

**NORTH RIDGEVILLE CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
July 1, 2024**

CALL TO ORDER:

President Jacobs called the Monday, July 1, 2024, Council meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

INVOCATION:

Led by President Jacobs.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Led by President Jacobs.

ROLL CALL:

Present were Council members President Jason Jacobs, Holly A. Swenk, Eric Shaffer, Bruce F. Abens, Georgia Awig, and Martin DeVries.

Also present were Mayor Kevin Corcoran, City Engineer Christina Eavenson, Clerk of Council Nicholas Ciofani, and Assistant Clerk of Council Fijabi Gallam.

Councilman Clifford Winkel and Finance Director April Wilkerson were excused.

MINUTES - Corrections (if any) and approval:

President Jacobs asked if there were any corrections to the Regular City Council Meeting Minutes dated June 27, 2024. No discussion was offered. The meeting minutes stand approved as submitted.

President Jacobs noted the following minutes:

Safety Committee Meeting Minutes dated June 3, 2024

Planning Commission Meeting Minutes dated June 11, 2024

LOBBY:

President Jacobs opened the lobby session. He reminded everyone that the lobby session was not meant to be an interactive question-and-answer session. However, it was an opportunity for the public to address the City Council and its administration. He asked anyone who would like to speak to come to the podium and state their name and address. He further added that each person is allowed three minutes to speak.

North Ridgeville Corn Festival

Daniel Dannunzio, residing at 33340 Banbridge Road, provided an overview and background of the North Ridgeville Corn Festival. He noted that the festival's dedication to the community is by promoting the city, supporting local businesses, and making contributions to various local charities and civic organizations. Since 1975, the festival has donated over ten thousand dollars to specific entities in North Ridgeville and awarded scholarships to students in the city. Mr. Dannunzio expressed his gratitude to the administration, City Council, and the library for their valuable cooperation, which has contributed to making the Corn Festival a success. It has become one of the largest festivals in Ohio and was recognized as the best

festival in Lorain County by the Post Magazine. Mr. Dannunzio also called for volunteers to join the Corn Festival.

ADMINISTRATORS REPORTS:

1. Mayor:

Mayor Corcoran remarked the following.:

- Under the first readings, he requested an emergency passage on several pieces of legislation that would need the emergency for RES. NO. 2024-69 and ORD. NO. 2024-70.
- Street Paving - Public Works, Streets Division is finishing up paving and cleaning up on Laurel Circle this week. The next street on the list is Cadet Drive. Once the schedule is available, the information will be added to the City's website and the complete list of streets at nridgeville.org.
- Freedom Festival and Fireworks - The City is partnering with Victory Park Ohio for the Freedom Festival and Fireworks. The event will take place on Wednesday, July 3, 2024, at Victory Park from 4:00 p.m. until 11:00 p.m. To purchase tickets, visit Victory Park Ohio's website at victoryparkohio.com. Net proceeds from the event will benefit three non-profits: North Ridgeville Community Care, Canine Superheroes Foundation, and Save 22.
- City Offices Closed - In observance of Independence Day, City Offices will be closed on Thursday, July 4, 2024.
- Dementia Friends Community Education Session - As part of ongoing efforts to educate and inform the community at large, education and resource information sessions are being held throughout the year. The Senior Center is hosting an hour-long session on Wednesday, July 10, 2024, from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. The goal of these sessions is to help everyone in the community understand how dementia impacts individuals and families, and the things each does to make a difference in the lives of those affected.
- Active Transportation Plan Open House - Join the City and its partners for an interactive open house on Thursday, July 11, 2024, from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the North Ridgeville Senior Center. Learn how the City is promoting connectivity and safety through active transportation improvements. Help the City prioritize future trail and sidewalk connections throughout the city. ("City of North Ridgeville") Participants would enjoy free food and fun giveaways!
- Summer Concert Series - Bring chairs or blankets to enjoy the free summer concert series at South Central Park Gazebo. The third concert of the season is Sunday, July 14, 2024, from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. featuring Spazmatics, the ultimate 80s New Wave Show. Concerts are subject to cancellation because of weather conditions. For updates during the season, visit the Parks & Recreation Department Rainout Line Tab on their webpage or call the Rainout Line at (440) 210-6226.
- Northeast Ohio Regional Metroparks Trail Connectivity Study - Public Survey - Metroparks organizations for Lorain, Cuyahoga, Medina, Lake, and Geauga counties are working with the Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency (NOACA) to create a trail network that connects people throughout the region to opportunities, resources, jobs, destinations, and each other.

Working together, the City could build off the successes of individual communities and park system trail networks to create a regional trail network that transcends traditional city, county, and park boundaries. The survey is open through August 16, 2024, and available by visiting the City's website at nridgeville.org.

Moved by Mayor Corcoran and seconded by Swenk into an Executive Session to consider the appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion, or compensation of a public employee or official, and conference with the public body's attorney about pending or imminent court action.

A roll call vote was taken, and the motion carried.

Yes – 6 No – 0

Adjourned into Executive Session at 7:15 p.m.

Reconvened into the Regular Council meeting at 7:45 p.m.

Moved by Jacobs and seconded by Swenk to adjourn the executive session.

A roll call vote was taken, and the motion carried.

Yes – 6 No – 0

Mayor Corcoran reminded the residents about the existing fireworks regulation. It was reiterated that it is illegal to ignite fireworks within a 150-foot radius of any dwelling.

Mayor Corcoran concluded his report.

2. Engineer:

City Engineer Christina Eavenson provided the following updates:

- Engineering Division currently has the Maddock Road Culvert Replacement over Watson Ditch out to bid.
- The Drinking Water Consumer Confidence Report for calendar year 2023 has been finalized and submitted to the Ohio EPA. The link to the report is noted on the July Utility Bills or you can download it from the Engineering homepage.
- The Engineering Division and Planning Department recently had an opportunity to submit to NOACA the target list of funding priorities for consideration in their 2026 through 2029 Transportation Improvement Program. Once they receive feedback from all of its communities, NOACA will systematically review the interstates and federal-aid routes within its planning region and prioritize all the roadway segments by evaluating several factors including the roadways' current pavement condition rating. The top picks for consideration included Sugar Ridge Road, Barton Road, Mills Road, Stoney Ridge Road, Bagley Road, Cook Road, and Root Road. Additionally, it looks like the Sugar Ridge Road bridge that currently has posted restrictions is also being considered.

City Engineer Eavenson concluded her report.

3. Director of Finance:

No Report was provided.

4. Other Reports:

President Jacobs noted the following report:

May 2024 Parks and Recreation Division Report
May 2024 Fire Department Report

COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORT(S):

There were none.

CORRESPONDENCE:

There were none.

OLD BUSINESS:

There were none.

NEW BUSINESS:

There were none.

RECESS:

Moved by Awig and seconded by Swenk to dispense with recess.

A voice vote was taken, and the motion was carried.

Yes – 6 No – 0

FIRST READINGS:

Ordinance and Resolution submittal(s)

Clerk of Council Nicholas Ciofani:

2024-69 A Resolution authorizing the Mayor of the City of North Ridgeville to accept a grant from the Cleveland Foundation, NOPEC Foundation Fund for ADA improvements at the Senior Center.

(Introduced by Mayor Corcoran)

Moved by Mayor Corcoran and seconded by Awig to dispense with the second and third readings for 2024-69.

A voice vote was taken, and the motion carried.

Yes – 6 No – 0

Mayor Corcoran explained that this is the second of the two grants. The other one was approved in legislation previously to do the ADA improvements at the Senior Center.

Moved by Mayor Corcoran and seconded by Awig to add the emergency clause to improve the safety, health, and welfare of the seniors at the Senior Center.

A voice vote was taken on the emergency clause, and the motion was carried.

Yes – 6 No – 0

Moved by Mayor Corcoran and seconded by Awig to adopt 2024-69 with the emergency clause.

A roll call vote was taken on the adoption, with the emergency, and the motion carried for **Ordinance Number 2024-69.**

Yes – 6 No – 0

Clerk of Council Nicholas Ciofani:

2024-70 An Ordinance amending Exhibit C of Ordinance Number 2024-22.
(Introduced by Mayor Corcoran)

Moved by Mayor Corcoran and seconded by DeVries to dispense with the second and third readings for 2024-70.

Mayor Corcoran remarked that the legislation is to clarify the language used for exempt employees defining the probationary period and vacation Cash-out provisions within the first year of employment.

A voice vote was taken, and the motion carried.

Yes – 6 No – 0

Moved by Mayor Corcoran and seconded by DeVries to add the emergency clause to put the legislation in effect immediately to cover future hires.

A voice vote was taken on the emergency clause, and the motion was carried.

Yes – 6 No – 0

Moved by Mayor Corcoran and seconded by DeVries to adopt 2024-70 with the emergency clause.

A roll call vote was taken on the adoption, with the emergency, and the motion carried for **Ordinance Number 2024-70.**

Yes – 6 No – 0

SECOND READINGS:

Clerk of Council Nicholas Ciofani:

2024-58 An Ordinance amending North Ridgeville Codified Ordinance Section 660.13 Smoking in Places of Public Assembly.
(Introduced by Mayor Corcoran; First Reading on 05-20-2024; Safety Committee Meeting on 06-03-2024; Report to City Council on 06-17-202)

Moved by Swenk and seconded by Awig to amend 2024-58 with the recommended changes from the Safety Committee.

Councilwoman Swenk remarked that the amendment was to remove “no smoking within 25 feet of a sign” which implies no smoking on City-owned property and parks.

A roll call vote was taken, and the motion carried.

Yes – 6 No – 0

This Ordinance moved to third reading.

Clerk of Council Nicholas Ciofani:

2024-63 An Ordinance repealing Chapter 862 Taxicabs of the North Ridgeville Business Regulation Code.
(Introduced by Councilman Abens; First Reading on 06-17-2024)

This Ordinance moved to third reading.

THIRD READINGS:

There were none.

MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS:

President Jacobs noted the following:

1. The next Regular City Council meeting will be on Monday, July 5, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers.

ADJOURNMENT:

President Jacobs adjourned the meeting at 8:05 p.m.

Approval of minutes on July 15, 2024:



Jason Jacobs
PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL



Nicholas Ciofani
CLERK OF COUNCIL