

WOOSTER CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

6/5/2023

I. ROLL CALL & ORDERING OF AGENDA

President Mike Buytendyk called the regular meeting of Wooster City Council to order at 7:40 p.m. Clerk Lynne DePaulo called roll with the following members present; Craig Sanders, Scott Myers, Bob Reynolds, Mark Cavin, Jon Ansel, Barb Knapic and Jen Warden. City Administration present: Mayor Bob Breneman, Director of Administration Joel Montgomery, and Law Director John Scavelli.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilwoman Warden moved to approve the minutes of the May 15, 2023 regular meeting, seconded by Councilman Cavin. Upon voice vote, the minutes were approved.

III. COMMUNICATIONS FROM MAYOR/ADMINISTRATION

Mayor Breneman said Fire Station #1 is closed and the department is working out of the facility on Mechanicsburg Road. The renovation to Fire Station #1 will take around 1 ½ years.

Share Mobility started on May 20th; there have been no negative comments.

Fireworks will be Tuesday, July 4th at dusk. Mayor Breneman thanked the Wooster Exchange Club for their donations and service to the community by providing the firework show.

IV. PETITIONS/COMMUNICATIONS FROM PUBLIC - NONE

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS; PUBLIC HEARINGS

Councilman Ansel summarized the Utility Committee meeting held before city council. Palmer Energy was present to answer questions on electric and gas aggregation. City Council is considering legislation to place the aggregation program on the November ballot. The meeting was well attended by the public and many questions were answered.

Councilman Sanders stated a public hearing needed to be held for Resolution No. 2023-36, the Annual Tax Budget. He opened the public hearing to questions or comments. None were made either for or against the legislation. Councilman Sanders closed the public hearing.

VI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Third Reading – ORDINANCE NO. 2023-18

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 1351.04, AMENDMENTS OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF WOOSTER (Reynolds)

Councilman Reynolds stated this legislation enables the City to provide some oversight and enforcement on mobile home parks. This Ordinance presents a broad range of items for the City's Building Standards Division to inspect and enforce. Councilman Myers stated this is an overreaching piece of legislation. Councilwoman Knapic said she would prefer overreaching rather than not enough.

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

2. Third Reading – RESOLUTION NO. 2023-32

A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE WOOSTER TAX INCENTIVE REVIEW COUNCIL WITH RESPECT TO EXISTING ENTERPRISE ZONE AGREEMENTS, COMMUNITY REINVESTMENT AREA AGREEMENTS, AND TAX INCREMENT FINANCING PROJECTS (Sanders)

Council members Sanders and Warden recused themselves. Councilman Myers said that this legislation is clear on what it entails. Councilwoman Knapic said this is a well-run program and is impressed with the numbers.

Councilman Myers moved to adopt, seconded by Councilwoman Knapic. Upon roll call, motion to adopt passed 5-0. (Ansel – yes; Reynolds – yes; Sanders – recused, Myers – yes, Cavin – yes, Warden – recused; Knapic - yes)

Council members Sanders and Warden returned to the podium.

3. Third Reading – RESOLUTION NO. 2023-33

A RESOLUTION PETITIONING THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF WAYNE COUNTY, OHIO, FOR A CHANGE OF TOWNSHIP LINES TO CONFORM WITH THE CORPORATION LIMITS OF THE CITY OF WOOSTER AND ALLOWING FOR IMMEDIATE ENACTMENT (Reynolds)

Councilman Reynolds said that all notices had been sent. The County Auditor and Board of Elections really appreciate when the boundaries are conformed. This legislation is for the recently annexed 32.234 acres on Melrose Drive.

Councilman Reynolds moved to adopt, seconded by Councilman Sanders. Upon roll call, motion to adopt passed 7-0. (Ansel – yes; Reynolds – yes; Sanders – yes, Myers – yes, Cavin – yes, Warden – yes; Knapic - yes)

4. Second Reading – RESOLUTION NO. 2023-34

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ALL ACTIONS NECESSARY TO AFFECT A GOVERNMENTAL ELECTRICITY AGGREGATION PROGRAM WITH OPT-OUT PROVISIONS PURSUANT TO SECTION 4928.20 OF THE OHIO REVISED CODE, DIRECTING THE WAYNE COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS TO SUBMIT A BALLOT QUESTION TO THE ELECTORS. (Ansel)

Councilman Ansel said this is considered to have its second reading; if approved on June 20th, it will be placed on the November 2023 ballot.

5. Second Reading – RESOLUTION NO. 2023-35

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ALL ACTIONS NECESSARY TO AFFECT A GOVERNMENTAL NATURAL GAS AGGREGATION PROGRAM WITH OPT-OUT PROVISIONS PURSUANT TO SECTION 4929.26 OF THE OHIO REVISED CODE, DIRECTING THE WAYNE COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS TO SUBMIT A BALLOT QUESTION TO THE ELECTORS. (Ansel)

Councilman Ansel said this is the same as the previous legislation. It is considered to have its second reading.

6. Second Reading – RESOLUTION NO. 2023-36

A RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE ANNUAL TAX BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2024 (Sanders)

Councilman Sanders said the public hearing had been held. The legislation is considered to have its second reading.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

1. First Reading – RESOLUTION NO. 2023-37

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATION TO ENTER INTO A COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT WITH THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO ACCEPT GRANT MONIES FOR IMPROVEMENTS OF TRAFFIC SIGNALS AND ALLOWING FOR IMMEDIATE ENACTMENT (Warden)

Councilwoman Warden said this legislation is to accept grant money from ODOT in the amount of \$55,000. The funding will be used towards improving the traffic signalization at the GOJO intersection.

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

Councilwoman Warden moved to adopt, seconded by Councilwoman Knapic. Upon roll call, motion to adopt passed 7-0. (Ansel – yes; Reynolds – yes; Sanders – yes, Myers – yes, Cavin – yes, Warden – yes; Knapic - yes)

2. First Reading – RESOLUTION NO. 2023-38

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATION TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH AXON FOR THE PURCHASE OF AXON BODY CAMERAS AND ALLOWING FOR IMMEDIATE ENACTMENT (Cavin)

Councilman Cavin said the Axon contract needs renewed. The body cameras are at the end of their useful life. The Police Department is quite happy with Axon and its services. This legislation will provide a multi-year contract to replace the body cameras and provide data cloud storage.

Councilman Cavin moved to suspend the rules, seconded by Councilman Ansel. Upon roll call, motion to suspend passed 7-0. (Ansel – yes; Reynolds – yes; Sanders – yes, Myers – yes, Cavin – yes, Warden – yes; Knapic - yes)

Councilman Cavin moved to adopt, seconded by Councilman Myers. Upon roll call, motion to adopt passed 7-0. (Ansel – yes; Reynolds – yes; Sanders – yes, Myers – yes, Cavin – yes, Warden – yes; Knapic - yes)

3. First Reading – RESOLUTION NO. 2023-39

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT WITH WAYNE COUNTY AND THE CITY OF ORRVILLE FOR MAKING AN APPLICATION TO THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENT FOR A SMALL CITIES COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT FOR COMMUNITY HOUSING IMPACT AND PRESERVATION (CHIP) FUNDS, FOR IMMEDIATE ENACTMENT (Sanders)

Councilman Reynolds recused himself. Councilman Sanders said this will renew the CHIP agreement and apply for CHIP funding.

Councilman Sanders moved to suspend the rules, seconded by Councilman Ansel. Upon roll call, motion to suspend passed 6-0. (Ansel – yes; Reynolds – recused; Sanders – yes, Myers – yes, Cavin – yes, Warden – yes; Knapic - yes)

Councilman Sanders moved to adopt, seconded by Councilman Myers. Upon roll call, motion to adopt passed 6-0. (Ansel – yes; Reynolds – recused; Sanders – yes, Myers – yes, Cavin – yes, Warden – yes; Knapic - yes)

4. First Reading – RESOLUTION NO. 2023-40

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE WAYNE METROPOLITAN HOUSING AUTHORITY FOR ADMINISTRATIVE CONSULTING SERVICES FOR A SMALL CITIES COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT FOR A COMMUNITY HOUSING IMPACT AND PRESERVATION (CHIP) PROGRAM AND FOR IMMEDIATE ENACTMENT (Sanders)

Councilman Reynolds was still recused. Councilman Sanders this is a service agreement with WMHA to provide administrative authority for the CHIP program.

Councilman Sanders moved to suspend the rules, seconded by Councilwoman Knapic. Upon roll call, motion to suspend passed 6-0. (Ansel – yes; Reynolds – recused; Sanders – yes, Myers – yes, Cavin – yes, Warden – yes; Knapic - yes)

Councilman Sanders moved to adopt, seconded by Councilman Myers. Upon roll call, motion to adopt passed 6-0. (Ansel – yes; Reynolds – recused; Sanders – yes, Myers – yes, Cavin – yes, Warden – yes; Knapic - yes)

Councilman Reynolds returned to the podium.

5. First Reading – RESOLUTION NO. 2023-41

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR UTILITY PREVENTATIVE MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR ITEMS FOR UTILITY INFRASTRUCTURE AND ALLOWING FOR IMMEDIATE ENACTMENT (Ansel)

Councilman Ansel said the Utility Division keeps certain items in stock for repairs and maintenance. With price increases, they are reaching the \$50,000 limit for purchases from a single vendor, Core & Main. The legislation is to request going over the \$50,000 threshold for purchases with Core & Main.

Councilman Ansel moved to adopt, seconded by Councilwoman Warden. Discussion followed the motion.

Councilwoman Knapic said this legislation is too open-ended. She would like to see a cap on the amount to be spent. Councilman Ansel would like more information provided by Utility Manager Mike Fritz.

A motion to withdraw the motion to adopt was made by Councilman Ansel, seconded by Councilwoman Knapic. Upon roll call, the motion for withdrawal passed 6-1. (Ansel – yes; Reynolds – yes; Sanders – yes, Myers – no, Cavin – yes, Warden – yes; Knapic - yes)

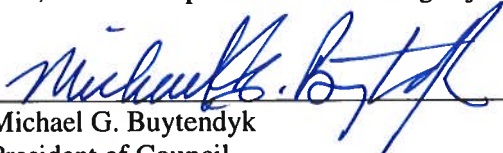
VIII. MISCELLANEOUS

Councilwoman Warden said she has had positive feedback from the new Share Mobility program.

Councilman Reynolds said the Utility Committee provided a great overview of utility aggregation, which seems to be a great opportunity for the community. Councilman Reynolds thanked those that participated in the Memorial Day Parade and attended the memorial service at Wooster Cemetery.

Councilman Myers announced that the Kiwanis Strawberry Festival is being held on June 13th.

IX. ADJOURNMENT Councilman Ansel motioned to adjourn, seconded by Councilman Myers. Upon voice vote, the motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.



Michael G. Buytendyk
President of Council



Lynne DePaulo
Clerk of Council