

Regular Council

October 12

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The regular meeting of the Waterville Council was called to order by Mayor Timothy Pedro at 7:30 p.m. by video conference with Council members.

The prayer was offered by Mr. Rozic. The Pledge of Allegiance was then recited and led by Mr. Borowski.

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

Mayor Pedro made a motion to excuse the absence of Mr. Bruno. Mrs. Bruno seconded the motion which passed by unanimous voice vote.

Also present this evening in Council Chambers was Jon Gochenour, Municipal Administrator and Clerk of Council; Phil Dombey, Law Director and Melissa Cook, Recording Secretary. Steve Schult, Treasurer, was present by video conference.

Staff Present:

Mark Williams – Director of Finance and Administration by video conference

Citizens Present:

Weston Figy – 7975 Meadowview Lane by video conference

Andrea Henline – Representing Farnsworth Investors, Inc. by video conference

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Rozic moved to approve the minutes of the September 28, 2020 Council meeting. Mr. Borowski seconded the motion, which passed by voice vote. Mrs. Bruno abstained.

Citizens Comments:

None

Staff Reports

Administrator: Jon Gochenour

- Reported that he had nothing to add to his report that isn't agenda specific.

Mr. Gochenour then fielded questions from Council regarding a Special Use Permit for a property on N. River Rd., unlimited trash pick-up, the sale of used City equipment to the Fallen Timbers Union Cemetery District, the location and installation of new river monitoring equipment by the U.S. Geological Survey and the new office building that is currently being built on Pray Blvd. Mayor Pedro asked Mr. Gochenour to give an update on COVID relief funds. Mr. Gochenour stated that there is an opportunity for a third round of funding. The Mayor then asked Mr. Gochenour to expand on the 2021 OPWC grant application. Mr. Gochenour stated that due to safety concerns the Administration would like to install a traffic signal at SR 64 and the southbound on/off ramps at US 24. The cost of the project would be approximately \$206,000; we are asking the OPWC for a \$100,000 grant. He added that we are also working with the Lucas County Engineer's Office on a joint paving project on Dutch Rd. east of the Anthony Wayne Trail near McDonalds. Mr. Gochenour then stated that the Civil Service Commission recently met to certify a list of candidates for the Fire Department. The City will be prepared to move forward with hiring if the proposed levy passes. The Commission also authorized advertising to fill a vacant Police Officer position created after the promotion of the current Police Chief as well as the possibility of two additional vacancies in 2021.

Law Director: Phil Dombey – No report.

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Finance Director: Mark Williams – No report.

Treasurer: Steve Schult – No report.

Communications from Council Members/Committees

Mrs. Duncan – No report.

Mrs. Bruno – No report.

Mr. Borowski –

- Reported that the Fire/EMS Co-Op Fundraiser at Third St. Cigar went very well.

Mr. Rozic – No report.

Mr. Frey – No report.

Mayor Pedro –

- Announced that the Waterville Chamber of Commerce will host a “Boo-to-Do” event on Thursday, October 29 from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. in downtown Waterville with businesses and organizations passing out candy to trick-or-treaters.
- Reported that the new micro-brewery that is being built at the old car wash on the Anthony Wayne Trail is coming along.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

- A. ORDINANCE 15-20 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE 12-20, THE FY 2020 ANNUAL APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

This Ordinance would authorize the second amendment to the 2020 Appropriations. Significant items included in this amendment are: revenue and expenses related to the 2015 Bond Refunding/Refinancing (\$0); new COVID-19 relief fund revenue (\$153,799); appropriation of COVID-19 relief funds for a new ambulance (\$24,000); an additional appropriation in Water Capital (\$24,000) and Sewer Capital (\$32,000) for the Water Meter Replacement Program Project and other routine items. Detailed information on this amendment was included with this ordinance.

Mr. Rozic made a motion to suspend the rules to allow for the passage of Ordinance 15-20 as an emergency measure. Mayor Pedro seconded the motion.

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

Mr. Rozic made a motion to move for the passage of Ordinance 15-20 as an emergency measure. Mr. Frey seconded the motion.

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

- B. RESOLUTION 38-20 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MUNICIPAL ADMINISTRATOR TO AWARD A CONTRACT TO PENN CARE, INC. FOR THE PURCHASE OF AN AMBULANCE FOR THE FIRE DEPARTMENT.

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This resolution would authorize a contract with Penn Care, Inc. of Niles, Ohio for the purchase of a Braun Chief XL 2020 Ford F-550 Ambulance for the Fire Department at a cost of \$271,132. Since the requested purchase will enhance the ability of the Fire Department to provide medical transportation during the current public health emergency, the Administration proposes to utilize COVID-19 funds from the State of Ohio for this purchase. The purchase would be made through the State of Ohio Cooperative Purchasing Program. The new ambulance will be equipped with additional COVID related equipment and is intended to replace the existing 1998 second out ambulance. The 1998 ambulance will be retained as a medic/support unit. The Fire Department currently has a 2018 Braun Chief XL Ford F-450 in service as its first out ambulance. Information on the new ambulance was included with the resolution.

Council held a lengthy discussion on whether spending Federal Coronavirus Relief Funds to purchase an ambulance was the appropriate use of this money. Mrs. Bruno and Mr. Frey both expressed discomfort with using the federal dollars for the purchase. Mr. Frey stated that from what he has read we can use the money for the ambulance but that it didn't seem right to him. Mrs. Bruno stated that she thought that the CARES Act money was supposed to be used to stimulate small businesses or could be used to pay down the city's debt. Mr. Gochenour clarified that any grant or loan to a business would need to show a clear accounting of how the money was used for COVID-related expenses and that these funds cannot be used to service any existing City debt. He then explained that we are a unique community in that we are relatively small and have four nursing homes. COVID-19 is more prevalent in nursing homes and other confined healthcare facilities. He added that the new ambulance is outfitted with a separate air system for the driver and the passengers in the back and also has a UV light system that eliminates viruses, bacteria and has other antimicrobial features. He stated that he feels that it would be very beneficial not only for our residents but would also increase the safety of Fire Department personnel as well. Mrs. Duncan stated that she feels that it is a good use of the funds since we don't have a COVID-outfitted ambulance today. Mr. Borowski agreed stating that we have a 22-year old ambulance and four nursing homes. He added that the money is available so he doesn't see why we wouldn't move forward with the purchase. Mrs. Bruno then stated that she isn't opposed to purchasing an ambulance but is having an issue using taxpayer money to do so and asked if this discussion could be tabled.

Mayor Pedro then made a motion to table this discussion for two weeks. Mrs. Bruno seconded the motion.

Roll Call: Mr. Rozic – no, Mayor Pedro – yes, Mrs. Duncan – no, Mr. Borowski – no, Mr. Frey – no, Mrs. Bruno – yes. The motion failed.

After further discussion, Mr. Rozic moved to adopt Resolution 38-20. Mrs. Duncan seconded the motion. Mr. Frey, Mayor Pedro, Mrs. Duncan, Mr. Borowski and Mr. Rozic voted "yes." Mrs. Bruno "abstained". The motion passed by a 5-0-1 vote.

C. RESOLUTION 39-20 A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE PLAT OF FARNSWORTH VILLAGE AT WATERVILLE LANDING PLAT FOUR AND AUTHORIZING THE MUNICIPAL ADMINISTRATOR TO SIGN SAID PLAT

This Resolution authorizes the approval of the final plat of Farnsworth Village at Waterville Landing Plat Four. Approval of the final plat for this subdivision was recommended by the Planning Commission at their October 5, 2020 public meeting by a vote of 4-0 with one member absent contingent on the conditions of approval specified in the Resolution. Attached to the resolution is an engineering review letter from the City Engineer indicating the purposed plat is acceptable. As has been past practice, a signed original final plat will not be released for recording by the City until

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all of the conditions of approval are met.

Andrea Henline, Farnsworth Investors, Inc., stated that while they are not ready to build in Plat Four quite yet, FEMA approval will be needed since 6 inches of just a few lots is considered to be in the 100-year flood plain. She added that because of all the fires and hurricanes, FEMA is taking several months to process applications.

Mrs. Bruno moved to adopt Resolution 39-20. Mrs. Duncan seconded the motion which passed by unanimous voice vote.

Other Business

Mayor Pedro stated that he would like to continue the discussion on helping small businesses in Waterville with future CARES Act funds for loans and grants.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before Council, Mrs. Bruno made a motion to close the meeting at 8:49 p.m. Mr. Rozic seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous voice vote.

Jon D. Gochenour, Clerk of Council

Timothy G. Pedro, Mayor