

Regular/Public

May 3, 2021

Council President Paul Vance called the regular meeting to order and led the prayer. The pledge was recited.

Roll call. Handwerk, Aspiras, Lorson, Mosley, Foy, Widmer and Wilson all were present.

Council minutes of regular meetings held April 19, 2021, were presented for approval. Lorson moved to approve those minutes; Aspiras seconded. Roll call vote; all ayes; motion carried.

Public Comment

No public comments. President Vance reviewed the public comment requirements.

Standing Committee Reports

Parks and Recreation – Handwerk: Has not met. The park cleanup day was cancelled due to weather some people still showed up and bagged six large trash bags. The Lion’s Club will do another event May 13, 5-7 pm.

Utility – Foy: Has not met. The Water Quality report for 2020 is posted on the webpage.

Ordinance and Personnel – Lorson: Met tonight. Human Resource Manager Phil McFarren gave an overview of the upcoming negotiation process that will take place with United City Workers union and also with the Ohio Police Benevolent Association. We also discussed combining two retiring human resource positions into a single position.

Transportation – Mosley: Asked Resolution 19-20 be passed on first reading. Teen project update. Looking at a Director of Community and Teen Engagement position at the Boys and Girls Club. Details between the City and the club are being worked out.

Administrative Reports

Mayor Handwerk: Sought renewal of Matt Plybon for a three year term to the Shade Tree Commission. Lorson moved to approve Matt Plybon; Mosely seconded. Roll call vote; all ayes; motion carried.

Mayor Handwerk then read a proclamation for Electrical Safety Month. And mentioned National EMS Week is May 16-22nd. After the year we had, we’d like to give them a big Thank You for the work they have done dealing with COVID and picking up the sick and injured.

We’ve really noticed the loss of Paul Locher from the Daily Record covering our news. If he were still on staff the news would be getting out there more. The word isn’t getting out. We’ve talked about the sidewalks quite a bit.

Safety-Service Director Wheeler: New fire engine truck 69 arrived last week and graphics are being placed and equipment installed. Two new Service Department employees started to replace retirees. Cemetery had landscaping done around the mausoleum. Concrete street bids were opened Friday. Low bidder was below the engineer’s estimate. Preconstruction meeting will take place next week with the hopes of getting the project moving forward fairly quickly. Tennis court work is progressing and we await good weather in order for the asphalt to be laid.

Utility Director Brediger: The President’s climate action plan is focused primarily on greenhouse reduction targets with national target of 50% lower reductions by 2030 and 100% net zero greenhouse gas emissions in the 2050 timeframe. Many of these will be coming from the utility sector which has a more rapid path at an 80% reduction by 2030 and a net zero by 2035. The electric utility sector is taking the lion share of this challenge. They are using a base of 2005 for this. Based on that, we are in the 90% currently due to the EPA changes we were required to make in 2017. The Water Department Superintendent Todd Fetty will be retiring later this month after 34 years of service. We congratulate him. The Water Quality Report was issued by Ohio EPA and is available on the website. Our Waste Water Treatment Plant Superintendent Bob Auten retired last month. His replacement Steve Carathers, began today and the Superintendent.

Finance Director Strimlan: Orrville Area United Way awarded a grant of \$1900 to help residential customers facing shutoff. Since July of 2020, we received \$11,900 from United Way and helped 82

Regular/Public

May 3, 2021

customers to avoid shutoff. We would like to thank them for that assistance. The 2022 Budget calendar is with Councilman Wilson to share in the next couple of weeks. The budget needs to be approved and to the Wayne County Auditor by July 20th. No significant changes are anticipated other than the capital project planning. An overview will be sent out. Income Tax will be due on May 17th for everyone over the age of 18 that is a resident of Orrville is required to file a city income tax return regardless of whether you have tax due or not.

The Fund Balance Report for the period ending March 31 was presented for approval subject to audit. Wilson motioned to approve subject to audit; Widmer seconds. Roll call vote; all ayes, motion carried.

Law Director Kirkbride: Frost Brown Todd represented us with regards to municipal income tax and central collections. Ohio Supreme Court remanded it back to the Franklin County Common Pleas court to determine constitutionality the administrative fee of ½ of 1% that was being charged. The Supreme Court found it unconstitutional and remanded back to Franklin County. It was determined the State of Ohio has to refund those funds back to the municipalities with interest. Another litigation that was decided was the redirection of municipal income tax where people were working from home. A case was dismissed which was favorable for municipalities but does not address after the emergency orders expire if people continue to work from home. Sunshine Law training is available online, on demand from the Ohio Attorney General's office. The Charter Review Committee met and will meet again May 10th at 7 pm.

Council President Vance: Sidewalk engineering has begun for Phase IV of the program and stakes are being placed. This program was begun around 20 years ago by council along with a sidewalk committee from a broad cross section of community members, some were against sidewalks. They came up with a way they felt was fair to come up with what areas needed sidewalks and which areas did not. They put a lot of time and effort into it, there were meetings, there were disagreements, tempers flaring, all of that was in that process but in the end they came up with an agreement, a solution and a plan that they all agreed to. City council adopted that plan for the installation of sidewalks. That plan is in effect today. Residents cannot simply opt out. You can't simply say you don't want this. This has been a community driven process from the beginning. If residents want to get together and address the council, we welcome that. Not everyone agrees that they want to pay the cost of having the sidewalk installed on their property. We understand. It is a common concern. Council is here to hear any questions or concerns you have. The stakes you are seeing now are the result of action council took to begin engineering of phase IV. It doesn't mean sidewalk installation is imminent and equipment will be rolling down your street any time soon. This is putting plans on paper to begin to determine cost to residents to install the sidewalks. We will distribute that information to you to understand the program and the cost to each resident. We are happy to answer any questions. Reach out to our council or the Mayor with your questions. If you want to organize an effort even though three phases of the four phases have already been completed, we want to stop this phase. A community group was initiated to look at these issues and to fairly score what streets did or did not need sidewalks and put much effort into it, in order to stop phase four we would need another community committee to reexamine that process and would need to demonstrate to all those that have put in sidewalks why that plan was not correct, why that plan is not right for Orrville now. Council would then have to reverse a decision that was made several years ago and say no we are going to discontinue that plan that was enacted by that council and committee and adopt a new or stop this one. The decision to construct in sidewalks has been made in a fair way with broad based community support working together. The process, first part is engineering. Once we have that done we can begin to get costs out. Council will then authorize the work to be done. We will get that information out to the residents that are affected. When the legislation comes before council, we will let you know when we are ready to proceed with installing those. Residents are invited to participate and engage with your representative. Council member Mosely mentioned there will be a planned Ward 4 meeting.

Old Business

None

Regular/Public

May 3, 2021

New Business

Resolution 18-21 Lorson moved that it be placed on first reading. Handwerk seconded. Roll call vote; all yeas; motion carried. **Resolution 18-21**, A Resolution authorizing the Board of Control to enter into an agreement and/or agreements with the State of Ohio Purchasing Cooperative, Department of Administrative Services to purchase one (1) 2020, 2021 or 2022 Ford Police Interceptor Utility V6 AWD Vehicle; or alternatively to purchase said vehicle from another dealer upon equivalent terms, conditions and specifications, but at a lower price than it can be purchased through the State Contract as allowed by Ohio Revised Code Section 125.04; or alternatively to advertise for bids and enter into an agreement and/or agreements for said purchase, and declaring an emergency.

Discussion: This is an annual purchase to replace a police cruiser with a new Ford Explorer SUV. It has been budgeted for. Aspiras: It would be in our best interest to pass this tonight knowing how long it takes to receive it after the process is started.

This has been budgeted for and the items are in high demand, the sooner we can get it in the better off we are, based on that Lorson 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. Lorson moved that Resolution 18-21 be adopted as read. Widmer seconded. Roll call vote; all yeas; motion carried.

Resolution 19-21 Lorson moved that it be placed on first reading. Mosley seconded. Roll call vote; all yeas; motion carried. **Resolution 19-21**, A Resolution A Resolution authorizing the Board of Control to enter into an agreement and/or agreements with VariTech Industries, Inc. to purchase through Sourcewell Cooperative Purchasing, one (1) brine system and accessories and declaring an emergency.

Discussion: The brine consists of water and sodium chloride. But this legislation is for the equipment itself to store and hold the brine. The brine will be purchased separately. We currently do not have a pre-treatment process in place. And hopefully this will cut down on complaints here and there where ice forms. We can also mix with beet juice for treating at lower temperatures. There are some streets that ice first before others that need to be addressed.

This has been well discussed and a real need, Lorson moved that the rules, regulations, and statutes requiring the reading of a resolution on three separate days be suspended. Mosley seconded. Roll call vote; all yeas; motion carried. Lorson moved that Resolution 19-21 be adopted as read. Foy seconded. Roll call vote; all yeas; motion carried.

Good of the Order

Mosley: Expressed appreciation to the Orrville Area United Way for the grants they provided. They look out for people who don't even ask for it.

Adjournment

Wilson moved to adjourn the council meeting; Lorson seconded. Roll call vote; all yeas; motion carried.

Council adjourned at 8:23 p.m. Our next meeting is May 17th, 2021

Jeanne Gault, Clerk of Council

_____, 2021
Date

Paul Vance, President of Council