

**MINUTES OF THE  
VAN WERT CITY COUNCIL  
July 8th, 2019**

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by President Tomlinson.

The invocation was given by Pastor Keith Stoller.

On call of the roll: Markward, Marshall, Agler, Trittschuh, Penton and Straley were present with Mergy absent.

Agler motioned to approve Mergy's absence. Seconded by Straley. All concurred.

Trittschuh made a motion to approve the agenda as amended for the July 8<sup>th</sup> meeting. Seconded by Straley. All concurred.

Trittschuh motioned to approve the 6/24/19 amended minutes. Seconded by Mr. Straley with Markward, Marshall, and Agler concurring. Penton abstained.

**COMMENTS, COMMUNICATIONS & PETITIONS**

President Tomlinson stated that City Council would enter into an Executive Session regarding Real Estate. He also shared an email from a concerned citizen requesting a crosswalk on North Franklin Street by Quail Run and Vantage Vocational School. He passed it on to Trittschuh for his committee to address it.

The President stated that he and several other city officials had received an email regarding the Lima-Allen County building department requesting scheduling a presentation of their services regarding Van Wert City's consideration of creation of a local building department with services being outsourced to Lima-Allen County.

The President shared an email forwarded from the Mayor regarding the 2020 grants available for litter pickup and announced dates for a grants informational webinar available on January 8<sup>th</sup> of 2020 and requested Economic Development and Health, Service and Safety chair to attend the webinar.

Two liquor applications were announced from The Partee Shop with the return date of July 29, 2019.

**ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**

**MAYOR:** The Mayor read Resolution 25-19-R expressing gratitude from the City of Celina to the City of Van Wert for providing assistance after the tornado. The Mayor expressed gratitude to the City of Celina for their consideration. He thanked Safety Service Director Jay Fleming for being pro-active and reaching out to the city of Celina to offer services.

**SAFETY SERVICE DIRECTOR:** Brush week started today and will continue throughout the week. Fleming shared 94.01 Park Hours Closed and requested for Memorial Park to be removed because the city no longer controls it and for Franklin Park to be added with closed hours of 10:00pm – 6:00am.

The Jefferson Bridge Project is delayed with the start date of May 26, 2020.

Paving phase three of the Vision Park project today. Phase four is the work left to do on John Brown Road. The waste treatment plant, CSO Project is nearly complete, the only thing remaining is fencing and seeding in August. Hoping for a good rain to run final tests.

Trittschuh asked for an update for the Central Avenue traffic light and street paving. Fleming stated the foundations were done but that the poles were supposed to arrive last week but they're still waiting on the poles to arrive to complete so the project is currently on hold. Bids are being done for the street paving to begin in September.

The President asked about the new water meters affecting citizen's bills. Residents are encouraged to call the water department with any questions or concerns.

**AUDITOR:** Balyeat shared the June 30th, 2019 bank reconciliation with a balance of \$12,881,054. The balance in the various bank accounts and investments showed the same \$12,881,054. The cash position report showed a column titled unexpended balance showed a balance of all the funds that Van Wert has with a positive balance as required. Revenues are approximately \$57,000 ahead of 2018 total for the general fund. We are presently at 52.7% of projected net profit tax. Revenues collected in the general fund 3.4 million and we have spent \$3.3 million. A Then and Now was presented for Nuwave Technology for court security in the amount of \$3,9092.94. Shambaugh and Sons for repairs at the water treatment plant in the amount of \$4,824.00.

**LAW DIRECTOR:** Nuisance cases issued are calling his office to resolve issues before court. The projected atmosphere of working together is working. Traffic violations have increased with the majority cases being drug O.V.I.'s.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

**HEALTH, SERVICE AND SAFETY:** Marshall reported that 20 code violations had been cited, with 15 cases currently open related to weeds. He also stated that more recently people are leaving pieces of furniture out and that it is the tenant's responsibility to dispose of. If the home is no longer occupied, it is the landlord's responsibility to dispose of. Marshall also asked Council for any feedback regarding the Miami County presentation. The President presented an example of a resolution requested by the County. Should Van Wert County Commissioners contract with Miami County that The City of Van Wert County would be willing to become a sub-department under that contract. The President asked for everyone to read the example resolution and suggested it be read three times but to prepare it on an emergency basis if council members wanted to move forward. The President requested a brainstorm session for code enforcement with Mr. Fleming, Mr. Lawson, Mr. Marshall and himself to discuss code enforcement.

**PARKS AND RECREATION:** Penton reported that the bleacher project is complete. Parks and Recreation wanted to thank all the volunteers for all their work and the local media to help get volunteers. Penton motioned to Amend 94.01 on an emergency basis. Seconded by Mr. Agler. All concluded. This will be placed on the consent agenda for the next meeting. Mr. Trittschuh advised for park signs to be updated to the new ordinance.

**PROPERTIES AND EQUIPMENT:** No report was given.

**JUDICIARY AND ANNEXATION:** Mergy contacted Gary Hunter of Ohio Municipal League regarding scheduling a meeting with his group regarding moving forward with Charter Government. The President stated that he and Mergy would discuss next steps in scheduling a Council of the Whole.

**FINANCE:** Markward motioned to approve two invoices for a Then and Now, totaling \$3992.94 and \$4824.00. Seconded by Agler. All concluded. Markward reminded council about the Supplemental Appropriations asked to be prepared in the last meeting be on the consent agenda.

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:** Straley stated that November 4<sup>th</sup> is the online grant application date for EPA. Mr. Straley is in the process of making a plan with the cost of dumpsters and the recycling center for community clean up for non bagged trash.

**STREETS AND ALLEYS:** Tritschuh mentioned the potential crosswalk on North Franklin as stated in comments, communications and petitions.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Code Enforcement

**NEW BUSINESS**

**CONSENT AGENDA**

**AN ORDINANCE TO MAKE SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION TO FUNDS 210, 211, 212, 213, 214, 230, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

Straley motioned to introduce the Consent Agenda. Seconded by Trittschuh. All concluded. Straley motioned to suspend statutory rules for the Consent Agenda. Seconded by Trittschuh. All concluded. Straley motioned to pass the Consent Agenda on its first and final reading. Seconded by Trittschuh. All concluded.

**ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS**

At 7:32 Straley motioned to enter into an executive session for the purpose of discussing real property. Seconded by Agler. All concluded

At 8:09 Straley motioned to exit the executive session. Seconded by Agler. All concluded.

Straley made a motion to adjourn at 8:10 p.m.; seconded by Agler; with all concurring.

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CLERK

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PRESIDENT

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DATE