

Wellston City Council Meeting Minutes

April 6th, 2017

Meeting was called to order by Council President Chris Brenner by asking Council and others in attendance to stand for the Pledge to the Flag. He then called for the roll call.

Councilmen answering the roll call included Keith Woolum, Tom Clark, Roaby Browning, Shane Stevens, Nick Rupert, and Douglas Wright. Absent was Councilman Fred Myers. City Officials that were present included Mayor Connie Pelletier, Service Director Bill Shumate, Engineer Tim Wojdacz, and Auditor Chris Dupree. Representing the Police Department was Police Chief Tim Ackley. Representing the Fire Department was Fire Chief Ryan Pelletier.

Motion to approve the absence of Councilman Keith Woolum from the March 16, 2017 meeting was made by Councilman Browning, second by Councilman Clark, and unanimously approved by all.

Motion to approve the meeting minutes from the March 16th, 2017 meeting was made by Councilman Browning, second by Councilman Stevens, and unanimously approved by all.

Public Comment:

Barb McKinniss of 222 N. Pennsylvania Avenue discussed the dump next door to the Fire Station. She said she had spoke to Shannon and Shannon had sent letters to the owners and the letters have come back. She also spoke to Connie and Bill and they suggested that she come to Council to discuss it. She said it is considered a health hazard. She said they have spent thousands of dollars updating that Fire Department and that dump next door looks awful. She asked if we had anyone to take it on. Service Director Bill Shumate stated the code enforcer is still being discussed and worked on. He said there were 70 some people who did what they asked them to do as far as cleaning up their properties. Mrs. McKinniss stated that this is on the main street of town and it needs cleaned up. Law Director Weber stated they do not know where the homeowner lives. If we knew where he lived he would get a citation tomorrow. Councilman Stevens stated we are trying to find money for code enforcement, but if we have something in place that we need to do then that is what we need to do.

Russel Cox of 219 N. New York Avenue discussed that the property next to him almost touches this property. The property next to him looked awful almost three years ago so they purchased it and cleaned it up. We now have a vacant lot right there.

Charlie Hudson of 222 Cedar Street stated a little over a year and a half ago he stood before Council and pledged \$5,000.00 for the code enforcement officer. He still wanted to let Council know that it still stands.

Council President Brenner agreed with Councilman Stevens that if it is in the Ordinance then we need to do it. We have to find the money somewhere and we need to get it started.

Councilman Clark agreed. Law Director Weber stated he will work with the Service Director and try to see if they can find two or three different businesses that do this type of work such as cutting and disposal of garbage and get some estimates in this property for the next Council meeting.

Mike Butcher of 277 S. Wisconsin Ave discussed a water leak he had. Mr. Shumate stated he will look at it tomorrow and see how many times it has been called in. He also discussed the intersection at 4th and Wisconsin. He stated it is going up to Bundy the back way. He asked Chief Pelletier if they could patrol it. Chief Pelletier stated he would have someone patrol the area.

Mayor Pelletier proclaimed April 7th as Wellston Service Recognition Day for Volunteerism.

Motion to amend the agenda for possible litigation was made by Councilman Clark, second by Councilman Browning, and unanimously approved by all.

Motion to enter into Executive Session at 7:22 P.M., to discuss possible litigation was made by Councilman Browning, second by Councilman Rupert, and unanimously approved by all.

Motion to leave Executive Session at 7:36 P.M., was made by Councilman Browning and seconded by Councilman Stevens.

Legislation:

Third Reading of Ordinance No. 2017-07-A Resolution authorizing the President of Council and the City Auditor to execute an agreement between the City of Wellston, Ohio and the Local Government Services Section of the Office of the Auditor of State. Council President Brenner asked Council if they had any questions or comments on Ordinance No. 2017-07.

Motion to adopt and pass Ordinance No. 2017-07 was made by Councilman Stevens, second by Councilman Woolum, and unanimously approved by all.

Third Reading of Resolution No. 2017-08- A Resolution authorizing the Mayor of the City of Wellston to execute contract for housing prisoners in the Washington County Jail. Council President Brenner asked Council if they had any questions or comments on Resolution No. 2017-08.

Motion to adopt and pass Resolution No. 2017-08 was made by Councilman Wright, second by Councilman Clark, and unanimously approved by all.

Second Reading of Resolution No. 2017-09- A Resolution approving a new member of Wellston Growth Fund, CDBG Revolving Loan Fund and Downtown Revitalization Loan Fund Committees. Council President Brenner asked Council if they had any questions or comments on Resolution No. 2017-09. No comments were made.

Second Reading of Resolution No. 2017-10- A Resolution authorizing participation in ODOT Winter Fill Program. Council President Brenner asked Council if they had any questions or comments on Resolution No. 2017-10. No comments were made.

First Reading of Ordinance No. 2017-11-An Ordinance amending Ordinance 4058, An Ordinance to eliminate the cemetery positions of Sexton, Assistant Sexton, Chief Maintenance and Repairman, and Floating Laborer positions within the cemetery. Council President Brenner asked Council if they had any questions or comments on Ordinance No. 2017-11. No comments were made.

First Reading of Ordinance No.2017-12- An Ordinance approving additional appropriations in the General Fund, and declaring an emergency. Council President Brenner asked Council if they had any questions or comments on Ordinance No. 2017-12.

Motion to suspend rules was made by Councilman Browning, second by Councilman Woolum and unanimously approved by all.

Motion to adopt and pass Ordinance No. 2017-12 was made by Councilman Woolum, second by Councilman Clark, and unanimously approved by all.

First Reading of Ordinance No. 2017-13-An Ordinance approving additional appropriations in the McNally Fund. Council President Brenner asked Council if they had any questions or comments on Ordinance No. 2017-13. Mayor Pelletier stated she would like that to be an emergency. Service Director Shumate stated they have had two meetings with AEP about the McNally building. The electric bill is very high and its due to the lighting. We are changing the lighting out to LED. The light fixture uses electric whether the bulbs burning or not. The figures they are giving us are pretty close to ours. AEP will contribute \$7,900.00 rebate if we change the lights out. The light fixtures were \$7,893.00 in the LED lighting. If we save only half the electric bill they say we are going to save, the project will pay for itself this year.

Motion to add an emergency clause to Ordinance No. 2017-13 was made by Councilman Rupert, second by Councilman Stevens, and unanimously approved by all.

Motion to suspend rules was made by Councilman Stevens, second by Councilman Woolum, and unanimously approved by all.

Motion to adopt and pass Ordinance No. 2017-13 was made by Councilman Browning, second by Councilman Woolum, and unanimously approved by all.

First Reading of Ordinance No. 2017-14- An Ordinance setting charges and fees for the Wellston Fire Department. Council President Brenner asked Council if they had any questions or comments on Ordinance No. 2017-14.No comments were made.

First Reading of Ordinance No. 2017-15. An Ordinance amending Sections 93.15,93.16,93.17, related to cutting required of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Wellston. Council President Brenner asked Council if they had any questions or comments on Ordinance No. 2017-15. No comments were made.

Councilman Clark commended the Police Chief on putting money into the General Fund in the Police Department. He said he is the 1st chief he has ever seen that done before. Most take and take, but he put money in it.

Council President Brenner discussed the online bill pay that went live this month. There have been some problems with it. Originally it was not putting the sewer on it. They fixed it and then it was not showing the base rate. It is good to double check it to make sure it matches your bill. Mayor Pelletier stated they are still working out the issues.

Service Director Snider stated once the weather breaks a little bit, we have materials on hand to start up the durapatcher again. We are going to get started on Ohio Avenue and 2nd soon. The city got a rebate back from AEP for \$3,220.00 for the LED traffic lights changed out last year. We started cleaning out storm sewers.

Law Director Weber stated Mayor Pelletier asked him to re publicize the Frick Gallagher property and also the garage on Jeff Montgomery Way for bids. It will

start running in the paper next week. We have been discussing the Revolving Business Loans. Patrick West has paid his loan off now and we are in the process of releasing it. He owns the former dance loft downtown.

Motion to approve the Statement of Cash Pos w/MTD and Appropriation Expenditure Report was made by Councilman Rupert, second by Councilman Woolum, and unanimously approved by all.

Motion to approve the Police Reports was made by Councilman Browning, second by Councilman Clark, and unanimously approved by all.

Motion to adjourn at 8:02 P.M., was made by Councilman Browning, second by Councilman Clark, and unanimously approved by all.

Council Clerk

Handwritten signature of Amy L. Skans in blue ink, written over two horizontal lines.

Council President

Handwritten signature in blue ink, written over two horizontal lines.