

7:30 pm A public hearing was held on **Resolution 10-23**, 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, 2023, and declaring an emergency.

Director Strimlan stated the final appropriations for 2023 are \$67.6 million: \$7.9 million for the general fund, \$8.1 million for the tax supported funds and \$51.6 million for the utilities. There were no other comments or questions.

Public hearing was closed. 7:31 pm.

Council President Vance called the council meeting to order. Reverend Gary DeHart from the Independent Missionary Baptist Church led the prayer. Pledge was recited.

Roll call. Handwerk, Aspiras, Shanklin, Lorson, Carr, Mosley and Wilson were present.

Council minutes of the March 6, 2023, regular meeting were presented for approval. Lorson motioned to approve those minutes; Mosley seconded. All ayes; motion passes.

#### **Standing Committee Reports**

Parks and Recreation – Handwerk: No report. Will schedule a meeting soon to discuss projects and events.

Ordinance & Personnel – Lorson: No report. Continuing to work on bringing permanent solution to our meeting broadcasting.

#### **Administrative Reports**

Mayor Dave Handwerk: An Arbor Day Tree City USA letter was received. Orrville has earned recognition as a 2022 Tree City USA for a community that makes the planting and care of trees a priority. Tree City USA was founded in 1976 and a partnership between Arbor Day Foundation and the US Forrest Service and the National Association of State Foresters. There are more than 3,600 Tree City USA communities nationwide with a combined population of 155 million. We maintain a tree board, a tree care ordinance, dedicating a budget of at least \$2 per capita, and hosting an Arbor Day observance and proclamation which we do every year at the end of April.

Safety-Service Director Wheeler: This is tornado awareness week and the annual statewide tornado drill is at 9:50 am this Wednesday. Our Service Department has moved the sled hill on the Blackwell Williams property. The fence contractor will begin to put the dog park fence back up. Bids opened for the skate park concrete pad. We had 1 awardable out of 5 bids.

Utility Director Brediger: The Utility Board reviewed the power cost adjustment factor and recommended to keep our rates frozen again for another quarter. We are still operating in the same rate structure as we have from mid-2016.

Finance Director Strimlan: Council met on Monday, March 13, to review final appropriations and discuss budgeted projects planned for the year: constructing a skate park, purchasing a fire truck, working on a downtown art project, finalizing a property purchase with grant funding to extend rails to trails, roof repairs, replace a bucket truck, substation upgrades and potentially painting the central water tower.

President Vance: Regarding videotaping our meetings, we are looking for our next solution. Tonight is a basic set up to get us through to our next solution.

Clerk Gault: The Ohio Division of Liquor Control has contacted us with a new liquor permit for the Scratch Food Services LTD dba a Scratch Food Services. They are requesting a D5i permit.

Vance: We have the option to hold a hearing. No comments from council. We will let that go through.

#### **Old Business**

**Resolution 10-23**, Lorson moved that it be placed on third reading. Carr seconded. Roll call vote; all ayes; motion passes. **Resolution 10-23**, 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, 2023, and declaring an emergency.

Discussion: None.

Lorson moved that **Resolution 10-23** be adopted as read. Wilson seconded. Roll call vote; all ayes; motion carried.

**New Business**

**Resolution 11-23**, Lorson moved that it be placed on first reading. Mosley seconded. Roll call vote; all ayes; motion passes. **Resolution 11-23**, A Resolution urging the legislative branches of the federal government as well as the State of Ohio, to enact legislation to further protect the citizens of the City of Orrville, Ohio from the inherent dangers of a train derailment on the tracks located at or near our City and declaring an emergency.

Discussion: Mayor Handwerk received this through the Ohio Municipal League urging all cities to pass this resolution. Senators Sherrod Brown and JD Vance teamed up for proposed legislation that is before Congress now. It includes additional notification and inspection requirements for trains carrying hazardous materials, additional fines for safety violations on rail carriers and an additional \$27 million for research on safety improvements. There are other proposals such as additional pneumatic brake requirements, and additional staffing requirements on the train depending on size and length. We are a train city working with Norfolk Southern and Wheeling & Lake Erie, and are in favor of additional regulations to improve safety of our community.

Lorson moved that the rules, regulations, and statutes requiring the reading of a resolution on three separate days be suspended. Shanklin seconded. Roll call vote; all yeas; motion carried. Lorson moved that **Resolution 11-23** be adopted as read. Shanklin seconded. Roll call vote; all ayes; motion carried.

**Ordinance B-23**, Lorson moved that it be placed on first reading. Carr seconded. Roll call vote; all ayes; motion passes. **Ordinance B-23**, 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.

Discussion: This is an annual housekeeping ordinance incorporating any state or local changes from 2022 into our codified ordinances. Majority are changes from the State level that impact our codified ordinances.

Lorson moved that the rules, regulations, and statutes requiring the reading of an ordinance on three separate days be suspended. Mosley seconded. Roll call vote; all yeas; motion carried. Lorson moved that **Ordinance B-23** be adopted as read. Shanklin seconded. Roll call vote; all ayes; motion carried.

**Fire Department Annual Report – Chief Chris Bishop**

Copy on file in the Safety Service Department. OFD has a Class 3 ISO fire rating.

**Good of the Order**

Shanklin: Thanked the fire department for their outstanding work and long hours.

**Adjournment**

Lorson moved to adjourn the council meeting; Carr seconded. Roll call vote; all ayes; motion passes.

Our next regular meeting will be April 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2023, where we will hear the annual report by the Utility Department.

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Jeanne Gault, Clerk of Council

\_\_\_\_\_, 2023  
Date

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Paul Vance, President of Council