

President Pro Tem Chad Doll called the meeting to order at 7:30pm on August 1, 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 and Safety Service Director Michael Brillhart were also present. There were 14 visitors present. Law Director Grant Neal was absent.

Received Income Tax Summary Report for Month Ending 07-31-2022.

Motion by Campbell, second by Shepline to approve the minutes of the July 18, 2022 Council meeting as submitted. Vote – 7 yeas, 0 nays. Motion passed.

**Committee of the Whole** – a meeting was held on 07-25-2022 and the following was discussed:

Mr. Courtney shared a PowerPoint presentation giving an overview of the city's electric portfolio, graphs of cost and usage, and other basic electric utility information. Courtney & Wieging also fielded questions from councilors about the presentation. At the end of the presentation, Courtney suggested the city might want to consider new strategies for peak shaving power usage and perhaps consider creating battery storage to help in this process.

There was a brief review of the city's water rates to users outside of the city limits. Questions have been raised as to why that rate was set at 200% in a 2004 ordinance. Mr. Courtney had no additional insights as to the logic behind it. No current city councilors were serving then. Council has asked administration to have the water department review this rate and investigate if lowering it would cause problems to that department. There are less than 100 users on this rate.

**Streets & Alleys Committee Meeting** – a meeting was held on 07-26-2022 and the following was discussed:

1. Potential for Pedestrian Crossing Signs on both sides of crosswalk on Hamilton Rd. next to the Football Stadium

a. Kimberly Dunnigan approached the committee with concerns that cars are not stopping properly to allow for safe crossing of the Hamilton Rd. crosswalk near the football field. There was question as to legality of the city placing such signs due to one side of the street being county maintained. Mr. Campbell spoke with the county engineer who was very supportive of the city installing signage to improve safety. Motion by Miller, second by Campbell to install Pedestrian Crossing signs on both sides of this crosswalk and to re-paint the crosswalk. Motion passed unanimously.

2. Discussion of Requests by Dave Thompson on Haynes St. Project

a. The committee discussed the letter that Dave Thompson wrote to SSD Brillhart regarding his requests in exchange for allowing the city to utilize the right of way on his privately owned road near Haynes St. After looking at the strategic plan, the committee determined that the Haynes St. project was not eligible for any current grants and would not be a project that we would want to prioritize ahead of other more crucial projects within the city. Given this, there was a motion by Lee, second by Campbell to table the Haynes St. project until more information may deem it more crucial. Motion passed unanimously.

3. Questions Regarding Sidewalk Installation on Woodlawn Drive

a. The committee asked SSD Brillhart for details regarding the sidewalks that were installed along Woodlawn drive. SSD Brillhart explained that the sidewalks were recommended by bid sheet/statement of work as part of the grind and pave project for Woodlawn Drive, but that the money for the sidewalks did not come from 0.5% levy money. This money came from fund 301-420-55117 that is usually used for sidewalk maintenance. This fund was chosen because engineering and administration deemed it the most appropriate fund for the sidewalk installation on Woodlawn. SSD Brillhart stated that if development were ever completed along Rt. 501 south of Woodlawn, the city would consider extending the sidewalk along 501. Also, SSD Brillhart stated that the future plans for grind and paves would be sent to the Streets and Alleys committee each year to review, and that if any additional money will be spent outside of the 0.5% levy money within a grind and pave project, a resolution will be drafted for council approval to avoid communication issues moving forward.

4. Street Levy Documentation

a. The committee determined, after receiving examples of levy advertising, that the advertising for the 0.5% street levy was consistent with the language in the ordinance. We also determined from Interim Mayor Henderson that concerned community members were provided a breakout of the 0.5% fund allocation as requested.

#### 5. Signage Order Updates

a. SSD Brillhart updated the committee that the Stoneybrook signage was on order, and that the signage for Leon Pratt Drive is installed.

#### 6. Tree Commission Ordinance Discussion

a. The committee reviewed a proposed set of ordinance updates recommended from the Tree Commission. After discussion, the committee has its own recommendations of how to improve the ordinance that can be discussed with current Tree Commission members. These suggestions are as follows:

i. Members of the Tree Commission should not have to live within the city limits of Wapakoneta

ii. Superintendent or departmental designee of both electric and parks department should be on the Tree Commission so that coordination is easier between departments

iii. The Mayor or Mayor's designee does not need to be on the committee

iv. Reduce the number of outside citizens with voting rights in the committee to 2 members (5 members total in the Tree Commission). This is to make the committee more agile in its actions.

b. We also discussed the potential for a temporary committee to be appointed by the mayor to work with Keep Ohio Beautiful for beautification of Legacy Parkplatz.

#### 7. Potential for "Parklet" near Legacy Parkplatz

a. Mr. Lee brought up the potential for a "Parklet" near the Parkplatz. This is a temporary seating area that could be put up during the summer and be removed in the winter time. People could sit within the enclosed "Parklet" and enjoy the art and monuments while enjoying a meal or drink. The committee and administration are researching potential ideas.

**Health & Safety Committee Meeting** – a meeting was held on 07-22-2022 and the following was discussed:

Mike and Shelly Nagel requested a Health and Safety Committee Meeting, requesting the pool fence height requirement be lowered from 6' to 4', and provided multiple reasons why that should be the case. This request is being made after an attempt to get a variance from the zoning committee was denied. A few of those reasons are 1.) The insurance industry standard for a pool fence height is 4' in height. 2.) Multiple residents in the city have pools with less fence height, with some pools having zero fence and were approved previously by the zoning committee. (The zero fence situations d have locking pool covers) 3.) The fence along the River Walk that was recently installed as a safety measure, is in fact 4' in height. 4.) Due to supply issues the materials to have a 6' fence installed wouldn't be available until sometime next year.

After a brief discussion with our Code Enforcement Officer and Fire Chief, Dan Lee made the recommendation to recommend that council have the required pool fence height changed from 6' in height to 4' and if passed, that it is done so as an emergency so they can begin the process of acquiring the materials for their fencing as soon as possible. This recommendation was seconded by Dunlap.

#### **Communications -**

Mr. Campbell stated that regarding the request for additional School Resource Officers, the Wapakoneta Police Department has potential candidates and funding has been discussed with Auditor Wells and the Finance Committee.

Mr. Campbell stated that the Tree Commission did a tree inspection on Water Street and will conduct another inspection to determine trees needed on Benton Street.

#### **Guest Petitions -**

Mr. Rex Katterheinrich of 1107 Poppy Drive and former Safety Service Director for the City of Wapakoneta, addressed Council about Ordinance 2004-57 in which water rates for those outside the City limits were calculated. Mr. Katterheinrich provided Council with a copy of a memo he wrote regarding same, dated December 2, 2004.

Mr. Daniel Wilson of 15751 Belair Place then addressed Council, asking if water rates were also increased for residents living inside the City limits. Mr. Katterheinrich replied, yes. Mr. Wilson asked why there should be such an exorbitant difference in rates for those living outside of the City limits. Mr. Wilson also stated that property owners were not notified in advance of the fire hydrants being flushed. Mr. Campbell noted that he feels it is time for the Utilities Committee to revisit the matter of water rates with Courtney & Associates.

Mr. Anthony Brookhart of 301 Willipie Street and representing St. Paul United Church of Christ at 101 Perry Street, requested Council's permission for a road closure on Main Street from Blackhoof to Perry Street on September 17<sup>th</sup> from 9am to 7pm for their annual Fall Festival event. Motion by Dunlap, second by Sheipline to approve the request with the proper insurance documentation. Vote – 7 yeas, 0 nays. Motion passed.

Mr. Victor Rosengarten of 910 Daisy Drive addressed Council about the state of the abandoned home at 909 Daisy Drive, noting it is attracting rodents and is detrimental to property values. Mayor Henderson explained that Medicare has a lien on 909 Daisy Drive.

Mr. Rosengarten also stated that the retention pond behind his property is in need of weed control. Mayor Henderson replied that he will communicate same to Code Enforcement Officer Paul Eisert.

Mr. Chad Fleck of 504 W. Benton Street asked Council to consider installing turning light arrows for the east and west traffic at the intersection of Bellefontaine Street and Apollo Drive. President Pro Tem Doll asked Safety Service Director Brillhart to check into this traffic light change.

Mrs. Amy Kentner of 11811 Lakeview Drive requested Council's permission for road closures on Willipie Street from Auglaize to Mechanic Streets for August 27<sup>th</sup> from 7am to 11:30am for a 'Back to the Future' run. Motion by Lee, second by Campbell to approve the request with the proper insurance documentation. Vote – 7 yeas, 0 nays. Motion passed.

Mr. Dennis Grothouse of 404 Woodlawn Drive addressed Council about the lack of notification to property owners about sidewalk installation. Additionally, Mr. Grothouse noted that the sidewalk installation on his property is 10 inches over the easement line. Mayor Henderson apologized for the lack of notification to residents and businesses, noting that because property owners were not being charged for the sidewalk installation the Engineering Department was not required to send notification letters. Mayor Henderson stated that in the future, property owners will be notified in advance of sidewalk installation.

#### **New Business -**

Mr. Doll noted that the Waste Minimization Committee is seeking another member. Mayor Henderson added that the Zoning Committee also needs two new members.

Mr. Kantner asked for further explanation on documents provided to Council by Mr. Doll about sidewalks and tax levy totals. Mr. Doll explained that he provided sample ballots regarding the street levy, past ordinances, emails and attachments from former SSD Floyd Gregg and transfer amounts from the general fund. Mr. Miller added that in the future, separate ordinances will be provided to Council if there are changes or additions to a grind and pave project. Mr. Kantner stated he felt Res 2022-18 was for the purposes of street improvement, not sidewalks. Mr. Kantner asked for copies of the bid sheets for said street improvements. Mayor Henderson and Mr. Miller stated that the Engineering Department have these answers but were unable to attend the Council meeting.

President Pro Tem Doll asked Clerk to read Ord 2022-44 for the third 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.

Motion by Miller, second by Lee to adopt Ord 2022-44. Vote – 7 yeas, 0 nays. Motion passed.

President Pro Tem Doll asked Clerk to read Res 2022-45 for the third 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.

Motion by Lee, second by Campbell to adopt Res 2022-45. Vote – 7 yeas, 0 nays. Motion passed.

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

President Pro Tem Doll asked Clerk to read Res 2022-47 for the first time re: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE APPOINTMENT OF A TEMPORARY COMMITTEE TO IDENTIFY TREE AND LANDSCAPING MATERIALS FOR THE PLANTING AREAS AT LEGACY PARKPLATZ AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion by Campbell, second by Lee to suspend the rules for Res 2022-47. Vote – 7 yeas, 0 nays. Motion passed.

Motion by Dunlap, second by Lee to adopt Res 2022-47. Vote – 6 yeas, 0 nays, 1 abstain (Miller). Motion passed.

### **Mayor report:**

Met with Michael Brillhart, Terri Rohrbacher and Cassi Schellenberg to discuss the current recession we are experiencing and what administration could possibly do for our city employees.

Met with Joey Boston of Efficiency Smart to discuss the city's Q 2 results.

I had the pleasure of speaking and re-dedicating the Armstrong Air and Space Museum 50 years to the day later as well as attending the ribbon cutting at the museum for the newest Leer Jet project that recently came to fruition.

Attended a Zoom meeting and two conference calls with Lian Nieu and his team regarding the phase three proposal for EITRI Foundry.

Attended the Summer Moon Festival on behalf of the city Friday and Saturday evenings.

Attended a Zoom meeting with Michael Bierne and the OMEA board of directors.

Conference call with Brian Hickmann OMEA.

Attended a Zoom meeting with AMP Ohio and Senator Sherrod Brown. Conference calls with Sam Wolfe of AMP.

Renewed the city's board agreement with OMEA.

Attended a virtual meeting on behalf of the city with the OMEA board of directors executive committee.

Attended a Board of Zoning Appeals meeting.

Attended a Planning Commission meeting.

Attended a Streets and Alleys committee meeting.

Attended an Armstrong Air and Space Museum board of directors meeting.

I did hear and spoke with several downtown business owners regarding sidewalk replacement work being performed. These owners were unaware of the start date. I promise communication will be much better for our businesses and citizens.

Met with Michel Brillhart and Grant Neal regarding a resolution being written for Council to decide this evening authorizing me to appoint a temporary committee to identify tree and landscaping materials for the planting areas at Legacy Park Platz.

Attended the Council meeting as a whole committee meeting to discuss power rates/distribution as well as water rates for citizens located outside the city limits. John Courtney and Scott Wiegung were in attendance and provided everyone with an excellent Power Point Presentation!

Further, I had several follow up meetings with Wapakoneta's past Director of Safety and Services, Mr. Rex Katterheinrich. Rex was able to attend the Council as a whole committee meeting. I believe he answered many of the questions Council had regarding the water rates. He is on this evening's meeting agenda to further clarify why the rates for non-city residents was raised back in 2004. I would like to thank Rex for his time and effort regarding this situation as well as Diana Blackburn for getting him the requested documents from 18 years ago!

I had several conversations regarding labor negotiations with Mr. Pat Hire. As an elected official I will not be present for those negotiations; however I have every confidence in Clemons/Nelson, Pat Hire and of course Michael Brillhart!

Finally, I will be representing the City as well as one of Auglaize County's representatives on the Health and Recovery Services of Allen, Auglaize and Hardin counties tomorrow morning at the Coleman Services building downtown.

Mr. Campbell asked about a letter received from resident Curt Wilkins regarding code violations at 3 Edgebrook Drive. Mayor Henderson stated he has notified Code Enforcement Officer Paul Eisert regarding the complaint.

Mr. Shepline asked that the City of Wapakoneta corporation signs be replaced, as they are very faded. Mr. Doll added that 'no parking' signage on Hamilton Road may also need replacing. Mayor Henderson agreed to remedy this.

**Service Director report:**

Mill and pave projects will occur August 15<sup>th</sup> through August 31<sup>st</sup>.

Seeking grant dollars for the new water line extension on the southeast portion of the City.

Working on a CDBG application.

Applying for grant dollars for the Water Street project.

Mr. Campbell asked for parking signage for the area behind town along the Auglaize River.

Mr. Kantner stated, under Tab 101 of 2022 Budget spreadsheet, there appears to be an error regarding a pay increase for City Councilors.

Mr. Kantner asked who approved the bid sheet for the sidewalk installation. SSD Brillhart replied that the bid sheet is approved by Engineering Department and reviewed by Auditor Wells. Mr. Kantner asked further questions regarding budgeted amounts versus actual amounts spent for sidewalks. Mayor Henderson reiterated that Auditor Wells and Mary Ruck of the Engineering Department have this specific information. Mr. Kantner asked for figures on costs of replacing sections of sidewalk versus building new sidewalk lengths. SSD Brillhart agreed to obtain these figures. Mr. Kantner asked further questions about why different contractors were used for sidewalk installation and why the area of Lincoln Park was not done the same way. Mayor Henderson again stated that the Engineering Department & Auditor can answer said questions and he will urge Mrs. Ruck and Mr. Wells to attend the next Council meeting.

**Scheduling Committee Meetings:**

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

**Miscellaneous Business:**

Motion by Miller, second by Lee to enter executive session at 8:47pm to consider confidential information regarding economic development and inviting City Administration and WAEDC Logan O'Neill. Vote – 7 yeas, 0 nays. Motion passed.

Motion by Miller, second by Campbell to exit executive session at 9:20pm. Vote – 7 yeas, 0 nays. Motion passed.

Motion by Lee, second by Campbell to adjourn the meeting at 9:20pm. Vote – 7 yeas, 0 nays. Motion passed.

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President Pro Tem

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Clerk of Council