

SPECIAL SESSION

May 21, 2018

The Council of the City of Chardon met in Special Session Monday, May 21, 2018 at 7:52 P.M. in Council Chambers of the Chardon Municipal Center.

Jeffrey Smock, President of Council presiding.

The meeting opened with the pledge of allegiance and roll call.

Members of Council present: Andrew Blackley, Deborah Chuha, Chris Grau, David Lelko, Nancy McArthur, Daniel Meleski, Jeffrey Smock.

Members of Council absent: none.

Others Present: Clerk of Council Amy Day, Law Director James Gillette, Planning and Zoning Administrator Steve Yaney, Dominick Durante, Erika Hansen, Ann Wishart.

**ORDINANCE NO. 3016**

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO SIGN A CULTURAL PROJECT COOPERATIVE USE AGREEMENT AS THE PROJECT SPONSOR FOR THE GEAUGA LYRIC THEATER GUILD AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY was read for the first time by title only.

Mr. Grau moved and Mr. Meleski seconded the rules be suspended and the Ordinance be read for the second and third time by title only. Upon roll call vote the motion passed unanimously.

Ordinance No. 3016 was then read for the second and third time by title only.

Mr. Blackley moved and Mrs. Chuha seconded for the adoption of Ordinance No. 3016.

Geauga Lyric Theater Guild Executive Director, Erika Hansen, distributed a timeline for the project.

Mr. Yaney stated that all of Council was in attendance at the Planning Commission meeting to hear the presentation from the Geauga Theater Guild regarding their renovation plans for the interior remodel of the City-owned theater building. He asked if Council had any questions.

Mr. Meleski inquired about the City Manager's responsibilities for the project.

Mr. Yaney stated that the City is the project sponsor and the renovation will be run as a municipal project. Dominick Durante will work with the public service director and will provide weekly updates on the project. The City will pay for the project and will be reimbursed as the project goes along. He stated that the project is a prevailing wage project that will be publically bid.

Mrs. McArthur stated noted that she had some concerns about the City being liable for the cost of the project but since the City is acting as a pass-through, this is not the case. She asked if the Theater and the City worked out how the expenditures would be paid.

Ms. Hansen stated that the issue of payment for the expenditures has been resolved.

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Mr. Gillette stated that the City is required to sign the contract since the building is owned by the City and once the improvements are made, they will attach to the property. Therefore, the City has to assume that liability and responsibility.

Mr. Blackley stated that he supports the project and stressed the importance of the theater as an economic driver to the Square. He added that if bids come in over the \$200,000 grant, the City should seriously consider paying some additional money since there are things that need to be done to the theater and it will benefit the community and the City as the property owner.

Mayor Smock stated that while he agrees with Mr. Blackley's statement in theory, he does not wish to make any commitments for additional funding at this time. However, if there are safety issues that are beyond what was anticipated, they would need to be addressed.

Mrs. McArthur asked about the phases in the project timeline.

Ms. Hansen stated that the phases in the timeline reflect the time that is available for the project construction. She noted that the project needs completed at the end of the year.

Upon roll call vote the motion passed unanimously.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION -**

Mr. Meleski moved and Mr. Grau seconded to adjourn to Executive Session at 8:04 p.m. for the purpose of discussing pending litigation involving Loreto Iafelice. Upon roll call vote the motion passed unanimously.

Discussion occurred regarding pending litigation involving Loreto Iafelice.

Meeting reconvened at 8:26 p.m.

**ANY OTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE COUNCIL**

Mrs. McArthur moved and Mr. Meleski seconded to authorize the City Manager to sign a pleading on behalf of the City of Chardon to authorize James Gillette to withdraw as trial counsel in the pending Loreto Development Co. vs. the City of Chardon lawsuit. Upon roll call vote the motion passed unanimously.

**ADJOURN**

Mr. Meleski moved and Mrs. McArthur seconded to adjourn. Upon voice vote the motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 8:27 p.m.

Attest:

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JEFFREY L. SMOCK, Mayor  
President of Council

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AMY DAY  
Clerk of Council

