

Regular Council

October 25

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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 John Rozic. The Pledge of Allegiance was then recited and led by Todd Borowski.

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 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.

Presentations

- A. Bill Sanford, Economic Development Director, City of Sylvania
“Why Create a CIC, an Example from Sylvania, Ohio”

Mr. Bill Sanford, Economic Development Director of the City of Sylvania and Executive Board Member of the Sylvania Area Community Improvement Corporation (SACIC), attended at this evening's meeting to share his positive experience with the SACIC and how it has influenced economic development and led to greater cooperation between the business community and government in the Sylvania area. He explained to Council how the SACIC has brought in new businesses to the city and the township by working together with public and private partners, making loans and grants available to businesses and utilizing Joint Economic Development (JED) Districts. After his presentation, he answered questions from Council members.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Bruno moved to approve the minutes of the October 11, 2021 Regular Council meeting. Mr. Rozic seconded the motion, which passed by voice vote. Mr. Frey abstained.

Citizens Comments

None

Staff Reports

Administrator: Jon Gochenour –

- Mr. Gochenour reviewed his e-mail which he sent to Council members which outlined the permitted uses of the funds provided by the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). There are four general permitted uses of these funds which include: responding to the COVID-19 public health emergency; providing premium pay to essential workers, offsetting losses in revenue in providing essential government services and making necessary improvements to water and sewer infrastructure. He suggested utilizing a portion of this revenue to replace the waterline on Canal Road which is in poor condition. Discussion with Council on the ARPA funding continued after which Mrs. Bruno wanted

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to state for the record that she is opposed to the use of these funds on infrastructure or anything not related or impacted by COVID-19.

Mr. Bruno asked when work will begin on the Columbia Village subdivision. Mr. Gochenour stated that work will probably start this coming spring. He added that the developer has to submit plans to FEMA to remove some of the lots from the 100-year flood plain.

Law Director: Phil Dombey –

- Stated that the City of Waterville’s Prosecutor, Katie Tharp, was in attendance at this evening’s meeting. He will formally introduce her to Council during their Executive Session planned for later this evening.

Finance Director: Mark Williams –

- Reviewed details from the September 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 September 2021.

Police Chief: Joe Valvano –

- Reported that the Police Department hosted a “Bike to School with a Cop” Day on Friday, October 22. Fifty to sixty children participated.
- Stated that a Drug Take Back Day was held on October 23. He added that 21 lbs. were collected at the Fire Station, 19 lbs. at the Kroger Store and 57 from the drug drop off box in the lobby of the Municipal Bldg. 97 lbs. in total were turned over to the DEA this morning.
- Reported that the Downtown Boo-to Do will take place this Thursday, October 28. The Police Department along with the Fire and Public Works Departments will be participating.
- Reported that a pick-up truck was stolen off of Canal Rd. on October 19. The suspect was caught 5 hours later in Toledo.

Fire Chief: Doug Meyer –

- Reported that the 911 Consolidated Dispatching is going well and he is continuing to stay engaged in the development meetings.
- Stated that the Fire Department received a big thank you from the Village of Whitehouse Mayor Atkinson for their assistance with a fire in Whitehouse. He added that the Fire Co-Op is working well.
- Stated that the Fire Department will also be participating this this week’s Boo-to-Do in Downtown Waterville.
- Invited Council to participate in a Rescue Task Force Training that will be held November 20 (classroom) and 21 (hands-on) at the Waterville Primary School. A U.S. Marshal will be teaching the class.

Public Works Director: Ken Blair –

- Reported that the Farnsworth Rd. Sanitary Sewer Extension Project has been completed.
- Stated that the date to begin the 2021 Residential Street Resurfacing Program has not yet been confirmed.
- Stated that the Downtown Street Lighting Project is still incomplete. The street pole lights are expected to be delivered on October 29.
- Reported that the Sidewalk Mud-Jacking portion of the 2021 Sidewalk Replacement Program has been completed. The slab replacement portion of the program will be completed in November.
- Stated that the Annual Leaf Collection Program began last week. A map and schedule were included in the Council packets.

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- Reported that the Waterville Rotary Club has donated eight park benches for placement on the City's shared use paths, in the downtown area and in City parks.

Communications from Council Members/Committees

Mr. Bruno –

- Stated that Mary Ann Burns, Lucas County Board of Developmental Disabilities, came to the September 13 Council meeting to present the “Five I’s of Disability Justice”. She asked at that time if Council would consider a Resolution adopting this and commit to use the “Five I’s of Disability Justice” framework in policy review and development. He then asked if this request could be followed up and put on the next agenda. It was the consensus of Council that a resolution would be presented at the next Council meeting for further consideration.

Mrs. Bruno – No report.

Mr. Frey –

- Asked for an update regarding an e-mail received from a resident concerning a zoning issue. He added that a homeowner built a shed and installed an above-ground pool partially into the ground which affected the drainage in his neighbor's yard. Mr. Gochenour stated that he and the Law Director are working with the property owner to resolve these zoning issues.

Mr. Rozic – No report.

Mr. Borowski –

- Asked if the city sends out notices to residents notifying them of zoning violations. Mr. Gochenour went over the notification process.
- Stated that Stephanie Miller, Urban Forester with ODNR, came to the last Tree Commission meeting and gave a presentation. He added that members of the Commission gave ideas on what the Tree Commission should focus their attention on in 2022. He also stated that they are looking for two more volunteer members.

Mrs. Duncan –

- Reminded residents that Boo-to-Do in Downtown Waterville will be held this Thursday from 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. rain or shine. She asked that everyone be on alert and watch for kids!

Mayor Pedro –

- Stated that he also sits in on the 911 Consolidated Dispatching meetings adding that it is moving along.

OLD BUSINESS:

- A. ORDINANCE 21-21 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE ZONING MAP OF THE CITY OF WATERVILLE BY GRANTING A SPECIAL USE PERMIT TO ALLOW THE OPERATION OF A WILDLIFE ANIMAL REHABILITATION, EDUCATION AND CONSERVATION CENTER ON A PARCEL ZONED (PBP) PLANNED BUSINESS PARK LOCATED AT 7541 DUTCH ROAD

Second Reading

An application has been received from Allison Schroeder, Executive Director of Nature's Nursery, for a Special Use Permit to allow for the operation of a proposed animal rehabilitation, education and conservation center located at 7541 Dutch Road.

Nature's Nursery has outgrown their current location at the Metroparks' Blue Creek Conservation Area in Waterville Township and is planning to redevelop the former restaurant/office building site as their new location. A preliminary drawing outlining the Applicant's proposed future development plans for this site which includes the purchase of additional land adjacent to the property to the south was provided to Council. In addition to seeking approval for the planned use of the site, Nature's Nursery would also like to construct enclosed animal "rehabilitation and education yard" areas at the rear portion of the property as part of this phase of development. These areas will be enclosed with fencing 8 feet in height with screening panels. An additional landscaping buffer is also planned along the rear and western side yard property lines. No further construction is planned at this time. The Applicant has been advised that any additional future construction of buildings or additional parking areas, as depicted on the drawing, will require the submittal and approval of a site plan by the Planning Commission. The parcels at 7541 Dutch Road are currently zoned Planned Business Park (PBP) which allows agriculture, the stabling of livestock, pasturage and accessory uses related to agricultural in the zoning district. Also provided to Council was information provided by Nature's Nursery including copies of permits from the Ohio Division of Wildlife and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service which regulate their current animal educational and rehabilitation operations.

At their October 4 public meeting, the Planning Commission recommended approval of the Special Use Permit request by a vote of 3-0-1, with one abstention, with the following conditions: 1) the operation will not produce any excessive amount of odor or noise which will create nuisance conditions for neighboring property owners; 2) any additional land purchased for use by Nature's Nursery, as well as existing parcels 96-61236 and 96-61237, will be combined into one lot; 3) Nature's Nursery will obtain and comply with all permits issued by the U.S., state or local governments which are required to operate a wildlife animal rehabilitation, education and conservation operation/center. Nature's Nursery agrees to maintain and renew all required permits and provide the City of Waterville with copies of all required permits on an annual basis and; 4) any future construction of buildings or additional parking areas, as depicted on their enclosed drawing, will require the submittal of and approval of a site plan by the Planning Commission as required by Chapter 1146 of the City's Planning and Zoning Code.

NEW BUSINESS:

- A. RESOLUTION 43-21 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MUNICIPAL ADMINISTRATOR TO FILE AN APPLICATION AND ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE OHIO PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION (OPWC) FOR THE CANAL ROAD WATERLINE REPLACEMENT PROJECT

This Resolution would authorize the submission of an application for financial assistance from the Ohio Public Works Commission for the replacement of the waterline on Canal Road between Elm Street and the Anthony Wayne Trail. The project involves the replacement of the existing 80-year old, 6-inch waterline with approximately 2,650 feet of new 8-inch waterline, installation of required valves, 9 fire hydrants and the reconnection of 20 residential service connections. These improvements will improve water flow, fire protection, and eliminate future water main breaks. The application is for a grant for 49% or the City's estimated \$235,029 share of the project's \$479,652 total cost. The remaining \$244,623 cost of the project will be offset by utilizing American Rescue Plan (ARP) grant funds. If the application for financial assistance is successful, construction on this improvement project would begin in 2023.

Mrs. Duncan moved to adopt Resolution 43-21. Mr. Borowski seconded the motion, which passed by unanimous voice vote.

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- B. RESOLUTION 44-21 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MUNICIPAL ADMINISTRATOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF ACTIVE FUNDS WITH FIFTH THIRD BANK, FARMERS AND MERCHANTS STATE BANK AND THE STATE TREASURY ASSET RESERVE OF OHIO; AND AN AGREEMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF INTERIM AND/OR INACTIVE FUNDS WITH FIFTH THIRD BANK; FARMERS AND MERCHANTS STATE BANK; FIFTH THIRD SECURITIES, INC.; MULTI-BANK SECURITIES, INC. AND THE STATE TREASURY ASSET RESERVE OF OHIO

This Resolution authorizes the renewal of depository agreements for active, interim and inactive City funds. Under Ohio Revised Code Section 135, these agreements are required to be renewed every five years for the purpose of protecting the deposited funds of public entities. Ohio law requires that banks which are designated as “public depositories” to collateralize 105% of the public entities’ deposits to guarantee a return in the event of default or financial problems. The depository bank deposits the “collateralized securities” at a federal reserve bank or other entity authorized to accept these securities. The City’s current depository agreements expire on December 31, 2021.

Mr. Rozic moved to adopt Resolution 44-21. Mr. Frey seconded the motion, which passed by unanimous voice vote.

Other Business

None

Executive Session

Mrs. Duncan made a motion to move into Executive Session for Consideration of a Matter per ORC 121.22(G)(1): Personnel and ORC 121.22(G)(8)(a), Information Related to Economic Development Assistance under ORC Chapter 1724 at 8:59 p.m. Mr. Borowski seconded the motion.

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

Return to Regular Session

Mr. Borowski made a motion to come out of Executive Session and resume the regular Council meeting at 10:19 p.m. Mr. Rozic seconded the motion which carried by unanimous voice vote.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before Council, Mr. Borowski made a motion to close the meeting at 10:19 p.m. Mr. Rozic seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous voice vote.

Jon D. Gochenour, Clerk of Council

Timothy G. Pedro, Mayor