

# RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of the Riverside City Council Meeting

Held on Thursday, October 19, 2023

Riverside, OH

**CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Williams called the Riverside, Ohio, City Council Meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. at the Riverside Administrative Offices, 5200 Springfield Street, Suite 100, Riverside, Ohio, 45431.

**ROLL CALL:** Council attendance was as follows: Mr. Denning, present; Mrs. Franklin, present; Ms. Fry, absent (arrived at 6:15 p.m.); Mr. Joseph, present; Ms. Lommatzsch, present; Mr. Maxfield, present; and Mayor Williams, present.

Staff present were as follows: Josh Rauch, City Manager; Frank Robinson, Police Chief; Mark Miller, Fire Chief; Kim Baker, Finance Director; Dalma Grandjean, Law Director; and Katie Lewallen, Communications Manager/Clerk of Council.

**EXCUSE ABSENT MEMBERS:** Mr. Joseph moved, seconded by Mrs. Franklin, to excuse Ms. Fry from the meeting. All were in favor. **Motion carried.**

**ADDITIONS OR CORRECTIONS TO THE AGENDA:** There were no changes to the agenda.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** Deputy Mayor Lommatzsch moved, seconded by Mr. Joseph, to approve the agenda. All were in favor. **Motion carried.**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/MOMENT OF SILENCE:** Mayor Williams led the pledge of allegiance.

**PROCLAMATION:** Mayor Williams presented a proclamation to Mrs. Joanne Coleman on her husband, Ron Coleman, for his exemplary life in education, service, and courage. Mrs. Coleman stated that her husband was the most selfless person he knew next to her father. He loved everything he did. She stated he survived three cancers and did it with passion, vigor, and courage only a few have. He died of other complications brought on by a stroke, which was sudden as the day of his stroke he was in school teaching. She thanked everyone for acknowledging him. Mr. Chad Wyen, Mad River Schools Superintendent, stated he has known Ron for over 20 years, and that he and Mr. Coleman stood at the rotunda of Stebbins High School for the last 10 years every Friday to greet students. He stated Mr. Coleman was there for him when his wife battled breast cancer. He will forever be remembered and sorely missed. Mr. Maxfield stated he worked side-by-side with Mr. Coleman as an administrator and was lucky to learn from him. Those were some of his best years in education working next to Mr. Coleman. He stated they had fun and Ron would play jokes on him in the office. Ron told Mr. Maxfield to never make a decision mad, and always walk away and come back. He would just teach so many little things. Many students tribute their graduation to Mr. Coleman and his encouragement. Deputy Mayor Lommatzsch stated she loved the way he interacted with students. He was a pillar of a man. The community will miss him. Mayor Williams thanked his family for coming tonight. They were fortunate to have Mr. Coleman in the lives of the young people for 20-plus years and for how he advocated for

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men's health and brought it to the front of the conversation. He knows people beyond Riverside benefited from the message Mr. Coleman about men's health and getting checked. He stated they are glad they get to honor Mr. Ron Coleman.

*Ms. Fry arrived at 6:15 p.m.*

**MINUTES:** Deputy Mayor Lommatzsch moved, seconded by Mrs. Franklin, to approve the October 5, 2023, council business meeting minutes. All were in favor. **Motion carried.**

**BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS APPOINTMENTS:** Mr. Maxfield moved, seconded by Mr. Joseph, to send letters of appointment to Mr. Scott Skiple for the Parks and Recreation Commission and to Ms. Brenda Fry as ex-officio for the Health and Safety Commission. All were in favor. **Motion carried.**

**WRITTEN CITIZEN PETITIONS:** Mayor Williams stated that anyone wishing to speak should fill out a form located in the back of the room, fill it out, and hand it to the clerk.

## DEPARTMENT UPDATES

**Police Department** – Chief Robinson stated that Brent Waler has been made a conditional offer for employment and has a start date of November 3, 2023. They are currently in contract negotiations with both police officers and sergeants. He recognized Officer Matt Jackson and K-9 Tina for tracking down three juveniles who ran from a stolen vehicle crash and broke into a house. They took custody of them and found a gun that had been stolen from Springboro. He stated that yesterday they kicked off the Montgomery County combined agency OVI task force, which Riverside has been a part of for a number of years. They will have officers working on there and will be a task force for OVI checkpoints. They will have a couple of those in Riverside next year. They received a grant of \$8,000 to do this. They will use as much of that as possible. He added that the incident that took place at the poker hall on Spinning Road was a homicide. It is under investigation right now. There was another incident of a four-car crash in front of Pettibone Coffee. He shared this to let them know that the Flock cameras have played a significant role in collecting evidence. They have a lot of information and have it quicker because of the cameras. He thanked council for allowing the police department to get those cameras.

**Fire Department** – Chief Miller stated he has spent much of the last three weeks getting to know staff personally and professionally. He is about three-quarters of the way through the roster. He reported they have lost three firefighters to full-time jobs elsewhere, so they are now down three. He stated they are working diligently on their budget. He is also working with the command staff on the analysis of the fire department operations and will make incremental changes to the operations of the fire

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department to better utilize resources internally and have a little less reliance on mutual aid coming into the city, which releases the burden.

**Public Services Department** – Ms. Bartlett stated that they have three vacancies for maintenance workers and the application deadline has closed. They received 23 applications and will be interviewing 11 of those beginning next week. She stated they were awarded a grant through the Montgomery County Solid Waste District for a toddler playset in Rohrer Park. It will pay 70 percent of the cost, \$30,000. The city needs to come up with \$10,000; the city has applied for a CDBG grant for those funds. Mayor Williams asked when they could expect installation. Ms. Bartlett stated they couldn't order before the beginning of the year. It has been a slow process, but the ideal plan is to get it in place by next summer. Mr. Denning asked if there was a timeline for the streetlights for Beatrice Drive. Ms. Bartlett stated she has not checked in with them lately, but they were doing an inspection on the existing poles as they were going to utilize them. She stated she would check in with them, though Miami Valley Lighting is not very fast. Mr. Denning stated the nights are getting longer, so it would be nice to have the street lit. Mr. Joseph asked where they were on the insurance claim on the structure at Rohrer Park. Ms. Bartlett stated she gave the Parks and Recreation Commission the assignment to look at possible things they could do and tasked them with finding out how much it would cost. She will see what they bring to the meeting this month. Mr. Rauch stated they had received the insurance payment but couldn't recall the amount. The idea is to take the thoughts that Ms. Freda Patterson received from her survey and the information from the Parks and Recreation Commission and perhaps get input from the surrounding community as well. They have to figure out what is reasonable given the amount of money they have collected in order to put an amenity back in. They will vet some ideas first, so they don't set unrealistic expectations for the neighborhood. This is a process they will work into the capital plan as well. Discussion continued on ideas to generate funding for an amenity at the park.

**City Manager Report** – Mr. Rauch stated that some RFPs have been posted to the website. One is for facility improvements to the firehouses for exhaust ventilation as they got a grant that will help offset those costs. He is going to post an RFP for property management services for the Wright Point buildings by the end of the week. They will make selections on both of those in mid-November. He and Ms. Baker had a meeting this week with Bradley Payne they are the municipal advisor for bonds to discuss the next steps with Wright Point. He stated for the time being they will roll the notes again going into next year and then play it by ear with interest rates given where interest rates have been and where they're likely to go, they were counseled against trying to take out extended bonds for 10, 20, or 30 years. He stated he has been working with Ms. Baker and department heads on the budget, and they are on track to discuss it at the next work session in November.

**PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS:** No one wished to speak on an agenda item.

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## UNFINISHED BUSINESS

### A. ORDINANCES

- I) **Ordinance No. 23-O-840 – An ordinance providing for the adjustment of the boundary line between the City of Riverside, Ohio, and the City of Dayton, Ohio, authorizing the execution of an agreement with the City of Dayton, Ohio, and declaring an emergency. (2<sup>nd</sup> reading, public hearing, adoption)**

Mr. Denning moved, seconded by Mr. Joseph, to approve the second reading by title of Ordinance No. 23-O-840. The clerk read the ordinance by title only.

Mayor Williams opened the public hearing at 6:32 p.m. No one came forward to speak. Mayor Williams closed the public hearing at 6:32 p.m.

Roll call: Mr. Denning, yes; Mr. Joseph, yes; Mrs. Franklin, yes; Ms. Fry, yes; Mrs. Lommatzsch, yes; Mr. Maxfield, yes; and Mayor Williams, yes. **Motion carried.**

## NEW BUSINESS

### A. RESOLUTIONS

- I) **Resolution No. 23-R-2884 – A resolution recognizing the Mad River Lions Club’s “Project Share” as a function that promotes the public health, general welfare, and contentment of the citizens of the City of Riverside.**

Mr. Joseph moved, seconded by Mr. Maxfield, to approve Resolution No. 23-R-2884.

All were in favor. **Motion carried.**

- II) **Resolution No. 23-R-2885 – A resolution authorizing payment of a “Then and Now” certificate in the amount of \$7,000.92 payable to Stryker Sales, LLC, for the Riverside Fire Department’s procare services for electronic cots.**

Mr. Joseph moved, seconded by Mr. Denning, to approve Resolution No. 23-R-2885.

All were in favor. **Motion carried.**

- III) **Resolution No. 23-R-2886 – A resolution approving the continuation of a contract with ClearGov for budget planning and data visualization services.**

Mr. Maxfield moved, seconded by Mr. Joseph, to approve Resolution No. 23-R-2886.

All were in favor. **Motion carried.**

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**IV) Resolution No. 23-R-2887 – A resolution by the Riverside City Council revising the assessment of delinquent charges for nuisance abatement to be placed on the Montgomery County Property Tax Duplicate.**

Mr. Denning moved, seconded by Mr. Joseph, to approve Resolution No. 23-R-2887.

All were in favor. **Motion carried.**

**V) Resolution No. 23-R-2888 – A resolution authorizing the city manager to accept a Source Water Protection Grant for design and engineering work for septic system transfer to a sanitary sewer system at 1791 Harshman Road, Riverside, Ohio, in the amount of \$28,320.00.**

Deputy Mayor Lommatzsch moved, seconded by Mrs. Franklin, to approve Resolution No. 23-R-2888.

All were in favor. **Motion carried.**

**VI) Resolution No. 23-R-2889 – A resolution authorizing the Public Service Director to post an emergency vehicle load limit for the Renfield Drive Bridge, MOT-M1643-0020, over streams, SFN 5770785, City of Riverside, Ohio.**

Mr. Denning moved, seconded by Mr. Maxfield, to approve Resolution No. 23-R-2889.

All were in favor. **Motion carried.**

**VII) Resolution No. 23-R-2890 – A resolution by the Council of the City of Riverside, Ohio, requesting the auditor of Montgomery County to certify the total current tax valuation of the City of Riverside and the dollar amount of revenue that would be generated by a 4.95 mill replacement levy to operate the police department as authorized by Section 5705.19(J) of the Ohio Revised Code.**

Mr. Maxfield moved, seconded by Mrs. Franklin, to approve Resolution No. 23-R-2890.

All were in favor. **Motion carried.**

Mr. Joseph moved, seconded by Mrs. Franklin, to adjust the start time of the next scheduled council meeting on November 2, 2023, from 6:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. All were in favor. **Motion carried.**

**PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS:** No one wished to speak on non-agenda items.

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**COUNCILMEMBER COMMENTS:** Mr. Joseph shared with Mrs. Franklin that it has been a pleasure working with her for the past two years. Deputy Mayor Lommatzsch stated that Trick-or-Treat is on October 31, 2023, from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. Mr. Maxfield asked if the fire truck would be going around passing out candy; Chief Miller stated it would. Deputy Mayor Lommatzsch stated that for the community they will be recognizing Ms. Shirley Reynolds at the November 2, 2023, council meeting. Mayor Williams stated they would invite her family and hope to have members of the community attend. She was a long-time council member and advocate for the city. They want to honor her life and recognize her contributions to the city. Mr. Denning stated this Saturday is the lights on matinee at the Riverside Jaycee's haunted house. The police department and fire department will be there with "touch a truck". The K-9 unit will also be there showing her skills. The kids learn when the officer says the dog is going to come to get you, they need to stop what they are doing and listen to what the officer says. Mr. Denning read a letter posted by his granddaughter about his soon-to-be-born great-grandson, who has been found through blood work and genetic testing to have Down Syndrome. He read the letter as October is National Down Syndrome Awareness month and that all babies are a blessing regardless of test results.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Mr. Joseph moved, seconded by Mrs. Franklin, to adjourn. All were in favor. **Motion carried.** The meeting adjourned at 6:46 p.m.



Pete Williams, Mayor



Clerk of Council