

Willard, Ohio
December 20, 2021

The Council of the City of Willard, Ohio met in regular session on Monday, December 20, 2021, with the President of Council calling the meeting to order. The meeting was opened with prayer by Adam Yonley, visiting citizen.

Roll Call: Babcock, Danhoff, Daniel, Elmlinger, Olson and Sattig present. Johnson was absent.

MINUTES: Minutes from the Budget Appropriations of 2022 Meeting were presented for approval. In that copies of the minutes were furnished to each councilperson prior to the meeting, there was no request that they be read. Elmlinger pointed out that minutes showed that Olson left at 6:54 p.m. Clerk Arnold noted that that was from last years minutes and that she would delete that. Moved by Olson, seconded by Danhoff, that they be approved as amended. In a called vote therein Babcock, Danhoff, Daniel, Elmlinger, Olson and Sattig voted yea. Motion carried.

Minutes of the Regular Council meeting held December 6, 2021, were presented for approval. In that copies of the minutes were furnished to each Councilperson prior to the meeting, there was no request they be read. Moved by Olson, seconded by Danhoff, that they be approved as received. In a called vote therein Babcock, Danhoff, Daniel, Elmlinger, Olson and Sattig voted yea. Motion carried.

CITIZENS DISCUSSION: Adam Yonley, 807 Kennedy Dr., Willard, an avid runner spoke about proposed surfaces and size of the Fisher Titus Health Walk at the Willard Reservoir. He wanted to give his insight and opinions as well as be a voice of other walkers and runners that frequent the reservoir already. Adam is excited for the project but wanted to voice his concern on surface options and asked for signage to limit confusion for walkers and runners and possible wheeled traffic like bicycles and/or strollers.

Bryson explained that we can add signage to help with the confusion, but we will not be able to police the walking track. He also added that due to safety concerns with the water, the use of concrete was the best option.

Mike Farrell 2745 St. Rt. 162 Willard, wanted to voice his concern on the use of concrete and the possible safety concerns of unevenness of it in the coming years. He also is concerned that the walking path will be narrowed from what it is now.

BID PROPOSALS: None

SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS:

1. Volunteer Firefighters Dependents Fund Board- currently Chuck Danhoff and Joe Daniel; Daniel will stay on. This special order of business will be postponed till the following meeting to see if McKenzie wants to be on.

COMMUNICATIONS & PETITIONS:

TABLED ITEMS: None

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES:

1. *Charter/Legislative – Danhoff, Johnson*
2. *Finance – Johnson, Olson, Sattig*
3. *Public Works – Babcock, Daniel*
4. *Safety – Babcock, Daniel, Olson*
5. *Utilities – Danhoff, Daniel, Olson*

REPORTS FROM OFFICERS: Finance report for November 2021 was reviewed. Moved by Olson, seconded by Danhoff, that Council accept the Finance Director's Report for November 2021. In a called vote Babcock, Danhoff, Daniel, Elmlinger, Olson and Sattig voted yea. Motion carried.

CITY MANAGER REPORT:

Update on the Fisher Titus Health Walk at the Willard Reservoir, Fisher Titus is handling the bid process and all the money that comes through. Fisher Titus will be managing the process then donating the Health Walk to the City.

The City Manager reported that the next scheduled food giveaway is Tuesday, December 21, from 3:00 until 5:00 p.m. It is the last one for this year but, they are planning to continue through July of next year. We continue to be thankful for Second Harvest and these food giveaways. We are also thankful for the volunteers in Willard that have stepped up to help their fellow citizens.

On Wednesday, December 22, 2021, the Health Department will be giving away 500 COVID tests at the park from 9-10:30a.m.

The Christmas Festival of Lights hosted by the Willard City Park runs every Friday, Saturday, and Sunday through January 1st from 6:30 to 10 p.m. Twenty-two businesses, organizations and churches have set up displays at the park. The community has spoken very highly of the Christmas Festival of Lights. Due to high winds the display was closed on Saturday, December 11, 2021. The community has donated just under \$1,400.00. That money will help pay for the electric bill and next years' Christmas Festival of lights. Thank you to the Maintenance Department and Parks and Recreation Department for all your help.

City Hall will be closed Thursday, December 23rd and Friday, December 24th in observance of Christmas Eve and Christmas. City Hall will also be closed on Friday, December 31st to observe New Year's Eve. In the case of a non-life-threatening emergency arising residents may call the police station at 419-933-2561.

Leaf pickup collection was concluded on December 14, although there is a possibility of one more leaf pick up.

The City has also been fixing potholes in alleys

Ohio Department of Transportation has a new program the City is looking into applying for. The program focuses on preventing injuries resulting from pedestrian and roadway departure crashes through their Systemic Infrastructure Improvements. The program is a 90%/10% split with the cost of the right-of-ways included in the 10% split. We need to continue to discuss things with Kegy Engineering Firm out of Mansfield and find out more details and specifics including the number of right of ways. O.D.O.T. knows our concerns and the problems that we have had. Bryson will keep us updated with any information.

After waiting on supplies for the past few months, the Wastewater Treatment Plant will be rehabbing their Scum Concentrator. The Scum Concentrator was first installed in 1993 and this is the first time it has been rebuilt. During the rehab, December 17 to December 28, we will not be accepting any grease haulers, but we will still be accepting septic haulers.

Willard Community Development Director position had three applicants. Interviews for the three applicants will begin December 21, 2021.

The Willard Fire Department applied for an Assistance to Firefighter Grant (AFG) for \$100,000. If received the grant will be used to purchase a Total Capsulation Exhaust System for the fire station. The Total Capsulation Exhaust System would improve the well being of our fire personnel by removing the harmful CO2 gases and other particles from the bay. It would also help with heating costs in the winters, the doors would not need to be left open when a vehicle is running.

CSX donated a truckload of toys to our Police Department to be given away within our community. The Police Department looks forward to passing out these toys. Thank you to CSX for its charitable contributions to our community.

Chief Chaffins recently participated in Huron County's Shop with a Cop sponsored by the Huron County Fraternal Order of Police. He was able to shop with Children from Willard as they were given \$100 each to spend on Christmas presents.

The Water Plant was able to get an early start pumping water from the Huron river into the reservoir as all the nutrient levels, turbidity, and algae tests all indicated favorable results. Early pumping has allowed us to pump approximately 80 million gallons of water into the reservoir, which is one foot of water. Pumping has since been paused due to recent rainfall and potential hazardous runoff from agricultural fields.

The City is fortunate to have many dedicated employees serving the residents of Willard. We thank the following employees for reaching the following milestone anniversaries in 2021.

5 years-Kim Elmlinger
5 years Kristen Byrne
5 years Tim Pelsang
10 years Jim Gilliam
20 years Max Helton
25 years Jim Hutchison
30 years Shelly Daniel
30 years Carl Stevens

Happy Retirement to Terry Arnold and Dave Arnold. Thank you both for your many years of serving the City.

The Fire Department sold their 1987 Chevrolet Step-Van on GovDeals for \$17,100 (plus 12.5% buyers' premium of \$2,137.50). Revenue from the sale will go to replacing old dive equipment.

Also, we interviewed three people to replace Dave Arnold. We have offered the position to Mike Gardner.

The National Guard has called up one of our fulltime firefighters to help with the Covid Relief Efforts.

Thank you to Chuck Danhoff for your 8 years on Council and for all your support. It has been a pleasure working with you.

Bryson recommended that Kim Williams be approved to the full-time position of Park and Recreation Director. Kim currently serves as the Interim Park and Recreation Director. She has knowledge of the City and has shown department employees and youth how to serve the community. Kim has over seen many City activities and has plans on improving the park and adding more activities and festivities to the City. Sattig questioned whether or not the position was ever publicly advertised and if Bryson had ever investigated Kim's personnel file. Bryson is impressed by Kim's last 6-month worth of work history and believes that she is a good candidate for the position. It was moved by Olson, seconded by Danhoff that Bryson appoint Kim Williams to Park and Recreations Director. In a called vote Babcock, Danhoff, Daniel, Elmlinger and Olson voted yea. Sattig voted nay. Motion carried.

Sattig also asked if the Chamber of Commerce has all of their stuff out of City Hall? Bryson replied no, we have taken their name plates off of those offices. There is a new director now, there was a discussion today about them finding a new office. A tentative date can be set for them to remove their stuff.

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS:

ORDINANCE NO. _____

AN ORDINANCE TO SET THE ANNUAL APPROPRIATIONS FOR CURRENT EXPENSES AND OTHER EXPENSES OF THE CITY OF WILLARD, STATE OF OHIO, DURING THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2022, was presented by Council President for its first reading by title only. This was done by the Clerk.

Sattig questioned if this Ordinance includes the Capital Budget and what has been done about the \$55,000 cruiser? Bryson reminded Sattig of the agreement; that he would come to Council before a purchase order is made, for approval before moving forward. Sattig also mentioned that he is still upset that the City wants to buy assault rifles. He asked if it was going to stay that way? He would rather see the \$14,000 go to police body cameras. Bryson replied that the body cameras are in the budget they have an \$8,000 annual subscription expense. Sattig stated that he will not vote for the Ordinance if the assault rifles are in the budget.

ORDINANCE NO. _____

AN ORDINANCE TO ALLOW FOR THE TRANSFERS NEEDED FOR THE CITY OF WILLARD, STATE OF OHIO, DURING THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2022, was presented by the Council President for its first reading by title only. This was done by the Clerk.

ORDINANCE NO. _____

AN ORDINANCE FIXING THE WAGES OF CERTAIN CITY OFFICIALS, FIRE DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL, AND OTHER CITY EMPLOYEES, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY was presented by the Council President for its first reading by title only. This was done by the Clerk.

Moved by Olson, seconded by Danhoff, that this Ordinance be declared an emergency measure, and the rules be waived and that it go into effect upon passage on its first reading. In a called vote Babcock, Danhoff, Daniel, Elmlinger, Olson and Sattig voted yea. Motion carried.

Moved by Olson, seconded by Danhoff, that this Ordinance be adopted. In a called vote Babcock, Danhoff, Daniel, Elmlinger, Olson and Sattig voted yea. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 2536-21

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR THE US 224 STORM SEWER REPAIR PROJECT PID 115930, was presented by Council President for its first reading by title only. This was done by the Clerk.

Moved by Olson, seconded by Danhoff that the rules be suspended, and the Resolution be adopted on its first reading. In a called vote Babcock, Danhoff, Daniel, Elmlinger, Olson and Sattig voted yea. Motion carried.

Moved by Olson, seconded by Danhoff that the Ordinance be adopted. In a called vote Babcock, Danhoff, Daniel, Elmlinger, Olson and Sattig voted yea. Motion carried.

COUNCIL/MAYOR COMMENTS:

Daniel thanked Danhoff for his years of service.

Olson thanked Danhoff as well and thanked Terry for her years of service.

Danhoff said it was a pleasure serving for the past 8 years and maybe he will be back next time.

Sattig wished everyone Happy Holidays and well-done Terry.

Babcock thanked Danhoff for a great 2 years.

Elmlinger enjoyed working with Danhoff reminded him not to be a stranger.

Elmlinger presented Terry with a card and retirement gift.

Moved by Olson seconded by Danhoff that Council adjourn. In a called vote therein Babcock, Danhoff, Daniel, Elmlinger, Olson and Sattig voted yea. Motion carried.

President of Council

Clerk of Council