.

He said the Human Services Levy was very important to Montgomery County to help keep the economy improving. He said there were many people in need and the levy provided a safety net for Montgomery County residents.

He said the renewal levy on the November 7 ballot would not increase taxes.

Mr. Cooper explained that there were two different levies – Levy A and B. Levy B will expire the end of this year. On a home valued at \$100,000, the levy would cost \$15.00 per month. Each of the two levies last for eight years. As one levy ends, they are in the half way point of the other levy, in this case, Levy A, so they have always had funds for services.

Mr. Cooper said that the Human Services Levy funds not only organizations like the Health Department, Children Services, and assistance for senior citizens but many other smaller organizations. Currently, the Human Services Levy benefits 50,000 people throughout the country.

Mr. Cooper said they have a council and review teams that are keeping the Human Services accountable and they evaluate data and set priorities. He said

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with both Levies A and B, they get 122 million dollars a year and are able to obtain federal and state funds.

Mr. Cooper offered to answer any questions the council might have.

Mayor O'Callaghan commented that someone said they had remembered passing the Human Services Levy not too long ago, so it helped to understand that there were two levies.

Mr. Bruns asked for a further explanation of Mr. Cooper's comment about bringing in federal funding.

Mr. Cooper used the Regional Air Pollution Control Association (RAPCA) as an example and said that when they get funding from the government, they have to have enough for a local match.

Mr. Applegate asked how eligibility was determined and Mr. Cooper said that showing proof of residency was required.

3. Presentation for Citizens for Sinclair for a renewal levy that will appear on the November 2017 ballot.

Kandise Bobo introduced herself as an employee of Sinclair Community College.

She said their levy was a renewal as well and there would not be an increase of taxes.

She said Sinclair had been around now for fifty years and offered affordable job training, with the tuition being the lowest in the state. She said the passage of this levy would not raise taxes. This levy makes up twenty percent of Sinclair's budget and every dollar is used in the community and it is vital to the economy. This levy keeps Sinclair affordable. The funds sustain the quality of education and keeps their services up to date and they can develop new programs. There were five thousand graduates this year. She stressed that the passage of this levy would not raise taxes.

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5. Open Agenda

Mayor O’Callaghan said that so many college kids graduate with debt and Sinclair helped them avoid that issue.

Mr. Cooper said that they were working to improve the health and safety of the county. He said they needed to invest in “income, education, and health” which is the triangle of what it takes to succeed which is why they were doing this in tandem with Sinclair Community college.

Mr. Bruns thanked everyone for their presentations and asked if there was a need for a second meeting. Mr. Applegate said they were working towards that, so the next meeting would be September 25, 2017.

Mr. Applegate said that Mr. Cooper was the head of the Montgomery County Health Department and was doing a very good job as the health commissioner.

6. Mr. Bruns moved that the September 11, 2017 council meeting be adjourned. Mayor O’Callaghan seconded the motion. All concurred and the meeting was adjourned.

The next council meeting will be September 25, 2017.

Respectfully submitted,

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Denise A. Winemiller,  
Clerk of Council

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John Bruns, Vice Mayor