

President Steve Henderson called the meeting to order at 7:30pm on April 5, 2021 with the following members present: Ross Kantner, Daniel E. Lee, Brandon Miller, Chad Doll, John Shepline, Terry Campbell and Chad Dunlap. Mayor Thomas Stinebaugh, Law Director Grant Neal and Safety Service Director Floyd Gregg were also present. Council has now resumed having meetings in person at City Hall and has also begun streaming the meetings on Facebook Live.

Received Income Tax Summary Report for Month Ending 03-31-2021.

Motion by Lee, second by Campbell to approve the minutes of the March 15, 2021 online Council meeting as submitted. Vote – 7 yeas, 0 nays. Motion passed.

Utilities Committee Meeting – a meeting was held on 03-22-2021 and the following was discussed:

The meeting was opened by Dan Lee with a matter brought before the committee by Chad Scott a resident of Wapakoneta. Mr. Scott indicated he had a water issue that was allowed by the city of Wapakoneta to occur. He explained his situation to the committee. After conversation Chad Doll made a motion for the city attorney to investigate the case. This was seconded by Terry Campbell and passed by a 3-0 vote.

With no other discussion the Chad Doll made a motion to adjourn seconded by Terry Campbell. We adjourned with a 3-0 vote at 5:00 pm.

Parks Committee Meeting – a meeting was held on 03-18-2021 and the following was discussed:

Review Minutes of last meeting – December 9, 2020: Motion to approve minutes as presented by Miller. 2nd by Shepline

Brandon Miller – Concerns regarding Koneta Inn Project & proposed memorials

Brandon expressed concerns/thoughts regarding the scope of the project and exposure/effect on community with the change in traffic flow, street closure, etc.

Brandon expressed concerns/thoughts regarding the “park” or “green space” that is planned to be part of the project. He feels the proposed Veterans memorial & the First On the Moon art work may be too much for that space. He feels the proposed Veterans memorial not suited for a busy street, and would be better honored in a more quiet place and the center of attention. Brandon feels Neil Armstrong should be the focus of project.

Kantner clarified that there are 2 issues with the project:

The parking lot & change in traffic flow on Auglaize & Perry Streets

Proposed art work/beautification in the “green space”

Veterans Memorial

First On the Moon art work

Picnic tables / benches

Mayor Stinebaugh commented that this was a “parking lot project”. He did not consider the “green space” as a park, so did not feel it needed to be passed to the Parks Committee.

He wanted to use the land available to help beautify downtown, and have something more than asphalt and cement. He was approached by the Veterans and First on the Moon committee to provide a memorial and art work for the downtown green space. Both parties presented their ideas and proposals to City Council a year ago, and at that time there were no objections to move forward. At that time, it was discussed that both projects could fit in the space. He stated he feels a bit disappointed that concerns are being brought forward now.

Discussion followed regarding the project:

Can a drawing be made public (ie: Facebook) of the parking lot & traffic flow for citizens to see/get an idea? Per Mayor Stinebaugh, he is expecting to receive drawings from the architects, and when he does, he will try to have a drawing made available.

The cost (\$300,000+) will be covered by the Lodging Tax, so will not come from citizens’ taxes.

Regarding the beautification project:

Are there any commitments made to the Veterans &/or FOM regarding their proposals?

Per Mayor Stinebaugh: Since there were no objections when they presented their ideas a year ago, they are moving forward, so yes, there is an inferred commitment for them to proceed, but nothing official. If City Council does not want them to proceed, someone from City Council will need to tell them.

Discussed size of the proposed memorial and art work and if there is “enough” room for both projects to co-exist and not look cluttered or out of place. There appears to be ample space for each of the proposed projects with space for possible picnic table(s) and benches.

Is there conflicting purposes between the Veterans memorial & Neil Armstrong memorial from FOM?

Would Veterans Memorial be better suited off of the busy main street?

Possibly behind town in the new park/gazebo area.

Neil Armstrong was a Korean War Veteran.

Per Dan Lee, Chair of Lodging Tax Committee – he spoke with representatives from the Veterans, and they do not want a “serene, quiet” place for the memorial. They want the busy street exposure.

Committee member Shepline pointed out the appropriateness of the Veterans Memorial being downtown, since we have the “Honor Banners” for veterans throughout the city, culminating with those Killed In Action lining the downtown area.

Following the discussion, all members of Parks Committee believe the parking lot project and beautification should proceed, and would like to see drawings/plans and be reviewed for approval by City Council.

Deb Fischer of Riverside Art Center submitted request with pictures of potential art sculptures to create a “Musical Garden” behind town to coordinate with the Heritage Park Gazebo.

Following the discussion, all members of Parks Committee believe the project should proceed, but would like to see drawings/plans to be reviewed for approval by City Council.

Health & Safety Committee Meeting – a meeting was held on 03-22-2021 and the following was discussed:

The committee approved minutes from the prior two meetings on February 3, 2021 and March 10, 2021.

The committee discussed legislation drafted by Law Director Grant Neal regarding the permission to drive golf carts and side-by-sides on streets with speed limits 35 miles per hour or less within the City of Wapakoneta, OH. Police Chief Calvin Schneider and Mike Roeger spoke at length to express their concerns and opinions on improvements that could be made to the first draft of the ordinance. After this taking their testimony into consideration, the committee decided to recommend the following changes be made from the ordinance’s original form:

1. Updating Section 1 to allow for operation on streets where speed limit is “35 miles per hour or less” rather than “under 35 miles per hour”

a. This update was out of concern that individuals would not be able to get across town or out of their neighborhoods effectively in these vehicles if we restricted to under 35 MPH.

2. Adding a new section that states that the vehicles legalized by this ordinance must obey all motor vehicles laws in the state of Ohio.

a. This update was to make clear that all laws applicable to motor vehicles in the state of Ohio would apply to operators of the vehicles legalized by this ordinance.

The Law Director will draft new version of the legislation to be read for the first time at the April 5, 2021 city council meeting.

New Business –

Motion by Miller, second by Lee to bring Resolution 2021-25 to the floor for its first reading. Vote – 7 yeas, 0 nays. Motion passed.

President Henderson asked Clerk to read Res 2021-12 for the third time re: A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE AMOUNTS AND RATES AS DETERMINED BY THE BUDGET COMMISSION AND AUTHORIZING THE NECESSARY TAX LEVIES AND CERTIFYING THEM TO THE COUNTY AUDITOR.

Motion by Doll, second by Campbell to adopt Res 2021-12. Vote – 7 yeas, 0 nays. Motion passed.

President Henderson asked Clerk to read Ord 2021-13 for the third time re: AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND THE LAW DIRECTOR TO PREPARE AND EXECUTE A CONTRACT

FOR A LAND EXCHANGE FOR A PORTION OF A PARCEL OF REAL PROPERTY LOCATED WITHIN THE CITY LIMITS.

Motion by Doll, second by Dunlap to adopt Ord 2021-13. Vote – 7 yeas, 0 nays. Motion passed.

President Henderson asked Clerk to read Res 2021-15 for the second time re: A RESOLUTION DECLARING THE NECESSITY OF CONSTRUCTING AND/OR REPAIRING CERTAIN SIDEWALKS IN THE CITY OF WAPAKONETA, COUNTY OF AUGLAIZE, STATE OF OHIO.

President Henderson asked Clerk to read Ord 2021-16 for the second time re: AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING JOB TITLES AND PAY RANGES FOR NON-COLLECTIVE BARGAINING UNIT EMPLOYEES OF THE CITY OF WAPAKONETA IN COMPLIANCE WITH CHAPTER 260 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF WAPAKONETA, OHIO.

President Henderson asked Clerk to read Ord 2021-17 for the second time re: AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND DIRECTOR OF LAW TO PREPARE AND EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT TRANSFERRING OWNERSHIP OF A PORTION OF REAL PROPERTY LOCATED WITHIN THE CITY LIMITS TO THE COMMUNITY INVESTMENT CORPORATION.

President Henderson asked Clerk to read Ord 2021-18 for the second time re: AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND DIRECTOR OF LAW TO PREPARE AND EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT TRANSFERRING OWNERSHIP OF A PORTION OF REAL PROPERTY LOCATED WITHIN THE CITY LIMITS TO THE COMMUNITY INVESTMENT CORPORATION.

President Henderson asked Clerk to read Res 2021-21 for the first time re: A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE APPOINTMENT OF CRAIG MOELLER AS REPRESENTATIVE AND APPOINTING ANDY BEANE AS ALTERNATIVE REPRESENTATIVE TO DISTRICT 13 INTEGRATING COMMITTEE FOR ISSUE I CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN.

Motion by Doll, second by Shepline to suspend the rules for Res 2021-21. Vote – 7 yeas, 0 nays. Motion passed.

Motion by Lee, second by Campbell to adopt Res 2021-21. Vote – 7 yeas, 0 nays. Motion passed.

President Henderson asked Clerk to read Ord 2021-22 for the first time re: AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF SAFETY AND SERVICE TO ENTER INTO A PURCHASE AGREEMENT FOR ONE RING-O-MATIC 550 HI CFM VACUUM EXCAVATOR TRAILER.

President Henderson asked Clerk to read Ord 2021-23 for the first time re: AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING CORPORATED PROPERTY IN THE CITY OF WAPAKONETA TO CHANGE COUNTY ADDRESS TO CITY OF WAPAKONETA ADDRESS SYSTEM.

President Henderson asked Clerk to read Ord 2021-24 for the first time re: AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE AND SAFETY TO SET SPECIFICATIONS, ADVERTISE FOR BIDS, A GRIND AND PAVE CONTRACT FOR VARIOUS STREETS WITHIN THE CITY OF WAPAKONETA USING TAX LEVY MONIES.

President Henderson asked Clerk to read Res 2021-25 for the first time re: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE USE OF UNDERSPEED VEHICLES AND MINI-TRUCKS ON THE PUBLIC AND HIGHWAYS OF THE CITY OF WAPAKONETA.

Motion by Miller, second by Campbell to amend Section 5, subsection 3, stating "...seating position on the front seat of an under-speed vehicle..." to instead read "...seating position on all seats of an under-speed vehicle...". Vote – 7 yeas, 0 nays. Motion passed.

The Mayor gave the following report:

Meetings are ongoing regarding the greenspace design for the Koneta Inn parking lot area.

'Musical Park' plan idea is being moved to Belcher Park.

Mr. Campbell stated that the parking spot that will be closest to the Veterans' memorial site needs re-examined to avoid backing accidents.

Mr. Doll asked when the orange construction fence will be removed from behind town. Mayor Stinebaugh stated he was unsure.

Mr. Doll asked for the geese control plan this spring.

Mr. Doll asked for the plan regarding additional government funding. Mayor Stinebaugh is awaiting more information.

Mr. Doll noted that the state of the property at 701 W. Auglaize Street is getting worse. Mayor Stinebaugh answered that the property is bank-owned.

The Service Director gave the following report:

Going live with new software tomorrow.

Mr. Miller again asked for additional trashcans in the DORA district.

The Law Director gave the following report:

Mr. Campbell asked about the CRA application. Mr. Neal stated the form is in place.

Scheduling Committee Meetings:

Lodging Tax Committee will meet on April 19th at 6:15pm at City Hall if needed.

Miscellaneous Business –

Motion by Doll, second by Dunlap to enter into executive session at 7:58pm for conferences with the public body's attorney concerning pending or imminent court action and inviting City Administration. Vote – 7 yeas, 0 nays. Motion passed.

Motion by Doll, second by Lee to exit executive session at 8:48pm. Vote – 7 yeas, 0 nays. Motion passed.

Motion by Doll, second by Kantner to adjourn the meeting at 8:48pm. Vote – 7 yeas, 0 nays. Motion passed.

President

Clerk of Council