

**CITY COUNCIL MINUTES**  
**November 4, 2013**

**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, Craig Sanders, David Silvestri, Jeff Steiner, and Jon Ulbright.

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

**II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Mr. Steiner moved, seconded by Ms. Knapic, to approve the October 21, 2013 meeting minutes. Upon voice vote, the motion carried unanimously.

**III. COMMUNICATIONS FROM MAYOR/ADMINISTRATION**

Mayor Breneman informed council that city administration is working on the budget for 2014 and it will be presented to council at the next meeting on November 18, 2013. Mr. Breneman also noted that city officials will be discussing the topics and ideas raised during the Public Health and Leisure Committee meeting and working on a recommendation to council as to how to proceed.

Mayor Breneman also advised council members that Wooster was once again named to the list of the Top Ten Micropolitan Cities of the Future compiled by fDi, a Financial Times publication.

**IV. PETITIONS/COMMUNICATIONS FROM PUBLIC**

Notice was received from the Ohio Department of Liquor Control that DolGen Midwest LLC, dba Dollar General, applied to acquire a C1 liquor permit. Mr. Ansel moved, seconded by Ms. Knapic, not to request a hearing. Motion carried unanimously.

**V. COMMITTEE REPORTS; PUBLIC HEARINGS**

Mr. Cavin stated that the Public Health and Leisure Committee meeting was well-attended, the City provided a presentation, and the committee hopes to come up with a strategy to address the issues that have come up. Mr. Cavin stated that he looks forward to continued communication in the future.

Mr. Ansel reported on the Finance Committee meeting held prior to the council meeting. Mr. Ansel stated that revenues coming in to the City are up slightly and that expenses are holding steady and are well-managed. Mr. Ansel also noted that the City's capital improvements fund was not funded until July, which was after the income tax levy passed. At that time, the fund had a negative balance. Mr. Ansel stated that the City was able to continue operating for the last three years by not funding capital improvements. Mr. Buytendyk asked Mr. Dordea for a guesstimate as to where the City's rainy day fund would likely have been if the income tax increase had not passed. Mr. Dordea stated that he believed that at the end of 2014 the fund would have been in the 80-day range and by the end of 2015 the City would have been in violation of its ordinance stating that at least 60 days must be maintained in that fund. Mr. Dordea added that this would have been the case if no capital improvements were funded in each of the next two years.

**VI. OLD BUSINESS**

None.

**VII. NEW BUSINESS**

1. First Reading – ORDINANCE NO. 2013-41 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE TRANSFER OF OWNERSHIP OF FORMER PARKS MAINTENANCE BUILDING TO THE WOOSTER GROWTH CORPORATION, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY (Silvestri)

Mr. Silvestri thanked City Administration for advising him of this item early in the process and keeping him informed as the situation progressed. Mr. Silvestri stated that this ordinance would allow the City to transfer the property at 2759 Long Road to the Wooster Growth Corporation for \$10.00. Wooster Growth will then sell the property to the interested party, and Wooster Growth Corporation will return \$300,000.00 of the sale price to the City of Wooster. Mr. Silvestri also noted that the sale price would allow the City to recoup the initial price paid when it was purchased from the Wooster City School District in 1998. The buyer has stated that he would be able to bring 15 new jobs to his planned operations at this location. Mr. Ansel wished to highlight the cooperation among the Wayne Economic Development Council, the City of Wooster and the Wooster Growth Corporation for facilitating this proposed transaction. Mr. Buytendyk added that Wooster Growth can mandate, through conditions of sale, that jobs be created as a result of the transaction. The City would not have this same control if it were to offer the building for sale. Mr. Silvestri also noted that this is a good opportunity to shrink the size of government by selling an asset that is of no use to the City and that incurs significant costs to maintain.

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

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

2. First Reading –           ORDINANCE NO. 2013-42 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE ANNUAL APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE (Ansel)

Mr. Ansel stated that the pool boiler at Christmas Run Pool has outlived its useful life and has now become expensive to maintain. New parts must be fabricated in-house as it is no longer possible to purchase them. Mr. Ansel added that a new boiler would be more energy efficient and should last another 20 years. The new boiler would be paid for from the Personal Services budget for the swimming pools and transferred to the capital budget. Purchase at this time will allow the new boiler to be installed and in place for the start of the next swimming season.

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

Ms. Knapic noted that the City was very close to shutting down Christmas Run Pool a few years ago and that it was saved by the contributions from the public. Ms. Knapic stated she is happy to support legislation that will demonstrate an investment in the future of the pool.

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

3. First Reading –           RESOLUTION NO. 2013-88 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT WITH THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR PHASE II OF THE AKRON ROAD IMPROVEMENT PROJECT (PID 86127) (Ulbright)

Mr. Ulbright noted that this legislation is for another project of which ODOT will fund 80% (\$2,520,522.49) of a road construction project, including up to \$215,320.99 of the in-house costs incurred by the City Engineering Division. The City will fund the remaining 20%, or \$679,293.51. The project will cover the portion of Akron Road between Long Road and Gateway Drive.

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

Ms. Knapic asked for patience from residents that will be affected by the construction on this roadway. She stated that the end result will be worth the temporary inconvenience of the construction. Mr. Ulbright asked Mr. Montgomery if bicycle paths, curbs, and sidewalks are part of the plan. Mr. Montgomery responded that those are part of the plan.

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

**VIII. MISCELLANEOUS**

Mr. Ansel stated that he would be returning the Economic Development Fund application to Ms. Hamilton's office to allow other members of council to review it.

Mr. Cavin announced that he intends to bring Ordinance No. 2013-36 from the table at the next city council meeting on November 18, 2013. Mr. Cavin hopes to allow for more discussion and to bring the measure to a vote.

**IX. ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Silvestri moved, seconded by Mr. Ansel, to adjourn. Motion carried and meeting so adjourned at 8:06 p.m.

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Michael G. Buytendyk  
President of Council

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Amy M. Hamilton  
Clerk of Council