

Wellston City Council

Meeting Minutes

July 7, 2022

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; Matt Vance (via telephone); Lynley Carey; Teresa Lemaster; Fred Duby (via telephone). Roaby Browning was absent.

Public Comments

- Jackson County Health Commissioner Kevin Aston came to speak on the Health Department's new Harm Reduction Program. This program is financed through federal grant monies. Aston proposed coming to Wellston monthly to make the JCHD available for Naloxone, needle exchange, education/training, information, and other medical health and recovery services.
- Samantha Meadows, Democratic Nominee for Congress, made her introduction to Council.

Minutes- All members present voted to approve the minutes of the previous meeting.

Correspondence- none

Committees:

Finance- Campsite/Bed tax and a business licensing fee would have been the topics of conversation at the June 9th meeting; however, there were not enough members available to hold the meeting. Spangler says there are existing ordinances that can be amended for both topics.

Health & Safety- LeMaster- a second meeting was held before Council to discuss the stray cat nuisance. More ideas were given. Lemaster plans to host another meeting before the July 21, 2022 Council Meeting at 6 p.m.

Public Service- Browning- none

Planning- Carey- none

Community Action- none

Old Business- none

New Business- none

Legislation:

- Second Reading of Resolution No. 2022-33- A Resolution authorizing the Wellston City Mayor to execute the legal documentation necessary to purchase real property located at 0

South Ohio Avenue, Wellston, Ohio, and bearing Parcel I.D. Number M240330002400 for the purchase amount of \$20,000.00 plus any necessary costs.

Sponsor: Lemaster

Discussion: This is approximately 2 ½ acres on Ohio Avenue and will be the site of the new water plant.

- Second Reading of Ordinance No. 2022-34- An Ordinance vacating a portion of 11th Street abutting and situated between parcels numbered M240280012900 on the south and M240180000100 on the north and running east and west between those parcels and a portion of Minnesota Avenue abutting and situated between parcels numbered M240280012900 on the west, and M240280009700 and M24020009800, M24020009900, M240280010000, M240280010100, M240280010200, and M240280010300 on the east and running north and south between those parcels.

Sponsor: Browning

Discussion: This is the Collins' alley vacation

- First Reading of Resolution No. 2022-35- A Resolution of the Legislative Authority of the City of Wellston authorizing the Mayor to enter into the Indigent Defense Contract with the Jackson County Commissioners so as to provide legal counsel to indigent persons charged with violations of the Wellston Municipal Code for the second half of 2022, and declaring an emergency.

Sponsor: Spangler

Discussion: This Resolution requires passage twice a year.

- First Reading of Resolution No. 2022-36- A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to take all necessary actions and execute any and all related documents to apply, receive, and finalize the acceptance of grant moneys from the Ohio Department of Transportation's Small City Program and/or Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) and Declaring an Emergency.

Sponsor: Lemaster

Discussion: This is for proposed work on New York Avenue, between 10th and 14th Streets, which will include widening the roads, sidewalks, curbs, etc.

- First Reading of Resolution No. 2022-37- A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to take all necessary actions and execute any and all related documents to apply, receive, and finalize the acceptance of grant moneys from the Ohio Department of Natural Resources Natureworks Program and Declaring an Emergency.

Sponsor: Carey

Discussion: This grant will hopefully further a "downtown accessories" project.

- First Reading of Resolution No. 2022-38- A Resolution approving additional appropriations in the Recreation Fund and Declaring an Emergency.

Sponsor: Spangler

Discussion: This will allow for spending of the 2021 Foundation for Appalachian Ohio Grant, which will be used for trash can covers and a bike rack.

Mayor-

- The Mayor touched briefly on establishing a bed tax and business licensing and recommended the Health and Safety Committee look into a Child Endangerment Ordinance.

- Core samples have been taken on Lookout Drive.
- The New York and Broadway Waterline Project is moving along. After the waterlines are installed, the next steps are sewer and sanitary sewer. Sidewalks, curbs, and paving will be the last steps.
- Many paving projects are on the horizon, including Wellston entryways.
- The carwash is open.
- The Depot project is beginning, and new sidewalks will be the first step. Another \$200,000 was received out of the Capital Budget for this work. The gazebo will be redone with a new metal roof. Concrete parking will be established at both ends of the park, along with new storm drains. The kitchen will be remodeled and considered a “food staging area.” The building will include ADA restrooms, painting, and new switches.
- The Mayor told Council that the cemetery is just about out of space, hence the clearing project that is currently underway. The Mayor also investigated utilizing Perpetual Care Funds to do this work but has found that only the interest can be used.
- The City has received \$100,000 from the Capital Budget to use on the new RV park.
- The ballparks are underway, and the Mayor is hopeful the work will be completed in August.
- WinMac Subdivision drainage work has been completed. Similar situations will be addressed in Montgomery Meadows in next year’s budget.
- The Mayor presented the WPD reports in the Chief’s absence.
- A previously condemned property on 11th Street was the location of a recent drug bust. Ryan Pelletier has re-condemned the property.

Service Director- not present

Law Director- none

Auditor- All Present voted to Approve the Auditor’s Reports

City Clerk’s Reports- none

Treasurer Report- All Present voted to approve the Treasurer’s Reports

Fire- Public Safety Inspections are happening. The Academy is doing very well and has added four new classes.

Zoning- The 75th Rental Inspection was completed the day of Council meeting. Only four have failed inspections. Round one of grass mowing has been completed and the third mowing is due on July 17th at midnight. Pelletier then touched on the cat issue and has offered his services to the Health and Safety Committee.

Police- not present

A motion to adjourn was made by Lemaster, seconded by Spangler, and approved by all in attendance at 7:49 p.m.


Council Clerk


Council President