



## **Meeting Minutes**

Monday, September 19, 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, September 19, 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 7:30 p.m.

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

**Member(s) Absent:**

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

There were five visitors present.

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

*President Michael acknowledged a Cub Scout from Troop 234 who was in the audience. Omar Diallo shared that he was in attendance as part of his Arrow of Light merit badge that is needed prior to him becoming a Boy Scout. Ms. Michael encouraged him to ask questions.*

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- **Regular Meeting September 6, 2016**

**MOTION** Ms. Dorothy made a motion to approve the aforementioned minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Norstrom.

**The motion to approve the minutes as presented carried unanimously.**

**VISITOR COMMENTS**

There were no Visitor Comments

**PUBLIC HEARINGS ON LEGISLATION**

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

**Ordinance No. 29-2016**

Accepting the Amounts and Rates as Determined by the Budget Commission and Authorizing the Necessary Tax Levies and Certifying Them to the County Auditor and Declaring an Emergency.

**The foregoing Ordinance Title was read.**

*Finance Director Molly Roberts shared that this ordinance accepts the amounts and rates as determined by the Budget Commission. This is an annual housekeeping measure in order to enforce our five mills of property tax millage for the collection year of 2017, which remains unchanged. This legislation is in accordance with Ohio Revised Code 5705.34. The reason for the emergency language, which we will need a separate motion and vote on, is because this legislation must be adopted and submitted to the Franklin County Budget Commission by October 1<sup>st</sup> of each year. Due to the timing of the legislation, it is necessary to have this as an emergency passage this evening.*

*Ms. Dorothy understands that nothing has changed from previous years. Ms. Roberts agreed.*

*When asked by Ms. Dorothy how much money the five mills will provide, Ms. Roberts reported that collections equate to almost \$2.5 million each year. Ms. Dorothy stated that is not where most of our money is coming from. Ms. Roberts agreed.*

**MOTION**

Mr. Foust made a motion to pass Ordinance No. 29-2016 as an emergency. The motion was seconded by Mr. Norstrom.

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

**There being no additional comments, the Clerk called the roll on the passage of Ordinance No. 29-2016 as an emergency. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Yes 7** Foust, Troper, Norstrom, Dorothy, Smith, Myers and Michael

**No 0**

**Ordinance No. 29-2016 was thereupon declared duly passed and is recorded in full in the appropriate record book.**

**Ordinance No. 31-2016**

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 Design Costs of the Municipal Building Chimney Repair Project and all Related Expenses and Determining to Proceed with said Project. (Project No. 632-16)

**The foregoing Ordinance Title was read.**

*Mr. Whited shared that this is a continuation of our last meeting when we discussed the fact that May's Consulting had put together a prioritization of our many roof projects that are needed in the city of Worthington. Last week Council approved the fix to the south end of the community center. The request tonight is to approve May's Consulting to complete a design for improvements at this building to repair the leaks that are occurring around the chimneys. This approval of \$25,000 is only for design. A set of plans will be prepared that will move forward into construction to complete the repairs. Construction costs estimates are about \$72,000. Staff is asking for approval of design tonight.*

*Ms. Dorothy commented that this appropriation is for work to this building. Mr. Whited agreed. Ms. Dorothy understands there to be water leaks in this building. Mr. Whited again agreed. Ms. Dorothy asked if the water damage is visible. Mr. Whited acknowledged that it was visible in the file room upstairs as well as in Mr. Greeson's closet. The leaks are particularly bad during the winter when the freezing/thawing occurs. Ms. Dorothy asked what will happen if we don't keep water out of our building. She thinks it will have additional damage over time. Mr. Whited reported that was absolutely correct. Ms. Dorothy concluded that it would behoove us to get this fixed as soon as possible. Mr. Whited agreed.*

*Mr. Foust stated that he would like some more detail. He reported some struggle with the numbers of \$25,000. He would like some detail on the number of hours and billing rate on that. The \$9,250 for investigation and equipment rental. He is curious as to how much of that is consulting fees and how much is for the equipment itself. He believes the whole breakdown is pretty light for the kind of detail that he would look for. Mr. Whited explained that the work is on an extremely steep and high roof and will require some care to get the lift up. We can't even get the fire truck up there to take care of that work so that is a part of the process. He thought they had a pretty decent description of site investigation, the visual review of the leak issues and water spray testing, where they spray water into the area to determine exactly where it is leaking. That testing involves an 80 ft. boom that requires numerous safety issues to take care of. They will also be looking in interior areas at the same time they are spraying water through the flashing to see where the leaks are occurring. From that they will come back and determine how the leaks are occurring and spent time to determine a proper design, prepare the plans and assist with the bid phase. Once a contract is awarded, they will assist with the construction phase because we are not experts in this type of work. They will work with us for inspection, advice and review during the construction phase to make sure it is being constructed as designed. It was broken down with \$9,250 for the inspection work, \$6,700 for the design preparation, \$3,500 for the bid preparation and getting it out on the street, and then \$4,800 to help us with the design phase of the contract.*

*Mr. Foust asked if we have received any kind of a breakdown as far as an hourly billing rate for the \$6,700 for the design work or the number of hours that would be attributed to this project. Mr. Whited replied that he doesn't have that information with him.*

*Mr. Norstrom stated that staff has received that information, correct. Mr. Whited reported that he has received that information and it was reviewed as part of the process.*

*When asked by Mr. Norstrom to share his process and how he determined that this was a good price, Mr. Whited reported that the project began before he started working for Worthington. But he has worked with May's Consulting and has walked this site with them. They have already spent some significant time here so we already have a lot of time into this project prior to actually getting this contract done. We have reviewed the site and received their evaluation several times of what they think the issues are. The comprehensive overall project for the entire roof reconstruction is broken down into individual portions, we evaluated their hourly rates and time for their principal engineer, the project engineer, and their drafters to prepare those plans. He does not recall their rates but they are within the ballpark of what his experience shows for contractors and structural engineers in this business.*

*Mr. Foust stated that he is not saying that he has a problem with the whole thing but there are parts that he has a problem with. He is not comfortable with the numbers that he sees and would like to see a whole lot more detail for that kind of money. There is something that he can't put his hands on. It seems like a lot of money to figure out the problem and come up with design to fix it and we haven't pried the first shingle or dropped the first staple in place to fix it.*

*Ms. Dorothy thinks that the amount is on the higher side but we have been paying May's Consulting for their expertise since we have several unique buildings that we are responsible for and we have had some construction issues where it hasn't been constructed as well as we thought it should have been to begin with. We have been using May's to help remediate those issues, on the community center specifically. She also thinks we are paying for that expertise to ensure we don't have these problems reoccur as soon as they have because we would normally expect roofs to last thirty years.*

*Mr. Greeson shared that the city hall's roof was constructed in 1993. Ms. Dorothy commented that it is approaching its end of life anyway. Mr. Greeson agreed. He added that in the case of the four chimneys, it is actually a membrane roof that sits down so not only do you have to get up on the roof but then you have to get down inside the chimney. It is a membrane roof with a number of things that vent through it so it has been challenging for us to deal with over the years because of just where it is. So it is difficult to repair and certainly to replace. One of the possible solutions would be to cap those chimneys and re-route the equipment to vent in a different location. That is a possible solution here but that has to be evaluated carefully since it is a change from the original design and that is one of the facets that he thinks makes this a little more interesting and complicated. Mr. Whited added that the costs are presented as "not to exceed" so they will only charge us for the time spent.*

*Mr. Norstrom looks at it as consulting rates are \$100 or more an hour and close to 200 hours of work which is four or five weeks' worth of labor going into this and he considers that to be appropriate.*

*Mr. Whited added that the cost also includes the rental of the 80 foot boom, which is a pretty expensive piece of equipment.*

**There being no additional comments, the Clerk called the roll on the passage of Ordinance No. 31-2016. The motion carried by the following vote:**

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

**No 1** Foust

**Ordinance No. 31-2016 was thereupon declared duly passed and is recorded in full in the appropriate record book.**

**Ordinance No. 32-2016**

Amending Ordinance No. 44-2015 (As Amended) to Adjust the Annual Budget by Providing for Appropriations from the General Fund and Accrued Acreage Fund Unappropriated Balances.

**The foregoing Ordinance Title was read.**

*Mr. Greeson shared that staff has reported to City Council that we are undergoing some staffing changes and challenges in the Fire Division that requires filling some positions by overtime while we have vacancies due to retirement and some medical leaves. In addition to that, we process and remit to the City of Columbus sewer capacity fees. So anytime we receive a large one that is above what we would anticipate, we need to appropriate the funds to send to Columbus for those fees. He thinks these fees are from the Linworth Crossing development.*

**There being no additional comments, the Clerk called the roll on the passage of Ordinance No. 32-2016. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Yes 7** Dorothy, Smith, Myers, Foust, Troper, Norstrom, and Michael

**No 0**

**Ordinance No. 32-2016 was thereupon declared duly passed and is recorded in full in the appropriate record book.**

**NEW LEGISLATION****Resolution No. 39-2016**

Amending the Job Description for the Position of Maintenance Superintendent and Amending the Pay Resolution to Accommodate Said Position.

**Introduced by Mr. Smith.**

**MOTION**

Mr. Myers made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 39-2016. The motion was seconded by Ms. Dorothy.

*Mr. Greeson shared that he is sad to report that Tom Gilkey our long time maintenance superintendent is retiring. We should all find a way to thank him for his service because he has done a remarkable job. As members know, it is our custom anytime we have a vacancy to review the job description and the pay ranges, particular when there is only one person in a particular role. Staff as done that in this instance and we have some amendments to the job description related mostly to cleaning up some of the duties and educational requirements and bringing into our newer job description format. We also looked at the pay range, which is currently a 26 and had identified this position as one that is a little high in the market place. We looked at both the older data from the 2011 pay and class study we conducted and then we kind of used the Mid Ohio Regional Planning Commission's regional salary survey to see how that had changed and came up with a lower range as a more appropriate market based range for a similar salary. The listed top step for that range 25 is \$89,000 but the bottom of the range is \$71,000. So we are recommending that the new job description and pay range be adopted.*

*Mr. Whited thinks Mr. Greeson's comments fairly reflect their situation and evaluation in this extremely key position in the department as far as all of the responsibilities of the Service Director and what they do on a day to day basis. There were only some minor revisions made to the job description itself. A large part of it was to increase the technical skills, operational maintenance strategic skills for this individual and chart them on a little higher plane for continuing to provide a high level of service to our citizens.*

**There being no additional comments, the motion to adopt Resolution No. 39-2016 carried unanimously by a voice vote.**

**Resolution No. 40-2016**

Accepting the Recommendations of the 2016 Worthington Tax Incentive Review Council Concerning Parcels of Commercial Real Property in the City of Worthington Receiving Tax Exemptions for Purposes of Economic Development

**Introduced by Mr. Troper.**

**MOTION** Mr. Foust made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 40-2016. The motion was seconded by Mr. Norstrom.

At Ms. Michael's request, Mr. McCorkle briefly explained the Tax Incentive Review Council (TIRC) topic for the benefit of the Boy Scout in the audience prior to presenting the recommendations following this year's review.

*Ms. Dorothy asked what we are trying to incentivize with this. Mr. McCorkle reported that with our Community Reinvestment Area (CRA) and Tax Increment Financing (TIF) programs, we want to incentivize job creation. Worthington is a municipality that is heavily dependent on income tax so we want good quality, high-paying jobs in the city. We also want strong development and this is one of the tools that we use.*

*Mr. McCorkle shared that the Tax Incentive Review Council met on August 18<sup>th</sup>. State statute requires municipalities to meet once a year. The TIRC reviewed three CRAs and seven TIFs. Action by Worthington City Council is required within sixty days, which is October 17<sup>th</sup>. The 2016 TIRC recommended continuation of all active CRAs and TIFs. The Worthington TIRC recommendations are believed by staff to be reasonable and appropriate. This action will continue the city's various tax exemption projects for 2016 and then the TIRC will re-evaluate again in 2017. Of our three CRAs, all of them exceeded the payroll commitments. Two of the three met and exceeded the job commitments. The third one was just slightly under the job commitment but well exceeded the payroll. Of the seven TIFs, two of the Tax Increment Financing are starting to see deposits come in to the accounts.*

*When asked by Ms. Michael which two, Mr. McCorkle replied the Worthington Station project and The Heights. The original plan for Worthington Station was to see at least \$150,000 of reimbursements for the sound barrier wall come into the program. We have received to date about \$153,000, which exceeds our original expectations for this TIF. We have received just over \$3,000 from The Heights project in that particular deposit but we anticipate seeing quite a bit more. Because we have seen over \$15,000,000 in increased property valuation for that site, we should see a substantial uptick with regard to that project by next year.*

*When asked by Mr. Norstrom who serves on the TIRC, Mr. McCorkle replied that the Council is made up of two representatives from Sharon Township, three from the Franklin County Commissioners, a representative from the Worthington Schools, and some staff. Ms. Stewart added that there are also two city representatives in Parker MacDonell and Matt Gregory.*

*Mr. Norstrom asked if we expected to not receive funds from the other five TIFs. Mr. McCorkle agreed that was what was expected.*

*Ms. Dorothy observed that the CRAs will end next year. She asked if that was correct. Mr. McCorkle replied yes. The Worthington Station CRA was a ten year CRA (from 2007). Ms. Stewart clarified that there was a window for improvements that was spread*

across three years. The first of those that took effect right away will be burning off but the dentist office, Dr. Huelsman completed his improvements several years later. He has a ten year abatement that will stay in place for the ten years of his improvements. Mr. McCorkle clarified that the clock begins once the work has been completed.

Ms. Dorothy asked if all of the TIFs make the schools whole. Mr. McCorkle reported the following:

- 1) Worthington Station TIF (approved 2007) – 75% CRA and 25% TIF for 10 years. Only a portion of the site was actually redeveloped so several of the properties were removed. That one is 100% between the TIF and the CRA
- 2) Worthington Square Venture – 100% abated for property taxes
- 3) The Heights Project – 100% abatement for 30 years
- 4) West Dublin-Granville Road (Linworth Crossing) – 75% abatement for 10 years (no deposits yet)
- 5) 933 High St (Fresh Thyme) – 75% abatement (no deposits yet)
- 6) Downtown TIF District – 100% abatement for 30 years (no deposits yet as it was just recently passed)
- 7) 350 W. Wilson Bridge Road (Trivium Development) – Currently under construction but set to see initial tenants come December. That is a 75% abatement for 10 years

Ms. Fox shared that on some of those TIFs schools are made whole but on others we have compensation agreements with the schools. Primarily the compensation agreements are set at a certain value. If the value of the property is increased above an amount then the schools get a certain percentage but up to a certain level they are not made whole. It varies with each particular TIF but generally speaking, several of those are non-school TIFs so the schools are being made whole.

Mr. Greeson added that in some of these instances we tied all of them to essentially help fund public purposes. In some instances those were public improvements that the developer built (Fresh Thyme built storm water improvements, Worthington Station built a wall that was deemed a public purpose). In other instances, like the Heights and the Downtown District, a TIF was set up for future public purposes. So we hope to make public capital investments in the not too distant future using those capital dollars.

**There being no additional comments, the motion to adopt Resolution No. 40-2016 carried unanimously by a voice vote.**

**Ordinance No. 33-2016**

Amending Ordinance No. 44-2015 (As Amended) to Adjust the Annual Budget by Providing for Appropriations from the Capital Improvement Fund Unappropriated Balance.

**Introduced by Mr. Smith.**

The Clerk was instructed to give notice of a public hearing on said ordinance(s) in accordance with the provisions of the City Charter unless otherwise directed.

## REPORTS OF CITY OFFICIALS

### Policy Item(s)

- Liquor Permit Request – New – Borgata Pizza Cafe

*Mr. Greeson shared that this is a tenant that is going into Linworth Crossing. They are requesting D-1 and D-3 permits. Members will recall that when liquor permit requests are made, City Council has an opportunity to object to the issuance of the permits. This is a unique motion in that Council approves a motion not to request a hearing for the transfer of the liquor permit if you don't want to object. Staff is not aware of any reason to object. This is a business that has another location in the Columbus area and they are expanding to Linworth.*

*Ms. Michael found it interesting that their name includes "Wine Bar" but they are not asking for a wine permit. Mr. Greeson believes they will have a subsequent TREX request for wine.*

### **MOTION**

Mr. Norstrom made a motion to not request a hearing on the new liquor permit request by Borgata Pizza Café. The motion was seconded by Mr. Myers.

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

- Designation of Public Records Representative

*Ms. Fox shared that state law requires each of the council members to take public records training but you may appoint somebody as your designee to attend that training, which is coming up this Friday. Staff would like to have a motion from Council appointing the City Clerk as City Council's designee for that training and the Law Director as the alternate in case something should happen. She is also planning on attending the public records session and we will have members covered.*

### **MOTION**

Mr. Norstrom made a motion to approve the City Clerk as designee and the Law Director as the alternate designee to attend the required public records training on behalf of each of the Council Members. The motion was seconded by Mr. Foust.

*Council members thanked Mrs. Thress and Ms. Fox for attending the training on their behalf.*

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

- Grant Application Materials

*Mr. Greeson commented that at the last Council meeting members provided staff with a great deal of input on how you want us to handle the different groups who request funding from the City as part of this year's budget process. Essentially that direction was to bifurcate the process. Have the McConnell Arts Center, the Old Worthington Partnership and the Worthington Historical Society be treated as one group because of the nature of the services they provide and the relationship they have with the city and then have a separate community grant application process for other entities that may apply for human services, community projects, and mental health services. Staff has prepared two different types of grant applications to accomplish the input that members provided. We are requesting some direction from members on how to move forward. Ms. Stewart will present the applications and propose some potential actions.*

APPLICATION FOR GRANT FUNDING – 2017  
CITY OF WORTHINGTON

*Ms. Stewart commented that she included in the agenda packet two different applications that hopefully reflect the conversation that staff had with Council last week. This is an opportunity to check and see if we accurately captured everything that members are considering. The first application is intended for the three groups of the McConnell Arts Center (MAC), Old Worthington Partnership and the Worthington Historical Society. It essentially uses the format we have used in the past for the MAC and for the Old Worthington Partnership but we generalized it so that we could use one application for all three. It essentially asked for the same information as previously requested however we did streamline some of the attachments (fewer attachments requested). In the past we had asked for by-laws, policy and procedures, resume of staff and so forth. Certainly for the Partnership and the MAC we already have those on record. Instead of asking for those year in and year out we switched those to the certification form in the back to just say that they acknowledged that if the City requests them then they will provide them. It is really a follow-up like we would want to see something. We are familiar with all three of these organizations so we didn't request all of that information again. Those are the primary changes to this form. She would love to get Council approval for it tonight so that we can send it out to those organizations in anticipation of receiving this back towards the end of October. That would give them about a month to complete so that we would have it in advance of their appearance in front of City Council in November when we are talking about the budget.*

*Ms. Michael believes that is a tight timeline. Mr. Greeson stated that tentatively we get it out and ask them to return it to us by the end of October. We are looking at scheduling them for presentation potentially on the third meeting of November. So that would give us some time to review their application. Ms. Michael thinks that is pretty close to our deadline on budget approval. Mr. Greeson agreed. We have three meetings in November and we could really put them wherever members deem appropriate but we wanted to talk through the schedule with members as well.*

*Ms. Michael asked if there were any comments about the application.*

*Mr. Myers said that he was a little confused. He asked what is it that we are not asking for from the three groups that we had before because he sees the list of attachments. Ms. Stewart replied that on the very last sheet where it says, "Certification", #5 says that additional information will be provided if requested. In the past we had them attach the organization's Article of Incorporation, By-Laws, etc. This application states that if we request the documents then they will provide them.*

*Mr. Myers noted that under General Information on page 2, Attachment IV stated Articles of Incorporation and By-Laws and then on the back we say they have to have them ready if requested. Ms. Stewart reported that she forgot to delete that attachment. She thanked him for pointing it out.*

*Mr. Myers understands that we are making the process more streamline for the applicant as there are many things that we aren't asking for because we already have them. Ms. Stewart agreed that the questions are essentially the same but the attachments are fewer. Mr. Myers stated that the amount of information that they are going to have to collect to comply with this is greatly streamlined. Ms. Stewart agreed.*

*Mr. Norstrom suggested that we ask them if there has been any changes in their by-laws during the last year and if there has been then they need to provide copies of those.*

*Ms. Stewart commented that she doesn't believe that we have the documents for the Historical Society on hand because we have not used this format. She asked members if they want them to provide that information to us. Mr. Norstrom thinks that since we don't have the Historical Society's information then we should request the full packet as that will be our base for moving forward.*

*Mr. Myers agreed. He added that in subsequent years we could just ask for changes since we would already have the baseline. Mr. Norstrom agreed.*

*Mr. Troper asked for clarification on Attachment VI. Ms. Stewart agreed that Attachment VI should be updated. She thanked him for the observation.*

*Mr. Foust switched gears and commented that there is one thing that concerns him about the Community Grant Program document and he was a little ill at ease last week when members talked about the multi-year thing. He understands why we are asking the question but he is concerned the way the application is worded in that, "Are you requesting funding over a multi-year period?" Yes, he knows there is a parenthetical that follows it and the disclaimer but he is concerned about creating the expectation of a multi-year commitment. If there was a way to ask that question a little bit softer. Something like, "Is the money you are requesting to be used, or please describe those things within the calendar year of 2017 and then maybe some question about . . ."*

Members requested a vote on the first application before moving on to discussing the Community Grant Program application.

**MOTION** Mr. Myers made a motion to approve the grant application for distribution to the McConnell Arts Center, the Old Worthington Partnership and the Worthington Historical Society as presented and discussed tonight. The motion was seconded by Mr. Norstrom.

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

APPLICATION – 2017  
CITY OF WORTHINGTON  
COMMUNITY GRANT PROGRAM

*Ms. Stewart commented that this program was discussed last week and we probably wouldn't issue this until after the 1<sup>st</sup> of the year so we have a little more time to work on it but because the conversation was fresh from last week she wanted to bring it back in a format that was generally approved. We will have to insert some dates and budgeted amounts later. This one utilizes the format from last year but with a few changes. She inserted the section on priorities for grant funds as was discussed last week (those three areas that Council indicated were of most interest for funding). On the second page in the program guidelines she did note that within the designated priorities then preference would be given to some of those things from the decision matrix that we used previously. So programs that serve City of Worthington will have higher priority but consideration will also be given to those serving the school district. She noted that any applications for arts or cultural programs should be directed to the McConnell Arts Center. Ms. Stewart shared that she did have a conversation with Jon Cook to give him a heads up about the conversation last week which is that Council was looking to the MAC to propose how they would go about funding community groups so he is already starting to think about that. She thinks he will be prepared to talk about that when they come before Council during the budget process.*

*Ms. Stewart noted that timing wise, grant allocations would be anticipated during the first quarter of 2017 so if we get this out at the beginning of the year most of this work and hopefully approvals will occur in the first quarter.*

*Ms. Stewart moved on to the Grant Application. She would appreciate some guidance from Council on the multi-year period question. She realized when she looked through last year's materials that we referenced the fact that people might not have to request funds each year but we didn't ask them for any information about what they were looking for in future years so we have nothing to base a decision on this year without them submitting an application. This was an attempt to be able to gather some of that without asking them to apply each year but it is certainly open for Council's direction on how members want to handle that. Then she added questions about how their proposal ties to the City's priorities.*

*Mr. Foust shared that he would hate to create the expectation in 2017 of a long term commitment when he doesn't know who is coming to the table in 2018 or 2019.*

*Mr. Myers thinks it is interesting that after members had the discussion about possibly multi-year funding and how should we go about that and whatnot, and he would ask for Ms. Fox to take a look at this, he knows at the state level they can only fund for one budget. We can encumber a multi-year budget? Ms. Fox explained that the City is able to enter into multi-year contracts but any contract or grant has to state in it that each subsequent year is subject to appropriations.*

*Mr. Norstrom agreed that this Council cannot obligate future Councils. Ms. Fox agreed because if a future Council would choose in year two or three to not fund that then it goes away. So it is not a binding commitment because it has that contingency in it.*

*Mr. Norstrom disagreed with Mr. Foust's approach because he thought the discussion members had was to indicate that we would act favorably, even though we can't commit ourselves, but we would tend to act favorably towards multi-year funding just to establish a program and let them know that if they were successful we would be looking forward to a multi-year funding of that program.*

*Mr. Smith thinks members should focus less on the term "funding" and more on the word "program" or "project". Then the question becomes is the request for a project that is multi-year. If so, then explain it.*

Several members, including Mr. Foust agreed with Mr. Smith's comments.

*Mr. Troper commented that we have "x" number of dollars. He asked how the Priorities for the Grant Funds works and the distribution of those funds between 1a., 1b., and 2. Mr. Smith replied that the distribution is up to the committee.*

*Mr. Myers stated that is just a question. That was the discussion. 1a., 1b., and 2. are our priorities and it is subjective. We can't make it objective but it doesn't mean that an excellent project of improving the community might come in that the committee feels merits better consideration and more money than something that satisfies a basic human need. If we think that group that is saying they are going to satisfy a basic human need is not efficient or they are not from Worthington or they have no track record with us, everything has to get considered into that. This is just a statement of our overall priorities.*

## **MOTION**

Mr. Myers made a motion to approve the Community Groups Grant Application as reflected by the comments made tonight and correction that members have offered. The motion was seconded by Mr. Smith.

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

- Trailhead and Heischman Park Re-Dedication

*Mr. Greeson shared that Council's Capital Improvement dollars for 2016 have led to the creation of a really cool trailhead at the Olentangy Parkland as well as a new playground at Heischman Park. We would like to dedicate one of those and re-dedicate the other one. He asked Mr. Hurley to comment.*

*Mr. Hurley shared that it is Council's practice to celebrate some of these accomplishments from its Capital Improvement Program. The Heischman playground has been opened since the end of July and with the August recess we have not had a chance to schedule a re-dedication for that effort. The trailhead has been more recent and actually still has a few finishing touches being done but it is substantially complete at this point. Before we completely lose our weather, we wanted to take a look at October to schedule something prior to Council meetings. He just wanted to get some general direction on members' interest in either or both of those as an event and if so then get a date scheduled.*

*Ms. Michael asked if it would be both on the same night or two different nights. Mr. Hurley said he would take suggestions on that question. We could do either. We plan to include the Bike and Pedestrian Advisory Board for the Trailhead because that is one of the first beginning to end project that came from the original Bike and Ped Steering Committee so they will be a part of at least that portion. Staff can do either. He is interested in any feedback and then staff will work with members on getting it scheduled.*

*Mr. Troper liked two night.*

*Mr. Norstrom commented that we could do it on one night and order pizza.*

*Mr. Smith encouraged staff to remember that sundown in October falls around 6:30 p.m. Mr. Hurley agreed that we are definitely losing daylight and we would need to consider that when we look at the times. These have typically been pretty quick events and if they are done either at 6:00 or 6:30 then Council has a chance to make the event and still get to the Council meeting on time.*

*Ms. Dorothy commented that if done around 6:00 then she thinks the events should be held on two different nights. Mr. Hurley agreed. He added that two nights would probably make it a little easier then to incorporate the Bike and Ped Advisory Board.*

*Mr. Hurley stated that staff can send out an exploratory e-mail asking for dates and we will finalize a schedule.*

*Ms. Michael asked if staff knows what happened to the concretions from ODOT. She doesn't see them sitting out anymore and she was thought they might be coming to be part of our parks. Mr. Greeson replied that he doesn't know the answer to that question. Mr. Whited shared that they were available but staff did not pick any of them up. Ms. Michael asked why staff did not pick them up. It was her understanding that we were*

*going to have a couple of them to have for our parks. Mr. Greeson stated that staff will follow up on that.*

*Mr. Greeson shared that the City has an intern from Ohio State, Mary Turner. One of the many projects that she has worked on is following up on a couple of retreat items and things that come up as suggestions from Council members. That includes how to effectively do volunteer recognition. It involved research on how to recognize citizens in our community as well as how other communities recognize the good work of citizens in their communities. We want to give her an opportunity to make a presentation in front of Council and go over her research with members. Members should feel free to ask her questions about what she is recommending and her ideas around volunteer recognition and citizen recognition.*

## **REPORTS OF COUNCIL MEMBERS**

*Mr. Norstrom commented that members received a memo from Robyn Stewart on the Airport Advisory meeting which he did not attend. As members will see on that the airport is discussing some changes and improvements on Case. They have yet to address the issues along SR-161.*

*Mr. Smith shared two items that both involve Mr. Foust.*

- 1) He and Mr. Foust talked very briefly before tonight's meeting about something that was mentioned last meeting regarding these grants and he thinks we are going to set up an ad hoc committee to come up with a grant wrap up form for these organizations for us to maybe see some successes or progress.
- 2) Mr. Foust also mentioned earlier in tonight's meeting about some concerns about consulting and throughout his five years on Council he has also had similar concerns. He thinks what we are trying to get to with this budget process is to address how some of these expenses we have, including consulting are addressed in a consistent way and specifically what are the costs. He thinks they are know that consultants are expensive but to weigh that with the cost benefit analysis of where we are as a City and what consulting services we need. He is hoping that staff, when they are preparing their budget talks will include some of that information.

*Mr. Greeson asked Mr. Smith if he had a particular area that he is interested in. Mr. Smith replied no but he thinks there are some ways that we can improve. He doesn't know what those are yet but he knows there are things like technology and things like more relationship building with other consultants that might get us better deals.*

*Mr. Foust shared that in his day job, he has one consulting relationship that is \$150,000 a year of ongoing business. In any given year he will have a special project that he wants them to do. So on top of the \$150,000, they might come back and ask for another \$30,000. But what he will get in that \$30,000 estimate is an idea of the breakdown of the number of hours, etc. He would like to see something in the way of hours and rates and*

*not be picturing a dartboard behind somebody's door that they are throwing to come up with a number.*

*Mr. Norstrom stated that there is a difference between what members do as a policy and what we let management do. He has no doubt that what Mr. Foust does in his job is exactly what our staff does in theirs. The fact that they didn't present that to Council members tonight, he understands Mr. Foust's concerns about it but he is not sure that seeing that is the appropriate role of a policy maker.*

*Mr. Greeson commented that from staff's perspective we will give members whatever information they would like and be glad to have any conversation about any of our consulting relationships that anybody is interested in. We would be glad to provide the more detailed background on any of these but Mr. Norstrom is right. We look at any of those aspects as we procure services. Much of what we procure is subject to the procurement policies that were adopted by the Council. Some of these are competitively selected and others are under those thresholds. We went through a lengthy conversation about two years ago regarding our consultant selection process and amended all of those documents but none of it is permanent.*

*Mr. Smith stated that his purpose is not to bring up a dead or dying horse but rather to re-engage that conversation to this new format that we are having with the budget conversations coming up. He trusts staff and their needs for consultants but he thinks we are at an age where it doesn't hurt to look again to save money.*

## **OTHER**

*Boy Scout Omar asked about construction of buildings. Ms. Michael explained that basically the private companies like the banks and things construct the buildings but they get approval for the design of the buildings from the City. Mr. Foust added that the design approval is actually obtained from a different body than City Council.*

*Mr. Myers commented that when things break at Omar's house, his mom has to have them fixed. Council has to do the same thing with our buildings. Right now a couple of our buildings are leaking so if it rains really hard tonight then we might need umbrellas. They are leaking so we have to get them fixed. We have to have an expert get up on the roof and tell us how to do the repairs. Our taxpayers own many buildings that Council and staff have to take care of so that is what we were talking about tonight.*

*Ms. Michael thanked Omar for coming tonight.*

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION** Mr. Myers made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Mr. Norstrom.

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

President Michael declared the meeting adjourned at 8:37 p.m.

/s/ D. Kay Thress  
Clerk of Council

*APPROVED by the City Council, this  
3<sup>rd</sup> day of October, 2016.*

/s/ Bonnie D. Michael  
Council President