

Wellston City Council

Meeting Minutes

May 18th, 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: Angela Spangler; Fred Duby; Lynley Carey; Teresa Lemaster; Walter Norris; and Roaby Browning. Matti Vance was absent.

The Mayor had multiple Proclamations, but stated he would deliver and read those in person.

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

Public Comments- none

Minutes- All those in attendance voted to approve the minutes of the May 4, 2023 meeting.

Correspondence- Ohio Liquor Control: There were no objections to the transfer of liquor licensing for the Goal Line Sports Pub to Scotties on First LLC

Committees

- Finance (Spangler)- none
- Health & Safety (Lemaster)- none
- Public Service (Browning)- none
- Planning (Carey)- none
- Community Action (Browning)- none
- Recreation (Norris)- The Committee Chair asked about the contract/agreement with Make Wellston Beautiful. Mayor Brenner stated that he has been in contact with MWB President Tami Phillips, who is retrieving a copy of the previous contract. Norris also stated that the deadline for adding the Recreation Levy to the ballot is approaching in August.

Old Business

- Norris asked for an update on the Lake Road property which was discussed at the previous council meeting. The Mayor stated that counsel has not yet been secured to deal with the issue.
- Lemaster asked if the Mayor had looked at the Wisconsin Avenue property, which had requested a handicap parking sign. This portion of Wisconsin only has one-sided parking and the neighbors are upset that these folks are parking in front of their property. President Hudson reminded everyone that the upset neighbors do not own the street and if someone feels they are being harassed to call the police. The Mayor says many of these residential handicap parking signs have already been removed.

- Lemaster asked if there has been a fix to the property on Massachusetts Avenue, next to the cemetery. Discussions led to looking into the feasibility of adding a curb to reroute the water that is flooding the garage and making that portion of Massachusetts a one-way. The Mayor said he would speak to the Utility Supervisor. Norris suggested looking into putting a strip of blacktop in front of the driveway, similar to a speed bump.

New Business

- Many Council Members have seen children driving golf carts on City streets and carts that are untagged. Council requested that the ordinance relating to inspections and requirements for golf carts, etc. be added to the website.
- Norris asked that the speed limit by the ballfields be checked- Jeff Montgomery Way and 327. The Mayor said they will look into adding speed bumps along this route.

Legislation

- Third Reading of Ordinance No. 2023-28- An Ordinance approving Additional Appropriations to the General Civil Fund- Supplies, Materials, and Maintenance, and Declaring an Emergency.

Sponsor: Spangler

Discussion: \$10,000 for purchase of the Louvee property; \$20,000 for paving the lot on the corner of Ohio Avenue and Broadway for City-established parking for the Downtown District. On Second Reading Discussion Lemaster brought up that the Lions Club were given permission to place a Memorial Garden on that lot. Council then discussed the probability of relocating the Garden. During the discussion, the Clerk looked up the previous ordinance, which gave the Lion's Club the use of the property, but not ownership. Lemaster asked the Mayor to come to the next Lions Club meeting to explain the situation. On Third Read, Browning wanted to be sure that the Lions Club would have another park-type area to move and the Mayor suggested relocating the park to the Old General Mills Park, by the bike path, which was abandoned by GM long ago and sees more pedestrian traffic. A Motion to Suspend the Rules was made by Browning, seconded by Norris, and approved by all in attendance.

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

- Second 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

Mayor

- The New York/Broadway Project will kick back off tentatively on the 19th. This portion of the project will separate the sanitary and storm sewers. After this project is complete, the next step is paving.
- The new wall at the cemetery is complete.
- The Depot is close to wrapping up. Lemaster wants the Mayor to ensure that OHillCo will keep up with the cleaning and maintenance of The Depot, if they wish to keep the contract.
- The City has received a \$5,000 grant from General Mills. We have decided to use those funds to pave the Blamer Field basketball courts, along with the 14th street courts. This includes re-striping.
- The Mayor hopes Council will pass an Ordinance to start billing water in the hundreds of gallons, instead of the current 1,000 gallon readings.
- The Mayor informed Council that 3 more projects were submitted to the Appalachian Community Grant Program planning portion: The Harvey Wells House did not make the cut; however, a pool and a bike path extension passed for engineering. The Mayor suggested that if the pool is passed, it be placed near the upcoming RV Park, which sits adjacent to the 327 ballfields. He reminded Council that when it comes time to design the pool, we need to keep in mind the costs associated with running and maintaining it. The Bike Path will be extended in 2 directions- toward General Mills and the 327 ball fields. The Mayor will be meeting with Superintendent Dr. Brian Rau to discuss this project. City-owned land was given to the school years ago and isn't being used. The Mayor would like the City to have ownership of this land to extend the bike path.
- The Mayor says the Harvey Wells House will be tough to find grant money to fix. He suggested to send the problem to committee to discuss what to do with the house. Should he utilize carryover funds to make repairs to the home? The Veterans Commission has expressed interest in possibly renting a portion of the home as office space. President Hudson suggested this go to Finance Committee.
- The Mayor says the City needs to start mowing the ballfields again because it is too much work for volunteers.

Service Director

- Stacy Camp was welcomed to the meeting as the new Service Director.

Law Director

- Kirby brought up the regulation of the City trailer parks and said this does not need to look like a thinly veiled attempt to shut trailer parks down; rather, it needs to be about safety and code regulation issues.

Auditor's- none

City Clerk's Reports- none

Treasurer's Report- none

Fire- none

Zoning- Code Report received.

Police- none

The meeting adjourned at 7:39 p.m.



McEssaangle

Council Clerk



W/VL

Council President