

President Chad Doll called the meeting to order at 7:30pm on June 17, 2024 at 701 Parlette Court with the following members present: Alex Stinebaugh, Jessica Muhlenkamp, Brandon Miller, Alex Greve, John Sheipline and Terry Campbell. Mayor Dan Lee and Safety Service Director Tyler Price were also present. There were 4 visitors present. Councilman Chad Dunlap and Law Director Grant Neal were absent.

Motion by Miller, second by Campbell to approve the minutes of the June 3, 2024 Council meeting as submitted. Vote – 6 yeas, 0 nays. Motion passed.

**Communications & Rules Committee**– a meeting was held on 06-03-2024 and the following was discussed:

Continuing with the Informer and how we plan to refresh it:

The committee revisited the idea of continuing with the Informer, a previous initiative. The discussion included the benefits and potential improvements for the Informer and how it could lead to improved communication and transparency between the citizens and the city.

Developing "Coffee and Concerns":

The committee introduced the concept of "Coffee and Concerns," an event aimed at community engagement. Key points of the discussion included:

Venue: The committee discussed potential venues to host the event but did not finalize a location.

Frequency: There was a conversation about how often the event should occur. This decision is still pending as further planning is required.

Attendance: The committee considered the maximum number of attendees for the event and discussed strategies to manage attendance effectively.

Alex Stinebaugh emphasized the importance of thorough planning to ensure the event's success and quality, stating that the details are still being worked out to avoid rushing the process.

Action Items:

Alex Stinebaugh to continue planning the details for "Coffee and Concerns," including finalizing the venue, frequency, and attendance management.

#### **Guest Petitions –**

Mr. K.C. Becker of Becker Rental Properties, LLC and residing at 15496 Pusheta Road addressed Council regarding a proposed 18 unit luxury housing development project for East town Drive. Mr. Becker explained that a sewer line running through the middle of the property will need to be relocated and a CRA is being sought. Units will be about 1200 square feet with a garage attached. Mrs. Muhlenkamp asked if a tax abatement is being sought with the school district. Mr. Becker stated there has not been success with this in the past.

#### **Unfinished Business -**

Mr. Greve recently spoke to the Mayor of Botkins regarding the status of County Road 25-A and tabled Resolution 2024-24. No feedback has been received from other affected communities or counties yet.

Remaining tabled: Res 2024-24 - A RESOLUTION URGING THE STATE OF OHIO TO DESIGNATE COUNTY ROAD 25-A, CONNECTING WAPAKONETA TO SIDNEY, AS A STATE ROUTE AND SECONDARY EMERGENCY ROUTE.

President Doll asked Clerk to read Ord 2024-30 for the first time re: AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A COMMUNITY REINVESTMENT AREA (CRA) AGREEMENT WITH BECKER RENTAL PROPERTIES, LLC.

Mr. Sheipline asked for an explanation of how the tax abatement would work or if it would cause additional tax on any other real estate. President Doll explained that should the property be improved, the tax amount on said property would be decreased by 50 percent for 15 years. There would be no additional charge to anyone else, it is more like a discount for a period of time.

**Mayor's report:**

Attended Tree Commission meeting, held office hours and attended the Ohio Mayor's Convention. Wapak WaterPark is doing well and is fully staffed. The city has received a \$380,000 grant for parking and pedestrian walkway improvements.

President Doll asked for an update on the installation of the all-abilities playground at Harmon Park. SSD Price stated the city is waiting on a company to complete the surfacing.

Mayor Lee noted that three new firefighters and the new City Auditor were sworn-in to service this evening prior to the Council meeting.

**Service Director report:**

Busy with WAEDC meetings. New Human Resources Manager started this week. An additional dispatcher is needed within the police department.

Mr. Miller requested a trashcan be placed at the end of the 'designated outdoor refreshment area' near Lee's Chicken.

**Scheduling Committee Meetings:**

Finance Committee will meet on June 25<sup>th</sup> at 10am at City Hall.

**Miscellaneous Business –**

Mr. Campbell noted that grates around trees in the downtown were removed to prevent damage as they grow. Mr. Campbell is researching options for a porous material that can be spread at the tree base to protect it.

President Doll may be absent for the July 1<sup>st</sup> Council meeting and will be absent for the July 15<sup>th</sup> Council meeting.

Motion by Campbell, second by Sheipline to adjourn the meeting at 7:58pm. Vote – 6 yeas, 0 nays. Motion passed.

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President

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Clerk of Council