

President Chad Doll called the meeting to order at 7:30pm on January 16, 2023 at 701 Parlette Court with the following members present: Ross Kantner, Daniel E. Lee, Brandon Miller, Alex Greve, John Shepline, Terry Campbell and Chad Dunlap. Mayor Steve Henderson, Law Director Grant Neal and Safety Service Director Michael Brillhart were also present. There were 5 visitors present.

Mayor Henderson read a Proclamation to support the 'Let's Back the Blue' law enforcement organization and their efforts in the community, dated January 16, 2023.

Motion by Lee, second by Dunlap to approve the minutes of the January 3, 2023 Council meeting as submitted. Vote – 7 yeas, 0 nays. Motion passed.

Lodging Tax Committee – Mr. Lee summarized a meeting held on 01-16-2023 in which three applications for funding were received.

Motion by Lee, second by Campbell to grant funding in the amount of \$3650 to the Optimist Club for the purchase of 50 U.S. flags and poles for display on Heritage Park Drive. The flags will be placed on display during 5 holidays per year, with the Optimist Club in charge of purchase, placement and maintenance. Mr. Campbell asked how the flags will be secured. Mr. Lee answered this is still in discussion. Mr. Campbell asked about the large flag and pole proposed for Belcher Park. Mr. Lee advised that the location may be changed. Vote – 7 yeas, 0 nays. Motion passed.

Motion by Lee, second by Miller to grant funding in the amount of \$6500 to the Community Fireworks Association to help pay for this year's 4th of July celebration fireworks held at the Auglaize County Fairgrounds. Vote – 7 yeas, 0 nays. Motion passed.

Motion by Lee, second by Dunlap to grant funding in the amount of \$3000 to Miss Emma Hunley for her Girl Scout Gold Award project to purchase a new D.A.R.E. vehicle for the Auglaize County Sheriff's Department. Vote – 7 yeas, 0 nays. Motion passed.

Utilities Committee – a meeting was held on 01-04-2023 and the following was discussed:

First on the agenda was the drainage problem at the property of Alex and Megan Brown. At the end of a lengthy discussion, it was decided that the city would continue to look for areas to mitigate the water problem by use of a swale and drainage options.

The city will stay in communication with the Browns while including the SSD and all appropriate departments in each communication.

Second on the agenda was a request for a variance to the property owned by Randy LaMarr Sr. It was requested that he be given a variance so that he may build on to his existing home. The set back that Mr. LaMarr requested is within the guidelines of the Wilderness subdivision and will not hinder the cities utilities. With the knowledge that the request is within the subdivision guidelines, Terry Campbell made the motion to grant the variance. It was seconded by Mr. Greve. The motion passed 3-0.

Lastly, Mr Brillhart, shared with the committee an update on the proposed water tower for the Short Road. The city is still pursuing the construction of said water tower. The cost is estimated at approximately 16 Million dollars and will go out for bid this year. The proposed water tower will be able to increase the water pressure for the southern end of the city while closing the loop of water around the city. This will also be an advantage for the commercial users of water.

Health & Safety Committee – a meeting was held on 01-05-2023 and the following was discussed:

The committee discussed an amendment to the city employee manual for inclement weather in section 4.09. There were updates in the verbiage to improve communication between the Sheriff's office, city management and the city employees. The changes reflect the most up to date policies.

Motion to accept changes from Dunlap and 2nd by Lee. Motion passed 3-0.

Mr. Brillhart will draft an ordinance to update the policy and bring before council.

Guest Petitions -

Mrs. Jackie Martell of 411 W. Auglaize Street and representing the Wapakoneta Chamber of Commerce requested Council's permission and support for road closures, electric services and safety forces for the annual Party in the Park concert series, Summer Moon Festival and Halloween Parade. Mrs. Martell

provided Council with an overview and plan for each event, as well as a map layout for the 2023 Summer Moon Festival details.

Motion by Dunlap, second by Kantner to approve the request for the Party in the Park concert series for 2023. Vote – 7 yeas, 0 nays. Motion passed.

Motion by Campbell, second by Shepline to approve the request for the 2023 Summer Moon Festival. Vote – 7 yeas, 0 nays. Motion passed.

Motion by Miller, second by Shepline to approve the request for the 2023 Wapakoneta Halloween Parade. Vote – 7 yeas, 0 nays. Motion passed.

New Business-

Service Director Brillhart explained a request for a decrease of easement at 1505 Apache Trail for the property owner to accommodate an ADA handicap accessibility need. Mr. Lee and Mr. Campbell clarified that the proposed decrease will still fall within guidelines and specifications for “R-2” residential zoning. Motion by Campbell, second by Lee to approve the request. Vote – 7 yeas, 0 nays. Motion passed.

Mayor Henderson asked for remembrance and a moment of silence for the recent passing of Mr. Lewie Knoch, who served as Superintendent of the City of Wapakoneta Light Department from 1964 through 1998.

President Doll asked Clerk to read Ord 2022-75 for the third time re: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 260.10(f) “PAY PLAN” OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF WAPAKONETA, OHIO FOR NON-COLLECTIVE BARGAINING UNIT EMPLOYEES.

Motion by Miller, second by Lee to adopt Ord 2022-75. Vote – 7 yeas, 0 nays. Motion passed.

President Doll asked Clerk to read Ord 2022-76 for the third time re: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 260.17(A) “HOLIDAYS” OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF WAPAKONETA, OHIO AND SECTION 5.04(A)(1) OF THE PERSONNEL POLICY AND PROCEDURE MANUAL FOR NON-COLLECTIVE BARGAINING UNIT EMPLOYEES.

Motion by Lee, second by Shepline to adopt Ord 2022-76. Vote – 7 yeas, 0 nays. Motion passed.

President Doll asked Clerk to read Ord 2022-77 for the third time re: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE ANNUAL SALARY COMPENSATION FOR CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS AND THE COUNCIL PRESIDENT FOR THE CITY OF WAPAKONETA, OHIO.

Motion by Campbell, second by Miller to adopt Ord 2022-77. Vote – 7 yeas, 0 nays. Motion passed.

President Doll asked Clerk to read Ord 2023-01 for the second time re: AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF SAFETY AND SERVICE TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS AND ENTER INTO CONTRACTS FOR CERTAIN MATERIALS, SERVICES, AND EQUIPMENT RENTAL REQUIRED FOR THE OPERATION OF THE VARIOUS DEPARTMENTS OF THE CITY OF WAPAKONETA.

President Doll asked Clerk to read Ord 2023-02 for the second time re: AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF SAFETY AND SERVICE TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT WITH THE DUCHOUQUET TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES FOR FURNISHING OF FIRE PROTECTION AND AMBULANCE SERVICE.

President Doll asked Clerk to read Ord 2023-03 for the second time re: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 5.12 “FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE” OF THE PERSONNEL POLICY AND PROCEDURE MANUAL OF THE CITY OF WAPAKONETA, OHIO.

President Doll asked Clerk to read Ord 2023-04 for the second time re: AN ORDINANCE ENACTING THE RECREATION MANAGER POSITION AND CREATING THE ACCOMPANYING JOB DESCRIPTION FOR THE CITY OF WAPAKONETA, OHIO.

President Doll asked Clerk to read Ord 2023-05 for the second time re: AN ORDINANCE ENACTING SECTION 4.10 “BANKED HOURS” OF THE PERSONNEL POLICY AND PROCEDURE MANUAL OF THE CITY OF WAPAKONETA, OHIO.

President Doll asked Clerk to read Ord 2023-08 for the first time re: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 4.09 "INCLEMENT WEATHER" OF THE PERSONNEL POLICY AND PROCEDURE MANUAL OF THE CITY OF WAPAKONETA, OHIO.

Service Director Brillhart noted that the City's inclement weather policy had not been updated for over 20 years. This ordinance will better define the expectations for City staff in the event of adverse weather.

President Doll asked Clerk to read Res 2023-09 for the first time re: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A GRANT APPLICATION WRITING AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF WAPAKONETA AND OHIO FIRST RESPONDER GRANTS, LLC.

Service Director Brillhart stated the grant application will be written to obtain funding for self-contained breathing apparatus equipment for the fire department.

President Doll asked Clerk to read Res 2023-10 for the first time re: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE AND SAFETY TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS SPECIFIC TO THE PURCHASE OF A HOOKLIFT TRUCK FOR THE CITY OF WAPAKONETA PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Service Director Brillhart explained that the equipment needed is difficult to find and extra time would be beneficial. Mr. Joe Wireman of 207 E. Mechanic Street and employee of the Public Works Department advised Council that the truck currently in use is from 1987 and needs replaced. The proposed new hooklift truck will allow his crew to work more efficiently and complete multiple types of jobs. Mr. Wireman also expressed that timing is of the essence to secure any equipment orders right now. Mr. Lee asked if Auditor Wells is aware of the request. SSD Brillhart explained that Auditor Wells is working to close the books for 2022, therefore Administration is only seeking to request for bids at this time for the new equipment. A request for a specific purchase will come later.

Motion by Lee, second by Campbell to suspend the rules for Res 2023-10. Vote – 7 yeas, 0 nays. Motion passed.

Motion by Lee, second by Dunlap to adopt Res 2023-10. Vote – 7 yeas, 0 nays. Motion passed.

Mayor report:

Mayor Henderson clarified that the lodging tax dollars request in the amount of \$3650 came from 'Flags of Freedom Foundation', not the Optimist Club as earlier stated.

Recommend the appointment of Mrs. Kristin Doll to the Tax Incentive Review Board.

Invitation to Council to attend a ribbon-cutting of R.E.Becker on Madison Place on January 21st.

Eitry Foundry might be recognized by Google News Project.

Electric Department Superintendent Levi Cecil is working to get the distribution cables pulled for the new substation to the PMA switches.

Mayor Henderson stated after recent discussion with some residents on Stoneybrook Drive, he wished to clarify that the proposed stop signs at the intersection of Stoneybrook and Carnation Drives were installed by City Council request and subsequently removed by City Council request. Mr. Miller noted that the Streets and Alleys Committee is working on developing guidelines for future citizen requests for traffic calming.

Package of mementos and other items recently received by our Sister City, Lengerich Germany.

President Doll asked for a voice vote to approve the appointment of Kristin Doll to the Tax Incentive Review Board. Vote – 7 yeas, 0 nays.

Service Director report:

Request for Streets and Alleys Committee meeting to discuss the Level II vehicle charging station and the mill and pave street list.

Mr. Campbell noted that the striping on Bellefontaine Street in the area of the truck stop is faded and needs redone.

Mr. Miller asked for an update on the compensation study. SSD Brillhart advised the study is due this Friday.

Law Director report:

Survey being completed for the Easttown property.

Developing guidelines for citizen requests for traffic calming.

Scheduling Committee Meetings:

Parks Committee will meet on January 18th at 6:30pm at City Hall.

Lodging Tax Committee will meet on February 20th at 6:15pm at City Hall as needed.

Streets & Alleys Committee will meet on January 24th at 3:30pm at City Hall.

Miscellaneous Business:

Mr. Kantner referenced the communication breakdown mentioned within the Utilities Committee minutes. Mr. Kantner stated that the City's Engineering Department had changed plans without notifying the Safety Service Director until a month later, and he feels this is a repeating problem that needs addressed. SSD Brillhart assured Mr. Kantner the matter of clear communication will be brought up again with all department heads.

Mr. Kantner stated he received an email from a citizen asking why he voted 'no' on Res 2022-74R regarding the Wapak WaterPark and YMCA contract. Mr. Kantner stated he felt the Recreation Board ought to have been involved in the negotiations of the contract. Mr. Kantner added that the language of our City Ordinances ought to be followed as written. Law Director Grant Neal stated that his interpretation of the language and the explanation he provided during the January 3, 2023 Council meeting still stands.

Motion by Campbell, second by Miller to adjourn the meeting at 8:34pm. Vote – 7 yeas, 0 nays. Motion passed.

President

Clerk of Council