



Meeting Minutes

Monday, September 18, 2017 ~ 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 18, 2017, 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, Acting Director of Law Dan Guttman, Assistant City Manager Robyn Stewart, Director of Finance Scott Bartter, Director of Service and Engineering Dan Whited, Director of Planning and Building Lee Brown, Director of Parks and Recreation Darren Hurley and Chief of Fire Scott Highley

There were four visitors present.

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

VISITOR COMMENTS – There were no visitor comments.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- **September 5, 2017 – Regular Meeting**
- **September 11, 2017 – Committee of the Whole Meeting**

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

There being no additions or corrections, the motion to approve the minutes as presented carried unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARINGS ON LEGISLATION

President Michael declared public hearings and voting on legislation previously introduced to be in order. NOTE: A following titles are a summary of the actual titles.

Ordinance No. 29-2017

Providing for an Appropriation from the Capital Improvements Fund to Pay the Cost of the Northbrook Relief Sewer Phase II Project Design Update and Determining to Proceed. (Project No. 656-17)

The foregoing Ordinance Title was read.

Mr. Whited shared that this is first of two sewer issues on tonight's agenda. He felt it appropriate to update members on the status of those projects. He explained that there are five sewer districts in Worthington: North, Industrial, Central, Southeast, and West. The Southeast and Central Districts studies have been completed. This legislation is for the second phase of the Northbrook Sewer Project that is within the Central District. EMH&T did an initial study in 2009 and this is a continuation of that for final design. Staff wishes to continue working with them and have them finalize that design so construction can begin early next year. The cost to finalize that design is \$29,300. The design will also include some additional easement work that will need to be done as a part of the project.

Ms. Dorothy asked approximately how much work will have been completed once the design phase is finished. Mr. Whited replied that he intends to discuss that matter during the next sewer project. The North District sewer study will be completed this year into next year as well. The North District will be one of three districts left.

Ms. Dorothy then asked if the Northbrook sewer has anything to do with the overflow into St. Michael's. She asked if this work will reduce the possibility of that happening again. Mr. Whited confirmed that it should.

There being no additional comments, the clerk called the roll on Ordinance No. 29-2017. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

No 0

Ordinance No. 29-2017 was thereupon declared duly passed and is recorded in full in the appropriate record book.

Ordinance No. 30-2017

Providing for an Appropriation from the Capital Improvements Fund to Pay the Cost of the Old Worthington Street Light and Mast Arm Rehabilitation Project and all Related Expenses and Determining to Proceed. (Project No. 655-17)

The foregoing Ordinance Title was read.

Mr. Greeson shared that this appropriation coupled with a previously adopted transfer resolution provides the funding for rehabbing our mast arms and our Old Worthington street lights.

Mr. Whited reported this being a component of the overall mast arm project that will fix, repair and paint approximately 116 street lights and mast arms. The painting of the mast arms and lights was approved at the last meeting. This work would include the street lights and some electrical work upgrades. The costs will be less than \$50,000 although he doesn't have specific quotes yet.

Ms. Dorothy asked if the current electrical usage and/or cost is known. Mr. Whited replied that staff does not have that information but it is part of what staff would like to analyze. We know that we will save a significant amount of money but we have no metrix on that yet. Ms. Dorothy would like to be able to quantify that because these lights should pay for themselves over some time period. Mr. Whited agreed.

There being no additional comments, the clerk called the roll on Ordinance No. 30-2017. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

No 0

Ordinance No. 30-2017 was thereupon declared duly passed and is recorded in full in the appropriate record book.

Ordinance No. 31-2017 Providing for an Appropriation from the Capital Improvements Fund to Pay the Cost of the Community Center South End Roof Replacement Project and Determining to Proceed. (Project No. 650-17)

The foregoing Ordinance Title was read.

Mr. Greeson reported that bid opening date on this project is scheduled for next Friday. Staff requests that the item be tabled until the first meeting in October.

MOTION Mr. Norstrom made a motion to table Ordinance No; 31-2017 until the October 2nd meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Myers.

The motion to table Ordinance No. 31-2017 carried unanimously by a voice vote.

Ordinance No. 32-2017 Providing for Appropriations from the 933 High Street TIF Fund.

The foregoing Ordinance Title was read.

Mr. Bartter reported that this is an appropriation of funds from the 933 High St. TIF to reimburse the schools for their portion of the tax distribution. This payment should have been distributed by Franklin County but the TIF was set up incorrectly in their system so they disbursed the full amount to the City. This error also occurred with the first distribution. Franklin County has corrected the problem so future payments should be sent directly to the school district going forward.

Mr. Myers commented that this TIF makes the school district 100% whole. He asked if that was correct. Mr. Bartter agreed with his understanding. Mr. Greeson added that at this point, all of our TIFs make the school district 100% funded.

There being no additional comments, the clerk called the roll on Ordinance No. 32-2017. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

No 0

Ordinance No. 32-2017 was thereupon declared duly passed and is recorded in full in the appropriate record book.

Ordinance No. 33-2017 Consenting to the Ohio Department of Transportation SR315 Repaving Project North of SR 161 and South of IR 270 and Agreeing to Maintain the Public Right-of-Way.

The foregoing Ordinance Title was read.

Mr. Whited shared that last June ODOT informed him of their intentions to repave SR-315 between SR-161 and I-270. An agreement with us is needed for that to occur. He recalls the cost of that project at approximately \$7.8M. The City is responsible for some additional improvements that are included in the CIP regarding drainage and street lighting. Staff would like to get this agreement authorized and returned to ODOT so the project can proceed.

When asked by Ms. Dorothy if the current construction will be completed by then, Mr. Whited replied that it should be. The timing is set for one to finish and this new one to begin during the summer or fall next year.

There being no additional comments, the clerk called the roll on Ordinance No. 33-2017. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

No 0

Ordinance No. 33-2017 was thereupon declared duly passed and is recorded in full in the appropriate record book.

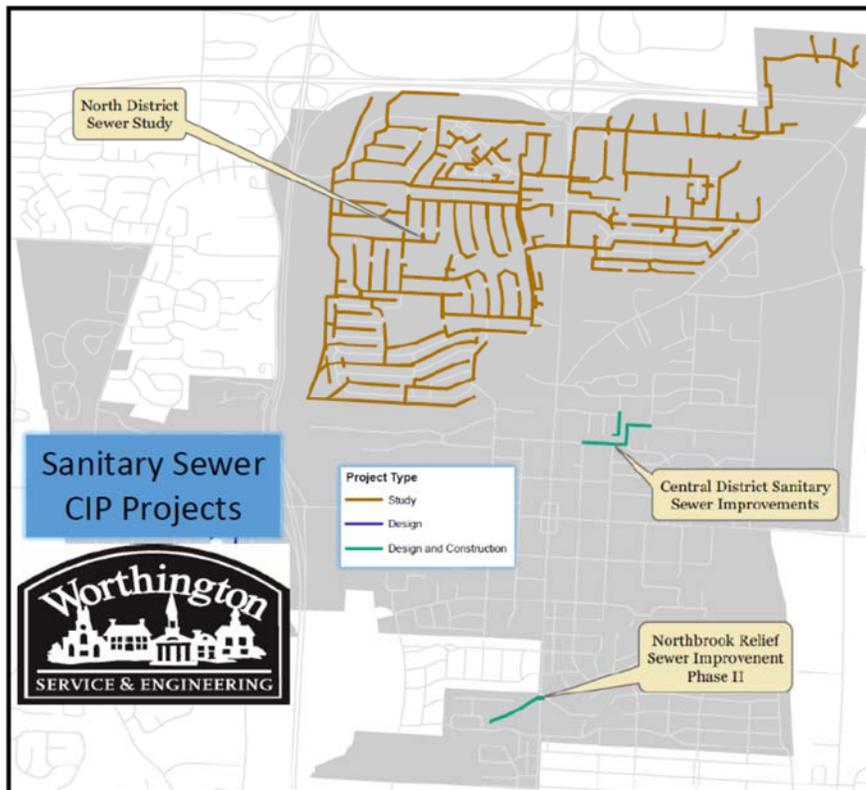
Ordinance No. 34-2017 Providing for an Appropriation from the Capital Improvements Fund to Pay the Cost of the North Districts Sewer Study and Determining to Proceed. Project No. 657-17)

The foregoing Ordinance Title was read.

Mr. Whited showed a slide that outlines the sewer districts that were agreed to as part of our discussions for the Directors, Findings and Orders in 2009. Studies have been completed in the Southeast and Central Districts and projects have been initiated in both of those districts.

Mr. Whited reported that this ordinance appropriates funds to study the North District. Sewers in those areas are much newer than those in the two previous districts. This was sent out to bid to local engineering firms to propose scope and costs for the work. Responses were received from seven firms. That list was reduced to three; EMH&T, HDR and American Structure Point. All gave very good proposals but EMH&T gave us a very good proposal. He is excited about their proposal because they think they can limit some of the work that we had originally anticipated. The scope of the work that may ultimately be required in that North District. They also intend to do some initial studies within the West and Industrial district as a part of that study by installing some flow monitors that will allow us to evaluate the flows from that area and possibly eliminate some of the need of those future studies. There are no promises but our hope is that with this work we may be able to minimize some of the scope that was initially anticipated for these projects.

The North District is shown in the brown below. It is a pretty large district but again, most of those sewers are relatively new. He thinks the average age of installment is 1968, which is the same case for the Industrial District. The West District is even newer, around 1980.



Mr. Whited explained the selection process and stated that staff is excited to get EMH&T on board to proceed with this work. We ask that members approve this study so that we can move forward. The cost is set at \$188,000.

Ms. Dorothy was curious as to how long we expect sewers to last because they are being bonded. Mr. Whited replied that they generally last 20 to 30 years. He acknowledged that these are 49 years old but through lining the sewers and general maintenance we can extend the life. He reported there being a difference between operations and maintenance and what is required by the Directors Findings and Orders. The Findings and Orders are required to eliminate some of the inflow and infiltration that occurs and has an impact on the downstream system. That is different from maintaining the sewers themselves and their reliability as a good system. We can have separate projects outside of these EPA requirements that we can do partially in-house and probably at a lesser cost and schedule.

Ms. Dorothy explained that what she was getting at was how long we expect this infrastructure that we are putting into place to last since we are bonding much of the installation work. Mr. Whited reiterated 20 to 30 years but as we continue to maintain them it is our intention to extend the life of the system.

Mr. Norstrom commented that EMH&T provided the contingency flow monitoring option on their own. He asked if that is something we are going to do or are we going to decide whether to do it later. Mr. Whited replied that the intent is to include it in this project.

There being no additional comments, the clerk called the roll on Ordinance No. 34-2017. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

No 0

Ordinance No. 34-2017 was thereupon declared duly passed and is recorded in full in the appropriate record book.

Ordinance No. 36-2017

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

The foregoing Ordinance Title was read.

Mr. Bartter explained that this is an annual ordinance that is required by Ohio Revised Code, Section 5705.34 to accept the amounts and rates as determined by the Budget Commission. The rates remains unchanged at five mills. The total amount generated/estimated is about \$3,000,000. He would anticipate a slight uptick after the re-appraisals finish because 2½ is inside millage and will be affected by the valuation change. We should have more definitive numbers in December.

Ms. Dorothy asked if we received any updates from Franklin County Auditors regarding land valuations. She referred to a Columbus Dispatch article that commented on land valuations being done incorrectly. Mr. Bartter acknowledged hearing about the article but he has not received anything from Franklin County directly on the issue.

Ms. Dorothy asked if it is known whether Franklin County will be contacting any of our residents directly on that issue. Ms. Michael reported that the article directed those who disagree with their valuations to contact the Franklin County Auditor directly before the end of this month. Website information was included. Ms. Dorothy concluded that the responsibility falls on the residents even if it was the county/third party mistake. Ms. Michael agreed. Ms. Dorothy reported it being unfortunate.

There being no additional comments, the clerk called the roll on Ordinance No. 36-2017. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

No 0

Ordinance No. 36-2017 was thereupon declared duly passed and is recorded in full in the appropriate record book.

Ordinance No. 35-2017

Providing for an Appropriation from the Capital Improvements Fund Pay the Additional Design and Engineering Services for the NE Gateway Intersection Improvement Project and all Related Expenses. (Project No. 602-14)

The foregoing Ordinance Title was read.

Mr. Greeson reported this project as being one of our largest and most complex. He asked Mr. Whited to comment.

Mr. Whited agree that this is a huge project. It is one of the largest in the state and one of the largest our consultant has been involved with. He reported it being unusual to encounter one high pressure gas line. This project has three. There are numerous water lines and a lot of issues involved. As the project has proceeded from the initial evaluations the consultant has run into some unanticipated issues. Those include:

- 1) Traffic Signal Plan for the Worthington-Galena/Sancus/Lakeview intersection.
- 2) There will be addition improvements for pavement widening to accommodate bike lanes.
- 3) Relocate approximately 1,600 feet of 12" waterline.
- 4) Application cost – MORPC Attributable Funds
- 5) Right-of-Way Plan – more than fifteen sheets of information
- 6) Final Engineering (Rush Run – Upstream Reach) – required to make property drain properly down to Huntley Bowl.

- 7) Additional Utility Coordination - required
- 8) Corporation Limit Adjustment

Mr. Whited explained that the \$82,500 includes the \$75,000 for the fee summary with a 10% contingency to include any other unanticipated items that may still be involved with this work.

When asked by Mr. Norstrom the process for determining the fees for the work, Mr. Whited replied that the contractor will go through as the project unfolds and issues will reveal themselves. We have regular project meetings and they will let him know of unanticipated scope of services. Having worked in that field he is familiar with the process. They will go back and forth a few times until they land on a final number.

When asked by Ms. Michael if the utility lines will be buried, Mr. Whited replied that the existing power lines will still be above the ground. The remainder of the utilities will be underground.

Mr. Greeson shared that this project is one of the few areas where the road goes under I-270, which is one of the reasons for the vast number of utilities.

Ms. Dorothy commented that in regards to the traffic signal plan, she understands from residents at Melbourne Village that the signal does not allow adequate time for them to cross Wilson Bridge Rd. or High St. They are of advanced age and she wants to make sure that we have a slow enough speed to accommodate users at our intersections. We want to make sure that we accommodate everyone.

Ms. Dorothy then wondered if the Rush Run upstream reach has anything to do with downstream. If we are incorporating anything with the whole Rush Run watershed. Mr. Whited acknowledged that as a good question with probably a more complicated answer than she will want. It does and it doesn't because of the Huntley Bowl. It will not be with the improvements associated with this proposal but rather the improvements associated on downstream. They can put some non-erosivity measures in place that will slow the water, get it to Huntley Bowl at a different rate and then ultimately do some improvements to Huntley Bowl that will handle the water differently to minimize some of that velocity that occurs in the channel downstream. He can't say specifically what will be included right now but that is the intention.

When asked by Ms. Dorothy if that is all being coordinated, Mr. Whited replied yes. Typically when looking at a stream, one assesses from downstream up. This project is on the upper end of the stream. We are working to anticipate the downstream conditions as best we can.

There being no additional comments, the clerk called the roll on Ordinance No. 35-2017. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

No 0

Ordinance No. 35-2017 was thereupon declared duly passed and is recorded in full in the appropriate record book.

NEW LEGISLATION TO BE INTRODUCED

Ordinance No. 37-2017 Accepting a Permanent Easement for Warning Signage at 587 Fox Lane, Worthington, Ohio 43085.

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

Discussion Item(s)

- Schedule – 2018 Budget & 2018-2022 Capital Improvements Program Workshops
Mr. Greeson shared that staff is working diligently on the preparation of the Five Year Capital Improvement Program, the Five Year Forecast and the 2018 Operating Budget. This is the time of year that we need to go through the schedule with members. We have a draft schedule for the approval process that is in front of members. He thinks the first question to pose is whether this schedule conflicts with anyone's travel schedule and whether these meetings will have the full attendance of the Council.

The second question is really the order of things. The draft is as follows:

October 9, 2017	Distribute the Proposed 2018 Operating Budget and the 2018-2022 Proposed Capital Improvements Program
October 16, 2017	Overview of Budget Themes & Policy Discussion Overview of the Five-Year Forecast (Five-Year Trends for Revenues and Expenses)
November 6, 2017	Presentation of Proposed 2018-2022 Capital Improvements Program
November 13, 2017	Departmental Budget Review
November 20, 2017	Community Groups (Worthington Historical Society, Old Worthington Partnership & McConnell Arts Center) Introduce the Budget Legislation

December 4, 2017 Public Hearing on 2018 Operating Budget & Resolution Adopting the 2018-2022 Capital Improvements Program

President Michael asked if there was consensus on the schedule. There being no comments, President Michael directed Mr. Greeson to move forward with the budget and CIP schedule as presented.

When asked if he had anything else to report, Mr. Greeson requested an executive session for the purpose of discussing economic development incentive negotiations when the time is appropriate.

REPORTS OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

President Michael thanked Ms. Thress for the summary titles of the Ordinances for public hearing.

Mr. Foust shared that he has been attending the Energy Special Improvement District meetings that meet with Mr. McCorkle. It is an active group. Their upcoming meeting will have a property in Whitehall under consideration.

Mr. Foust then asked to be excused from the October 2nd meeting to travel out of state.

Mr. Smith reported that the CIC met last Friday. They received a recap on the ReCAP program. There was lively conversation regarding other developmental issues. He reported leaving the meeting early and asked if there was anything additional to share. Ms. Michael shared that they discussed COhatch and the Old Kilbourne Library building. They also had a wonderful discussion of not only the Wilson Bridge corridor but from a developer's perspective, what are the developmental priorities, considerations and abilities of being able to redevelop parts of Worthington. She thought the discussion was so well done that she asked Mr. Greeson to include it on a Committee of the Whole meeting agenda for the entire council. She found it fascinating and eye-opening.

Mr. Myers reported there being a COhatch application before the Architectural Review Board last Thursday for some lighting and other improvements for their outdoor space. String lights were disapproved on the pergola, which is a very big issue and ongoing throughout Worthington. The most significant application before the ARB was Schoedinger Funeral Home. They are proposing to add four buildings to their current site, including two crematoriums (one for pets and one for humans). The crematory received most of the public input rather than the architectural and site plan. He is not certain that most of the residents are aware that we already have a crematorium in Worthington, downtown at Rutherford. The matter was tabled for another meeting. He added that the plan would involve Schoedinger moving their headquarters from downtown Columbus to Worthington, which would be fifty new jobs and \$2.7M in payroll.

Mr. Greeson thanked Mr. Guttman who has now stood in as our law director for three meetings. He and his firm has supported us during this transition. He thanked him for his service.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION Mr. Myers made a motion to meet in Executive Session to discuss economic development incentives. The motion was seconded by Ms. Dorothy.

The motion carried by the following vote:

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

No 0

Council recessed at 8:07 p.m. from the Regular meeting session.

MOTION Mr. Troper made a motion to return to open session at 8:34 p.m. The motion was seconded by Ms. Dorothy.

ADJOURNMENT

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

The motion carried unanimously by a voice vote.

President Michael declared the meeting adjourned.

/s/ D. Kay Thress
Clerk of Council

*APPROVED by the City Council, this
2nd day of October 2017.*

/s/ Bonnie D. Michael
Council President