

MINUTES REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

7:08 p.m.

June 11, 2024

Pursuant to Codified Ordinance Chapter 107 and ORC Section 121.22, notice of the following meeting was given on June 7, 2024.

ROLL CALL

Council Members Present: Kary, Merhar, Sievers, Tomaselli, Anderson, Carr and Garry

Others Present: Mayor Fiala, Law Director Lucas, Service Director Palmisano, City Engineer Lannon, Police Chief Schultz, Assistant Police Chief Tartaglia, Chief Building & Zoning Inspector Puskas, Finance Director Hoffman, Clerk Novak

The meeting was led in Prayer and Pledge of Allegiance by Councilman Garry.

Approval of Minutes

Motion made by Mr. Merhar and seconded by Mr. Tomaselli to approve the Regular Council Meeting Minutes of May 21, 2024.

Roll Call	6 yes	
	0 no	Motion carried 6 to 0
	1 abstain (Anderson)	

STANDING AND REGULAR COMMITTEE REPORTS

Committee of Full, Mr. Carr – The committee met this evening to review the Charter Review Commission report; legislation will be on the agenda next month to bring forward the recommendations to the voters in the fall.

Economic Development Committee, Mr. Anderson – Reported there will be a committee meeting in July.

Environmental Planning Committee, Mr. Kary – No report.

Finance and Audit Committee, Mr. Tomaselli – No report.

Parks & Recreation Committee, Ms. Sievers – No report.

Personnel Committee, Mr. Anderson – No report.

Safety Committee, Mr. Tomaselli – Reported a committee meeting was held earlier this evening to discuss the progress and design for the new Police Station.

Service Committee, Dan Anderson – No report.

WPCC Committee, Mr. Garry – No report.

Planning Commission, Mr. Kary – No report.

CORRESPONDENCE: No correspondence.

PUBLIC PORTION:

Tim O’Keefe, 38661 Edward Walsh Drive, Willoughby – Mr. O’Keefe stated he was at the meeting tonight to encourage City Council or others at the City to prevent any additional apartments from being built in the City. He stated that any new apartments will do what the current apartments are doing or will do; accelerate the decline of the quality of life in Willoughby.

Motion made by Mr. Garry and seconded by Mr. Merhar that all ordinances and resolutions be read by caption only and that as to legislation not containing an emergency clause, the rules requiring that ordinances and resolutions be read on three separate days be waived.

Roll Call 7 yes
 0 no

Motion carried 7 to 0

NEW BUSINESS:

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-60

A resolution authorizing the Director of Finance to transfer funds from the General Fund to the Golf Course Fund, and declaring an emergency.

Motion made by Mr. Tomaselli and seconded by Mr. Garry that the rules of Council requiring three separate readings be suspended and that Resolution No. 2024-60 be declared an emergency measure.

Roll Call 7 yes
 0 no

Motion carried 7 to 0

Motion made by Mr. Tomaselli and seconded by Mr. Garry to adopt Resolution No. 2024-60.

Roll Call 7 yes
 0 no

Motion carried 7 to 0

ORDINANCE NO. 2024-61

An ordinance amending Chapter 913 of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Willoughby, Ohio, titled, “Sanitary Sewerage System Charges”; specifically, Section 913.08, titled, “Charges to be a Lien”, and declaring an emergency.

Motion made by Ms. Sievers and seconded by Mr. Merhar that the rules of Council requiring three separate readings be suspended and that Ordinance No. 2024-61 be declared an emergency measure.

Roll Call 7 yes
 0 no

Motion carried 7 to 0

Motion made by Mr. Tomaselli and seconded by Mr. Garry to adopt Ordinance No. 2024-61.

Roll Call 7 yes
 0 no

Motion carried 7 to 0

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-62

A resolution authorizing the Mayor to apply to the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, through the H2Ohio Wetland Grant Program, for the purpose of acquiring financial assistance for the Chagrin River Floodplain and Riparian Restoration Project, and declaring an emergency.

Motion made by Mr. Anderson and seconded by Mr. Garry that the rules of Council requiring three separate readings be suspended and that Resolution No. 2024-62 be declared an emergency measure.

Roll Call 7 yes
 0 no

Motion carried 7 to 0

Motion made by Mr. Anderson and seconded by Mr. Garry to adopt Resolution No. 2024-62.

Roll Call 7 yes
 0 no

Motion carried 7 to 0

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-63

A resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement with Brandstetter Carroll Inc. in the amount of \$49,900 to provide a Master Plan for the Euclid Avenue Pool Property and current Willoughby Police Station Property, and declaring an emergency.

Motion made by Ms. Sievers and seconded by Mr. Garry that the rules of Council requiring three separate readings be suspended and that Resolution No. 2024-63 be declared an emergency measure.

Roll Call 7 yes
 0 no

Motion carried 7 to 0

Motion made by Ms. Sievers and seconded by Mr. Garry to adopt Resolution No. 2024-63.

Roll Call 7 yes
 0 no

Motion carried 7 to 0

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-64

A resolution authorizing the adoption of an alternative method of apportioning the Local Government Fund for Lake County, and declaring an emergency.

Motion made by Mr. Tomaselli and seconded by Mr. Kary that the rules of Council requiring three separate readings be suspended and that Resolution No. 2024-64 be declared an emergency measure.

Roll Call 7 yes
 0 no

Motion carried 7 to 0

Motion made by Mr. Tomaselli and seconded by Mr. Kary to adopt Resolution No. 2024-64.

Roll Call 7 yes
 0 no

Motion carried 7 to 0

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-65

A resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into a contract with Fabrizi Trucking & Paving Co., Inc. in the amount of \$426,534.50 for implementation of the SOM Center Road Sidewalks Project, and declaring an emergency.

Motion made by Mr. Anderson to amend Resolution No. 2024-65 to delete from the Resolution specifically the last phrase in Section 1, "said amount to be expended from the ARPA Fund". seconded by Mr. Merhar.

Roll Call 7 yes
 0 no

Motion carried 7 to 0

Motion made by Mr. Anderson and seconded by Mr. Merhar that the rules of Council requiring three separate readings be suspended and that Resolution No. 2024-65 be declared an emergency measure.

Roll Call 7 yes
 0 no

Motion carried 7 to 0

Motion made by Mr. Anderson and seconded by Mr. Merhar to adopt Resolution No. 2024-65 as amended.

Roll Call 7 yes
 0 no

Motion carried 7 to 0

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-66

A resolution authorizing an expenditure in the amount of \$154,073.82 for the purchase of three (3) 2025 Ford Police Interceptors from Classic Ford for use by the Willoughby Police Department, and declaring an emergency.

Motion made by Mr. Anderson and seconded by Mr. Tomaselli that the rules of Council requiring three separate readings be suspended and that Resolution No. 2024-66 be declared an emergency measure.

Roll Call 7 yes
 0 no

Motion carried 7 to 0

Motion made by Mr. Anderson and seconded by Mr. Tomaselli to adopt Resolution No. 2024-66.

Roll Call 7 yes
 0 no

Motion carried 7 to 0

MAYOR'S REPORT – Mayor Fiala stated that Senator Cerino informed him today that the City has received a \$2 million grant for Osborne Park. He believes this brings the total money received close to \$3 million. Mayor Fiala stated this money is coming from transformational fund dollars. The City will apply for another grant through National Fish and Wildlife. He stated he and City Engineer Lannon will begin to strategize for funding the roundabout on Lost Nation Road.

DIRECTOR'S REPORTS

Law Director Lucas – No report.

Service Director Palmisano – Mr. Palmisano stated the slope failure on Rt. 84 near Shankland is progressing. CT Consultants is in the beginning stages of a study and they are projecting \$1.6 million for the stabilization. The method of stabilization has not been chosen yet and there are currently no grants available for the project. If the project happens next year, money from the road program will be used, therefore, there wouldn't be any road improvements next year. A lane may need to be closed down; a temporary traffic light could be used. Mr. Lannon stated an inspection was done prior to paving (2021) and there were no signs of slope failure at that time; the slope failure is happening very quickly. Mr. Kary asked if a pothole on Tamarac could be fixed again.

City Engineer Lannon – Mr. Lannon stated the Nason Basin to Grove Avenue Storm Sewer Phase 1 project (large storm sewer from Nason Basin to Vine Street at the railroad underpass), is about a \$7.5 million project. He stated \$2.5 million will come from Ohio Public Works Commission (OPWC) and local money and \$5 million will come from a state allocation through the Ohio Department of Development. Plans are about 99% complete and already approved by the EPA in case a loan was needed. Money is readily available so the project will begin soon. This project will help a lot of residents who have had flooding in the past on Grove Avenue and Second Street (the lower end of Orchard Park). Ms. Sievers asked Mr. Lannon about the road program this year. Mr. Lannon stated he was going through the list with Mr. Palmisano; he stated money needs to be set aside for the River Road paving for next summer. Ms. Sievers asked if he could look at Sunset north of Tioga.

Fire Chief Ungar – Absent.

Police Chief Schultz – Chief Schultz thanked Council for the passage of Resolution 2024-66. He thanked the Safety Committee for the presentation for the new Police Station. He thanked Bowen Senior Architect Brian Hennies, Bowen Project Manager Robin Wolfe, Mayor Fiala, Economic Development Director Tom Thielman, Assistant Chief Matt Tartaglia, Captain Toby Davis for their hard work on the project.

Chief Building and Zoning Inspector Puskas – No report. Mr. Anderson asked about inspections on rental houses. Mr. Puskas stated that a resident can call and request a safety inspection on a rental house.

Parks & Recreation Director Keller – Absent.

Finance Director Hoffman – Ms. Hoffman thanked Council for the passage of Resolution No. 2024-60 and Ordinance No. 2024-61.

COUNCILMEN REPORTS

Ms. Sievers – Ms. Sievers thanked the Council members, directors and the Mayor who attended her ward meeting on May 30th.

Mr. Kary – Mr. Kary reminded everyone that the first concert of the season is tomorrow night at Osborne Park.

Mr. Tomaselli – No report.

Mr. Merhar – No report.

Mr. Garry – No report.

Mr. Anderson – No report.


Mr. Carr – Mr. Carr thanked Council for the passage of Resolution No. 2024-65 for the SOM Center Road sidewalks. He stated it has been a decade and a half of work to get the sidewalks on SOM Center Road. He also thanked Tim Lannon for his work on the project and engaging Laketrans.


The Regular Council Meeting adjourned at 7:42 p.m.

Date approved 7/9/24



Robert E. Carr, President



Clerk of Council


Robert A. Fiala, Mayor