



Meeting Minutes

Monday, December 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, December 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.

Ms. Michael appointed Tanya Maria Word as Temporary Clerk of Council for this evening's meeting.

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: Temporary Clerk of Council Tanya Maria Word, 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 Fire Scott Highley and Chief of Police Jerry Strait.

There were approximately 3 visitors present.

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

VISITOR COMMENTS**PUBLIC HEARINGS ON LEGISLATION**

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

Ordinance No. 55-2016

Amending Section 121.03 of the Codified Ordinances of the City to Establish the Salary of Council Members.

The foregoing Ordinance Title was read.

Mr. Greeson explained that Council introduced this Ordinance at the last meeting and this is the public hearing on the legislation as introduced it increases the salary to \$600.00 per month or such greater amount that will be minimum to qualify for full-time service credit under the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS); and it provides an additional \$100.00 per month to the president of Council; we've distributed some additional information in particular noting that the OPERS regulations have changed; their regulations indicate that the minimum monthly amount to qualify for full-time service credit in 2017 will be \$630.00 and in 2018 it will be \$660.00, so that

changes that equation a little bit. I believe Mrs. Roberts is prepared to help address any amendments you may make if you wanted to choose another one of those amounts or answer any questions you might have.

Mr. Norstrom commented to Mr. Greeson, you started your opening by saying it was introduced at the last meeting, it was actually introduced at the December 5th meeting. Mr. Greeson replied thank you for correcting me sir; you are correct. Ms. Michael asked for any thoughts or comments from council members; right now the Ordinance is \$600.00, we've also heard a number of \$630.00 and a number of \$660.00.

Ms. Dorothy commented I think it's obvious that the council members of Worthington should have a raise, I am in not in favor of having an interim raise, but I do think it's very appropriate that we have a conversation about new council members having an increase in compensation for their service to the city. Any of those amounts would be appropriate.

Mr. Norstrom remarked based on the prior discussion, I think \$630 and \$660 is where we would be because we said we wanted to be at the minimum of OPERS. Ms. Michael asked if you had to go between \$630 and \$660, what would your preference be. Mr. Norstrom replied \$630 the first year and \$660 the second year. Ms. Michael asked Mrs. Fox can we do that or does it have to be a set number now. Mrs. Fox replied the way the Ordinance is written although it was introduced at \$600.00 per month, the salary on January 1, 2017 will \$630.00 per month because that's what the OPERS minimum is going to be raised to and then on January 1, 2018 the salary will become \$660.00 per month. Mr. Norstrom asked so we don't necessarily have to specify anything at this point and time because of the way that the Ordinance is written, it allows for that. Mrs. Fox replied the way the Ordinance is written it automatically increases, however, to be clear that increase will not apply to all seven (7) council members on January 1, 2018 because the Charter prevents further increases after the one-time raise to be applied to council members during their term.

Ms. Michael commented so if I'm understanding this correctly, if we leave it as is there would be \$630.00 that council would be paid monthly in 2017 and after that the \$660.00 would be to those two people who are elected in 2017 beginning their term in 2018 and the other remaining council members would be receiving the \$630.00 and not full PERS beginning 2018, am I understanding this correctly. Mrs. Fox replied that is correct.

Mr. Norstrom asked if we as this council were to pass the motion with a two-step, then next year council would not be increasing their salaries and that would not violate our Ordinance, is this correct. Mrs. Fox asked for a little more clarification from Mr. Norstrom. Mr. Norstrom commented if we pass an Ordinance tonight that says \$630.00 and \$660.00, we're increasing it to \$630.00 for 2017 and \$660.00 for 2018. Mrs. Fox commented that second increase would not apply to all seven (7) council members in 2018. Ms. Michael commented so in order to have something applied to the council members for two years it would have to go to the amount of \$660.00. Mrs. Fox replied yes you could raise it to \$660.00 and you would eliminate the language "or such greater

amount that will be the minimum to qualify for full-time service credit for the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System.”

Mr. Myers commented to be honest I never thought I would support \$660.00, but that would be my preference because what I don't want to see is an automatic escalator if PERS decides to then up again and therefore we would essentially have an unvoted raise that could go on indefinitely. I don't think that was the intent of the Charter Review Commission and I want to make certain that if that's the path we want to take, we have to do that and debate that at a minimum every year or two. Mr. Foust commented so to satisfy Mr. Myers concern, am I thinking we would want to remove the language “or such greater amount that will be the minimum to qualify for full-time service credit for the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System.” Let's say for the sake of easy numbers that PERS chooses to raise it \$10.00 every year, those councilpersons sworn in January 2018 would be at \$660.00 and if it goes up \$10.00 each year, they would remain at \$660.00 for their entire four years as it goes to \$670.00, \$680.00, \$690.00 and \$700.00 and then if they were to return again, they would move to at that time \$700.00. Mr. Myers replied if we voted on another raise for those people, it would not be automatic. I would say lock it at \$660.00 now, that's all we get until we vote on it again.

Mr. Foust asked Mr. Myers as one who was there, do you feel it honors the intent of the Charter Review Commission. Mr. Myers replied I think it does. I think it is a one-time raise, that's what the Charter Review Commission voted for, and that's what the people voted for overwhelmingly and if you look at the Chart, a great number of municipalities in central Ohio as well as probably the Cleveland and Cincinnati areas paid their salaries to PERS service contribution because we are municipal employees of the sort. I think that's a rational argument for the amount. Mr. Foust commented I would support that position.

Mr. Smith stated for the record, I am not opposed to a council pay rate increase. As you know we have the lowest pay of any comparable community listed on the comparison chart. We should certainly not be last place on any list. Having the same rate of pay since 1988 compels us to look at the pay rate.

Thanks to the recently passed charter amendment, Council can increase pay one time so that all members get equal pay for equal work. Previous to the charter amendment, half the members of council would get more pay than the other half of the members, but they are all doing the same job. Ethically, that does not make sense to me. So, I do support a pay increase for all of us, at least this one time. But how much should our pay rate be?

Many central Ohio cities have the OPERS minimum listed as their council pay rate. For Worthington to increase the council pay rate to the OPERS minimum would increase our council allocation from \$15,000 to \$53,000 (with a slightly higher pay for council president). Keep in mind that these "Comparable" central Ohio communities generally have higher populations and bigger budgets. The community that is closest to Worthington in population and budget size is Pataskala. Their council pay is \$500/month.

To me, this seems reasonable, and it is the highest we should increase our pay at this time. As I stated previously, my proposal ranges from \$300-\$500/month. The \$300/month comes from the inflation rate from 1988 to present. And, changing the pay to a monthly pay instead of our current 'pay-per-meeting' format makes much more sense because of staff time and current payroll practices.

To increase to \$300/month (\$400 for president), our budget allocation would increase by \$11,400.

If we increase our pay to the OPERS minimum of \$630 as of Jan. 1, 2017, we will increase our allocation by \$38,000, totaling Approximately \$53,000 since the city would pay 14 percent for OPERS contributions in addition to our \$630 monthly pay. This total is \$26,000 more than my \$300/month proposal.

Current \$15,000

Proposed \$45,360 plus \$7,610= \$52,970, Approximately \$38,000 increase.

Doug's highest proposal \$43,200, which is \$28,000 increase.

Doug's suggested proposal \$26,400, which is \$11,400 increase and more than \$26,000 savings for other city services and programs.

Mr. Troper asked Mr. Smith do you currently participate in PERS. Mr. Smith replied I do. Mr. Troper said so the additional benefit in terms of service credit would not be of benefit to you....is that correct. Mr. Smith replied as of today that is correct.

Mr. Norstrom commented a year ago we were having these discussions about this time and I proposed that we go to \$600.00 per month at that point and time for the new members coming in because I felt based on the information we had that we were dramatically underpaid and that was the time to do it; unfortunately other members of council did not agree with me, but I want to make the point that I have been a long supporter of increasing the amount that council gets paid and I support the proposal as of tonight; although I would like to have our legal counsel pursue because as I understand it, if PERS goes up periodically and we are not allowed to basically pass a motion that says we stay at the minimum, I'm not sure why if we pass that now, it's not good and we're not voting on increasing our pay, except I do understand that it could be considered a two-time increase, so for future we need to monitor that; I do understand what Mr. Myers position is, but future councils are going to have to look at that closely.

Mr. Troper expressed while I agree with Ms. Dorothy's comments that the interim raise is not viewed by some as not appropriate given the fact that serving on council it's only fair to give everyone a raise at the same time, President Michael has been on Council more years than I think the four or five Council members combined, so given all these facts, I think it's fair and appropriate in accordance with the Charter Review Commission that we are all given raises at the same time.

MOTION: Councilmember Myers made a motion to amend Ordinance No. 55-2016 to increase the amount to \$660.00 per month to qualify for full-time service credit for the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System. The President of Council shall receive an additional \$100.00 per month. Delete the verbiage/sentence after the sentence “The President of Council shall receive an additional \$100.00 per month.” Let the Charter language control as to how subsequent Council increases will take effect. Also delete “or such greater amount that will be the minimum to qualify for full-time service credit for the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System. Councilmember Dorothy seconded the motion.

There being no additional comments, the motion to amend Ordinance No. 55-2016 carried unanimously by a voice vote.

The Clerk called the roll on the passage of Ordinance No. 55-2016 (As Amended). The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes	5	Foust, Troper, Norstrom, Myers and Michael
No	2	Dorothy and Smith

Ordinance No. 55-2016 was thereupon declared duly passed and is recorded in full in the appropriate record book.

Ordinance No. 45-2016 Providing for the Adoption of the Annual Budget for the Fiscal Year 2017 and Appropriating Sums for Current Operating Expenses.

The foregoing Ordinance Title was read.

MOTION: Councilmember Troper made a motion to remove Ordinance No. 45-2016 from the table. Councilmember Dorothy seconded the motion.

Ms. Michael asked for a motion to amend Ordinance No. 45-2016 with the following budget totals that she read for the record:

Total General Government	\$ 7,060,656
Total Division of Police	\$ 5,960,184
Total Department of Public Service and Engineering	\$ 2,523,074
Total Department of Parks & Recreation	\$ 4,780,643

Total Dept. of Planning & Building	\$ 756,507
Sub-Total General Fund	\$21,081,064
Total Division of Fire	\$ 6,501,944
TOTAL GENERAL FUND	\$27,583,008
Total Street Maintenance & Repair Fund	\$ 988,029
Total State Highway Fund	\$ 140,658
Total Water Distribution Fund	\$ 86,218
Total Sanitary Sewer Fund	\$ 74,718
Total Police Pension Fund	\$ 650,000
Law Enforcement Trust	\$ 12,500
MMVLT Fund	\$ 150,000
Education Supplies	\$ 3,500
Court Clerk Computer Supplies	\$ 53,500
Economic Development Efforts	\$ 583,000
Total Revolving Funds	\$ 1,021,843
Special Parks Fund	\$ -0-
Capital Improvements Fund	\$ 1,438,300
General Bond Retirement Debt Service	\$ 2,448,016
O.B.B.S. Surcharge	\$ 7,500
Worthington Station Municipal Public Improvement TIF	\$ 125,000
Worthington Place (The Heights) TIF	\$ 189,000

MOTION Councilmember Myers made a motion to amend Ordinance No. 45-2016 with the aforementioned budget totals. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Smith.

There being no additional comments, the motion to amend Ordinance No. 45-2016 carried unanimously by a voice vote.

The Clerk called the roll on Ordinance No. 45-2016 (As Amended). The motion carried by the following vote:

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

No 0

Ordinance No. 45-2016 (As Amended) was thereupon declared duly passed and is recorded in full in the appropriate record book.

Ordinance No. 51-2016 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 for Engineering Services for the Central District Sanitary Sewer

Improvements on East North Street and Morning Street and Determining to Proceed with said Project. (Project No. 618-15)

The foregoing Ordinance Title was read.

Mr. Whited explained the first step in that process is soliciting engineering services to design the fix for these deficiencies. One critical area is at the intersection of E. North Street and Morning Street. Several sub-basins drain to an obsolete system of multiple manholes. Undersized piping limiting capacity in these sub-basins intensifies the problem and puts the system at risk of overflowing due to lack of efficiency. We are seeking qualified engineering of the system in this area to alleviate all deficiencies and eliminate the risk of eminent sanitary sewer overflows. DLZ has conducted a study of the area and has data and knowledge necessary to do the design work.

Staff is recommending approval by Council to enter into an agreement with DLZ to engineer and design the project. With approval, we plan to proceed immediately to complete design and solicit bids for construction in 2017.

Ms. Dorothy asked when would the plans be started and finished and when would we go to bid. Mr. Whited replied it would be started within the period of time it takes for this Ordinance to become official; it's about a 20 week process with some lead way in there for programming with the City of Columbus and Ohio EPA as well as the permit to install, so probably a total of about including the bidding process approximately 32 weeks, so it would be a spring construction.

Ms. Dorothy asked do you have an idea of how far we are done with our sanitary improvements EPA mandated. Mr. Whited replied I don't have a cost on that; some of the stuff is still undetermined with the West study and the industrial area study. I don't have the sanitary sewer studies completed yet. How about the timeline of when we have to have them completed. Mr. Whited commented I don't have that information in front of me, but I can tell you there is several more years of it left. Mr. Greeson replied we can get an update on maybe studies to-date, maybe projects to-date and then what we have left; our five-year CIP anticipates that we're going to be compliant and meet our deadline.

There being no additional comments, the clerk called the roll on Ordinance No. 51-2016. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

No 0

Ordinance No. 51-2016 was thereupon declared duly passed and is recorded in full in the appropriate record book.

Ordinance No. 52-2016

Amending Sections 1141.01, 1141.06, and 1180.02(a), 1181.04(d) and Enacting Section 1141.07 of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Worthington to Make Corrections to Previously Amended Sections.

The foregoing Ordinance Title was read.

Mr. Brown indicated City Council has approved several amendments to the Planning & Zoning Code. It has been determined that in the course of approval of those amendments, certain errors were inadvertently made that require correction. These amendments have been made to the Planning and Zoning Code regarding Planned Use Districts, retaining walls in the setback and the Wilson Bridge Road zoning districts

1. 1141.01 DIVISION INTO DISTRICTS

The City is hereby divided into districts under ~~four~~ six general categories which shall be known as: Open Area Districts, Residential Districts, Commercial Districts, Industrial Districts, Planned Use Districts and Wilson Bridge Corridor Districts.

- Added Planned Use Districts and Wilson Bridge Corridor Districts to how the City is divided into six general categories vs. the previous four general categories.

2. 1141.06 PLANNED USE DISTRICTS

Areas for a mixture of land uses that are compatible with each other and adjacent development with creation of development standards and design characteristics to promote the housing and economic development goals of the City; provide for supporting community facilities; and ensure integration and conformity with the community.

- When City Council approved the Wilson Bridge Corridor Zoning, Section 1141.06 WILSON BRIDGE CORRIDOR DISTRICTS was referenced to refer to Section 1181.06 of the Codified Ordinances for the Wilson Bridge Corridor Districts, however it should have referenced it as Section 1141.07.

3. 1180.02 "R" DISTRICTS

(a) In any "R" District, no fence or wall shall be erected in the area between the right-of-way line and the building setback line except for a wall necessary to accommodate differences in grade. No fence or wall in an "R" district shall exceed a height of six feet.

- The underlined text was inadvertently left out when this section of the Code moved from the Chapter 13 Building Code to Chapter 11 Planning & Zoning Code in 2010.

4. 1181.04 GENERAL PROVISIONS

(d) Redevelopment and/or change of use proposals in the WBC shall be a minimum of 2-acres of land and 200' of frontage along the Right-of-Way.

- The minimum acreage that was discussed throughout the Wilson Bridge Corridor Zoning amendment referenced a minimum of 2-acres not 3-acres in all the drafts and presentations that were presented to the general public, ARB, MPC and ultimately City Council for approval.

5. 1141.07 WILSON BRIDGE CORRIDOR DISTRICTS

Refer to Section 1181.06 of the Codified Ordinances for the Wilson Bridge Corridor Districts.

- This corrects what was originally referenced as Section 1181.06 in the Codified Ordinances.

There being no additional comments, the Clerk called the roll on Ordinance No. 52-2016. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

No 0

Ordinance No. 52-2016 was thereupon declared duly passed and is recorded in full in the appropriate record book.

Ordinance No. 54-2016

Amending Ordinance No. 45-2016 (As Amended) to Adjust the Annual Budget by Providing for Appropriations From the Capital Improvements Fund Unappropriated Balance to Pay the Cost of the 2017 New and Replacement Equipment Items and for Certain Projects as Identified in the 2017 Five-Year Capital Improvements Program and all Related Expenses and Determining to Proceed with said Projects.

The foregoing Ordinance Title was read.

Mrs. Stewart explained with the Budget Ordinance just being adopted, we typically with the operation budget also include the appropriation at the time that the budget is adopted so that those monies are appropriated once the new year starts; however with the Capital Improvements Plan, we don't typically approve appropriations at the same time that the plan is adopted, so you may recall you recently adopted the 2017-2021 Capital Improvements Plan and that was done by Resolution, but we often bring back projects once they're bid to come back with recommendations on award of the contract and the appropriation amount at that time; however there's a number of things in the Capital

Improvements Plan for 2017 as well as other years in the CIP, but right now we're focused on 2017 that aren't going to be subject to bid, so the equipment purchases that are scheduled to be made in 2017 as well as some of the smaller cost projects won't be going forward to bid, so it's become our practice to bring back an appropriation ordinance to appropriate those funds for the 2017 program and thus allow staff to move forward with those purchases and with those smaller projects; so that's what this appropriation Ordinance does, it appropriates the funds for the equipment replacement as well as 19 projects that will not need to be bid given our bid thresholds.

Mr. Foust commented just clarification for me, when you say below bid threshold, does that mean that although they don't necessarily have to go through the entire process as written, do you still shop the market at all. Mrs. Stewart replied we do have a competitive process, typically a more informal quote process where we're not preparing formal bid documents and doing the sealed bid procedure, but we do an informal quote process where we're still comparing prices.

There being no additional comments, the Clerk called the roll on Ordinance No. 54-2016. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes 7 Norstrom, Dorothy, Smith, Myers, Foust, Troper, and Michael
No 0

Ordinance No. 54-2016 was thereupon declared duly passed and is recorded in full in the appropriate record book.

NEW LEGISLATION TO BE INTRODUCED

Resolution No. 62-2016 Approving 2017 Grant Funding for the Old Worthington Partnership and the Worthington Historical Society.

Introduced by Councilmember Norstrom.

MOTION Councilmember Foust made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 62-2016. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Troper.

There being no additional comments, the motion to adopt Resolution No. 62-2016 carried unanimously by a voice vote.

Resolution No. 63-2016

Approving an Agreement and Permit for and between AT&T Ohio, Inc., and Ohio Corporation, to Operate and Maintain a Telecommunications System Within the City of Worthington Pursuant to and Subject to the Provisions of Chapter 949 of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Worthington.

Introduced by Councilmember Dorothy.

Mr. Norstrom commented I have a question unrelated to this, where did the outcome of what AT&T and others in the State wanted come out. Mr. Greeson replied it passed, it was significantly modified; by the time it passed we were still opposed because it was essentially in a rushed erosion of the home rules and we didn't have an opportunity to evaluate its impact, but it did pass and is something that all municipalities are going to have to evaluate how it impacts them and work with the provider. Mr. Norstrom replied I guess the question is potentially these types of Resolutions would not come before us in the future. Mr. Greeson replied this is our existing Codified Ordinance provisions which would still govern these type of permits, what the legislation dealt with as I understand it is a small cell technology which one of the arguments we made is it setting one set of technologies with one regulatory and another set of technology with another regulatory system.

MOTION

Councilmember Myers made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 63-2016. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Smith.

There being no additional comments, the motion to adopt Resolution No. 63-2016 carried unanimously by a voice vote.

Resolution No. 64-2016

Appointments – Municipal Planning Commission (MPC) & Architectural Review Board (ARB).

Introduced by Councilmember Norstrom.

Ms. Michael read the following names being reappointed to the Municipal Planning Commission:

- *Mikel Coulter*
- *Tom Reis*
- *Scott Myers (Council Appointee) (One-Year Term)*

Ms. Michael read the following names being reappointed to the Architectural Review Board:

- *Dave Foust*
- *Amy Lloyd*

Mr. Foust and Mr. Myers both requested to abstain from voting on this Resolution.

MOTION Councilmember Troper made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 64-2016. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Smith.

There being no additional comments, the motion to adopt Resolution No. 64-2016 carried unanimously by a voice vote.

Resolution No. 65-2016 Appointments – Worthington International Friendship Association (WIFA).

Introduced by Councilmember Norstrom.

Ms. Michael read the following names being reappointed to the Worthington International Friendship Association (WIFA):

- *Ryan Hoover*
- *Anne Brown*
- *Bob Chosy*
- *Virginia Duym*
- *Jeanne Earhart*
- *Joe Kohler*

In addition the following persons are being appointed as new board members; these people represented Worthington and WIFA on the 2016 delegation to our sister city Sayama, Japan:

- *Beth Cullinan*
- *Marsha Mueller*
- *Nicky Robie*
- *Jody Schomaker*

The new appointments and reappointments would serve terms through 12/31/19.

MOTION Councilmember Foust made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 65-2016. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Troper.

There being no additional comments, the motion to adopt Resolution No. 65-2016 carried unanimously by a voice vote.

REPORTS OF CITY OFFICIALS

Policy Item(s)

- Liquor Permit Request – Trex – Borgata Pizza Bistro - Wine Bar LLC

Mr. Greeson shared that this is a tenant that is going into Linworth Crossing. They are requesting a D-2 permit; you've already authorized the Trex which is declaring this an economic development project and allowing a TREX from another part of Ohio to Worthington; you approved it for the D1 and D3 permits which are for bear and spirited liquor; this permit this evening is for the wine and mixed beverages that accompanies those for Borgata that will be located in the new Linworth Shopping Center. Staff is not aware of any reason to object.

MOTION

Councilmember Myers made a motion to not request a hearing on the new liquor permit request by Borgata Pizza Bistro – Wine Bar. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Troper.

The motion carried unanimously by a voice vote.

- Public Notices of Public Hearings on Ordinances and Budget Estimates

Mr. Troper asked how much does the ad cost or an approximation. I disagree with the fact that we need to keep advertising that we're no longer putting the information....I feel that once is enough, I don't think you need to keep advertising. Ms. Michael stated I think we're looking at doing this four (4) times per year as opposed to every Ordinance. Mr. Troper replied I think advertising it once is enough. Mr. Foust commented I appreciate Mr. Troper's viewpoint, I thought in our discussion that we were going down a path of phasing out if you will and so at least in my mind what that looked like was maybe for a year we do a quarterly advertising and then we're done. Ms. Michael replied that's what the recommendation is. Mr. Foust replied I'm not sure I read it that way; I think this leaves discretion to staff to basically drop the newspaper ad immediately; it's an "and/or"; and again I don't think we need to change what's written here, but I think it would be nice to at least suggest to staff that for the first year or so we go old school.

Mr. Greeson chimed in you can just approve it minus the "or"; that would be fine. Mr. Norstrom commented I'm not sure I agree with Mr. Foust on keeping it old school, I thought we discussed that we would let the public know we're going to put it all on websites and other ways and see if anybody said anything; if they didn't, we would just let it go; if they did, we would publish periodically....notice that we are putting on the website. I think this allows us to do that, I don't feel that we need to do it unless we hear from the public they want it in the newspaper.

Mr. Myers indicated I support the motion as presented, I think it is an effective compromise between the two positions of no newspapers and all newspapers and it allows us to phase it in; I don't think it's all that difficult to do. Mr. Foust commented I'm comfortable with the language as recommended.

MOTION Councilmember Myers made approving the following motion: For 2017, notices of public hearings on ordinances and budget estimates will be published in a public notices section of the City's website (www.worthington.org). Staff is directed to promote the availability of these notices on the City's website at least quarterly via press release and/or newspaper ad, and through the City's communication vehicles, including the City's website News Flash, Neighborhood Network and social media. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Dorothy.

The motion carried by a voice vote of six (6). Councilmember Michael Troper opposed.

REPORTS OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

COUNCILMEMBER DOROTHY – *wished everyone a safe and Happy Holiday.*

COUNCILMEMBER FOUST – *I submitted a letter of appeal regarding the decision by the ARB to permit installation of solar panels for 661 Evening Street, Application #AR-129-16 to City Council. I believe the solar panels as approved may be inconsistent with established City Design Guidelines and therefore merit further review.*

Councilmember Myers asked Mrs. Fox when do we have to decide whether we will hear it. Mrs. Fox replied there is no time line on when you need to decide whether or not to hear the appeal, but if you choose to hear the appeal, you have to hold the hearing within 60 days from the date of the decision. Mr. Myers asked so as long as we address this issue in January we're okay. Mrs. Fox replied yes.

COUNCILMEMBER MICHAEL – *I wish to pass on some of the comments I've heard from our public to both our Parks & Recreation and Service Departments on the outstanding job that both departments have done throughout our city (i.e. the holiday programs that we've had, the beautiful Christmas lights that are up, please pass it on to the staff they're adding a lot to the feel of the holiday for everyone and keeping everybody safe.*

COUNCILMEMBER MYERS – *wished all Happy Holidays.*

COUNCILMEMBER NORSTROM – *acknowledged everyone in their festive holiday attire; wished everyone Happy Holidays.*

COUNCILMEMBER SMITH – *wished everyone Happy Holidays*

COUNCILMEMBER TROPER – *wished everyone Happy Holidays and Happy New Year's.*

REPORT OF CITY OFFICIALS

Mr. Greeson stated I am really pleased to share with City Council this evening we have made some promotions within our police division:

- *Sgt. Michael Holton is now Lt. Holton*
- *Officer Damien St. John is now Sgt. St. John*
- *Officer Jeff Kubersek is now Sgt. Kubersek*

We're going to send out some information from an OSU class we've been working with that has been evaluating sustainability ideas in Worthington and they shared with us their PowerPoint presentations and we'll send that out to you on a variety of sustainability topics.

You have two (2) Community Relations Commission applications in front of you to take with you for review.

You have a memo from Mr. Brown also for your review about ideas on how to approach redevelopment on the south side of E. Wilson Bridge Road.

We've met a couple times recently with Franklin County Residential Services and you may have read an article not too long ago in the newspaper; they are a large non-profit that provides a number of direct services and residential options for the developmentally disabled here in Franklin County. They primarily serve an adult population and have been in existence for about 30 years. They've entered into a management contract with Step-by-Step Academy and for the next 120 days (we're a little bit into that time period now), they are evaluating and essentially overseeing the operations of Step-by-Step and the goal that they are pursuing is to merge the two organizations; Franklin County Residential Services is currently located over in the Busch Boulevard area right next to the Sheltered Workshop if you're familiar with where that is.

That is their goal, they are doing a number of things, they're going to start community outreach; they've met with staff and we've briefed President Michael on it; they are now doing some facility evaluations and things like that, and so we expect that they'll want to brief Council soon and we may bring them before you in the early part of the year to talk about who they are and what they do and they might envision working with the community. They will likely bring over employees from their operations to the east of us including their corporate office staff.

Mr. Hurley stated Ms. Michael I know you are familiar with the Ohio Parks and Recreation and their annual awards program; this year 131 programs and projects were

nominated for their annual awards and we are excited that our Storytime and our Park Program received one of nine first place awards in the area of Programs, so we'll be receiving that award at their annual conference in February and in addition to that, we just received notification they select three (3) award winners to be nominated for the Governor's Award for (1) overall award winner and we are one of those three; that is only the second time that has occurred, the Dog Park Partnership was also a finalist, but didn't win. We'll keep you posted in February on how we do when we get there.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION Councilmember Dorothy made a motion to meet in Executive Session to discuss compensation of public officials. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Myers.

The motion carried by the following voice vote:

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

Council recessed at 8:25 P.M. from the Regular meeting session.

MOTION Councilmember Foust made a motion to return to open session at 9:05 P.M. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Norstrom.

The motion carried unanimously by a voice vote.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION Councilmember Troper made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Dorothy.

The motion carried unanimously by a voice vote.

President Michael declared the meeting adjourned at 9:07 P.M.

/s/ Tanya Maria Word
Temporary Clerk of Council

*APPROVED by the City Council, this
6th day of February, 2017.*

/s/ Bonnie D. Michael
Council President