

Willard, Ohio
August 6, 2018

The Council of the City of Willard met in regular session on Monday, August 6, 2018 with the Council President calling the meeting to order. The meeting was opened with prayer by Reverend Ricky Branham, Ripley Chapel.

ROLL CALL: Danhoff, Daniel, Elmlinger, Gerber, Johnson, Olson and Sattig present.

MINUTES: The minutes of the Regular Council meeting held July 16, 2018 were presented for approval. In that copies of these minutes were furnished to each council person prior to the meeting, there was no request they be read. Moved by Elmlinger, seconded by Olson, that the minutes be approved as received. In a called vote, Danhoff, Daniel, Elmlinger, Gerber, Johnson, Olson and Sattig voted yea. Motion carried.

CITIZENS DISCUSSIONS: Cynthia Breyman, of 422 South Myrtle Avenue, addressed Council concerning an issue with a neighboring property located at 414 South Myrtle Avenue. Breyman advised council that the property located at 414 South Myrtle Avenue, which Breyman stated is owned by Ron Worcester, is littered with junk, old appliances and garbage, and that the current state of the property has led to problems with an influx of rodents and bugs which have spread to properties adjacent to 414 South Myrtle Avenue. Breyman further advised Council that there have been issues with the tenants of 414 South Myrtle Avenue making threats to adjacent property owner/residents, and issues with tenants and tenants' guests overdosing, becoming physically ill, and passing out in the adjacent alley to the property. She advised that these issues have been ongoing for approximately three years, and that she and other neighbors have contacted the landlord, City authorities, and the Health Department to make complaints but have had no acceptable resolution to their complaints. Breyman requested that the City take action to require Worcester to have the property exterminated to address the ongoing issue with rodents and bugs, and she inquired of the City Manager why the City has taken no action to address the ongoing issues with the property despite the repeated complaints of adjacent property owners/residents. The City Manager addressed Breyman's concerns and acknowledged that there has been a "frustrating history" with this property. He advised that there have been several arrests made at the property involving its tenants/tenants' guests, and that he was aware that the Health Department had made visits to the property. The City Manager acknowledged that the City has responded to complaints made by adjacent property owners/residents, but that the landlord appears to only do what is necessary to clean the property to avoid citation by the City. He assured Breyman that the matter would be looked into to see what action, if any, could be taken in order to address Breyman's concerns.

Betty Eckles, of 418 South Myrtle Avenue, then addressed Council concerning issues she has experienced with the property at 414 South Myrtle Avenue. She advised Council that she has taken action to try to keep rodents and bugs from the property at 414 South Myrtle Avenue from infesting her property. She asked Council to please take action to address the ongoing issues with the property at 414 South Myrtle Avenue. Council President Johnson assured Eckles that Council would look into her concerns to see what action, if any, could be taken to address her concerns.

BID PROPOSALS: None.

SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS: None.

COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS: None.

TABLED ITEMS: None.

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES:

1. Charter/Legislative-Danhoff, Gerber
2. Finance-Gerber, Sattig
3. Public Works-Daniel, Elmlinger
4. Safety-Elmlinger
5. Utilities-Danhoff, Daniel

REPORTS FROM OFFICERS: None.

REPORT FROM CITY MANAGER: The City Manager's report was reviewed as it was presented to Council.

The City Manager discussed the Military Leave Ordinance on the agenda.

The City Manager then discussed the labor management meeting to be held on Tuesday, August 7, concerning the Willard Police Department, and commented on the recent resignation of one of the Department's dispatchers.

The City Manager advised that there is a beaver who has taken up residence at the reservoir drainage pond, and that ODNR has been contacted for its assistance in removing the beaver. He further advised that the lagoon has been pumped down.

The City Manager advised that the Hope Fest was scheduled to take place this weekend in downtown Willard, and that he hoped members of Council would take the opportunity to be in attendance and support the Hope Fest and the efforts of the Hope Center.

The City Manager then asked that Council approve various donations made in support of the City's Parks & Rec's nature trails and the clock tower. Motion was made by Elmlinger, seconded by Olson, to accept the various donations in support of the City's Parks & Rec's nature trails and the clock tower. In a called vote, Danhoff, Daniel, Elmlinger, Gerber, Johnson, Olson, and Sattig voted yea. Motion carried.

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS:

ORDINANCE NO.

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTION 167.07(c) OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES TO PROVIDE FOR MILITARY LEAVE FOR EMPLOYEES OF THE CITY OF WILLARD, was presented by the Council President for its first reading, by title only. The Ordinance was read by the Clerk Pro Tem.

COUNCIL/MAYOR COMMENTS:

Councilman Sattig addressed Council concerning the downtown traffic signals and requested that a decision be made at the next Council meeting to address whether the City would continue to keep the signals flashing, or return them to operating stop and go signals. Sattig stated that residents have discussed with him that they would like to see an operating signal returned to the Pearl Street/Myrtle Avenue intersection.

Councilman Gerber inquired whether the downtown traffic signals were all linked together or if they could each be operated separately. The City Manager advised that the downtown traffic signals are all linked together.

Councilman Johnson commented that the safety of individuals utilizing the crosswalks to visit downtown businesses was a concern.

The City Manager requested that the issue of whether to continue the downtown traffic signals in flashing operation or return them to operating stop and go signals be discussed at the next work session scheduled for September where he would make recommendations.

Councilman Gerber asked the City Manager for an update on the status of the City's street repairs. The City Manager advised that the street repairs are moving forward and that the various spots around the City that have been dug up will be addressed in the next several weeks.

Councilman Johnson commended the City on the curb painting, and noted that the City Public Works Department had sold the old generator from City Hall and that the generator was being donated by its purchaser to a city in Africa.

Councilman Daniel advised Council that he had attended the open house for Trent Insurance Group and that the open house had been well received.

ADJOURNMENT:

With no other business to come before Council, on motion by Olson, seconded by Elmlinger, the meeting was adjourned. In a called vote, Danhoff, Daniel, Elmlinger, Gerber, Johnson, Olson and Sattig voted yea. Motion carried.

President

Clerk of Council