Meeting Minutes - FINAL

July 2, 2018

6:00 PM

Council Work Session

Mike Walker – Chair
Jill Amos
Will Bennett
Bob Clark
Mike Coolman
Bruce Jarvis
Patrick Lynch
A. Call To Order
Walker called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

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

C. Also In Attendance
Matt Peoples, Lucas Haire, Amanda Jackson

D. Request for Council Action

**RES-18-010**
A Resolution Authorizing The Labor Day Festival Committee To Operate The Annual “Canal Winchester Labor Day Festival” On The Various Streets And Sidewalks Of The City Of Canal Winchester

- Request to move to full Council

Peoples: This is basically the same thing we’ve had for the last couple of years, we just change the dates on it; no change to the schedule, and no major changes to the resolution as well.

_A motion was made by Bennett, seconded by Clark to move this resolution to full council. The motion carried by the following vote:_

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

**ORD-18-026**
An Ordinance To Amend The 2018 Appropriations Ordinance 17-049, Amendment #3

- Request to move to full Council

Ordinance Attachments: Appropriations Amendment #3 Memo

Jackson: In this appropriation amendment, we are asking for $165,000 in the general fund; this will serve to do 3 things: $25,000 is for the pool capital outlay – at the beginning of the year, Mr. Peoples and Columbus Pool Management put together a list of things that need to be addressed at the pool; what we’d like to do as the pool season winds down at the beginning of September, we want to look at trying to knock some of these things out this year, rather than saving them all for next year; some of those things are having the pool painted, doing some mechanical repairs and replacements, there’s some work that needs to be done in the bathrooms, and then looking at purchasing some new chairs – some of our chairs have seen better days; we are also asking for $15,000 in the urban forestry department; we want to do some tree removal at McGill Park, this will be contracted out to a 3rd party; we’re also asking for $125,000 in the construction services operating expenses for engineering services; this would cover the engineering of the High Street railroad crossing, and while that actual project will not be completed in 2018, we’d like to get the engineering completed this year so that we can be ready to go; this would also give us money for a contract with OHM to do some grading, drainage, and preliminary utility planning for McGill Park, so we can keep the ball rolling on that; Lynch: So the construction services – how much is going towards the railroad, and how much to McGill Park? Jackson: McGill Park is $105,000, and the railroad is $20,000; Lynch: And that’s mostly engineering costs? Jackson: It would be all engineering costs; Lynch: $125,000 seemed like a lot for engineering, so that’s why I was asking.
A motion was made by Bennett seconded by Lynch to move this ordinance to full council. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

E. Reports

Matt Peoples – In addition to my written report, I wanted to talk about the Gender Road closure a little bit; it is now open, it opened about 4 o’clock today; to address what Mr. Jarvis said about an email from a resident on West Street about some complaints of the traffic through there; it was an inconvenience – it was an inconvenience not only for West Street, but if you were around the Waterloo, Washington and Groveport area, pretty much the whole weekend – hit or miss, you could go there and have no cars, or you could go and it would be backed up all the way to the pool, and sometime Columbus Street; obviously Gender Road is the major north to south road in the entire area; there’s 40-50,000 cars a day that have to figure out where else to go; most of them chose not to use the detour route that we posted; the commuters did in the morning on Friday, and this morning they tended not to come to town; local people knew that they could get around by coming into town, and we can’t really stop them from doing that; the resident did say something about posting ‘no parking’ on West Street, we did think about that, but the people who park on West Street were the residents, so we didn’t want to keep them from parking; it does keep the speed limits down through there; I know that there was a lot of congestion, Sean Starcher said he saw a semi-truck go down West Street; not sure what they were doing, but nobody looks at anything but their GPS anymore, and it shows to cut across to Groveport Road, and they were going to take it regardless; the semi-trucks caused quite a bit of problems down at the intersection; we’re just happy it’s open now, the project went very well; it was a 4-day closure, it was very inconvenient; I don’t know what else we really could’ve done with that; Jarvis: That’s pretty much a once in a generation kind of project, right? Peoples: Yes, that’s why we did it; we did a closure there a couple of years ago; it was a temporary type of thing, we didn’t have the money or the resources; we paid for 95% of that project; we were able to shift lanes to not have a full closure; what we did this time – which is a permanent repair – we required a full closure of everything through there; I don’t expect to ever see that again; Coolman: I don’t think there’s ever a ‘good’ time to pick; Peoples: By the sub-great conditions, we’re in excellent shape; those were the two biggest things that they were worried about, and it really went off without a hitch; it could’ve been done sooner, but the heat today kept the asphalt too hot, and they had to wait a little bit longer; the rain actually helped a little bit with cooling things down; it’s behind us, it was an inconvenience; the pool, the swim meet that we had – it kind of crept up on all of us, didn’t realize that it was actually this weekend, until it actually happened; I really don’t know what else we could’ve done with that as well; that construction took place when it had to, all of the other things around it were peripheral, and we would’ve had to deal with them anyway;

Walker: Any other questions? Bennett: Yes, Mr. Peoples, I was actually looking at your update from June 14th; I apologize for not addressing this at our last meeting; it says there was a discussion of
recycling centers and SWACO potentially placing a station here; however, there was still concern of contamination and litter; would we consider another site within the city, aside from maybe the one that’s sort of here in the urban core; is there one closer to the – Peoples: Service garage? Bennett: Yes, the service garage – would that be a more appropriate position for one; I don’t know if there’s an area that’s more – like I said, not in the urban core, that could be potentially an appropriate area; Peoples: I guess the – we kind of talked a little bit; regardless of who’s picking it up, and where it’s being picked up, the contamination is still there; we could have cameras on it, we’ve talked to SWACO; we have done everything that they would’ve done, except for the cameras; for the people that are throwing boxes in there, you can’t tell what’s inside the boxes; the dumping alongside – the littering I guess is what we call it, that would be able to be addressed on who’s actually doing it, if there’s cameras up there; but the actual contamination itself would still not be addressed with that; I’m not sure that that would help, other than, like I said, the littering standpoint of setting stuff outside; we had 5 of them out there, I don’t know how many more we would need in order for the littering to keep from happening; Bennett: I guess I just wondered if it was a less ‘public’ location – if you would have the people who maybe are a little bit more conscious of the things that they are recycling; if you had – if it was out of the urban core, if there was less chance for contamination, just because it’s not so in the public view; it’s a little more ‘insider’ kind of – you know, you need to know where it’s at; Amos: Violet Township has theirs located at their service maintenance facility, it sits out in front; the difference is that they don’t have the open containers, they have the slotted containers; they said it’s very rare that they get somebody who is dumping profusely; Peoples: Waste Management has that out at their site, the recycling station, they left it out there – it is one with slots and holes, you have to be very deliberate on getting it in there; they still said they have not as bad dumping and littering as what we had here, but when we met with them they said they still have – someone left a water softener container there, which is in no way, shape, or form recyclable; Amos: It doesn’t beat the toilet; Peoples: Yeah, it doesn’t beat the toilet for sure; Bennett: Have we had any discussions – have they seen an uptake in the use of that? Peoples: I have not had any discussions with them since it has gone down, I have to call them on another matter, so I will – Bennett: I’m just curious how that is going out there; Clark: Matt, I saw in the paper how Groveport is getting 2 additional at a park; how many places do they have? Peoples: That’s the first one that’s located – based on SWACO’s map of drop-off sites, that is the first one kind of in this whole area, from Obetz to Reynoldsburg, and down the southeast way; Clark: So they didn’t have it before? Bennett: We used to have some outside of Kroger, in the back; Peoples: At the fire station up on Gender Road as well; Clark: Those have been removed; Bennett: Those were removed by the property owner; Peoples: Because of the litter – Bennett: Because of the litter, yeah; Peoples: Same thing with the firehouse as well, they were just dumping; maybe there’s your answer as well, is the firehouse up there on Gender Road, up by Refugee, they got rid of theirs as well because of the litter; Bennett: That’s a very public location, and I wondered if you had to be a little more deliberate, to drive back to the service garage – you know what I’m saying – if it were a less public, if there would be any – Clark: I think if it’s more hidden, people would be – I think they’d be like ‘nobody is seeing me’; Bennett: The people who are recycling would seek out locations, I believe, because I know we are trying to
actively figure out where we’re going to take our materials now, now that we aren’t taking them here; Clark: I think you’re right – but I think the people that are leaving the trash are going to seek that out; Bennett: Maybe, yeah; Clark: I think we just keep a watch on what kind of issues Groveport has with those SWACO containers, and if they don’t have any problems, maybe we look at it; if they have problems, then we know probably; Bennett: Groveport actually has curbside recycling as well, so it’s interesting that they’re doing it; Peoples: It’s mainly for the businesses and apartments; apartments are considered a commercial account, so they will have – they won’t necessarily have that; they can choose to have it, but it’s not required, as in the household drop-off; Bennett: Thank you, I didn’t realize that; yeah, Mr. Peoples, then I guess at some point I’d be curious to see how Waste Management is managing their site; Peoples: I’ll check into that and let you know; Walker: Any other questions, discussion?

Lucas Haire – A few items – some of the projects that have been ongoing, and we’ve been talking about for quite a while now are actually starting; COTA has mobilized on their site for their Park & Ride on Gender Road, they have a construction trailer out there now, and you’ll start to see a lot more activity; across the street from that, Wyler Chrysler, Dodge, Jeep and Ram dealership – they began construction last week as well, and they have permits issued on that; the high school has begun work on the addition; all the underground work will be done this summer, and some of the clearing and things will be done for the parking expansion; they won’t actually start work on the building itself until winter break, that will be the first time they start any building work there; section 12-2-3 of the Villages of Westchester, which is on the west side of Gender Road, they began construction back there off of Dietz, on another court that will extend and make an additional 25 lots available; at the last meeting of Planning & Zoning Commission, Canal Investment Partners LLC, or Wilcox Communities submitted plans for revision to the approved preliminary plan for Turning Stone; it was determined by Planning & Zoning Commission that the proposed changes would qualify as a minor modification; a minor modification to that would just need review and approval by Planning & Zoning Commission; I think they’ll intend to submit later this summer with the revised plans for Planning & Zoning to consider; we held the first meeting of the Residential Design Standards Committee on June 20th, it was determined by that group that we should revise our residential development standards; we scheduled our next meeting for July 18th, and we’ll move forward with providing any additional information to anybody; Jarvis: Mr. Haire, we kind of put Ms. Jackson on the spot a little bit before you got here, and asked a question that is really in your area regarding this project; if the residential standards are changed at some point in the near future, but prior to final approval on this project that’s somewhat in the pipeline already, does it apply, or not? Haire: IF they’ve submitted applications, or had any type of approval, then no, it wouldn’t apply; for Turning Stone, they already have an approved preliminary plan, so they would work off of what was approved in their development text, that would be what’s required; for the other development that we’re considering has a public hearing coming up, they would not be required to meet those residential standards, however it is a planned district; a planned district is negotiated standards, so any standard that council would like to see included in that project, they can require; Jarvis: Thank you; Bennett: Mr. Haire, the Turning Stone adjustments that Planning &
Zoning reviewed to consider – you said they found them to be minor adjustments, could you roughly highlight what those minor adjustments were to that development? Haire: Yeah, they reduced the number of units by 2; the unit sizes are a little bit larger, so I think that – off the top of my head, they were 1,220 square feet, approximately with Fischer Homes; Ryan Homes – they started at 1,350 square feet; Ryan Homes doesn’t do any loft units, everything is a single story, whereas Fischer Homes did loft units; the roadway network – where Fischer had 2 cul-de-sacs, Ryan Homes is proposing a loop street, so there won’t be any dead-end street; Bennett: That would be easier for the busing to get in and out of there, too, if there were; Walker: Was there any indication on starting price, or number of bedrooms? Haire: Yeah, they would start at $225,000; Clark: 2 and 3 bedroom? Haire: Yes; Bennett: You said they’re all single story; Haire: Yes.

Lynch: Mr. Haire, what’s the status of the two places over off of Thrush and Groveport – the church, and I believe the vet center off of Thrush? I’ve been getting a lot of calls on those; Haire: They’ve started vertical construction last week; Lynch: On the church? Haire: They have walls going up; I wasn’t by there today, I try to avoid that area generally; on Thursday they started framing up walls and all of that; Lynch: Good, so it’s coming up out of the ground; Haire: It’s been slow, but they’re moving at their own pace; the veterinary office – we continue to communicate with her, and she’s telling us that she’s got new contractors, new designers on board, but we haven’t received any additional plans; her building permit is currently expired, and she needs to reapply for that; Lynch: Anything with the grounds around it? I think the concerns people have is that it’s getting overgrown, have they cut that down? Haire: We’ve sent her all the notices that are required to get it cut, so she cut outside the fence, but they didn’t cut everything inside the fence; Lynch: It’s looking like a wildlife refuge over there.

Bennett: Another question Mr. Haire, sorry; the unit style – are those architectural styles, are they still within those same standards that were approved with Fischer – the garage styles, all the architectural elements are still the same? Haire: They would still be required to meet all of that, yes; the materials, the types of garage doors they’re using, all of those standards would still apply; Lynch: Are those standards the 2006 standards that we are reviewing? Bennett: They’re the individual planned district standards, they have their own set of standards that were agreed upon when that district was initially approved; Haire: Yeah, that’s one of the changes they have in this, is that the garages aren’t as forward as the Fischer plan was – they’re more into the unit; Walker: These are starting at 225? Didn’t the others start at 175, or 2? Haire: Correct; Walker: Any indication on how many 3 bedrooms, how many 2 bedrooms? Haire: No, the builder is not even in contract to purchase land at this point; Walker: Have they already been – I’m sure – Haire: They’re negotiating that; the terms of their deal was that if it was not a minor modification, they were not going to proceed with the purchase; they didn’t want to deal with the timing of going through an entire rezoning process; Walker: How about the park? Haire: It’s not even determined yet that they’ll submit, that’ll come later; Walker: The park part, too? The 80,000 or 100,000 for the – Haire: That’s all subject to negotiation; Walker: But it was part of the original? Haire: There’s not an amount set; Walker: Okay; Haire: It says that they’ll equip a park; that standard still applies; Walker: That’s good; any other questions, discussion? Thank you, Mr. Haire.
Amanda Jackson – Just to highlight what’s in my written report this evening, Mr. Peoples and I are working on a new 4-year utility rate ordinance that we will be bringing to council after your recess; our current ordinance expires at the end of 2018; other than that, this is my slow period (knock on wood), so I’m going to take some time to catch up on some of the projects that have built up over the last couple of months; I expect the fall to be very busy, so I will also be working on the appropriations during this little down time; I expect to have those to you in October; Walker: Questions, discussion? Bennett: Ms. Jackson, the water adjustments – is there a percentage of increase? Jackson: There’s nothing scheduled for 2019, that’s why we’re looking at the ordinance; last year, the ordinance was 2018; Jarvis: At one point, it was structured so that there would be some – not automatic, but – it was a situation, and Matt you might remember this, where the rates could be adjusted within certain limits over the course of – Peoples: That was only the capacity fees; we put a cap on that, up to 3% a year; Jarvis: Are we looking at something similar? Peoples: No, this would be more structured like the last one; the last one we did – the last 2 we’ve done have been 4-year ordinances; the last cycle, it was – for water, it was 2% a year for each of the 4 years, for sanitary sewer it was 2 years with no increases, and 2 years of 2% increases; Jarvis: Okay, you do have the flexibility of if there is no compelling reason to raise the rates, then to leave them where they are; Peoples: Yeah, that’s what we’re doing right now is to do an analysis of the projections of where we think we’re going to be in the coming years; the 4-year ordinances have worked very well; Walker: Questions, discussion?

Haire: I have one more item I would like to add; we are working on a small cell communications tower ordinance; the state changed the law last year, or earlier this year I think it was; it basically allows wireless communication through small cell technology; it can take place anywhere within a public right-of-way in accordance with a locally adopted ordinance; we do not currently have a locally adopted ordinance; that law goes into effect on July 30th, so we need to get an ordinance passed the first meeting in August to address that; we’re already seeing requests – if you’ve noticed, we’ve had a number of those ordinances come through recently for a lot of those new providers; a lot of those providers will be providing that small cell technology; many communities in the state are just starting with these; I know that Dublin and Worthington have both recently passed ordinances; you can set specific standards, so we’re going to take the next month to try and figure out those specific standards on the aesthetics of what these things look like; Lynch: How tall are these? Haire: They can be – I think the state law is 38 feet, up to 38 feet; you can restrict that height within your ordinance in certain areas; we just need to go through on the aesthetics more than anything; these things look like – they can be the size of a traffic signal, a traffic control box; they just mount them on the side of a wooden telephone pole, and put an antenna on the side of it; we wouldn’t want to allow those around everywhere, but we’d set specific standards on what the pole needs to look like, the wires need to be internal; this would be for the telecommunications industry pushed through in last year’s budget; it was challenged – not the budget, they put another bill that dealt with animals, and selling animals in stores; municipalities around the state sued to say it violated the one subject in a bill – that got overturned; there was a compromise with the municipalities on how this could be developed and regulated; we need to get regulations in place
to regulate these; Coolman: Once those towers are up – I know it’s for wireless technology, but can it also be for optical? Like if you put a camera up there? Haire: I don’t know; I know basically it helps boost signals for wireless communication; they basically need less of the large cell towers, because you’ve got these small cells that are boosting the signal strength; Coolman: Is it kind of what Circleville has for their downtown area? Haire: No, that’s a wireless mesh; it’s different; Jarvis: So when we do get that, we can expect a recommendation to make that an emergency ordinance, and suspend the 2nd and 3rd readings? Haire: Yeah, we have these – I don’t think they’re installed yet, they’re going to be installed very soon, but they’re going to be installed on the school’s property, because the schools have a large number of wireless users there; they’re installing them at the elementary schools, and on the high school site right now, they’ll be installed this summer I believe; Amos: Correct me if I’m wrong, but that’s what we looked at last week, correct – 2 weeks ago? Haire: We looked at a new provider that will be providing for the schools; Amos: But it was for the schools? Haire: Yeah, that should be constructed this summer; those won’t be within the right-of-way, and that’s what we’re concerned with, the ones that will be in the right-of-way.

F. Items for Discussion

Jarvis: I just wanted to mention that Dick Miller was featured on one of the local news stations on mosquito control; it was a nice little piece – I don’t normally watch local news, but I caught that one; he could have his own show! Amos: It made me itch – the whole time, he was brushing mosquitos off; Walker: I have a bluebird box in my backyard because of Mr. Miller telling me about the tree swallows, catching the tree swallows; so far, I’ve got all sparrows, I’ve got to start over again; Jarvis: Smaller hole; Walker: Yes.

G. Old/New Business

H. Adjournment at 6:31 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