

MARION CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

City Hall – Council Chambers on 1/24/2022 at 6:30 PM

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1/24/2022 6:30 PM

ROLL CALL: 10 members answered – Mr. Meade, Mr. Ratliff, Mr. Schaber, Mr. Feliciano, Mrs. Fosnaugh, Mr. Neff, Mr. Cornelius, Mr. Rollins, Mr. Thomas, Mr. Schneider.

With a quorum present, President Schneider called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM. Pledge of Allegiance recited. Mr. Cornelius led the Lord's Prayer.

SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS

Mr. Neff made a motion to adopt, Mr. Rollins 2nd. Roll Call: Ayes -- Mr. Meade, Mr. Ratliff, Mr. Schaber, Mrs. Fosnaugh, Mr. Neff, Mr. Cornelius, Mr. Rollins, Mr. Thomas. Nays – none.

SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS FOR 01/10/2022 APPROVED (9-0)

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

Item 1. ORD 2022-004: ORDINANCE MAKING APPROPRIATIONS IN THE BELOW LISTED LINE ITEMS ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2022 (Auditor) (Finance -- Mr. Schaber, chair -- 3-0)

Mr. Schaber made a motion suspend further readings, Mr. Rollins 2nd. Roll Call: Ayes -- Mr. Meade, Mr. Ratliff, Mr. Schaber, Mr. Feliciano, Mrs. Fosnaugh, Mr. Neff, Mr. Cornelius, Mr. Rollins, Mr. Thomas. Nays – none
SUSPEND THREE READINGS (9-0)

Mr. Schaber made a motion to adopt, Mr. Rollins 2nd. Roll Call: Ayes -- Mr. Meade, Mr. Ratliff, Mr. Schaber, Mr. Feliciano, Mrs. Fosnaugh, Mr. Neff, Mr. Cornelius, Mr. Rollins, Mr. Thomas. Nays – none
ORDINANCE 2022-004 PASSED (9-0)

Item 2. ORD 2022-005: ORDINANCE MAKING APPROPRIATIONS IN THE BELOW LISTED LINE ITEMS ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2022 (Auditor) (Finance -- Mr. Schaber, chair -- 3-0)

Mr. Schaber made a motion suspend further readings, Mr. Meade 2nd. Roll Call: Ayes -- Mr. Meade, Mr. Ratliff, Mr. Schaber, Mr. Feliciano, Mrs. Fosnaugh, Mr. Neff, Mr. Cornelius, Mr. Rollins, Mr. Thomas. Nays – none
SUSPEND THREE READINGS (9-0)

Mr. Thomas made a motion to adopt, Mr. Meade 2nd. Roll Call: Ayes -- Mr. Meade, Mr. Ratliff, Mr. Schaber, Mr. Feliciano, Mrs. Fosnaugh, Mr. Neff, Mr. Cornelius, Mr. Rollins, Mr. Thomas. Nays – none
ORDINANCE 2022-005 PASSED (9-0)

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Item 3. RES 2022-005: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE AUDITOR TO TRANSFER APPROPRIATED GENERAL FUND MONIES TO PARKS, TRANSIT POLICE, FIRE AND DISPATCH AND ANY OTHER FUNDS APPROVED BY COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2022 (Auditor) (Finance -- Mr. Schaber, chair -- 3-0)

Mr. Schaber made a motion suspend further readings, Mr. Meade 2nd. Roll Call: Ayes -- Mr. Meade, Mr. Ratliff, Mr. Schaber, Mr. Feliciano, Mrs. Fosnaugh, Mr. Neff, Mr. Cornelius, Mr. Rollins, Mr. Thomas. Nays – none
SUSPEND THREE READINGS (9-0)

Mr. Feliciano made a motion to adopt, Mr. Schaber 2nd. Roll Call: Ayes -- Mr. Meade, Mr. Ratliff, Mr. Schaber, Mr. Feliciano, Mrs. Fosnaugh, Mr. Neff, Mr. Cornelius, Mr. Rollins, Mr. Thomas. Nays – none
RESOLUTION 2022-005 PASSED (9-0)

Item 4. ORD 2022-006: ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR TO ENTER INTO CONTRACT WITH BEST EQUIPMENT FOR THE PURCHASE OF A (DEMO) THERMO-LAY ASPHALT PATCH TRUCK FOR THE STREETS DEPARTMENT AND WITH FREIGHTLINER FOR THE CHASSIS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY (Kurz) (Finance -- Mr. Schaber, chair -- 3-0)

Mr. Schaber made a motion suspend further readings, Mr. Meade 2nd. Roll Call: Ayes -- Mr. Meade, Mr. Ratliff, Mr. Schaber, Mr. Feliciano, Mrs. Fosnaugh, Mr. Neff, Mr. Cornelius, Mr. Rollins, Mr. Thomas. Nays – none
SUSPEND THREE READINGS (9-0)

Mr. Feliciano made a motion to adopt, Mr. Rollins 2nd. Roll Call: Ayes -- Mr. Meade, Mr. Ratliff, Mr. Schaber, Mr. Feliciano, Mrs. Fosnaugh, Mr. Neff, Mr. Cornelius, Mr. Rollins, Mr. Thomas. Nays – none
ORDINANCE 2022-006 PASSED (9-0)

Item 5. ORD 2022-007: ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO APPLY FOR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT TARGET OF OPPORTUNITY FUNDS AND ADMINISTER THE GRANT, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY (Warr-Cummings) (Finance -- Mr. Schaber, chair -- 2-1)

Mrs. Warr-Cummings, Regional Planning, explained that this request is regarding the 2021 Target of Opportunity grants from the state of Ohio. The state is exhausting the last of the \$27 million fund that can be used for public services and public facilities, like park projects, that prepare, prevent, and/or respond to COVID19. Many of the outdoor projects at Founder's Park seem to be eligible. An application had previously been submitted focusing on outdoor entertainment and that was denied. She has made revisions and requested \$72,000. This grant would cost the city \$0. Time is critical because grants are being issued until the money is gone. The state had reached out to her about reapplying about a week prior. She is requesting that readings be waived, and emergency clause included.

Mr. Neff said that he had researched this and found that Coshocton County received \$5.1 million dollars that they put towards a fire police station and EMS. He clarified that this is for 2021. He then asked exactly what the plan for Founder's Park is because he thought one rendition went by CDBG and was rejected. He felt that they did not have a lot of information. He felt that

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council members and the public should know more about the Founder's Park Project.

Mrs. Warr-Cummings continued that this phase includes two pergolas, two drinking fountains, two concrete corn holes, ADA compliant picnic tables, and park benches. These will be used to improve Founders and enhance the "cultural corridor."

Mr. Rollins stated that some of the 2021 funding could have been applied to assistance with childcare, job training, rent, mortgage, utilities, as well as public safety. He thinks that these types of activities should be prioritized above improving the park.

Mrs. Warr-Cummings explained that hearings were held to take input from the public and service providers. None of those programs were suggested. This was early in the pandemic when there was less guidance about what could be done, and businesses were trying to find creative ways to open back up. They understood that it was to be about economic development. They wanted to use Founders to get some struggling new businesses (many of which were restaurants) more outside gathering space. Because they had tried to get this funded and it was not, she worked with the state to modify the request to resubmit. It was noted that it is too late to change projects. They will be out of money. She does not anticipate future years of this type of funding, which is part of the CARES Act stimulus funds.

Mrs. Fosnaugh asked why Founder's Park was selected for the project. The mayor noted that it is a newer park and one of the few parks that has not been developed at all. There have been some infrastructure issues with the one portion of the plot because of a building that was demolished years ago.

Mayor announced that administration is working in partnership with Marion City Schools to apply for a state capital grant for more work on Lincoln Stadium and the field this time. There is also another leadership class from the Chamber of Commerce that is raising private donations for Kaufman Dog Park at Kennedy Park. There was a big investment in McKinley Park this year by the Pep Club because of another Leadership Class.

In response to questions from Mr. Neff and Mrs. Fosnaugh about the plan and vision for Founder's Park, he referenced the previous council presentation and offered to share that again. He explained that they have worked with Downtown Marion. He explained that they had focused on identifying areas of need within the scope and mission of Municipal Government.

Parks employees were used for the demolition of infrastructure on the park. They will have to do some boring samples because the demolished building was burned and not demolished to current standards. The specifications for hauling away debris is different.

Mr. Schaber explained that this project further supports the economic development of downtown and the investments made by private businesses.

Mr. Neff stated that his recollection was that there were two completely different proposals presented to CDBG for Founders. Mrs. Warr-Cummings explained that there were two phases. Several years ago, Rotary had created a model that was beyond their reach financially. That model was never used and was not part of any CDBG presentation.

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Mayor explained that they have pursued other grants but not been successful. They have been willing to take input from the grantors.

Mr. Schaber made a motion suspend further readings, Mr. Meade 2nd. Roll Call: Ayes -- Mr. Meade, Mr. Ratliff, Mr. Schaber, Mr. Feliciano, Mrs. Fosnaugh, Mr. Neff, Mr. Cornelius, Mr. Thomas. Nays – Mr. Rollins.

SUSPEND THREE READINGS (8-1)

Mr. Rollins made a motion to adopt, Mr. Meade 2nd. Roll Call: Ayes -- Mr. Meade, Mr. Ratliff, Mr. Schaber, Mr. Feliciano, Mr. Cornelius, Mr. Thomas. Nays – Mrs. Fosnaugh, Mr. Neff, Mr. Rollins.

ORDINANCE 2022-007 PASSED (6-3)

Item 6. RES 2022-006: RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE APPOINTMENT, BY THE MAYOR, OF INDIVIDUAL TO SERVE AS MEMBER OF THE AIRPORT COMMISSION (added by Mayor per Rule 51 and no committee consideration required per Rule 56 of the Marion City Administrative Code)

Mr. Rollins made a motion suspend further readings, Mr. Cornelius 2nd. Roll Call: Ayes -- Mr. Meade, Mr. Ratliff, Mr. Schaber, Mr. Feliciano, Mrs. Fosnaugh, Mr. Neff, Mr. Cornelius, Mr. Rollins, Mr. Thomas. Nays – none

SUSPEND THREE READINGS (9-0)

Mr. Feliciano made a motion to adopt, Mr. Meade 2nd. Roll Call: Ayes -- Mr. Meade, Mr. Ratliff, Mr. Schaber, Mr. Feliciano, Mrs. Fosnaugh, Mr. Neff, Mr. Cornelius, Mr. Rollins, Mr. Thomas. Nays – none

RESOLUTION 2022-006 PASSED (9-0)

OTHER MATTERS

Mr. Schaber asked that council be sent the (previously passed) ordinance that laid out the phases of Founders Park and detailed the project.

Mr. Cornelius made a motion to form a 5-member committee to investigate the process of becoming a charter city, gauge public interest, and write an ordinance to be submitted to council once Legislation and Codes has concluded their business, Mr. Rollins 2nd. Roll Call: Ayes -- Mr. Meade, Mr. Ratliff, Mr. Schaber, Mr. Feliciano, Mrs. Fosnaugh, Mr. Neff, Mr. Cornelius, Mr. Rollins. Nays – Mr. Thomas.

AD HOC COMMITTEE CREATED (8-1)

It was discussed that Legislation and Codes has a presentation pending regarding a charter city. The new committee would need to wait until they dispose of that before moving forward.

Auditor Meginness stated that the 2020 audit is still in process. They are currently gathering additional documentation for the auditors. The IRS penalty is being addressed by counsel and they have been provided all paperwork. They are looking at a 90-day window on the appeal. They are still going through things and have not completed a reconciliation. They are currently working on W-2s, and they will be out by 01/31.

COMMITTEE MEETING SCHEDULE:

Finance – Mr. Schaber, chair – 6:30 PM on 02/07/2022 – ordinance regarding streets, packer trucks

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Jobs and Economic Development – Mr. Ratliff, chair – 6:35 PM on 02/07/2022 – ordinances of support for CANDO! and Downtown Marion and annual presentations

Legislation, Codes, and Regulations – Mr. Meade, chair – 6:40 PM on 02/07/2022 – liquor licenses, charter city presentation, housing coalition presentation

Regional Planning – Mrs. Fosnaugh, chair – canceled for this month

Streets and Sewers – Mr. Feliciano, chair – 6:45 PM on 02/07/2022 – discussion/questions on crosswalks, streets, lights

No other committees were called

With no further business to come before Council, Mr. Schneider adjourned the meeting at **7:30 PM.**

Todd Schneider
President of Council

Tarina R. Rose
Clerk of Council

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