Meeting Minutes - FINAL

April 15, 2019
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 @ 6:00 p.m.

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

C. **Also In Attendance**

Mayor Ebert, Matt Peoples, Lucas Haire, Amanda Jackson, Bill Sims, Dick Miller, Steve Smith, Shawn Starcher, Rick Brown, Joe Taylor, Sargent Cassel, Shane Spencer

D. **Reports**

*Bill Sims* - Sims: Thank you Mr. Walker, Gender Road Phase IV – we are starting to wrap that up out there at this point; the traffic signal work is complete, with the exception of the street name signs, which we are expecting any day; concrete work was completed a little more than a week ago – that basically just leaves restoration as our primary objective here, which may begin this week – if not, it will definitely be done next week; get the last of the top soiling and seeding, and reseeding done, so we can get that project closed out right around the end of the month; 2019 Street Program is underway; the contractor is currently working on concrete items, which is primarily the sidewalk program and Winchester Village; sidewalk ramp replacements on the streets we are going to be paving in Ashbrook and Westchester, and Prentiss School and Canal Street, some miscellaneous curb work around town, a few pieces of things that have been damaged over the last year that are getting taken care of; the concrete work – we have about 2 weeks’ worth of that, and then we are starting on the pavement work right around the 1st of May; ideally we should have that wrapped up right around June or so; on the private side, we have Crossroads Church – the sanitary sewer pipe is now installed for that project; they are currently working on the building foundation, all the perimeter footers are in, and they’re working on some of the internal footings; the site has drastically improved from a mud standpoint with the improved weather here in the last few weeks; Westchester 13 – water and sewer are both in the ground; storm sewer is just about complete for phase 1 at this point; the contractor is currently working on grading for the roadway subgrade; they’re going to be doing a cement stabilization of the subgrade out there, so they don’t have to deal with the moisture issues in the soil that currently exist; you’ll probably see that yet here in April; the Nifco project on Robinette Way – the waterline connection is scheduled for Wednesday later this week, to tap our main, and get the water run into their site; the sewer laterals have already been extended to the building on that project; Hampton Inn – the site work is basically complete for the time being, until they get further along on the building; Turning Stone project – contractor is currently working on earth work on the back of the site; that needs to be completed before they can finish the water and sewer, so they have some fills to place out there; they were basically waiting for better weather conditions to be able to place the earth, and dig the pond; the Mill Tech project on Canal Pointe, at the end of Howe Parkway – that site has been started, water and sewer taps have been made; things are progressing there; a couple of miscellaneous things – for acb.net, they’re installing a conduit for fiber, for the small cell antennas; they’ve been installing conduit on Washington Street, Cemetery Street, West Waterloo from Cemetery to Gender, and then Gender, south of Groveport, also over on Winchester Pike; they’re moving along pretty well, they should be wrapped up with all of the conduit work this week; we will probably see crews in town pulling fiber cables; there’s a lot overhead as well – we’ll see multiple crews working on that; Columbia Gas of Ohio – I’m sure you’ve noticed - has been
working in the road on High Street, north of the railroad tracks; they had a leak in their pipe, it’s in the casing under the railroad tracks, thank goodness, but they did have to dig a hole on either side of the tracks to replace that pipe; just a couple items for the future – I’ll be bringing you an easement for ACD, for a property of ours on Groveport Road that we had them run through, basically to avoid dealing with all of the utilities within the actual Groveport intersection that we just did; and also some right-of-way dedications for the Groveport and Gender Road intersection as part of Gender IV; we have a number of parcels in that area, we’re going to dedicate some portions of those parcels as the new public right-of-way; I’ll be working on bringing that to you.

Dick Miller - Miller: Mr. Walker – more exciting than the Spring Solstice, Stonehenge or the (unintelligible) is Potting Day – that is going to be noon, May 3rd; we are continuing to plant evergreen trees as a screening along the north side of the reclamation plant; that portion of the planting will be completed this week; Thursday, April 18th – Tree City Awards; that is taking place at Capital University; 2018 was our 26th year; we’ll have to do a little sign change; this Saturday at 1pm is the Conservation Workshop at the community center; we will have an open discussion on the evergreen trees that residents should be planting in the warming world; Friday, April 26th is the Arbor Day celebration at 2:15pm with the 2nd grade class at Indian Trail Elementary; you would get to hear the mayor read the Arbor Day proclamation at that event; Saturday, May 4th – 9-11am is the annual tree giveaway at Stradley Place; Walker: Potting Day is one of my favorite days of the year.

Steve Smith - Smith: Hello everybody; I wanted to say thanks to everyone for their support and kindness through my family’s tragedy, I appreciate that, and we are working through it; let me take you back to February, since I was in Florida in March; we had three times normal rainfall, set a new all-time record at 4.8 million gallons for the treatment plant; we had no problem meeting permit at all, as a matter of fact we beat it by 50%, so things are well there; we did find out something recent in regard to the power outages we’ve experienced through these storms; our existing generator, which is circa mid-80’s, is not capable of providing enough power to the new upgrade, in order to support all of the equipment; as a temporary measure, we have constructed and algorithm to reconfigure the control feature that will stint off any unnecessary equipment while the generator is on; we will be moving forward in a faster fashion with an upgrade to that generator, you will probably hear more about that as time goes on; we are hoping to do that next year; we did have a little bit of less efficiency because of all this rain, you can imagine when all that water washes through, it lets the bugs swim a little faster, and they don’t like that so much; we are doing manhole installations possibly later this week on the end of East Waterloo, it’s to repair some subpar sewers there, before they do the paving; it may start tomorrow, but in the next couple of weeks it will be finished; we have a sewer line repair on Groveport Road – that was drilled through by an underground borer, and that’s going to be repaired by a contractor; firstly, we rebuilt one of our biggest pumps in-house for the very first time; we got a 32% gain in efficiency, and I’m kind of proud of my crew for that; Jarvis: Steve – when you shared the stat of 4.8 million gallons – is that per day? Smith: Yes, the plant rating is 2.48, so we near doubled it; it’s got a flow through of 5 (million) per day; we hit near right on that number, so that’s all the water you can shove through there; we were really pleased with the performance – surprised might be a better word, because that’s a lot of water; Jarvis: What would happen if it exceeded 5 million? Smith: The pump capacity is finite; you’ll have a situation where the wet-well can back up, and that’s why we installed that storm water pump; we rested easy during this thing, we weren’t pacing like we had in the past – this time we knew we had a way to move some water out of there, and keep the basements dry; what it does – you can imagine, when you
see a rapids in a river, or in roads, it carries the bugs away and they go out to the river, and you’re left with two 950,000 tanks of raw sewage; that takes months to reculture; we didn’t have any of that – no solids lost, we were very pleased; Clark: 50% capacity left, or it was just running at 50%, even with that much volume? Smith: We beat the permit by 50% - we have what’s called a 10-12 permit; we are allowed 10 parts per milligram of the primary pollutant, and 12 parts of trash – it’s called TSS – we beat those by 50%; we weren’t even near having a violation, which we were very pleased with that fact.

Shawn Starcher - Starcher: Thank you Mr. Walker, mowing season has begun – we started last Friday, and we were back at it today, and we’ll finish up over the next 3 days here; the guys are glad to be on the mowers instead of plow trucks; we also started mulching playgrounds – we will start working with Dick and his crew as well with mulching all of the parks; street sweeper- that has been returned and repaired, and operating great; that was out today, and we’re catching up – we had lost that machine for about a month for the repairs; it will be out Monday through Thursday, since we are off Friday; I understand with some residents who had some concerns about parking in Canal Cove; that was relayed to me, I met with Sargent Cassel about that; myself and some deputies went out there and we looked at the parking at the entrance on Cannon Drive; we did agree that there needed to be some signage; we agreed to where those needed to be placed, and what they needed to say – those were ordered and installed last Monday; everything should be good to go out there now; we have a painting contractor here in town – they are painting some wrought-iron, trash cans around town, they will be continuing to do some streetlights out over Waterloo as well; all of this is occurring with 2 guys down on staff with some personal injuries that happened at home; we did get one guy back today with some restrictions – we are busy and short-staffed a little bit, so it’s been a challenge, but we are getting through it.

Rick Brown - Brown: Good evening everyone; the cameras we can finally call complete this year, we finished the last camera up at the pool; we have that guarding the pool parking lot this year that we haven’t had in the past, along with the other cameras, so that project is complete; Microsoft has continued to challenge me this month with their updates; we’re going to update a little less frequently to alleviate this situation, it’s way too much time spent on fixing their problems with their software and how it interacts with ours; we will do that a little less frequent, but still frequently enough that’s acceptable; offsite failover and backups – we’ve continued to work well on that, we’ve got 3 servers that are giving us a little problem; we’ve got an upgrade due to the infrastructure, the network between the data center in downtown Columbus and our data center; that should alleviate that problem, hopefully within the next 30 days; the wastewater plant – I’ve mentioned this before – we built a network, a wireless network, to test out the fiber – we’re going to try and get rid of the fiber that’s down there; it was great, but it’s 25 years old and failing; if we can get this new wireless network working, it should save us around $130,000 in costs to run new fiber, so that would be a pleasant surprise; other than that, nothing more to mention; Jarvis: Just to zero-in on your last statement – we were paying $130,000 a year for leasing fiber? Brown: No, that’s just to run the physical fiber to the plant; it’s gotten brittle – the physical fiber itself, it needs replaced; we got an estimate from REI, I believe it was, and it came in around $130,000; Jarvis: Okay, so it’s a cost-avoidance thing; Brown: Absolutely.

Joe Taylor - Taylor: Good evening, today we started fire hydrant flushing; we started around the plant – tank town, Winchester Trace, everything old town east, a little bit going west towards the ; and around up ; we’ve also been working out on East Waterloo doing valve bolt replacements prior to the paving construction we are going to be doing here in a couple of weeks; we hope to wrap that up tomorrow or
Wednesday; continuing the AMI meter installs – we haven’t done a lot in the last few weeks because what we’ve had going on with the hydrant flushing and the valve bolts; we are at about 1,567 units, and we have installed 47 since the last meeting; we’re running around 50-60 a month right now; we had the Ohio EPA lab recertification on March 22nd, we didn’t have any violations or discrepancies, that went well; we are still working with Bird & Bull – just waiting on a quote for the VFD installs for high-service pumps 2 and 4; we pumped 24.7 million in March, at an average of 773,000 a day, which is equal to about 38% of our capacity – that’s a pretty low number; Walker: I heard you say no complaints? Taylor: Nope – I’m sure we will with hydrant flushing, because we are stirring up the mains.

Sargent Cassel - Cassel: Thank you Mr. Walker, I have the stats for March 2019 – 460 dispatched calls, 1,028 pick-up runs, 291 multiple unit calls, 93 reports, 29 addendums, 0 FI cards, 13 civil papers attempted, 5 civil papers served, 3,762 building checks, 455 vacation checks – that’s a good number, I’m glad that the residents are picking up on the vacation watches, because that’s a good thing that we offer; 146 traffic stops, 75 citations, 116 warnings, 1 felony arrest, 23 warrant arrests, 23 misdemeanor arrests, 4 OVI arrests, 2 pink slips, 1 charge packet, 3 summons in lieu of arrest, 83 misdemeanor charges filed, 10 felony charges filed; I think we had a pretty good month, as you guys know, when it gets warm out, we get really busy; with the extra patrols that I’ve been putting up on Diley Road, it seems like the crashes have been going down, we aren’t as busy on Diley; I’m trying to do the same thing on Gender Road, because that’s kind of like the Bermuda Triangle of crashes.

Amos: Sargent Cassel, I have a very miscellaneous question – on the mayor’s report, there’s a charge called ‘lighted lights’, what is that? Cassel: Failure to dim probably, I’d have to see it in front of me; Jackson: I can show you; Cassel: It’s probably failure to dim, or driving with your headlights off; Amos: Thank you, it was just odd – it just stuck out to me.

Shane Spencer - Spencer: Thank you Mr. Walker – just a couple of updates from last month; I think our big thing was our application to ODOT, to participate in their safety funds program for the Gender Road corridor; our application was accepted, so we have been enrolled into the program; over the last couple of weeks, we have been contacted by ODOT to initiate some of the kickoff activities, providing some information, questionnaires; it has been a little bit of an effort compiling a lot of historical information – past studies, current timing information, plans for the signals; we were able to compile all of that information – if you recall, that program we also partnered with the City of Columbus to include Winchester Pike and Lehman Road signals; Columbus was able to provide the same information to ODOT; in fact, right now, we are just waiting for a formal schedule for a kickoff meeting at ODOT’s offices; at that time, they should give us a detailed schedule of those activities, which will include a lot of traffic counts; you may see some activity as they inspect all of the signal installations; expect the total process to take 6-9 months for their final recommendation and implementation; hopefully next month I’ll be able to show you a little more detail on that schedule; good opportunity, that is definitely moving forward; the other item is the upgrade here to the rail crossing – design is in progress, and we’re working with the railroad to try to come to terms on a schedule for implementation this year; that is what I have, any questions?

E. Request for Council Action
ORD-19-025

An Ordinance To Accept The Dedication Of Real Property From Phele Investment Properties, LLC (Ordinance_Exhibits A_B)

- Request to move to full Council

Haire: Thank you Mr. Walker, this ordinance would allow the city to accept a little under half-acre parcel at the dead-end of Winchester Boulevard; this would allow the extension of Winchester Boulevard; there’s actually another parcel that will come to us later, but it’s owned by a different owner; we are trying to get this one taken care of, so we can get it in the city’s hands prior to the project starting, and then we can do a right-of-entry with the developer that’s proposing to extend Winchester Boulevard as part of OPUS’s development project, they’ll be extending Winchester Boulevard 1,100 feet; we did the TIF agreement at the last meeting, so Investments would like to get this over to us, so we can move that project forward.

A motion was made by Amos to move ORD-19-025 to full council, seconded by Coolman. The motion carried with the following vote:

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

F. Items for Discussion

19-030

2019 Pool Rates

Peoples: About this time of year, we like to come in and talk about the rates; we think we had a successful season last year – the only thing that we were really looking at was there was a CWIRD Swim Team rate on there – trying to figure out how to coordinate that; we met with Will and Chasley to try to figure out what would work best; they did their own survey, to figure out how their families liked the arrangement that we have with them; it’s about $70 – it could be a little more depending on if they are in town or out of town – but they do have quite a bit of savings associated with a membership when they sign up for swim team; it’s quite expensive, maybe the most expensive sport; they were also required to get a swim membership from us, so that’s why we discount the rate quite a bit; obviously the swim team does have an impact to the contract that we have with Columbus Pool Management; all that being said, that was the only thing that we were looking at; we figured out – the survey showed that 75% of the families liked the arrangement that we have, so we would like to keep it that way; our recommendation is not to have any increases or decreases in the pool memberships for 2019; Bennett: I think that’s great, I appreciate Matt and Amanda’s thought process on trying to provide families with another alternative; it was actually a cheaper initial investment for families, if they were looking to potentially get into the swim team; it was a great concept, and like Matt said, we took it back to the families, and it was overwhelming that most families preferred the structure the way it is; I do appreciate the extra effort they went through to think about families and the costs, and trying to help us mitigate the costs for families; Peoples: We do have some logistical issues that we work through on getting the memberships – the physical membership cards – and getting them all into the system, but that’s something we will work on in the next week or so; Jarvis: Since there are no changes, does it require any action on our part? Peoples: No, we are just going to keep the ordinance we had last year in effect – it doesn’t have an expiration, it’s solid until changed.
G. Old/New Business

Bennett: Mr. Walker, when we came in tonight, there was an article about phone addicts at our desks, I didn’t know if this was - Jarvis: The mayor came in with that, he found it in a periodical last week; Mayor: Yeah, it was in the daily news networking thing I get; I thought it was interesting, we were talking about it; Bennett: Yeah, it’s extremely timely and interesting, thank you for sharing that.

Cassel: Lighted lights is no headlights; had to see it to see what you were talking about; Amos: Thank you, I appreciate you looking that up – it’s an odd name for it.

Walker: I recommend that everybody read this, what the mayor put out – with the topic that Mr. Bennett brought up at the last meeting; Clark: Has Gene provided any further information? Walker: I think that might be possibly provided tonight; Mr. Bennett if you want to follow-up, and see if Gene has provided something for the next meeting? Bennett: Sure.

H. Adjournment @ 6:32 p.m.

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

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