

WOOSTER CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
December 21, 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 Silvestri moved to approve the minutes of the December 7, 2020 meeting, seconded by Councilman Ansel. Upon voice vote, the minutes were approved unanimously.

III. COMMUNICATIONS FROM MAYOR/ADMINISTRATION

Mayor Breneman asked for city council to renew and approve his nominee, Gary Thompson, to the Wooster Community Hospital Board. Councilman Myers motioned to accept the nominee, seconded by Councilman Silvestri. Upon roll call, the motion to accept passed unanimously 7-0. (Bostancic-yes; Warden – yes; Silvestri – yes; Ansel – yes; Myers – yes; Sanders – yes; Cavin-yes)

There is one more representative the Mayor needs to appoint to the Hospital Board. He promised to have his nominee to city council before the January 18th meeting.

Mayor Breneman stated that the COVID vaccine Moderna had been delivered to Wooster Community Hospital and is expected to be distributed to the health care workers first. He stressed the importance of following COVID guidelines during the holiday season to avoid a spike in cases.

IV. PETITIONS/COMMUNICATIONS FROM PUBLIC -

Councilman Ansel made a motion to waive the liquor control hearing for Schacarr LLC, seconded by Councilwoman Warden. Upon roll call, the motion passed 7-0. (Myers – yes; Sanders – yes; Bostancic-yes; Cavin-yes; Silvestri – yes, Warden –yes; Ansel - yes)

There were no comments from viewers. Mr. Scavelli read an email from Val Williams regarding the Mel Lane right-of-way vacation.

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS; PUBLIC HEARINGS –

Councilman Sanders opened the public hearing regarding Ordinance 2020-50, Rezoning 437 E. South Street. He asked for anyone in support of the legislation to speak first. Mr. John Keating, representing the applicant, spoke in support of the legislation. Councilman Sanders then asked if anyone wanted to speak as opposed to the legislation. There were none.

Councilman Sanders then opened the public hearing regarding Ordinance 2020-51, 1751 E. Smithville-Western. He asked for anyone in support of the petition to vacate speak first. Mr. Matt Long, representing the applicant, spoke in support of the legislation. Councilman Sanders then asked if anyone wanted to speak as opposed to the legislation. Mr. Scavelli stated he had sent council emails from two concerned citizens opposed to the legislation.

Councilman Sanders then closed the public hearings.

VI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Second Reading – ORDINANCE NO. 2020-45

AN ORDINANCE VACATING A DEDICATED RIGHT-OF-WAY ADJACENT TO MEL LANE IN THE CITY OF WOOSTER (Bostancic)

Councilman Bostancic said that residents are concerned with safety along Mel Lane while the City is concerned with not being able to provide access for any development. In the last week, a new developer has submitted an application to the planning commission for the development of the vacant land. Councilman Bostancic suggested this legislation could possibly be tabled in order to see what the developer and planning commission decide.

Councilmen Myers and Ansel both support the idea of tabling the legislation.

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

First Reading – RESOLUTION NO. 2020-67

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATION TO CONTRACT WITH COMMUNITY ACTION OF WAYNE/MEDINA COUNTIES FOR THE PROVISION OF TRANSPORTATION SERVICES FOR QUALIFIED PARTICIPANTS, AND ALLOWING FOR IMMEDIATE ENACTMENT (Myers)

Councilman Myers introduced the legislation and said that CAW/M and our Recreation Department had provided council with a very informative transportation package. Leslie Baus, CAW/M, thanked council for the opportunity to manage the program. For the last eight months, the transportation program has been a life-line to the community.

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

VII. NEW BUSINESS

First Reading – ORDINANCE NO. 2020-50

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING PART ELEVEN, PLANNING AND ZONING CODE, OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF WOOSTER, OHIO, TO ZONE LAND (00.49 ACRES) TO C-4 (CENTRAL BUSINESS) FOR PROPERTY LOCATED AT 437 EAST SOUTH STREET AND KNOWN AS PARCELS 64-00014.000, 64-01130.000, AND 64-00013.000 (Sanders)

Councilman Sanders said that Minglewood Distillery is requesting the property to be rezoned to C-4 since the properties to the north and west are zoned as C-4 as well. The legislation had its first reading.

First Reading – ORDINANCE NO. 2020-51

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING PART ELEVEN, PLANNING AND ZONING CODE, OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF WOOSTER, OHIO, TO ZONE LAND (00.46 ACRES) TO C-3 (GENERAL COMMERCIAL) FOR PROPERTY LOCATED AT 1751 E. SMITHVILLE WESTERN ROAD AND KNOWN AS PARCEL 71-00323.000 (Sanders)

Councilman Sanders said this is a request to change the zoning from R1 to C3. A few neighbors have sent in their concerns regarding the rezoning to commercial. Councilman Myers suggested anyone with questions to contact Mr. Dutton, Planning & Zoning Manager. Mr. Dutton talked briefly about the zoning code. The legislation had its first reading.

First Reading – RESOLUTION NO. 2020-71

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO SUBMIT AN APPLICATION TO THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES PROGRAM GRANT MONIES; TO APPLY SUCH FUNDS, IF AWARDED; AND TO EXECUTE ANY NECESSARY DOCUMENTS IN CONNECTION THEREWITH, AND PROVIDING FOR IMMEDIATE ENACTMENT (Myers)

Councilman Myers said this is an exciting opportunity to apply for grant funds. This is a nice extension to our bike path system and will act as a connector trail. If the grant is awarded, it will provide 95% of the funding for the \$880,000 project.

Mr. Millea, Economic Development Coordinator, spoke on the photo campaign that will be launched soon on the City of Wooster Recreation page. You will be able to download a sign in support of ODOT and the bike trails, take a selfie and send it to the city and it will be included in the grant information.

Councilman Myers suggested getting some signs to RideOn in order to promote community involvement with the photo campaign.

Councilman Myers motioned to suspend the rules, seconded by Councilman Cavin. 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 Cavin. Upon roll call, motion to adopt passed 6-0. (Bostancic-yes; Warden – yes; Silvestri – yes; Ansel – yes; Myers – inaudible, fell off the zoom conference – no vote; Sanders – yes; Cavin-yes)

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-72

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE TO ISSUE PAYMENT FOR SERVICES RENDERED PRIOR TO THE FISCAL OFFICER'S CERTIFICATION OF AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS, AND PROVIDING FOR IMMEDIATE ENACTMENT (Ansel)

Councilman Ansel said this was a mishap with the purchase order being liquidated before receiving the end of the year invoice from the vendor.

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

First Reading – ORDINANCE NO. 2020-52

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING ANNEXATION OF MUNICIPALLY-OWNED PROPERTY CONTIGUOUS TO THE EXISTING CORPORATION LIMITS, PURSUANT TO OHIO REVISED CODE SECTION 709.14, AND AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF LAW TO PROSECUTE THE PROCEEDINGS NECESSARY TO EFFECT IT, AND PROVIDING FOR IMMEDIATE ENACTMENT (Sanders)

Councilman Sanders said the City had purchased this property along Geyers Chapel Road a few months ago and it needs to be annexed so that the property is within the corporation limits.

Councilman Sanders 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)

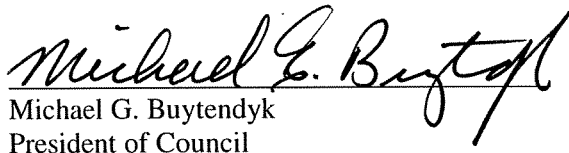
Councilman Sanders motioned to adopt, seconded by Councilman Silvestri. Upon roll call, motion to adopt passed unanimously 7-0. (Bostancic-yes; Warden – yes; Silvestri – yes; Ansel – yes; Myers – yes; Sanders – yes; Cavin-yes)


VIII. MISCELLANEOUS

All councilpersons took the time to wish everyone Seasons Greetings and thanked the City Administration, City employees and their fellow councilmen for working together during 2020 and the special efforts needed during the pandemic.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Councilman Ansel moved to adjourn, seconded by Councilman Cavin. By voice vote, the motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 9:10 p.m.


Michael G. Buytendyk
President of Council


Lynne DePaulo
Clerk of Council