

President Pro Tem Chad Doll called the meeting to order at 7:30pm on April 18, 2022 at 701 Parlette Court with the following members present: Ross Kantner, Brandon Miller, Chad Doll, John Sheipline, Terry Campbell and Chad Dunlap. Law Director Grant Neal, Interim Mayor Steve Henderson and Safety Service Director Michael Brillhart were also present. There were 8 visitors present. Councilman Daniel E. Lee was absent.

Motion by Miller, second by Sheipline to approve the minutes of the April 4, 2022 Council meeting as submitted. Vote – 6 yeas, 0 nays. Motion passed.

**Parks Committee** – a meeting was held on 04-07-2022 and the following was discussed:

Reviewed minutes of last meeting – November 8, 2021

Motion to approve minutes: John Sheipline 2nd: Brandon Miller

Reviewed/Discuss “Next action steps from Feb. 22 Parks Committee Meeting:

Temporary Stage in Heritage Park to be left up all season- Approved by Admin.

Permanent Stage – Discussed in Council.

What are next steps to begin?

Heritage Park Stage site review – May 20, 2022 4:00 PM

Chamber Director Jackie Martell, members of Parks Committee, SSD Michael Brillhart, Park Dept. Superintendent Jack Hayzlett

Parkway Project –

Interim Mayor Henderson to speak with Coleman about the lot directly behind the Parkway to discuss possibilities to create a “walkway” to Heritage Park.

Perry St. parking lot “park” – Will be designated as a city park once name is determined.

Name the park: See agenda item below

Parks Committee to participate in beautification project planning: Meeting April 12 at Perry Street parking lot. \*Meeting rescheduled for April 26, 11:00 AM

Parks Director Position - Administration still clarifying position.

Meeting of the Whole identified City Council’s recommendation for a full-time position

Meeting with Administration and Jack Hayzlett scheduled for April 8.

Naming of Perry Street/Downtown “Park”:

Discussed criteria for name.

Honor the Gold Star Memorial as well as the art installation that will be in the space.

Stay away from words related to “hero” as Neil Armstrong had strong feelings against being referred to as a hero.

A name that will be unique.

A name that visitors/tourists will remember.

A name that locals appreciate, such as area heritage/history.

Discussed/Reviewed examples/suggestions/options.

Chose name – Brandon Miller made a motion to recommend to City Council to name the downtown monument park “Legacy Parkplatz”. John Sheipline second. Vote was unanimous.

Other: Jack Hayzlett, Parks Superintendent wanted to address the Parks Committee regarding the recommendation to make his position full-time and to bring us (Parks Committee) up to date with information he will be presenting to Administration.

Jack stated that he currently has 5 part-time seasonal employees for the Park Dept. that range in age from 62 – 70 years old. Though they are very dependable and he has complete confidence in them, there are challenges that go along with a workforce of this age group.

With that being said, Jack is recommending that the City hire a full-time Parks Dept. employee that can learn the things that he does, as well as all the nuances of the Parks, and maintenance at the Waterpark, rather than making him a full-time Director. He believes he can oversee the Parks Dept., develop and implement new programs, and train a future Superintendent with his current part-time hours arrangement, but to insure continuity he believes hiring a full-time employee would make a good succession plan.

Jack updated us on monetary donations to the Parks Department:

WRI will be donating \$10,000 to the Parks this year. \$6,000 will go for a new lawn mower, and \$4,000 to be appropriated to “fence capping”, which is the plastic put on the baseball fields’ fences to protect from the sharp points sticking up.

John Derryberry donated \$150 for Men’s Softball

Jack stated that over 400 boys and girls are signed up to play baseball and/or softball this year.

Following Jack’s update, Committee members discussed his recommendation to hire a full-time employee, and build the department from the bottom up, rather than making him a full-time employee and trying to build the department from the top down. All Committee members acknowledged the value in that thought.

Mr. Campbell asked if Council will be voting on naming the new downtown park from a list of possible names or from one suggested name from the committee. Mr. Kantner answered that the Parks Committee has just one name to recommend to Council, “Legacy Parkplatz”. Mr. Miller clarified that all name ideas submitted were considered by the committee, and Council would need to vote on a resolution to officially name the park. Mr. Campbell pointed out that residents’ park name ideas included the word “legacy” in only two suggestions, while the word “Koneta” was listed in 16 of the suggestions. Mr. Campbell asked why the word “Koneta” was not selected. Mr. Kantner stated that there will be a plaque put in place to explain the history of the ‘Koneta Hotel’. Mr. Kantner added that the committee felt the park name should not show preference to any particular person or group but rather, signify the importance of the entire area. Mr. Miller added that the word “Parkplatz” was suggested because of its uniqueness and its reflection of German heritage. Mr. Dunlap and Mr. Campbell summarized that the history of the ‘Koneta Hotel’ should be included and considered. Service Director Brillhart will write up the resolution for the “Legacy Parkplatz” name suggestion and submit it to City Council for their vote.

**Lodging Tax Committee** – a meeting was held on 04-18-2022 and the following was discussed:

Mayor Henderson summarized the committee meeting in Mr. Lee’s absence. Mayor Henderson noted there were 2 applications for grant funding. Riverside Art Center requests \$3000 to host traveling artists that will demonstrate their talents to the public. Motion by Doll second by Campbell to approve the \$3000 request to Riverside Art Center. Vote – 6 yeas, 0 nays. Motion passed.

Mayor Henderson noted an application for \$2500 in funding from the Auglaize County Historical Society, requesting to use it for QR Code technology, new brochures, and tours of museums and historical sites. Motion by Campbell, second by Miller to approve the \$2500 request to Auglaize County Historical Society. Vote – 6 yeas, 0 nays. Motion passed.

Mayor Henderson added that the Waste Minimization Committee met and are determining costs to purchase additional trash and recycling receptacles for downtown.

#### **Guest Petitions -**

Mr. Logan O’Neill of 238 N. Franklin Street, New Bremen and representing Wapakoneta Area Economic Development Council, addressed Council about the expansion of Flex Machine Tools on Commerce Drive. Mr. Nick Kennedy, President of Flex Machine Tools also addressed Council regarding same and thanked them for their support.

Mr. Dan Dukro of 600 E. Pearl Street addressed Council to voice his opposition to the name “Legacy Parkplatz” for the new downtown park, noting that nothing specific is being remembered or honored if the City chooses a generic word like “legacy”. Mr. Dukro also stated he didn’t understand why the area needed a name at all. Mr. Miller answered that the City needs to name the park so tourists can locate the area on Google Maps.

Mr. Dukro also asked how the City recoups the \$2500 spent for the Auglaize County Historical Society to implement QR codes and what the intent is for using the codes. Mr. Campbell explained that the grant money is utilized to enhance tourism for the City. Mayor Henderson added that the grant request will be used by the Historical Society for numerous other items, such as brochures, historical tours, events, posters and presentations, not just the QR coding.

**New Business -**

Motion by Miller, second by Dunlap to appoint Councilman Terry Campbell to the Tree Commission.  
Vote – 5 yeas, 1 abstain (Campbell), 0 nays. Motion passed.

President Pro Tem Doll asked the Health & Safety Committee to review the new fireworks law going into effect this year in the State of Ohio.

President Pro Tem Doll asked Clerk to read Res 2022-23 for the third time re: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE AND SAFETY TO ENTER INTO A PURCHASE AGREEMENT FOR A YEAR 2021 DODGE RAM 3500 4X4 SERVICE TRUCK THROUGH UTILITY TRUCK EQUIPMENT, INC.

Motion by Miller, second by Campbell to adopt Res 2022-23. Vote – 6 yeas, 0 nays. Motion passed.

President Pro Tem Doll asked Clerk to read Ord 2022-24 for the third time re: AN ORDINANCE MAKING SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion by Campbell, second by Kantner to adopt Ord 2022-24. Vote – 6 yeas, 0 nays. Motion passed.

President Pro Tem Doll asked Clerk to read Res 2022-25 for the second time re: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE AND SAFETY TO PURCHASE A VERSALIFT MODEL VST-6000-I AERIAL TOWER TRUCK FOR THE CITY OF WAPAKONETA ELECTRIC DEPARTMENT.

President Pro Tem Doll asked Clerk to read Ord 2022-26 for the second time re: AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF WAPAKONETA TO REGULATE LOCAL TRAFFIC PURSUANT TO OHIO REVISED CODE SECTION 4511.07.

President Pro Tem Doll asked Clerk to read Ord 2022-27 for the second time re: AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING A CERTAIN PARKING PROHIBITION WITHIN THE CITY LIMITS AND AMENDING SECTION 452.98(A.) “SCHEDULE I: PARKING PROHIBITED” OF THE CITY OF WAPAKONETA CODE OF ORDINANCES AUTHORIZING THE ERECTION OF SIGNS FOR THE ENFORCEMENT OF SAME AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

President Pro Tem Doll asked Clerk to read Ord 2022-28 for the first time re: AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A COMMUNITY REINVESTMENT AREA AGREEMENT WITH MIDWEST SPECIALTIES, INC; AND WRK INDUSTRIES, LLC AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion by Campbell, second by Miller to suspend the rules for Ord 2022-28. Vote – 6 yeas, 0 nays. Motion passed.

Motion by Campbell, second by Dunlap to adopt Ord 2022-28. Vote – 6 yeas, 0 nays. Motion passed.

President Pro Tem Doll asked Clerk to read Ord 2022-29 for the first time re: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 1480.01 “DESIGNATION OF DOWNTOWN PRESERVATION DISTRICT BOUNDARY” OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF WAPAKONETA, OHIO AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion by Sheipline, second by Miller to suspend the rules for Ord 2022-29. Vote – 6 yeas, 0 nays. Motion passed.

Motion by Campbell, second by Miller to adopt Ord 2022-29. Vote – 5 yeas, 1 abstain (Sheipline), 0 nays. Motion passed.

**Mayor report:**

Conference call/meeting with Kristina Altuve of Archive Social to discuss plans of archiving our social media pages in the future.

Met with EITRI again to discuss the dedication of their new solar facility as well as the potential of phase three on their final 14 acres.

Conference call with Madison Investments to finalize details on the ribbon cutting in late June.

Met with Christopher McCabe on site to discuss drainage issues being resolved at the new solar project in Wapakoneta.

Attended the last Recreation Board meeting.  
Attended a Waste Minimization meeting.  
Attended a meeting via Zoom to discuss new trash/recycling receptacles for our downtown and Riverwalk facilities.  
Had a conversation with Stacey Boggs of Pratt Industries regarding commercial cardboard.  
Met with our I.T. director Matt Bell regarding getting all of the city's cameras back online.  
Met with Tammy Colon and Jackie Martell regarding the possibility of extending the parkway walk to connect at the Coleman facility.  
Had a conference call with Nick Kennedy and Mike Burton regarding tax abatements for Mr. Kennedy's new project/investment in Wapakoneta.  
Attended a Wapakoneta Economic Development meeting.  
Attended a meeting with Logan O'Neill, Michael Brillhart, Mary Ruck, Levi Cecil, a member of the DOC as well as representatives of Project Florence.  
Had a follow up conference call regarding Project Florence.  
Met with Jack Hayzlett to discuss options and input regarding that position going forward.  
Met with Barb Harrod to discuss upcoming First Friday's events in Wapakoneta.  
Met with Marlene Froning regarding her upcoming Bicycle Safety event slated for May 14th at 10:00 a.m.  
Attended a Lodging Tax committee meeting.  
Attended a Tree Commission meeting.  
Had a conference call with Erica Preston to iron out the details of a proposed agreement with the county for Wapakoneta's commercial cardboard moving forward. Further, we discussed a phase two proposal for the Lima street building that is marked for demolition.

Mr. Campbell clarified that the residential curbside recycling will remain the same, and only the commercial cardboard arrangement is changing. Mayor Henderson replied, correct.  
Mr. Miller requested that Jack Hayzlett provide a presentation to the Parks Committee regarding his ideas for the scope of the 'Parks Director' job position.  
Mr. Campbell asked for further on the conversation with Christopher McCabe regarding drainage issues. Mayor Henderson stated these issues will be fixed. Mr. Campbell replied that the current site needs to be correct before the City allows them to proceed with Phase 3.  
Mr. Campbell asked for clarification that the "Lima Street Building" is the "muffler shop". Mayor Henderson replied, correct.

#### **Service Director report:**

Community Housing Impact & Preservation (CHIP) information will be posted on the City's website to allow people the ability to pre-apply for financial assistance.  
ODOT will be doing bridge repair beginning April 25 on the Blackhoof Street bridge over the Auglaize River.  
Groundbreaking ceremony for the Water Reclamation Facility is tomorrow at 10am.  
Fireworks legislation from the State of Ohio was supplied for Council's review.

Mr. Dunlap asked SSD Brillhart to follow up with Mr. John Wehner at 802 Dearbaugh Avenue regarding sewage issues.

#### **Law Director report:**

No report.  
Mr. Campbell asked for an update on the "Designated Outdoor Refreshment Area" boundary changes. Law Director Neal advised no update at this time.

#### **Scheduling Committee Meetings:**

Streets & Alleys Committee will meet on April 26<sup>th</sup> at 6pm at City Hall.  
Health & Safety Committee will meet on April 21<sup>st</sup> at 6pm at City Hall.

#### **Miscellaneous Business:**

Mayor Henderson noted the Tree Commission will be meeting on Wednesday at 4pm with the Urban Forester Stephanie Miller.

Motion by Dunlap, second by Campbell to adjourn the meeting at 8:15pm. Vote – 6 yeas, 0 nays. Motion passed.

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President Pro Tem

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Clerk of Council