

# **Wellston City Council**

## **Meeting Minutes**

**April 18, 2024**

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; Walter Norris; Teresa Lemaster; Tami Phillips; and Roaby Browning. Hunter Skaggs was absent.

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

### **Public Comments**

- none

**Minutes-** All in attendance voted to approve the minutes from the previous meeting.

### **Correspondence**

- None

### **Reports of Special Committees**

- Health and Safety Committee- Lemaster- none
- Public Service Committee- Duby- none
- Planning Committee- Browning- none
- Recreation Committee- Norris- A meeting was scheduled for May 2, 2024, at 6:30 p.m.
- Finance Committee- Spangler- A meeting needs to be scheduled and more resources gathered regarding aggregation.
- Community Action- Browning- none
- Civic Organization Liaison- Spangler- none

### **Old Business**

- none

### **New Business**

- The Mayor requested Council look into an Ordinance to protect permanent full-time employees who do not belong to the Union. The Mayor believes these employees should have the right to appeal to City Council to retain employment.
- President Hudson stated the July meeting be moved to account for the July 4<sup>th</sup> holiday.

### **Legislation**

- Third Reading of Ordinance No. 2024-23- An Ordinance repealing and amending the City of Wellston's Codified Ordinance regarding the Income Tax at Sections 39.03, 39.05, and 39.18.

Sponsor: Lemaster

Discussion: Changes were made on the state-level for RITA. Kirby made the appropriate changes.

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

- Third Reading of Ordinance No. 2024-24- An Ordinance to the City Income Tax Code to be subject to Ohio Revised Code Sections 718.80 to 718.95 to be added to the City Tax Code Section 39.27 of Wellston's Codified Ordinances.

Sponsor: Spangler

Discussion: Changes will be made to bring up to State Code and more streamlined

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

- First Reading of Resolution No. 2024-28- A Resolution awarding the Water Treatment Plant Improvements Construction Contract in accordance with the Engineer's Letter of Bid Recommendation, subject to final approval of funding requirements of the Project and Declaring an Emergency.

Sponsor: Lemaster

Discussion: The Water Plant Phase I Bid. Mayor Brenner stated the bids for Phase I were on target at \$7.9 million. With engineering, the total equals approximately \$9 million. The emergency language is needed to meet grant timeline requirements.

A Motion to Suspend the Rules was made by Spangler, seconded by Browning, and approved by all in attendance.

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

- First Reading of Resolution No. 2024-29- A Resolution authorizing the Mayor of Wellston to prepare and submit an application to participate in the Ohio Public Works Commission State Capital Improvement Program(s) and to execute contracts as required and Declaring an Emergency.

Sponsor: Phillips

Discussion: This is a submission for the Pennsylvania Avenue Waterline Project. The emergency language is to meet grant deadlines.

A Motion to Suspend the Rules was made by Spangler, seconded by Phillips, and approved by all in attendance.

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

- First Reading of Ordinance No. 2024-30- An Ordinance establishing the City of Wellston Building Department.

Sponsor: Spangler

Discussion: Chief Pelletier stated that Jackson County does not have a building department, so any new commercial building permits and planning has to be completed through the State of Ohio. Having this contract with Ross County would provide for speedier services and allow the City more insight to the local commercial permit applicants, as well as making the process easier for business owners.

- First Reading of Resolution No. 2024-31- A Resolution requesting Certification to enforce the Ohio State Building Codes within the City of Wellston, Ohio.

Sponsor: Spangler

Discussion: Ties in with 2024-30

- First Reading of Resolution No. 2024-32- A Resolution authorizing the Wellston City Mayor to execute all legal documentation necessary to accomplish the purchase of the real properties located at 402 East 10th Street, Wellston, Ohio, and bearing parcel ID number M240300010000, 0 12th Street, Wellston, Ohio, and bearing parcel number M240300009900, and 0 S New Jersey Avenue, Wellston, Ohio, and bearing parcel number M240300024500 for the purchase amount of \$15,313.00 and Declaring an Emergency.

Sponsor: Spangler

Discussion: The Mayor would like this passed as an emergency on the 3<sup>rd</sup> reading due to grant deadlines. He continued that these lots were owned by Habitat for Humanity and would most likely be used as parking lots for the ballfield.

A mistake was noticed on the legislation. Spangler made a Motion to amend 402 East 10<sup>th</sup> Street to 402 East 12<sup>th</sup> Street. Lemaster seconded the Motion and all in attendance approved the amendment.

- First Reading of Ordinance No. 2024-33- An Ordinance transferring appropriations from the General Carryover Fund to the Rec Fund for Supervision wages, PERS, FICA, Workers Comp., and Declaring an Emergency.

Sponsor: Spangler

Discussion: Mayor Brenner explained this pertains to the Parks and Recreation Director Salary.

A Motion to Suspend the Rules was made by Spangler, seconded by Browning, and approved by all in attendance.

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

#### **Mayor**

- Mayor Brenner began by explaining to Council that City employees attended Customer Service Training earlier that day. Training will continue; next up will be CPR and AED.
- Paving has started. 14<sup>th</sup> Street will begin soon, next will be Lockard Lane and Radcliffe Lane, along with waterline replacement projects.
- The General Mills water rate increase will be in effect soon.

#### **Service Director**

- Not present

#### **Law Director**

- None

#### **Auditor**

- The State Audit has been completed and will be released soon
- All voted in favor of approving Then and Now Certificates

#### **City Clerk's Reports**

- none

#### **Treasurer's Report**

- none

#### **Fire**

- none

**Zoning/Code**

- none

**Police**

- none

Spangler made a Motion to go into Executive Session, seconded by Lemaster, and approved by all in attendance. Topics- Personnel Matters and Lake Road Property (no action taken). Executive Session begins at 7:30 p.m.; Executive Session ends at 7:44 with no action taken by a Motion from Browning, second by Lemaster, and aye by all in attendance.

Meeting adjourned at 7:44 p.m.

  
Council Clerk

  
Council President

