

Regular Council

July 19

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

The prayer was offered by Mrs. Bruno. The Pledge of Allegiance was then recited and led by Mr. Frey.

Present at roll call were Mr. Bruno, Mrs. Bruno, Mr. Frey, Mayor Pedro, Mr. Rozic, Mr. Borowski and Mrs. Duncan.

Also present this evening was Jon Gochenour, Municipal Administrator; Phil Dombey, Law Director; Steve Schult, Treasurer and Melissa Cook, Recording Secretary.

Staff Present:

Mark Williams – Director of Finance and Administration

Joe Valvano – Police Chief

Doug Meyer – Fire Chief

Zac Bingham – Deputy Fire Chief

Ken Blair – Public Works Director

Citizens Present:

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

Citizens Comments

None

Presentations

A. TARTA – Kelsie Hoagland and Laura Koprowski

Kelsie Hoagland, Waterville's Representative on the TARTA Board of Trustees, and Laura Koprowski, TARTA Deputy Chief Executive Officer, were in attendance to discuss and answer Council's questions regarding Resolution 30-21, which is on tonight's agenda. This Resolution would grant the City's approval to allow TARTA to place on the upcoming November 2, 2021 General Election ballot the issue of expanding TARTA to include Lucas County as a member, eliminating its current 2.5 mill property tax levies and replace them with up to a 0.5% sales and use tax.

Mayor Pedro asked that Resolution 30-21 be moved up on the agenda from New Business for Council's consideration.

A. RESOLUTION 30-21 A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE INCLUSION OF LUCAS COUNTY AS A MEMBER OF THE TOLEDO AREA REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY (TARTA) WITHOUT TIME LIMIT; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

The enclosed Resolution authorizes the admission of Lucas County as a member of the Toledo Area Regional Transit Authority (TARTA) which will enable TARTA to place up to a 0.5% sales and use tax on the November 2, 2021 General Election Ballot throughout Lucas County and the City of Rossford to replace its two existing property tax levies which total 2.5 mills. If the ballot measure is approved, TARTA will redistribute a portion of the sales tax revenue to member communities on an annual basis for infrastructure improvements to help facilitate mass transit. Waterville would receive \$90,000 per year for a period of ten (10) years. If the 2.5 mill property taxes were eliminated, the owner of a \$200,000 home would save approximately \$175.00 per year. In contrast, an individual would have to spend \$35,000 in a year to pay TARTA \$175.00 in sales taxes. The emergency measure is requested by TARTA to obtain the necessary approvals from other member communities and to meet the August 4 deadline to place the sales tax issue on the November 2, 2021 ballot.

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Mr. Frey made a motion to suspend the rules to allow for the passage of Resolution 30-21 as an emergency measure. Mr. Rozic seconded the motion.

Roll Call: Mr. Borowski – yes, Mr. Bruno – yes, Mayor Pedro – yes, Mrs. Duncan – yes, Mr. Frey – yes, Mr. Rozic – yes, Mrs. Bruno - yes. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Frey made a motion to move for the passage of Resolution 30-21 as an emergency measure. Mrs. Duncan seconded the motion.

Roll Call: Mrs. Bruno – yes, Mr. Rozic – yes, Mr. Frey – yes, Mrs. Duncan – yes, Mayor Pedro – yes, Mr. Bruno – yes, Mr. Borowski - yes. The motion passed unanimously

Approval of Minutes

Mrs. Duncan moved to approve the minutes of the June 21, 2021 Regular Council meeting. Mr. Rozic seconded the motion, which passed by voice vote.

Staff Reports

Administrator: Jon Gochenour –

- Reported that he, along with the Public Works Director, attended a bid opening for the Parker Square and Memorial Park Improvement Project, Phase 1. One bid was received from the Dotson Company for \$634,933 which is more than 10% above the engineer's estimate of \$510,000.00. As a result, the bid must be rejected under Ohio law and the administration is recommending that it be re-bid again in January, 2022.
- Stated that he met with representatives of the Waterville Historical Society regarding historic "carriage ride" tours in the downtown area tentatively set for August 2021.

Mr. Borowski stated that he noticed that the roundabouts were mowed. He asked if Mr. Gochenour was able to get in contact with the Lucas County regarding the maintenance of the roundabouts in which he replied yes.

Law Director: Phil Dombey – No report.

Finance Director: Mark Williams –

- Reviewed details from the June 2021 Month End Finance Report highlighting fund balances, investments and income tax revenues.

Treasurer: Steve Schult –

- Reviewed details of the Treasurer's Report for the month of June 2021. He stated that the outside auditors have wrapped up our 2020 Audit. As of now, there are no findings and everything looks good. He added that he will hand out the report once it is finalized.

Public Works Director: Ken Blair –

- Reported that Courtsmiths has started working on changing a portion of the tennis courts at Baer Park into pickleball courts.
- Stated that the Public Works is working very hard on catching up with mowing and trimming in the city parks and other city owned property. He added that it is a work in progress but it will get completed. He then added that we are currently advertising for another seasonal worker.

Police Chief: Joe Valvano –

- Reported that the new Police SUV is scheduled for production in August. We

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should get delivery of the vehicle in September.

- Stated that we will be administering an entry level test on July 27 to start the process of filling the position that was held by Officer Nicolai.
- Safety City went off without a hitch and was a huge success. He added that Officer Newman took over for Officer Nicolai and did an excellent job.
- Reported that the PD Harley Davidson is currently on GovDeals and is currently at \$8,000.
- Introduced Officer Austin Gunn who started work with the Department in January. Officer Gunn gave Council a brief summary of his education and work history and thanked them for having him.

Mrs. Bruno stated that both she and Mr. Borowski had been contacted by a resident who brought to their attention the non-confrontational policy/rule at Kroger in which employees are not permitted to stop someone suspected of shoplifting or theft. She added that she doesn't like this policy and feels that it puts an additional burden on our Police Department. She also stated that she believes that Kroger should hire private security to do this work. Mr. Dombey stated that Kroger's policy isn't unusual and that Lowe's and Home Depot do the same. Chief Valvano stated that most stores do not want employees to take any unnecessary actions that might cause them harm. He added that they are trained instead to be good witnesses by learning how to get a detailed description of the suspect and to obtain a vehicle license plate number. He added that the Waterville Kroger has very few instances of theft and shoplifting. Council continued the discussion with both the Police and Fire Chiefs on the undue burden being placed on our safety services. Mrs. Bruno stated that corporations are taking advantage of local resources and encouraged some sort of chargeback to compensate the city. Mayor Pedro encouraged conversations with the entities involved in order to come up with a solution.

Fire Chief: Doug Meyer –

- Reported that the Fire Department did take part in Safety City.
- Stated that they are beginning the interview process for the next round of full-time employee hires.
- Stated that the recent fire on Dutch Rd. was deemed an unintentional cooking fire. The structure was saved but suffered extensive damage. Several dogs died in the fire.
- Reported that the demo ladder truck is in the process of being delivered. The manufacturer is adding some of the equipment that we requested and are lettering the vehicle.

Mary Duncan stated that we have gotten a lot of rain and the river has gotten very high and is moving fast. She warned kayakers/canoers to be extremely careful and use the appropriate equipment. The discussion on river safety continued when Chief Meyer noted an incident that occurred on Grainger Island on June 27. Mr. Borowski asked who was in charge of testing the fire hydrants. Mr. Gochenour stated that this is the responsibility of the Public Works Department. He added that plans are underway to do any inventory of all of our fire hydrants and document which are working and which need repair.

Communications from Council Members/Committees

Mr. Bruno –

- Reported that the Parks and Recreation Committee will be holding a community cleanup day at Baer Park beginning at 8:00 a.m. on Saturday, July 24. Volunteers are welcome.

Mrs. Bruno –

- Asked Mr. Gochenour if we have heard anything regarding the sale of the old Roche de Boeuf Bridge. She asked if the plans from the highest bidder have

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been approved. Mr. Gochenour stated that he doesn't know if the highest bidder has met all of ODOT's bidding requirements. The bidder selected has approximately 6 to 8 months to come up with a plan to meet the requirements that were in the bid.

- Stated that there was an article in the Mirror Newspaper regarding the discharge of raw sewage by the City of Maumee into the Maumee River. Discussion on the article continued. Mr. Gochenour stated that the City of Waterville has no combined sewer overflows into the Maumee River. Mrs. Bruno asked Mr. Blair to provide her with a map of both the sanitary and storm sewer lines.

Mr. Frey –

- Reported that the FTUDC Board of Trustees met this evening. The District is planning to replace the roof of the Wakeman Cemetery Maintenance Building, which the township will vacate in a few weeks. The District is also planning on removing dead trees and trimming/pruning limbs over the next several months in all of its cemeteries.

Mr. Rozic –

- Thanked Mrs. Bruno for bringing up the very informative article in the Mirror regarding the City of Maumee discharging sewage into the river.
- Reported that this year's Fourth of July fireworks show was terrific. He thanked the Mirror for their explanation on the display issues.

Mrs. Duncan – No report.

Mr. Borowski – No report.

Mayor Pedro – No report.

OLD BUSINESS:

- A. ORDINANCE 02-21 AN ORDINANCE GRANTING TO THE WATERVILLE GAS AND OIL COMPANY, AN OHIO CORPORATION, ITS SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS, THE RIGHT TO LAY, CONSTRUCT, MAINTAIN, OPERATE, REPAIR AND REMOVE MAINS, PIPES, REGULATORS AND ALL OTHER NECESSARY FIXTURES, APPLIANCES AND APPURTENANCES IN, OVER, THROUGH AND UNDER THE STREETS, ALLEYS AND PUBLIC GROUNDS OF THE CITY OF WATERVILLE, OHIO FOR TRANSMISSION AND SUPPLY OF GAS OR THE MANUFACTURING OF GAS FOR LIGHT, FUEL OR POWER PURPOSES FOR SAID CITY AND ITS INHABITANTS FOR A PERIOD OF FIVE (5) YEARS

Third Reading

- B. ORDINANCE 03-21 AN ORDINANCE FIXING THE PRICE AT WHICH GAS SHALL BE FURNISHED TO THE CITY OF WATERVILLE, OHIO AND ITS INHABITANTS BY THE WATERVILLE GAS AND OIL COMPANY, AN OHIO CORPORATION, AFTER ACCEPTANCE HEREOF AND UNTIL FIVE YEARS THEREAFTER

Third Reading

Ordinances 02-21 and 03-21 involve the renewal of the Waterville Gas Company's current five (5) year franchise and associated rate agreements with the City of Waterville. Under the City Charter, the franchise agreement between the City and Waterville Gas must be renewed every five years. The current franchise and rate agreements will expire on September 12, 2021. The renewal ordinances contain very few changes from the current agreements; the main changes include the proposed renewal dates and a change in the "volumetric rate" charged for natural gas. The

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volumetric rate indicated in the ordinance is the current market rate which increases or decreases quarterly based on gas costs charged by suppliers, Ohio use taxes, and an “uncollectible accounts adjustments” fee which is indicated in the rate agreement ordinance. Both Ordinances have been reviewed and recommended for approval by the City Law Director. At their May 21, 2021 public meeting, the Finance Committee has also recommended approval of the renewal to City Council.

Mrs. Bruno moved to adopt Ordinance 02-21. Mr. Borowski seconded the motion.

Roll Call: Mr. Borowski – yes, Mr. Frey – yes, Mr. Bruno – yes, Mrs. Duncan – yes, Mayor Pedro – yes, Mrs. Bruno – yes, Mr. Rozic – yes. The motion passed unanimously.

Mrs. Duncan moved to adopt Ordinance 03-21. Mr. Rozic seconded the motion.

Roll Call: Mr. Frey – yes, Mr. Bruno – yes, Mayor Pedro – yes, Mr. Rozic – yes, Mrs. Bruno – yes, Mrs. Duncan – yes, Mr. Borowski – yes. The motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS:

- B. RESOLUTION 31-21 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING APPLICATIONS AND CONTRACTS WITH THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BLOCK GRANT FUNDS (STBG) FOR THE ADDITION OF A TWO-WAY LEFT TURN LANE AND A SHARED USE PATH TO A PORTION OF WATERVILLE-MONCLOVA ROAD AND TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVE FUNDS (TA) FOR SHARED USE PATH IMPROVEMENTS TO PORTIONS OF THE ANTHONY WAYNE TRAIL AND WATERVILLE –MONCLOVA ROAD

This Resolution would authorize the submission of two applications for grants from the Surface Transportation Block Grant Fund (STBG) and the Transportation Alternative Fund (TA) for the addition of a two-way left turn lane and a shared use path along a 3,430-foot long portion of Waterville-Monclova Road north of State Route 64 and the construction of new shared use paths along portions of the Anthony Wayne Trail and Waterville-Monclova Road. Maps depicting the locations of the new shared use paths were enclosed for Council’s reference. The total project costs are estimated to be \$1,532,848 and \$540,000 respectively. The applications would be for grants toward the construction and construction inspection costs in the amounts stated in the Resolution and attachments. The City would be responsible for at least 20% of the projects’ costs and the full cost of project engineering preparation, although it is likely that the City would seek grant funds from the Ohio Public Works Commission to assist with our local share. The deadline for applications is July 30. If awarded grant funding, these projects would be scheduled for construction in 2024 (Shared Use Path Improvements) and 2025 (Waterville-Monclova Left Turn Lane).

Mr. Rozic moved to adopt Resolution 31-21. Mrs. Bruno seconded the motion, which passed by unanimous voice vote.

- C. ORDINANCE 11-21 AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE ISSUANCE OF NOT TO EXCEED \$1,300,000 VARIOUS PURPOSE REFUNDING BONDS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY
- D. ORDINANCE 12-21 AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE ISSUANCE OF NOT TO EXCEED \$1,030,000 WATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT BONDS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

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- E. ORDINANCE 13-21 AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE ISSUANCE OF NOT TO EXCEED \$1,465,000 LADDER FIRE TRUCK ACQUISITION BONDS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY
- F. ORDINANCE 14-21 AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE ISSUANCE OF NOT TO EXCEED 215,000 DUTCH ROAD WATERLINE IMPROVEMENT BONDS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY
- G. ORDINANCE 15-21 AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE ISSUANCE OF NOT TO EXCEED \$270,000 FIRE TRUCK ACQUISITION BOND ANTICIPATION NOTES AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY
- H. ORDINANCE 16-21 AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE ISSUANCE OF NOT TO EXCEED \$390,000 WATER TOWER RESTORATION BONDS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY
- I. ORDINANCE 17-21 AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE CONSOLIDATION OF SIX BOND ISSUES OF THE CITY OF WATERVILLE, OHIO AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Ordinance 11-21 through 17-21 are related to the FY 2021 Bond Anticipation Note Issue retirement and the issuance of a new “refunded” or refinanced 2012 Bond. The recently issued 2021 notes mature December 1, 2021 and will be rolled into a refinanced 2012 Bond, the preliminary details of the new bond issue are provided in the spreadsheet included with Ordinance 17-21. Since the exact amount of the new bond issue will not be known until bids are received, Ordinances 11-21 through 16-21 are written to include a “not to exceed amount” for each issue. Rolling the notes into a new refinanced bond will allow the City to take advantage of historically low interest rates and save the City money on the remaining years of debt service on the original 2012 Bond. Converting the City’s existing notes into a refinanced 2012 Bond issue was also recommended by the Finance Committee.

Mayor Pedro made a motion to suspend the rules to allow for the passage of Ordinances 11-21 through 16-21 as emergency measures. Mr. Frey seconded the motion.

Roll Call: Mr. Bruno – yes, Mrs. Duncan – yes, Mr. Frey – yes, Mayor Pedro – yes, Mrs. Bruno – yes, Mr. Rozic – yes, Mr. Borowski – yes. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Rozic made a motion to move for the passage of Ordinances 11-21 through 16-21 as emergency measures. Mrs. Bruno seconded the motion.

Roll Call: Mr. Borowski – yes, Mr. Rozic – yes, Mrs. Bruno - yes, Mayor Pedro – yes, Mr. Frey – yes, Mrs. Duncan – yes, Mr. Bruno - yes. The motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Pedro made a motion to suspend the rules to allow for the passage of Ordinance 17-21 as an emergency measure. Mr. Rozic seconded the motion.

Roll Call: Mr. Borowski – yes, Mrs. Duncan – yes, Mr. Bruno – yes, Mayor Pedro – yes, Mr. Rozic – yes, Mrs. Bruno – yes, Mr. Frey – yes. The motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Pedro made a motion to move for the passage of Ordinance 17-21 as an emergency measure. Mr. Rozic seconded the motion.

Roll Call: Mr. Frey – yes, Mrs. Bruno – yes, Mr. Rozic- yes, Mayor Pedro – yes, Mr.

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Bruno – yes, Mrs. Duncan – yes, Mr. Borowski - yes. The motion passed unanimously

Other Business

None

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before Council, Mrs. Duncan made a motion to close the meeting at 9:12 p.m. Mr. Borowski seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous voice vote.

Jon D. Gochenour, Clerk of Council

Timothy G. Pedro, Mayor