

MINUTES
WADSWORTH CITY COUNCIL MEETING
March 16, 2021

The regular meeting of Wadsworth City Council, Tuesday, March 16, 2021, at 5:00 p.m., was held through means of both electronic video conferencing and in-person attendance at City Council Chambers. It was broadcast live on City Link Channels 17 & 329 and on Spectrum Channel 1024 at the scheduled time, and was streamed live at WatchWCTV.com.

PRESIDING: Bob Thurber, *President of Council*

MEMBERS OF COUNCIL PRESENT: Ralph Copley, Bruce Darlington, Patty Haskins, Jeanne Hines, Tom Stugmyer, David Williams, Jon Yurchiak

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

PRESS REPRESENTATIVES: *None*

OTHERS PRESENT OR SPEAKING: *None*

Mr. Thurber called the meeting to order at approximately 5:00 p.m. **Mr. Thurber** 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. Copley**, to adopt the minutes of the Council meetings of **March 2 and March 11, 2021**. An all-in-favor vote was taken and all Council members present voted in favor of the motion. **THE COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES of March 2 and March 11, 2021 WERE APPROVED.**

CORRESPONDENCE: **Ms. Guenther** said she had one item: a certificate from the fiscal officer, the City Auditor, verifying funds for a warrant for payment in Ordinance No. 21-015.

EXECUTIVE SESSIONS: Mr. Williams made a motion, which was seconded by **Ms. Haskins**, to hold an executive session for a conference with an attorney for disputes involving the public body with regard to pending or imminent court action; and there was a second one, Mr. Morris informed them. Ms. Haskins made another motion, which was seconded by Mr. Darlington, to hold an executive session for the purpose to consider the purchase of property for public purposes where premature disclosure of information would give an unfair competitive or bargaining advantage to a person whose personal private interest is adverse to the general public interest. The Clerk called the roll for both. Ayes: Haskins, Yurchiak, Williams, Stugmyer, Darlington, Copley, Hines. Nays: none. **City Council entered executive session at approximately 5:05 p.m.**

** Ms. Guenther attended via Zoom. Council and Administration attended the meeting in person at the Council Chambers.*

City Council adjourned the executive session and resumed the regular meeting at 5:27 p.m.

LEGISLATION:

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

ORDINANCE NO. 21-015 (1st RDG.): AN ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE DRAWING OF A WARRANT IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$12,972.00 FOR THE PAYMENT OF THE AMOUNT DUE UPON A CONTRACT WITH MEDINA COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY AND TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY

- Sponsored by President of Council Bob Thurber

Mr. Copley indicated the importance of the contract and the fact that it was basically a housekeeping matter, he wished to suspend the three reading rule on Ordinance No. 21-015. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Haskins, Yurchiak, Darlington, Williams, Stugmyer, Copley, Hines. Nays: none. Mr. Copley called the question. Mr. Thurber called for a vote. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Yurchiak, Darlington, Williams, Stugmyer Copley, Hines, Haskins. Nays: none. **Ordinance No. 21-015 declared to have been adopted March 16, 2021.**

ORDINANCE NO. 21-016 (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 LINE CLEARANCE AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

- Sponsored by Council Member Bruce Darlington

Mr. Darlington said the ordinance represented another important one to have in place before the spring storms came and to reliable electric service without any trees falling on the lines, He made a motion to suspend the three reading rule on Ordinance No. 21-016.

Mr. Williams asked a question about what was budgeted for the tree trimming. Mr. Patrick did not recall. Mr. Darlington's recollection was that it was not much different than the prior year and there was no increase in the budget. Mr. Williams said the reason for bringing it up was there were more trees down and more branches broken partially from the trees. He wondered if there was enough money that year. Mr. Darlington said if there wasn't enough, they'd have to come back with a supplemental. He thought it was a good question though. Mr. Copley noted that usually when going out to bid, they saw a "not to exceed" in the ordinance with the budgeted amount. He did not see that anywhere. Mr. Patrick commented that they would not want to put the amount for this ordinance at that time since they were seeking competitive bids. Mr. Copley understood.

Ms. Haskins seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Darlington, Williams, Stugmyer Copley, Hines, Haskins, Yurchiak. Nays: none. Mr. Darlington called the question. Mr. Thurber called for a vote. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Williams, Stugmyer Copley, Hines, Haskins, Yurchiak, Darlington. Nays: none. **Ordinance No. 21-016 declared to have been adopted March 16, 2021.**

RESOLUTION NO. 21-06 (1st RDG.): A RESOLUTION DECLARING THE NECESSITY OF REPAIRING, REPLACING OR CONSTRUCTING CERTAIN SIDEWALKS IN THE

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Minutes prepared by Clerk of Council Tammy Guenther

** Ms. Guenther attended via Zoom. Council and Administration attended the meeting in person at the Council Chambers.*

CITY OF WADSWORTH, REQUIRING THAT ABUTTING PROPERTY OWNERS REPAIR, REPLACE OR CONSTRUCT SAME AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

- Sponsored by Council Member David Williams
- Forwarded by Public Ways Committee March 15, 2021, with recommendation to suspend the three reading rule

Mr. Williams indicated the legislation was on a timely basis. He thought they needed to move it forward, which was the recommendation of the Ways Committee. They had discussed it in December, but with the winter they weren't able to get anything out to the residents. Residents had to be notified 90 days in advance to give them the opportunity to do the repairs themselves on sidewalks that needed replaced. With the recommendation of the Committee to suspend and call, Mr. Williams made the motion, which was seconded by Mr. Yurchiak, to suspend the three reading rule on Resolution No. 21-06. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Stugmyer Copley, Hines, Haskins, Yurchiak, Darlington, Williams. Nays: none. Mr. Williams called the question. Mr. Thurber called for a vote. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Copley, Hines, Haskins, Yurchiak, Darlington, Williams, Stugmyer. Nays: none. **Resolution No. 21-06 declared to have been adopted March 16, 2021.**

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. 21-014 (3rd RDG.): AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTION 76.11 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF WADSWORTH TO ADD DURING HOURS OF OPERATION IN PUBLIC PARKS AND TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY

- Sponsored by Council Member Ralph Copley
- Forwarded by Public Safety Committee February 16, 2021

Mr. Copley stated that he had no public comment on the ordinance. He called the question on Ordinance No. 21-014. Mr. Thurber called for a vote. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Hines, Haskins, Yurchiak, Darlington, Williams, Stugmyer, Copley. Nays: none. **Ordinance No. 21-014 declared to have been adopted March 16, 2021.**

That concluded the legislation for the meeting.

OTHER BUSINESS: Mr. Thurber for any other business.

Ms. Haskins wished a belated "Happy Birthday" to their Mayor Robin Laubaugh. Ms. Haskins believed the Mayor had just turned 39. Was it yesterday, she asked? Ms. Haskins congratulated her. **Mayor Laubaugh** thanked her. Others joined in.

Mrs. Hines said she had a couple of questions about the stop lights at the end of Silvercreek and Broad and asked if there were any updates. **Mr. Patrick** responded and his comments could only partially be here. He said that the City was waiting on all of the equipment to come in. He believed the last piece was due in the beginning of May. Once that happened, they would mobilize the City crews to do that work.

Mrs. Hines also inquired when the state of emergency and the timeline on when that would be

lifted. Mayor Laubaugh responded and her comments could not be heard in their entirety. She reported ongoing discussions with the Department of Health. She mentioned a light the end of the tunnel and vaccinations. She did not have a specific timeline yet.

Mrs. Hines thanked them both for the information.

Mr. Copley had a question about a sign at High and Prospect. He wanted to know what had changed there for school operation. Mr. Patrick said nothing had changed for school operation, but the entirety of his explanation could not be heard. Mr. Copley thanked him.

ADJOURNMENT: Mr. Copley made a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Mr. Williams. All were in favor. **The meeting was adjourned at approximately 5:40 p.m.**

Clerk of Council

President of Council