

**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF AVON, OHIO, HELD TUESDAY, JANUARY 18, 2022
IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS OF THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING
IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE WORK SESSION
8:40P.M.**

The Chairman, Council President Brian Fischer, called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

PRESENT: Council Members: 1st Ward – Jennifer Demaline; Council-at-Large - Tammy Holtzmeier; 3rd Ward – Anthony Moore; 4th Ward – Scott Radcliffe; Council-at-Large – Craig Witherspoon; Council-at-Large and Council President – Brian Fischer; Mayor - Bryan Jensen; Law Director – John Gasior; Safety/Service Director – Duane Streator; Clerk of Council – Barbara Brooks

ABSENT: 2nd Ward – Dennis McBride; City Engineer – Ryan Cummins; Planning/Economic Development Coordinator – Pam Fechter; Finance Director – William Logan

RESOLUTION NO. R-1-22 – SUBMITTING TO THE ELECTORS OF THE CITY, PURSUANT TO ARTICLE IV, SECTION 17 OF THE AVON CITY CHARTER AND CHAPTER 718 OF THE OHIO REVISED CODE, THE QUESTION OF AMENDING SECTIONS 881.01, 881.03, AND 881.04 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY TO INCREASE THE CITY'S MUNICIPAL INCOME TAX RATE FROM 1.75% TO 1.90% FOR A PERIOD OF TEN (10) YEARS FOR THE PURPOSES OF PROVIDING FUNDS FOR THE ACQUISITION OF PARKLAND IN THE CITY AND RELATED ACQUISITION COSTS, AND TO AMEND SECTION 881.06 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY TO INCREASE THE CREDIT FOR MUNICIPAL INCOME TAXES PAID BY RESIDENTS OF THE CITY TO ANOTHER MUNICIPALITY FROM 1.50% TO 1.60% FOR A PERIOD OF TEN (10) YEARS

The Clerk read Resolution No. R-1-22 by title only, entitled:

A RESOLUTION SUBMITTING TO THE ELECTORS OF THE CITY, PURSUANT TO ARTICLE IV, SECTION 17 OF THE AVON CITY CHARTER AND CHAPTER 718 OF THE OHIO REVISED CODE, THE QUESTION OF AMENDING SECTIONS 881.01, 881.03, AND 881.04 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY TO INCREASE THE CITY'S MUNICIPAL INCOME TAX RATE FROM 1.75% TO 1.90% FOR A PERIOD OF TEN (10) YEARS FOR THE PURPOSES OF PROVIDING FUNDS FOR THE ACQUISITION OF PARKLAND IN THE CITY AND RELATED ACQUISITION COSTS, AND TO AMEND SECTION 881.06 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY TO INCREASE THE CREDIT FOR MUNICIPAL INCOME TAXES PAID BY RESIDENTS OF THE CITY TO ANOTHER MUNICIPALITY FROM 1.50% TO 1.60% FOR A PERIOD OF TEN (10) YEARS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

The Chairman declared this to the first of three readings of Resolution No. R-1-22.

The Chairman recognized an audience member to comment on this legislation.

Linda Rink of 3475 Long Road advised she spoke with Mrs. Demaline and Mayor Jensen and asked them a few questions regarding this proposed ballot issue. She said she has some concerns about the funding and the current tax and where that money is going to go for operating of the current parks and recreation department. Ms. Rink inquired if the current parks employees would

be retained. She asked if the City purchases the parkland if it would stay in its natural state or would the City add playgrounds or sports fields. Ms. Rink said the Mayor's response to her was that the intention is to keep it more in its natural state with maybe a few walking paths going through it and that's fine.

Mayor Jensen advised as he mentioned before to her and as he has discussed with Council that areas that are already open may lend themselves for some sports fields or even some playgrounds, but their intention is not to take any trees down and if the possibility is there to even add more trees. He said the City is seeking Tree City USA designation and the parks are an ideal location to continue that viewpoint to have more trees where possible.

Ms. Rink indicated she understood it was up to the landowner to decide what amount they want to sell the property for and that Council discussed in the Work Session regarding not paying more for parkland than a certain percentage over fair market value. She asked what happens to that money designated for parkland if the City does not spend it on purchasing parkland.

Mayor Jensen advised in discussions with Mr. Logan, that money would be put into a Special Revenue Fund that would be kept solely for the purchase of parkland. He said there is a lot of green space still in Avon and the City believes there will be people looking to sell their land in the future although that could be more than ten years away, but that money will be waiting in that fund account for parkland purchases for years to come.

Ms. Rink advised she would keep following this issue before making her decision and she thanked Council for their time.

ADJOURN: 8:45 p.m.

A motion was made by Mr. Moore and seconded by Mr. Radcliffe to adjourn the Special Meeting of Council, and the vote was: Mr. Moore, "yes"; Mr. Radcliffe, "yes"; Mr. Witherspoon, "yes"; Mrs. Demaline, "yes"; Mrs. Holtzmeier, "yes"; Mr. Fischer, "yes".

The vote was 6 for and 0 against and the Chairman declared the motion passed.