Canal Winchester

Town Hall
10 North High Street
Canal Winchester, OH 43110

Meeting Minutes - FINAL

May 7, 2018
7:00 PM

City Council

Bruce Jarvis – President
Mike Walker – Vice President
   Jill Amos
Will Bennett
   Bob Clark
   Mike Coolman
   Patrick Lynch
A. Call To Order
Jarvis called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

B. Pledge of Allegiance – Coolman

C. Roll Call
Present 7 – Amos, Bennett, Clark, Coolman, Jarvis, Lynch, Walker

D. Approval of Minutes

- MIN-18-019 4-16-18 Council Work Session Meeting Minutes
- MIN-18-020 4-16-18 Council Meeting Minutes

A motion was made by Lynch, seconded by Coolman to approve the minutes. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes 7 – Lynch, Coolman, Amos, Bennett, Clark, Jarvis, Walker

- MIN-18-021 4-30-18 Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes

A motion was made by Amos, seconded by Bennett to approve the minutes. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes 6 – Amos, Bennett, Coolman, Jarvis, Lynch, Walker
Abstain 1 - Clark

E. Communications & Petitions - NONE

F. Public Comments - Five Minute Limit Per Person

G. Resolutions

- RES-18-005 A Resolution Authorizing The Mayor To Enter Into A Contract For The Participation In The ODOT Winter Contract (2018-2019) For Road Salt
  Sponsor: Jarvis - Adoption

Bennett: Mr. Jarvis, are we required by our rules to pass resolutions thought committee before they make it to full council; Jarvis: I don’t know if that’s a binding requirement; it was the only piece of business that would have required us to meet earlier this evening to discuss that one issue; out of expedience; People: we got this very late as well; and the deadline of this I believe is Wednesday to have this done; as Mr. Jarvis said there was only one piece of legislation when we found out the timeframe Mrs. Jackson was on vacation as well; trying to get everything with the public notice; I just called Mr. Jarvis and requested that we do this; I’d like to say it’s an anomaly; but this id ODOT usually does this to us where they say here it’s a last minute and we need it in a certain time frame; so I do apologize for not going through the normal channels; hopefully this is a one off situation that we won’t have again with the circumstances.

Lynch: How did we do on budget with salt this past year? Peoples: We did fine; she would have let us know if we would have went over; we definitely used a lot more than we have in the past; with the contract period we’re setting up with ODOT we were able to buy some this year and the following year as well, it runs until May that we can get the orders done; in the past, we have been able to fill up our barn; our capacity is a lot more now, up to 1,200 tons, our old barn was only 400; we were always having to do deliveries and it was on their timeframe, not ours; it makes it a lot easier for us to do; obviously this year we used about 500 tons, which is what we have in the barn right now; we took it down to zero and filled it right back up; Lynch: do they lock you into a price for the year up
front; Peoples: not up front; we are making a commitment to purchase 700 tons of salt plus or minus ten percent at the price they come back with the bid; so this is a publicly bid process but this is the commitment to those 700 tons; Hollins: that’s basically the pitch you would have heard if we made it 6 o’clock; but it does come up every year; this is one of those perennials;

A motion was made by Jarvis, seconded by Coolman to adopt this resolution. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes 7 – Jarvis, Coolman, Amos, Bennett, Clark, Lynch, Walker

H. Ordinances

Third Reading

ORD-18-014 An Ordinance To Amend Part 11 Of The Codified Ordinances And The Zoning Map Of The City Of Canal Winchester, Rezoning An Approximately 1.03 Acre Tract Of Land From Planned Commercial District (PCD) To Neighborhood Commercial (NC), Owned By OTP Holdings, LLC, Located At 100 Cemetery Road (PID 184-000752) (Ex. A) - Adoption

A motion was made by Amos, seconded by Bennett to adopt this ordinance. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes 7 – Amos, Bennett, Clark, Coolman, Jarvis, Lynch, Walker

ORD-18-015 An Ordinance to Adopt the Canal Winchester Parks Master Plan (Ex. A) - Adoption

A motion was made by Jarvis, seconded by Clark to adopt this ordinance. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes 7 – Jarvis, Clark, Amos, Bennett, Coolman, Lynch, Walker

ORD-18-016 An Ordinance Authorizing The Mayor To Enter Into A Tax Increment Financing Agreement With Central Ohio Transit Authority (Ex. A) - Adoption

A motion was made by Lynch, seconded by Coolman to adopt this ordinance. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes 7 – Lynch, Coolman, Amos, Bennett, Clark, Jarvis, Walker

Second Reading

ORD-18-017 An Ordinance To Create Chapter 187 In Part Seven Of The Codified Ordinances Of Canal Winchester Enacting Admissions Tax - Second Reading Only

First Reading - NONE
H. Reports

**Mayor’s Report**  
18-044  
Mayor’s Report

Mayor: Just a couple things; April 28th we had the national prescription Drug Takeback Day; we held at Diley Ridge Medical Center as we do twice a year for the last eight years; this time we took in 117 pounds of unwanted, unused prescription drugs; that’s our 2nd highest, last spring, in April we took in 126; it’s a very worthy cause; getting a lot of drugs off the streets and out of the drains and out of the sewers and everywhere else we don’t need them; just a word of note here; we had the Ashbrook Village Homeowners Association is making a donation to the city of 1.779 acres of property located just south and east of Washington Street Bridge, the vehicular bridge; the property is going to be used as part of the McGill Park construction and a connector to the trails, west of Washington Street and to and through the covered bridge, near the schools, and including the schools; as part of the deal, we will include the new trail as part of Phase I, or an early part of the process of constructing McGill Park; that was part of the deal, they wanted to make sure that they got it first; it’s a piece of property that we were looking at, and identified early on that we would like to have it; Matt, Amanda and I met with the homeowners association, and this is what came of it; Jarvis: This also solves the problem with the children walking to school from there; Mayor: Eventually, it will, yes; Jarvis: Great, that’s really great.

Fairfield County Sheriff

Cassel: Stats for April are as followed, for the 30 days in April our total possible down time or busy time was 86,400 minutes; we were actually busy for 59,401 minutes, making our busy time was at 68.75%; 457 dispatched calls; 883 pick-up runs; 270 multiple unit calls; 89 reports; 54 addendums; 0 F.I. cards; 22 civil papers attempted; 21 civil papers served; 6,970 building checks; 309 vacation checks; 130 traffic stops; 106 citations; 74 warnings; 1 felony arrests; 28 misdemeanor arrests; 18 warrant arrests; 3 OVI arrests; 2 pink slips; 3 charge packets; 8 summons in lieu of arrests; 40 misdemeanor charges filed; 3 felony charges filed; Jarvis: Sergeant Cassel, something just dawned on me, I guess I’m not looking at this right; on the number of traffic stops and the number of warnings, I guess that the number of citations plus the number of warnings would equal the number of traffic stops, but it doesn’t; Cassel: It does not, I explained that a while ago; I could stop you and then write you 7 different citations, and then give you 7 tickets and 2 warnings; it varies.

Law Director

Hollins: Just to get back to Will on your question; the council rules; I was flipping through them real quick, they actually anticipate, I don’t think it would become your practice but they provide the flexibility that it could either come from a sponsoring council member after a committee meeting, or a sponsoring staff member, if need be in this type of situation; I just wanted to answer your question about whether it was required; Bennett: Thank you; Hollins: I do have a request for an executive session at the end of the regular meeting for pending or imminent litigation.

Finance Director

18-047  
Finance Director’s Report

Jackson: I just have a couple of reminders in addition to my written report; several of you have signed up for ethics training this Thursday; that is downtown at the VWC building, if you need the exact
address, please come see me and I will get that for you; next Wednesday, the 16th is the Relay for Life dinner, so please, we hope you can all attend; we would appreciate it if you could come serve for tips, earn some money for the Relay for Life team; that’s all I have; Mayor: And the 15th is when the financial disclosure is due? Jackson: Yes; Clark: Stacey and you got the message that I am unable to attend the ethics training? Jackson: Yes, I did receive that message; Clark: Thank you, I will reschedule that, or look for another time to reschedule.

Public Service Director

18-045 Director of Public Service Project Update
18-046 Construction Services Administrator Report

Peoples: Thank you Mr. Jarvis, just a couple of things to add to my written report; we have received a complaint quite a few residents out in Westchester, out around Connor and Porter; there’s construction activity that’s going on out there, I’m not sure if the residents have reached out to you or not; we are working with the developer to try and get their site cleaned up; it mostly has to do with the construction debris – mud and stuff is being tracked out of the active construction site; there’s two different things going on, there is just an active construction site for underground utilities in preparation for final paving; there’s also houses being built out there; there’s a lot of traffic in and out, it’s caused us some problems; the storm water construction site is what we are trying to deal with, to try and get back into compliance with that; also, one more reminder, Potting Day is this Friday for all of those who plan on attending.

Development Director

18-048 Development Report

Haire: Thank you all for getting the final plan for the Parks Master Plan approved tonight, that was a long process to go through, we’re happy to have that approved; hopefully we can start on some implementation there; a couple of items I wanted to highlight in my report, AutoZone is under construction, I know I have gotten questions about that a number of times; they are actively working on that now; you can see the dumpsters and things out there, so you’ll start seeing more of the façade transformation here soon on that project; BrewDog is just finishing up a kitchen renovation, which will allow them to expand the capacity of their kitchen significantly, and allow them to change up their menu, which they’ve apparently introduced over the weekend, check that out if you have a chance; also wanted to make note that BrewDog is going to have another large party there on May 19th; it’s for craft beer week, it’s their closing party for craft beer week; we are expecting somewhere between 1,500-2,000 people there; they are going to be letting off fireworks again; I know we received a number of complaints the last time they put off fireworks from Cherry Landing, they’ll also be having 7 bands throughout the day; I would anticipate we will receive a number of complaints again; Mayor: The location for the fireworks has been changed; they’re going back to their original – Haire: Yeah, the location has changed, hopefully that’ll help; it’s not a school night, so that’ll help too; just in case you hear anything, that’s May 19th – it starts at 1:30, and goes until midnight; Middletown Farms have submitted revised development plans, that’s the Westport development at Oregon, Lithopolis, and Hayes Roads; we did receive revisions, that’ll be on the agenda for the May 14th Planning & Zoning meeting; I am going to be doing a quick trip to Japan, leaving on Friday and coming back the following Friday, for some business development for 2 active projects that we’re working on, and then 19 other meetings; going to be a busy week; Coolman: Is there such a thing as a
quick trip halfway around the world? Haire: It’s 6 days on the ground there, so it’s a quick trip; Lynch: The BrewDog party said they’re going to be expecting 15,000 people? Haire: No, somewhere around 1,500-2,500; Lynch: Okay I got it, that seemed a little different; where are they parking all these people, do they have enough parking capacity there? Haire: Yes, they work with HFI; they have 300 parking spaces across the street that they’ve used, and they’ll continue to use; also they park on the field on the north side of the driveway there; they fit a couple hundred cars there, too; when they had their annual meeting there last year, they had 2,500 people there, and parking was not an issue; Clark: Do they shuttle, Lucas, those people over from the HFI? Haire: Yes, they’ll also be offering shuttles from their 2 other bar locations in Franklinton and the Short North; they’ll have a shuttle running continuously between the 3; Walker: That’ll be a busy day, that’s the same day as the Scioto Bike Tour; Haire: Yeah, they’ll be back the next day; so they’ll be here on the 18th and the 20th; Amos: The 19th is also Relay for Life; Haire: Yes, so fireworks after Relay for Life; Coolman: So you said they’re going to have 7 bands out there? Where are they going to set them up at? Haire: They setup a stage right behind their building; they fence that entire area for events, so their liquor license is in effect for the area behind the building; Coolman: Okay; Bennett: Mr. Haire, is that a ticketed event? Haire: No, it’s a free event; Clark: When you said the fireworks should be in a different place, what do you mean? Mayor: Well, they’ll be in the original location when they did them last year, on the Fourth of July; the second fireworks they did last year, they moved further behind the building and closer to Hanners Park; that didn’t work; Haire: Where they’re launching, their launching point they have to have a certain safety radius; Jarvis: Any other questions or comments? Bennett: I do have one more, I apologize; Mr. Haire, at the Committee of the Whole meeting we discussed the residential plan standards; is there a time when we’re going to – is that going to come up through the regular work committees? I think we talked about establishing a committee, didn’t we? Jarvis: I think the minutes capture it pretty accurately; we were looking to staff to help facilitate this meeting; using representatives from council, Planning & Zoning, perhaps the schools; I don’t think those plans have been finalized, at least I’m not aware of it; I don’t know exactly – would someone be prepared to address that? Haire: If you can provide direction on what you’re seeking, I’d be happy to assist in setting something up; Jarvis: In the minutes, I think that was as far as we got with it, Lucas; Haire: Yeah I think we left it at that we would discuss it more at the next council meeting; I anticipated that there would be a discussion this evening; Jarvis: Oh, this evening; can we hold this over to old or new business and try to hammer it out then? Bennett: Sure.

I. Council Reports

Work Session/Council Monday, May 21, 2018 at 6 p.m.
Work Session/Council Monday, June 4, 2018 at 6 p.m.

Jarvis: Our next work session council meeting will be on May 21st, at 6pm, starting at 6pm. The first one – our first paired meetings in June will be on June 4th, both Mondays as usual.

CW Human Services Mr. Lynch

Lynch: There’s been some correspondence with Miss. Miller in her wanting a financial commitment from council; that is something we’re working on; Jarvis: Yes, I think that’s a topic of discussion, and we’ll have to get back to her on that; there’s nothing concrete yet.

CWICC Mr. Clark
Clark: We have a meeting May 30th, 11:30 at the Interurban Building.

CWJRD

Bennett: Our next executive board meeting is Thursday, May 17th at 7:30, here at Town Hall.

Destination: Canal Winchester

Mr. Walker

Walker: Everything is in order with the bands, and the farmers market; the next meeting is May 22nd.

J. Old/New Business

Jarvis: I guess now is the time to talk about those residential standards; what we’re looking for staff to do to help us bring it together, I’ll maybe get it started; I think what we’re envisioning is maybe a single meeting, really, to look at the current residential standards; in light of some of the comments made recently that they don’t apply to certain kinds of housing; point was taken, but it’s still - jury is out as far as to whether that’s what we’re looking to bring in; the current standards might be sufficient, but it’s been awhile; it’s worth looking at; I know in discussion, some of you had informally – there was a feeling that we need probably 2 representatives from Planning & Zoning, 2 representatives from council – actually 2-3; if we get too big, you know how it is; Planning & Zoning – perhaps a single representative from the school district; someone had mentioned somebody from the real estate community as a representative to kind of validate whatever the trends are in housing; I think someone also mentioned somebody in the banking community, which again, making the numbers work or whatever; someone says ‘this can’t be done’, is this really true? It’s not really our charge anyway, we’re supposed to look at what’s in the best interest of the City of Canal Winchester; we’re not here to necessarily accommodate the project of the month; that’s kind of what we’re looking for, and I’ll open it up to the rest of council, if you can refine that.

Lynch: Specifically as a group, are we talking about reviewing what was proposed at the Committee of the Whole, or are we looking at something larger than that? Amos: I think this was reviewing the document that they gave us at the last meeting; it was approved in 20 – Walker: 2006; Amos: 2006? My understanding was more just – yeah, get a couple of us together, go into a room, get some opinions on whether it’s still relevant; take into consideration some of the things that you see; decide whether it’s still a valid document, or if we need to revise, revamp; Coolman: I think the standards, as far as the type of construction we want to see 5 years from now – also to visit the trends – the trends that we have today are not the same as the ones that were in 2006; at the end of the day, we want to know what kind of housing that we want to have 5 years from now that we can look at and say ‘that’s what we want’; so I guess materials used, presentation, floorplan, maybe acreage; Jarvis: Setbacks, square footage, the garage business; to your point, Mr. Lynch, you were talking about the master plan; Lynch: I was talking about something much larger; Jarvis: ...kind of meshed together, but they’re separate really; I agree that something like that – that’s another one that has not been dusted off in a long time; if I can recall Mr. Haire’s comments, you have to set a scope on that, because you can go down that hole real deep, and it becomes an expensive proposition; I think Mr. Haire we were just looking for some recommendation on what’s already there; I believe, if we didn’t ask for a copy of the 2015 – I think the comment was made that there was revision done in 2015, or thereafter, that was controversial and it never was adopted; we thought that would be a good starting point; Bennett: I think it was 2005; Mayor: 2006, wasn’t it? 2005, okay; Haire: With the leadership change, it never continued the process; Jarvis: If we could get maybe the ball rolling on what Mr. Lynch is talking about by just receiving copies – electronic copies of that last cut; we’ll sort of independently
look at them, and then come back together with comments; I don’t remember the level of detail, it seemed to me sufficient, it’s really high level stuff; that adds a separate issue from the residential standards; do you have enough direction on the standards focus group? Haire: Do we want to have a separate meeting, or do we want it to take place at council, where we’re going to have further discussions? Coolman: I think separate; Lynch: I think separate; Haire: Do you want to appoint representatives for that? Or is it just kind of one meeting? Amos: I think we can appoint representatives, and then anyone who has concerns can approach a representative to bring it to the meeting; Jarvis: We’ll have a chance to look at it after they have chewed on it; at least we’ll have the benefit of knowing it’s been looked at by different sets of eyes; I guess to answer our portion of it, is there anyone who would – that’s 3, I didn’t see who was up first; Clark: Jill and Pat; Jarvis: Jill and Pat, if you would like to be our representatives, we’ll – Lynch: I drive through Dublin all the time, I’ve gotten a lot of pictures of different places that Westport was referencing; seeing if that is indeed the look that we want; we don’t have to reinvent the wheels; see what’s going to work for us, and what works best, what we feel we want this community to look like; Amos: One of the key things is, Mr. Haire showed me a picture on the way out; it really embraced what we talked about with Canal Winchester; the front door was visible, it was a very welcoming environment; that is what we have said about our community, we want it to be welcoming; with these reset doors, with the current plan – he showed me one that did, and one that didn’t; you look at the one and go ‘yeah, I would knock on that door, that’s my neighbor’; I think that there’s some good things, and some things we could look at; Jarvis: Okay, great; there’s – Mr. Hollins, there would be no harm in having a third council representative, would there? Hollins: No, there really wouldn’t; it’ll be an official subcommittee, or ad hoc committee of council; it’ll comply with sunshine laws anyway; you can put as many representatives as you would like; Jarvis: Well we didn’t want to load the boat, but Mr. Clark also had an interest; I didn’t want to artificially cut it off to 2; with regard to Planning & Zoning, I guess I would extend the same offer to them; we’re looking for a minimum of 2, but if they want to go to 3, that would be alright; for the others, I think we’re just looking for one; kind of an industry subject matter expert from the schools, from the real estate; Clark: Lucas, how will this work with Planning & Zoning going – this project is going before Planning & Zoning, how do we make this work with this group, and their timeframe that they’re going to move legislation and refer it onto us? Haire: This wouldn’t be specific to any project; it would be specific to the standard that we have for all projects; it wouldn’t impact any applications that have already been filed or already been approved; we would have to go through a process – if we were to propose any changes, it’d go back to Planning & Zoning, and it would come to council as a zoning text amendment; Clark: My next question – this new development out there would not be under this, if we made it more strict – the building standards more strict? Haire: That’s a planned district, so you can set any standards that you feel appropriate in that case; everything is negotiated with the developer; Clark: Okay, so we still have time; Jarvis: Mr. Haire, you would be a part of that group as well? Haire: Yes.

Jarvis: Okay, any other old or new business? Mayor: I’ve got one; Saturday – last Saturday was the grand opening for the Barber Museum, the National Barber Museum; great turnout, there was probably between 150-160 people there; about 8 or 9 of the Hall of Famers were there; some distinguished speakers, guests; of course, the tour – they did a great job with the program and the tour, all the way through; if you haven’t been over there yet, you need to go; it’s really, really nice; Jarvis: I saw it at about the 80% level; it was stunning, it was so much nicer than when it was upstairs over there; it’s on the ground level, everything is broken out by period; you really see a lot more; I’m
City Council Meeting

Meeting Minutes - FINAL

May 7, 2018

Lynch: I have one more thing under old business; the tree giveaway was this past Saturday; it looked like that was quite a success? Mayor: Oh yes, they got rid of all of them; Lynch: They got rid all of them? Could they actually give away more? Mayor: We increase it from year to year it seems like; there’s been years where we haven’t given them all out; Lynch: Really? Mayor: Yeah; to say we increase it every year – we don’t necessarily, but we have increased it substantially since I’ve been mayor, I know that; Lynch: Good; it’s a very worthwhile cause; the plant stock they had there was great quality; well done.

Bennett: Mr. Jarvis, just curious, is there any need to – I see we have 2 distinguished guests from Madison Township; I didn’t know if we need to recognize them; they appeared – there’s nothing in the agenda to officially recognize them, so I just wanted to make sure – Jarvis: For the record, yes; I gave you an invitation to speak to us if you want; it’s too late now, but thank you for coming, we appreciate you.

Coolman: Wait a minute, wait a minute; I’m not done with old business yet; I was waiting for a queue, but I didn’t get one, so I’m just going to jump in here; I wanted to bring up – we talked about the admissions tax; I would like to have a discussion based on some standards for that; after doing the research and crunching some numbers we talked about last time; it’s not a big fad tax, but I think it’s one that’s important to have in our back pockets; it should already be on the legislation, just so that we’re not reactive, instead we’re proactive; it’s for the future, it’s not necessarily for now; to make the – it doesn’t affect the nonprofits, it does not affect the schools; to make it more sustainable for the small businesses in town, I’d like to propose that we would modify that by an attendance figure; if a smaller business in town were to have some kind of social gathering, a threshold number, right; Jarvis: I agree with that completely; I don’t know what the magic number is, but I think of small venue events that take place sometimes – you might have 50, 60, 75 people attend; it’s mainly for people that live around here; if there was some sort of surcharge involved, it would get passed onto them; maybe they wouldn’t mind at all, maybe it makes it all work; it seems like in order to make it no affect those small events, we set a threshold; that way it would just go after the larger events; that would require us to amend the ordinance while it was still active, which we could do on the third reading I guess, when we have a consensus; your point is taken, I don’t know how others feel about that.

Walker: I have a question on that, Mr. Jarvis; how would that affect this tour – the Scioto Bike Tour if we would become the home for that, how would affect them? Can that legislation be written – Haire: All the benefits would go to a nonprofit organization called Outdoor Pursuits; there would be no admissions tax because it’s a nonprofit; Coolman: Because it’s a nonprofit, and nonprofits are exempt; Jarvis: It is a nonprofit? Haire: Yes; Amos: So if we are saying that we are also trying not to hit our locals, does that mean we would consider taking our golf courses, because that’s one person at a time? Coolman: We’re not taking them out, what I would like to suggest is to maybe set the mark at 150 participants, or paid tickets, on admissions; Bennett: So it wouldn’t affect golf courses; Amos: Your daily golfers – Lynch: Yeah, right – I’d say to keep it around 150-200, that would be well above what most golf outings would typically bring in, local golf outings; Coolman: Let’s not forget the local restaurants in town that might want to have a holiday bazaar, like they have had in the past; they haven’t had more than 100 historically, but who’s to say? What if they have a big bash? We’re really
putting this on the books, in my opinion, because we’re after the big events; what if something like BrewDog decides to have a summer country music bash, and they have 3,000 people out there? I mean, that’s not a lot of money, but it’s a little bit that helps us; we’re not after every little event, we’re just wanting to get the big ones; Jarvis: I’m good with 100-150, if it’s not the right number, we could always look at it and change it later, just like with anything else, you can modify an ordinance once it’s out there; you’d like to do it right the first time if you can; Amos: Forgive me, I’m not trying to just touch on the golf course, but I want to clear something up; Mr. Haire at the last meeting, you stated that green fees for your daily golf would be taxed; Haire: The way it’s written, correct; Amos: So the way it’s currently written, your daily average golfer would pay the event tax; Haire: I don’t know if we’re saying about – that it needs to be 150 participants, then you’re going to exempt pretty much everything from this, unless it’s a large ticketed event; you’re going to exempt every other admissions, tours, you’re going to exempt any type of cover for a band at a local restaurant here, because they don’t hold 150 people; Mayor: BrewDog gives tours, too, but they might have 15 people on a tour; Haire: They cap at 15; Jarvis: Your points are taken, I just think – I thought that our emphasis was on the large events; we’re not trying to disrupt some of those smaller ones; I think there’s a difference of opinion on that; that’s really, for me personally, what it comes down to; to embrace this admissions tax is to have some sort of cutoff; I would go one further and say that we should have – we should state a priority for the use of these funds that correlates to the impact of the event; in other words, we have capital improvement plans that deal with our roads and infrastructure; that, to me, is what is impacted by large events, we should state as a priority that the funds should be used for that, without tying anyone’s hands if the situation changes and the money is needed for something else; I can’t think of a good example at the moment, but we would be able to move that money around, rather than have a true earmark, where it’s designated for XYZ; Coolman: So you want to earmark it as far as what fund the money goes into, or you want it earmarked for what category under a certain fund it goes into; I don’t know how you can really do that going into a year fiscally when you don’t really know what you’re faced with; unless you’re just naming that it goes into the general fund to be used as needed; I think that’s the way it’s written, is that the money will go into the general fund; Jarvis: As a landing spot, that’s true; what bothered me about that is that it goes into the general fund, and it really could be used for anything; to tie it to where this money is being collected, kind of like Bed Tax dollars, right? We like to see those dollars applied to things that bring in more people that stay overnight that generate more Bed Tax dollars; if someone has a large event, we’ve used BrewDog as an example, we’ll use that again; BrewDog has a big event that has 27 bands that lasts for 4 days or whatever; there’s wear and tear to our roads, there’s use of our infrastructure – water and sewer, things like that; those are paid for under our capital improvement line item, right; if money is collected in 2018, and it’s deposited into the general fund as planned; it’s tracked, so that it would be used as a priority to pay for capital improvements the following year; Ms. Jackson, I’m not trying to complicate it; I’m outside of my area of expertise on this, but hopefully you’re following at least whether it could be done that way or not, the feasibility of it; Jackson: The revenue itself would be put into a separate line item; when you get your monthly financial statements, you’d be able to identify exactly how much of this money is – how much of our general fund revenue is our admissions tax money, just like every other revenue source we have, that is a very easy thing to do; on the expenditures side, the one thing I will say about – you mentioned streets versus utilities; our utility costs are paid out of our utility funds, which are completely separate from the general fund; that would be something I’d like to stay away from; I don’t want to be moving money from the general fund to the utility funds; our utility funds are healthy, our connection funds
are healthy, we don’t really need to worry; Jarvis: Water and sewer yeah, bad example; Jackson: From a street perspective, I agree Mr. Jarvis, I think that this is something that we could earmark for street improvements, or if council would rather see it go towards park improvements, or some other type of improvement in the general fund, we can do that; ideally, at the end of the day, we want to have – staff would like to see some flexibility; so that if something happens 10 years from now, and our revenue takes a huge hit, we have the ability to use that money on something other than just one specific thing; Coolman: I’m okay with that; Clark: You can change it, too; the next council can change, and make it go to the general fund, not to the streets; Walker: Part of this is the bigger the events get, how much time is given by the city, or takes some of our people to set up, and to go over – for the fireworks, are the city workers involved in going over – how much maintenance is there, mayor? Mayor: For the fireworks celebration, the fireworks they’re talking about right now; I know we’ve already had at least 2 meetings with them just for fireworks; when they have events where they’re drawing a couple thousand – 3,000 or 4,000 people; now you’re talking barricades, signage, and lots of different things that go into it that we have to put up and take down; so it’s time, it’s a lot of time more than it is ‘work’ work; there’s a lot of time involved in it; Amos: If the estimated amount is still close to what you said – the last meeting you said that our hopes are to raise around $300,00 to make up for the loss; Mayor: I’d say – I was throwing that out there pretty quickly, I would say we’re probably closer to a million dollars in lost revenue since 2009-2010; Lynch: Is that per year or cumulative? Mayor: Per year; Amos: If we put this in place and take in some consideration some of the modifications that council would like to see, I think Mr. Haire said it correctly; there really isn’t much that we would be charging – Mayor: It’s a very small amount, it’s a very small amount, I agree; Jarvis: But it’s something; Mayor: Yeah, it’s something, without going out and saying – without raising income taxes, and all the other stuff that we do not want to do; Coolman: Lucas, and maybe I missed it when I read over your proposal, what about events that don’t charge admission to get in, but they charge for parking? Is parking a form of admission? Haire: I don’t recall how it was written, if parking was included; I’d have to read through it; I know if you’re receiving something else of value while you’re at the event; Coolman: Right, an exchange of service or value to attend; Walker: I’m sure you probably mentioned this too, Mr. Haire; what other surrounding cities have you – Dublin, Grove City? Haire: That have an admissions tax? Walker: Yes; Haire: In central Ohio, I think it’s Obetz and Reynoldsburg; Amos: We said that Reynoldsburg collected 0 last year, correct? Haire: Correct; Amos: Do you remember what Grove City was? Haire: Obetz was the other city; I think theirs was 6 or $7,000 that they collected; I think that they used it for that fortress that they have; the stadium, it’s called the ‘The Fortress’; I think they tax events at that venue; Mayor: I’ve read an article – this is just one way, I have read articles that since the state has been taking away from the municipalities and the townships, and the villages; within that timeframe, there have been over 80 cities in the state of Ohio who have had to raise their income tax rates; most of them went a half percent or more; Coolman: it’s always the easiest and quickest answer that’s always implemented, but it’s not the most favorable one; that’s why I think it’s better to be proactive with tools like this, so that we don’t have to go to that; Jarvis: This is not a get well plan for the lost revenue, it is – I think the significance of it is that what can you do to prevent something worse from happening? This is something that we could do; Mayor: We’re also protecting the unknowns for the future; we could have another BrewDog come in; we could have a big hotel come in that has events; that’s what we’re looking at; Jarvis: It’s better to have it on the books before we have an actual situation at hand that looks personal; Mayor: Yes, absolutely.
Walker: Mr. Haire, is Obetz and Reynoldsburg setup the same way with the golf courses, and just how this would be? Haire: I have not read their ordinances specifically, so I don’t know; Walker: So it sounds like Obetz may just be for large events; I would just like to – I can check into that; Clark: Would a movie theater collect? Coolman: Yes; Mayor: Could be, if you want it to be; Clark: If we set the 150, 150 people would have to come in as a group before we collect the tax? Amos: A movie theater would be across the board; right now, it’s in the category of across the board; Clark: So they would not be under the 150, we would exempt them out from the 150? Jarvis: I don’t think so, because the events would last all day long, from when they open until they close; I’m sure they’d have more than 150 people; Clark: You’re cumulative, just bringing them together, 150 whether they don’t know each other; Amos: In Cleveland all of their movie theaters have this tax; Coolman: If you read what Lucas wrote up, it states anything that you pay an admission on, that you attend; as we keep making references to these bigger cities like Cleveland, Cincinnati, Jill brought up Philadelphia last meeting; we are not at that level yet, but who’s to say we don’t get there in the years to come? Because once you have your land developed, and you no longer have any land to sell, you better hope that you have some things in place for whoever occupies that land; even though it may not be present today, who’s to say 5 years from now we won’t have something like that, when we need it; Clark: I thought Jill said the golf course would be exempt if we – Amos: We’d have to ask for it to be a modification to this, to take out the green fees; right now it’s written that anyone that goes to our golf course, who pays the green fee, will have a tax on it; Hollins: By the way, it does it appear that if there is a charge for parking, it does apply; Coolman: I think that’s huge, because for an organization to get around that, it would be ‘let’s charge for parking, but not charge a gate’; Clark: So a nonprofit group; Historical Society has 200 golfers out there, they’re exempt, because they’re nonprofit, right? Amos: Yes, so their green fees would still have the tax; Clark: It would kick in, okay; Amos: As the mayor pointed out last week, they could raise – in order to still make the same amount, they could raise their fees by a dollar, so instead you may pay $26 instead of $25; the nonprofit doesn’t lose any money, but the green fees would still be taxed.

Jarvis: It’s tough to run every scenario through this; I want to touch on something Mr. Coolman said, I think it’s really important, that is the economic development is where we really get revenue; this is a small part of that really big picture; as long as we’re growing, and continue to develop commercially, I think we can stay out of trouble, but when that day comes, when we’ve run out of land and have to live off of whatever is being generated right now, that’s when it gets really tight. So, what have we decided here? Mr. Hollins I would like to ask for your support in some correct verbage to incorporate an amendment to the ordinance that addresses the threshold of – is it 150, does that sound like an okay going-in number, or should it be lower or higher? Lynch: I don’t think it should be lower; I’d say between 150-200 would be a good number; Coolman: 150; Jarvis: Let’s do 150, then the money would be designated, but in non-binding way, for capital improvement projects – not utilities; was there something else that was suggested here with regard to the green fees? Amos: I mean if we want to – we need to decide whether – originally we talked about how this isn’t going to affect most of our residents; most of our residents are the primary source of golfers for that golf facility; if we’re saying that we’re not including them, because the other one was – I don’t see it in here offhand – Jarvis: What is the real impact, a dollar? Coolman: $1.20, because the normal green fees are $40-$45; 3% of $45 per round; here’s my question – Amos: I’m just saying, that was our original conversation – that we didn’t feel like it was going to impact our residents, and it’s primarily our residents; Jarvis: It’s going to indirectly, but we’re trying to mitigate it, so I’m just asking if that’s the consensus for the
group, to include green fees; Mayor: I don’t think you can totally say it’s not going to affect our residents; however, I would say that a large portion that it will affect will be from outside of Canal Winchester, probably out of state; Coolman: When you talk about affecting our local residents, they still have a choice on whether to participate; when you talk about golf, it’s quite common that green fees get raised every year; if you’re a member of a country club, your membership dues go up; if you’re playing rounds of golf, if anything they stay level based on what kind of shape the club is in; take it a step farther – what happens if our local course all of a sudden goes up for sale? Then what do we do? It’s run as a public business; I think you’re talking 3%, would I not golf at Westchester if they charged me $46.20 instead of $45? No, I’d still go there; Lynch: That extra $1.30 is about the cost of 1/3 of a beer; Coolman: That’s the cost of the golf balls you send over there in the woods; Lynch: That’s right, you’ll have to replace them 5 other times; perspective; Coolman: I understand what Jill is trying to say; help the nonprofits, help the golfers trying to play, help everybody; at the same time, we’ve got to keep it fair.

Jarvis: I don’t think we’ll be able to think of every scenario; Coolman: No, we can’t; Amos: I think it’s hard because we are encouraging people to visit Canal Winchester, we want our tourism to boom; while it’s a small fraction per ticket, are we penalizing the people who are coming in here? Especially those who are in the hotel that pay the Bed Tax; I know taxes are inevitable, what is it – death and taxes are the two inevitable things in life? Coolman: Whether we impose that or not though – Jarvis: I guess what the Grim Reaper was trying to tell us if it’s that there’s worse things that could happen; then we could look back at this as a fairly harmless step, but it is something; Coolman: I don’t think we are taxing our residents, because we are going to put a size limit on the attraction, so 150; today most of our events are less than 150 people; there used to be a holiday bazaar that took place here in town from a former restaurant; I don’t think they got over 100 people that went to that every year, I was one of them that went there; I think it does protect our locals, for now; this is more of a move for the future; Hollins: We are saying to delete greens fees? Jarvis: I don’t think we got to that, I think that’s what we’ve been talking about; let’s hear from some people we haven’t heard from, Will? If I put you on the spot, we can move on.

Bennett: That’s alright; I think when we start to talk about ‘it’s a drop in the bucket’ for some residents, it’s interesting; we don’t want to raise taxes, but we’re okay with raising taxes on those who can afford it by implementing extra charges at golf courses, because those people are a little more affluent, and they can afford the tax; I don’t know, that’s kind of where my mind is going with the whole – ‘it’s a dollar’, yeah but it’s still an extra tax on one person that we’re not putting on another group; just because the way I unwind is to go play a round of golf, where maybe Jill goes and plays a round of tennis; there’s no charge to use a park; if we had a public course, maybe it’s different; are we saying – so, I guess, if it’s 150 admissions, is that the totality of the admission? Because if a golf course has 150 people come through in a day, then that is then the same as an event that just had sold 150 tickets? Like a concert – sorry, we keep going back to BrewDog; then that would apply to the golf course; it would apply to a movie theater, if they sold 150 tickets throughout the course of the day; Walker: I see what Mr. Bennett is saying there, too; you have seniors that are retired, and have 20 days out of the month to go to the golf course, living on a fixed income; that dollar a day adds up, too; it’s just something to think about; Mayor: I don’t think we were referring to the daily golfer, though; Walker: That’s what I thought – when you just said, when you asked Mr. Jarvis – Mayor: I thought that was for an outing, were you referring to an outing? Walker: That’s what I thought, too; Amos: The way it’s currently written, then green fees would be included in the
tax; Mayor: Okay, if that’s what it says, then we can change that to whatever you want to read, or do away with it altogether, it’s up to you; Bennett: Even if we raise admissions to 150, we’re still saying if the golf course has 150 people come through in the course of the day, they then still are bound to the tax; Jarvis: Unless you remove the greens fees altogether; then it doesn’t matter whether they have 150 or 1,000; Bennett: I guess the challenge then becomes green fees, movie theaters, who’s left – is it just concerts? To Lucas’ point, we start to really cut the teeth out of all of it at some point; I guess that’s where, in my mind, it just keeps circling around to – Jarvis: That’s the hallmark of a compromise; Coolman: That’s the immediate impact – Clark: I just don’t think it’s going to generate enough to make it worth doing at this point; Coolman: What Will is talking about is the immediate impact; look down the road; Clark: Down the road, we can enact it when we land a movie theater and some big venues, then you can pass it; Coolman: I would rather have it on the books before that happens; Amos: Something to consider, too; if the venue is getting to 150 a day, they would charge the tax; they had to charge the tax all day – they may not know if they’re going to get to 150 at noon; it could be a slow day, but in the afternoon suddenly they have 150 people knocking at their doorstep, they don’t know; they have to impose the tax from the first person that walks in the door, they can’t not charge it; if they get to 150, and they didn’t charge it, now – Mayor: The way you’re talking this of putting this up, that would be for any establishment, that could be for any restaurant, any venue that has a concert; they would all have to do that, the way you’re wanting to set this up; Jarvis: I’m starting to get a little confused, too; I thought this was about events rather than brick & mortar businesses; Bennett: It is, but at the same point, we start to say – it depends on how you define it, Mr. Hollins am I correct? If I say 150 participants to a concert, it’s really no different than if I had 150 out to my golf course, is it? Is there a legal way to distinguish between the two; Hollins: Ms. Amos or Mr. Coolman raised the issue – how do we determine when it hits the threshold, how do we go back and get the first 150 admissions tax? Once again, I think most of these are usually implemented at least on the larger events, like Obetz’s was the old raceway; where they knew approximately how many folks were going to attend, and they didn’t have a movie theater, yes now they have the stadium; it’s balancing the revenue with the ease of administration, both for us and for the proprietor, or the event thrower; that’s what I’m noodling over here – is it a numerical cutoff, is it not so much that, as much as definition of the type of event; if I, between staff and council, if I can get a grasp on what we want to start with the type of event; are they ‘BrewDog’ type of bigger events with an admissions fee that we’re really wanting to implement; Bennett: You say like an event with a set start time; Hollins: There may be a better way to define the core events that we’re trying to get to here; Walker: Probably what Obetz and Reynoldsburg are doing, is the larger events; Mayor: I’m not sure establishing a numerical cutoff is the way to go; Amos: Soemthing else to factor in, right now the way it’s written; other places that Canal Winchester has that it would include are the swimming pools, the campground; those would have an admissions charge because recreation or amusement is provided; Hollins: Right, it’s pretty broad right now; I think our difficulties around the horn here are in the details; the details aren’t crucial, it’s the bigger picture ones; let me bring back something 2 weeks from now, see if I capture the type of events that we can start with; I get the gist, we want to get bigger events, probably those by definition are the ones where we’re trying to attract folks from the outside; Coolman: After it’s on the books, we can always amend it in the future anyways; Amos: Mr. Hollins, you’re bringing us a proposal based on the alternatives we have talked about? Hollins: Exactly; Amos: Would it still be up for 3rd read and a decision next time? Hollins: What would happen is I’ll provide you language, and if it hits what you want, on 3rd reading you can amend it to change the existing
language to this new proposed language; if it doesn’t quite get there, you can always table it, and bring it up later.

Bennett: Mr. Jarvis, one quick question maybe to piggyback off the old business discussion; I was curious, Mayor Ebert, had there been any discussion on an increase to the Bed Tax? Since we know that that is an established tax that does actually generate – Mayor: Unless you guys have discussed it; Haire: We currently charge the maximum amount permitted by state law; Bennett: Oh it is, the maximum amount permitted by state law? What is the percentage? Haire: 6%; Jarvis: Thank you Mr. Hollins; like I said, that might address the other 2 conditions that I was suggesting for amendment; actually, the money part of it I think stays, there’s nothing that has come up in this discussion that changes that; as far as the threshold, that was an attempt to define kind of directly the type of events that we’re talking about, if you can do it another way, great; good luck, we’re all behind you.

Coolman: Mr. Haire, can I ask you a question – when you wrote that proposal, what was your intention? Was it for special events, or was it just for daily operation? Haire: I think our intent behind bringing it up now, it was written almost 4 years ago, we just never brought it up; the intent behind bringing it up now is that we have uses that are generating users coming in from out of town that are increasing the level of services that we need to provide in the community, and yet we’re not getting any revenue, we’re actually losing revenue from the state; it’s just another way we can charge fees to people who do not live here to compensate for their demands for the public services in the community; Coolman: Is that for the special events, or just daily? Haire: Any events; Coolman: Okay, any and all; Haire: We have a lot of businesses here that bring people from outside into their businesses; we’re a small community, so we’re supported by a much larger market area than just Canal Winchester; most of them wouldn’t be able to survive on just the 8,000 people that live here.

K. Adjourn to Executive Session at 8:13 p.m.

A motion was made by Clark, seconded by Bennett to adjourn to Executive Session for the discussion of potential future litigation. The motion carried with the following vote:

Yes 7 – Clark, Bennett, Amos, Coolman, Lynch, Jarvis, Walker

Council returned from Executive Session at 8:25 p.m.

L. Adjournment at 8:26 p.m.

A motion was made by Bennett, seconded by Lynch to adjourn. The motion carried with the following vote:

Yes 7 – Bennett, Lynch, Amos, Clark, Coolman, Jarvis, Walker