

City of Waterville
Minutes of Regular Council Meeting of:
March 23, 2015

The regular meeting of the Waterville Council was called to order by Mayor Lori Brodie at 7:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Waterville Municipal Building.

A prayer was offered by Mr. Rozic. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Present at roll call were Mr. Rozic, Mr. Valtin, Mrs. Krise, Mayor Brodie, Mrs. Bruno, Mr. Larkins and Mr. Pedro.

Also present were Jim Bagdonas, Administrator; Kristin S. Wacha, Assistant Law Director; Steve Schult, Treasurer; and Melissa Cook, Recording Secretary.

Staff Present:

Dale Knepper – Director of Finance and Administration, Clerk of Council

Ken Blair – Public Works Director

Citizens Present:

Please see Citizens' Sign-In Sheet, Exhibit A, Page 1 for a list of people present.

Approval of Minutes:

Mr. Rozic moved to approve the minutes of the March 9, 2015 Regular Council meeting. Mr. Valtin seconded the motion, which passed by unanimous voice vote.

Citizen's Comments:

Michael Horvath, 708 S. River Rd., came to this evening's meeting to ask Council about the new railing placed at the corner near the new bike trail that crosses the road to Farnsworth Metropark. He stated that the railing prevents his son and others from getting off the bus onto his property. Mr. Bagdonas stated that he wasn't aware that there was an issue with children getting off the bus and that he will meet with Mr. Blair, Public Works Director, and the city engineer to ask them to try and find a solution to this issue.

Earl Phipps, 8148 Donnington Dr., described to Council the issue that the Bridgehampton neighborhood is having with feral cats. He then asked Council to consider an Ordinance or other measures to at least prevent residents from feeding wild animals. Mayor Brodie then stated that the city would work with him to help identify solutions, including organizations that spay/neuter strays.

Nancy Bucher, member of the Waterville Tree Commission and city resident, came this evening to thank Council for the additional \$12,500 appropriated for tree maintenance which brings their total to \$37,500 for 2015. This allows us to get a good start on the five-year plan. She stated that Phase 1, which is estimated at \$33,000 a year annually for the next three years, is for the removal of Priority 1 overly-mature and dying hazardous trees in the city's right-of-way. Within the next few weeks, work will begin on removing trees on Pennsylvania Ave., Karis St., John St., Farnsworth Rd. and River Rd. Another six or more trees will be removed on Michigan Ave. during the waterline

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construction. She then stated that funding currently only covers removals and does not cover maintenance and replanting. However, we have scheduled a limited new tree planting on the Wilkshire/Edgerton Blvd. this spring, which is a high profile area and in need of tree replacement. She added that planting a few new trees is critical in building public support for the hazard tree removal project. She then stated that the ODNR recommends a tree assessment for funding the tree program.

Executive Session:

Mayor Brodie made a motion to move into Executive Session for a Conference with the Law Director for Consideration of a Matter per ORC 121.22(G)(4): Reviewing Negotiations with Public Employees Concerning Compensation and other Terms and Conditions of Their Employment at 7:49 p.m. Mr. Valtin seconded the motion.

Roll Call: Mr. Pedro – yes, Mrs. Krise – yes, Mr. Valtin – yes, Mayor Brodie – yes, Mr. Rozic – yes, Mrs. Bruno – yes, Mr. Larkins - yes. The motion passed unanimously.

Return to Regular Session:

Mrs. Krise made a motion to come out of Executive Session and resume the regular Council meeting at 8:07 p.m. Mr. Larkins seconded the motion.

Roll Call: Mr. Larkins – yes, Mrs. Bruno – yes, Mr. Rozic – yes, Mayor Brodie – yes, Mr. Valtin – yes, Mrs. Krise – yes, Mr. Pedro – yes. The motion passed unanimously.

Staff Reports:

Mayor Brodie wanted to mention that she and Mr. Bagdonas attended a meeting earlier this evening with the Bowling Green Board of Public Utilities where they unanimously recommended a contract to sell water to the City of Waterville.

Administration: Mr. Bagdonas –

- Elaborated on Mayor Brodie's comment stating that years ago Waterville actually operated its own water treatment plant drawing water from the Maumee River. That plant was located in Waterworks Park. Because of the severe drought in 1988, Waterville investigated alternative water supplies and ultimately decided to obtain water from Toledo through the Lucas County Distribution System. That connection was completed in 1990 and Waterville abandoned its own treatment plant. He stated that we have been obtaining water from the City of Toledo through a master meter connected to a Lucas County owned pipe ever since. He then stated that according to the Toledo/Lucas Co. water contract, which governs our water supply from Toledo, Toledo's water rates increased this past October. When we became aware of that increase we started exploring what alternatives might be available to the city for a water supply. We began looking into the technical and legal issues involved in Waterville purchasing water from the City of Bowling Green. This would be done in a very similar manner to the way we purchase water from Toledo through Lucas County which is a master meter with Waterville operating and

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maintaining its own water system on this side of the meter. He stated that this evening he and the Mayor attended the Bowling Green Board of Public Utilities meeting where they unanimously recommended to the Bowling Green City Council that they and Waterville enter into a water supply contract for the city to begin purchasing water from them. He added that as discussions went on it became very clear that such an arrangement would be beneficial to both communities. The City of Bowling Green has a sufficient surplus capacity in their treatment plant to accommodate Waterville today and in the future. He added that over time the financial side will be beneficial to the customers of Waterville system. He then stated that tonight's meeting in Bowling Green was the first of many steps to further pursue this option and formalize it through a contract that both cities will sign.

Mrs. Krise asked Mr. Bagdonas what the time line was for this project in which he responded that once the contract is signed and approved by both parties, design and construction of a waterline should take about a year.

Assistant Law Director: Kristin S. Wacha – No report.

Finance Director: Mr. Knepper –

- Reviewed details of the February 2015 - Month End Finance Report highlighting Fund Balances, Investments and Income Tax Revenues.
- Reminded Council again that the Ohio Ethics Commission Financial Disclosure Statement must be completed and submitted to the State of Ohio by Wednesday, April 15th.

Treasurer: Mr. Schult –

- Reviewed details of the monthly Treasurer's Report for the month of February 2015.

Communications from Council Members/Committees:

Mr. Pedro –

- Welcomed Waterville Primary third-graders Sammy Rodrigues and Sawyer Zielinski to tonight's Council meeting.

Mr. Larkins – No report.

Mrs. Bruno –

- Reported that she had a resident stop by her home and inquired as to why garage sale signs are permitted in the right-of-way on the boulevard between Edgerton and Wilkshire and also on Canal Rd. at the Anthony Wayne Trail but nowhere else in the city and in particular in the downtown area. After discussion, it was decided that Mrs. Bruno would speak with residents and come back with a recommendation on an area that will be permissible to place signs in the

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downtown area in the right of way.

Mrs. Krise – No report.

Mr. Valtin – No report.

Mr. Rozic – No report.

OLD BUSINESS:

- A. **ORDINANCE 04-15** - AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTIONS 521.06(b), 521.06(c), 521.061(b) and 521.061(c) OF THE GENERAL OFFENSES CODE REGARDING THE CLEANING OF SIDEWALKS AND SHARED USE PATHS

Third Reading and Legislative Action

Codified Ordinance Sections 521.06 and 521.061 both contain language stating that snow must be cleaned from sidewalks and shared use paths “within the first twelve hours after daylight following or during a fall of snow.” A City resident sent a letter pointing out that the “or during” wording results in uncertainty as to when the twelve hour period begins. This matter was referred to the Public Safety Committee which agreed that the language was confusing also felt that the twelve hour time period should be longer. Ordinance 04-15 would clarify that the time period begins upon the “cessation of the accumulation” and change the time period to twenty-four hours.

Mr. Valtin moved to adopt Ordinance 04-15. Mrs. Bruno seconded the motion.

Roll Call: Mr. Pedro – yes, Mrs. Krise – yes, Mr. Valtin – yes, Mayor Brodie – yes, Mr. Larkins – yes, Mrs. Bruno – yes, Mr. Rozic –yes. The motion passed unanimously.

B. DISCUSSION – POTENTIAL CITY REVENUE ENHANCEMENTS

1. Street Light Assessment
2. Tree Maintenance Assessment
3. Reducing City Income Tax Credit from 1.50% to 1.25%
4. Property Tax Levy for Construction, Reconstruction, Resurfacing, Maintenance and Repair of City Streets
5. Project Specific Special Assessments to Adjacent Property Owners for Street Repairs
6. Other

The Finance Committee has discussed recent trends in the City’s General Fund income and a number of potential revenue enhancements to offset losses and to provide locally controlled revenue sources. The Committee has recommended that Council discuss and consider instituting one or more of the listed enhancements. Each Council member has previously received detailed information related to this issue. Council has asked that this issue remain on the agenda for ongoing discussion.

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A copy of Thomas Yurysta's April 4, 2014 Street Inventory Review was included in the October 27 Council packet. This review recommends the rehabilitation of 30 streets over a 10-year period excluding Fourth St., which will be done this year, and Fifth St., which will be done in 2015. The total cost of the remaining 28 streets is estimated to be \$2,122,000. The average cost of that total over the remaining eight years of the 10-year program is \$265,250 (2016 through 2023). At the City's current valuation, a 2.3-mill property tax levy would produce the annual amount needed to fund the program. The annual tax on a property with a market value of \$182,200 (Waterville median house price per 2010 census) would be \$144.56 for a 2.3 mill levy. A levy in this amount would allow up to approximately \$125,000 of income tax revenue per year to remain in the General Fund for City operations. Additional information on a page titled "Lost Revenue and What It Takes to Make It Up" prepared by Tom Titus was also provided to Council.

A memo regarding a possible street improvement levy and an analysis of the 2014 General Fund ending balance was enclosed in the February 23 Council packet. The filing deadline for an issue to be placed on the November 3, 2015 ballot is August 5, although a decision should be made no later than the June 1 City Council meeting to allow time for the necessary legislative steps to be taken.

A lengthy discussion was held about the potential levy to raise funds for street improvements, including millage and whether it should be continuing or fixed in term. Council members then agreed to revisit the topic again during the April 13th meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

A. REFERRAL TO PLANNING COMMISSION – REZONING OF KENSINGTON GARDEN DEVELOPMENT FROM R-1 TO R-3 (Motion)

An application has been received from the owner of this property to rezone it from R-1 to R-3. A referral by Council to the Planning Commission for a recommendation is necessary at this time to begin the rezoning process.

Mr. Bagdonas stated that the Law Director would like to do some research on this request has suggested that this agenda item be tabled until he returns from vacation.

Mr. Larkins made a motion to table this discussion until the next Council meeting. Mr. Valtin seconded the motion, which passed by unanimous voice vote.

Joe Mercurio, owner of Mercurio Developers and Kensington Garden, was in attendance at the tonight's meeting. He expressed to Council that he was very disappointed that he drove in from Sylvania and sat through the entire meeting only to have Council table the discussion and their recommendation to refer this request to the Planning Commission.

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- B. **RESOLUTION 15-15** - A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MUNICIPAL ADMINISTRATOR TO AWARD A CONTRACT TO MARINE ONE CORPORATION DBA RESCUE ONE CONNECTOR BOATS, SOUTHSIDE, ALABAMA FOR A RESCUE BOAT, TRANSPORT TRAILER AND ACCESSORIES FOR THE FIRE DEPARTMENT

This item relates to an approved FY2015 5-Year Capital Budget item. The rescue boats currently used by the Fire Department are not well-suited to the water conditions of the Maumee River and do not meet the present needs of the Fire Department for rescue operations. Bids for a new rescue boat, transport trailer and accessories were opened on March 18. This Resolution would award the contract for this equipment to the low bidder, Rescue One Connector Boats in the amount of \$29,515.00.

Mr. Valtin moved to adopt Resolution 15-15. Mr. Larkins seconded the motion, which passed by unanimous voice vote.

- C. **RESOLUTION 16-15** - A RESOLUTION APPROVING PARTICIPATION IN THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION COOPERATIVE PURCHASING PROGRAM FOR ROCK SALT FOR THE WINTER SEASON 2015-2016 AND AUTHORIZING THE MUNICIPAL ADMINISTRATOR TO EXECUTE A PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT

The Village/City has participated in the Ohio Department of Transportation's Cooperative Purchasing Program for the purchase of rock salt for the past five winters. This arrangement has worked very well for the City by minimizing the unit price paid for the rock salt and by providing a degree of stability to the availability of the salt. This Resolution would authorize participation in that program again next winter as well as in the "summer fill program." Repayment of 100 tons of salt borrowed from the City of Oregon will be included in the summer fill purchase.

Mr. Larkins moved to adopt Resolution 16-15. Mrs. Bruno seconded the motion, which passed by unanimous voice vote.

- D. **RESOLUTION 17-15** - A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TRANSFER OF CASH FUNDS FROM THE GENERAL FUND (100) TO THE STREETS CONSTRUCTION, MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR (SCMR) FUND (210)

Although various inter-fund transfers were authorized by the 2015 appropriations as amended, the State Auditor has issued a bulletin requiring specific legislative action to ratify such actions. This Resolution would meet that requirement.

Mr. Rozic moved to adopt Resolution 17-15. Mr. Larkins seconded the motion, which passed by unanimous voice vote.

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Mayor Brodie made a motion to amend the agenda to include Resolution 18-15. Mr. Larkins seconded the motion, which passed by unanimous voice vote.

- E. **RESOLUTION 18-15** - A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT WITH THE INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF TEAMSTERS LOCAL 20 BARGAINING UNIT AND AUTHORIZING THE MUNICIPAL ADMINISTRATOR TO ENTER INTO SAID COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT

Mr. Bagdonas stated that this is the third of our three collective bargaining agreements and added that it was a very productive and cooperative set of negotiations. He thanked the employees involved as well as Mr. Knepper and Mr. Blair and legal counsel for their hard work. He then stated that the most significant item in the agreement is annual raises of 3.5, 2.5 and 1.5 percent scheduled over the next three years.

Mr. Larkins moved to adopt Resolution 18-15. Mr. Rozic seconded the motion, which passed by unanimous voice vote.

Other Information/Unscheduled Business:

Mr. Pedro thanked the volunteers and the businesses involved for putting on Waterville's Annual Easter Egg Hunt.

Adjournment:

There being no further business to come before Council, Mr. Pedro made a motion to close the meeting at 9:16 p.m. Mr. Larkins seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous voice vote.

Dale D Knepper
Clerk of Council

Lori Brodie
Mayor