

WOOSTER CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
November 16, 2020

Due to the Stay at Home order, this city council meeting was held via a Zoom conference call. The recorded video of the meeting is available on the City of Wooster YouTube channel.

I. ROLL CALL & ORDERING OF AGENDA

President Mike Buytendyk called the videoconference meeting of Wooster City Council to order at 7:30 p.m. Lynne DePaulo, Council Clerk, called roll with the following members present; Craig Sanders, Jennifer Warden, David Silvestri, Jon Ansel, Mark Cavin, Bill Bostancic and Scott Myers. City Administration present: Mayor Bob Breneman, Finance Director Andrei Dordea, Director of Administration Joel Montgomery, and Law Director John Scavelli.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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

III. COMMUNICATIONS FROM MAYOR/ADMINISTRATION

The Mayor announced that the 2021 Appropriations Budget proposal had been completed and distributed. He asked Mr. Dordea to speak. Mr. Dordea said that surprisingly even the shutdown and COVID implications the City's revenue is down 1%. Operating expenses also were down with anticipated expenses being 23.7M and actual being 19.3M. The Cares Act funding helped with the revenue and expenses as did the return of the BWC premium. The lack of recreational program activities and all divisions tightening their belts has all contributed to the city being in decent fiscal shape.

Mr. Montgomery said that on page 1-6 there is mention of hiring an additional employee. The potential hire would be used as a School Resource Officer. The proposed budget for 2021 assumes the city will be operating normally.

The Finance Division was acknowledged for 39th consecutive Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting issue by the Government Finance Officers Association of US and Canada.

Mr. Millea said that the Tax Incentive Review Committee meeting was held today. The TIRC is comprised of nine volunteer members who annually review the EZ and CRA agreements. This year they reviewed 12 active EZ and 30 active CRA agreements.

IV. PETITIONS/COMMUNICATIONS FROM PUBLIC -

Questions from a YouTube viewer regarding Ordinance 2020-44 were read.

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS; PUBLIC HEARINGS -

Mr. Ansel requested a Finance Committee meeting to be held on December 7th, at 6:30 p.m. via Zoom to discuss the 2021 Appropriations Budget.

VI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Third Reading – ORDINANCE NO. 2020-42

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 2004-33 BY EXPANDING THE BOUNDARIES OF THE WOOSTER COMMUNITY REINVESTMENT AREA #1 AND PERMITTING NEW CONSTRUCTION FOR RESIDENTIAL CRA TAX INCENTIVES, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY (Ansel)

President Buytendyk announced that Councilman Sanders recused himself from this legislation.

Councilman Ansel stated City Council had six weeks to review and ask questions. This legislation is to extend the boundaries of the CRA to support areas for growth and new projects. We have a plan for success.

Councilman Ansel motioned to adopt, seconded by Councilman Myers. Upon roll call, motion to adopt passed unanimously 5-1. (Bostancic-yes; Warden – yes; Silvestri – yes; Ansel – yes; Myers – yes; Sanders – recused; Cavin-no)

VII. NEW BUSINESS

First Reading – RESOLUTION NO. 2020-55

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATION TO ENTER INTO A PROFESSIONAL OR TECHNICAL SERVICES CONTRACT WITH THE WOOSTER SOCCER ASSOCIATION FOR SOCCER-RELATED ACTIVITIES SERVICES (Myers)

Councilman Myers introduced the legislation saying that this partnership with WSA has been in place for 47 consecutive years. Mr. Battig said that although the number of participants was reduced due to COVID, he is hopeful that the program will rebound this spring.

Councilman Myers motioned to suspend the rules, seconded by Councilman Bostancic. Upon roll call, motion to suspend passed unanimously 7-0. (Bostancic-yes; Warden – yes; Silvestri – yes; Ansel – yes; Myers – yes; Sanders – yes; Cavin-yes)

Councilman Myers motioned to adopt, seconded by Councilman Silvestri. Upon roll call, motion to adopt passed unanimously 7-0. (Bostancic-yes; Warden – yes; Silvestri – yes; Ansel – yes; Myers – yes; Sanders – yes; Cavin-yes)

2. First Reading – RESOLUTION NO. 2020-56

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATION TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH THE WOOSTER YMCA FOR PROFESSIONAL ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES RELATED TO THE MANAGEMENT AND OPERATION OF THE CITY OF WOOSTER'S SWIMMING FACILITIES (Myers)

Councilman Myers said this is another successful partnership. The budget is up a bit this year due to an increase in the minimum wage rate. Mr. Battig gave a brief recap of the summer attendance. Ms. Sommer said that it was a challenging and difficult summer and is hopeful next year will be better.

Councilman Myers motioned to suspend the rules, seconded by Councilman Silvestri. Upon roll call, motion to suspend passed unanimously 7-0. (Bostancic-yes; Warden – yes; Silvestri – yes; Ansel – yes; Myers – yes; Sanders – yes; Cavin-yes)

Councilman Myers motioned to adopt, seconded by Councilman Silvestri. Upon roll call, motion to adopt passed 6-1. (Bostancic-yes; Warden – yes; Silvestri – yes; Ansel – yes; Myers – yes; Sanders – yes; Cavin-no)

3. First Reading – RESOLUTION NO. 2020-62

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AGREEMENTS WITH VARIOUS APPLICANTS FOR THE USE OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT MONIES (Ansel)

Councilman Ansel stated a joint application for the bed tax receipts had been received. The application included three entities, Main Street Wooster, Wooster Chamber of Commerce and Wayne County Visitors Bureau. Ms. Waller (Main Street Wooster) said that normally 1/3 of their budget is comprised of the bed tax funding. The organization has pivoted to provide safe gatherings during COVID. For 2021 one of the main focuses will be to entice new businesses to downtown. Ms. Zimmerly (Wooster Chamber) state that prior to COVID the Chamber provided strong programs to the community. They are now working as a resource for the business community

budget will be presented to council on 11-16-20, and Administration has scheduled meetings with two council members at a time to discuss the details. There will be a Finance Committee Zoom meeting and in December council will be ready to approve the budget. It is a very, very important component of being elected representatives.

Councilman Silvestri wants a copy of the bed tax application to review. Clerk DePaulo said it is scanned and will send it to him. Councilman Silvestri brought up two issues that have come to his attention. He requested a second dog park be put in place at a northern location, possibly at Oak Hill Park. Mayor Breneman said that due to deed restrictions, Oak Hill Park is not an option. The dog park at Schellin Park is used often, and a request for a second dog park was not on Administration's radar, but they can look into it. The other issue is the stop sign at the intersection of Oak Hill and W. Liberty. He said with the latest accident at that location, perhaps some additional signage is needed. Mr. Montgomery said to submit a request to the Traffic Commission.

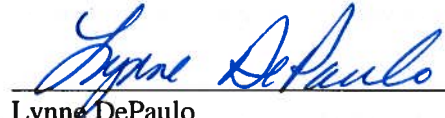
Councilwoman Warden brought up the issue of Proud Boy posters being found around town and spoke out against hate organizations.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Councilman Ansel moved to adjourn, seconded by Councilman Myers. 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

Councilman Silvestri said this polymer removes the excess water at the Water Recovery Resource Facility. Part of the bid process will be for the companies to provide lab samples and trial run samples to be sure we have the quality we need before entering a 24-month commitment.

Councilman Silvestri motioned to suspend the rules, seconded by Councilman Ansel. Upon roll call, motion to suspend passed unanimously 7-0. (Bostancic-yes; Warden – yes; Silvestri – yes; Ansel – yes; Myers – yes; Sanders – yes; Cavin-yes)

Councilman Silvestri motioned to adopt, seconded by Councilman Myers. Upon roll call, motion to adopt passed unanimously 7-0. (Bostancic-yes; Warden – yes; Silvestri – yes; Ansel – yes; Myers – yes; Sanders – yes; Cavin-yes)

5. First Reading – RESOLUTION NO. 2020-59

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATION TO ADVERTISE ACCORDING TO LAW AND ENTER INTO A CONTRACT(S) WITH THE LOWEST AND BEST BIDDER(S) FOR LIME AND BIOSOLIDS RESIDUAL MANAGEMENT(Silvestri)

Councilman Silvestri said this will be a three-year contract commitment for the biosolids removal.

Councilman Silvestri motioned to suspend the rules, seconded by Councilman Ansel. Upon roll call, motion to suspend passed unanimously 7-0. (Bostancic-yes; Warden – yes; Silvestri – yes; Ansel – yes; Myers – yes; Sanders – yes; Cavin-yes)

Councilman Silvestri motioned to adopt, seconded by Councilman Myers. Upon roll call, motion to adopt passed unanimously 7-0. (Bostancic-yes; Warden – yes; Silvestri – yes; Ansel – yes; Myers – yes; Sanders – yes; Cavin-yes)

6. First Reading – RESOLUTION NO. 2020-60

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATION TO ADVERTISE ACCORDING TO LAW AND ENTER INTO A CONTRACT(S) WITH THE LOWEST AND BEST BIDDER(S) FOR THE PURCHASE OF MAINTENANCE SERVICES AND IMPROVEMENTS FOR THE BIOGAS COMBINED HEAT AND POWER ENGINE AT THE WASTE RECOVERY RESOURCE FACILITY(Silvestri)

Councilman Silvestri said this is the engine that generates the power for the plant. It is in need of service. Mr. Coey said they hope to have the work done in March/April.

Councilman Silvestri motioned to suspend the rules, seconded by Councilwoman Warden. Upon roll call, motion to suspend passed unanimously 7-0. (Bostancic-yes; Warden – yes; Silvestri – yes; Ansel – yes; Myers – yes; Sanders – yes; Cavin-yes)

Councilman Silvestri motioned to adopt, seconded by Councilman Myers. Upon roll call, motion to adopt passed unanimously 7-0. (Bostancic-yes; Warden – yes; Silvestri – yes; Ansel – yes; Myers – yes; Sanders – yes; Cavin-yes)

VIII. MISCELLANEOUS –

Councilman Ansel spoke on the Bed Tax Allocation Request. Council Members will review the joint application received from Main Street Wooster, Wooster Chamber, and the Wayne County Visitors Bureau. The bed tax receipts are significantly lower this year due to COVID and he wants the entities to be aware that the funding will not be as high as they are used to receiving; it will be closer to the base amount of \$50,000.

Councilman Ansel informed council that the appropriations budget would be presented at the November 16th meeting and will go for three readings. There will be a Finance Committee meeting schedule via Zoom the week of November 23rd or the following week. A multi-step approach to the budget is proposed; the appropriations