CALL TO ORDER – Roll Call, Pledge of Allegiance

Worthington City Council met in Regular Session on Monday, July 9, 2018, in the John P. Coleman Council Chambers of the Louis J.R. Goorey Municipal Building, 6550 North High Street, Worthington, Ohio. President Michael called the meeting to order at or about 7:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL


Member(s) Absent:

Also present: City Manager Matthew Greeson, Assistant City Manager Robyn Stewart, Director of Law Tom Lindsey, Director of Finance Scott Bartter, Director of Service & Engineering Dan Whited, Director of Planning & Building Lee Brown, Director of Parks and Recreation Darren Hurley, Chief of Police Jerry Strait, Chief of Fire John Bailot, Clerk of Council D. Kay Thress, and Assistant City Clerk Ethan Barnhardt

There were six visitors present.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President Michael invited all to stand and join in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

PUBLIC HEARINGS ON LEGISLATION

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

Ordinance No. 38-2018

To Enact New Chapter 955 “Small Cell Technology in the Right of Way” of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Worthington

The foregoing Ordinance Title was read.
Mr. Greeson noted that there is a new state law and staff has been diligently preparing new code language and design guidelines within a timeline established by the Ohio Revised Code. He asked Ms. Stewart who has led the City’s efforts to develop these documents to briefly go over them.

Ms. Stewart explained that she combined both the design guidelines and the new code language into one presentation and that Lindsey Miller from the law firm ICE Miller and staff that have been involved in this topic are available for any questions. She reported that on June 11, she had given a presentation walking through what small cell technology is. The timing for this is to adopt our regulations regarding small cell technology in our City’s right-of-way in advance of the new state law that goes into effect on August 1st. She detailed the changes that have been made since the June meeting, driven by five different reasons. First, staff has reviewed all of the concepts that were in the design guidelines and determined items that made most sense to be in code rather than in design guidelines. She explained Law Director Tom Lindsey has drafted Chapter 955 which is a new chapter for the Codified Ordinances. Staff is also looking to develop an application packet, so when carriers apply to put a small cell in the right-of-way we can give them a packet of information. We also had a few comments and questions from Councilmembers, so in response staff revisions to the guidelines and code. Staff also continued to receive comments from the wireless industry and several changes were made in response to those comments. A final review was also conducted and a few revisions were made to clean things up.

Ms. Stewart said that many of the aesthetic topics, such as the look of poles were left under the Design Guidelines. The underlying regulations were moved into code. They will need to comply with our right-of-way Chapter 949 and they will need a permit under that chapter. There is also a requirement for a pre-application conference. The code indicates that the Design Guidelines will be adopted by the City Council by resolution, which is the agenda item following this ordinance. Guidelines indicate that work must be completed within 180 days of the permit being issued. There was conversation around how soon work could commence, staff added language indicating that work should be completed within 45 days after work commences to shorten that construction timeline. There are also items in the code that they must keep accurate maps and records and, providing updated ones if requested. There is also language around the amount of the fee and how it is determined. The Director of Service and Engineering has additional rulemaking authority if consistent with the code and the design guidelines. The language also specifies a penalty if someone is not complying with this chapter.

Changes to the Design Guidelines included many deletions that were moved over to the code in Chapter 955. Section IV was moved to the application packet. Several definitions were removed because they were deemed to be unnecessary or inconsistent. In response to the industry’s concerns about knowing the locations of the Historic District and Architecture Review District, we made reference to maps and where they can find maps of those districts on our website. Additionally, images of our Municipal Service Poles were added to help show industry which poles are being referenced. In regards to underground vaults, industry indicated that some technology can be
challenging to maintain in underground vaults. So, staff added language indicating that underground vaults were only required where they are technologically feasible and in an area that is appropriate. Landscaping language was changed; including changing “should” to “shall” in regards to landscaping around ground mounted cabinets and allowing the City to issue an exemption if it does not make sense at that location. There were details added for ornamental poles, essential standard details and drawings that are available from our Service and Engineering Department. Finally, we added the option of an extension for graffiti if it takes longer than 14 days to order replacement equipment.

There being no additional comments, the clerk called the roll on Ordinance No. 38-2018. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes 7 Robinson, Kowalczyk, Dorothy, Foust, Smith, Myers, and Michael

No 0

Ordinance No. 38-2018 was thereupon declared duly passed and is recorded in full in the appropriate record book.

NEW LEGISLATION TO BE INTRODUCED


Introduced by Ms. Kowalczyk.

MOTION

Ms. Dorothy made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 40-2018. The motion was seconded by Mr. Myers.

There being no additional comments, the motion to adopt Resolution No. 40-2018 passed unanimously by voice vote

REPORTS OF CITY OFFICIALS

Information Item(s) - Age Friendly Columbus – Katie White

Mr. Greeson introduced Katie White who is Executive Director of Age Friendly Communities which is a partnership of Columbus, Franklin County, and many other entities. It is now housed at the Ohio State University College of Social Work. Katie was instrumental in developing the Age Friendly Columbus plan when she previously worked at the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC). Council identified age-friendly planning as a topic they would like to learn more about. Councilmember Kowalczyk has been particularly interested in this issue and it is a topic we talked about at the Council Retreat.
Ms. White said that she is excited to hear so much positive feedback and interest from cities around Franklin County. She shared that the World Health Organization (WHO) served as the impetus to this work across the world. Each country works with an affiliate and in the United States they are working with the AARP. The methodology is laid out for how they should be going about their research and planning, but it is left up to each community to make it personal and community based. The reasoning behind the WHO work is that our population is aging. Ohio in particular is quickly aging. The state is aging fast and by 2050, 25-30% of the population will be comprised of persons age 60 or older. The 85 and above population is actually growing even faster. When you think about the 65+ population, it is much larger because people are living longer and healthier lives and 65 is not the age we have thought about in the past.

When thinking about the older adult population, The Kirwan Institute and College of Social Work at Ohio State did a unique study of Franklin County that analyzed where dense populations of older adults and vulnerable populations are located. Looking at zip code 43085 in Worthington, it has a very high density with a lot of older adults in the area, but luckily not a lot of vulnerable populations. She made the key point that currently the community is not vulnerable, but you need to begin proactively planning to safeguard the high quality of life offered to residents currently.

When the WHO set out to do this work, they gave a five year timeline and challenged communities to look at eight focus areas they should concentrate on. This includes everything from transportation, to employment, to community support and health services. In 2016 Columbus entered into the WHO network of age friendly communities and that meant that they had five years to complete that cycle. The first year consisted primarily of research. Between a random sample mailed survey and focus groups they heard back from about 1200 older Columbus residents over the span of eight months. Focus groups were held in multiple languages and they made sure to look at densely populated neighborhoods with vulnerable older adults. The unique thing about their plan is that it focuses on planning with, not for older adult. Every committee and conversation involved older adults and individuals with disabilities at the table with elected officials, planners, and engineers. Over 125 individuals worked with them for two years during the research and planning phase.

Ms. White identified major themes including community connections or lack thereof, the need for more affordable housing, mobility challenges, and personal preparation. Unsurprisingly, people want to age in their own home and if they cannot, they want to stay in their same community. There is a huge disconnect between how people want to age and what is being done to ensure that actually happens. She detailed that they took what was learned in their focus groups and wrote their strategic plan which contained 54 action steps that are closely tied to 17 strategies. She emphasized that they are taking on 16-17 of the action steps a year and they are ready. Because they have been so inclusive in their planning process, they have been able to go right back to their community partners to plan these strategies, tie them directly to their data points, and know they are reflecting what needs to be done. This is a dynamic and constantly evolving plan and
every month they are in the community holding focus groups to see where they may need to shift their strategy a little bit.

For 2018-2020 they will be implementing the 54 action steps and most of them are led by older adults, those with disabilities, or organizations in the specific areas. She identified a couple of strategies that may apply best to the Worthington community. Looking at an age friendly business checklist, and identifying which businesses have zero entry or are friendly to individuals with mobility devices. Looking at best practices for hiring and educating employers about age-friendly best practices. We really need to take a hard look at our hiring and employing practices and make sure individuals of all ages and abilities are supported. Also they are looking at a checklist for public spaces and determining which ones are accessible. Most individuals in Columbus are continuing to drive and not using public transit because alternative choices do not feel like equal alternatives. Things can be done to improve our infrastructure such as better covered bus stops, maps, or crosswalks. Some improvements can be low cost to help empower older adults. A pilot program for a free senior circulator like the downtown C-Bus is being looked at; sometimes a free and faster route encourages people to try it. Making sure that older adults can age in their homes safely and considering the modifications that may need to be made, particularly in older homes. She said that the last piece she wanted to talk about was intergenerational programming and engaging older adults to make them still feel valued by the community.

Ms. White brought attention to the fact that the Franklin County Commissioners signed an extension of Age Friendly Columbus to Age Friendly Franklin County. What that means is that they have the opportunity to take what was learned in Columbus and mentor and liaise with other cities, taking best practices, and folding that into their plans as well. In October there will be a county wide convening with an elected official, a staff member, and an older adult from each community in Franklin County to learn and share best practices and leave feeling like you have the resources and tools that are needed to ensure that you can become an Age Friendly Worthington.

Ms. White concluded by sharing a WHO Quote that details the intersection and interactions between our built environment, our social environments, and our services environment: “Our environment can positively or negatively impact well-being and quality of life.” She said that there is so much great programming and thoughtfulness going on in the Worthington community from the Griswold Center to the Bike and Ped Master Plan, but there might be pieces that have not been thought about yet. A little bit of proactive planning and engagement of older adults in the community can really save on retrofitting and having to change different programs and policies.

Ms. Kowalczyk thanked Ms. White for her presentation and explained that this is a topic she is aware from her day job. Not only are we aging, but we are sicker than past generations and are not prepared for the costs that are coming. The costs are not just retirement, but from long term services and support. If you are ill and need care in home or from a facility, most people do not anticipate and plan for those costs. Proactive planning is incredibly important for our community and looking at the percentage of our
population that is over 65 currently stands at 20%, which is one of the higher percentages in Central Ohio. She asked about the Village Network and about the impacts of snow removal and concerns about home & outdoor maintenance. Ms. White stated that one of the greatest barriers for individuals wanting to stay in their homes was outdoor and indoor home maintenance. The National Village Network is a small network of grassroots nonprofits that operate out of a community to provide volunteer services such as snow removal, leaf bagging, social connections, and lists of vetted service providers for work that volunteers are unable to provide. There are currently three villages in the Columbus area. Recently there was training where 17 communities from across Central Ohio came to hear how the villages work and what it would take to start them. They are proving to be a great strategy to help older adults age in place and keep them out of the long-term support services network as long as possible, saving government dollars.

Ms. Kowalczyk asked about the type of support that will be available at the October convening of communities. Ms. White shared that it is more along the lines of technical support, although it is not uncommon to work with some strategy leaders to help identify and write grants. They look at different tools. There is a huge network of older adults in the community to assist in building an advisory council. There is access to large communication channels as AARP Ohio, the OSU Alumni Network, and others. There are also toolkits available and support for running focus groups, providing training for local leaders to be focus group facilitators and technology for quicker analysis.

Ms. Kowalczyk explained that there are several different engagement projects that are being contemplated and we are receiving feedback from the community right now. She inquired if there are things that Ms. White could recommend to ensure that the City is reaching out to older adults and people with disabilities. Ms. White replied that they rely on their voter registration lists of individuals 50 or older who voted in one of the past two elections to make sure they are going to more those who are always connected as they want to reach those who are not yet connected. They also advertised a great deal in community newspapers, on social media, and relied on experts out in the community.

Mr. Smith said that Council has discussed the many different potential ways of formatting this since we have a lot of folks in the community who are aging. He explained that their role is to engage the board and commissions to integrate these policies and to figure out what the best policies and practices should be. He asked what would be a good mix of types of people, community advocates, and business people to make up an advisory committee. Ms. White replied that she envisions each city that has an advisory committee would meet together as a group. She joked that their committees range from A to Z, from Aging to Zoning and everything in between. They cast quite a wide net thanks to the individuals at MORPC and their connections. Making sure to understand what your community population is and then working hard to ensure your advisory council is representative of that population. Without drilling into the details, they can help Worthington build their advisory council as she knows a couple of volunteers waiting in the wings from Worthington that are interested.
President Michael said one of the challenges that Worthington is going to have is that the population is one quarter geographically of the school district. We end up having ¾ of the school district that is not the City and the City has only limited finances. She asked how Worthington can work around that type of confusion because the City can only do so much. Ms. White replied that we are lucky to live in the Central Ohio region because we not only have the Agency on Aging, but the county offices on aging. We are resource rich when you look across the state. Most of the long term services and supports should not be falling directly on any kind of city budget, but more on those aging organizations. When thinking about competing interests financially, hopefully they should not really be competing. But what you can do by bringing the generations together is hopefully to utilize your space in various ways if there is a space conflict. For example, many schools are looking at using their buses for older adult transportation when they are not in use.

Mr. Smith asked if Council wanted to do something tonight, such as find a direction or start a process, what could be done. Ms. White suggested engaging older community adult leaders, getting together an advisory council, and having an announcement or a “Call to Arms” detailing how to get involved. Ms. Kowalczyk stated that the CRC is very interested in taking this on, so that may be where we start on identifying how to get the word out.

Discussion Item(s) – 2019 Operating Budget and 2019-2023 Capital Improvements Plan (CIP)

Mr. Greeson reported that this presentation is not a presentation of the budget and CIP, but rather an environmental scan that identifies major revenue and expenditure issues going into preparation of the budget. The Charter requires that the City Manager submit the budget to the City Council 60 days prior to the end of the year. Typically the budget is presented in early October and the goal is to do that once again. However, we begin the budget process at the staff level now. We will be sending budget worksheets out to the departments and then creating the detailed budgets in late August/September. Additionally, this is meant to help ask if we are missing any issues or trends and to clarify Council’s expectations for the budget process.

Mr. Bartter said that any revenue trend discussion has to start with the income tax which accounts for 75% of the General Fund and 97% of the CIP. As of June 30th, Income Tax revenue is down 2% from 2017 and under 2018 estimates by less than 1%. This is with Anthem continuing to withhold at normal levels. Mr. Bartter reported that he and Mr. McCorkle are currently meeting with many of the City’s top fifteen employers to gauge their 2019 outlook to help guide with the preparation of the estimates for 2019. Property Taxes are trending upward with an increase of 11% over 2017 collections due to the reappraisal that occurred in 2017. Interest is trending up with higher rates on the City’s investments. Because of the strong fund balances, we have more to invest. The Local Government Fund (LGF) remains flat. We anticipate $350k in 2018 and 2019 which is down from close to $1 million in 2008. Income tax revenue has progressively trended up.
When asked by Ms. Dorothy when the Income Tax rate was increased, Mr. Bartter replied it was June 2010, but the first full year was in 2011. He discussed that Property Taxes have remained relatively flat throughout the years. Parks and Recreation fees are trending up in 2018 as they have since 2016. One thing that is being discussed is the feasibility of rolling the Revolving Fund into the General Fund which will be talked about more in the fall budget discussion.

Ms. Dorothy asked about the LGF and how it was supposed to be a sharing of sales tax with the State since local governments cannot levy a sales tax. Mr. Bartter agreed.

Mr. Bartter explained some of the anticipated expenditures in 2019. Water main repairs are unpredictable and we are going to need to increase that appropriation. We are looking at a $30,000 annual expense for City Council audio and video streaming services. As part of receiving Federal funds for the Northeast Gateway, we need to change from a biennial to single audit which is anticipated to cost approximately $10,000. Salt costs are increasing from $50 to between $83-85 per ton for next season, accounting for a $55,000 increase in costs. There are technology investments that our Information Technology director cannot quantify at this time. There are also unknowns regarding employee compensation. Contracts are expiring for both Fire and Police, so there is nothing outlined contractually for increases in 2019-2021. As for health care costs, we are part of the Central Ohio Healthcare Consortium and we are looking at developing the rates in the next few months.

Ms. Stewart discussed the Capital Improvements Program (CIP) and how she is currently gearing up to get worksheets out to departments to submit their capital updates for items that are already in the 2018-2022 CIP as well as new requests. We do not have numbers yet for many items and those will be developed over the next several months. She said that she wanted to present several of the major items that staff is aware of that will likely come up during the capital discussion. At the City Council retreat there was discussion about SwimInc’s anticipated investment in their facilities. The City will likely get a request from them and Council has shown interest in ways to support that organization. The Parks Master Plan contained several recommendations and we will continue to look at those recommendations for items that should be considered in the next capital plan. The current CIP has an evaluation of the City’s waterlines schedule for next year. We anticipate there will be recommendations for additional investments into waterline infrastructure in Worthington. She detailed how a plan from several years ago was sent out to City Council that included streetscaping and aesthetic recommendation for the Wilson Bridge Road Corridor, North High Street, and for the gateways entering into the City. Some amount of money has been allocated for radio replacements for the Parks, Fire, and Police crews while they are in the field. The radios are reaching the end of their lives and are no longer supported, so there will need to be significant investments in that area since radio investments are not inexpensive. The Northeast Gateway Project is already in the CIP and it is a major investment. We have updated information in terms of costs and contributions from other entities that will be included in the CIP. We have received word that we were awarded money from the Ohio Public Works Commission (OPWC) in additional to federal funds. The most recent dollar amount is $4.2 million.
which will reduce our local contribution for that project. She explained we are in the midst of bicycle and pedestrian planning. The CIP already has an allocation for bicycle and pedestrian investments, but it is expected that there will be more specific recommendations coming out of the plan.

Ms. Stewart brought up phase two of the energy efficiency project and how the City is currently investing in the Community Center, the Griswold Center and the Fire Station. In the evaluation of City buildings, phase 2 outlined additional recommendations for investments into other buildings. Building security investments have an allocation of $50,000 every other year. There has been discussion whether that should be increased in consideration of today’s environment. The McCord Park planning process has been looking at renovations and we will be looking at updated numbers for consideration. Arterial streets have needs for investment. There is some funding in the CIP and Engineering staff will be evaluating the need for more investment. The SCBA breathing apparatus for the Fire Division was programmed in this year’s CIP to receive grant funding, however the grant request was unsuccessful. We will likely apply again but, if we are unsuccessful we will need to invest in this. We have received notification that the Ford Explorer which has been used for our police vehicles will be discontinued and we will need to look for a new make and model. That means the equipment that is installed and attached to the Explorers will most likely not fit in the new vehicles, so there will be the need for a new investment into add-on equipment. There are also Rush Run improvements downstream from the Northeast gateway. We have looked into Rush Run as part of that project and we know there will be investments and improvements needed. Our IT director is evaluating what investments will need to be put into disaster recovery. She explained that the City entered into a study of SR 161 between Olentangy River Road and Sawmill Road along with other community partners. That study offered recommendations that will be broken up into a series of projects. We will be talking with those partners about how and when we tackle those projects.

Mr. Greeson asked Council if there are any issues that they feel have been missed. Ms. Kowalczyk asked if the Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan includes potential sidewalk projects and pedestrian safety initiatives. Mr. Hurley answered that yes the planning process, the evaluation and resident input would include that. He cannot speak to which projects will bubble up and how they will be prioritized but that those items would be part of the evaluation.

Mr. Robinson questioned Mr. Bartter about the cause of income tax revenue being down roughly 2% from the prior year. Mr. Bartter replied that an employer paid out a bonus in 2017 that was not paid in 2018. If that bonus is backed out, then collections are up 3.63% so far in 2018. Mr. Robinson then inquired about revenue projections for 2019-2020. Mr. Bartter replied that it is still early, but it looks like revenue growth will be flat. Mr. Robinson asked about the probable impact of Anthem. Mr. Bartter said that he cannot publically give numbers around how much revenue will be leaving, but he can say that Anthem is a top three employer and he will not be including revenue from them in 2019. Mr. Robinson asked if the developer is successful, then there will be twice as many employed there as the first half of this year. Mr. Bartter responded that is what he has
Mr. Robinson requested Mr. Bartter to explain why fund balances were not included in this discussion because they would seem to be a significant factor for any kind of financial study. Mr. Bartter reported there being no specific reason for why fund balances were not included in this conversation. It is something that has been on staff’s radar and with Anthem just now leaving; to not have a discussion about laying people off is a testament to what we have done over the past ten years in regards to the fund balance. He felt that was a discussion topic for another time.

Mr. Foust commented about the Anthem building and how it is his understanding that the building has dwindled down to being about 2/3 empty. So, there is a brighter day ahead when that building becomes the Class A space it has been touted to become and is filled up again. It may not be in 2019, but he hopes that it turns into a much brighter day despite the loss of one of the City’s top three employers.

Mr. Myers expressed the sentiment that we cannot budget on hope. He is very nervous about next year because a flat revenue projection is being optimistic considering the state of the nation and the world. Eventually costs are going to be passed down and have a negative impact on us. We are due for a recession. He wanted to make certain come October 8th, we are going to have some pretty spirited discussions on priorities in this budget. There are some things we would like to do that will not be done next year. He asserted that he is a firm proponent of that large fund balance because he remembers when there was no fund balance. This is a pretty good list of hits that our budget is going to take next year.

President Michael agreed on some of the views that Mr. Myers expressed. She has gone through more than one recession being on Council and knows how difficult it is to deal with a very low fund balance. Considering what it took to get that fund balance back up, she is protective of the balance in order to continue providing quality services to our residents. Sometimes we have to take capital improvement projects and move them to out years to make ends meet. Back in the good old days when everything was filled and we had a $12 million carryover balance, you did not think about those things. But that was a long time ago and it is not coming back.

Mr. Robinson reported being a financially conservative guy as a part-owner of a business and an accounting major. He does not understand the pessimism that he is hearing because the continued trends for revenue are very positive. Basing projections on a possible national or global recession is something we should be concerned about, but the micro issues here are more identifiable, specific, and predictable than forecasting a national recession. President Michael said she is looking at the best case scenario that by 2019 we will be losing out on revenue from the Anthem building. There are some very big ifs that are hard to forecast and until then we need to be financially conservative. It is hard to do an estimate when you do not know what is going to happen when, especially with Anthem and UMCH. Mr. Robinson replied that if you ask about specific negative news, all you hear is the loss of Anthem and a short term loss for 6-18 months. It is short term pain and long term gain. Mr. Myers explained that one of our most significant employers deals with steel and prices have recently gone up significantly. That cost is
going to be absorbed by the employer during the first year and their revenues will be down. In the second year if the tariffs hold, it will be passed on to the consumers which will also have a drag on demand. Those are the things he is worried about. We don’t know what is going to happen, but this is not new news. In our 5 year forecasts we have known this is coming with this year and next year as pinch points. It is not only the economy, but it has to do with debt services, the Northeast Gateway, and a lot of other things coming up. We may have to make choices between repairing our water lines or going forward with McCord Park improvements. These are the types of discussions we will have to have in October.

Mr. Foust noted that we have not talked about Holiday Inn. That property will not be what it was and will be something different a year or two down the road. He explained his only comment is that there are a lot of moving parts and we need to allow for that.

Mr. Greeson noted that this is great conversation that gets down to the heart of the real issues that will be debated later this fall in more detail. It is staff’s job to help frame that discussion with good information and staff proposals. We do not expect to solve these things tonight. The intention was to share issues that staff has identified as part of the budget process and signal to Council that we want to know what issues you’re thinking about that we may not be aware of. In terms of process and scheduling, Mr. Greeson explained that the budget will be released by October 8. The meeting discussing the five year forecast and general budget overview will be held on October 8 and the CIP will be discussed on October 15. All the meetings in November will contain departmental and community group presentations then we will circle back to discuss any issues that had not been discussed in prior conversations. The goal will be to put budget legislation before Council in early December, which technically does not need to be adopted until the end of December.

John Rist – 285 Bryant Avenue
Mr. Rist explained that in the 2018 Council retreat, numerous issues were identified as being “On the Plate” and among those were some that are already under way including the budget and fund balance. He stated that he wanted to address the fund balance and the policy of 25%. It will be interesting to know what direction the fund balance goes. He explained that he previously testified last December about the current policy of maintaining a 25% fund balance. The City ended up with $7 million over and above the policy and it is sitting in the bank earning interest that could go towards many of the CIP projects that have been identified. He wanted to reiterate what he said back in December about whether the policy of 25% should be adjusted or kept the same.

Mr. Robinson stated that he has one request for future presentations like this. It is difficult for him when looking through a verbal listing of budgetary items to determine whether they are unexpected, discretionary, or already committed. It is not presented in a way to help facilitate Council decision making, but rather it is just a flood of information. Information and trends should be provided in a way to help know what decision is before Council.
REPORT OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

Mr. Robinson circled back to the discussion from the previous week about bringing up agenda items. He would like to discuss revenue sources, economic development, and specifically East Wilson Bridge Road. After the report that Mr. McCorkle presented at a past meeting, he was struck by how Wilson Bridge Road accounts for ¾ of our income tax revenue. The takeaway from the CIC report that he received is that plans for economic development on the western half of the southern side presently appear non-viable. Given the significance of that corridor, he would like to revisit our thinking and strategy for revenue generation on East Wilson Bridge Road and would like to see that as an agenda item sometime soon. President Michael replied that would best be appropriate for a Committee of the Whole discussion.

Mr. Smith said he received an email from SWACO inviting applications from communities for a grant. He explained that there had been discussion about a compost trial for the City and doing one or two neighborhoods for a composting program. It sounds like this would be right up their alley. President Michael responded that there is a group in Worthington Estates that is really interested in trying to set something like that up. Mr. Greeson reported that discussions have occurred with a provider who has done trial work in Bexley. We would need to decide if it makes sense to have a similar effort here or something as a short-term solution at our Service Department. Mr. Whited added that they met with Mr. Laird and had a discussion for a drop off kiosk. The difficulty is deciding how to implement it and regulate it properly. Mr. Smith asked to keep the grant in mind because the deadline is quickly approaching.

He followed-up on Ms. White’s earlier presentation and requested that there be a little more push behind amplifying the voice to attend the CRC meetings and engaging citizens to start a discussion. President Michael suggested using the neighborhood email network to advertise that these topics will be discussed at the upcoming CRC meeting.

Ms. Dorothy thanked everyone involved with making the Dublin-Worthington family picnic and the fireworks afterwards for the July 4th celebration successful. She thanked the City, the Dublin-Worthington rotary and the schools as this takes a lot of time and effort to plan every year. She appreciates everyone’s coordination and cooperation for a wonderful event.

President Michael mentioned the new additional $5 Franklin County license fee and inquired if that would give the City additional funding for the license tax to go towards paving of arterial roads. Mr. Bartter replied it does not.
ADJOURNMENT

MOTION Mr. Myers moved, Mr. Smith seconded a motion to adjourn.

The motion carried unanimously by a voice vote.

President Michael declared the meeting adjourned at 8:51 p.m.

/s/ Ethan Barnhardt
Assistant City Clerk

APPROVED by the City Council, this 16th day of July, 2018.

/s/ Bonnie D. Michael
Council President