

**CITY OF SALEM
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
November 15, 2021 – 6:00 PM**

- I. Call to Order**
- II. Prayer and Pledge of Allegiance**
- III. Presentation of Petitions/Public Comments**
- IV. Mayor’s Report and Presentations**
- V. City Council Action**
 - 1. Consent Agenda
 - (a) Approval of Minutes – Council meeting of November 1, 2021.
 - 2. Discussion and possible action on adjusting the hours of operation of Salem City Hall.
 - 3. Consideration for allowing Steel Cargo Shipping Containers in commercial settings.
 - 4. Review of Accounts Payable for the period of 10/18/21 through 11/12/21
- VI. City Manager and department head reports**
- VII. City Attorney Report**
- VIII. City Council Members Report**
- IX. Motion to Adjourn**

Rex A. Barbee
City Manager
RAB

Quote of the day;

*I have one yardstick by which I test every major problem – and that yardstick is:
Is it good for America.
Dwight D. Eisenhower*

**MINUTES
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
November 15, 2021**

I. Call to Order

The regular November 15, 2021 meeting of the Salem City Council was convened at 6:00 in the Council Chambers of Salem City Hall. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Nicolas Farley at 6:00 pm.

Council members present:

Councilman Jim Koehler
Councilman Royce Bringwald
Councilwoman Amy Troutt
Councilman Craig Morton
Mayor Nicolas Farley

Council members absent: None.

Others present:

City Manager Rex Barbee	Public Works Director Annette Brushwitz
City Clerk Bev Quinn	Chief of Police Sean Reynolds
Economic Dev Dir Tabitha Meador	City Attorney Mike Jones
Asst. Public Works Dir. Cory Purintun	Dan and Carma Miller, 610 Coffee Company
Code Enforcement Officer Dave Lusch	Members of the Media and Public

II. PRAYER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Councilman Koehler offered the opening prayer, with Mayor Farley leading the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS/PUBLIC COMMENTS – No comments.

IV. MAYOR’S REPORT AND PRESENTATIONS – No report.

V. CITY COUNCIL ACTION

1. Consent Agenda

a. City Council Minutes - request approval of minutes of November 1, 2021

Mayor Farley indicated requested a correction to the section of minutes under “Petitions and Public Comments” to add that he had indicated the request to increase the number of Class A liquor licenses would be added to the next agenda, if an application was submitted by the petitioners. Councilwoman Troutt pointed out two typographical errors. ***Motion was made by Councilman Koehler and seconded by Councilwoman Troutt to approve the minutes of 11/01/2021, as amended. Roll call vote: AYES: Councilman Bringwald, Councilwoman Troutt, Councilman Morton, Councilman Koehler, Mayor Farley. NAYS: None. Motion carried.***

2. Discussion and possible action adjusting the hours of operation of Salem City Hall

City Manager Barbee indicated City Hall traffic has dropped after 4:00 pm, and the hourly staff has requested that the office hours be adjusted from 8:00 am – 5:00 pm to 7:30 am – 4:30 pm. Barbee added that an earlier start time would allow residents to contact City Hall prior to their work day, be closer to the start time of public works crews, and allow work orders for public works be distributed earlier. Barbee had included the results of a survey Ms. Quinn had done of operating hours for surrounding government entities, which indicated hours of operation varied. ***Motion was made by Councilwoman Troutt and seconded by Councilman Bringwald to amend the operating hours at Salem City Hall from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm to 7:30 am to 4:30 pm, to be revisited if not received well by citizens. Roll call vote: AYES: Councilwoman Troutt, Councilman Morton, Councilman Koehler, Councilman Bringwald, Mayor Farley. NAYS: None. Motion carried.***

3. Consideration for allowing Steel Cargo Shipping containers in commercial settings.

City Manager Barbee indicated Dan and Carma Miller, owners of 6:10 Coffee, have asked about using a steel cargo shipping container behind their business at 1240 W. Main as a storage facility. Barbee added that the City has adopted the International Building Code 2006, and it does not allow use of shipping containers as buildings. Mr. Miller has advised the City that these containers are currently being used by Bandy’s, Walmart and Salem Township H9ospital, although they were put in place without any building permits, zoning variances or permission from the City.

City Manager Barbee indicated the steel containers are built to a higher standard than the wooden and metal sheds that are covered by the IBC, however, they have more of an industrial appearance over the permitted types of storage buildings. Barbee added that while the structures may be acceptable for commercial and industrial venues, he does ***not*** recommend they be used in residential districts. Barbee added that the building inspector and zoning administrator have received inquiries in the past from entities wanting to use these containers, and they have been advised that they are not permitted.

Mr. Miller indicated the containers are sturdy and largely impervious to the elements, and can be purchased for much less than traditional storage units. Miller added that they are having problems getting supplies, such as disposable cups, and they would like to purchase large bulk orders directly from suppliers and store them in the shipping container.

Zoning Administrator Bev Quinn indicated that, if approved, the structures will still have to meet zoning requirements, i.e., setbacks, size, screening, and not taking up more than 30% of the available rear yard. Several members of Council made comments of support for using the containers in commercial and industrial settings, for storage only. Ms. Quinn asked the City Attorney if they could just be permitted like any other type of storage building. City Attorney Mike Jones indicated that to permit these structures, the Zoning Code would need to be amended, and the Planning Commission would have to go through the notification process for all properties in the commercial and industrial zoning districts, a public hearing will have to be held, and a recommendation made by the Planning Commission to the City Council. Mayor Farley advised the Millers that the City would try to have an answer for them by the first meeting in January.

4. Review of Accounts Payable for the period of 10/18/21 through 11/12/21

Following review, ***motion was made by Councilman Bringwald and seconded by Councilwoman Troutt to approve the Accounts Payable for the period of 10/18/21 through 11/12/21, as presented. Roll call vote: AYES: Councilman Morton, Councilman Koehler, Councilman Bringwald, Councilwoman Troutt, Mayor Farley. NAYS: None. Motion carried.***

VI. CITY MANAGER REPORT WITH DEPARTMENT HEAD UPDATES

City Manager Barbee reported –

- he and Finance Director Barrow met with the Library Board Officers to discuss upgrading to new financial software, as suggested by the auditors;
- he attended the Daffy Dill annual dinner, along with Councilman Koehler and Mayor Farley, and they will be conducting another planter box decorating competition this Christmas season’
- the SCHS drama team is performing “I Hate Shakespeare” for one more weekend;
- indicated high winds are expected, and he urged citizens to utilize the leaf vac, which will be running in November and December. Public Works Dir. Brushwitz reminded the public that no leaf burning is allowed.

Public Works Director Brushwitz reported –

- there has already been vandalism to the Inclusive Playground. Brushwitz is working with Security Alarm to install cameras that will provide live-feed to the Police Department. Brushwitz is also working on getting signage posted that outlines rules at the park, i.e., no dogs in the fenced area; no unattended children; no swinging on the gates, etc. Brushwitz added that it is hard to see things already been torn up after so much hard work and expense. Mayor Farley asked that Dir. Brushwitz keep him updated;
- a second leaf vac has been placed into operation for the coming weeks;
- as part of the OSLAD grant, additional park improvements were approved, including some at the Dog Park. Concrete has been poured, some sections of fence will need to be replaced, and there will be installation of an improved dog watering station, all of which will need to be completed by April to meet grant requirements.
- she has located a 15’ tree that can be used for the Christmas Tree on Sweney Corner. Initially, Public Works is going to burlap the roots and plant it in a box that can be moved. The tree will be lit during the Christmas events being held on December 4th.

VII. CITY ATTORNEY REPORT – No report.

VIII. CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS REPORT

Councilman Koehler –

- indicated he had just met with the Historical Commission, and they are still very concerned about the condition of the Bryan Home. Koehler added that they are a very hard-working bunch, but need assistance. Koehler added that if you have not visited the Bryan Home, you should make arrangements to do so. The ground floor is in pretty good shape, but the upper story cannot be used for tours.
- indicated the Inclusive Playground looks phenomenal;
- reminded those present that the City’s sesquicentennial will occur in 2023, and we need to be thinking about celebratory events.

Councilwoman Troutt –

- indicated there are lots of local businesses promoting “shop local – shop small”, and she would like to see the City get behind this and promote it more on our social network pages.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

As there was no further business to discuss, ***motion was made at 7:05 pm by Councilwoman Troutt and seconded by Councilman Bringwald to adjourn the meeting. Roll call vote: AYES: Councilman Koehler, Councilman Bringwald, Councilwoman Troutt, Councilman Morton, Mayor Farley. NAYS: None. Motion carried.***

Bev Quinn, CMC
City Clerk

Approved: _____