



CITY OF WORTHINGTON
Worthington City Council Minutes
December 10, 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, December 10, 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, Douglas Foust, Beth Kowalczyk, Douglas K. Smith, and Bonnie D. Michael

Member(s) Absent: David Robinson and Scott Myers

Also present: City Manager Matt 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 & 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 15 visitors present.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

VISITOR COMMENTS

There were no comments.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION(S)

- Caboose Donation from the Rutherford Family

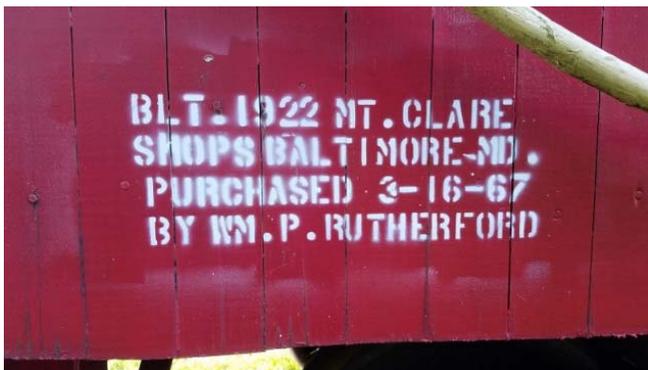
Mr. Greeson welcomed the extended Rutherford Family to the Worthington City Council Chambers. He invited Mr. Hurley to comment on the donation they are making of a Caboose to the City of Worthington.

Mr. Hurley described how a cool project like this takes many people to bring it to fruition and a great partnership. He introduced Lynn Rutherford-Harper and her husband Joe Harper, they are the owners of the caboose, and their family, Tracy Harper Hayes and her husband Joe Hayes. Joe is the Rutherford Funeral Home President, which is just down the street. He also welcomed Peter Macrae and Bill Lehner with the Worthington AM Rotary Club, and Kevin Wohlever who is with the Central Ohio Model Railroad Club and has been advising use on this project. Last but not least, Melissa Hindman and Scott Brown who have been the Parks and Recreation Department staff members involved with this project, playing a big role in this coming together.



As Council will recall, over the past year the McCord Conceptual Master Plan has been worked on to show a plan for the park and its future. An idea staff has had for a while came from observing children in the Community Center and outside who were glued to the windows anytime a train is going by. Staff came up with the idea of having some kind of an observation area,

for people to watch for the trains. He showed the conceptual plan detailing where the train observation deck will be. Our partners with the Worthington AM Rotary Club fell in love with this idea and appreciated the opportunity to be a partner with us. After brainstorming what this should look like, one of the core pieces we wanted was a caboose or some sort of train car that could be the focal point and open to tours with an educational component. Rotary took the lead on trying to locate a caboose or train car. After following several leads without much luck, Joe Hayes showed up to City Hall to talk with Mr. Greeson about the possible donation of a caboose that was sitting in their backyard in Upper Arlington. Very excitedly, a trip was scheduled to look at the caboose.



The caboose was built in 1922 and there is a great deal of history associated with it. Mr. Rutherford grew up with a love of trains, and in 1967 when he learned cabooses were going by the wayside and some would be available, he arranged to purchase this one. Mr. Hurley described learning about all of the logistics associated with getting the

caboose out of someone's backyard and relocated. Another interesting thing is that many people know about this caboose as it has been a local landmark. He recalled when discussing this with staff, Melissa Hindman remembered being there as a child, as many other children in the area have done before. There have been many significant family events and activities at this caboose. The connection between the family and Worthington with the Rutherford Family Funeral Home, makes this a neat project for everyone to be a part of.

Mr. Hurley described how it is a wooden caboose. They still have the original stencils that can be used to repaint the caboose authentically. As we talk about the project and how it will fit there will be some decisions made about when it can be open, how to make it accessible, and what kind of information can be gleaned about the history of this specific caboose. With Mr. Wohlever, figuring out how to talk about the tracks and people seeing the train schedules. Rotary is additionally in charge of getting the caboose moved and the refurbishment and establishment of it on this site. The City would then take on the long-term maintenance of it. Mr. Hurley described how tonight what is needed from Council is a motion of acceptance of the donation. We are on the hook for a letter to the family that we are accepting the donation.



President Michael thanked the family for this, it is marvelous. We have been hearing about having some way for kids to watch the trains for some time. We cannot thank the family enough for their generosity.

Ms. Dorothy reiterated Council's thanks and appreciation for everyone's role in this. She asked if the Parks Master Plan envisioned something like this to begin with. Mr. Hurley said it was part of the vision of the park to have some sort of train observation area,. It was Rotary's brainchild to go out and find a car and place it there with some decking. Figuring out what it would look like was a work in progress. There are many challenges and we did not know what it would look like in its final form. Other communities have something similar and we are learning from them the different ways to manage this.

Mr. Foust commented that as a lifelong model-railroader and a card-carrying member of the Train Collectors Association (TCA), he cannot imagine a greater gift to the city and is delighted.

MOTION Mr. Foust moved, Ms. Dorothy seconded a motion to accept the donation.

The motion passed unanimously by a voice vote.

- Ohio Parks and Recreation Association Awards



Mr. Hurley described how Ms. Hindman is the most directly responsible person for the many special events and marketing for the Parks and Recreation Department. The Ohio Parks and Recreation Association declared their 2018 award winners. There were 150 programs and projects nominated from across the state. 14 different agencies took away an award, and Worthington was one of them. The awards are judged by

panel of parks and recreation professionals from around the state. Won actually won two awards. The first was Key to the City, where Ms. Hindman was responsible, which took first place in the Programs Category. Staff placed keys around the city parks and then some business and other folks joined in. If someone found the key, at the end of the month there was an opportunity to open a prize box with prizes donated by various local businesses. The initial goal was to engage people and get them into the City's parks. The added bonus was how it helped to cross promote our local businesses. Everyone who brought a key got a pass to the Community Center and a small prize. The winner also got bike ride with City Manager and the Police Chief.



*We also won second place in the Health and Wellness Category for a program that was put together called Boarder Battle, which was an ongoing battle back and forth with the Washtenaw Community Center just outside of Ann Arbor, Michigan. It was in the month of November as part of the buildup to the Ohio State – M*chigan game. It was a similarly sized community center and was based on how many people checked in each day. On the side they also conducted a canned food drive where they competed for a month.*

President Michael commented that as a former Ohio Parks and Recreation Association board member herself, she knows how difficult it is and how prestigious the awards are. They are not easy to come by amidst some tough competition. She thanked everyone for their work and leadership because this does not happen without many people working together.

CONSENT AGENDA

Approval of Meeting Minutes

- Meeting Minutes – December 3, 2018 (Special Meeting)
- Meeting Minutes – December 3, 2018 (Joint Meeting)

- Meeting Minutes – December 3, 2018

Ordinance No. 57-2018 Amending Ordinance No. 41-2017 (As Amended) to Adjust the Annual Budget by Providing for an Appropriation from the Capital Improvements Fund Unappropriated Balance to Pay the Cost of the Old Worthington Street Light and Mast Arm Rehabilitation Project and to Proceed with said Project. (Project No. 655-17)

Ordinance No. 59-2018 Amending Ordinance No. 52-2018 (As Amended) to Adjust the Annual Budget by Providing for Appropriations From the Capital Improvements Fund Unappropriated Balance to Pay the Cost of the 2019 New and Replacement Equipment Items and for Certain Projects as Identified in the 2019 Five-Year Capital Improvements Program and all Related Expenses and Determining to Proceed with said Projects.

Resolution No. 72-2018 Appointing Rachel DeNoewer as a Member to the Worthington Parks & Recreation Commission.

Introduced by Mr. Foust

Resolution No. 73-2018 Appointing and Re-appointing Members to Various City Boards and Commissions

Introduced by Mr. Smith

Resolution No. 74-2018 Approving an Agreement and Permit for Columbia Gas of Ohio Inc., Ohio Corporation, to Operate and Maintain a Natural Gas Distribution 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

President Michael asked if there was anyone who wished to have any of the aforementioned pieces of legislation removed from the Consent Agenda.

MOTION Ms. Kowalczyk moved, Mr. Foust seconded a motion to approve the Consent Agenda.

The clerk called the roll on the Consent Agenda. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes 5 Kowalczyk, Foust, Dorothy, Smith, and Michael

No 0

The Consent Agenda was thereupon declared duly passed and is recorded in full in the appropriate record book.

PUBLIC HEARINGS ON LEGISLATION

Ordinance No. 58-2018

Approving the Provisions of a Collective Bargaining Agreement Between the City of Worthington, Ohio and the International Association of Firefighters Local #3498 and Authorizing the City Manager to Execute Same on Behalf of the City.

The foregoing Ordinance Title was read.

Mr. Greeson detailed how we have a collective bargaining agreement with our firefighters union. That contract is for three years and it expired at the end of last year. We have been in collective bargaining negotiations and we are pleased to present the terms and conditions that were both approved by the union and signed off on by the City's negotiating team. The ordinance was introduced at the last meeting and a general outline of the provisions that were part of the tentative agreement were presented in a memorandum included in the packet from the Personnel Director. The ordinance would allow him to enter into an updated collective bargaining agreement with new language for the items added as part of the signed tentative agreement.

There being no additional comments, the clerk called the roll on Ordinance No. 58-2018 (As Amended). The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes 5 Foust, Dorothy, Smith, Kowalczyk, and Michael

No 0

Ordinance No. 52-2018 (As Amended) was thereupon declared duly passed and is recorded in full in the appropriate record book.

NEW LEGISLATION TO BE INTRODUCED

Resolution No. 71-2018

Adjusting the Annual Budget by Providing for a Transfer of Previously Appropriated Funds

Introduced by Ms. Kowalczyk

MOTION Mr. Foust made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 71-2018. The motion was seconded by Mr. Smith

There being no additional comments, the motion to adopt Resolution No. 71-2018 carried unanimously by a voice vote.

Ordinance No. 60-2018 Accepting Sanitary Sewer Improvements constructed in a public easement located at the Kemper House of Worthington

Introduced by Mr. Smith

Ordinance No. 61-2018 Determining to Proceed with the Acquisition of Real Estate Interests for the Northeast Gateway Intersection Improvement Project, Authorizing the City Manager to Acquire Certain Parcels Without Further Council Action, and Requiring Adoption of a Resolution to Authorize Acquisition of Other Parcels. (Project No. 602-14)

Introduced by Ms. Dorothy

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

- Permission to Advertise for Bid – East Wilson Bridge Road Waterline Replacement

Mr. Greeson described how we have had a history of waterline breakages on East Wilson Bridge Road. This has been included for this year in the adopted Capital Improvements Plan.

Mr. Whited explained how the East Wilson Bridge Waterline Project has been discussed several times. While initially intended to be started this winter, it will be put off until early spring when we hope to get better bids. The project itself will last less than six months. The lifecycle for typical waterline projects is approximately 50 years. The current waterline is much older than that and has massive corrosion and breakage issues.

President Michael asked Mr. Whited to describe where this project is located for the benefit of the students in attendance at the meeting. Mr. Whited detailed how this is just west of the intersection of Wilson Bridge and Huntley Road at the northeast gateway of the community. It will go from there down west from the railroad tracks to Old Wilson Bridge Road. It will mitigate those breaks and then allow us to pave that roadway. President Michael said part of this is an ongoing project with ODOT and federal funding to redo that

entire intersection where Wilson Bridge, Huntley, and Worthington-Galena all come together.

Ms. Dorothy thanked Mr. Whited for answering her questions before she asked them. As an engineer she is always looking at the lifecycle of projects. She then asked what part of the City this waterline serves. Mr. Whited said there are a plethora of waterlines in that area. This waterline feeds primarily those businesses on Wilson Bridge and the residential areas that feed off of that. Ms. Dorothy inquired if we are tracking waterline breakages in order to determine which waterlines to replace next. Mr. Whited replied that we intend to fund a study in 2019 on waterline breaks and their impact on the community, in order to prioritize what makes sense to spend money on first.

MOTION Ms. Kowalczyk made a motion to authorize the solicitation of bids.
The motion was seconded by Mr. Foust.

The motion passed unanimously by a voice vote.

- Objections to Renewal of a Liquor Permit

President Michael explained how all permits to sell alcoholic beverages in Worthington expire on February 1, 2019. To maintain permit privileges, every permit holder must file a renewal application under the Ohio Revised Code, providing the legislative authority the right to object to renewal of permit and to request a hearing.

Mr. Foust asked about Monkey's Bar and the status of that permit. Mr. Lindsey replied that as part of the resolution to the objection we filed, the permit went into safekeeping with the Department of Liquor Control with the provision that it could not be used there. His understanding is that they were looking at a possible different use of that location, as a non-liquor restaurant establishment. It could also be TREX-ed to a different location. President Michael asked if it was included on this list. Mr. Lindsey replied it is not. Chief Strait said that the owners of the Monkey Bar had inquired about opening a Mexican restaurant and we have had no issues at this point.

MOTION Mr. Foust made a motion to not object to the renewal of permits.
The motion was seconded by Mr. Smith

The motion passed unanimously by a voice vote.

- Cancellation of December 17, 2018 Meeting

MOTION Ms. Dorothy made a motion to cancel the December 17th, 2018 City Council Meeting. The motion was seconded by Ms. Kowalczyk

The motion passed unanimously by a voice vote.

Mr. Greeson requested an executive session to discuss board and commission appointments and land acquisition.

REPORTS OF COUNCIL

EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION Mr. Foust moved, Mr. Smith seconded a motion to meet in Executive Session to discuss Board and Commission Appointments, Land Acquisition.

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

Yes 5 Dorothy, Kowalczyk, Foust, Smith, and Michael

No 0

Council recessed at 8:07 P.M. from the Regular meeting session

MOTION Mr. Smith moved, Ms. Kowalczyk seconded a motion to return to open session at 8:35 P.M.

The motion carried unanimously by a voice vote.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION Mr. Foust moved, Ms. Dorothy seconded a motion to adjourn.

The motion carried unanimously by a voice vote.

President Michael declared the meeting adjourned at 8:35 P.M.

/s/ Ethan Charles Barnhardt
Assistant City Clerk

*APPROVED by the City Council, this
7th day of January 2019.*

/s/ Bonnie D. Michael
Council President