

Regular/Public

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Council President Baker called the regular meeting to order and offered the prayer. The Pledge was recited by all.

Roll call: Shupp, Wilson, Vance, Hamsher, Aspiras, Corfman and Leathers were present.

Vance moved and Wilson seconded that the minutes of the February 18, 2014, regular meeting be adopted. Roll call vote; all yeas; motion carried.

Standing Committee Reports:

No Report for Utilities, Parks and Recreation, Transportation, Planning, Ordinance & Personnel
Finance – Aspiras: Thank you, Mr. President. In the world of finance we do have up tonight on first reading Resolution 8-14 and that is the 2014 Final Appropriations. All my fellow councilmen got their booklets this week and also I will remind Council that we do have our workshop next Thursday, March 13, at 6:00. And we'll go over these appropriations in details. Ms. Strimlan has some information prepared for us also.

Health & Safety – Vance: I have no report other than to express my strong opposition to the continued cold temperatures. They are much too low and I think something needs to be done about. I'm ready to burn my dining room table at this point to keep warm. Anyway, hopefully we will all be able to make it through this suffering here soon. Thank you.

Baker: That's a new kind of diet if you don't have a dining room table left.

Administrative Reports:

Mayor Handwerk: Thank you, Mr. President. I would like to announce that our Employee of the Month for March was Duane Steiner. Duane is a Maintenance Worker with the Water and Wastewater Departments and has worked for the Utilities for the past 7 years. His job is to maintain the equipment at both the Water and Wastewater Treatment Plants as well as maintaining the Water Distribution and Wastewater Collection Systems. Duane has a real good attitude and work ethic and is always willing to help out wherever he is needed. Duane and his wife Laura have three daughters; Shannon, Kendra and Ashley. When he is not working, Duane and his family enjoy traveling and camping. We had lunch today at Senor Panchos. I would also like to say that the Music Celebration that is part of our 150th Anniversary that was held Sunday, February 23 was a very good success. We think there were approximately 500 people in attendance there, the sanctuary was overflowing at the Methodist church. We had 10 different churches participate in that as well as Council President Baker and Councilman Corfman both participated in there as well. A very good afternoon. Thank all those who attended and also those who participated. Just a reminder that the Chamber banquet is coming up that's March 25th for anybody that would be planning to go to that. March 26th, a reminder, that very next day is our Vietnam Era Veterans program and that is at noon at the high school auditorium. This next week on Monday Mr. Brediger and I will be traveling to Washington as part of the legislative rally for the APPA and AMP with our chance to visit our Congressman and Senators. And also just to mention that Orrville Clean-Up Week will be April 21-26. And we're going to try and really emphasize that a little bit more even this year. Mr. Wheeler and I have talked to Kimble and we're going to have a dumpster put out at the lower park across from the root beer stand so that people will know that dumpster is there that week for trash bags if they are going around whether its scout groups or church groups or whatever sometimes some of our industries send groups out or businesses to pick up trash. So there will be a banner there to let people know that that's what that is there for. So hopefully we'll get a lot of trash picked up after the trash day last week with the wind storm which we seem to be pretty good at having wind storms on trash night. There was lots of stuff blowing around so we'll have plenty to pick up I'm sure. That's all I have.

Safety Service Director Wheeler: Thank you, Mr. President. I just want to echo Mr. Vance's statement in regards to we too are tired of the cold and our Street Department I am sure is tired of the snow as well by now. Our guys put in quite a few hours this winter. Just a couple other items, Street Department continues to work on the potholes, installation of the park equipment and the Ella Street street light installation as the weather permits. We're hoping to be able to address those items this week if the weather will cooperate and maybe warm up a little for us. Also a reminder that this is Severe Weather Awareness week in the State of Ohio. The annual statewide tornado drill is scheduled for this Wednesday, March 5th 9:50 AM and keep in mind this is only a test when you hear the siren. And that's my report for tonight.

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Utilities Director Brediger: Thank you, Mr. President. Last week at the Public Utility Board the board did approve a resolution decreasing the 2013 4th quarter Power Cost Adjustment Factor. That will result in the rates decreasing approximately 3% for our residential customers. I'll be speaking to a couple of the resolutions under new business. Under our Water Department the EPA recently certified our microbiology lab. We have three people that work out of this area. Earlier in the year the operational lab was also certified by Ohio EPA and we have four people qualified to work in there. The last item I have is last week when the Mayor and I were down in Columbus for the AMP OMEA meeting we did have a chance to meet with Senator LaRose and Representative Amstutz. Both of those two gentlemen are going to try to coordinate a visit up to our community sometime in the near future to go through some of our facilities. And that's all I have tonight, sir.

Corfman: I neglected to report during mine but Utility Board will not be meeting next Monday.

Brediger: That is correct thanks for the reminder.

Corfman: Because of Mr. Brediger and Mayor Handwerk's absence.

Finance Director Strimlan: Thank you, Mr. President. As Mr. Aspiras mentioned, you should have received your final appropriation book for 2014 last week. There were some changes from the 2014 budget that we discussed in June. I had mentioned those at our last meeting. The legislation that's before you tonight does need to go the full three readings on final appropriations. A reminder again we'll be reviewing the changes that we made from the budget, other line items and will answer any questions you have next Thursday. If you have any questions between now and then though please feel free to call me but we'll go over everything in depth that night. Also I'd like to mention to you prior to tonight's meeting I did distribute a press release that was issued last week by Dave Yost the Auditor of the State of Ohio. As you can read the City of Orrville has received the Auditor of State Award of Distinction for 2012. Entities that received that award need to have a clean audit, no significant deficiencies or findings and no material weaknesses or citations. Just to give you a little bit of background on the award, the Auditor of the State is responsible for auditing over 5800 entities. Of the entities that prepare full CAFR similar to what the City of Orrville does, only 108 entities received that award in 2012. So it is quite an accomplishment. The City and all the residents that we serve can be very proud of. The other item I distributed was the news release from the Government Financial Officers Association stating we did receive their Award of Excellence in Financial Reporting for our CAFR for the year ending December 31, 2012. The award given by the GFOA is the highest form of recognition of government accounting and financial reporting. It represents a significant accomplishment by the government and its management of their finances. The evaluation process for that award, it is judged by an impartial panel to determine if the CAFR meets the high standards of the program, that it demonstrates full disclosure and clearly communicates the city's financial story to anyone who might review it. This is the 12th consecutive year the City has received the award so we're very proud of that. I'd like to thank the Finance Department for all the work they put into the audit and the CAFR preparation. It takes a long time to pull it all together. I also want to thank Mayor Handwerk, the Utilities Director, the Safety Service Director, our Law Director, and all of their personnel. The award does come to the Finance Department but it truly belongs to the entire City. A lot of the things that we do in Finance couldn't be done without the cooperation of all the employees in the respective departments. So I'd like them to pass along our appreciation and congratulations to everyone. It truly is a citywide effort. And I'd also like to thank Council for the support that they put into all of our financial endeavors and all the oversight that the Finance Chair shows in these efforts. And that's all I have for this evening.

Law Director Kirkbride: No report.

Council President Baker: This evening for my report our clerk has a zoning application.

Gault: We have a request from Ruth Eberly for 1524 North Crown Hill to rezone. I believe I sent that out to all of you. That needs to be referred to Planning.

Baker: Do we need to have a motion for that. No. Okay.

Baker: One thing I would like to remind people of after Saturday night and next Sunday keep in mind that the time will be changing. So that means that our meetings will still begin at 7:30. So make sure that you get your times changed. Also for Sunday morning if you don't want to be late for church you may want to change your time before you go to bed. We have no old business scheduled for this evening. We do have new business this evening though and we will now listen to Ms. Leathers.

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New Business:

Leathers moved that Resolution 5-14 be place on first reading. Hamsher seconded. Roll call vote; all yeas; motion carried. **RESOLUTION 5-14**, A Resolution authorizing the Safety-Service Director to enter into a contract and/or contracts for bridge inspection with the Ohio Department of Transportation and declaring an emergency.

Wheeler: The Ohio Department of Transportation has created a new program whereby they contract out annual bridge inspections at their cost for municipalities. The city annually is required to do this inspection and has in the past. The costs range anywhere from \$1000 to \$4500 depending on the extent of the inspection. We are required to do a pretty extensive inspection every few years. With this new program ODOT assumes all those responsibilities, contracts them out obviously regionally and statewide in order to get the best prices on the engineering and they handle all of those administrative things as well as the costs associated as part of this new program. I don't know what the negative is in regards to us moving forward with this. I thought at the minimum we'll give it a shot here this first year and see how it goes and if there are negatives we'll see what they are and then adjust accordingly at that point. But to me this seems like a win-win for us.

Aspiras: Can you tell us what shape that bridge is in? I forget when it was installed and then do you anticipate any findings?

Wheeler: Honestly historically the findings are fairly minimal. The bridge is still in good shape, I wouldn't say great shape but it is in good shape. If there's things that needed addressed in there, maintenance type things, then we obviously do so as part of that. So the inspection's important in regards to any kind of maintenance items that need address but there isn't anything major that's been found in the past.

Shupp: Do you think that by having a State do this, Department of Transportation, they might come back with some requests or kind of demands that we do certain things that we normally with our own inspection wouldn't be looking to do?

Wheeler: To be honest, I don't know how much DOT will be involved in it other than to contract out the service with the engineer. My first impression is that they see this as an opportunity to cover some of the costs associated with maintenance of the bridges maybe with the idea of those that maybe haven't been addressed as far as the maintenance type stuff that they'll do so in the future as part of this. But because we're pretty stringent with ours and we address any kinds of issues that are out there I don't expect there to be any negatives associated with this or anything that needs done. And obviously if there is we want to do those anyways.

Shupp: I just don't want to open the door for a lot of expenses that maybe aren't all that necessary.

Wheeler: Understood. Understood. But I think because we're so stringent with our maintenance and with our inspections in the past, I don't foresee there being any surprises per sea.

Mayor: Are they undertaking this program to begin with because a lot of people aren't doing inspections as they should?

Wheeler: I think that's a part of it in regards to there's municipalities, one that are struggling financially but two that have several bridges and so that the cost associated with the inspection of those bridges is more significant than ours. I think yes, they see this as a way to make sure those inspections are being done and that potential maintenance is then addressed as well.

Hamsher: Is this covering both the graffiti bridge and the overpass or just one?

Wheeler: This is simply the bypass. The bypass is the only bridge that we own and maintain.

Hamsher: The railroad does the other one?

Wheeler: Norfolk Southern correct. And I guess by bypass for those folks at home, we mean Walnut Street bridge, the overpass.

Leathers moved that the rules, regulations, and statutes requiring the reading of a resolution on three separate days be suspended. Aspiras seconded. Roll call vote; all yeas; motion carried.

Leathers moved that Resolution 5-14 be adopted as read. Vance seconded. Roll call vote; all yeas; motion carried.

Leathers moved that Resolution 6-14 be place on first reading. Corfman seconded. Roll call vote; all yeas; motion carried. **RESOLUTION 6-14**, A Resolution authorizing the Director of Utilities and/or the Public Utilities Board of Control to enter into a contract without bidding for the replacement of electric distribution truck #37 with a truck which meets the specifications of the City of Orrville and declaring an emergency.

Brediger: This if you recall last City Council meeting we had a similar ordinance offered. And what we have discovered is the utility digger truck that we are looking at purchasing is now offered by the Ohio State Purchasing program. That being such, if we purchase equipment or in this case a vehicle through

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that program we do not have to formally go out and bid out this truck. So this resolution is to replace the resolution that City Council passed last week. We're still looking at basically the same cost for this. The State already goes ahead and approves some vendors which happen to overlap with ours. We don't expect the estimates or the formal bids to be much different than the \$220-\$240,000 range that we discussed at the last City Council meeting. Again, this is a 9 month lead time on this. The State still contracts separately with the truck suppliers so these trucks just aren't sitting down in Columbus, they still have to be ordered. With the 9 month lead time we are asking City Council to waive the 30 day waiting period. I'll be happy to answer any other questions concerning this.

Vance: I just had a question for the law director. Do we need to rescind the previous resolution then because we actually have two resolutions?

Kirkbride: Yes, I think that's probably right. I debated about that. Because we have one open that calls for bidding. So yes, I think we do.

Vance: Might be early Christmas for Jeff. I don't know.

Brediger: We only need one. At a quarter million dollars we only need one.

Corfman: This essentially speeds up the process though by taking the formal bid out.

Brediger: Right. This will probably save several weeks to a month off the process, correct.

Baker: Do we need to have a motion first to rescind the previous?

Leathers: Do we know what that number was?

Vance: 4-14.

Vance motioned to rescind Resolution 4-14; Leathers seconded. Roll call vote, all yeas, motion carried.

Leathers moved that the rules, regulations, and statutes requiring the reading of a resolution on three separate days be suspended. Corfman seconded. Roll call vote; all yeas; motion carried.

Leathers moved that Resolution 6-14 be adopted as read. Wilson seconded. Roll call vote; all yeas; motion carried.

Leathers moved that Resolution 7-14 be place on first reading. Corfman seconded. Roll call vote; all yeas; motion carried. **RESOLUTION 7-14**, A Resolution authorizing the Director of Utilities and/or the Public Utilities Board of Control to accept bids and to enter into a contract and/or contracts for improvements to the wastewater blower building and screen installation, and declaring an emergency.

Brediger: In my Feb. 25th letter I did describe a little bit more in detail the scope of this project. These improvements are part of a multi project program that will help us comply with new EPA regulations replacing some aging equipment and to improve the process efficiency. This scope includes upgrades to the blower building, the installation of a new affluent wet well and screening system and replacing two major pumps. These projects in total add up to roughly about \$850,000. That's also including the engineering. These are expected to be completed mostly this year. Funds have been appropriated. Utility Board has approved the resolutions for this work in their meeting last week. And with this resolution we are also asking to waive the 30 day waiting period to get started on all the design and engineering and the bidding in order to have all of this work completed by a July 1st, 2015, EPA deadline. I will be happy to answer any other questions concerning the scope or the cost of this project.

Wilson: What is the age of this equipment?

Brediger: Some of this equipment goes back to the mid-1980's especially some of the pumps in the blower building. The two large pumps are roughly 20 years old. They move about a million gallons an hour each. So the range of some of this equipment is anywhere from 2 years to 1986 vintage goes back to some of the initial rehabs that we've had on it and then the new screens that is part of an EPA mandate that came out the beginning of last year.

Leathers moved that the rules, regulations, and statutes requiring the reading of a resolution on three separate days be suspended. Corfman seconded. Roll call vote; all yeas; motion carried.

Leathers moved that Resolution 7-14 be adopted as read. Corfman seconded. Roll call vote; all yeas; motion carried.

Leathers moved that Resolution 8-14 be place on first reading. Aspiras seconded. Roll call vote; all yeas; motion carried. **RESOLUTION 8-14**, A Resolution to make appropriations for current expenses and other expenditures of the City of Orrville, State of Ohio, during the fiscal year ending December 31, 2014, and declaring an emergency.

Baker: Ms. Strimlan anything to add that we haven't seen already?

Strimlan: No. I think that everyone knows we have a meeting next week.

Baker: Anyone have any questions? If not we'll be waiting until next week and that meeting will be at 6:00 on Thursday so that's different than what we're used to.

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Leathers moved that Resolution 9-14 be place on first reading. Corfman seconded. Roll call vote; all yeas; motion carried. **RESOLUTION 9-14**, A Resolution authorizing and empowering the Mayor of the City of Orrville, Ohio, to enter into an agreement and/or agreements to purchase real estate located at 400 North Mill Street, Orrville, Ohio, for the WAY-East High Street project (PID 80620) and declaring an emergency.

Baker: Who gets to speak on this one? The Mayor gets to sign but Service Director probably has an explanation.

Wheeler: Yes, sir, I do. And I actually brought a map too just as a reminder for folks. This resolution is our major property acquisition as part of what we've been referring to as the High Street extension project. For those that might not remember what the project entails it's the extension of High Street. (Holding up map). Here is Main for reference. And then High through and then curves over to Orr. As part of going through this area there is a house that's impacted that obviously we have to acquire as part of this project. Mrs. DeHart owns this property. She's been patiently waiting for us to get to this point of acquisition. She's been in the loop. This didn't come as a surprise to her when they knocked on the door. She's been planning for it to occur and now we're finally to a point where it can occur. It does not have to be approved tonight. But when it is approved obviously we will move forward on closing. There are other parts of the project too that are going to have to occur after this. The Mayor and I are still pushing hard for the Department of Transportation to proceed with construction in 2014. To be very honest I think it's more likely to occur first thing the spring of 2015 at this point. They do have some right of way acquisition to acquire as well as part of this project nothing like that acquisition of someone's home. A major step. The cost of this acquisition is the same cost share as the rest of the project. 80% is covered by the Department of Transportation, 20% is covered by the City of Orrville. This acquisition is part of the final appropriations capital plan which you have now. It was modified to reflect this project and the High Street actual construction was removed as we're getting better feel for how that project schedule starting to come together. I'd be glad to answer any questions.

Aspiras: Long time coming. We were kinda waiting for this.

Wheeler: Absolutely as we Mrs. DeHart and I cannot emphasize enough how much we appreciate their patience and her cooperation on this. Like I said, they've been waiting, the family's been waiting and she's obviously been waiting as well for a few years now. We're finally to the point where we can move forward.

Aspiras: So the cost to the City is \$25,000 and DOT picks up \$100,000?

Wheeler: Correct.

Shupp: How many years have we been working on this project?

Wheeler: Well the Mayor will be able to tell you from the get go because he reminds me daily, almost daily, in regards to how much this has dragged on.

Mayor: I was in first grade I think.

Wheeler: I believe it's been 8 years that the funding has been in place, since 2006.

Shupp: When did we receive the grant money from Federal money? It's been longer than that.

Mayor: I think 2007, '06 or '07.

Shupp: This has drug on and on and on and on. Maybe I'll live to see it done.

Aspiras: We're surprised you made it this far.

Leathers moved that the rules, regulations, and statutes requiring the reading of a resolution on three separate days be suspended. Vance seconded. Roll call vote; all yeas; motion carried.

Leathers moved that Resolution 9-14 be adopted as read. Aspiras seconded. Roll call vote; all yeas; motion carried.

Leathers: And that, sir, concludes tonight's new business.

Baker: Next item on the agenda is the Service Department annual report and that will be presented by Service Supervisor Mr. John Scott.

Service Supervisor John Scott presented the Orrville Service Department's annual report. Copy on file.

Paul Locher (The Daily Record reporter): You said you did 16 basins. Is that repair or replace?

Scott: A little bit of both. I believe there were a dozen that were actually replaced, basically torn up, put back in, the other ones were just kind of repaired as in place, wasn't a complete tear out. I believe that's how it went; 12 and 4.

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Locher: And could you tell us about the giant mushroom that you have pictured in there.

Scott: The giant mushroom was found at our compost center by one of the guys. It was actually not the only one they found but we have found 3 or 4 of them. It really was that big, whatever they are called, puff mushrooms or whatever they are. But it really was that big and it was found in our compost center.

Aspiras: You mentioned taking down several ash trees last year, I think there were some oaks that were taken down too. What you mentioned, it's the city's choice to take them down rather than try to work and save them. Can you give us the background to that decision and maybe some advice to the homeowner if they do choose to go that route?

Scott: If it's an ash tree, it's going to die. That's just all there is to it. The ash borer is basically going to take all the ash trees out unless the residents, again and there are a number of residents that are maintaining those trees, a chemical maintenance of some kind that hire somebody else to come in and do that. If it's an ash tree it will die with this ash borer that's going around. The other trees that were coming down could have been a nuisance of some kind, pushing up a piece of sidewalk, sometimes if they pushed up a sidewalk and we could not repair the sidewalk without removing the tree, some of those were done as well. That was what was going on with tree removal. Most of those were probably an ash tree.

Mayor: John, I think with the ash tree, if you're going to try and treat it, it's something that if you make that decision, you have to do it every year. Is that correct?

Scott: It's an ongoing maintenance. Again that is why we have chosen not to do that. It is just continuous maintenance and if you do not continue that maintenance it will not last long. They have been going I forget what the number is that we have in the park, our main park, but there's quite a few of them there. We don't see a big attack of it yet but it is coming. It's just how it is.

Wheeler: And I want to note, for the most part the only ashes that have been removed are the ones that have been invested. And we did really closely, we had quite a few discussions with the arborists in regards to the potential for treatment and the cost associated with that, as the Mayor mentioned, were one they were annual costs and two they were fairly significant annual costs. When it was all said and done we felt like it was better just to start with replace those trees with new trees that will last for a lifetime.

Leathers: And we are replacing the trees that are coming down, correct?

Wheeler: Absolutely unless there is some logistical issue with where that tree was at. But yes we try to replace what was removed. Or if the homeowner is adamant that they don't want it replaced then of course we try not to put a tree there that someone doesn't want.

Scott: Or plant it under a power line.

Mayor: I want the kind that doesn't drop leaves.

Scott: Me too.

Wheeler: John, I don't know if you mentioned this, if you did, my apologies. But do you want to mention who is requiring the action plan or the action on the mosquito spraying.

Scott: ODA, Ohio Department of Agriculture has asked, has mandated, however you want to put it, those action thresholds be put into place. Again, they gave us a couple of suggestions; we can put somebody out in the park and count mosquito bites on them in an evening; people can call in; we as the department have light traps that we can put out and count the mosquitos that are in the light trap overnight, a number of different ways. But those thresholds are put into place now we cannot just go out every week and spray. Any other questions? Thank you.

Baker: Ladies and gentleman, welcome back to the regular part of our meeting. Thank you to Mr. Scott for that annual report. We are now to the point where does anyone have anything for the good of the order tonight?

Leathers moved to adjourn the council meeting and Shupp seconded. Roll call vote; all yeas; motion carried. Council was adjourned at 8:22 p.m.

Jeanne Gault, Clerk of Council

Date

Lyle Baker, President of Council