

President Chad Doll called the meeting to order at 7:30pm on August 5, 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. Law Director Grant Neal, Mayor Dan Lee and Safety Service Director Tyler Price were also present. There were 4 visitors present.

Motion by Campbell, second by Greve to approve the minutes of the July 15, 2024 Council meeting as submitted. Vote – 7 yeas, 0 nays. Motion passed.

Received Income Tax Summary Report for Month Ending 07-31-2024.

Joint Parks & Finance Committee– a meeting was held on 07-23-2024 and the following was discussed:

The primary purpose of the joint committee meeting was to review data on the waterpark finances and attendance. Mr. Hayzlett provided the committee with paperwork regarding income, attendance, etc. It was noted that city income in 2022 and 2023 did not include concessions. As of July 23rd, the pool has brought in \$126,000 between gate and concessions, with \$46,000 being from concessions which is higher than budgeted concession revenue. Committee projects total income for the pool around \$160-170k for the year. Attendance as of July 23rd is 23,000, projected to be 35,000 by the end of the year. Previous years were 30,000 in 2022, and 27,000 in 2023.

One challenge on measurement was noted that the expenses are only through June, however Mr. Hayzlett has revenue to current day. Mr. Hayzlett expects that the 207 fund will be over in revenue and under in expense, and so he expects to come out \$100,000 to the positive for the year.

Further discussion occurred regarding lifeguards, incidents, specific line items etc. There have not been any major incidents at the pool and the lifeguards have been very reliable. The pool used to have to use a lot of acid to drop the ph, but now with the new water plant we use more sodium bicarbonate to raise the ph. That process is fairly manual, so we may look at using a liquid sodium bicarbonate with a pump in the future to self-regulate.

A question on the 205 fund occurred due to only have 25% left in that budget, but we front loaded a lot of park improvements that makes it look worse than it is. There are a few items that Jack was concerned about that he will want to budget for next year that he didn't have the money for this year. One item was fertilizing the parks. Jack also provided a list of remaining projects that he hopes to complete over the next few years in the parks system. Jack also asked what our strategy was on the maintenance supervisor in 2025. Jack and the administration are working through these issues.

Nikki Sawmiller and Police Chief Schneider approached the committee regarding National Night Out. They need some permits with Miami Valley. Meetings have occurred within the city, and the city is trying to be sure that we get inspections done ASAP. Once reports are finished, they can get payments complete with Miami Valley. Nikki recommends that the city have a meeting with Miami Valley in order to be educated on the proper process for permitting. There have been many issues with permitting that have occurred lately.

We ended the meeting by speaking generally on parks department strategy. The committee remains of the position that we need a full-time parks director.

Mr. Hayzlett also noted that he believes the city owes him \$13.93 for every hour worked over 10 hours a week since 2021 per a letter from former Mayor Henderson regarding overtime. It has added up to \$50,000 total since 2021. Mr. Hayzlett said that the previous auditor would not pay it, and he would like to figure out how to collect the money he feels he is owed in an amicable way. Mr. Hayzlett said that discussions have occurred for years on the issue.

Mrs. Muhlenkamp noted that the permits for the playground equipment were approved. Mr. Miller added that given new legislation there have been some permit process changes.

Communications –

President Doll read a thank you note from the family of former City Councilor Bonnie Wurst. The city also plans to plant a tree in Mrs. Wurst's memory.

Guest Petitions -

Mr. Danny Hilliard of 1008 Murray Street addressed Council about a sudden dramatic increase of his water bill. Mr. Hilliard stated that upon his investigation, the city utilities office stated he used 9 units, or 6732 gallons of water for the month of July. Mr. Hilliard hired a plumbing company to inspect his home for leaks and they found none. The water meter to the home was also checked and functioning properly. Mr. Hilliard agreed to pay the higher bill but asked the City to investigate further for discrepancies.

Unfinished Business –

Mr. Campbell noted that 9 new trees were planted along Water Street. Extra heat stress from the asphalt process occurred and may have damaged the trees. There is a one-year guarantee from the contractor on said tree plantings.

New Business -

Council rescheduled their first meeting in September to the 3rd due to the holiday.

Motion by Miller, second by Shepline to approve the UWA labor negotiations contract as written. Vote – 7 yeas, 0 nays. Motion passed.

Mr. Dunlap asked Administration to provide more details for the public regarding city employee pay increases. SSD Price explained that pay increases were dependent upon the position, but generally speaking, the first year was a 12% increase, followed by a 3.5% increase in the second year and a 3.5% increase in the third year. Some positions were condensed down into one category if there was no clear distinction between them. Similar surrounding communities' contracts were studied to ensure Wapakoneta remains competitive and can retain current employees.

Motion by Miller, second by Shepline to untable Resolution 2024-24. Vote – 7 yeas, 0 nays. Motion passed.

Motion by Miller, second by Shepline to adopt Res 2024-24. Vote – 0 yeas, 7 nays. Motion did not pass.

President Doll asked Clerk to read Res 2024-31 for the third time re: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE DISPOSITION OF CITY PROPERTY THROUGH INTERNET AUCTION.

Motion by Dunlap, second by Campbell to adopt Res 2024-31. Vote – 7 yeas, 0 nays. Motion passed.

President Doll asked Clerk to read Ord 2024-32 for the second time re: AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE AND SAFETY TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN AUGLAIZE COUNTY, OHIO AND THE CITY OF WAPAKONETA FOR THE CONVEYING AND TREATMENT OF WASTEWATER.

President Doll asked Clerk to read Ord 2024-33 for the second time re: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 1028.06 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF WAPAKONETA SPECIFIC TO PLANTED TREE DISTANCE FROM STREET CORNERS AND FIREPLUGS.

President Doll asked Clerk to read Ord 2024-34 for the first time re: AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND APPROVING THE PETITION FOR ANNEXATION OF ACREAGE IN DUCHOUQUET TOWNSHIP TO THE CITY OF WAPAKONETA.

Mr. Campbell explained that a mistake was made on the amount of acreage listed within the county's original resolution about said annexation. Auglaize County has now corrected this error and Ord 2024-34 accepts this correction.

Mayor's Report:

7.19 Meeting with Auglaize County Solid Waste District

7.24 Office hours

7.27 Ribbon cutting at Wapakoneta Ford

7.28 Ribbon cutting at the Auglaize County Fair

7.29 Planning Commission

7.31 Office hours

National Night Out is August 6th at Harmon Park. All are welcome and invited.

Service Director Report:

Capital improvements fund has been passed resulting in \$380,000 for parking and pedestrian improvements for the Heritage Park area behind town.

Additional DORA trashcans are being installed.

Stahler Trucking property recently purchased by the City will be used for vehicle storage and mechanic purposes.

Thermal plastic will soon be installed on downtown crosswalks.

Choice One Engineering has submitted stage two plans regarding the 501 / 198 intersection project and the final design is complete.

Mr. Dunlap asked about the 24 hour recycling drop-off. Mayor Lee stated this area may be moved or gated in the future.

Mayor Lee added that surveys are still being collected regarding the city's comprehensive plan.

Mrs. Muhlenkamp asked for an update on the abilities of the city's code enforcement officer to issue fines for property maintenance violations. Law Director Neal is in communications with the code enforcement officer to begin taking these matters to municipal court to be prosecuted.

Mrs. Muhlenkamp asked why the income tax receipts were down approximately \$200,000 for the quarter. SSD Price answered that the tax administrator cannot forecast the remainder of the year but said the current amounts align with 2022 values.

Mr. Miller asked for an update on the new entertainment stage purchased by the City. SSD Price is exploring additional options and details with Stageline.

Mr. Miller asked for a status on sales tax from recreational marijuana sales beginning August 6th. Mayor Lee answered that the City will receive 3% of the sales tax but it is not yet clear how these funds are permitted to be spent.

Law Director Report:

Attended Civil Service Commission meeting.

Parking ticket ordinance will be supplied to Council at next meeting.

Scheduling Committee Meetings:

Parks Committee meeting will occur on August 8th at 2pm at City Hall.

Miscellaneous Business –

Mr. Miller noted that Reveille would like Council to complete a development survey.

Motion by Campbell, second by Miller to adjourn the meeting at 8:34pm. Vote – 7 yeas, 0 nays. Motion passed.

President

Clerk of Council