

President Chad Doll called the meeting to order at 7:30pm on July 17, 2023 at 701 Parlette Court with the following members present: Ross Kantner, Daniel E. Lee, Brandon Miller, Alex Greve, John Shepline, Terry Campbell, and Chad Dunlap. Mayor Steve Henderson and Safety Service Director Michael Brillhart were also present. There were 2 visitors present. Law Director Grant Neal was absent.

Motion by Lee, second by Campbell to approve the minutes of the July 10, 2023 Council meeting as submitted. Vote – 7 yeas, 0 nays. Motion passed.

Lodging Tax Committee – Mr. Lee summarized a meeting was held on 07-17-2023 and the following was discussed:

An application for funding was received for Children’s Hometown Holiday. This item was tabled.

An application for funding was received from Roots and Shoots Garden Club for the purchase of a license plate and graphics for their new storage trailer. President Doll noted that previously, Roots and Shoots Garden Club was awarded \$12,000 for the purchase of the storage trailer, but ended up only needing \$9000 of those funds. Roots and Shoots returned the excess \$3000 to the Lodging Tax fund, but is now asking for funding for the license plate & graphics. Motion by Lee, second by Dunlap to approve the Roots and Shoots Garden Club request in the amount of \$3000 for trailer license plate, tags and graphics. Vote – 7 yeas, 0 nays. Motion passed.

Parks Committee – a meeting was held on 07-12-2023 and the following was discussed:

Update/Old Business:

Geese problem in City Parks

Short discussion and suggestions to address the geese problem, which included:

Brandon asked Michael if he had spoken to Chief Schneider regarding giving “permit to dispatch” to approved individuals. He has not, but will do so.

Michael offered information that a local pond owner had stopped mowing the grass around the pond. The high grass was deterring geese from using the pond.

Terry Campbell – in his experience at Lincoln Estates, it was extremely successful to shake or drill holes in the eggs while in the nest.

Ross asked Michael if we could try the use of artificial swans to place in the river. Michael agreed and did not feel the cost would be prohibitive.

New Business:

All Abilities Playset Grant from T-Mobile – Location?

Chair Kantner stated the goal today is to share information, ideas, and opinions so that everyone involved is seeing the same picture, as there appears to be differing opinions between 1st On the Moon committee, and the Rec Board as to where the playset should be placed.

A representative from the playset manufacturer is planning on being in Wapak next week to help give input to our location options.

Discussion on the application process for the grant from T-Mobile:

Rachel explained some of the pertinent information that was submitted on the application to T-Mobile, which included:

Wapakoneta is hometown of Neil Armstrong and the playground would have a “space” theme.

The all abilities playground would be in Harmon Park, as there is historical significance associated with Harmon Park

Harmon Park was here when Neil lived in Wapak.

The committee will have “historical markers” integrated with the playground.

It was agreed by all present that since the application referenced Harmon Park as the location of the playground, we should honor that and put the playground in Harmon Park.

There are currently 2 proposed locations: 1) North of the current playground or 2) West of the gazebo (parallel to parking lot).

Terry Campbell suggested another option to place the playground between the proposed sites. Terry provided a rough drawing on the white board which helped all to better understand the landscape and potential, which was extremely helpful.

After discussion, all present agreed Terry's suggestion made a lot of sense and all agreed we should present the site to the playground rep for consideration and input.

*Deb Fischer had to exit the meeting at 9:35.

Discussion on timelines – Rachel stated she would like to have the playground in yet this year. Anything the city can do (ie: excavating the site, forming the footprint, etc), will help speed up the process.

Brandon asked Rachel for clarification as to the financing of the project. Rachel stated:

1st on the Moon is paying for the apparatus through the T-Mobile Grant.

The construction (putting together) of the apparatus to be done by the city (Parks Dept) with potential help from volunteers

Hoping the “poured rubber” flooring will be donated

Site prep (excavating, forming the footprint, placing gravel/base/subfloor, cement sidewalks) by the City
Short discussion that the Parks Department Budget does not have money to provide extra expenses.

Rachel said that Jack said he/the city would take care of those things.

Brandon said the Finance Committee would review at next meeting.

At 10:01 Parks Committee and Rec Board Members moved meeting to WaterPark to join meeting between Jack & Mike Carroll of Brandstetter Carroll regarding possible structural changes at the pool.

Upon arrival, Committee was informed that Mike Carroll had already left, but Jack would update us on their discussion. Brian Warner, Global Electric, was also present.

Jack said Mike agreed with the idea of moving the chemical room upstairs. His firm will put drawings together with cost estimates.

Members toured building and saw proposed area to be changed into Chemical Room as well as the basement/current chemical room.

Per Mike, he feels Wapak WaterPark has “plateaued”. We need to do something to address the decline in attendance. He and Jack shared some thoughts and ideas.

Members discussed thoughts/ideas on potential changes.

Committee members and Jay walked down to Gazebo to inspect the new proposed site for the all abilities playground.

10:45 – Councilman Dan Lee joined the meeting at the Gazebo.

Members walked the site and agreed there is great potential for the all abilities playground.

New Business –

President Doll announced that the first Council meeting in September will be scheduled for Tuesday, September 5th at 7:30pm due to the holiday.

President Doll asked Clerk to read Res 2023-37 for the third time re: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF WAPAKONETA TO SOLICIT FOR BIDS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF AN ADDITION TO THE ELECTRIC DEPARTMENT BUILDING AT 251 INDUSTRIAL DRIVE.

Motion by Dunlap, second by Shepline to adopt Res 2023-37. Vote – 7 yeas, 0 nays. Motion passed.

President Doll asked Clerk to read Res 2023-39 for the third time re: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE AND SAFETY TO ADVERTISE A REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP) FOR CONSULTING SERVICES FOR THE PREPARATION OF A COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE FOR THE CITY OF WAPAKONETA.

Motion by Lee, second by Greve to adopt Res 2023-39. Vote – 7 yeas, 0 nays. Motion passed.

President Doll asked Clerk to read Ord 2023-42 for the second time re: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ADOPTED ORDINANCE 2023-27 AUTHORIZING THE APPROPRIATION OF AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT FUNDS FOR INVESTMENTS IN INFRASTRUCTURE AND OPERATIONS FOR YEARS 2023 AND 2024.

President Doll asked Clerk to read Ord 2023-43 for the second time re: AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A COMMUNITY REINVESTMENT AREA (CRA) AGREEMENT WITH BECKER RENTAL PROPERTIES, LLC.

President Doll asked Clerk to read Res 2023-44 for the second time re: A RESOLUTION APPROVING AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF WAPAKONETA AND R.D. JONES EXCAVATING, INC.

FOR THE RECONSTRUCTION OF N. WATER STREET FROM BENTON STREET TO THE AUGLAIZE RIVER.

President Doll asked Clerk to read Res 2023-45 for the second time re: A RESOLUTION APPROVING AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF WAPAKONETA AND THE SHELLY COMPANY FOR ROADWAY ASPHALT OVERLAY, CRACK SEAL, AND CAPE SEAL IMPROVEMENTS IN 2023 USING TAX LEVY MONIES.

Mr. Lee requested that the list of streets be provided on social media for public review.

Mayor report:

Had a conference call with Eitri Foundry.

Attended ground-breaking ceremony for Superior Credit Union.

Had an interview with WLIO TV regarding the greenhouse re-build.

Attended Lodging Tax Committee meeting.

Attended OMEA board meeting.

Efficiency Smart has provided recent data numbers.

The property demo on the corner of Lima and North Street is a county project and should be completed soon.

Service Director report:

Water Street reconstruction project cost came in lower than expected and will begin in August.

Splash pad installation project has begun at Veterans Park.

Veterans Park waterline project is out for bid and should begin in the next few months.

Industrial Park waterline and water tower project will soon go out for bid with a completion date in the 2nd quarter of 2025.

Bids will be opened on Monday regarding the RFP for refuse and recycling services.

Mr. Dunlap asked for an update on the recycling drop off area at Harrison Street. Service Director Brillhart answered that the roof pitch design needs to be changed to accommodate the equipment picking up the recycle containers for transport.

Mr. Campbell asked for an update on the railroad crossings and why the signage was removed. SSD Brillhart stated the CSX project dates have changed and the City will get an updated schedule.

Mr. Sheipline stated another citizen has asked if they may now remove fencing around a private swimming pool if a pool cover is used. SSD Brillhart will speak to Law Director Neal about this.

Mr. Kantner noted there will be an overall net gain regarding the CRA agreement.

Scheduling of Committee Meetings:

Parks Committee will meet July 20th at 2pm at Harmon Park with a representative from the rec company, but no formal decisions will be made.

Parks Committee will hold a meeting on July 27th at 10am at City Hall.

Lodging Tax Committee will meet August 21st at 6:15pm at City Hall.

Finance Committee will meet July 27th at 11am at City Hall.

Rec Board will meet July 19th at 5pm at Harmon Park Gazebo.

Miscellaneous Business-

Mr. Miller and Mr. Kantner stated they will be unable to attend the August 7th Council meeting.

Motion by Lee, second by Campbell to adjourn the meeting at 8:02pm. Vote – 7 yeas, 0 nays. Motion passed.

President

Clerk of Council

