

Willard, Ohio
February 22, 2022

The Council of the City of Willard, Ohio met in regular session on Tuesday, February 22, 2022, with the President of Council calling the meeting to order. The meeting was opened with prayer by Sister Diane Hay, Mercy Willard.

Roll Call: Babcock, Daniel, Elmlinger, Johnson, McKenzie, Olson and Sattig present.

MINUTES: Minutes of the Council meeting held February 7, 2022, 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 Olson seconded by Babcock that they be approved as received. In a called vote therein Babcock, Daniel, Elmlinger, Johnson, McKenzie, Olson and Sattig voted yea. Motion carried.

CITIZENS DISCUSSION: None

BID PROPOSALS: None

SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS:

1. **Public Hearing** for Ordinance to provide transfer of funds from the General Fund to the Creating Healthy Communities Fund 258 in the amount of seven thousand three hundred seventy-four dollars and fifty-five cents (\$7,374.55) in order to provide funding prior to a reimbursing grant being received and repay the transfer after the funds are reimbursed. There were no comments oral or written, for or against the Ordinance received by the Clerk or Council members. There were no citizens present to voice any comment. It is listed below for its final reading.

COMMUNICATIONS & PETITIONS: None

TABLED ITEMS: Sidewalk construction on the proposed site of Stor-N-Lock on Theo Moll Drive

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES:

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

REPORTS FROM OFFICERS: Finance Report for January 2022 was presented by Finance Director.

Moved by Olson seconded by Babcock that Council accept and place on file the Finance Director's report for January 2022. In a called vote, Babcock, Daniel, Elmlinger, Johnson, McKenzie, Olson and Sattig voted yea. Motion carried.

Moved by Olson seconded by Babcock to approve the Finance Report. In a called vote, Babcock, Daniel, Elmlinger, Johnson, McKenzie, Olson and Sattig voted yea. Motion carried.

CITY MANAGER REPORT:

Tax Incentive Review Council meeting will be held March 16th with Pepperidge Farm and Star of the West. City Council is invited to attend the meeting.

Willard City Wide Trash Cleanup will be April 29-30th, located downtown across from Directions Credit Union.

April 30th from 10-12pm paint and tire recycling will take place at the Water Treatment Facility.

The next Second Harvest food giveaway will be Tuesday, March 1st from 3-5pm. The City is thankful for Second Harvest and the dozens of volunteers that assist in making this giveaway possible.

Water from the Huron River is being pumped into the reservoir to be stored for later treatment. In January, 186 million gallons of water was pumped into the reservoir. The City will continue to pump water into the reservoir, as it is still 2 feet below the targeted level of 942 (sea level). The lagoon is approximately 3 feet from being full. Water will be pumped from the lagoon as well.

A test was held on February 16th for the water meter reader position. Sixteen of twenty-nine applicants passed with a score of 70 or higher. The top 3 applicants will be interviewed for the position.

February 9th, a test was held for the open dispatch position. 7 out of the 8 applicants that tested passed. Interviews are currently underway for the top 3 applicants.

Gaven Lindsey will be transferring to the Maintenance Department.

A water main break near 522 Fink Street was repaired but, upon investigation the line will need replaced in the future. The Street Department also completed a new double-tap service line at a residential dwelling in New Haven. A service leak on State Route 598 was repaired with a recently purchased Grice Tool. The Grice Tool allows the new line to be placed while simultaneously removing the old line. This will save time, money, and materials.

Construction has started on the covered bridge at the park. City Employees are working on it in between weather events and other jobs. The materials for this project were made possible by a donation from the Willard Moose Lodge.

Carol Knapp has been offered the part-time position of Willard Community Development Director. Carol brings twenty-four years of management and economic field experience to the City. This position is funded through a public-private partnership of the City of Willard, Willard Chamber of Commerce, Willard United Fund, and Willard Area Economic Development Corporation.

The assailant that took the life of Margarita Roblero-Perez on September 21, 2021, was recently sentenced to twenty-five years to life on one count of an unclassified felony murder charge and one F-1 attempt to commit the offense of murder. Thank you to Willard Police Department, Huron County Sheriff Office, Willard Law Director, Huron County Prosecutor's Office, Sandusky County Sheriff Office, Bureau of Criminal Investigation and the Willard Fire and EMS for help with the arrest and prosecution of the assailant.

Dependent on supply, the City of Willard, the Huron County Health Department, and the Huron County Community Library are planning to purchase four pedal-powered bikes and two electric-assisted bikes to start the Bike Share Program. This program is fully funded through a grant administered from Huron County Creating Healthy Communities.

As part of capital improvements, 480 tons of rip rap stone is being added to the inside shoreline of the reservoir. This improvement is to help protect the long-term stability of the reservoir shoreline. R.A. Bores will be spreading the stone over the banks with their large excavator in the near future.

The City has been working with Fisher-Titus to prepare a bid package for contractors to bid on the Fisher-Titus Health Walk project. Bid packages will be available to the public on February 8th with a bid opening date of February 24th.

The City recently received a check from the Ohio Attorney General's Office for \$4,700.00 to help assist with the cost of the newly required Continued Professional Training (CPT) that every officer must attend. The 24 hours of in-person and online instruction is to assist officers with the latest and best practices and tools to become better professionals. Cultural Humility, Mental Health, Use of Force, Legal Updates, Officer Wellness, Sexual Assault, and Domestic Violence are topics included in the CPT education.

Council requested to accept the following donations:
\$500 from Don and Sharon Danhoff towards the Clock Tower Fund.
\$100 from Don and Shirley Leininger towards the Clock Tower Fund.

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

The City has set July 4th as the date for the fourth of July fireworks display with July 5th being the rain date.

Trick or Treat will be on October 27th with a rain date of October 29th.

Sattig asked if the lagoon needed cleaned? Hamons will find out and investigate as to when it was cleaned out last.

Johnson inquired about the Spring Festival on May 7th? Hamons explained it is an organization; Active Neighbors Enhancing Willard (ANEW) that plans to have crafts and different activities (touch a truck/bike rodeo). It is planned to be a large event downtown.

Johnson questioned the condition of the water lines, because of the water main breaks, and asked if they had been replacing them during road work? Hamons said they are doing so, and they have a schedule; and they try to coordinate with other companies' schedules as well, when they are working in the City.

Johnson positively remarked on the number of remodeling projects currently happening in the City; whether it is a private person or in part to the Huron County Landbank, it is a good step forward for the city. He is also appreciative to see the quick murder conviction and other actions taken in recent police reports.

Daniel would like sidewalks installed, and a plan to address the sidewalk issue. He would like to see sidewalks on at least one side of the street and extend to Neal Zick Rd; Adding that it needs to start somewhere, and he believes that it can be done within the next few years. Hamons agreed.

Daniel commented that he's pleased that the Street Department has the new water line tool.

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS:

ORDINANCE NO. 5909-22

AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE A TRANSFER OF FUNDS FROM THE GENERAL FUND TO THE CREATING HEALTH COMMUNITIES FUND 258 IN THE AMOUNT OF SEVEN THOUSAND THREE HUNDRED SEVENTY-FOUR DOLLARS AND FIFTY-FIVE CENTS (\$7,374.55) IN ORDER TO PROVIDE FUNDING PRIOR TO A REIMBURSING GRANT BEING RECEIVED, AND REPAY THE TRANSFER AFTER THE FUNDS ARE REIMBURSED, was presented by Council President for its final reading by title only. This was done by the Council Clerk.

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

COUNCIL/MAYOR COMMENTS:

Daniel appreciated that the Council Clerk was conserving paper in council packets. He is appreciative of Second Harvest and of the food giveaway. Daniel has enjoyed volunteering at the food giveaway and encourages others to volunteer as well.

Olson agrees with Daniel, very appreciative of Second Harvest, there are a lot of issues with food insecurities in our community and we are very fortunate to have Second Harvest and the food giveaways.

McKenzie thanked Hamons and Lori for implementing the Spanish language option in the City utility billing service.

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

President of Council

Clerk of Council