

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING**  
Monday December 04, 2023 at 6:02pm  
**COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST LIVERPOOL, OHIO**  
**COUNCIL CHAMBERS, CITY HALL**

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Council President John Torma **called to order** this Regular Meeting of East Liverpool City Council at 6:02PM.

**ROLL CALL:**

The Clerk read aloud the **call of the roll** and was recorded as follows:

First Ward Council member Tom Beagle:	present
Second Ward Council member C. Fred Rayl:	present
Third Ward Council member Jeffrey Kreefer:	present
Fourth Ward Council member Scott Barrett:	present
Council member At-Large Brian Kerr:	present
Council Member At-Large John Mercer:	present
Council member At-Large Robert Nizer Jr.:	not present

**MOTION TO EXCUSE:**

Council President Torma entertained a **motion to excuse** Mr. Nizer from this regular meeting of East Liverpool City Council. **Moved** by Mr. Rayl and **seconded** by Mr. Mercer, the call of the roll was recorded as follows:

Mr. Barrett:	yes	Mr. Kreefer:	yes
Mr. Beagle:	yes	Mr. Mercer:	yes
Mr. Kerr:	yes	Mr. Rayl:	yes

**Motion carried 6-0.**

**PRAYER AND PLEDGE:**

Council member Kerr led the **Prayer and Pledge**.

**MINUTES-CORRECT:**

The minutes were not available.

**PERSONAL PRIVILEGE:**

Council President John Torma **entertained a motion that Personal Privilege be granted**. **Moved** by Council member Rayl and **Seconded** by Council member Barrett. The call was recorded as follows:

Mr. Barrett:	yes	Mr. Kreefer:	yes
Mr. Beagle:	yes	Mr. Mercer:	yes
Mr. Kerr:	yes	Mr. Rayl:	yes

**Motion carried 6-0.**

Craig Stowers, 949 Denver Street, extolled the virtues of tax commissioner Sharon Williams.

Stowers related a story about one of his tenants that was having some social anxiety issues and was having to report his residency status with the tax office.

Mr. Stowers explained that he was able to intercede for his tenant and was able to work with Mrs. Williams to get her the information she needed. Stowers wondered out loud if RITA would have been as accommodating as having a local tax commissioner.

Richard Cunningham, 1212 Cora Street warned the public regarding Medicare fraud as he and his wife were both targeted.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

There was no Unfinished Business.

**COMMUNICATIONS OR PETITIONS:**

There were three Communications received by the clerk. The first being a notice from Columbia Gas Company advising City Council of a rate increase. The second was a letter from the Carnegie Library Board requesting City Council appoint Marilyn Bosco to the board.

The third was a letter from The Department of Commerce regarding a liquor license transfer from Scottys Bar to Lenas Lounge.

After some discussion it was decided, by a unanimous voice vote, directing the clerk to request The Department of Commerce to hold a hearing in Lisbon, Ohio as there is some concern that the bar has become a nuisance.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Refuse and Recycling / Public Utilities / Franchise Committee:** Brian Kerr, Chair of the Refuse and Recycling / Public Utilities / Franchise Committee reported that the committee met in special session just prior to this regular meeting of East Liverpool City Council.

Mr. Kerr reported the committee was addressed by two members of the Board of Public Utilities who reported they are probably going to raise water rates due to failing infrastructure in the Water Department.

**License and Economic Development Committee:** John Mercer, Chair of the License and Economic Development Committee made no report, but did call a meeting of the committee for 6pm Wednesday December 20, 2023 in chambers.

**Recreation and Ordinance Committee:** Robert Nizer Jr., Chair of the Recreation and Ordinance Committee was excused.

**Streets / Lands and Buildings Committee:** Scott Barrett, Chair of the Streets / Lands and Buildings Committee made no report.

**Safety and Rules Committee:** Jeffrey Kreefer, Chair of the Safety / Rules Committee made no report.

**Finance and Labor Committee:** C. Fred Rayl, Chair of the Finance / Labor Committee reported the committee met 3pm, November 28, 2023 in chambers and agreed to pass on to the full council four proposals.

1. An ordinance to pay vendors.
2. An ordinance making temporary appropriations for the current expenditures.
3. An ordinance to amend the budget ordinance.
4. An ordinance establishing the annual salaries for the Mayor, Law Director and Auditor.

Mr. Rayl called the next meeting of the committee for 3pm Tuesday December 26, 2023 in chambers.

**Planning and Expansion Committee:** Tom Beagle, Chair of the Planning and Expansion Committee made no report but did call a meeting of the committee for 6:30pm December 20, 2023 in chambers.

#### **OFFICER REPORTS:**

**CHIEF OF POLICE:** Police Chief John Lane was not present.

**FIRE CHIEF:** Fire Chief William Jones was not present.

**UTILITIES DIRECTOR:** Utilities Director Paul McCarthy was not present.

**STREET SUPERINTENDENT:** Street Superintendent Dan Galeoti was not present.

**HOUSING INSPECTOR:** Housing Inspector Kayla Crawl was not present.

**PLANNING DEPARTMENT:** City Planning Director William Cowan was not present.

**OFFICE OF THE LAW DIRECTOR:** Law Director Charles Payne made no report.

**OFFICE OF CITY AUDITOR:** City Auditor Marilyn Bosco made no report.

**OFFICE OF INCOME TAX DEPARTMENT:** Tax Commissioner Sharon Williams made no report.

**OFFICE OF CITY TREASURER:** Treasurer Deborah Fickes made no report.

**OFFICE OF SERVICE / SAFETY:** Service / Safety Director David Dawson was not present.

**OFFICE OF THE MAYOR:** Mayor Gregory Bricker was not present.

**FINANCIAL STATEMENT OF CASH POSITION REPORT:**

**LEGISLATION:**

**AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY AUDITOR TO PAY CERTAIN VENDORS WHO SUPPLIED GOODS OR SERVICES TO THE CITY WITHOUT THE ISSUANCE OR AUTHORIZATION OF A PURCHASE ORDER.**

**CONSIDERATION:**

**Moved** by Council member Rayl, and **Seconded** by Council member Kreefer, the call of the roll was recorded as follows:

Mr. Barrett:	yes	Mr. Kreefer:	yes
Mr. Beagle:	yes	Mr. Mercer:	yes
Mr. Kerr:	yes	Mr. Rayl:	yes

**Motion carried 6-0.**

**FIRST READING:**

**Moved** by Council member Kerr, and **Seconded** by Council member Mercer, the call of the roll was recorded as follows:

Mr. Barrett:	yes	Mr. Kreefer:	yes
Mr. Beagle:	yes	Mr. Mercer:	yes
Mr. Kerr:	yes	Mr. Rayl:	yes

**Motion carried 6-0.**

**SUSPEND THE RULES:**

**Moved** by Council member Beagle, and **Seconded** by Council member Barrett, the call of the roll was recorded as follows:

Mr. Barrett:	yes	Mr. Kreefer:	yes
Mr. Beagle:	yes	Mr. Mercer:	yes
Mr. Kerr:	yes	Mr. Rayl:	yes

**Motion carried 6-0.**

**PASSAGE:**

**Moved** by Council member Rayl, and **Seconded** by Council member Kerr, the call of the roll was recorded as follows:

Mr. Barrett:	yes	Mr. Kreefer:	yes
Mr. Beagle:	yes	Mr. Mercer:	yes
Mr. Kerr:	yes	Mr. Rayl:	yes

**Motion carried 6-0.**

Council President John Torma **Declared** Ordinance Number 77, 2023 duly passed as read.

**AN ORDINANCE MAKING TEMPORARY APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE CURRENT EXPENDITURES FOR THE CITY OF EAST LIVERPOOL, OHIO DURING THE CALENDAR YEAR JANUARY 1, 2024 AND ENDING MARCH 31, 2024.**

**CONSIDERATION:**

**Moved** by Council member Rayl, and **Seconded** by Council member Mercer, the call of the roll was recorded as follows:

Mr. Barrett:	yes	Mr. Kreefer:	yes
Mr. Beagle:	yes	Mr. Mercer:	yes
Mr. Kerr:	yes	Mr. Rayl:	yes

**Motion carried 6-0.**

**FIRST READING:**

**Moved** by Council member Mercer, and **Seconded** by Council member Barrett, the call of the roll was recorded as follows:

Mr. Barrett:	yes	Mr. Kreefer:	yes
Mr. Beagle:	yes	Mr. Mercer:	yes
Mr. Kerr:	yes	Mr. Rayl:	yes

**Motion carried 6-0.**

**SUSPEND THE RULES:**

**Moved** by Council member Kerr, and **Seconded** by Council member Beagle, the call of the roll was recorded as follows:

Mr. Barrett:	yes	Mr. Kreefer:	yes
Mr. Beagle:	yes	Mr. Mercer:	yes
Mr. Kerr:	yes	Mr. Rayl:	yes

**Motion carried 6-0.**

**PASSAGE:**

**Moved** by Council member Beagle, and **Seconded** by Council member Rayl, the call of the roll was recorded as follows:

Mr. Barrett:	yes	Mr. Kreefer:	yes
Mr. Beagle:	yes	Mr. Mercer:	yes
Mr. Kerr:	yes	Mr. Rayl:	yes

**Motion carried 6-0.**

Council President John Torma **Declared** Ordinance Number 78, 2023 duly passed as read.

**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND BUDGET ORDINANCE NUMBER 16, 2023 BY ADJUSTING APPROPRIATIONS.**

**CONSIDERATION:**

**Moved** by Council member Mercer, and **Seconded** by Council member Barrett, the call of the roll was recorded as follows:

Mr. Barrett:	yes	Mr. Kreefer:	yes
Mr. Beagle:	yes	Mr. Mercer:	yes
Mr. Kerr:	yes	Mr. Rayl:	yes

**Motion carried 6-0.**

**FIRST READING:**

**Moved** by Council member Beagle, and **Seconded** by Council member Rayl, the call of the roll was recorded as follows:

Mr. Barrett:	yes	Mr. Kreefer:	yes
Mr. Beagle:	yes	Mr. Mercer:	yes
Mr. Kerr:	yes	Mr. Rayl:	yes

**Motion carried 6-0.**

**SUSPEND THE RULES:**

**Moved** by Council member Kerr, and **Seconded** by Council member Rayl, the call of the roll was recorded as follows:

Mr. Barrett:	yes	Mr. Kreefer:	yes
Mr. Beagle:	yes	Mr. Mercer:	yes
Mr. Kerr:	yes	Mr. Rayl:	yes

**Motion carried 6-0.**

**PASSAGE:**

**Moved** by Council member Kreefer, and **Seconded** by Council member Beagle, the call of the roll was recorded as follows:

Mr. Barrett:	yes	Mr. Kreefer:	yes
Mr. Beagle:	yes	Mr. Mercer:	yes
Mr. Kerr:	yes	Mr. Rayl:	yes

**Motion carried 6-0.**

Council President John Torma **Declared** Ordinance Number 79, 2023 duly passed as read.

**AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING THE ANNUAL SALARY FOR THE MAYOR, LAW DIRECTOR AND AUDITOR.**

**CONSIDERATION:**

**Moved** by Council member Kerr, and **Seconded** by Council member Rayl, the call of the roll was recorded as follows:

Mr. Barrett:	yes	Mr. Kreefer:	yes
Mr. Beagle:	yes	Mr. Mercer:	yes
Mr. Kerr:	yes	Mr. Rayl:	yes

**Motion carried 6-0.**

**FIRST READING:**

**Moved** by Council member Beagle, and **Seconded** by Council member Mercer, the call of the roll was recorded as follows:

Mr. Barrett:	yes	Mr. Kreefer:	yes
Mr. Beagle:	yes	Mr. Mercer:	yes
Mr. Kerr:	yes	Mr. Rayl:	yes

**Motion carried 6-0.**

**SUSPEND THE RULES:**

**Moved** by Council member Kreefer, and **Seconded** by Council member Barrett, the call of the roll was recorded as follows:

Mr. Barrett:	yes	Mr. Kreefer:	yes
Mr. Beagle:	yes	Mr. Mercer:	yes
Mr. Kerr:	yes	Mr. Rayl:	yes

**Motion carried 6-0.**

**PASSAGE:**

**Moved** by Council member Kreefer, and **Seconded** by Council member Barrett, the call of the roll was recorded as follows:

Mr. Barrett:	yes	Mr. Kreefer:	yes
Mr. Beagle:	yes	Mr. Mercer:	yes
Mr. Kerr:	yes	Mr. Rayl:	yes

**Motion carried 6-0.**

Council President John Torma **Declared** Ordinance Number 80, 2023 duly passed as read.

**BOARDS AND SEATS:**

Council President Torma advised members that he was in receipt of a letter from Robert Bloor of the Carnegie Public Library requesting council appoint Marilyn Bosco to an indefinite term on the library board replacing Sarah Wilson, who is retiring.

**Moved** by Council member Kreefer, and **Seconded** by Council member Beagle, the call of the roll was recorded as follows:

Mr. Barrett:	yes	Mr. Kreefer:	yes
Mr. Beagle:	yes	Mr. Mercer:	yes
Mr. Kerr:	yes	Mr. Rayl:	yes

**Motion carried 6-0.**

## **MISCELLANEOUS:**

At-Large Council member Brian Kerr thanked all those who came out to the meeting, thanked Tim Clark and Jim Swogger of the Board of Public Utilities for their eye opening report regarding the physical and financial condition of the Water Department and wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

At-Large Council member John Mercer thanked everyone who came out to the meeting and wished everyone a Happy Hanukkah and a Merry Christmas

At-Large Council member Robert Nizer Jr. was excused.

Fourth Ward Council member Scott Barrett also thanked everyone who came out and wished all happy holidays.

Third Ward Council member Jeffrey Kreefer updated the council regarding his efforts to string lights around downtown and thanked Craig Stowers for the use of his bucket truck in doing so. Mr. Kreefer wished for more volunteers from the community and wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

Second Ward Council member C. Fred Rayl also thanked the Board of Public Utilities for its report and wished every one a Merry Christmas.

First Ward Council member Thomas Beagle wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

Council President John Torma thanked those who came out to the meeting, thanked the BPU for it's report and wished everyone Happy Holidays.

## **ADJOURNMENT:**

Council President Torma **entertained a motion to Adjourn. Motion** was made by Council member Rayl.

Respectfully submitted,



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**PATRICK S. SCAFIDE, COUNCIL CLERK**

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**JOHN TORMA, COUNCIL PRESIDENT**