

President Pro Tem Bonnie Wurst called the meeting to order at 7:30pm on May 21, 2018 at 701 Parlette Court with the following members present: Jim Neumeier, Daniel E. Lee, Bonnie Wurst, Chad Doll, Rodney Metz, Terry Campbell and Chad Dunlap. Law Director Dennis Faller, Safety Service Director Chad Scott and Mayor Tom Stinebaugh were also present. There were 2 visitors present. President Steve Henderson was absent.

Motion by Doll, second by Campbell to approve the minutes of the May 7, 2018 Council Meeting as submitted. Vote – 7 yeas, 0 nays. Motion passed.

Tourism Commission – Daniel E. Lee noted that there was not a quorum for the scheduled 05-21-2018 meeting. Mr. Lee and Mr. Neumeier suggested that some of the tourism funds could be spent in cleaning up several areas of the city, such as landscaping and weed control. Mayor Stinebaugh noted that there may also be funds for this under one of the budget line items as well. Mr. Neumeier stated that this is just an idea for possible ways to get funding for these kinds of projects prior to the Moon Landing 50th anniversary. Mr. Doll agreed that the Streets & Alleys Committee will discuss this.

President Pro Tem Wurst noted that Utilities Committee did not meet due to lack of quorum.

Streets & Alleys Committee Meeting – a meeting was held on 05-14-2018 and the following was discussed:

On a motion by Metz, second by Neumeier, approved the February 28, 2018 minutes, 3 - 0.

Wehrhan presented information to the committee regarding the procedures for creating a scenic byway through town that would include the Armstrong Boyhood home and the site of the former airfield to the north of town. If approved, there is no cost for the city. Wehrhan indicated he felt the project was worthwhile based upon Armstrong's history alone, and that it might be more appropriate in relation to the upcoming 50th anniversary of the moon landing. The committee was favorable to the idea and Doll and Wehrhan will work together on the first steps of the application process.

Committee discussed concerns regarding weed control in tree lawns, curbs and similar areas. It was agreed that tree lawn issues are the responsibility of property owners, much like mowing and snow shoveling. As to other areas, Metz pointed out restrictions on spraying limiting it to dry seasons. As to issues of manpower, it was suggested that a handful of retired license sprayer exist in the city and perhaps they could be employed to help with this specific task. Committee would also like to see stepped up enforcement of ordinances regarding yard waste in the streets with the hope of helping reduce seeding in curbs and streets.

Committee continued discussion of possible solution to alleyway question from Williams Tax Service. Doll suggested the possibility of reversing the alley's one way direction. This idea alone appears physically possible. Other logistical issues will need to be investigated before any final decision is reached.

Committee discussed resident parking concerns regarding South Pine Street. The concern was over children darting between parked vehicles. The resident wondered if parking could be limited to one side on the entire street. Additional consultation with administration and residents will be necessary. Neumeier noted that many of the yellow no parking curbs near Veterans Park have become very faded and need repainting to be effective. There was also discussion regarding the possibility of adjusting the signal switch delay for the light at Wentz and Bellefontaine. Metz suggested it be made longer before flipping to green when coming off Wentz as he believed that in many cases vehicles are able to turn right well before the light flips and that when it does become green, there is no actual traffic left that needs to pass.

Doll provided a list of proposed wayfinding signs prepared several years ago by a wayfinding sign committee. It was pointed out that the project never took off because it was cost prohibitive. Doll noted the county posted on West Auglaize two wayfinding signs for the fair grounds. They are a much more affordable version. He is seeking an estimate for what it would cost to revive the project with this sign version. The committee was favorable toward the idea of possibly seeking lodging tax dollars for the project.

Clerk McDonald noted that Ms. Liz Burnfield could not attend the Council meeting, and is re-scheduled under 'Guest Petitions' for the June 4th Council Meeting.

Unfinished Business -

Mr. Campbell stated that he discussed the flooding issues happening in the Kah addition / Lincolnview area with Service Director Scott, and would like to recommend that Choice One Engineering be hired to study the area for a remedy to this problem. Mr. Campbell noted, however, that the City likely does not have available funds to do so. Mr. Metz suggested that City Administration obtain a quote from Choice One for the project. Service Director Scott agreed to get a quote for the study.

Mr. Campbell noted the recent emails being sent by Sheriff Solomon regarding potential recreational marijuana legalization, and encouraged everyone to vote 'no' should the matter come to ballot.

Mr. Campbell stated that he has received complaints from area residents regarding trash blowing out of apartment complex dumpsters. Mr. Campbell suggested that said apartment complex owners ought to be contacted and asked to build barriers around their dumpster to prevent this problem. Mr. Neumeier added that the 'used clothing' collection bins have also been a problem, as it appears they have been overflowing for quite some time. Mr. Neumeier suggested that the city contact said company to get these bins cleaned up. Mayor Stinebaugh agreed.

Mr. Neumeier asked if the city's code enforcement officer is communicating with residents who are blowing mowed grass into the streets. Mayor Stinebaugh stated that he is aware of the problem. Mr. Neumeier suggested a warning card or door hanger be left for those who violate this rule. Mr. Lee also suggested that the rule be stated in the next 'Informer' newsletter, as well as on the City Building's electronic sign.

President Pro Tem Wurst asked Clerk to read Ord 2018-28 for the second time re: AN ORDINANCE ENACTED BY THE CITY OF WAPAKONETA OF AUGLAIZE COUNTY, OHIO AUTHORIZING PARTICIPATION IN ODOT COOPERATIVE PURCHASING PROGRAM.

Mr. Neumeier again expressed his concern that this ordinance states that Strawser Construction can purchase goods under the city's name. Service Director Scott replied that other ordinances have been passed by Council with similar wording, and explained that the wording allows the City to obtain a better price through the contractor. Mayor Stinebaugh added that Strawser cannot make purchases under the city's name that are not items contained within the contract. Mr. Scott added that the wording within the ordinance is from ODOT. Law Director Faller explained that Strawser would be like an acting agent in order to purchase supplies through the state program.

President Pro Tem Wurst asked Clerk to read Ord 2018-29 for the second time re: AN ORDINANCE MAKING SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

President Pro Tem Wurst asked Clerk to read Ord 2018-30 for the first time re: AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF WAPAKONETA TO ACCEPT THE PARTIAL ASSIGNMENT OF A CERTAIN OPTION FROM THE WAPAKONETA AREA JOB-READY SITES COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT CORPORATION AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Law Director Faller asked that Council act on said ordinance now, as it is the next step in a series of items that need to be completed to move forward.

Motion by Metz, second by Doll to suspend the rules for Ord 2018-30. Vote – 7 yeas, 0 nays. Motion passed.

Motion by Metz second by Doll to adopt Ord 2018-30. Mr. Campbell then asked for an explanation of the term "certain option" within said ordinance. Law Director Faller answered that this term refers to the option in paragraph 'A' on partial assignment. Vote – 7 yeas, 0 nays. Motion passed.

The Mayor gave the following report:

May 7 – Participated in City Council meeting

May 9 – Met members of Police Dept. to test proposed new equipment

May 9 – Met with Pratt to discuss Electric

May 10 – Participated in CIC Meeting concerning Golden Fresh Farms
May 10 – Met with Pratt concerning electric issues and easements
May 11 – Performed my 2nd marriage ceremony
May 16 – Met with Wastewater to discuss report on flows
May 16 – Met with Pratt to discuss project and timelines
May 18 – Participated in training on new CMI software
May 18 – Met with Minster Bank concerning shredding on June 23, 2018

Mayor Stinebaugh added that he received a letter from the Ohio EPA regarding National Lime & Stone Quarry in Buckland, Ohio, who is requesting a new permit for 'total suspended solids'. Mayor Stinebaugh stated this notice must be posted for 30 days.

Minster Bank and the City of Wapakoneta will be hosting a paper shredding event on June 23rd from 8:00am – 11:00am at City Hall.

Mayor Stinebaugh stated that he spoke with Police Chief Cal Schneider regarding increasing the speed limit to 35mph on Water Street, from the railroad tracks to North Street, as well as on Bellefontaine Street from Cemetery Road to Apollo Drive. Mayor Stinebaugh also requested removal of a "no turn right on red" at Harrison and Defiance intersection. Police Chief Schneider agreed with these changes.

Motion by Lee, second by Neumeier to approve said traffic changes. Vote – 7 yeas, 0 nays. Motion passed.

Mr. Metz asked if the review board for the Façade Program is still in place. Mr. Metz added that some downtown properties have painted or have completed other improvements, but did not first go before the review board. Mayor Stinebaugh stated that said board exists, but he will need to seek further information on how property owners obtain the forms. Mr. Doll explained that though the City of Wapakoneta did not receive the grant for façade improvements, there is still an ordinance in place regarding same.

Service Director report:

Refuse & recycling bids are due by 10:00am on May 22nd. Mr. Scott stated that he feels all of Council should review and decide this matter, not just a committee.

The city will need to order white refuse bags soon, should said services remain 'in-house'. Mr. Lee asked if the city is prepared to explain the comparison of keeping refuse & recycling in-house, compared to bidding it out. Mayor Stinebaugh stated that it all depends on the details of services being offered. Mr. Scott added that the setup of budget line items for funding make it difficult to provide numbers on the possibility of the city purchasing new trucks, tires, equipment and salary needed to keep the service in-house. Mayor Stinebaugh advised that Council will have access to the outside bids submitted prior to the next council meeting.

Mr. Neumeier asked for an update on the West Auglaize Street flooding that residents brought before council at last meeting. Mayor Stinebaugh stated that the contractor did not put a tracer in to locate the fiber optic line in this area. Mayor Stinebaugh stated that in order to put in a swale for drainage in this area, they first must locate the fiber optic line.

Law Director report:

No report.

Miscellaneous Business –

Motion by Doll, second by Metz to enter into executive session at 8:34pm for the purpose of conferring with the Law Director concerning potential disputes involving the City that are the subject of pending litigation or imminent court actions and / or to consider confidential information related to marketing plans, specific business strategy of applicants for economic development assistance and inviting City Administration. Vote – 7 yeas, 0 nays. Motion passed.

Motion by Metz, second by Campbell to exit executive session at 9:05pm.

SCHEDULING OF MEETINGS:

Utilities Committee will meet on May 24th at 6:15pm at City Hall.

Streets & Alleys Committee will meet May 30th at 10:00am at City Hall.

Motion by Doll, second by Metz to adjourn at 9:05pm. Vote – 7 yeas, 0 nays.

President

Clerk of Council