



## **Meeting Minutes**

Monday, June 20, 2016 ~ 7:30 P.M.

Louis J. R. Goorey Worthington Municipal Building  
John P. Coleman Council Chamber  
6550 North High Street  
Worthington, Ohio 43085

## **City Council**

*Bonnie D. Michael, President*  
*Scott Myers, President Pro-Tempore*  
*Rachael Dorothy*  
*Douglas C. Foust*  
*David M. Norstrom*  
*Douglas Smith*  
*Michael C. Troper*

*D. Kay Thress, Clerk of Council*

**CALL TO ORDER – Roll Call, Pledge of Allegiance**

Worthington City Council met in Regular Session on Monday, June 20, 2016, in the John P. Coleman Council Chambers of the Louis J.R. Goorey Worthington Municipal Building, 6550 North High Street, Worthington, Ohio. President Michael called the meeting to order at or about 7:50 p.m.

**Members Present:** Douglas Foust, Scott Myers, David Norstrom, Douglas K. Smith, Michael C. Troper and Bonnie D. Michael

**Member(s) Absent:** Rachael R. Dorothy

**Also present:** Clerk of Council D. Kay Thress, City Manager Matthew Greeson, Assistant City Manager Robyn Stewart, Director of Law Pamela Fox, Director of Finance Molly Roberts, Director of Public Service and Engineering Dan Whited, Director of Planning and Building Lee Brown, Interim Chief of Police Jerry Strait and Chief of Fire Scott Highley

There were approximately 46 visitors present.

*President Michael invited all those in attendance to stand and join in the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.*

**SPECIAL PRESENTATION****Resolution No. 25-2016**

Expressing the Congratulations and Best Wishes of Worthington City Council to the Worthington Kilbourne High School Boys Lacrosse Team for Winning the 2016 Division II State Championship.

Introduced by Mr. Troper.

**MOTION**

Mr. Myers made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 25-2016. The motion was seconded by Mr. Smith.

**The motion to adopt Resolution No. 25-2016 carried unanimously by a voice vote.**

*Vice Mayor Jim Lorimer shared that the sport of lacrosse has enjoyed a highly successful championship and participation record in Worthington. It continues to be the fastest growing sport in our country. It is by far the oldest sport in North America with early Indian artifacts reflecting inter-tribal competitions as far back as the 12<sup>th</sup> century. Lacrosse is a very fast, most physically challenging and highly popular international game. It is one of the fastest and most aggressive of all team sports. Worthington High School teams have won more Ohio State High School team championships in lacrosse than in any other sport. Thomas Worthington High School won state championships in 1990, 1991, and 1996 and Worthington Kilbourne High School in 2009, and now again in 2016. Those five state championships reflect the athletic ability and commitment of*

*our community's best young athletes as well as the experienced and motivational leadership of a skilled coaching staff. The head coach of this year's championship team is Drew May. He also served as goalie coach for the 2009 team.*

*This state championship team had a most challenging schedule throughout the 2016 competitive season. They faced ten topped ranked teams and entered the post season with a record of 8 wins and 10 losses. At the state championships they had six straight team victories, defeating Toledo St. Francis 11 to 7 in the final championship game to capture its second championship title. These team members have trained year round during most of their high school years. Several of these athletes received post season awards for their outstanding performance. While each of them contributed to the state championship record, many of them will be playing lacrosse at a wide range of colleges next year. He introduced the senior members of the team who were in attendance: Luke LeVette, Connor Alley, Jake Weirick, Alex Cash, and Jack Maloney.*

*Vice Mayor Lorimer then shared that this championship team was trained by six Assistant Coaches and one Head Coach. The Assistant Coaches in attendance include Mike Riffe and Mike Lippert. The Head Coach since 2010 has been Drew May. Mayor Lorimer invited him to come forward and presented him with a certified copy of Resolution No. 25-2016 and a placard of this year's state championship team.*

*Coach May thanked the school administrators who were present, Principal Angie Adrean and Superintendent Dr. Trent Bowers as well as the Athletic Director Jeff Todd. He thanked Council for recognizing a great group of individuals and the best team that he has been a part of. He also thanked Vice Mayor Lorimer. He appreciates the kind words he shared about the team and coaching staff. He truly appreciates it. Lastly, he thanked his players for continuing to believe in one another and continuing to hold firm in the belief that they could battle through the adversity the team faced this season. He loves them. This is one of the most memorable teams that he has ever been a part of. He again thanked Council for the recognition.*

*Vice Mayor Lorimer shared that we are honored this evening to have with us some great leaders from the Worthington school system. He introduced the Athletic Director of Kilbourne Jeff Todd, Principal Angie Adrean, and two Assistant Principals in Kevin Johnson and Ken Nally. He also acknowledged Superintendent Dr. Trent Bowers.*

*Ms. Michael congratulated the team and shared that Council members are proud of their accomplishment. Mr. Norstrom added that members also want to recognize the parents for all of the work that they have done to get the guys to practices and games.*

## **VISITOR COMMENTS**

*Ms. Michael acknowledged several scouts that were present. She encouraged them to ask questions.*

Elmer Troxell, 110 Longfellow Ave.

Mr. Troxell read the following statement:

1. A problem has been created for many of the Worthington Citizens. I feel that I must speak up and bring this situation to your attention. It seems to me, as well as my next door neighbor, Christa Gharbo at 120 Longfellow Ave., and many other citizens of Worthington that a big problem was created, I assume, by the Worthington City Council. Before I continue, I have a question to ask and, hopefully will receive an answer. Are you not the ones who approved the tree planting by the side of the streets?

*Ms. Michael asked if he was talking about the street tree program. Mr. Troxell said he guesses that is it. It pertains to the area between the sidewalk and the curbs. Mr. Greeson reported that there is a cost sharing program where the City will cover the installation and a portion of the cost for planting street trees. That program receives a certain amount of funding each year. Residents have the opportunity to request to participate until the funds run out. He doesn't recall how many trees were planted last year but it is a partnership with interested residents. Ms. Michael added that residents request the trees and select the type from a list. But homeowners are the ones that make the request to install trees. Mr. Greeson agreed.*

*Mr. Troxell commented that he thought it may have been the Council that thought of this or at least allowed this to happen. He stated that he didn't agree to participate but they planted trees in his front yard anyway so he will continue to read his statement.*

2. When the trees were planted next to the sidewalks, there was no foresight to see that a big problem would be created.
3. As the trees grow and mature so do the roots. As the roots grow underground, they enlarge and displace the soil, causing the concrete sidewalks to rise and, create irregular levels and safety hazards, for pedestrians, joggers and others.
4. The deciding people did not think about the consequences for the action taken. We citizens of Worthington have, in the past, had to pay out of our pockets for a situation that we did not create.
5. Approximately 2-4 years ago, I personally spoke to someone in the service department. He was physically present. I showed him the sidewalk that was starting to raise up. I told him that I had previously paid to have sidewalk repair work completed and, did not want to pay for this damage that was starting to occur. I also told that person I felt the tree was a safety hazard. I showed him that the curb box/shut-off valve for my natural gas line is about 2 feet or so from the tree trunk. I reiterated to the service department person that the tree being so close to the shut-off valve was a safety hazard and, the tree should be removed to preclude a disaster waiting to happen. He did not seem concerned at all with what I had told him. He said there is nothing that he could do. I feel that he could have done something. I believe that he could have had the tree removed or, could have obtained approval to remove the tree, grind the stump and, kill the roots, thereby preventing a future disaster from happening. If

- action had been taken, it might have stopped the sidewalk from rising any higher. However, that did not happen. Now, you want me to pay for something that I had previously tried to get taken care of.
6. My next door neighbor, Christa Gharbo, had a storm damaged tree removed in 2015. However, the roots have continued to grow and caused upheaval of the sidewalk. That piece of the sidewalk had been previously replaced about 4-6 years ago and she had to pay for it. That was the same time that I had to pay to have some of my sidewalk replaced. I believe it cost me about \$441.00. Now, you want me to pay \$663.84 to fix a continually repeating problem. To him, this is crap. He doesn't agree with it.
  7. We citizens are having to pay for the problem that perhaps, (ad lib) he doesn't want to seem like he is pointing fingers at anybody but he thinks some of our local government officials have allowed this to happen and thereby created the problem. Perhaps this is something that you anticipated before and thought this would be a continuous source of revenue for your future projects. He doesn't know only you all can answer that.
  8. I hope that my statement has not fallen on deaf ears!!! I hope that you will decide to do something that is beneficial for the Worthington citizens and, not expect us to pay again. He feels that that is totally wrong. Anything less would be totally unacceptable. One thing could be to get rid of the trees, stumps and roots that are causing the upheaval of the sidewalks. I believe that removal of the trees, stumps and roots and, not having to pay for a problem created by someone else might be acceptable to most citizens of Worthington. The repetitive repair/replacement of sidewalks because of the tree and root problems cannot continue and should not continue. To do anything less would probably invite somebody from maybe [www.abc6onyourside.com](http://www.abc6onyourside.com) investigative team members of Tom Sussi, Kurt Ludlow or Books Jarosz, to conduct interviews to try to find out a little more in-depth as to what is going on and what you all may hope to do to alleviate this problem.

Thank you for allowing me to speak in front of the council. I hope this problem can be remedied somewhat quickly. Thank you for your time.

*At Ms. Michael's offer for comments, Mr. Norstrom asked how trees get planted. Does he understand that it is a request by the citizens? City staff doesn't plan them on its own initiative. Mr. Greeson replied that in some instances we do. He doesn't know whether that occurred in the particular instance Mr. Troxell is referring to or not. There is both. The tree program is worked in partnership with the residents who wish to plant trees in the tree lawn. The value being served there is that we are helping encourage replenishment of the urban forest and many people value tree lined streets. In addition to that, City Council appropriates funds every year for a tree project that is done in consultation with the Arbor Advisory Committee. Some trees, for instance, are planted along major thoroughfares, such as the evergreens across from the high school or more recently planted are some along High St. So we do both.*

*Mr. Norstrom asked if we have a history of this tree. Mr. Greeson replied that we might.*

*Mr. Myers understands that the City arborist has a list of trees that they have designated for participation in the Street Tree Program. One of the things the arborist would look at would be root invasion. Mr. Greeson agreed that we try to put the appropriate tree in the appropriate spot. He added that there are instances where developers install trees as a part of a project. He used the instance of the house recently built at the corner of Clearview and Evening St.*

*Mr. Myers requested that Mr. Greeson and his staff look at this issue and report back to Council on whatever they can consider the nature of this tree planting and possibly what is happening. He would prefer the information prior to the August recess.*

*Ms. Michael shared that she had a copy of Mr. Troxell's letter that she will make sure he receives it to assist with the research. Mr. Greeson agreed to do that. He added that in all likelihood the gentleman received a letter from the City along with an invoice to repair the displaced sidewalk. He shared the process by which sidewalks are identified for replacement and the options homeowners have for replacing them. He believes the preparation for the re-pavement of Longfellow Ave. is what caused the inspection that resulted in various residents receiving a bill in order to replace the sidewalks that did not meet the Codified ordinance standards.*

*Mr. Norstrom told Mr. Troxell that he just heard that residents of Worthington are expected to maintain their sidewalks. Staff will work to find out information regarding that tree but he takes great exception to hear him say that he thinks the City has a system for increasing its revenue by planting trees that grow roots. He doesn't know where he lived before coming to Worthington but this City does not operate that way. To think that it does is a disappointment to all other citizens in this community. Mr. Troxell stated that he meant no disrespect but was just citing that as a possibility.*

*Mr. Smith asked for a clarification. Thanks to technology he can view his house on his I-pad. He sees what looks like two trees between the sidewalk and the road, possibly three. Mr. Troxell stated there are three trees in the front, one is to the east of the driveway and is one of the ones that is causing the problems. That is the tree he talked to the man from the Service Department about several years ago.*

*Mr. Smith commented that the one east of the driveway looks a little larger and maybe a little older than the other two. Mr. Troxell agreed. It has been there and started to raise the sidewalks there. He understands that the citizens are tasked with maintaining the sidewalks but there is something as far as they didn't do anything to allow this to occur when somebody planted the trees and didn't bother whether he said "yay" or "nay". They just put some there on the west side of the driveway as well.*

*Mr. Foust asked how long he has owned the residence and whether he knows any history of the trees. Mr. Troxell replied that it will be twenty years this coming August.*

*Mr. Foust asked if the trees were in place when he bought the home. Mr. Troxell replied that the trees on the west side were not there. The one on the east side by the curb box*

*was already there. Mr. Foust concluded that the troublemaker was already there when he bought the house.*

*Mr. Foust asked what kind of tree it was. Mr. Troxell replied that he doesn't know although it has some funny little balls with some spikes that come out of them. Mr. Foust believes the tree to be a sweet gum tree.*

*Mr. Foust asked if the sweet gum tree is in the current list of recommended trees. Mr. Norstrom stated that staff will find out.*

*Ms. Michael shared that Mr. Hurley is in charge of the street program and is not here this evening. Mr. Troxell thanked members again for their time.*

### **PUBLIC HEARINGS ON LEGISLATION**

*President Michael declared public hearings and voting on legislation previously introduced to be in order.*

#### **Ordinance No. 20-2016**

Accepting the Application for Annexation of Land Located in Perry Township, Franklin County, Ohio to the City of Worthington (Linworth Road).

#### **The foregoing Ordinance Title was read.**

*Ms. Fox shared that this is the second piece of legislation that Council has received on this annexation of approximately eighty feet of Linworth Road north of SR-161. This is now the acceptance of the annexation. On March 7<sup>th</sup> we passed a resolution of services for that property. We delivered that to the County and they held their hearing on April 5<sup>th</sup>. Following that hearing, the annexation petition is required to sit with the City for sixty days at which time the City needs to act on it. There is nothing new to add from the information that was provided before. This is a piece of roadway that has kind of stood out there in the Township when most likely it should have been annexed either to Worthington or Columbus when those properties were annexed in from the Township. According to our former City Engineer, it won't increase our maintenance responsibility and will clear up some confusion about maintenance of that particular piece of the roadway.*

*Ms. Michael shared additional information for the benefit of the Boy Scouts.*

**There being no additional comments, the Clerk called the roll on the passage of Ordinance No. 20-2016. The motion carried by the following vote:**

<b>Yes</b>	<b>6</b>	Foust, Troper, Norstrom, Smith, Myers and Michael
<b>No</b>	<b>0</b>	

**Ordinance No. 20-2016 was thereupon declared duly passed and is recorded in full in the appropriate record book.**

**Ordinance No. 21-2016**

Authorizing the Release of the Balance Due on the Promissory Note Issued to Swiminc., for the Purpose of Improving Swimming Pools and Related Facilities for the Benefit of the City of Worthington and Its Residents.

**The foregoing Ordinance Title was read.**

*Mr. Greeson shared that this topic was previously discussed on May 16<sup>th</sup> and Council directed staff to prepare an ordinance that would allow for the forgiveness of the remaining amount of the loan to Swiminc. in order to help facilitate their efforts in fundraising for the renovation of the swimming pool facilities. The original loan was issued in 1996 and has a remaining balance of \$105,000 (three payments of thirty five thousand dollar each). He noted that the director of Swiminc. and Worthington Pools, Phil Sobers is in attendance and may be able to answer any additional questions.*

*Mr. Norstrom stated that a week ago Saturday in a neighborhood meeting discussing parks, Mr. Hurley made an observation that the Swiminc. was an essential part of recreation in Worthington and a valuable asset to the community. Mr. Norstrom shared that he fully supports the request from Swiminc.*

**Mr. Bates, 6560 Evening St.**

*Mr. Bates stated that he spoke before Council when this topic was first discussed at the May 16<sup>th</sup> meeting. He wanted to reiterate his opposition to the forgiveness of the loan. The City has been very accommodating to Swiminc. over the years allowing them to delay payments and renegotiate the loan. To his knowledge there has been no evidence that they can show that they can make it as an ongoing enterprise. Without making those kinds of guarantees he can't support an affirmative vote on this.*

*Mr. Sobers replied that the loan was never about sustaining us or keeping us operational. It was a \$600,000 to help us with the building and facilities. The \$35,000 would allow us to hire a philanthropist to help us raise the \$4.5M to \$5M that we will need to complete the renovation.*

**There being no additional comments, the Clerk called the roll on the passage of Ordinance No. 21-2016. The motion carried by the following vote:**

<b>Yes</b>	<b>6</b>	Troper, Norstrom, Smith, Myers, Foust and Michael
<b>No</b>	<b>0</b>	

**Ordinance No. 21-2016 was thereupon declared duly passed and is recorded in full in the appropriate record book.**

**Ordinance No. 22-2016**

An Ordinance Enacted by the City of Worthington, Hereinafter Referred to as the City, in the Matter of the Stated Described Project (PID Number 101844, D06 Regional Pedestrian Signals)

**The foregoing Ordinance Title was read.**

*Mr. Greeson shared that this ordinance is interesting because it provides for a project that is fully funded by the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) and includes systematic safety improvements in the form of countdown timing devices at crosswalks, which is consistent with the City Council and Bike and Pedestrian objectives for improving pedestrian safety. He asked Mr. Whited to comment.*

*Mr. Whited commented that while the devices are fully funded by ODOT the City will be responsible for the maintenance once they are installed. There are eleven crossings that are included in the project, primarily along Dublin-Granville Road and US-23. As mentioned, they are countdown timers that will provide safer access crossing at these intersections. Construction will take place in the spring of 2017 with completion in the fall of 2018. The timers will be installed in several communities and he is not sure when they will be doing the work in Worthington.*

*Mr. Norstrom understands that there will be increased painting on the sidewalks. Mr. Whited shared that the painting is a separate project.*

*When asked by Ms. Michael if the Wilson Bridge Road corridor is part of this project, Mr. Whited replied that it was not included as part of their study area. Ms. Michael further stated it is not included even though it is one of the most dangerous intersections in our City. Mr. Whited commented that he is not sure how that was initiated as it started several years ago.*

*Ms. Michael believes it to be a definite improvement for the safety of pedestrians.*

**There being no additional comments, the Clerk called the roll on the passage of Ordinance No. 22-2016. The motion carried by the following vote:**

<b>Yes</b>	<b>6</b>	Norstrom, Smith, Myers, Foust, Troper, and Michael
<b>No</b>	<b>0</b>	

**Ordinance No. 22-2016 was thereupon declared duly passed and is recorded in full in the appropriate record book.**

## NEW LEGISLATION TO BE INTRODUCED

### Resolution No. 26-2016

Authorizing the Award of Re-emergent Corridor Assistance Program Funds to Help Improve Facility Exterior Façade and Streetscape Along Certain of the City's Commercial Corridors (6334 Huntley Road).

**Introduced by Mr. Norstrom.**

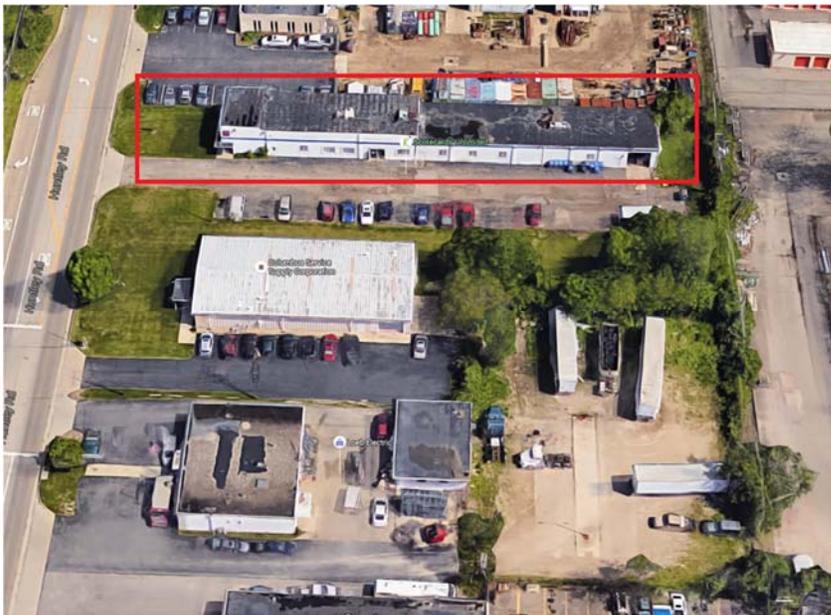
### MOTION

Mr. Foust made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 26-2016. The motion was seconded by Mr. Troper.

*Economic Development Manager Mr. McCorkle shared that this is the eleventh ReCAP application with ten being funded to date. He briefly explained the guidelines for the program such as: the program pertains to exterior improvements in the commercial corridor of Huntley, Proprietors and Schrock Roads, 50-50 Grant-Loan financing, and includes eligibility requirements. The applications are reviewed by City staff and the CIC who then recommends approval to City Council.*

*Mr. McCorkle further commented that staff has done some GIS mapping recently of the corridor and is taking a hard look at the success of the program. Upon some recommendations of Council and the general public we have really dug into the properties within the corridor and identified 138 properties that would be eligible for this program, which includes the ten already funded. It is very early in the data analysis but we have seen several of the properties that we have funded actually pay back the loan and resell at more than the County Auditor's property value.*

Application – 6334 Huntley Road – Scorecards Unlimited, LLC



*The applicant property is framed with a red outline in the previous slide. The other two properties on the slide have also received ReCAP assistance: the middle property, Columbus Service Supply was approved in March and the bottom property, Loeb Electric, was approved in 2014.*

### Applicant Information

- Applicant: Scorecards Unlimited, LLC
- Site Address: 6334 Huntley Road
  - Total Project Cost: \$35,500
  - Award Amount: \$17,750
  - Applicant owns building and has been doing business in Worthington since 2006. Also a long-time resident.

### Current Condition



### Scope of Work

- New painting scheme
- New windows and entry door
- Removal and replacement of existing canopy over entryway
- Landscaping to include planter boxes and low-maintenance plants
- New entry lighting

### Conceptual Sketches



## Final Rendering



*Mr. McCorkle commented that the application was reviewed by City Staff as well as the CIC. Staff recommends approval of this ReCAP application in the amount of \$17,750. This is 50% of the total project cost. Beau Filing, the owner of Scorecard Unlimited is present and they would both be happy to answer Council's questions.*

*Mr. Foust asked about the process used to ensure the commitment is met for the 50/50 match. Mr. McCorkle shared that he sends an invoice to the property owner quarterly although they can repay the entire amount at any time over the thirty-six month period if they choose to. At the tail end of the project the City requires invoices and proof of payment to verify that the work has been performed.*

*Mr. Myers shared that in reading the minutes from when this was presented to the CIC he thinks Mr. Carter had a good suggestion in that part of the decision matrix should include a discussion as to whether the building has become functional obsolete and therefore it doesn't make sense. While he is not referring to this property specifically, he thinks in general terms it is a good discussion for the CIC to have. He would hate to be putting a band aid on a building that in reality should be torn down to create vacant space that could then be redeveloped.*

**There being no additional comments, the motion to adopt Resolution No. 26-2016 carried unanimously by a voice vote.**

### **Ordinance No. 23-2016**

Amending Ordinance No. 44-2015 (As Amended) to Adjust the Annual Budget by Providing for an Appropriation from the Capital Improvements Fund Unappropriated Balance to Pay the Additional City Share of Costs for the SR-161 Pavement Surface Improvements, (ODOT Project R-161-8.67, PID 96305) and all Related Expenses and Declaring an Emergency. (Project No. 617-15)

**Introduced by Mr. Myers.**

*Mr. Greeson shared that this legislation pertains to our participation in the Ohio Department of Transportation urban resurfacing projects program. They will be resurfacing StRt 161 from our eastern corporate limit to Olentangy River Road.*

*Mr. Whited commented that StRt 161 is in rough shape and hasn't been resurfaced since 1994. The integrity of the surface is very poor. The purpose of this program is to assist urban areas with their paving program. ODOT pays 80% while the community pays 20%. This specific piece of work has been contemplated for several years. ODOT did the design work and the bidding. It had been estimated at a certain amount however he was notified late Thursday/early Friday that the bid came in significantly over the Engineer's estimate. Our portion of that overage is \$29,428. ODOT has requested that he let them know by tomorrow if the City is willing to pay that amount. So it was somewhat out of his control to bring this to Council in such a short timeframe. He apologized for the short timeframe but that is the situation we are in. Given the necessity for this project and the amount that ODOT is paying, he thinks it is appropriate. ODOT wants to proceed but wants assurance that we will pay our 20%. Their low bid contractor is Strawser Paving with whom we are very familiar and comfortable. That is part one of this discussion.*

The second part:

*Mr. Whited shared that shortly after he came to the City he had some discussion with Mr. Greeson about the crosswalks that are included as part of ODOT's project. There are eleven crosswalks with some of them being the same ones that are included in the countdown timers that were addressed earlier this evening. The standard crosswalk includes two bars and is not considered high visibility. We asked ODOT to include the ladder style crosswalk in the bid which will add more visibility and safety. The bids came in and the requested style of crosswalk will cost an additional \$22,274. Staff is also requesting that Council allow us to include that into the ODOT's bid as the City is responsible for 100% of the upgrade. The total increase with the two projects is approximately \$51,000. Staff thought it might be appropriate to include additional funding in this ordinance so that we could have contingency funds available if needed for additions to the entire project based on our entire 20% costs. With the 10% contingency, the total amount being requested tonight is \$70,000.*

*Ms. Michael shared that if Ms. Dorothy were here she would encourage the passage of this ordinance.*

**MOTION** Mr. Smith made a motion to pass Ordinance No. 23-2016 as an Emergency. The motion was seconded by Mr. Norstrom.

**The motion to pass Ordinance No. 23-2016 as an Emergency carried by the following vote:**

**Yes 6** Smith, Myers, Foust, Troper, Norstrom, and Michael

No 0

**There being no additional comments, the Clerk called the roll on the passage of Ordinance No. 23-2016 as an Emergency. The motion carried by the following vote:**

Yes 6 Myers, Foust, Troper, Norstrom, Smith, and Michael

No 0

**Ordinance No. 23-2016 was thereupon declared duly passed and is recorded in full in the appropriate record book.**

## REPORTS OF CITY OFFICIALS

### Policy Item(s)

- Appeal Architectural Review Board Action – 137 East Granville Road.

*Mr. Greeson commented that staff received an appeal of an Architectural Review Board (ARB) action regarding 137 East Granville Road wherein the ARB denied a request for a sign at that property. Our process requires that Council first decide whether it wants to hear the appeal and then schedule a formal public hearing. Customarily Council doesn't discuss the issue tonight but rather just decides whether to schedule the appeal for a public hearing and set the date or decline to hear the appeal.*

*Mr. Norstrom commented that the minutes do not reflect any staff discussion at the meeting of May 26<sup>th</sup> and unfortunately he didn't ask about the meeting of May 12<sup>th</sup>. He asked Mr. Coulter if there was any discussion on this subject. Mr. Coulter replied yes. The ARB reviewed this request twice. At the first presentation a member from the sign company (who is with us tonight) presented a drawing of the design that they would like to do. The sign would include the Memorial Township Hall, the women's group that is affiliated with that as well as their three tenants. During the first review the ARB felt that the sign was too big for the site. The other issue was whether there even needed to be a sign at that location since there is already a sign on the building that can be seen from StRt 161. The biggest sign that they have is the cannon out front. It is the only cannon in Worthington that he is aware of and a visible reference to anyone needing directions.*

*Mr. Coulter stated that at that point members suggested that if they were to move forward and ask for a vote the request would probably not pass so they requested that it be tabled to allow them time to redesign the sign, which they subsequently did. At the second hearing they showed an alternative sign. They took heed to some of the suggestions the Board had made to make it a little bit smaller but at the end of the day it came back to the same thing. The ARB felt like the Sharon Memorial Hall is near and dear to everybody's heart and did not require a sign. It has been there many years. Everybody knows what it is and they have the cannon. At the second meeting a vote was taken and the request was turned down.*

*Mr. Norstrom suggested that in the future somebody say something about the motion because there is actually no comments in the meeting of May 26<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Coulter assured Mr. Norstrom that there were comments as the proposal was extensively discussed.*

*Mr. Brown shared that there was a larger discussion at the May 12<sup>th</sup> meeting. As Mr. Coulter mentioned, much of the focus at that meeting was whether or not there is an actual need for the sign, the size, the placement and the overall design. Much of the 26<sup>th</sup> meeting was a re-hash of the previous information.*

*Mr. Norstrom concluded there was discussion at the meeting on the 26<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Brown agreed although it wasn't to the extent as the discussion on the 12<sup>th</sup>.*

*Mr. Myers commented that the question at hand really has nothing to do with that, in his mind. The question at hand, and we have no standard to guide us on this question, is should Council hear the appeal.*

*Mr. Norstrom thinks that what he was discussing has a direct impact because there was nothing in the materials that Council has that presents what the discussion was at those two meetings and that would lead him to say that Council should at least entertain a hearing.*

*Mr. Myers thinks that typically when deciding whether or not to hear an appeal, one wouldn't really look at the merits, but utilize some other concept as the guide. If then we decided to hear the appeal, we would look at the merits (the minutes, the testimony, etc.).*

*Mr. Norstrom stated that he fully understands. He was just asking if there were comments. The materials that Council received indicates that nobody commented. Mr. Myers believes that the reason the comments are not reflected in the minutes is because most of the comments were very brief and identical to what had previously been shared. If Council decides to hear the appeal, members will need the whole package, including the minutes from the earlier meeting. He tends to believe that unless there is some glaring deficiency with their appeal then what is harmed by hearing the appeal. That is the way the other provision would be if you were in a court system. He doesn't have a problem hearing the appeal.*

*Mr. Smith asked if he is reading correctly in that the motion failed by a vote of three to two. Several members agreed.*

*Mrs. Fox shared that in the packet she received there is a copy of the May 12<sup>th</sup> minutes. She asked if members didn't receive those. Mr. Norstrom doesn't think his packet included the May 12<sup>th</sup> minutes.*

*Mr. Myers stated his only concern about this appeal at this point, if Council decides to accept it, is the date that members set for the hearing. This is the last meeting in June. Council recesses for the month of August and we are going to have Charter Review*

*recommendations to discuss in July. He thinks our July is probably fairly busy to have a hearing on an ARB appeal. He would move that Council accept to hear the appeal and set it for a time within the 60 day limit. He asked if we could get it in if members hear it in September. Mrs. Fox replied no. The 60 day is from the decision of the ARB, which was May 26<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Myers concluded that it has to be heard in July.*

*Mr. Smith pointed out that Council did meet last year in August. Mr. Myers agreed but stated that is what he is trying to avoid.*

*Mr. Smith commented that he is okay with hearing the appeal in July.*

**MOTION**

Mr. Myers made a motion to hear the appeal of the Architectural Review Board Action at 137 East Granville Road and set for public hearing at the Committee of the Whole Meeting on July 11, 2016. The motion was seconded by Mr. Norstrom.

*Mr. Foust commented that he is all for moving ahead with hearing the appeal. He asked if it is reasonable to expect at some point moving forward that council set an expectation regarding the appeal having a reason behind it. That is something that somehow was overlooked or a process was violated or some standard was not met rather than simply set it in the precedent if MPC/ARB hear an issue and they make a decision and the answer is that they just don't like your decision. He doesn't want to be in the business of second guessing MPC on a regular basis. He asked if there is any standard that says in order to make an appeal it has to at least have a reason why.*

*Mr. Smith shared that as Ms. Fox told him last time we had one of these discussions, it is each member of Council's prerogative. He thinks they should stick with that.*

*Mr. Myers asked if members talked about that at Charter Review. He thought the topic came up. If it didn't that is his bad because he wanted to have a discussion on the very point being raised. He thinks at this point Mr. Smith is probably right. There is no standard but it is something that we can look at going forward.*

*Mr. Foust thinks it would be appropriate.*

**There being no additional comments, the motion carried by a voice vote.**

**Resolution No. 27-2016**

Adjusting the Annual Budget by Providing for a Transfer of Previously Appropriated Funds.

**Introduced by Mr. Foust.**

**MOTION**

Mr. Troper made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 27-2016. The motion was seconded by Mr. Myers.

*Mr. Greeson commented that it is not customary for staff to pass out a Resolution that wasn't established on the Agenda but because of the timing of our effort as well as the five Monday month, Council will not meet for several weeks. Considering this will help staff move forward with an initiative that we have undertaken and one that he thinks members will appreciate and understand since staff has discussed it with members previously.*

*Mr. Greeson explained that the resolution is a transfer resolution so it is not additional money or an additional appropriation but rather it is transferring funds from a personnel line to a line that will allow us to pay for an information technology consultant. He asked Mrs. Stewart to overview the topic.*

*Mrs. Stewart shared that late last year the Information Technology (IT) Manager retired. Since that time the position has been vacant because we wanted to undertake an assessment of our IT operation so that we could determine how we could best position ourselves moving into the near term future in terms of supporting the technology interest and needs of the organization. We have spent the last few months going through a Request for Proposal process and a selection process to find a consultant to do that work and that assessment for us. We have identified a vendor, Sophisticated Systems that we would like to perform that assessment. What we are proposing to do with this resolution is transfer a portion of the salary savings from that vacant IT Manager position into a Consultant position in the IT budget to allow us to hire the consultant. That would allow us to move forward with the assessment. We expect that assessment may have some follow on evaluations recommended and this would give us some flexibility to pursue those if we feel they are justified. If we feel that they are not, this line item is actually going toward paying for some consulting assistance that we are undertaking because we are down one of our three IT positions so on occasion we have brought in some consulting help just to keep us up to date with supporting the needs of the organization.*

**There being no additional comments, the motion to adopt Resolution No. 27-2016 carried unanimously by a voice vote.**

#### Information Items

Mr. Greeson shared the following items:

- Compliments to Mrs. Stewart and our Acting IT Manager, Allan MacDonald who is doing an outstanding job keeping pace with a robust amount of work with a small staff. They are doing great work on behalf of the City and having a great attitude about this evaluation process.
- Reminder – Employee Luncheon is this Wednesday, June 22<sup>nd</sup>. Please let staff know if you plan to attend.
- National League of Cities Conference – July 15<sup>th</sup> is last date for early bird registration. There are two Council members budgeted to attend. Selections will need to be made. See Mrs. Stewart about additional information.

- Quarterly Report – Distributed at member’s places this evening. Apologize for the delay. Second Quarter Report will be distributed soon.
- Distributed a letter from Dr. Bowers, Worthington School District for members’ information and future direction. The School Board will be undertaking a comprehensive facility planning process and they are creating a task force to assist with that. They would like a representative of the City to participate on a task force. Dr. Bowers deferred to us to select our representative.
- Based on the Charter Review Commission’s action this evening, we are scheduled to receive a report from them at the Committee of the Whole meeting in July. We will likely introduce legislation at the first meeting in July. The report will be shared informally and discussed at the Committee of the Whole meeting and then we will schedule a July 18<sup>th</sup> hearing for Council to consider potential charter amendments that would go on the ballot. That would allow time to file with the Board of Elections by early August.
- He will be absent for the July 5<sup>th</sup> meeting.

## REPORTS OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

*Mr. Norstrom shared the following:*

- The Arts Festival and music festival that the MAC put on this weekend appeared to be successful. Several of the artists indicated that in all of their years of coming to the Worthington Arts Festival, Saturday was their highest day of sale.
- The Picnic with the Partnership is Saturday night. Over 300 people have signed up. He learned this evening that we have sold out of all of the picnic baskets that are being furnished by local restaurants. Sounds like we have a capacity crowd.

*When asked by Ms. Michael if people could still sign up, Mr. Norstrom reported that they could however they will have to provide their own food.*

*Mr. Myers acknowledged the Cleveland Cavaliers winning the NBA Championship.*

## EXECUTIVE SESSION

**MOTION** Mr. Myers made a motion to meet in Executive Session to discuss labor negotiations. The motion was seconded by Mr. Smith.

**The motion carried by the following voice vote:**

**Yes 6** Norstrom, Foust, Troper, Smith, Myers, and Michael

**No 0**

Council recessed at 8:48 p.m. from the Regular meeting session.

**MOTION** Mr. Myers made a motion to return to open session and adjourn.  
The motion was seconded by Mr. Norstrom.

**The motion carried unanimously by a voice vote.**

**ADJOURNMENT**

President Michael declared the meeting adjourned at 9:12 p.m.

/s/ D. Kay Thress  
Clerk of Council

*APPROVED by the City Council, this  
6<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2016.*

/s/ Bonnie D. Michael  
Council President