

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
MASSILLON CITY COUNCIL  
HELD TUESDAY, JANUARY 2, 2024**

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER** – Welcome to the Massillon City Council Meeting for Tuesday, January 2, 2024. We have in attendance the following City officials: Mayor, Jamie Slutz, Safety Service Director, Renee Baker and Director of Development, Ted Herncane. We also have in attendance the President of Massillon Westark Chamber of Commerce, Debbie Busby. Under #5 on the agenda is where the public can speak on any topic that appears on tonight’s agenda and under #17 is where the public can speak on any topic that does NOT appear on tonight’s agenda. I’d like to remind you that if you have a cell phone, please set it to mute, vibrate or turn it off. Thank you.

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER** – Roll call.

**1. ROLL CALL**

Roll call for the evening found the following Council Members present: Jill Creamer, Sarita Cunningham, Mike Gregg, Julie Harwig Smith, Ed Lewis, Mark Lombardi, Eric Ray and Mike Snee.

Roll call of 8 present

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER** – Thank you, Madam Clerk.

**A. NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF PRESIDENT PRO TEM OF COUNCIL**

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER** – Councilman Lewis.

**COUNCILMAN LEWIS** – I’d like to make a motion to nominate Councilman Lombardi as President Pro tem.

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER** – Seconded by Councilwoman Harwig Smith. Roll call.

8 yes for Councilman Lombardi to become Pro Tem of Council

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER** – Thank you, Madam Clerk.

**B. NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF PARLIMENTARIAN OF COUNCIL**

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER** – Councilman Lombardi.

**COUNCILMAN LOMBARDI** – I’d like to make a motion to nominate Councilman Lewis as Parliamentarian of Council.

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER** – Seconded by Councilman Gregg. Roll call.

8 yes for Councilman Lewis to become Parliamentarian of Council

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER** – Thank you, Madam Clerk.

## C. ADOPTION OF COUNCIL COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER** – As my duty as President of Council, I have passed out my suggestion for the standing committees of Council. If all in agreement, I need a motion from Council to accept my suggestion for the standing committees of Council.

**COUNCILMAN LEWIS** – I make a motion to accept the President of Council's suggestion for the standing committees.

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER** – Seconded by Councilman Lombardi. Roll call.

8 yes to accept the President of Council's suggestion for the standing committees of Council

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER** – Thank you, Madam Clerk. Councilman Lombardi.

### 2. **INVOCATION**

**COUNCILMAN MARK LOMBARDI**

### 3. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**LED BY COUNCILMAN LOMBARDI**

### 4. **READING OF THE JOURNAL**

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER** – Thank you, Councilman Lombardi. Madam Clerk are the minutes of the previous meeting transcribed and open for public viewing?

**COUNCIL CLERK ROLLAND** – Yes they are.

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER** – Are there any additions or corrections to be made?

**COUNCIL CLERK ROLLAND** – No, there are not.

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER** – Thank you. The minutes stand approved as written.

### 5. **REMARKS OF DELEGATIONS AND CITIZENS TO MATTERS ON THE AGENDA**

### 6. **NEW AND MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS**

### 7. **INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS**

### 8. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

### 9. **PETITIONS AND GENERAL COMMUNICATIONS**

### 10. **BILLS, ACCOUNTS AND CLAIMS**

American Legal Publishing - \$ 6,474.46 Publication of Codified Ordinances

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER** – Councilman Lewis.

**COUNCILMAN LEWIS** – I make a motion to pay the bills.

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER** – Seconded by Councilman Gregg. Roll call.

8 yes to pay the bills

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER** – Thank you, Madam Clerk. The Clerk will pay the bills and charge them to their proper accounts.

## 11. **REPORTS FROM CITY OFFICIALS**

Treasurer's Report - November 2023

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER** – Mayor Slutz.

**MAYOR SLUTZ** – Thank you. This evening I just wanted to take a minute to introduce my staff. The first is my Safety Service Director, Renee Baker. She brings a lot of experience to the table. She was a director and I'm going to let her explain her story to you, but she brings a lot to the table. She was a prison warden in Nevada and I'd like her to introduce herself and let her tell you about herself.

**RENEE BAKER** – Good evening. Thank you for having me. I'm born and raised here in Massillon, Ohio, and I did a twenty-year career in Nevada. I worked for the Nevada Dept. of Corrections. Left there as a prison warden and then my last three years I opened North Las Vegas jail in the middle of the pandemic as their director and once I was able to retire, I couldn't wait to move back home to Massillon. So, this was a great opportunity, I thought, to be able to come back and serve the community that I was born and raised in. So, I'm very happy to be back home and serve the community and I'm looking forward to working with all of you. Thank you.

**MAYOR SLUTZ** – Thank you. I think my next introduction probably doesn't need much of an introduction, but my Director of Development is Ted Herculane and for some of you that do not know Ted, I'll let him fill you in.

**TED HERNCANE** – Mr. President, Members of Council. Well, this is a change. For four years I sat there and thoroughly enjoyed myself as your colleague on Council and I wish you all a Happy New Year. I looked forward to working with you specifically in this new role as Director of Development. My background; I've got over ten years of experience in economic development, both in the public and private sector. From 2012 to 2014, I was the City's Community Development Director here. Since then, I've served five years as a President of the Massillon Westark Chamber of Commerce and Executive Director of the Massillon Development Foundation which is the economic development branch of that organization. For the last several years, I've worked in business development and economic development, both in the public and private sector. So, I'm very excited to take on this new role and I look forward to working with you all here in the coming years to really improve upon our economic development prospects here in the City. Thank you.

**MAYOR SLUTZ** – Thank you. Thank you for your time. I would just like to let everybody know that I have an open door policy. If anybody wants to come to my office or has questions; I'm always available. I feel like that this is just not my town, it's our town and we're going to do this together. So, thank you very much.

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER** – Thank you.

**12. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER** – Our next Work Session will be Monday, January 8, 2024, at 6:30 p.m. Councilman Gregg.

**COUNCILMAN GREGG** – I just want to mention that I will not be at Monday's Work Session. I will be out of town on business.

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER** – Thank you.

**13. RESOLUTIONS AND REQUESTS OF COUNCIL MEMBERS**

**14. CALL OF THE CALENDAR**

**15. THIRD READING OF ORDINANCE AND RESOLUTIONS**

**16. SECOND READING OF ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS**

**17. REMARKS OF DELEGATIONS AND CITIZENS TO MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA**

**18. ADJOURNMENT**

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER** – Councilman Lombardi.

**COUNCILMAN LOMBARDI** – I make a motion we adjourn.

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER** – Seconded by Councilwoman Harwig Smith. Roll call.

8 yes to adjourn

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER** – Meeting adjourned.

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DIANE ROLLAND, COUNCIL CLERK

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MIKE SLATER, PRESIDENT