



CITY OF WORTHINGTON
Worthington City Council Minutes
October 1, 2018

6550 N. High Street
Worthington, Ohio 43085

CALL TO ORDER – Roll Call, Pledge of Allegiance

Worthington City Council met in Regular Session on Monday, October 1, 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

Members Present: Rachael R. Dorothy, Beth Kowalczyk, Scott Myers David Robinson, Douglas K. Smith, and Bonnie D. Michael

Member(s) Absent: Douglas Foust

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

There were 19 visitors present.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

President Michael welcomed the delegation of city officials from Worthington's sister city of Sayama, Japan. Unfortunately, the Mayor of Sayama is delayed due to a Typhoon that hit Japan on Sunday. She expressed her hope that everyone is safe and out of danger. President Michael explained that the delegation will be visiting with the City all week and exploring City attractions.

VISITOR COMMENTS

Michael Troper – 85 Highland Avenue

Mr. Troper explained that when he served on Council, members voted 4-3 to not approve golf carts on the streets in the City of Worthington. Due to there being two new Councilmembers, he is asking that Council re-address this issue. He believes this issue should be taken back up and golf carts should be legal because they are fun, energy efficient, and as the population ages, they provide easier mobility to get in and out of. He explained that golf carts were recently approved in Sharon Township and Ontario, Ohio. He asked that this be considered at a later date and advertised, giving citizens an opportunity to provide input. He concluded by asking if the City owns any golf carts and if they do, what was the rationale for purchasing and using them.

Molly Moody – 195 Highland Avenue

Ms. Moody explained that she is the one who asked her brother-in-law, Michael Troper, to bring up the topic of golf carts to City Council. She has traveled most of her life for business and has been in resort areas that allow golf carts. They provide lower speeds, are energy efficient, and are green. She believes that Worthington should at least consider golf carts on certain streets.

Beth Ferris – 6720 Schreiner Street East

Ms. Ferris said she is lucky enough to have a lot of friends in the neighborhood. She stated it would be a better option as far as gas and emissions go, to hop on the golf cart instead of into her car throughout the day. It is a fun, energy efficient gas alternative that is appealing. She also likes that they go slower than regular cars because in the neighborhood cars go quickly.

Chris Scott – 685 Olentangy River Road

Mr. Scott said that he owns a golf cart and they originally purchased it knowing it was not legal in the City of Worthington, but it was legal in the state of Ohio dependent upon what municipalities want. They use the golf cart when travelling and for events with the kids. The golf cart allows them to ride over to the school to pick up the kids rather than getting in a car. He believes that golf cart use cuts down on congestion and reduces pollutants. There are many requirements to get a golf cart approved for use. He originally went to the Police Department in Worthington for approval and they were unwilling to do so because they did not have to deal with it. Some areas of the Worthington School district allow them, so they went to Perry Township and they gave approval. Some requirements include seat belts, lights, turn signals, and rear-view mirror, which make it function much like a vehicle. This is something that should be considered going forward.

President Michael explained that staff has done research in the past including looking into safety concerns. If Council wants to bring this topic back up, she recommends staff update the previous memo. She asked Council whether this was a topic that should be brought up now or wait until after the budget season.

Mr. Robinson recommended re-distributing the older material for Councilmembers to look over before determining whether to ask staff to do further work.

Ms. Kowalczyk wondered if there was some intersection with the Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan and looking at the thoroughfares in Worthington. She wonders where golf carts would fit, if anywhere. President Michael explained some of it goes into where they are and are not allowed to be. Ms. Kowalczyk stated she is thinking about the safety of the streets, speed limits, and what is the assessment so far from the Master Plan and those who participated in the walking tour. She wondered how that plays into this.

Mr. Myers discussed how he is not against having the old material passed out, but he believes this is not an appropriate time to put significant staff resources toward this issue. This can be re-addressed after the first of the year.

Ms. Dorothy agrees with Mr. Myers thoughts, but she also agrees with Ms. Kowalczyk that this is something that could be kicked over to Bicycle and Pedestrian. She explained they may have a little bit of time to look at it. Looking at all modes of transportation and safety are all topics that should be looked into and golf carts have a place. However, we do not have the time this year.

President Michael directed staff to bring back the old materials and perhaps look into it at the beginning of the year at the retreat.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

- Regular Meeting – September 17, 2018

MOTION Mr. Robinson moved, Mr. Smith seconded a motion to approve the aforementioned meeting minutes as presented.

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

NEW LEGISLATION TO BE INTRODUCED

Resolution No. 52-2018 Authorizing the Award of Re-emergent Corridor Assistance Program Funds to Help Improve Facility Exterior Facade and Streetscape Along Certain of the City's Commercial Corridors (6121 Huntley Road).

Introduced by Mr. Myers

MOTION Ms. Dorothy made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 52-2018. The motion was seconded by Ms. Kowalczyk



Applicant Information

- Applicant: DLZ Corporation
- Site Address: 6121 Huntley Road
- Total Project Cost: \$63,319
- Award Amount: \$25,000
- Applicant has owned the building since 1989.

Mr. Greeson explained that he is presenting this application for the Re-emergent Corridor Assistance Program (ReCAP) in place of Mr. McCorkle who is out on paternity leave after the birth of his third son, Camden, last week. This application is from the DLZ corporation who has applied for funding through the ReCAP façade enhancement program which was launched by the City in 2014. This program provides financial assistance to private, commercial property owners and tenants to encourage

exterior investment and enhancement to commercial properties along the Huntley Road and Proprietors Road corridor. Funding for this program is through reimbursable grants and no-cost financing. Half the total award is provided up front as an interest free loan, the remaining half is a reimbursable grant provided upon proof of invoices and payments.

He detailed that the applicant is the DLZ Corporation, an architecture and design firm, who is a significant employer in the City and has been in the community for many decades. DLZ owns multiple buildings in Worthington and they continue to re-invest in their properties, showing a commitment to their future here. The proposed project has a total cost of \$63,319. Staff has recommended to the CIC and Council approval for \$25,000 in ReCAP funding for improvements at their 6121 Huntley Road building. This building is prominent as you enter Worthington from Huntley. While it is not in terrible condition, it needs upgrades.



6121 Huntley Rd.



6121 Huntley Rd.

Current Condition



6121 Huntley Rd.

Proposed Changes Include:
 Steel Address numbers attached to facade
 Steel Channel letter sign over entrance
 Re-grout/ Painted Cornice
 Clean and repair existing facade as necessary
 *Sign supporting structure to be engineered by sign company



The scope of work includes:

- Repair stucco façade
- Repainting the building
- New signs
- Install new soil to new bio-retentions
- Install trees, shrubs, and perennials
- Grading, top soil, rock removal, and seeding

Scoring	
Current physical condition:	15
Scope of Work:	15
Viability and repayment:	20
Commitment to Worthington:	10
<u>Overall project quality:</u>	<u>15</u>
TOTAL SCORE	75* ✓

*Minimum score of 65 needed to receive funding.

Mr. Greeson described how DLZ has made other significant interior renovations to this building already. Work under this project is estimated to be completed within 12 weeks. The application was scored by staff and the CIC, receiving a final score of 75 points out of a possible 100. It was acknowledged that the scope of the project fits well within the ReCAP program and the improvements to the building will be additive to the corridor.

When asked by Mr. Myers if it would require ARB approval since it is on Huntley, Mr. Greeson stated that it would not.

Ms. Dorothy asked how many trees would be added. Scott Frank, the Director of Human Resources from DLZ said that the tree design was in flux still. He detailed many of the improvements that have already been made and ones slated for the future. There is a green focus for the parking lot to be done next year, that will be a \$200,000-\$250,000 project. They have already replaced about 20 trees around the facility. This will go into the parking lot and replace most of the parking lot with green surfaces and water control. Ms. Dorothy expressed her appreciation for their dedication to the community and the scope of the improvements. She looks forward to seeing it move forward quickly.

Mr. Robinson asked about the coloration for the building façade. Mr. Frank said that the burgundy is a company color.

There being no additional comments, the motion to adopt Resolution No. 52-2018 passed unanimously by a voice vote.

Resolution No. 53-2018

Approving an Agreement and Permit for and between Wide Open West Ohio, LLC, a Delaware Limited Liability Company, 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 Mr. Robinson

MOTION Mr. Smith made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 53-2018. The motion was seconded by Mr. Myers

Mr. Greeson explained the next two items are routine renewals of existing right-of-way permits.

Mr. Myers asked what had happened to the consent agenda. Mr. Greeson explained that with the size of volume agenda tonight, it was not utilized. That is typically employed for meeting management with larger agendas full of many routine contracts to be approved.

There being no additional comments, the motion to adopt Resolution No. 53-2018 passed unanimously by a voice vote.

Resolution No. 54-2018 Approving an Agreement and Permit for and between XO Communications Services, LLC, a Delaware Limited Liability Company, 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 Ms. Dorothy

MOTION Ms. Kowalczyk made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 54-2018. The motion was seconded by Mr. Robinson

There being no additional comments, the motion to adopt Resolution No. 54-2018 passed unanimously by a voice vote.

Ordinance No. 45-2018 Amending, Adopting and Ratifying the Amended and Restated Central Ohio Health Care Consortium Joint Self Insurance Agreement and Approving Participation by the City of Worthington in the Central Ohio Health Care Consortium for the Three-Year Period Beginning January 1, 2019.

Introduced by Mr. Smith

Ordinance No. 46-2018 Amending Ordinance No. 41-2017 (As Amended) to Adjust the Annual Budget by Providing for Appropriations from the General Fund and Downtown Worthington Municipal Public Improvement TIF Fund Unappropriated Balances.

Introduced by Mr. Myers

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.

REPORT OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

Mr. Robinson suggested that Council choose as a topic for discussion during an upcoming Committee of the Whole meeting the contents of the Herb Marlowe report regarding the United Children Methodist Home (UCMH). Mr. Greeson stated that he would like to check Dr. Marlowe’s availability for that meeting. Mr. Robinson said that he did not think Dr. Marlowe needed to be in attendance for the internal discussion about his draft. Ms. Dorothy said that she thought Dr. Marlowe could be in attendance to help explain how the draft report was put together. Mr. Smith said that Council can have a discussion and then if there are questions we can invite Dr. Marlowe. Mr. Greeson said that he would like to have a conversation with Dr. Marlowe about next steps and how to refine it. Mr. Myers requested the report on paper.

Ms. Dorothy thanked the Parks and Recreation department for their cleanup help at two different locations over the past weekend.

President Michael reported that the upcoming Franklin County Consortium of Good Government Candidates Night is October 9th at the McConnell Arts Center. She has sent copies out showing the timeline and who is speaking. This will involve the House race for what is currently Michael Duffey’s seat and will include both candidates. There will also be five minutes for discussing electric aggregation. The Central Ohio Mayors and Managers Association is meeting this week and will be talking about more legislative issues.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION Ms. Dorothy moved, Ms. Kowalczyk seconded a motion to meet in Executive Session to discuss compensation of an employee or public official and the appointment of an employee or public official.

The clerk called the roll on Executive Session. The motion carried by the following vote

Yes 6 Robinson, Kowalczyk, Dorothy, Smith, Myers and Michael
No 0

Council recessed at 8:05 P.M. from the Regular meeting session.

MOTION Ms. Kowalczyk moved, Ms. Dorothy seconded a motion to return to open session at 8:42 P.M.

Resolution No. 55-2018 Amending Resolution No. 73-2017 to Authorize Salary Range 14A for Communication Technician Positions.

Introduced by Mr. Robinson

MOTION Mr. Smith made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 55-2018. The motion was seconded by Mr. Myers

Mr. Robinson commended Ms. Stewart's work on this resolution.

Mr. Myers asked for a brief explanation from staff explaining why it is critical to take this step. Ms. Stewart responded that we are short staffed in our 9-1-1 dispatch communications center. We are looking at how we provide that service and are considering whether to consolidate with another entity down the line. In the meantime, we are short staffed, and people are working a lot of extra shifts and overtime. They are doing a great job, but it is beginning to wear on them due to the many hours they are working. We want to look at our pay scale and compensation for Communications Technicians and this resolution adjusts it to a two-step range for dispatchers and set their compensation in line with what is currently the top of the range. This will help us attract some people into the center, most likely on a part-time basis to provide assistance.

Mr. Myers asked if the alternative to attracting part-time staff would be to staff the communications center with overtimed Police and Fire Officers. Ms. Stewart said that was correct, or additional overtime from our current Communications Technicians. Mr. Meyers stated there is the possibility we would be pulling patrolmen off the street to staff our communications center. Ms. Stewart emphasized this is a critical service that must be staffed 24/7, so we must have adequate staffing. If we are not able to attract additional people, then we must look to our current staff to pick up more overtime in the center.

There being no additional comments, the motion to adopt Resolution No. 55-2018 passed unanimously by a voice vote.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION Ms. Dorothy moved, and Ms. Kowalczyk seconded a motion to adjourn.

The motion carried unanimously by a voice vote.

President Michael declared the meeting adjourned at 8:45 P.M.

/s/ Ethan C. Barnhardt
Assistant City Clerk

*APPROVED by the City Council, this
15th day of October, 2018.*

/s/ Bonnie D. Michael
Council President