

COUNCIL CAUCUS MEETING MINUTES

CITY OF GARFIELD HEIGHTS, OHIO

Monday, March 22, 2021

(Note: This meeting was conducted via Zoom due to the current Covid-19 outbreak.)

Council President Michael Nenadovich called the Caucus Meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Members Present: Jason Blake, Councilman Ward 5
Charles Donahue, Councilman Ward 2
Michael Dudley, Sr., Councilman Ward 1
Michael Nenadovich, Councilman Ward 3
Frank Tagliarini, Councilman Ward 6
Thomas Vaughn, Councilman Ward 7

Member Excused: Shayla L. Davis, Councilwoman Ward 4

Councilman Vaughn moved to excuse Councilwoman Davis from the Caucus Meeting and President Nenadovich seconded. His motion stood approved by 6 Yes (Vaughn, Dudley, Donahue, Nenadovich, Blake, Tagliarini) and 1 Absent (Davis) vote.

President Nenadovich then moved to accept the Caucus Meeting Minutes for Monday, March 8, 2021. Councilman Blake seconded. His motion stood approved by 6 Yes (Nenadovich, Blake, Tagliarini, Vaughn, Dudley, Donahue) and 1 Absent (Davis) vote.

ORDINANCE NO. 27-2021. President Nenadovich advised that he would move to consider by title. Councilman Blake had received a letter asking why the city did not go out for bids in addition to other questions in regards to committees, etc. The Chair decided that the first question should be answered during Caucus and the rest could be answered on the floor.

Concerning the first question, Finance Director Biro explained that as far as the discussion on these portable radios, they were needed for the Police Department. By the year 2023, the Police Department is going to have to replace all their radios. So the Chief, Lieutenant Merchant and Ms. Biro thought it would be fiscally responsible to start beginning to buy those radios, so many per year until all our offices are outfitted by the year 2023. These particular radios are chosen by Chief Kaye and Lieutenant Merchant as what is needed by our police officers. In return, they come to the Finance Director, herself, to begin the process of preparing legislation for this product. Motorola Solutions has the Ohio State bid on these particular radios. In actuality, according to Chief Kaye, they are the only ones that sell these radios and that's Motorola Solutions. Motorola Solutions, as stated, is part of the State of Ohio Department of Administrative Services. Their contract number is listed in the whereas on the ordinance. The Ohio Department of Administrative Services, the city of Garfield Heights, entered an agreement with them back in 1994 to become part of a cooperative purchasing program that is administered by the Ohio Department of Administrative Services. It is voluntary and is open to all political subdivisions, including the city of Garfield Heights. We've been a member with them since 1994. This particular program established under the Ohio Revised Code Chapter 1545 and is available to other political subdivisions throughout the State of Ohio.

The benefits of this membership to the city of Garfield Heights, is it leverages the purchasing power results in volume discounts and administrative savings. The use of our formal bidding process may not be necessary if we use DAS contracts, which we are, in ordinance 27-2021. The DAS, the Department of Administrative Services, negotiates terms and conditions that are favorable to all Ohio governmental entities, including the city of Garfield Heights. We receive assistance in resolving any supplier compliance disputes that we may have. And we access 1000's of registered vendors who can increase our entities source of supply. With that information, I believe that I've been fully transparent in this purchase along with Chief Kaye and Lieutenant Merchant, and that's why we are presenting ordinance 27-2021 to Council this evening.

ORDINANCE NO. 28-2021 President Nenadovich advised that he would move to consider by title.

ORDINANCE NO. 29-2021 President Nenadovich advised that he would move to consider by title.

ORDINANCE NO. 30-2021 President Nenadovich advised that he would move to consider by title.

ORDINANCE NO. 31-2021 President Nenadovich advised that he would move to consider by title.

RESOLUTION 13-2021 President Nenadovich advised that he would move to consider by title.

RESOLUTION 14-2021 President Nenadovich advised that he would move to consider by title.

Clmn Blake said that he had been dealing with a lot of complaints from residents in regards to occurrences going on into the early morning hours, including parking noise, people not being able to access their properties due to parking, littering, etc. He was concerned that safety vehicles have difficulty trying to enter the back entrance of the fire department. He felt that was an issue in itself and some parking restrictions were needed. Squads have been called to that street numerous times. He requested moving the Resolution to emergency status so it would go into effect immediately. Law Director Riley stated that a motion to amend the resolution to emergency status would have to go up during the actual Council meeting on the floor. Clmn Blake offered to move to amend Resolution 14.

Clmn Dudley moved to adjourn the Caucus Meeting and Clmn Donahue seconded. His motion stood approved by 6 Yes (Dudley, Donahue, Nenadovich, Blake, Tagliarini, Vaughn) and 1 Absent (Davis) vote.

Council President Nenadovich adjourned the Caucus Meeting on Monday, March 22, 2021 at 6:43 p.m. and thanked everyone.

Approved,

Respectfully Submitted,

Michael T. Nenadovich
Council President

Barbara Molin
Clerk of Council