

Willard, Ohio
March 15, 2021

The Council of the City of Willard, Ohio met in regular session on Monday, March 15, 2021, with the President of Council calling the meeting to order. The meeting was opened with prayer by Pastor Bart McKelvey, CMA.

Roll Call: Babcock, Danhoff, Daniel, Elmlinger, Johnson and Sattig present. Olson was absent. James Pomerich, City Manager was on vacation. Bryson Hamons, Park & Recreation Director was present to fill in for the City Manager.

MINUTES: Minutes of the Work Session held March 1, 2021 were presented for approval. In that copies of the minutes were furnished each Councilperson prior to the meeting, there was no request they be read. Moved by Danhoff seconded by Daniel that they be approved as received. In a called vote therein Babcock, Danhoff, Daniel, Elmlinger, Johnson and Sattig voted yea. Motion carried.

Minutes of the Council meeting held March 1, 2021 were presented for approval. In that copies of the minutes were furnished each Councilperson prior to the meeting, there was no request they be read. Moved by Danhoff seconded by Daniel that they be approved as received. In a called vote therein Babcock, Danhoff, Daniel, Elmlinger, Johnson and Sattig voted yea. Motion carried.

CITIZENS DISCUSSION: None

BID PROPOSALS: None

SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS: None

COMMUNICATIONS & PETITIONS:

1. **Ohio EPA, Draft Air Pollution Title V Permit, Renewal**, Guardian Manufacturing was received by Council. Moved by Danhoff seconded by Daniel to accept letter and place on file. In a called vote therein Babcock, Danhoff, Daniel, Elmlinger, Johnson and Sattig voted yea. Motion carried.

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 February 2021 was presented by Finance Director.

Moved by Danhoff seconded by Daniel that Council accept the Finance Director's report for February 2021. In a called vote, Babcock, Danhoff, Daniel, Elmlinger, Johnson and Sattig voted yea. Motion carried.

Johnson asked what participation had been with screenings in the past? Huff said last time we had about 30 participate. Previously, spouses were eligible for a fee. This time spouses will also be free. Our insurance representative is pushing for us to encourage our employees and their families to be proactive with their health. City does cover this cost, but our insurance representative feels it will pay off in the long run.

CITY MANAGER REPORT:

COVID update – no employees sick or out on quarantine. On March 12 Huron County reported only 70 new cases for the week. Our Police Department received their vaccines on March 8th. Nearly ¼ of Huron County is in the vaccine process.

This Wednesday we will have a food giveaway through the Farmers to Families program. This is being brought to Willard through Starting Point. These food giveaways are different than the ones we have been having. These giveaways will be staffed entirely by volunteers. Interested persons will be able to pick up boxes at a drive-thru in the park, or Trinity Lutheran Church and the Keefer Street park will be designated as walk-up locations where people can pick up food boxes if they do not have a vehicle. The City is also asking that people who do not have a means to get a food box, call the City or their local church and boxes will be delivered to them. These food boxes contain 40 pounds of food, including meat, dairy, vegetables, and other items. This giveaway will have approximately

1,300 boxes available. Volunteers are needed, anyone interested in helping should contact Starting Point.

Willard Mercy Rehab and Wellness would like to put on a walk for wellness in downtown Willard. This walk would highlight downtown businesses and promote community health and wellness. They would work to coordinate with downtown businesses so that people walking could stop in at the local businesses. Each location visited by a walker would be given a ticket they could turn in to be entered into a prize drawing. There will be tables set up to provide healthy lifestyle information or screenings such as grip strength, flexibility, blood pressure, body mass index, nutrition, etc. Mercy would also give small promotional items away at different locations such as hand sanitizer, sunscreen, etc. James would like to ask for Council's support on this. They have not come up with a set date for this, but they are looking at Saturday, May 29th.

City Manager would like to request a Work Session in April to address our Fire Station manning request and spring trash pickup.

Clock Tower is officially in the construction stage. The Maintenance Department is now working on building the forms to pour the concrete foundation.

In early 2020, we were awarded funding for the 2020 and 2021 CHIP Program. The CHIP Grant is a competitive grant, and by applying collectively with Huron County and Norwalk, we were able to receive over a million dollars for our communities. Willard's portion was \$300,000. This grant money is available to low-income residents of Willard, and they can apply to improve their homes. With the effect of COVID, they also can apply for rental assistance that can help pay for up to three months of rent. To date, Willard residents have received just over \$150,000.00 in grants. There is still money available that must be used by October 31, 2021. Will be getting the word out to the paper, Willard Area Ministerial Association, Starting Point, Willard Schools, and various other organizations to help get this information out.

The Park and Recreation Department, with the help of the Maintenance Department, is constructing a new walking bridge over the creek that is north of the three picnic pavilions behind the Depot. This project is made possible by a donation from the Willard Moose Lodge. When finished, the bridge will resemble a covered bridge that will be visible from both Main Street and Laurel Street. We are grateful to the Willard Moose Lodge for providing funds for this project. This project is part of a larger project that will include a concrete walking path for our residents to enjoy.

Campbell's grant has been approved. The Park and Recreation Department partnered with the United Fund to apply for a Campbell's Soup Foundation Grant. This grant will cover the cost of material as City forces will help with construction. Once completed, it will create a 1.1-mile looping trail around the park for the community to enjoy.

Residence at 108 Spring Street was vandalized and many of the windows were broken out. Our Maintenance Department quickly responded and boarded up the windows, securing the property. We will be sending a bill to be placed on the property owner's taxes.

The County has scheduled a TIRC meeting for Willard on Thursday, March 18th at 9 am. Councilman David Sattig, Finance Director Lori Huff and James Pomerich, City Manager will attend this meeting.

Council requested to accept the following donations to benefit the Clock Tower Project: \$100 from David Dalton Sr.; \$200 from Donald & Shirley Leininger; \$235 from Donna Myers; and \$200 from Mary Amrhein. Sattig asked Finance Director if she could find out how much Mr. & Mrs. Don Leininger have given. She said she could.

Moved by Danhoff seconded by Daniel that these donations be accepted by Council. In a called vote, Babcock, Danhoff, Daniel, Elmlinger, Johnson and Sattig voted yea. Motion carried.

Johnson asked if the walking trails would be maintained during the winter months. Hamons said he hoped so and they would certainly try. Some of it will depend on staffing and who is available.

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS: None

COUNCIL/MAYOR COMMENTS:

Mayor – it is nice to see people already using the park as the days warm up.

Council set Work Session for Monday, April 5 at 6:00 pm, prior to the regular meeting.

Babcock thanked Bryson for all his time and hard work at the park. Bryson said he gets a lot of in-house help from other departments.

Johnson said it is impressive to see what our employees can accomplish in-house.

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

President of Council

Clerk of Council