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CITY OF NORTH CANTON, OHIO

IN RE:)	
)	
NORTH CANTON)	
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE)	
MEETING)	
)	TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS
)	

Transcript of Proceedings held before North Canton City Council, taken by the undersigned, Shannon L. Newhall, a Registered Professional Reporter and Notary Public in and for the State of Ohio, at North Canton Civic Center, 845 West Maple Street, North Canton, Ohio, on Monday, the 23rd day of October, 2023, at 7:00 p.m.

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APPEARANCES:

- Matthew Stroia, President
- Daryl Revoldt, Member
- John Orr, Member
- Stephanie Werren, Member
- Christine Weyrick, Member
- Jamie McCleaster, Member
- David Metheney, Member
- Stephan B. Wilder, Mayor
- Patrick DeOrion, Director of Administration
- Jina Alaback, Director of Finance
- Benjamin R. Young, Council Clerk

- - - - -

1 MR. STROIA: I now call to order the
2 Committee of the Whole for October 23rd. The
3 time is 7:00 p.m.

4 Ben, would you please call the roll?

5 MR. YOUNG: Member Metheney.

6 MR. METHENEY: Here.

7 MR. YOUNG: Member Weyrick.

8 MS. WEYRICK: Here.

9 MR. YOUNG: Member McCleaster.

10 MR. MCCLEASTER: Here.

11 MR. YOUNG: Member Werren.

12 MS. WERREN: Here.

13 MR. YOUNG: Member Stroia.

14 MR. STROIA: Here.

15 MR. YOUNG: Member Revoldt.

16 MR. REVOLDT: Here.

17 MR. YOUNG: Member Orr.

18 MR. ORR: Here.

19 MR. YOUNG: Seven present.

20 MR. STROIA: Okay. We'll start off with
21 community and economic development.

22 MR. REVOLDT: How about --

23 MR. STROIA: Yeah.

24 MR. REVOLDT: Wrong meeting. Okay. We
25 have for our consideration tonight the

1 request to reclassify ten parcels. You may
2 recall that these are the parcels that are
3 going to be changed to park and institutional
4 or residential single family, R70. There is
5 a map in your packet.

6 Planning Commission has approved the
7 request. And our next official function is
8 to set a public hearing. The Clerk has
9 indicated that an appropriate time would be
10 November 27th at 6:45 p.m.

11 Any questions about that time?

12 (No response.)

13 MR. REVOLDT: Seeing none, I'll make a
14 motion that we establish the public hearing
15 for this Ordinance 69-23, November 27th, 6:45
16 p.m.

17 MR. MCCLEASTER: Second.

18 MR. STROIA: All in favor?

19 MS. WERREN: Aye.

20 MR. REVOLDT: Aye.

21 MR. ORR: Aye.

22 MR. STROIA: Aye.

23 MR. MCCLEASTER: Aye.

24 MS. WEYRICK: Aye.

25 MR. METHENEY: Aye.

1 MR. STROIA: Opposed?

2 (No response.)

3 MR. STROIA: Motion carries.

4 Okay. Moving on to finance and property.
5 Stephanie.

6 MS. WERREN: Okay. Jina, I'm probably
7 going to let you talk a little bit about
8 finance and property. We have had a few
9 changes, and I was able to talk to a couple
10 people about that last week. I'm just going
11 to pass it on.

12 MS. ALABACK: Okay. So we are --

13 MS. WERREN: What I will say, though, is
14 the great thing about this happening now is
15 that the -- because we didn't wait until the
16 last minute, because you had already started
17 budgeting and balancing and moving things
18 back and forth, when things like this happen,
19 we are able to respond a lot more quickly and
20 be, I guess, proactive, as opposed to
21 reactive.

22 But these things happen because when we
23 get rates from what the -- what the county
24 auditor gives us, we can't always know 100
25 percent what that's going to be. And that's

1 kind of what happened, and then a little
2 numerical error.

3 MS. ALABACK: Right.

4 MS. WERREN: So thank you.

5 MS. ALABACK: I mean, if this was
6 happening in February, I'd be bringing it to
7 you in February.

8 MS. WERREN: Yes.

9 MS. ALABACK: So luckily it is October
10 and we are towards the end of the year, so
11 along with some of the major changes, we are
12 also truing up some of the other line items,
13 as well, going into yearend.

14 So the tax certification from the county
15 auditor did come back, so we need to amend
16 our revenues, which also requires us to amend
17 carryover fund balance, which affects next
18 year's budget, as well. So we are going to
19 do the amendments for '23 right now. But
20 then in the next meeting, we'll talk about
21 the amendments for second reading on the '24
22 budget.

23 Also going into yearend, we have some
24 extra money that we need on certain line
25 items, like street lighting, our electric

1 utility. Most of our utility accounts. Just
2 a little bit shy of getting us through the
3 end of the year.

4 And, again, normally in December, we
5 would true up all the other line items to see
6 what's left over and move those into those
7 lines. However, looking at two or three
8 months, we don't want to start pulling from
9 department budgets to pay the electric bill.
10 So we're going to go ahead and add it now.

11 And I'm not telling you we're not going
12 to see a decrease to true it up at yearend.
13 But I'll bring all of those true-up line
14 items to you in January like we do after we
15 close the year.

16 The health insurance was the other one,
17 the new software system is calculating, when
18 we enter the rate, at 100 percent. So the
19 City share is only 89 percent. So we are
20 reducing those line items, which sort of
21 offsets our -- our property tax collection
22 reduction, the offset on the expenses. So we
23 are reducing that to 89 percent of the cost
24 on each line item for health insurance. So
25 that again is '23 and in '24.

1 We are still waiting on a few other
2 things to come in to clear up '24's budget.
3 We can talk about those then. So as things
4 are finalizing, we still have a couple more
5 quotes that are out. We don't have those
6 final numbers yet. The health insurance is
7 not back yet. We are waiting on the health
8 insurance, as well. And that's a major line
9 item for the City. So we want to leave it
10 open ended until we have the those final,
11 final numbers.

12 MR. DEORIO: You want to mention the
13 amount? You didn't mention the amount from
14 the auditor, how much it is different.

15 MS. ALABACK: Does it matter?

16 MR. DEORIO: I think it will.

17 MS. ALABACK: Well, I didn't come with
18 those in my -- I have to pull out the green
19 sheet. It's funny we still call it the green
20 sheet, because they used to print it on green
21 paper. And that's -- are you talking about
22 the tax budget? So that would be the next --

23 MR. DEORIO: Yeah, what they were
24 forecasting for next year is lower than what
25 we anticipated.

1 MS. ALABACK: Right. Right. And it's
2 not delinquencies. It's just how they are
3 accounting for them. On the new levies, the
4 homestead and rollback is not going to be
5 reimbursed by the State on new levies. And
6 we knew that going in on our renewal -- our
7 last renewals. So we were renewing it. If
8 we renewed it, we continue to receive the 12
9 and a half percent. But if we added a new
10 levy, the State does not pick that up.

11 So the calculations are a little bit
12 different than what we have been used to for
13 so long. You know, there are always pending
14 changes on real estate taxes. And they have
15 a new credit now, as well, correct? Also
16 just passed. So we don't have the effects of
17 that yet either.

18 But do you have that number?

19 MR. DEORIO: Well, it was not
20 insignificant.

21 MS. ALABACK: Oh, no. No. It affects
22 '23 revenues and also '24's revenues. But we
23 certify revenues to the county auditor. The
24 appropriations budget comes to Council. We
25 can't spend if we don't get it, though.

1 MS. WERREN: Any other questions?
2 (No response.)
3 MS. WERREN: Okay. Then I move that to
4 the agenda.
5 MR. METHENEY: Second.
6 MR. STROIA: All in favor?
7 MS. WERREN: Aye.
8 MR. STROIA: Aye.
9 MR. REVOLDT: Aye.
10 MR. ORR: Aye.
11 MR. MCCLEASTER: Aye.
12 MS. WEYRICK: Aye.
13 MR. METHENEY: Aye.
14 MR. STROIA: Opposed?
15 (No response.)
16 MR. STROIA: Motion carries.
17 And, Stephanie, 4B.
18 MS. WERREN: 4B, just again, Jina,
19 anything that you wanted to say about this
20 with the different -- so this is the rates
21 for the budget commission.
22 MS. ALABACK: Correct. So this is the
23 certification of rates and fees for next
24 year.
25 MS. WERREN: Next year.

1 MS. ALABACK: So the value of millage,
2 whatever the millage. Now, we have voted
3 levies. And operating levies are a stagnant
4 amount of money when they are voted in. So
5 House Bill 920 rolls them back, so you never
6 collect more even as your values increase,
7 unless there are new buildings. Correct?

8 And then we have inside millage for
9 operating and general fund. And that does
10 increase with values, but its a small amount
11 of inside millage.

12 So when they sent that back -- the budget
13 commission has sent that back for next year.
14 And, again, we'll get a final true-up around
15 June. Not final; an intermediate. And then
16 next November, like we are here in this
17 year -- we're almost in November -- we get
18 the final for the year.

19 So this is just the best information we
20 have right now, and we want to amend the
21 budget to make sure we allow for that.

22 MS. WERREN: Okay. Any questions?

23 (No response.)

24 MS. WERREN: Okay. I recommend Number 4B
25 to the Council agenda, please.

1 MR. REVOLDT: Revoldt seconds.
2 MR. STROIA: All in favor?
3 MR. REVOLDT: Aye.
4 MR. ORR: Aye.
5 MS. WERREN: Aye.
6 MR. STROIA: Aye.
7 MR. MCCLEASTER: Aye.
8 MS. WEYRICK: Aye.
9 MR. METHENEY: Aye.
10 MR. STROIA: Opposed?
11 (No response.)
12 MR. STROIA: Motion carries.
13 I will entertain a motion to adjourn
14 the Committee meeting.
15 MS. WERREN: So moved.
16 MR. REVOLDT: Revoldt seconds.
17 MR. STROIA: All in favor?
18 MR. REVOLDT: Aye.
19 MS. WERREN: Aye.
20 MR. STROIA: Aye.
21 MR. ORR: Aye.
22 MR. MCCLEASTER: Aye.
23 MS. WEYRICK: Aye.
24 MR. METHENEY: Aye.
25 MR. STROIA: Opposed?

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(No response.)

MR. STROIA: We'll start off in about two
minutes.

(This proceeding adjourned at 7:07 p.m.)

ATTEST:



Matthew Stroia,
Council President



Benjamin R. Young,
Council Clerk

