

President Chad Doll called the meeting to order at 7:30pm on October 21, 2024 at 701 Parlette Court with the following members present: Brandon Miller, John Shepline, Terry Campbell and Chad Dunlap. Law Director Grant Neal, Mayor Dan Lee and Safety Service Director Tyler Price were also present. There were 6 visitors present. Councilors Alex Stinebaugh and Alex Greve were absent. Councilor Jessica Muhlenkamp arrived at 7:33pm.

Motion by Miller, second by Shepline to approve the minutes of the October 7, 2024 Council meeting as submitted. Vote – 4 yeas, 0 nays. Motion passed.

#### **Communications –**

President Doll shared the invitation to the Wapakoneta Area Economic Development Council's annual meeting is November 6<sup>th</sup> at 11:30am.

**Parks Committee** – a meeting was held on 10-15-2024 and the following was discussed:

##### **Goose Mitigation**

Resources for Pollination Planting were found but no grants for municipalities to create gardens were found. The following resources could be helpful for sourcing materials and advice on plantings:

Parks for Pollinators through Scotts Miracle Gro and National Park and Recreation Association

ODOT Highway Beautification and Pollinator Habitat Program

##### **Bee & Butterfly Habitat Fund**

There was a brief discussion about the Parks & Recreation Levy and when it needs to be renewed. With some research the group believes it will need to be voted on in 2026, John Shepline will confirm with the Board of Elections.

The Maintenance Supervisor position funding through ARPA was found to never be corrected on financial reports and was still being removed from the Parks Budget. There was some discussion about where that staff member will go moving forward because the funding is gone at the end of the calendar year. This led into further discussion about the desire for a full time Parks Director but it was unclear how it could be paid for without additional funding either from the General Fund or an increase in the levy.

The discussion then turned to this year's funding. It was found that the bill for electricity and water this year alone was \$37,000. There was some discussion about whether City departments should be paying for utilities in full when industrial clients receive special rates and the situation in other towns where their Parks do not pay utilities. There were also concerns about Parks funding for the rest of the year because the personnel line is already out of money due to cuts and therefore there would not be funding for the Parks to put out Christmas decorations this year. There was good news in cost savings this year with it only costing \$160,000 in pool staff this year.

Mr. Miller asked administration to provide Council with a year-end financial report for the swimming pool.

#### **New Business –**

President Doll asked for an update on the conditions of Wagner, North and Middle Streets. SSD Price answered these will get added to the list.

President Doll asked that the weeds and grass be addressed at the demolition site of the old wheel factory on North Street.

President Doll asked Clerk to read Ord 2024-40 for the second time re: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 244.03 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF WAPAKONETA SPECIFIC TO THE COMPOSITION OF POLICE DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL.

President Doll asked Clerk to read Ord 2024-41 for the second time re: AN ORDINANCE TO APPROVE THE FORM AND AUTHORIZE THE EXECUTION OF BLUE CREEK WIND SCHEDULE WITH AMERICAN MUNICIPAL POWER, INC AND TAKING OF OTHER ACTIONS IN CONNECTION THEREWITH.

President Doll asked Clerk to read Ord 2024-42 for the second time re: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 260.17(A) "HOLIDAYS" OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF WAPAKONETA, OHIO.

President Doll asked Clerk to read Ord 2024-43 for the second time re: AN ORDINANCE ASSENTING TO THE DETACHMENT OF CERTAIN LANDS FROM THE CITY OF WAPAKONETA AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

President Doll asked Clerk to read Ord 2024-44 for the first time re: AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF SAFETY AND SERVICE TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT WITH THE PUSHETA TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES FOR FURNISHING OF FIRE PROTECTION AND AMBULANCE SERVICE.

President Doll asked Clerk to read Ord 2024-45 for the first time re: AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE AND SAFETY TO SUBMIT A SUPPLEMENTAL LOAN APPLICATION TO THE OHIO ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF WAPAKONETA, OHIO AND TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY.

President Doll asked Clerk to read Ord 2024-46 for the first time re: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 1250.10 (174) OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF WAPAKONETA SPECIFIC TO THE ZONING DEFINITION OF "WAREHOUSE".

President Doll asked Clerk to read Res 2024-47 for the first time re: A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION AS TO THE PROPOSED ZONING OF ANNEXED LAND.

President Doll asked Clerk to read Ord 2024-48 for the first time re: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 1282.04 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF WAPAKONETA SPECIFIC TO THE CONDITIONAL PERMITTED USES OF THE M-3 INDUSTRIAL DISTRICT.

Mr. Miller asked why the City needs both Ord 2024-46 and Ord 2024-48. Law Director Neal answered that having them both clarifies a 'warehouse' versus 'data warehouse' and allows the City more discretion. SSD Price added that should the City decide to allow a data warehouse in the future, Ord 2024-46 contains the language needed for this. Mrs. Muhlenkamp requested the Planning Commission also review the matter.

President Doll asked Clerk to read Res 2024-49 for the first time re: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE AND SAFETY TO DONATE A 1987 SUTPHEN LADDER TRUCK AND A 1985 SUTPHEN PUMPER TRUCK TO THE APOLLO CAREER CENTER PUBLIC SAFETY PROGRAM.

**Mayor's Report:**

Tree Commission

Chamber of Commerce activities

Optimist Club awards meeting

Live person answering phones at City Building

Halloween Parade is Oct. 24

Leaf pickup begins Oct. 25

Trick or Treat is Oct. 31

Let's Back the Blue tickets are available

Mrs. Muhlenkamp asked if the Facebook post share regarding a Chick-fil-A truck is appropriate content for the City's Facebook page. Mayor Lee agreed to look into this.

Mrs. Muhlenkamp asked about the Parks Department employee budget with regards to getting Christmas décor in place. SSD Price noted the same thing happened last year and the Auditor is aware.

Mrs. Muhlenkamp asked if there are still funds earmarked in the electric fund for the parks department. SSD Price stated that Auditor Anderson is still studying this.

**Service Director Report:**

New fire truck is 75% complete.

Public Works is addressing regrading of alleyways.

Wayfinding signage is breaking and were not well-made.

Stop signs in the middle of Water Street will remain for safety reasons.

Mr. Campbell asked that the traffic lights at Bellefontaine and Wood as well as Redskin Trail and 501 be looked at for timing issues.

Mr. Miller clarified that there will be no tolerance for crossing Water Street in the construction area.

Mr. Miller suggested the City look at refinancing loans to take advantage of lowered interest rates.

Mrs. Muhlenkamp noted that Pine Street needs a yellow no-parking strip near the curb for safety.

Mr. Miller noted a second survey for the strategic plan is available to the public.

**Law Director Report:**

A new ordinance is not needed regarding lawn mowing fees and fines. Should the City need to mow a private property due to negligence of the owner, the cost of labor will be assessed and added to said property's utility bill for payment. Liens on properties and minor misdemeanor charges can also be pursued if necessary.

**Scheduling Committee Meetings:**

None.

**Miscellaneous Business –**

Motion by Miller, second by Campbell to enter into executive session at 8:08pm to consider confidential information regarding economic development and inviting WAEDC Josh Bloomfield and administration. Vote – 5 yeas, 0 nays. Motion passed.

Motion by Miller, second by Campbell to exit executive session at 9:08pm. Vote – 4 yeas, 0 nays. Motion passed. Mr. Dunlap departed during executive session.

Motion by Miller, second by Sheipline to adjourn the meeting at 9:08pm. Vote – 4 yeas, 0 nays. Motion passed.

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President

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Clerk of Council