

Regular/Public

June 21, 2021

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

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

Minutes of the June 7th meeting will be presented at our next council meeting.

No Public Comment

Standing Committee Reports

Parks & Recreation – Handwerk: No report. Tennis courts are completed and look amazing. Basketball courts are surfaced, levelled and awaiting dry weather. Miser field stands, concession stand and bathrooms were painted. The Gateway Project probably won't be finished by July 4th. Construction fencing will go up for safety. Softball tournaments start this weekend with the second tournament during 4th of July.

Ordinance & Personnel – Lorson: No report. Tonight's Ordinance C-21 is the work of the Charter Review Commission made up of citizens and there are changes coming.

Transportation – Mosley: No report. Tonight's Resolution 25-21 to purchase a truck to replace a 1997 Ranger is budgeted for. Administration is working with both local dealers, Serpentine and White's Maibach Ford for the new vehicle utilizing local business. Requested it be passed tonight. Received a resident's positive words about the Pickle Ball Courts. We had a resident question sidewalk replacement where a tree's roots were lifting the panels. The tree will be removed and the three sidewalk panels replaced. A teen project will be coming to council and there will be a Parks and Recs meeting to discuss it.

Health & Safety – Aspiras: No report. Committee meeting called for on June 28th at 6:45 pm for Traffic/Security Cameras. Not for ticketing purposes but for the safety and security of the city.

Administrative Reports

Mayor Handwerk: Excused

Safety-Service Director Wheeler: Concrete street project is pouring concrete on the downtown curbs south of Market to wrap that up. They finished up Church and Ella other than the ADA ramps which will be worked on this week. Crown Hill will wait until after the 4th of July. CDBG Kirk Avenue project is underway. Tennis courts were finished up Friday, moving on to the basketball courts this week. OPWC bids opened on Friday and pre-construction meeting is set for next week with the low bidder as we wait for State approval to begin the project. The next summer concert is Thursday, July 8, Blue Lunch. As Councilman Handwerk mentioned, much painting occurred at Miser Field. He did not mention much was done by Mr. Handwerk himself. Special thanks to Mr. Handwerk especially on Father's Day weekend.

Tree branches that grow over the sidewalk, they need to be trimmed. If it is on their property, they need to trim it. If it is in the tree lawn, it is up to us.

Utility Director Brediger: Utility Board passed budgets for all three utilities. They also agreed to freeze the power cost adjustment factor again for another quarter. It freezes our electric rates since September 2016. We hope to keep them frozen for all of 2021. State legislators are looking to attach an amendment to the State Budget bill that addresses limiting municipalities' involvement, operation or expanding into the telecommunications broadband area. That is of concern to us. Many communities have existing, well-run, very cost effective and competitive systems in place. We have been in contact with our elected officials and entities.

Finance Director Strimlan: The 2022 Budget is on first reading and will go three readings with anticipated council final approval at the July 19th meeting. The audit and CAFR are close to completion. We anticipate within the next month council will receive communication from the auditors similar from last year but coming from the independent accounting firm. Our investment

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summary for the first quarter of 2021 was presented to council. The Fund Balance Reports for April and May were presented for motion to approve subject to audit. Lorson moved; Mosley seconded. Roll call vote; all ayes; motion carried.

Law Director Kirkbride: No report. Comments will be brought forth during the charter legislation.

Council President Vance: Discussions on providing additional video coverage capabilities and live streaming and video conferencing possibilities. Sometimes, like this evening, there is no one here to video record. The Daily Record reporter was present. Would we like to have IT look into this or not? Yes.

A new liquor license request was received for 303 S Main Street, formerly the Brown's Cleaner building. We can request a hearing on the item but not much we can do unless it is really egregious. We ask formally if you want a hearing for that permit. No opposition. It will be approved and submitted.

Old Business

None

New Business

Resolution 25-21 Lorson moved that it be placed on first reading. Foy seconded. Roll call vote; all yeas; motion carried. **Resolution 25-21**, 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) 2021 or 2022 GMC Sierra 2500 or alternatively to purchase said vehicle or a Ford F-250 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: It is an effort to keep the business local while also giving us a great price on a vehicle as well. It's a win-win situation. We are negotiating with our local dealerships. We would like to move forward as quickly as possible to acquire it yet this year, 2021. This replaces a 1997 Ford Ranger which primarily driven by our Service Superintendent Ryan Immel. It is possible the 1997 will be on GovDeals.com for auction.

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 25-21 be adopted as read. Wilson seconded. Roll call vote; all yeas; motion carried.

Resolution 26-21 Lorson moved that it be placed on first reading. Foy seconded. Roll call vote; all yeas; motion carried. **Resolution 26-21**, A Resolution approving the budget for the City of Orrville, Ohio, for the calendar year 2022, and declaring an emergency.

Discussion: This does not give us authority to expend fund it simply is a requirement of the County. The authority to expend funds comes from the final appropriations process that we go through in March. Most likely we will have additional changes to revenue and expenditures before we finalize things. Total budget is \$57.5 million excluding transfers and our kilowatt hour tax. The General Fund accounts for \$7.5 million, the remaining tax supported funds account for \$6.5 million and utilities have been budgeted for \$43.5 million. We made changes to our General Fund revenue projections. We anticipate there will be some changes in our withholding revenue if employees of businesses located within the city continue to work from home now that the Governor's emergency orders have expired. We did make some adjustments to revenue to account for that possibility. We will discuss that more in the coming months as the litigation progresses and legislators work on various bills. Changes were made to the Water and Waste Water revenue to account for the final year of the rate increase. On the expense side we made

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modifications to personnel wages and benefits for some administrative restructuring. We will have changes during the final appropriations process as well. The other change was in Capital Projects. Those have been outlined in the budget overview. Call her with questions or if you would like a special workshop.

Ordinance C-21 Lorson moved that it be placed on first reading. Aspiras seconded. Roll call vote; all yeas; motion carried. **Ordinance C-21**, An Ordinance submitting to the electors of the City of Orrville, Ohio amendments to the Charter of the City of Orrville, Ohio as provided in Section 8.03 "Charter Review", and declaring an emergency.

Discussion: The charter is reviewed every 10 years by a commission comprised of representatives two from each ward and one from each at-large representatives. That group met a few times to discuss the charter at length and proposed some changes to several sections of the charter. This legislation contains four ballot measures that would be submitted to the electors in the general November 2nd election this year. In order to accomplish that, we have to pass legislation and certify this to the board of elections. They review it and send it to the Ohio Secretary of State's office for their review and approval. It is due to the Wayne County Board of Elections by August 4th of this year. We have time to do this on three readings but it was requested to do it at the second reading. We cannot pass it this evening. It is a delicate and time-sensitive matter in order to meet those deadlines. The charter was full of male pronouns, even describing many positions that are currently held by women, to make it gender neutral, we took out all the gender pronouns and replaced most of them with a recitation of the position itself. Also changed was relating to the publication. Newspaper was removed as the required method of publication as newspapers may not always be the exclusive method of publication so that was expanded to include newspapers but also could include electronic means and other ways of publishing notice of various things that council does or that comes before the city. Some titles were changed and updates such as personal secretary to administrative assistant. We added Human Resources Manager as someone who has an administrative assistant. Clarification was needed with respect to when the Mayor is not present or is unavailable or unable to perform the Mayor's duties what the responsibilities of the President of Council would be. We broke it down into four ballot measures so that it would not be overwhelming to the voters to try to discern and read through several pages of changes. This way, if there is something they don't agree with, it isn't an all or nothing proposition in front of the voters. Also to break it into bite size pieces to make it easier to read and understand. Board of Elections recommended breaking it down as well. And even to have on the ballot itself just the description of the change with the document available at the polling location it will be available if someone wants to read through it. The Board of Elections will publish this about the changes we are proposing. There will also be a separate notice indicating that there is going to be something on the ballot that the public will have that information and be aware of it, at least 10 days before the election. Included in the legislation is a budget amount of \$5000 which is a high estimate. Board of Elections, Ms. Leathers thought it would be more in the \$1500 range. We wanted to be extra, extra cautious. It depends on what else is on the ballot, and on an odd year election, we have greater costs than in even number election years because there are not federal or state measures on the ballot that share in the costs. Many factors beyond our control, calculations are by cost of printing the ballots, paying the poll workers, any other related expenses. We pay the publication costs. It is a high estimate but we are hopeful it will be considerably less than that. Also included in changes was the clarification that if a council member is leaving, whether that council member could vote on their replacement. We clarified it that the leaving member does not participate in the vote. Council member Foy suggested a change in that we be more specific to say we are removing male specific pronouns to replace with neutral language. We can make that amendment at the second reading. We had dedicated volunteers on that committee; one that had even been on since the original charter committee back in 1974-75 and been serving ever since. Thank you for your service.

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Good of the Order

Lorson: Mentioned a Daily Record article over the weekend about a former citizen, Reggie Williams. Fascinating article that really brings home how far we've come as a society and how things worked in the 1950's in regards to race. He urged everyone to read it. It was really well done.

Adjournment

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

Council adjourned at 8:11 p.m. Our next meeting is July 6, 2021.

Jeanne Gault, Clerk of Council

_____, 2021
Date

Paul Vance, President of Council