

President Pro Tem Chad Doll called the meeting to order at 7:30pm on July 18, 2022 at 701 Parlette Court with the following members present: Ross Kantner, Daniel E. Lee, Brandon Miller, Chad Doll, John Shepline, Terry Campbell and Chad Dunlap. Interim Mayor Steve Henderson, Law Director Grant Neal and Safety Service Director Michael Brillhart were also present. There were 14 visitors present.

Motion by Miller, second by Campbell to approve the minutes of the July 5, 2022 Council meeting as submitted. Vote – 7 yeas, 0 nays. Motion passed.

**Lodging Tax Committee** – Mr. Lee summarized a meeting held on 07-18-2022. The committee received a request for funding in the amount of \$40,714.70 for ‘Children’s Hometown Holiday’ supplies and decorations. The funds would be utilized to purchase permanent improvements for the annual event, including: a giant artificial Christmas tree for the downtown area, four 12-foot tall nutcracker statues and signage. Motion by Lee, second by Miller to approve the request for funding of \$40,714.70 to ‘Children’s Hometown Holiday’. Vote – 7 yeas, 0 nays. Motion passed.

#### **Guest Petitions -**

Mr. Jim Neumeier of 708 W. Auglaize Street addressed Council to ask for specifics on how the ½ percent income tax monies have been used. Mr. Neumeier noted that the funds were supposed to have been spent on grind and pave street projects only, and requested to see the figures spent. Mayor Henderson agreed to get Mr. Neumeier the figures he is requesting.

Mr. Tom Fischer of 911 Carnation Drive asked for clarification on monies from the Benton Street project that were supposed to go into grind and pave funding. Service Director Brillhart answered that a combination of City and State funding was used for Benton Street improvements. Mr. Brillhart added that curbs and gutters are required on some of the street projects to prevent drainage problems. Mr. Brillhart further explained that sidewalk construction has its own account and general fund dollars may be used for this, but the ½ percent income tax will not be used for sidewalks.

Mr. Kenneth Steinke of 917 Neil Armstrong Drive addressed Council about a large patch of thistle weeds on City-owned property behind him that needs mowed. Mr. Steinke showed Council photos of the property area. Mayor Henderson answered that he spoke with Code Enforcement Officer Paul Eisert about the matter and it will be taken care of shortly.

#### **Unfinished Business -**

Mr. Campbell reminded Council of the request for additional School Resource Officers and noted that the Village of Cridersville has approved same.

Mr. Kantner asked about the possible conflict in having members John Hassenauer and Nick Sammetinger serve on both the Zoning and Planning Boards. Law Director Neal answered that the Ohio Ethics Commission advised against this and other members should be sought.

Mr. Campbell received a complaint from a property owner stating they were not notified by the City in advance of sidewalk installation at their property. Mr. Campbell asked City Administration to consider notifying residents in the future.

Mr. Kantner stated he would like Mary Ruck of the Engineering Department and Auditor Wilbur Wells to explain to Council how sidewalk construction is being paid for through the General Fund or grants. Mr. Kantner then read portions of Resolution 2022-18 and reiterated that he has concerns about how sidewalks will be funded and approved.

President Pro Tem Doll asked Clerk to read Ord 2022-44 for the second time re: AN ORDINANCE ENACTED BY THE CITY OF WAPAKONETA AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE AND SAFETY TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH TSC, A HANSON COMMUNICATIONS

COMPANY, FOR THE INSTALLATION OF A FIBER OPTIC BACKBONE BETWEEN THE CITY HALL COMPLEX AND THE MUNICIPAL ELECTRIC DEPARTMENT.

President Pro Tem Doll asked Clerk to read Res 2022-45 for the second time re: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE AND SAFETY TO ENTER INTO AN EQUIPMENT PURCHASE AGREEMENT FOR A SPLASH PAD AT VETERANS PARK THROUGH DAVID WILLIAMS RECREATION.

President Pro Tem Doll asked Clerk to read Ord 2022-46 for the first time re: AN ORDINANCE MAKING SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

**Mayor report:**

No report.

Mr. Shepline noted that at 816 W. Auglaize Street, a few blow-outs of sewage have occurred in the South Interceptor that runs along the river, particularly after a large amount of rain. Mayor Henderson replied that he is meeting with department heads in the upcoming week and will address the matter.

Mr. Doll asked for an update on the building that used to house 'Lloyd's Barber Shop' on Auglaize Street. Mayor Henderson agreed to discuss this at the upcoming Planning Commission meeting.

Mr. Doll asked for an update on 701 W. Auglaize Street property. Mayor Henderson stated, no update.

**Service Director report:**

Service Director Brillhart briefly reviewed the status of the Veteran's Splash Pad project, WaterPark equipment replacement grant, John Courtney presentation about utilities, and the mill and pave project list. Parks & Recreation Commission is seeking another member.

Mr. Lee asked for an update on sidewalk replacement at 1001 Springwood Lane. Mr. Brillhart stated it should be completed by the end of the week.

**Law Director report:**

Currently in communications with the Tree Commission to update ordinance. Mr. Miller asked for a copy of this update by next week.

Mr. Lee asked for an update on 404 W. Auglaize Street. Law Director Neal advised there are issues with leasing the ground for the purposes requested.

**Scheduling Committee Meetings:**

Committee of the Whole will meet on July 25<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm at City Hall with John Courtney of Courtney Associates to discuss utilities.

Lodging Tax will meet on August 15<sup>th</sup> at 6:15p at City Hall as needed.

Streets & Alleys will meet on July 26<sup>th</sup> at 2pm at City Hall.

Health & Safety will meet on July 22<sup>nd</sup> at 4:15pm at City Hall.

**Miscellaneous Business:**

Motion by Miller, second by Campbell to enter executive session at 8:31pm to consider the compensation of a public employee or official. Vote – 7 yeas, 0 nays. Motion passed.

Motion by Miller, second by Dunlap to exit executive session at 8:45pm. Vote – 7 yeas, 0 nays. Motion passed.

Motion by Miller, second by Shepline to adjourn the meeting at 8:30pm. Vote – 7 yeas, 0 nays. Motion passed.

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President Pro Tem

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Clerk of Council

