Minutes of the Riverside City Council Meeting

Held on

Thursday, October 6, 2022

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Williams called the Riverside, Ohio City Council Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. at the Riverside Administrative Offices located at 5200 Springfield Street, Suite 100, Riverside, Ohio, 45431.

ROLL CALL: Council attendance was as follows: Mr. Denning, present; Mrs. Franklin, present; Ms. Fry, present; Mr. Joseph, present; Ms. Lommatzsch, present; Mr. Maxfield, absent; and Mayor Williams, present.

Staff present was as follows: Josh Rauch, City Manager; Tom Garrett, Finance Director; Frank Robinson, Police Chief; Dan Stitzel, Fire Chief; Kathy Bartlett, Public Service Director; Nia Holt, Zoning Administrator; Dalma Grandjean, Law Director; and Katie Lewallen, Clerk of Council.

EXCUSE ABSENT MEMBERS: Deputy Mayor Denning moved, seconded by Mrs. Franklin, to excuse Mr. Maxfield. All were in favor. **Motion carried.**

ADDITIONS OR CORRECTIONS TO AGENDA: No changes were made to the agenda.

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Mayor Williams led the pledge of allegiance.

PROCLAMATION: Mayor Williams read a proclamation recognizing Mr. John Mauro, a longtime resident of Riverside, on achieving his centennial birthday and declared Saturday, October 8, 2022, as John Mauro Day.

MINUTES: Deputy Mayor Denning moved, seconded by Ms. Lommatzsch, to approve the the minutes of the September 15, 2022, council business meeting, and the September 22, 2022, work session. All were in favor. **Motion carried.**

WRITTEN CITIZEN PETITIONS: Mayor Williams stated any citizen wishing to speak should fill out a petition found at the back of the room and turn it in to the clerk.

DEPARTMENT UPDATES:

A) Police Department – Chief Robinson stated they are still down four officers for various reasons. They are still in the hiring process and down to two candidates with final interviews next Wednesday. They will then be starting another eligibility list. He stated his officers take the initiative to self-educate and do other things to make them better. Officer Brookshire is one of those officers striving everyday to be good at what he does and is always looking to do more. He was sent to the Montgomery County SWAT Team for training on hostage negotiation and will have his certificate for that shortly. He stated that Skye Roberts, Victim Advocate, will be leaving to take a job with the Montgomery County Coroner's Office. They are still working with RMS and Huber Heights to get their reporting system squared away and will start doing training with the new dispatch and reporting system to

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everyone acclimated. The plan is to go live on November 15, 2022. They are still part of the Ohio Collaborative and are doing recertification in that. They continue doing mandatory training with the state throughout the year and a lot of the Ohio Collaborative is in that training as well. They have received a couple of grants, but still need to accept them. One if for FLOCK cameras if they decide to go that way and they are hoping they can get those. They also received the IDEP/STEP Grant in the amount of \$23,000 for officers to do some extra patrolling. They hope to use as much of that as they can, but manpower is down. They are currently using the DUI Enforcement Grant as well.

Mr. Joseph asked if they got the FLOCK cameras or are they getting that. Chief Robinson stated the grant has been awarded, they just have to accept it. Mr. Rauch stated they are running the numbers on what it will cost and will be discussing it over the next couple of weeks. Mr. Joseph asked how much the grant was. Chief Robinson stated it was \$82,000. He added that there was no match on either one of the grants. Discussion was held on getting the cameras and the cost for annual maintenance. The grant covers the cameras and hardware for two years and by the third year they will need to cover the cost, which is roughly \$30,000.

Ms. Fry asked what level of certification they are working on with the Ohio Collaborative. Chief Robinson stated it was the entire package. Every year they have to get recertified as things change annually.

- B) Fire Department Chief Stitzel stated they are still working on their software as the police department and their items should go live next Tuesday. This Saturday, they will be doing a smoke detector blitz going door-to-door and asking residents to test their smoke detector. If they don't work, they will bring a crew in to install a new smoke detector and a house safety survey if they want. This is a part of the American Red Cross program. They will bring in boy scouts to assist. When they find a home in need of a smoke detector, they will call to the command post and the American Red Cross will bring in the crew to install it. They are targeting the Carlton/Marianne/Ingleside neighborhood as they had a couple of fatal fires in the last two years in that area. When they have a large fire or loss of life fire, this will be the plan to follow up in those areas. It will be an ongoing project. They are still conducting year end maintenance and preventative maintenance on all of the apparatus. They have interviews next Thursday for a full-time firefighter as they have one vacancy.
- C) Public Service Department Ms. Bartlett stated her department is very busy with construction and the 2022 paving program will continue through this month. They will finish concrete work on Lynnhaven and next week jump to Meyer and do the remaining curb work. Eastman is complete except for final striping. The 2021 paving program is complete and has been for a few weeks. The median work in front of Kroger is to be completed by next Friday. They still have entrances to do and there may be right lane blockage, but the median work closing both lanes in the center should reopen. Once that is finished, the work will resume on the Woodman/Burkhardt intersection to get those poles up over the next few weeks. Work continues on West Springfield until November 1, when they will break and resume in April. The Harshman Wall continues, and the work is on schedule and moving well. The crews will be out sealing the walking paths and basketball courts at all four parks.

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D) City Manager Report – Mr. Rauch stated next week they will have their first work session on the budget for 2023. He proposed they do a vote on the budget in December rather than November, but they can discuss that at the meeting. He stated that due to a number of council and himself being at the National League of Cities Annual Meeting later in November that they will need to cancel that meeting. Deputy Mayor Denning moved, seconded by Mrs. Franklin, to cancel the November 17, 2022, council business meeting. All were in favor. **Motion carried.**

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS: No one wished to speak on agenda items.

OLD BUSINESS

A. ORDINANCES

I) Ordinance No. 22-O-807 – An ordinance to approve employee position titles, number of positions and pay ranges and to repeal Ordinance No. 22-O-796 passed June 2, 2022. (2nd reading, public hearing, and adoption)

Ms. Lommatzsch moved, seconded by Deputy Mayor Denning, to approve the second reading of Ordinance No. 22-O-807. The clerk read the ordinance by title only.

Mayor Williams opened the public hearing at 6:22 pm. No one came forward. Mayor Williams closed the public hearing at 6:23 pm.

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

II) Ordinance No. 22-O-808 – An ordinance revising Chapter 135 and repealing the existing Chapters 137 and 149 of the Administrative Code of the City of Riverside, Ohio. (2nd reading, public hearing, and adoption)

Deputy Mayor Denning moved, seconded by Mrs. Franklin, to approve the second reading of Ordinance No. 22-O-808. The clerk read the ordinance by title only.

Mayor Williams opened the public hearing at 6:24 pm. No one came forward. Mayor Williams closed the public hearing at 6:24 pm.

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

NEW BUSINESS

A. ORDINANCES

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Ordinance No. 22-O-809 – An ordinance declaring city property on Richland Drive, Parcel ID No. I39101406 0019, to no longer be needed for municipal purposes and to be surplus and authorizing the city manager to execute documents necessary to sell said property and declaring an emergency. (1st reading)

Mr. Rauch explained that the city owns this driveway that is adjacent to a residential property. There was some confusion about whether or not this driveway was included in an earlier process to consolidate and dispose of the parcels. This ordinance will allow staff to sort that out and work with the property owner.

Deputy Mayor Denning moved, seconded by Mrs. Franklin, to approve the first reading of Ordinance No. 22-O-809. The clerk read the ordinance by title only.

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

B. RESOLUTIONS

I) Resolution No. 22-R-2794 - A resolution accepting the amounts and rates as determined by the Budget Commission and authorizing the necessary tax levies and certifying them to the county auditor.

Mr. Rauch stated this is a housekeeping item the county budget commission certifies the property tax levies and estimates how much the city will collect from those levies and puts it into a resolution for council to accept.

Deputy Mayor Denning moved, seconded by Mrs. Franklin, to approve Resolution No. 22-R-2794.

All were in favor. Motion carried.

II) Resolution No. 22-R-2795 – A final resolution authoring the city manager to enter into an agreement with ODOT for the replacement of Bridge No. MOT-3048T-0003 located on Olentangy Drive over Lilly Creek.

Mr. Rauch stated this is an ODOT project related to the Olentangy Drive bridge replacement, and they are preparing to let the project out for bid. There is an estimated increase of about \$100,000 for the project, and this resolution authorizes them to continue to proceed. They will rely on the ARP money to bridge the gaps.

Deputy Mayor Denning moved, seconded by Mr. Joseph, to approve Resolution No. 22-R-2795.

All were in favor. Motion carried.

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PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS: Mayor Williams invited Mr. Jeffrey Lane to come forward and state his name and address and to keep comments to three minutes. Mr. Lane, 4495 Needmore Road, stated he was there on the Richland property that he purchased nine years ago. There was a slither of the property covered with blacktop. He came to the city and gave \$100 to the city manager prior to this one at the blue and white building. He was led to believe the only thing he might have to end up paying is back taxes, but the \$100 he wrote a check for was "good faith". He never received anything until he went to sell the house as he thought it was handled as that is what he was led to believe. Now, he sees that the city has the property, and they want to sell it back to him. He doesn't understand this as he was not sent a letter or a fee. He has spoken to Ms. Holt about this and doesn't understand why he is having to pay to buy it back from the city. Mayor Williams stated it sounds like the city manager is working through this solution. Mr. Rauch stated the first step is to have council approve the ordinance so the city can actually dispose of the property. They are in that process and will be able to discuss with him how to do this once it passes. Mr. Lane stated he does not understand how the property got taken from him when he started the process. Ms. Holt stated they are digging into that.

Mayor Williams invited Ms. Francesca Hary to come forward and state her name and address and to keep comments to three minutes. Ms. Hary, 913 Twin Oaks Drive, stated she is the branch manager for the Burkhardt Library. She stated the Dayton Metro Library has partnered with the Food Bank to be an emergency food pantry once a month, every 30 days, a person can come in to get emergency food that will last 1-2 days. October 19, 3:30-5:30 pm will be open for this. Let them know they fall in those income guidelines, and they will give you a bag of food. Ms. Fry asked how residents can support the Food Bank either at the library or downtown. Ms. Hary stated they have a food barrel in the library now. What they collect local will stay local. She added they accept pet food, sanitary items, and toiletries, as well. Mayor Williams asked the city manager to help spread this information through city outlets. Ms. Hary stated the Food Bank states people can visit the pantry once a month. It will be the third Wednesday of every month.

COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS: Mrs. Franklin stated tomorrow is the Great American Relay and they leave the fire house on Spinning at 12:15 pm and support the runners heading to the Beavercreek Fire Department. Mayor Williams stated a lot of road work is being done in the city and patience is a virtue. He asked everyone to stay safe and not hurry; construction means it will be a lot nicer very soon. Ms. Lommatzsch stated she is concerned about speeding as it is happening everywhere. She stated there is a ribbon cutting for SR35 for the three lanes is being done by ODOT at 10:00 am on Tuesday, October 11, 2022, at the AES Headquarters on Woodman. She stated MVRPC is coordinating with them and invited anyone to attend. She added that MVRPC has voted to raise the dues as they have not done this for a long time, but the city more than receives that back from MVRPC. Deputy Mayor Denning thanked staff for all they do. He stated that the police and fire will be at the haunted house matinee on Saturday and thanked them for doing that.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Deputy Mayor Denning moved, seconded by Mr. Joseph, to go into executive session for the following: 103.01(3) Conferences with any attorney representing the City as counsel, concerning disputes involving the City, its council, boards,

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commissions, officials, and employees that are the subject of pending or imminent court action or discussions of any matters which are properly covered under the attorney-client privilege as recognized by the law of Ohio. Roll call went as follows: Deputy Mayor Denning, yes; Mr. Joseph, yes; Mrs. Franklin, yes; Ms. Fry, yes; Ms. Lommatzsch, yes; and Mayor Williams, yes. **Motion carried.** Council went into executive session at 6:37 pm.

RECONVENE: Council reconvened at 7:10 pm.

ADJOURNMENT: Deputy Mayor Denning moved, seconded by Mr. Joseph, to adjourn. All were in favor. **Motion carried.** The meeting adjourned at 7:11 pm.

Peter J. Williams, Mayor

Clerk of Council