

WOOSTER CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
March 16, 2020

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. Lynne DePaulo, Council Clerk, called roll with the following members present; Craig Sanders, Bill Bostancic, Jennifer Warden, David Silvestri, Jon Ansel, and Mark Cavin. Scott Myers was absent. City Administration present: Mayor Bob Breneman, Finance Director Andrei Dordea, Director of Administration Joel Montgomery, Law Director John Scavelli, City Engineer Roger Kobilarcsik, and Chief Matt Fisher.

President Buytendyk made the announcement that Mr. Myers was on a conference line and would be able to speak on any legislation issues, but would not be able to vote and not be considered to be part of the quorum. He also stated that council was trying something new and live-streaming the meeting on Facebook. These are trial measures in the event council meetings become affected by the current coronavirus situation.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilman Ansel moved to approve the minutes of the March 2, 2020 meeting, seconded by Councilman Cavin. Upon voice vote, the minutes were approved unanimously.

III. COMMUNICATIONS FROM MAYOR/ADMINISTRATION

Mayor Breneman gave an update on city operations during the COVID-19 pandemic. The safety services, utilities and city hall are all open, although access to the public is limited. The Community Center is closed and all its programs are currently suspended. He suggested the public use the City of Wooster website, woosteroh.com, to keep abreast of up-to-date information. He also reminded everyone that many things such as parking tickets and utility payments can be made online.

The Mayor also stated that the administration and local business owners are working together to try to overcome the sudden order to close. Many local business owners explained their obstacles and the problems they are having with the shut-down. The city has designated certain on-street parking spots to be used strictly for pick-up of restaurant orders and has relaxed their requirements for food truck permitting. Food truck operators should still contact the city's Planning & Zoning Department to discuss the options.

There was concern about the streetscape construction that began that is also impacting the businesses on the square. Mr. Montgomery said the construction schedule has been changed so the alley will remain open. There will be parking spots available in the Buckeye Street parking lot designated for carry-out pick-up.

IV. PETITIONS/COMMUNICATIONS FROM PUBLIC

Terry Raber – 2150 Oak Hill Road; spoke in support of Ordinance 2020-09, pre-annexation agreement.

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS; PUBLIC HEARINGS - NONE

VI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Third Reading – ORDINANCE NO. 2020-01

AN ORDINANCE TO APPROVE AND ADOPT CURRENT REPLACEMENT PAGES TO THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. (Sanders)

Councilman Sanders stated this legislation has now had three readings and it's time to vote.

Councilman Sanders moved to adopt, seconded by Councilman Silvestri. Upon roll call motion to adopt carried 6-0. (Sanders – yes; Bostancic-yes; Cavin -yes; Warden – yes; Silvestri – yes; Ansel – yes) (Myers –absent)

VII. NEW BUSINESS

1. First Reading – ORDINANCE NO. 2020-09

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A PRE-ANNEXATION AGREEMENT WITH CERTAIN PROPERTY OWNERS FOR THE PURPOSE OF FACILITATING THE ANNEXATION AND EXTENSION OF UTILITY SERVICES TO THOSE PROPERTIES, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY (Silvestri)

Councilman Silvestri said this is simply to enable the city to provide public utilities for the property owner as they proceed through the annexation process.

Councilman Silvestri motioned to suspend the rules, seconded by Councilman Ansel. Upon roll call motion to suspend the rules carried 6-0. (Sanders – yes; Bostancic-yes; Cavin -yes; Warden – yes; Silvestri – yes; Ansel – yes) (Myers – absent)

Councilman Silvestri motioned to adopt, seconded by Councilman Sanders. Upon roll call motion to adopt carried 6-0. (Sanders – yes; Bostancic-yes; Cavin -yes; Warden – yes; Silvestri – yes; Ansel – yes) (Myers - absent)

2. First Reading – RESOLUTION NO. 2020-16

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATION TO ADVERTISE ACCORDING TO LAW AND ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH THE LOWEST AND BEST BIDDER FOR THE PLACEMENT OF SIDEWALKS ALONG SUNSET LANE, ARMSTRONG DRIVE, AND HIGHLAND PARK, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY (Bostancic)

Councilman Bostancic said this project contains SRTS funding to cover the cost of the sidewalks. It is a budgeted item.

Councilman Bostancic motioned to adopt, seconded by Councilwoman Warden. Upon roll call motion to adopt carried 6-0. (Sanders – yes; Bostancic-yes; Cavin -yes; Warden – yes; Silvestri – yes; Ansel – yes) (Myers - absent)

3. First Reading – RESOLUTION NO. 2020-17

A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE REPORT OF THE ASSESSMENT EQUALIZATION BOARD ON OBJECTIONS CONCERNING THE ESTIMATED SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS FOR THE WEST HIGHLAND ROAD RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. (Bostancic)

Councilman Bostancic stated this resolution is to approve the findings of the equalization board on the West Highland project. The board decided to reduce properties on the south side of Highland that do not have direct access to Highland by 10% and the properties on the north side of Highland will receive credit for the amount assessed for the 2016 Safe Routes to Schools sidewalk improvements. Mr. Bostancic also thanked the board for their service.

Councilman Bostancic motioned to suspend the rules, seconded by Councilwoman Warden. Upon roll call motion to suspend the rules carried 6-0. (Sanders – yes; Bostancic-yes; Cavin -yes; Warden – yes; Silvestri – yes; Ansel – yes) (Myers -absent)

Councilman Bostancic motioned to adopt, seconded by Councilman Silvestri. Upon roll call motion to adopt carried 6-0. (Sanders – yes; Bostancic-yes; Cavin -yes; Warden – yes; Silvestri – yes; Ansel – yes) (Myers - absent)

4. First Reading – RESOLUTION NO. 2020-18

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATION TO ADVERTISE ACCORDING TO LAW AND ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH THE LOWEST AND BEST BIDDER FOR THE RECONSTRUCTION OF A PORTION OF WEST HIGHLAND ROAD AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY (Bostancic)

Councilman Bostancic said the funding is approved; it is a budgeted item, let's bid it out.

Councilman Bostancic motioned to adopt, seconded by Councilman Silvestri. Upon roll call motion to adopt carried 6-0. (Sanders – yes; Bostancic-yes; Cavin -yes; Warden – yes; Silvestri – yes; Ansel – yes) (Myers - absent)

5. First Reading – RESOLUTION NO. 2020-19

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATION TO ADVERTISE ACCORDING TO LAW AND ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH THE LOWEST AND BEST BIDDER FOR THE RECONSTRUCTION OF SUNSET LANE AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY (Bostancic)

Councilman Bostancic said this is also a budgeted item and ready to be bid out. Councilwoman Warden asked when construction would start. Mr. Kobilarcsik said it was meant to start when school was out for the summer, but with schools being closed now, they may have an earlier start date.

Councilman Bostancic motioned to adopt, seconded by Councilman Silvestri. Upon roll call motion to adopt carried 6-0. (Sanders – yes; Bostancic-yes; Cavin -yes; Warden – yes; Silvestri – yes; Ansel – yes) (Myers - absent)

6. First Reading – RESOLUTION NO. 2020-20

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATION TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE WAYNE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS FOR THE PROSECUTION OF MUNICIPAL ORDINANCES BY THE WAYNE COUNTY PROSECUTOR AND FOR PAYMENT FOR SUCH SERVICES, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY (Ansel)

Councilman Ansel stated that the service agreement between the Prosecutor's office and the city has been ongoing for 44 years. Wayne County is asking for a 5% increase; Councilman Ansel thinks this is a slam-dunk deal. Councilman Cavin asked if the city is satisfied with the service. Mr. Scavelli said he is quite happy with the service and believes we are getting a good price for the services received. Councilman Myers stated he supports this legislation and the Wayne County Prosecutor's office. It is a budgeted item.

Councilman Ansel motioned to adopt, seconded by Councilman Sanders. Upon roll call motion to adopt carried 6-0. (Sanders – yes; Bostancic-yes; Cavin -yes; Warden – yes; Silvestri – yes; Ansel – yes) (Myers - absent)

VIII. MISCELLANEOUS

Councilman Sanders reminded everyone that a joint Law & Ordinance/Finance committee meeting is scheduled for April 6th at 6:00 p.m. The committee will meet with industry leaders regarding workforce housing.

Councilman Silvestri asked what the city's position was for meeting gathering size. Mr. Montgomery said that the CDC has mandated less than 50, the Ohio Governor has recommended less than 10. Mr. Scavelli said the city may get an order regarding conducting meetings. It is one of the reasons we experimented with the teleconferencing and live-streaming tonight. We will know more in the next two weeks.

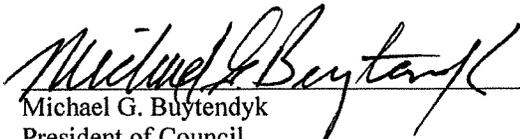
Councilmen Ansel and Cavin both asked the community to follow the recommendations and procedures during this COVID-19 time in order to keep everyone safe.

Councilwoman Warden thanked the business owners for coming to council. She encouraged everyone to do the carry-out and delivery option to help the business owners.

Councilman Bostancic asked about water shut-offs. The Mayor said it will be looked at case by case and the individual should contact our utility department to discuss options.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Councilman Ansel moved to adjourn, seconded by Councilman Cavin. By voice vote, the motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.



Michael G. Buytendyk
President of Council



Lynne DePaulo
Clerk of Council