

President Chad Doll called the meeting to order at 7:30pm on February 19, 2024 at 701 Parlette Court with the following members present: Alex Stinebaugh, Jessica Muhlenkamp, Brandon Miller, Alex Greve, John Sheipline, Terry Campbell and Chad Dunlap. Mayor Dan Lee, Law Director Grant Neal and Safety Service Director Michael Brillhart were also present. There were 5 visitors present.

Motion by Sheipline, second by Campbell to approve the minutes of the February 5, 2024 Council meeting as submitted. Vote – 7 yeas, 0 nays. Motion passed.

President Doll noted that the Communications & Rules Committee did not meet.

Parks Committee – a meeting was held on 02-12-2024 and the following was discussed:

Eclipse

Muhlenkamp asked if everything was in place for the Eclipse at the Parks. Hayzlett replied that they had the necessary personnel for any additional staffing needed. All agreed that snow fencing would be adequate to control traffic from utilizing the grass for parking at Veteran's Park and Breakfast Optimist Park. Mayor Lee reported that the City had already ordered signaget for "Parking Full" to keep traffic limited down streets like Wagner when parks are at capacity.

Hayzlett reported that the water for facilities would be turned on April 1st. It was decided that only the bathroom adjacent to the Splash Pad would be opened at Veteran's Park because the City planned to have 8 Porta Johns available there.

ParkPlatz Signage

Miller would follow-up with previous Councilor Kantner to see what had already been done towards acquiring the at sign to talk about the history of the Steinberg Hotel.

All Abilities Park

Muhlenkamp reported she had spoken with Safety Service Director Brillhart and he confirmed that Miami County would be ready to perform an inspection for occupancy once the structure was complete. They had received what they needed from the manufacturer.

Citizen Outreach

A Citizen reached out to inquire about why the school does not pay for maintenance of the baseball fields for the 7th and 8th grade baseball use. Hayzlett provided a brief history of the program explaining the relationship of collaboration between several organizations and the parks department. i.e. providing parking for the Waterpark from the school and in-kind donations from WRI.

Formation of new Recreation Advisory Board

With the disbanding of the previous Recreation Board and the ordinance creating a new Recreation Advisory Board, the City Council is in need of two representatives. These representatives would serve alongside two representatives appointed by the Mayor and one representative appointed by the Board of Education. Only three community members reached out about serving on the new Recreation Board. Muhlenkamp emphasized that this committee would be a great resource in creating strategic plans and initiatives for the Parks Department. There was some discussion about whether or not members should be required to live in the City Limits because the Park is levy funded. It was decided a larger pool of candidates was needed so an interview process could be conducted.

General Parks

The possibility of a study of park facilities use was discussed. Should the Park department be charging for use of facilities? How do other communities fund their parks and how do they charge them for use of utilities? Mayor Lee agreed to collect a list of questions to take to fellow Mayors he meets with regularly.

There was a brief discussion of the difficulties that arise at Veteran's Park with waiting to turn the water on April 1st. The bathrooms are not available for March baseball games and the painting can be tedious having to cart water to use the machine and clean it.

Waterpark

Miller asked about the need for additional funds in the salary budget line from the Auditor. Hayzlett explained that lifeguards are needed from 8am to 8pm each day including 2 guards for swim practice, 7 guards while the pool is open and 5 guards for parties. The average salary of a lifeguard last year was \$17.66.

There was also discussion of the overage in the 2023 budget. Grant revenues are not appearing in the budget revenue. \$167,000 of money from the Auglaize County ARPA fund and \$72,500 from an ODNR grant were not reflected in the 2023 pool budget leading to a larger than expected deficit. Mayor Lee stated he would follow-up about the grant dollars with the Safety Service Director. Hayzlett indicated he was unclear if dollars had been collected if they were not in the revenue line.

Finance Committee— a meeting was held on 02-08-2024 and the following was discussed:

The committee began by approving prior meeting minutes, which were approved unanimously. Motion by Shepline, second by Miller.

The committee then proceeded to hear from Parks Director Jack Hayzlett regarding a few items. The primary item of discussion was paying for the certification of potential lifeguards for the pool. The committee felt that it would be essential to do this in order to recruit enough guards for the season. We estimate about \$5,200 to be spent out of the pool fund on this expense. We also agreed that it is up to Mr. Hayzlett to determine how to spend his budget dollars. We also spoke about the issue of having too low of an amount in the unsupervisory salary line in fund 207. The chairman and Mr. Hayzlett will work with Mr. Wells to resolve the issue. We then spoke briefly about a grant issue that Mr. Hayzlett believes occurred within the pool fund. The chairman noted that he would speak to the auditor about the issue.

The committee then reviewed the current version of the budget extensively, especially the general fund to note significant changes from year to year. The committee noted future items to watch and review as projects continue.

Communications -

Clerk McDonald provided an Ohio Ethics Commission financial disclosure filing reminder to elected officials. Deadline to complete this is May 15, 2024.

Guest Petitions -

Ms. Melissa Brown of 934 Dearbaugh Ave requested Council's permission to hold a 5k 'Run for Hope' on April 27th. Ms. Brown provided Council with a map of the route and is working with law enforcement agencies. Motion by Campbell, second by Greve to approve the request. Vote – 7 yeas, 0 nays.

President Doll noted that Director Josh Bloomfield of the Wapakoneta Area Economic Development Council will speak with Council in executive session.

New Business -

Mr. Campbell noted that he has contacted the Wapakoneta Verilife marijuana dispensary to request a tour of the facility for City Council and Administration.

President Doll asked Clerk to read Ord 2024-05 for the second time re: AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF SAFETY AND SERVICE TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT WITH THE MOULTON TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES FOR FURNISHING EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICE.

President Doll asked Clerk to read Ord 2024-06 for the second time re: AN ORDINANCE MAKING SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mrs. Muhlenkamp pointed out that the amounts listed for the Parks Department are incorrect. Mr. Miller stated that Ordinances 2024-06 and 2024-07 are for supplemental changes to fix 2023. Mr. Miller added that regarding Ordinance 2024-12R, numbers need to be reviewed with Auditor Wells to ensure adequate labor for the swimming pool. Other questions for Auditor Wells include inter fund transfer amounts and grant monies received for fund 207.

President Doll asked Clerk to read Ord 2024-07 for the second time re: AN ORDINANCE MAKING SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

President Doll asked Clerk to read Res 2024-08 for the second time re: A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING A ROAD CLOSURE FOR PERRY STREET BETWEEN MAIN STREET AND MECHANIC STREET DURING THE CONSTRUCTION OF AN ADJACENT FIRE DEPARTMENT BUILDING EXPANSION.

President Doll asked Clerk to read Res 2024-09 for the second time re: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF WAPAKONETA AND REVEILLE LTD.

Mr. Miller stated that a conversation with Auditor Wells needs to occur regarding funding for this item.

President Doll asked Clerk to read Ord 2024-12R for the second time re: ANNUAL APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE / INTER FUND TRANSFERS FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2024 AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

President Doll asked Clerk to read Res 2024-13 for the first time re: A RESOLUTION APPROVING AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF WAPAKONETA AND WESTERHEIDE CONSTRUCTION FOR CONSTRUCTION SERVICES SPECIFIC TO THE FIRE DEPARTMENT BUILDING EXPANSION PROJECT AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mrs. Muhlenkamp asked if the bond would cover an overage or only the exact amount. SSD Brillhart stated that the bond includes room for contingency. Mr. Miller asked when the City must make its first payment on the bond. SSD Brillhart answered that the first payment will occur later this year, but it will apply to the principal only. Next year, payments must be made on principal and interest, continuing for the life of the bond. Mr. Miller asked for the estimated cost of the first principal-only payment this year. SSD Brillhart answered, approximately \$115,000.

Motion by Miller, second by Muhlenkamp to suspend the rules for Res 2024-13. Vote – 7 yeas, 0 nays. Motion passed.

Motion by Dunlap, second by Campbell to adopt Res 2024-13. Vote – 7 yeas, 0 nays. Motion passed.

Mayor's report:

Committee Meeting

Tree Commission 2.6

Waedc 2.7

Parks Committee 2.12

Lodging Tax Committee 2.19

Public Meetings

Chamber Breakfast 2.7

Young Professional 2.8

County Solar Planning Meeting 2.8

Homeless Coalition of Auglaize County 2.13

Downtown Partnership Banquet 2.13

City Received Lighting the Way Award for our Christmas Light Displays

Valu Class with the Chamber 2.15

Outreach

Ambassador to Bill Hinsch 2.14

Mr. Hinsch is the artist that painted the Ohioans in Space mural at the State House.

An award was received from the Downtown Wapakoneta Partnership for the holiday lights that City employees installed last season.

Service Director report:

Auglaize County Solid Waste Management District provided data as well as award certificates to the City for its achievements in diverting waste from the landfill and into recycling efforts. Mr. Campbell asked that Council be provided the figures for income on recycled materials. Mrs. Muhlenkamp stated that more communication is needed with the public about recycling #5 materials. SSD Brillhart answered that signs have been ordered and a message will be posted on social media. Mrs. Muhlenkamp asked for the status on the 'City Farm' this year. SSD Brillhart answered that a 'Clean your Crater' event is being arranged and more information will be provided at the next council meeting.

Law Director report:

No report.

Scheduling Committee Meetings:

Adhoc Committee will meet on February 20th at 4pm at City Hall.

Parks Committee meeting will occur on February 22nd at 6pm at City Hall.

Lodging Tax Committee meeting will occur on February 28th at 1:30pm at City Hall.

Miscellaneous Business:

Mr. Stinebaugh stated that a marijuana cultivator company in Dayton is willing to provide a tour for Council to better understand 'seed to sale' operations.

Motion by Miller, second by Campbell to enter into executive session at 8:02pm for the purposes of economic development and inviting City Administration and Mr. Josh Bloomfield of WAEDC. Vote – 7 yeas, 0 nays. Motion passed.

Motion by Miller, second by Campbell to exit executive session at 8:37pm. Vote – 7 yeas, 0 nays. Motion passed.

Motion by Dunlap, second by Greve to adjourn the meeting at 8:37pm. Vote – 7 yeas, 0 nays. Motion passed.

President

Clerk of Council