

Regular/Public

February 2, 2015

Council President Baker called the regular meeting to order.

Pastor Paula Marbury of Trinity United Methodist offered the prayer. The Pledge was recited by all.

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

Excused: Vance

Hamsher moved that the minutes of the January 20, 2015, regular meeting be accepted as submitted and Wilson seconded. Roll call vote; all yeas; motion carried.

Standing Committee Reports:

No report for Finance, Utilities, Parks and Recreations, Transportation, Planning, Ordinance & Personnel. Health & Safety – Baker: Mr. Vance is absent this evening. I do know that Health and Safety had a meeting. I'm sure he'll report on that at our next meeting. Mr. Corfman.

Corfman: The minutes have been submitted to the council clerk. I had printer problems or else you'd all have a copy of that. I apologize for that. But the minutes have been submitted per the Sunshine Law.

Baker: Okay. Thank you.

Special Committee Reports: None

Administrative Reports:

Mayor Handwerk: Yes, thank you, Mr. President. At our last council meeting I gave the State of the City address and I have some things that I would like to comment on from that. And Mr. Locher if some of these corrections were in the paper, I apologize but I have not seen them.

Locher: They were in.

Mayor: They were? That's the problem with corrections; nobody sees them once they get in there. Just to review those things first, portions of W. Market Street and Elm Street were completely reconstructed just portions, not all of those streets. I travel Market Street 4-6 times a day and I certainly would know if Market Street was done. I wish it was. Believe me. Second the truck route project has not been bumped back to 2016 as was stated in The Daily Record. The E. High Street portion will actually begin this spring that's some of the legislation that council passed last council meeting pertains to. And also the Pine Street portion will likely be in 2016 although it is possible it could start in late '15 but even if it did it would not finish until '16. I also spent some time talking about our new waste and recycling contract and our new containers. None of that made it in the article and I do realize it is very hard to put all that information from the report in an article like that. But since this is a current project and has caused some concern from citizens I would like to address a few things about our waste contract. I was stopped by one of our citizens yesterday who was upset about the size of the containers. I understand her feelings. They are large. I have trouble getting them in my garage also and I'm aware that many people cannot get them in their garage. And our request is simply that we ask that you put them out Wednesday evening on trash night and you get them back to your house as soon as you possibly can on Thursday. I've actually had several people call and say how much they like them too. Now nobody will probably believe that but I have had some people say that. So it hasn't been a problem for everyone. What has disturbed me most about the conversation I had with this lady yesterday is when she asked me how much is the City making off this new contract? The implication there was that we accepted this contract with Kimble because somehow that was going to line the City's pockets. That disturbs me because I want to assure everyone that the only reason that Mr. Wheeler and I met with Kimble to talk about this project was to keep our rates stable. I think everyone likes to hear your rates are going to be the same for trash pickup for the next 5 years. But we had to give a little bit in order to make that happen. Kimble obviously wanted to move to this procedure with the larger containers. The reasoning for them is pretty simple. They can get down to one driver per truck. Far less back injuries that they're going to have and people can scoff about that but do that all day long and see if it wouldn't affect your back. I'm sure it does. So this way the truck is picking up the containers. So those are some of the reasons that they certainly wanted to go that direction. It also allowed them to purchase the containers, which was another big thing for us, about \$285,000 that Kimble spent on those containers for over 6,000 containers. Also put them together and delivered them. We've had several issues where the wheels came off or something like that. That's something that Kimble needs to address and hopefully they will. I know one of our employees even offered to go to the person's house and put it out for them because they said well they didn't want to put it out. Well Kimble's not going to come into your garage and get it. But they will fix it if they can get to it. But this is what allowed us really to go back to our single day trash pickup in Orrville. I like that just because now instead of having trash trucks in town on Thursday and Friday and trash containers out for several days in a row, they now should only be out there, well trucks just one day and now the containers should be out there Wednesday night and back to the houses by Thursday night.

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Another positive with the new containers is that Kimble has found that many of the communities that they have used these containers with have increased their recyclables by quite a bit. If we do the same thing here in Orrville that will also help keep our collection rates down. The more we recycle, the less trash we have, the less trash we have means less trips to the landfills for Kimble which is cheaper for us in the long run. And also I would hope that people would just be more concerned about doing more recycling. When they first told us that I really couldn't see that because I had 3 of the yellow bins at my house; usually I had 2 or 3 of them out every week but she said you know a lot of people have the one and when that one bin is filled they feel like they've done their thing and the rest goes in the trash. I'm sure that probably happens. So hopefully we'll see an increase like the other communities have. Alright, I mentioned the price of the containers; I kind of got on the wrong spot there. So anyway that was a long answer for the question I had from the citizen yesterday. There is a lot more to it than just us changing contracts. But predominately what wanted to do is try and keep the price down and Mr. Wheeler was able to do for 5 more years which I think is very important. Also please remember, and I know you folks know this, but when that person said how much is the city making out of it. When you refer to the city you're actually referring to your neighbors. Many of our employees live here and so it's just as important to us to have the best trash contract or the best streets or the best parks or the cheapest power just as much as anyone else. Lastly I'd also like to say that in the State of the City address I also thanked many of our employees for the great job that they do. I see that firsthand every day and the pride and dedication our employees have. Those thanks you's were also left out of the newspaper article because apparently thanking someone for a job well done isn't news.

Paul Locher, The Daily Record: I thought the headline on that was Mayor Commends the city for a job well done or something like that.

Mayor: Well you've told me before, Paul, that you're not going to thank people because if you want to do that you write a letter to the editor.

Locher: That's true.

Mayor: There you go. But I am very proud of our employees for the job that they do. So at this point the complete State of the City address is now on the City webpage and Facebook page as of this afternoon and so if somebody wants to look at that they can see it there. Thank you, Mr. President, that's all I have.

Safety Service Director Wheeler: Thank you, Mr. President. Not much to report tonight. Obviously our Service Department has been busy lately salting and plowing. They've done a pretty good, I think, keeping up with it. We commend them for the amount of hours they put in recently and the long nights without sleep and the sacrifices that their family makes as well during those times. So hopefully it will ease up a little bit for us weather wise and we'll be able to get them back on their regular sleep schedule at least for a little while. Also, just a reminder that our Code of Ordinances section 521.06 does require landowners to keep sidewalks free of snow. So please remember to shovel your sidewalks after snowfall events. And that's my report for tonight.

Utility Director Brediger: Absent.

Finance Director Strimlan: Thank you, Mr. President. I have no report this evening.

Law Director Kirkbride: Thank you, President. I have no report as well.

Council President Baker: This evening I have no report. But I do have question for Mr. Wheeler. I know we ask our people to please shovel their walks. Is there any teeth to that ordinance?

Wheeler: There actually is a potential for being found guilty of a minor misdemeanor. Obviously our preference is for folks to maintain their sidewalks and we do send out some friendly reminders to those that seem to be frequent violators of that section. But our hope obviously is that folks will respect everyone else and the sidewalks we all know are so integral to even just something as simple as your newspaper being delivered or your mail being delivered. So we just ask folks to do that. But if we do see frequent violators we do send out notices and try to encourage them to comply with that section.

Baker: Thank you. I also have one other comment that also has to do with the snow and clearing. Our Fire Department, when those gentlemen go out and you've plowed your snow or shoveled your walk and just about covered up that fire hydrant, think about them. Because if your house is on fire you want them to be able to find that fire hydrant right now, not drive up and down the street and then have to shovel it out themselves. So please clean around those fire hydrants. It only takes a few extra minutes but if it happens to be yours or your neighbor's house somebody is going to appreciate it in a hurry.

Old Business: None

New Business:

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Lorson moved that Ordinance A-15 be placed on first reading. Corfman seconded. Roll call vote; all yeas; motion carried. **ORDINANCE NO. A-15**, An Ordinance approving the editing and inclusion of certain Ordinances as parts of the various Component Codes of the Codified Ordinances of Orrville, Ohio, and declaring an emergency.

Baker: Anyone have any comments for this? This is an annual thing where these are written, published. I don't think there's anything.

Kirkbride: I was just going to say that that this is an annual ordinance codifying the ordinances that we've passed in the prior year so that we have updates that we receive. So this is just accepting those. Those are on file at the Safety Service Department, at the Clerk's office and on our website there is a link at orrville.com to see the updates and the changes.

Baker: Any comments?

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

Baker: That completes our new business for this evening. Next item on the agenda.

Lorson moved that Ordinance A-15 be adopted as read. Corfman seconded. Roll call vote; all yeas; motion carried.

Baker: Now our new business is complete. I was so excited to get to the chief's riveting report. But we will now take a break and listen to Chief Dino Carozza.

Chief Dino Carozza presented the annual report for the Orrville Police Department. (Copy on file.)

Not on this slide but I would like to talk about just briefly, our officers, most of our officers have gone to wearing body cameras in November of last year. We anticipate the rest of our officers wearing body cameras by the end of this month. One thing that's important, we do have a draft policy in place that's being looked at frequently by myself, my staff, the Safety Director and the Law Director as well and we'll make the necessary changes as things come up. I'd also like to say that the Wayne County Sheriff's department has been wearing body cameras for over a year. Smithville is currently wearing them. And Wooster, if they are not wearing them today they will be here very shortly. And then that concludes my annual report and I'll be glad to answer any questions that someone might have.

Mayor: Chief, on the arrests, going back to that page, the juvenile arrests, from 2011-'14 we've gone from 43, 37 down to 29 down to 8 this past year. Dare we think that maybe that has something to do with our Character Education program at the school and that it's finally actually taking hold?

Chief: Well, I attribute that to the entire community. And I would agree with you and I'd say it's the community that's involved whether it's police officers, or you're talking teachers, coaches, parents, grandparents, the Turning Point Coalition, I think we have a community that cares about our kids. And when you have a community that cares about their kids and they try to mentor them the best they can, I think that has a positive impact and that's why you're steadily seeing these great drops in juvenile crime because it's a community effort all the way around. Any other questions that anybody has?

Aspiras: Chief, can you speak a little bit about are we still contracted with Medway, are we still working with those folks and I notice your trends here of drug arrests over the last 4 years have actually dropped. So what's going on in that area?

Chief: Okay. We are still. I am a member of the governing board for Medway and unfortunately for the city of Wooster, they are the hub of where drugs come into this particular county. We do work with Medway, we sent over Intel and what have you. And we usually have roundups but one of the things that I think has really helped us as well, especially in the last couple of years, is the fact that we got a canine dog in and the word got out on the street that we actually have a dog. I actually have officers that have seen people who traditionally drive, they're involved in drug activity, now they walk because they don't want to get involved in a traffic stop potentially and have their car, have the dog walk around and sniff for potential any type of drugs they might have in their car. But, I hope that answers your question. We do meet with the members of the Medway bi-weekly. We actually send an officer over there, Officer Nate Maimone, we share Intel. But it takes a long time to build cases against people because it's usually very complex and involves a lot of different people so it does take time.

Shupp: On your criminal offenses here, I may have asked you this last year too, you'll have like the offenses over here and you'll have rape or robbery or assault and you'll have "reported" and then "actual" usually matches and then what's the "cleared" column mean? If it's under "cleared" does that mean that it didn't prove out to be true? Or is it just off the docket and completed? Or what?

Chief: Well that means the case was solved, it was cleared.

Wheeler: That means there were arrests made on that particular one.

Chief: Either arrests or charges were filed.

Shupp: Okay so it was completed. It wasn't that they were cleared of the charges?

Chief: No, no, no, no, no.

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Lorson: Chief, I have a question about the prescription drug drop off. Do we just throw the whole bottle in there? Do you need to cross out your name or anything?

Chief: No. You don't need to take your name off anything. Go ahead and just open that drop door, drop it in there, its fine. We'll take it out. Nate Maimone will take it over to Medway. They will properly dispose of those prescription drugs. We just don't want syringes in there. So you can stop by anytime Monday through Friday to just drop that off.

Locher: You were talking a few minutes ago about Freddie your canine officer. And I saw in your report that he had 86 deployments. When you got the dog a couple years ago did you have a target for the number of times you thought that you'd be deployed in a year, is he working above that, below that, is he on target?

Chief: Well what I anticipated for the first year that he actually worked, I anticipated a much higher number than what you see right there. In fact, I think I have a note on that, I think he had about 99 fewer deployments but like I said, like I was just telling Rick here, word got out on the street so people are more careful that are involved in drug activity. They don't want to be out driving because they don't want to get stopped for a traffic violation and have the dog walk around their car. So they're working, trying to do other ways to get their drugs from one place to another by walking or whatever.

Aspiras: Or they're finding some other place to do business.

Chief: Other places, yes. Unfortunately like I said, Wooster is the hub. But hopefully we'll continue to work with Medway and try to rid some of these people that are bringing narcotics into our county. But it takes time to build cases on people. Any other questions? Okay. Thank you.

Baker: Thank you, Chief Carozza. That completes our agenda for this evening. Does anyone have anything for the good of the order?

Hamsher: I want to compliment the police department. Their vacation check is a wonderful tool. I use it every time I go out of town for some reason, extended time with my family, and silly me one time evidently I left a door open. I was in a hurry to leave town. I got a phone call Officer Zimmerman actually called me and said hey what's going on Hamsher. And I said, well, I'm an idiot. It's a great service if you're able to use that they do walk around the house and check for you. Nice piece of mind service that we have. Thanks, Chief.

Shupp: I have a question. Thank you. This is for Mr. Wheeler. We were talking about cleaning sidewalks earlier. Are there penalties for cleaning that snow off your driveway and sidewalks and throwing it back out in the middle of the road.

Wheeler: I don't know that there's an ordinance per se that addresses that. Obviously we encourage folks to try to keep their own snow on their own property. But I don't think there's anything in place that necessarily prohibits that.

Shupp: Maybe we should look into that. Thank you.

Corfman moved to adjourn the council meeting and Aspiras seconded. Roll call vote; all yeas; motion carried. Council was adjourned 8:12PM.

Jeanne Feudo, Clerk of Council

Date

Lyle Baker, President of Council