

President Pro Tem Chad Doll called the meeting to order at 7:30pm on May 16, 2022 at 701 Parlette Court with the following members present: Ross Kantner, Daniel E. Lee, Brandon Miller, Chad Doll, John Shepline and Terry Campbell. Law Director Grant Neal, Interim Mayor Steve Henderson and Safety Service Director Michael Brillhart were also present. There were 10 visitors present. Councilman Chad Dunlap was absent.

Mr. Kantner noted an error in a committee report title within the Council meeting minutes from May 2, 2022. Clerk McDonald will make that correction. Motion by Campbell, second by Shepline to approve the minutes of the May 2, 2022 Council meeting as corrected. Vote – 6 yeas, 0 nays. Motion passed.

Health & Safety Committee – a meeting was held on 05-05-2022 and the following was discussed:

Legislation to legalize the discharge of fireworks in Ohio

Ohio House Bill 172 passed the Ohio House of Representatives and the Ohio Senate in 2021 with Governor Mike DeWine signing the bill on November 8, 2021. This legislation will take effect on July 1, 2022, and will:

- allow Ohioans to buy, possess and discharge 1.4G fireworks on their own property or others' property with permission
- legalize discharge 24 hours/day (unless local governments take action to ban or restrict the dates/times further) around the times of 14 holidays each year: New Year's Day; Chinese New Year; Cinco de Mayo; Memorial Day weekend; Juneteenth; July 3, 4, and 5; and the Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays preceding the following: Labor Day weekend; Diwali; and New Year's Eve
- allow fountain devices (a type of 1.4G firework which contains up to 500 grams of "pyrotechnic mixture") to be sold in retail locations submitting a \$25 license fee that are approved by the state fire marshal
- allow counties, cities and some townships to either ban fireworks or restrict the times and dates that consumers can discharge fireworks

Current Ohio Law:

- provides for the sale and use of trick and novelty fireworks (anything that goes snap, crackle or pop – including sparklers) that are widely available in grocery and department stores

In consideration of public health and safety for citizens, residents, businesses, and visitors in the City of Wapakoneta, the city is currently analyzing and considering restrictive measures specific to the possession, discharge, igniting, or exploding of fireworks within the City's corporate limits. The Health and Safety Committee will be scheduling a follow-up meeting to put together any restrictive measures that they will be recommending to City Council for formal adoption via ordinance.

Parks Committee – a meeting was held on 05-06-2022 and the following was discussed:

Review minutes of last meeting – April 7, 2022

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

Review/Discussion on "Follow up" from April 7 Parks Committee Meeting:

Permanent Stage - What are next steps?

Site visit scheduled for May 20 with Jackie Martell, Jack Hayzlett, and Michael Brillhart.

Following site visit we will need to decide how to proceed with:

- Drawings/plans
- Construction estimates
- Funding

Parkway Project –

Update – Per Interim Mayor Henderson - possibilities to create a "walkway" to Heritage Park are very good.

No update available as neither Steve nor Michael were present.

Perry St. parking lot "park" – - Legislation to name "Legacy Parkplatz" in process.

Beautification project planning meeting of April 12 on site.

Review of things discussed/decided:

Trees/plants to be planted in the fall

Can Blaine Kohler be contracted as consultant for choosing, planting, and maintaining plants in this project?

Curb at south end of exiting parking lot to be modified.

Light post change?

Parks Committee would ask City to consider changing the lights in Legacy Parkplatz to be of the design of the one on the west side (next to the gun shop).

Brought to the attention of Parks Committee that the owners of the old "Koneta Hotel" sign are willing to restore the lights and loan the sign to the City to be part of the Legacy Parkplatz.

Parks Committee recommends City to get input from "Beautification Committee" as well as a landscape architect to see how to incorporate the sign into the park.

Parks Director Position - Administration still clarifying position.

Parks Committee's unanimous recommendation is that City add a full-time employee to Parks Department.

Discussed budget constraints/concerns of hiring full-time Parks employee on City

Budget?

Still confusion/different opinions on how Parks Department is funded and overseen by Rec Board.

Do we need to go into Executive Session at next Council meeting to discuss

Personnel decision/action steps?

Review/Discussion on Parks Director-WaterPark jobs/responsibilities:

Jack provided summary of his recommendation for re-structuring Parks and Rec Department. He also provided a couple examples of job descriptions from other communities.

Jack provided brief update of proposed "Splash Pad" at Veterans Park.

Jack provided update on progress of preparing the WaterPark for summer season.

Biggest problem is getting the pool painted due to weather and not being able to get the black epoxy paint.

(Update) – Jack was able to get the black paint and weather has cooperated.

Lodging Tax Committee – a meeting was held on 05-16-2022 to review three applications.

Motion by Lee, second by Campbell to approve the request of \$5788 from the First on the Moon project to complete beautification, marketing, utility box wrapping, brochures and replacement helmet lens. Vote – 6 yeas, 0 nays. Motion passed.

Motion by Lee, second by Miller to approve the request of \$11,200 from the Neil Armstrong Air & Space Museum to fund a laser light show event, as well as a 'kid's bouncy house' for the Summer Moon Festival. Vote – 6 yeas, 0 nays. Motion passed.

Motion by Lee, second by Miller to approve the request of \$12,050 from the Waste Minimization Committee to purchase recycling receptacles for the downtown area. Mr. Miller requested that any future 'Designated Outdoor Refreshment Area' legislation include a requirement that all DORA cups be recyclable. Vote – 6 yeas, 0 nays. Motion passed.

Communications –

Mayor Henderson then read a Proclamation for Mental Health month.

Clerk McDonald noted the records book preservation project is complete, with 13 volumes of Wapakoneta's earliest Council meeting minutes, ordinances and resolutions dating back to 1853 are now preserved and digitized for future generations. Clerk McDonald displayed the finished books for Council's review.

Guest Petitions -

Ms. Becky Niekamp of 1100 Timber Trail addressed Council to request permission for road closures during the 'Firecracker 5k Race' on July 4th, 2022.

Motion by Lee, second by Sheipline to approve the request. Vote – 6 yeas, 0 nays. Motion passed.

Mr. Josh Little of 15881 Sunset Blvd and representing the Wapak YMCA addressed Council to provide an update on the Wapak Water Park. Mr. Little announced that the Wapak Water Park will be open seven days a week, from Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day weekend. Mr. Little provided updates about staffing, training, membership costs and maintenance details.

Mrs. Linda Knerr of 312 E. Mechanic Street addressed Council about her concern regarding the burned down home on Mechanic Street. Mr. Campbell advised the structure will soon be demolished.

President Pro Tem Doll asked Clerk to read Res 2022-31 for the second time re: A RESOLUTION NAMING THE CITY OWNED PARK AND PLAZA LOCATED ON THE SOUTHSIDE OF THE 100 BLOCK OF EAST AUGLAIZE STREET AS "LEGACY PARKPLATZ" AND DESIGNATING A NEW STREET ADDRESS.

President Pro Tem Doll asked Clerk to read Ord 2022-33 for the first time re: AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A COMMUNITY REINVESTMENT AREA AGREEMENT WITH DEARBAUGH PLACE, LLC AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion by Campbell, second by Lee to suspend the rules for Ord 2022-33. Vote – 6 yeas, 0 nays. Motion passed.

Motion by Miller, second by Campbell to adopt Ord 2022-33. Vote – 6 yeas, 0 nays. Motion passed.

President Pro Tem Doll asked Clerk to read Res 2022-34 for the first time re: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF SAFETY AND SERVICE TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT WITH THE PUSHETA TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES FOR FURNISHING OF FIRE PROTECTION AND AMBULANCE SERVICE AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Fire Chief Sammetinger explained to Council that this was a new contract.

President Pro Tem Doll asked Clerk to read Ord 2022-35 for the first time re: AN ORDINANCE MAKING SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

President Pro Tem Doll asked Clerk to read Ord 2022-36 for the first time re: AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF REAL PROPERTY LOCATED IN THE CITY OF WAPAKONETA AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion by Lee, second by Campbell to suspend the rules for Ord 2022-36. Vote – 6 yeas, 0 nays. Motion passed.

Motion by Lee, second by Miller to adopt Ord 2022-36. Vote – 6 yeas, 0 nays. Motion passed.

President Pro Tem Doll asked Clerk to read Ord 2022-37 for the first time re: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 260.18 (I) "SICK LEAVE" OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF WAPAKONETA, OHIO AND SECTION 5.02(A)(1)(A) OF THE PERSONNEL POLICY AND PROCEDURE MANUAL FOR NON-COLLECTIVE BARGAINING UNIT EMPLOYEES.

Mayor report:

Attended and toured the Wapakoneta Waterpark/Facility with Jack Hayzlett, Jay Sweede and Brandon Miller.

Two conference calls with Amp Ohio.

Met with School Superintendent Aaron Rex regarding students painting a mural on a storage facility at the new EITRI Foundry Solar facility .

Attended the May WAEDC meeting.

Attended the National Day of Prayer event.

Made a short video for the Why Wapakoneta page with Treg Raines.

Performed my third wedding ceremony at the rock garden.

Attended a Tree Commission sub-committee meeting.

Conference call with Bill Thomas and Marlene Froning regarding the logistics for Bicycle Safety day.

Would have been 14th annual, however due to covid this was the 12th year.

Kicked off the Bicycle Safety Day and bike rodeo...this was very well attended!

Walked the EITRI site once again with Christopher McCabe.

Met with Tammie Colon regarding the proclamation for the month of May being Mental Health awareness month.

Spoke at the Rotary meeting with Justin Waid regarding the new Water Reclamation Facility.

Attended a CIC Board meeting.

Met with Mike Burton regarding upcoming CRA agreements.

Met with Bill Thomas about the placement of trash and recycling receptacles to be placed at the new location of the dog park.

Met with Steve Davis, President of the Madison Place Condominium Association. Further, had discussions with attorney Mike Burton regarding possible purchase of city property, and possible CRA agreement.

I was happy to speak on behalf of our fine city at the Chamber of Commerce's State of the City, County and Schools.

Met with Logan O'Neill regarding the possible purchase of a Brownfield site. Also had a conference call with the owners and potential investment in Wapakoneta ... "Project Florence"

Attended a Tree Commission re-organization meeting.

Had a conference call with Joey Boston of Efficiency Smart.

Attended a meeting with Ross Kantner and Michael Brillhart regarding a new Park Commission.

Spoke with Pat Hire, consultant with Clemons/Nelson regarding non-collective bargaining employees.

Attended a Lodging Tax Committee meeting.

Spoke with Carol Erb regarding a no outlet sign on Wheeler Lane...the current sign is fading and needs to be replaced.

Mayor Henderson then rose a point of order regarding resident Mr. Ken Steinke, (address not provided) who had just distributed a 12 page document of complaints to each Council member, the Clerk and City Administration, and then departed Council Chambers. Mayor Henderson put the matter into the Streets & Alleys Committee for review.

Service Director report:

Service Director Brillhart noted that he is working with Police Chief Schneider on developing some recommended restrictions regarding the new fireworks legislation.

Mr. Brillhart noted additional port-a-johns will be supplied in Heritage Park for the 'Party in the Park' concert series.

Mr. Brillhart noted the 'mill and pave' projects for 2022.

Finance Committee meeting is requested to discuss ARPA funds.

Mr. Shepline asked for a timeframe on getting the West Benton Street landscaping complete. Service Director Brillhart answered, approximately 2 weeks.

Mr. Lee asked for an update on Silver Street. Mr. Brillhart answered that the project will be done by October 2022.

Mr. Doll asked for an update on the 701 W. Auglaize Street property. Mr. Brillhart stated the owners are still considering their options.

Mr. Campbell asked that the police department keep a close eye on the construction supplies for Silver Street.

Mrs. Linda Knerr of 312 E. Mechanic Street asked about the plans for Water Street. Service Director Brillhart answered that construction will begin in 2023 and occur for two seasons.

Law Director report:

The next step for the DORA expansion is to schedule a public hearing. Clerk McDonald will work with Mr. Neal to complete this step. Mr. Campbell noted that the expansion will include Lee's Chicken restaurant within the DORA boundary lines.

Scheduling Committee Meetings:

Lodging Tax Committee will meet on June 20th at 6:15pm at City Hall.

Streets & Alleys Committee will meet on May 31st at 5pm at City Hall.

Finance Committee will meet on May 26th at 4:30pm at City Hall.

Miscellaneous Business:

Mr. Doll reminded everyone that the memorial dedication at Legacy Parkplatz will occur at the beginning of June.

Mr. Miller stated no executive session is needed for this evening.

Motion by Campbell, second by Lee to adjourn the meeting at 8:14pm. Vote – 6 yeas, 0 nays. Motion passed.

President Pro Tem

Clerk of Council