

WOOSTER CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
November 21, 2016

I. ROLL CALL & ORDERING OF AGENDA

President Mike Buytendyk called the regular meeting of Wooster City Council to order at 7:30 p.m. in council chambers. The following members were present: Jon Ansel, Mark Cavin, Barbara Knapic, Scott Myers, Craig Sanders, David Silvestri and Jon Ulbright.

City Administration present: Mayor Bob Breneman, Director of Administration, Joel Montgomery, Law Director Linda Applebaum, and Finance Director Andrei Dordea.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilwoman Knapic moved, seconded by Councilman Ansel to approve the minutes of the November 7, 2016 regular meeting. Upon voice vote, the motion carried unanimously.

III. COMMUNICATIONS FROM MAYOR/ADMINISTRATION

Mayor Breneman stated he received a letter from the Meijer Company requesting that the re-zoning legislation be tabled until they can complete the traffic study as requested by Council. Medway had their annual general assembly meeting. They are working hard to fix the areas drug issues and it is not an easy task. The Mayor appreciates Medway's support. The City of Wooster received an award from Mainstreet for the Beautification of Downtown Wooster. The award was made by Artfind Tile. The Mayor thanked Mr. Montgomery, Director of Administration and Mr. Kobilarsik, City Engineer for their work on the new entrance way. He also thanked the OHM Company for their design work for the project. Mr. Millea, Development Coordinator, was also recognized for his work to improve the downtown parking signage. The city received a grant from OPWC (Ohio Public Works Commission). It is a very valuable piece for capital improvement projects in the City. The grant will be used for the Spink and Gasche Street sewer separation. Lastly, the 2017 budget is available and contains conservative estimates on revenues and expenses. The budget keeps the current level of services in place and made progress for capital improvements. City Administration proposed using the 2.5 million dollar surplus from the 2017 budget plus 1.8 million dollars from the days-in-cash fund for much needed capital improvements. The two major projects are the Burbank Road reconstruction and the downtown streetscape project on public square. The target days-in-cash balance is 153 days in cash by the end of 2017.

Mr. Andre Dordea reviewed the 2017 proposed budget binder with Council.

President Buytendyk announced the he and Ms. Applebaum attended public records training representing City Council.

IV. PETITIONS/COMMUNICATIONS FROM PUBLIC

Ron Stine, 2316 Heyl Road, spoke concerning the electronic sign ordinance. He was concerned with the 15 second static message requirement as it limits the amount of information passing traffic can view.

Alice Kern, 716 Northwestern, also spoke concerning the electronic sign legislation. She asked for clarification on the size ratio for the electronic signs and for the 15 second static message requirement.

Greg Gehris, 347 N. Grant, spoke regarding the 2017 annual budget.

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS; PUBLIC HEARINGS (n/a)

VI. OLD BUSINESS

1. Third Reading- ORDINANCE NO. 2016-27
AN ORDINANCE AMENDING PART ELEVEN, ZONING, OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF WOOSTER, OHIO, SO AS TO RE-ZONE LAND TO A C-5 (GENERAL COMMERCIAL) DISTRICT FOR PROPERTY LOCATED ON THE SOUTH SIDE OF WEST MILLTOWN ROAD, BETWEEN COMMERCE PARKWAY AND OAK HILL ROAD (Knapic)

Councilman Cavin recused himself from the discussion. Councilwoman Knapic read the letter the city received a letter from the Meijer Company requesting that the Ordinance be tabled until a traffic study can be conducted. A traffic study is not required until rezoning has occurred. Meijer is willing to undertake the traffic study prior council's final vote on the rezoning in order to give City Council as much information as possible. Councilwoman Knapic moved to table the Ordinance, seconded by Councilman Sanders. Upon roll call, motion carried unanimously (Ansel-yes; Cavin-yes; Knapic-yes; Myers-yes; Sanders-yes; Silvestri-yes; and Ulbright-yes).

2. Third Reading- ORDINANCE NO. 2016-29
AN ORDINANCE AMENDING PART ELEVEN, PLANNING AND ZONING CODE, OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF WOOSTER, OHIO, BY THE ADOPTION OF VARIOUS TEXT AMENDMENTS TO CHAPTERS 1103, 1149, AND 1171 (Knapic)

Councilwoman Knapic moved to table the Ordinance to allow time for the Planning and Zoning Commission to address the concerns expressed by citizens and council members, seconded by Councilman Ulbright. Upon roll call, motion carried unanimously (Ansel-yes; Cavin-yes; Knapic-yes; Myers-yes; Sanders-yes; Silvestri-yes; and Ulbright-yes).

Councilwoman Knapic scheduled a Laws and Ordinance meeting for Monday, January 2nd, at 6:30pm in Council Chambers.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

1. First Reading- RESOLUTION NO. 2016-59 - A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AGREEMENTS WITH VARIOUS APPLICANTS FOR THE USE OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT MONIES (Ansel)

Councilman Ansel stated that this is a collaborative application between the Wayne County Visitors Bureau, the Wooster Area Chamber of Commerce and Mainstreet Wooster. For the first \$50,000 Mainstreet will receive 57.5%, the Chamber will receive 37.5%, and the Visitors Bureau will receive 5%. For funds over \$50,000, Mainstreet will receive 50%, the Chamber 30%, and the Visitors Bureau 20%.

Ms. Sandra Hull spoke on behalf of Mainstreet Wooster. They have had an incredible year and it is their 29th year for the revitalization of the downtown district. Their mission is about preservation and economic development of the downtown. This past year they had eight new businesses come into the downtown and most importantly, they had six current businesses expand. They are extremely proud of the sustainability of the downtown. Mainstreet had sixteen successful events this year and every year attendance of those events has increased. Last Friday topped off the year as they broke all records for the downtown Window Wonderland. Ms. Hull thanked Ms. Beverly Linhoss for her efforts and work on the event. They will continue their partnership with local business to bring in outside bloggers to the downtown and outlying destinations points in the County. As a result of last year's efforts there were marketing and publications throughout Ohio and the surrounding states, bringing additional traffic and revenue to the downtown. In 2017 they are investigating a downtown lighting project to light the trees throughout the year. A new restaurant event will be launched and each week a new restaurant will be featured.

Mr. Justin Starlin spoke on behalf of the Chamber. He reported that 2016 was a strong year for the Chamber. They appreciate the support from Council and the partnership they have with the City Administration and Mainstreet Wooster. They appreciate being able to assist their small businesses with their development center to larger businesses who need assistance with legislation down in Columbus. These funds have given the Chamber a steady stream of income to support events and additional programs.

Ms. Marty Starky spoke on behalf of the Wayne County Visitors Bureau. These monies have allowed them to be more involved in digital marketing. The Economic impact of tourism has grown significantly over the years. The 2015 study numbers show that the tourism sales impact was \$243.7 million in Wayne County. This has increased by 8.5% from the 2013 study.

Councilwoman Knapic thanked everyone for their hard work and efforts to support businesses and business development in Wayne County. Lehman's Hardware was invited by the Smithsonian to have their catalog on display.

Councilman Ansel encouraged Council members to take time to visit the city's administration offices to view the joint application presented by Mainstreet, the Chamber, and the Visitors Bureau.

2. First Reading- ORDINANCE NO. 2016-34 - AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING FROM VARIOUS FUNDS TO INDIVIDUAL ACCOUNTS FOR THE CURRENT EXPENSES AND OTHER EXPENDITURES FOR THE CITY OF WOOSTER FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2017, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY (Ansel)

Councilman Ansel thanked the Mayor and Mr. Dordea for their introduction to the 2017 Appropriations Budget. A Finance Committee meeting will be held on Monday, December 5th, at 6:00pm in Council Chambers.

3. First Reading- RESOLUTION NO. 2016-60 -A RESOLUTION STATING TO THE WAYNE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, PURSUANT TO REVISED CODE SECTION 709.03, THE SERVICES WHICH THE CITY OF WOOSTER WOULD BE ABLE TO PROVIDE FOR TERRITORY LOCATED ON THE SOUTH SIDE OF WEST HIGHLAND AVE., WEST OF ITS INTERSECTION WITH OAK HILL ROAD, AND CONTIGUOUS TO THE CORPORATION LIMITS, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. (Matthew Long, Esq., Agent for Petitioners Adam and Jody Rives, and JC5 Properties) (Knapic)

Councilwoman Knapic stated that this is a potential annexation of property off of West Highland Avenue. Mr. Matt Long, representing the property owners, stated that this is just the first step in the annexation of the property and will verify that the city is capable of extending utilities to the property. Councilman Ulbright asked Mr. Long for clarification regarding the location of the parcels. Councilman Silvestri asked Mr. Long for clarification regarding the size of the parcels. Councilman Ansel asked where the city's current utilities were located in respect to the parcels. Councilwoman Knapic stated that other property owners in the area may request annexation in the future.

Councilwoman Knapic moved, seconded by Councilman Ulbright, to suspend the rules and place on third and final reading. Upon roll call, motion carried unanimously (Ansel-yes; Cavin-yes; Knapic-yes; Myers-yes; Sanders-yes; Silvestri-yes; and Ulbright-yes).

Councilwoman Knapic moved, seconded by Councilman Ansel, to adopt. Upon roll call, motion to adopt carried unanimously (Ansel-yes; Cavin-yes; Knapic-yes; Myers-yes; Sanders-yes; Silvestri-yes; and Ulbright-yes).

IX. EXECUTIVE SESSION

To discuss operations, pursuant to WCO 8.06(e)(3), at the Wooster Waste Water Treatment Plant.

Councilman Sanders moved to enter into Executive session, seconded by Councilwoman Knapic. Upon roll call, motion carried unanimously (Ansel-yes; Cavin-yes; Knapic-yes; Myers-yes; Sanders-yes; Silvestri-yes; and Ulbright-yes).

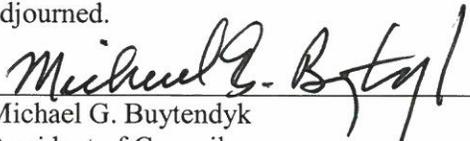
Councilman Sanders moved to exit the Executive session, seconded by Councilman Ansel. Upon roll call, motion carried unanimously (Ansel-yes; Cavin-yes; Knapic-yes; Myers-yes; Sanders-yes; Silvestri-yes; and Ulbright-yes).

X. MISCELLANEOUS

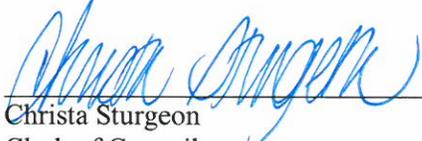
President Buytendyk announced that the hospital invited Council to attend their annual meeting on February 6, 2017. Dinner begins at 6pm. He also thanked the city's IT Department for their help tonight on Council's computers. Councilman Ulbright suggested that the hospital's meeting begin at 5:30pm. Councilwoman Knapic took a moment to address concerns of perceived increased harassment in Wooster. She spoke on acceptance of diversity, respect for others, and personal responsibility. She spoke in support of our emergency responders, police and fire, as they put their lives on the line every day. She wished them and everyone a safe and abundant Thanksgiving. All council members seconded Councilwoman Knapic's statements and expressed agreement with her sentiments. Councilman Ansel thanked her and wished everyone a happy Thanksgiving.

X. ADJOURNMENT

Councilman Ulbright moved, seconded by Councilman Myers, to adjourn. Motion carried and meeting so adjourned.



Michael G. Buytendyk
President of Council



Christa Sturgeon
Clerk of Council