

Wellston City Council

Meeting Minutes

June 1st, 2023

Meeting was called to order at 7 p.m. by President Rick Hudson by asking Council and others in attendance to stand for the Pledge. He then called for the roll call.

Councilpersons answering the roll call included: Matti Vance; Fred Duby; Lynley Carey; Teresa Lemaster; and Walter Norris. Roaby Browning showed at 7:05 and Angela Spangler was absent.

Excusal of Previous Absence(s)- All those in attendance voted to excuse the absence of Vance from the previous meeting.

Mayor Anthony Brenner recognized the Wellston High School BPA, who were in attendance, for their State wins and attending the National BPA competition in Anaheim, California.

President Rick Hudson complimented and thanked the Wellston American Legion for the Memorial Day Parade.

Public Comments- none

Council was informed by the Clerk that Broadway & Co. is celebrating their one-year anniversary.

Minutes- All those in attendance voted to approve the minutes of the May 18, 2023, meeting.

Correspondence- none

Committees

- Finance (Spangler)- none
- Health & Safety (Lemaster)- none
- Public Service (Browning)- none
- Planning (Carey)- none
- Community Action (Browning)- none
- Recreation (Norris)- none

Old Business

- Norris asked for an update on the Lake Road property which has been discussed previously. The Mayor stated that outside counsel has been retained.
- Norris thanked WPD for their presence at the ballfields to curtail speeding. The Mayor is looking into the addition of portable speed bumps in this area.

New Business- none

Legislation

- Third Reading of Resolution No. 2023-29- A Resolution authorizing the Mayor, Service Director, and any other necessary official to enter into an agreement with the County of Gallia regarding the custody, supervision, confinement, and board of prisoners.

Sponsor: Lemaster

Discussion: none

A Motion to Adopt and Pass was made by Lemaster, seconded by Browning, and approved by all in attendance.

Mayor

- The Mayor began his segment by providing an update on the Louvee. Joe Kirby caught a lien against the property from a previous ownership. The current owners are working to get this issue resolved.
- Mayor Brenner received great news regarding the new Water Plant. The City has received a \$4 million forgivable loan from the Ohio EPA with 0% financing on the entire project. In addition, Senator Brown's office requested a \$5 million Federal Appropriation toward the project. Brenner says that with this news, Council should entertain the possibility of building a new water tower.
- Lemaster asked about the resignation of the Auditor. Brenner replied that the Republican Caucus has 45 days to appoint someone to the position, if they fail to do so, the Mayor is to make the appointment.
- Five projects are now approved for DLZ to perform the planning through the Appalachian Community Grant Program: Bike Path Extension; RV Park; Swimming Pool; Louvee; and Eagles Building. The Mayor stated that decisions need to be made concerning the size of the pool.

Service Director

- Director Stacy Camp said the New York and Broadway Sewer Separation Project will begin on June 19th.
- The Street Department has been readying for the Memorial Day Parade.
- Camp has been training with Kathy Long to learn the Auditing side of City business.

Law Director- none

Auditor's- none

City Clerk's Reports- none

Treasurer's Report- none

Fire- none


Zoning- none

Police

- The Department purchased a 2019 Durango from the Kansas Highway Patrol for less than \$50,000. This will replace an older vehicle on the fleet. The older vehicle will be sent to the Code Enforcement Department.
- Chief Robinson touched on the golf cart/side-by-side topic and stated that his officers are handing out information and education at this time instead of citations.
- In 2019 a theft was reported from the Volleyball Boosters. This case has resulted in an indictment and prosecution. The Chief states that there are similar cases which will see prosecution very soon.
- In November of last year, two overdose deaths occurred at Wellston Pride Manor. One person was found deceased, the other was found unresponsive and later died at the hospital. After the investigation, David Wagner was indicted and charged with two counts of involuntary manslaughter, one count of corrupting another with drugs, one count of trafficking in drugs, and one count of possession of drugs.

The meeting adjourned at 7:24 p.m.


Council Clerk


Council President

