

MINUTES
WADSWORTH CITY COUNCIL MEETING
January 18, 2022

The regular meeting of Wadsworth City Council, Tuesday, January 18, 2022, at 5:30 p.m., was held in-person at City Council Chambers.

PRESIDING: Bob Thurber, *President of Council*

MEMBERS PRESENT: Bruce Darlington, Jeanne Hines, Dan Rospert, Tom Stugmyer, David Williams, John Yurchiak

OFFICIALS PRESENT: Mayor Robin Laubaugh, Director of Public Service Robert Patrick, Public Safety Director Matt Hiscock, Assistant Public Service Director Mike Testa, Law Director Tom Morris, Clerk of Council Tammy Guenther

PRESS REPRESENTATIVES: Caleb Hurley, *The Medina Gazette*

VISTORS SPEAKING: *None*

Mr. Thurber called the meeting to order at approximately 5:30 p.m. He asked everyone to remain standing as he led the Pledge of Allegiance and gave the Invocation. The Clerk of Council called the roll.

MINUTES: Mr. Williams made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Stugmyer, to adopt the minutes of the Council meeting **January 4, 2022**. An all-in-favor vote was taken and all Council members present voted in favor of the motion. **THE COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF January 4, 2022 WERE APPROVED.**

VISITORS SPEAKING: *None*

CORRESPONDENCE: *None*

LEGISLATION:

The following legislation was read for the first time and acted upon as follows:

ORDINANCE NO. 22-004 (1st RDG.): AN ORDINANCE GIVING CONSENT TO THE OHIO DIRECTOR OF TRANSPORTATION TO PERFORM ROUTE SIGN REPLACEMENTS ON MED STATE ROUTE 0094 SLM 00.76 (SOUTHERN CORP. LIMITS) TO SLM 05.30 (NORTHERN CORP. LIMITS) IN THE CITY OF WADSWORTH IN MEDINA COUNTY AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

- Sponsored by Council Member David Williams
- Forwarded by Public Ways Committee January 10, 2022

Mr. Williams stated that the Ways Committee had discussed the ordinance that month. There was some urgency by the state and there was no cost to the City. With that in mind, Mr. Williams made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Yurchiak, to suspend the three reading rule on Ordinance No. 22-004. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Hines, Yurchiak, Williams, Darlington, Stugmyer, Rospert. Nays: none. Mr. Williams called the question. Mr. Thurber called for a vote. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Yurchiak, Williams, Darlington, Stugmyer, Rospert, Hines. Nays: none. **Ordinance No. 22-004 declared to have been adopted January 18, 2022.**

ORDINANCE NO. 22-005 (1st RDG.): AN ORDINANCE GIVING CONSENT TO THE OHIO DIRECTOR OF TRANSPORTATION TO COMPLETE THE PROJECT OF BRIDGE

INSPECTION PROGRAM SERVICES, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO ROUTINE INSPECTIONS, ELEMENT LEVEL INSPECTIONS, CRITICAL-FINDINGS REPORTS, FRACTURE CRITICAL MEMBER INSPECTIONS, LOAD RATING CALCULATIONS AND REPORTS, WEIGHT LIMITS POSTING SIGN RECOMMENDATIONS, SCOUR ASSESSMENTS, SCOUR PLAN OF ACTIONS, DEVELOPMENT OF FRACTURE CRITICAL PLANS, AND UNDERWATER DIVE INSPECTION REPORTS IF NEEDED AGREEING TO COOPERATE WITH THE OHIO DIRECTOR OF TRANSPORTATION IN REGARD TO SAID PROJECT AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH THE OHIO DIRECTOR OF TRANSPORTATION AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

- Sponsored by Council Member David Williams
- Forwarded by Public Ways Committee January 10, 2022

Mr. Williams said, again, that the Ways Committee had discussed the ordinance that month. Again, they were dealing with the state and it was time sensitive. The ordinance was needed by the end of the month. As he recalled, there was no expense to the City. Mr. Williams made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Yurchiak, to suspend the three reading rule on Ordinance No. 22-005. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Williams, Darlington, Stugmyer, Rospert, Hines, Yurchiak. Nays: none. Mr. Williams called the question. Mr. Thurber called for a vote. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Darlington, Stugmyer, Rospert, Hines, Yurchiak, Williams. Nays: none. **Ordinance No. 22-005 declared to have been adopted January 18, 2022.**

ORDINANCE NO. 22-006 (1st RDG.): AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE TO NEGOTIATE AND ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT FOR PROFESSIONAL PLANNING, ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN AND ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR AN UPDATED CITYWIDE PARK MASTER PLAN AND PARK IMPROVEMENTS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

- Sponsored by Council Member David Williams
- Forwarded by Public Ways Committee January 10, 2022

The ordinance was discussed in Public Ways. It was something that they'd been working on for quite some time. Having said that, Mr. Williams made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Yurchiak, to place Ordinance No. 22-006 on second reading. An all in favor vote was taken and all Council members present voted in favor of the motion. **Ordinance No. 22-006 advanced to second reading for the meeting of February 1, 2022.**

ORDINANCE NO. 22-007 (1st RDG.): AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SAFETY TO PURCHASE TWO (2) 2022 FORD POLICE INTERCEPTOR UTILITY VEHICLES THROUGH AN OHIO DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES CONTRACT AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

- Sponsored by Council Member Ralph Copley
- Discussed by Public Safety Committee January 18, 2022

Mr. Williams indicated that he had questions about the proposed ordinance before Council considered it for a vote. He said he was at the Safety Committee and listened to the conversations and had two questions. With the instability of the automobile industry, Mr. Williams wanted to know if they could not get a 2022 model, were they price protected for a 2023.

Mr. Hiscock said he did not believe so through the DAS contract, the pricing was only good for 2022 models. It was something they could take up with the individual dealership. Mr. Williams said it would be out of their control because there was still a chip shortage worldwide and there was really no surety for getting vehicles built.

That was one question. The next one was that in looking at other departments, Mr. Williams had noticed that they had pick-up trucks. He wanted to know if that was something they'd looked at. He noted one instance where it might have been useful, and that was with their urban camper. He had to be packed up and taken to Medina with all of his gear. Mr. Hiscock said they had never looked at a marked pick-up truck because they had access to an unmarked pick-up truck, as well as Service Department pick-ups.

Mr. Williams thanked the Safety Director.

Mr. Yurchiak noted that the Safety Committee had discussed the item that evening. The vehicles had been budgeted to be purchased on the City's schedule. The department would like to get the order in as soon as possible because it would probably be September before they would even see a vehicle once ordered.

Mr. Darlington had a question. There were two ordinances for vehicles. He asked if that meant they were buying four. Mr. Yurchiak said they were buying four, total.

Mr. Yurchiak made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Williams, to suspend the three reading rule on Ordinance No. 22-007. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Stugmyer, Rospert, Hines, Yurchiak, Williams, Darlington. Nays: none. Mr. Yurchiak called the question. Mr. Thurber called for a vote. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Rospert, Hines, Yurchiak, Williams, Darlington, Stugmyer. Nays: none. **Ordinance No. 22-007 declared to have been adopted January 18, 2022.**

ORDINANCE NO. 22-008 (1st RDG.): AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SAFETY TO PURCHASE TWO (2) 2022 FORD POLICE INTERCEPTOR UTILITY VEHICLES THROUGH AN OHIO DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES CONTRACT AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

- Sponsored by Council Member Ralph Copley
- Discussed by Public Safety Committee January 18, 2022

Mr. Yurchiak said this ordinance represented the other two vehicles. Mr. Yurchiak made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Rospert, to suspend the three reading rule on Ordinance No. 22-008. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Hines, Yurchiak, Williams, Darlington, Stugmyer, Rospert. Nays: none. Mr. Yurchiak called the question. Mr. Thurber called for a vote. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Yurchiak, Williams, Darlington, Stugmyer, Rospert, Hines. Nays: none. **Ordinance No. 22-008 declared to have been adopted January 18, 2022.**

ORDINANCE NO. 22-009 (1st RDG.): AN ORDINANCE FINDING THE EXISTENCE OF A REAL AND PRESENT EMERGENCY IN CONNECTION WITH THE OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY NECESSITATING AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SAFETY TO PURCHASE SELF-CONTAINED BREATHING APPARATUS (SCBA) UNITS, SCBA BOTTLES AND EZ-SCAPE RESCUE BAILOUT SYSTEM FROM MES WARREN FIRE EQUIPMENT WITHOUT FORMAL BIDDING AND ADVERTISING AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

- Sponsored by Council Member Ralph Copley
- Discussed by Public Safety Committee January 18, 2022

Mr. Yurchiak stated that the Committee had discussed the ordinance that evening. The department was facing a price increase if they didn't get them ordered. With that, Mr. Yurchiak made a motion to suspend the three reading rule on Ordinance No. 22-009.

At that point, Mr. Williams indicated that he had a question about how many people were trained as scuba divers. Mr. Hiscock responded that the SCBA units were not scuba related. Mr. Williams thought they might be related. Mr. Hiscock said that all firefighters who entered into a fire had to wear SCBAs or Self Contained Breathing Apparatus and were not for under water. It was often confused as scuba related, but in looking at a masked firefighter, they were seeing the SCBAs. The older units were replaced regularly. They were also replacing the bottles this time.

Going back to his original question, Mr. Williams asked if they had anyone trained for underwater rescue. Mr. Hiscock said the City relied on the Medina County All Hazards Team for water rescue. It was comprised of members from multiple departments, who came together for specialized-type rescue. It was a cost effective and effective training approach.

Mr. Williams said he was thinking about the airplane that went down in the brickyard pond. Mr. Hiscock offered a few more details about specialty rescue, but the comments could not entirely be heard.

Mr. Rospert seconded the motion to suspend the three reading rule on Ordinance No. 22-009. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Williams, Darlington, Stugmyer, Rospert, Hines, Yurchiak. Nays: none. Mr. Yurchiak called the question. Mr. Thurber called for a vote. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Darlington, Stugmyer, Rospert, Hines, Yurchiak, Williams. Nays: none. **Ordinance No. 22-009 declared to have been adopted January 18, 2022.**

ORDINANCE NO. 22-010 (1st RDG.): AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE TO ADVERTISE FOR AND RECEIVE BIDS AND ENTER INTO A CONTRACT FOR TREE TRIMMING AND TREE REMOVAL FOR ELECTRIC LINES CLEARANCE AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

- Sponsored by Council Member Bruce Darlington

Mr. Darlington said that Public Service did not have a chance to discuss the ordinance. The ordinance to trim the trees was done every year to make sure there was good security on the electric lines, so Mr. Darlington made a motion to suspend the three reading rule.

Before the motion proceeded, Mr. Williams asked if there was a plan to do the trimming and what trees would be trimmed. Mr. Darlington said that half of the City was done one year and the other half was done in another year. He did not know which half they were on for this year.

Mr. Patrick spoke from the audience that the City was on the north side. Mr. Darlington said that was the plan; it alternated from year to year. All the trees were trimmed every other year. Mr. Williams clarified that it was the trees that affected power lines. Mr. Darlington responded that it was half the lines one year and half, the next. Mr. Stugmyer added that the earlier they went out for pricing, the better, just like for the roads.

Mr. Darlington made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Yurchiak, was to suspend the three reading rule on Ordinance No. 21-010. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Stugmyer, Rospert, Darlington, Hines, Yurchiak, Williams, Darlington. Nays: none. Mr. Yurchiak called the question. Mr. Thurber called for a vote. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Stugmyer, Rospert, Darlington, Hines, Yurchiak, Williams. Nays: none. **Ordinance No. 22-010 declared to have been adopted January 18, 2022.**

RESOLUTION NO. 22-01 (1st RDG.): RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE INTENT OF THE LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF WADSWORTH TO SELL PERSONAL PROPERTY INCLUDING MOTOR VEHICLES ACQUIRED FOR THE USE OF MUNICIPAL

OFFICERS AND DEPARTMENTS AND ROAD MACHINERY, EQUIPMENT, TOOLS OR SUPPLIES WHICH ARE NOT NEEDED FOR PUBLIC USE OR ARE OBSOLETE OR UNFIT FOR THE USE FOR WHICH THEY WERE ACQUIRED BY INTERNET AUCTION DURING THE CALENDAR YEAR 2022 ADOPTING PROVISIONS APPLICABLE TO SUCH SALE BY INTERNET AUCTION AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

- Sponsored by Council Member Bruce Darlington

Mr. Darlington had a question for Mr. Patrick. He said that there was an ordinance not long ago for an internet auction. He asked how this one differed from the previous legislation. The Law Director offered to take the question. Mr. Morris said that every year, they authorized “how” the City would sell equipment – what internet sites were appropriate and which ones were not. The resolution set that framework up. Then as occasions came up to sell items, this resolution would be referenced in the next piece of legislation. This was the annual statute. Any time there was a big sale, over \$2,000.00, then they would come back to Council. Mr. Darlington understood they approved anything over \$2,000.00, and Mr. Morris said that was he recalled off the top of his head.

Mr. Darlington made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Stugmyer, to suspend the three reading rule on Resolution 22-01. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Rospert, Hines, Yurchiak, Williams, Darlington, Stugmyer. Nays: none. Mr. Darlington called the question. Mr. Thurber called for a vote. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Hines, Yurchiak, Williams, Darlington, Stugmyer, Rospert. Nays: none. **Resolution No. 22-01 declared to have been adopted January 18, 2022.**

The following legislation was read for the third time, having been previously read at different meetings on different days, and acted upon as follows:

ORDINANCE NO. 21-121 (3rd RDG.): AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE TO ADVERTISE FOR AND RECEIVE BIDS AND TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT FOR PHASE 2 – SOUTHWEST PARKING LOT WITH CONCRETE PAVEMENT; INTERLOCKING PAVERS; LANDSCAPING; STORM SEWER; PRIVATE SIDEWALKS, DECKING, STEPS, PARKING AREAS, DRIVEWAYS, PATIOS, ADA ACCESSIBLE RAMPS, DOWNSPOUTS, LANDSCAPING; GRADING; SIDEWALK; CURBING; REPAIRS TO PHASE 1 – SOUTHWEST PARKING LOT; AND OTHER SURFACE IMPROVEMENTS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

- Sponsored by Council Member David Williams
- Proposed amendments discussed by Public Ways Committee

Mr. Williams made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Yurchiak, to amend Ordinance No. 21-121 to include an amount not to exceed \$515,000 and language to proceed with the assessment of property owners in accordance with the Resolution No. 21-09. **Ordinance No. 21-121 was amended.**

Mr. Darlington had a question. He saw they were digging up the storm sewer and made a huge hole in the parking lot. He would not want to have it paved and have something like that happen again. He wanted to know if this would include any inspection of the existing utilities that would be under the new pavement, so they were in good shape and wouldn't have to be replaced.

Mr. Williams thanked Mr. Darlington and said that the most recent uncovering of the soil to find a flaw in one of the structures happened after their last Committee meeting. He asked that Mr. Patrick address the events of last Friday and what was found, and were there any other utilities there that might be in question in the future.

Mr. Patrick stated that they had done some investigation. They dug up the area and found an issue that was fixed. They repaired and replaced the soil from there to cover it back up. They were going to do further investigation of all of the surrounding buildings to make sure there was no other private lines that they were unaware of that would lead into that lot so this would not happen again. They did not want any problems at the new parking lot when it was built later that year. The good thing was that they had time to do that before construction would start. If they would pass the legislation, the City could go out to bid and through that process, with the time period for awarding and schedule for vendors to gather equipment and supplies. When the weather broke, they could break ground in the spring and move forward to get the project completed before the end of the fall. They had time to do that so they would do it now.

Mr. Darlington said that helped. He just didn't want to see it dug up.

Mr. Williams called the question on Amended Ordinance No. 21-121. Mr. Thurber called for a vote. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Yurchiak, Williams, Darlington, Stugmyer, Rospert, Hines. Nays: none. **Amended Ordinance No. 21-121 declared to have been adopted January 18, 2022.**

That concluded the legislation for the evening.

OTHER BUSINESS: Mr. Thurber asked for comments from City Council.

Mr. Williams thanked the City Street and Parks Departments for their hard work during the storm event. It was a great job keeping them open. He rode in a plow truck with them in the past and it was a difficult job to sit in that seat. He thanked all their workers.

Mr. Stugmyer offered a story said that was brought up during the Safety Committee about an occurrence at the Transfer Station. It was about a discarded plastic bag that appeared to hold a puppy. Chief Lindner was at the Transfer Station and actually went in after the bag to rescue the puppy. The good news was that it turned out to be a toy puppy. However, that part of it had nothing to do with the character of why Chief Lindner did that. These were the people that they had working at the City. It was a heart-warming story that turned out to be a good thing, but the Chief did not know that when he went in after it. The story reflected the people who worked here.

Mr. Williams said he would amend his thank you. The Water Department was also involved in plowing. Everybody who knew how to drive a truck or work a shovel helped with this snow event. He did not want to shortchange anybody. Thanks to all the departments, Mr. Williams said.

There were no further comments

ADJOURNMENT: Mr. Williams made a motion to adjourn, which was seconded. All were in favor. **The meeting was adjourned at approximately 5:55 p.m.**

Clerk of Council

President of Council