The regular meeting of the Bowling Green City Council, held in the Council Chamber, 304 North Church Street, Bowling Green, Ohio was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Council President Aspacher. The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

On roll call, Council Members Aspacher, Gavarone, Gordon, Jeffers, McOmber, Rowland and Zanfardino responded. Also present were Mayor Richard Edwards, Municipal Administrator John Fawcett, City Attorney Michael Marsh, Public Works Director Brian Craft, Utilities Director Brian O'Connell, and Interim Parks and Recreation Director Bob Callecod. Planning Director Heather Sayler was not present

Council Member Rowland moved, Zanfardino seconded, to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held March 16, 2015 as distributed. Council President Aspacher declared motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

Clerk Kay Scherreik reported that the following liquor permit applications were received from the Ohio Liquor Control:

- Class D1, D2, D3, D3A permit for BGC Enterprises, LLC, dba Skybar located at 238 N. Main Street;
- Class C2 permit for Christine Dishop, dba Timeless Boutique by Christine located at 124 W. Wooster Street.

Clerk noted that a check of the records was requested from the Police Division and not received at this time.

OFFICIAL REPORTS

Mayor Dick Edwards began his report by asking members of Council and the audience to view the City's video entry into the America's Best Communities program sponsored by Frontier Communications.

Mayor Edwards presented a Proclamation to Grants Administrator Tina Bradley declaring the month of April as Fair Housing Month in the City.

The Mayor also shared a Proclamation declaring Tuesday, April 7, as Mayors Day of Recognition for National Service. Mayor Edwards indicated that this is being done in partnership with BGSU and in a response to a request received from the BGSU Office of Service Learning.

Mayor Edwards announced that there will be a premier screening of the video "Not In Our Town: A Bowling Green Legacy" taking place on Tuesday, April 14, at 7:00 p.m. at the Clazel Theater. He noted that the screening of the movie will be followed by a panel discussion and open forum aimed at building upon efforts to bring the community and the campus together for diversity and inclusion.

Mayor Edwards reported that a strategic planning meeting was held last Friday at the University President's Office, along with members of the City Administration, representatives of the Ohio Department of Transportation, Senator Randy Gardner and Representative Tim Brown concerning the future of the I-75 interchange and the East Wooster Street Corridor. Mayor Edwards noted that development will be a complex collaborative process where funding will be an overriding issue.

Mayor Edwards noted that the interviews for a new Parks and Recreation Director will take place on Tuesday, April 21. He indicated that he has appointed an interview panel consisting of himself; Municipal Administrator John Fawcett; the Personnel Director Barbara Ford; President of the Parks & Recreation Board; Kent Strange; the President of the Parks & Recreation Foundation, Ann Beck; and Council Member Rowland, who is chair of the Parks & Recreation Committee of City Council.

Lastly, Mayor Edwards indicated that he is in the process of assembling a task force of citizens who will work together to develop a set of recommendations and considerations for the appropriate use of the "green space" at the corner of S. Church and W. Wooster. Mayor Edwards noted that it is plan to outline the membership for the task force at the next Council meeting on April 20.

Municipal Administrator John Fawcett had no report.

Planning Director Heather Sayler was not present.

Parks and Recreation Interim Director Bob Callecod had no report.

City Attorney Michael Marsh had no report.

Utilities Director Brian O'Connell reported that bids will be opened on April 24 for the pump station project. The engineer's estimate for the project is $1.9 million. O'Connell indicted that there is an OPWC grant in the amount of $325,000 for this project.

Council Member McOmber asked O'Connell if he would put together financial information regarding the proposed water supply contract with the City of Waterville.

Public Works Director Brian Craft discussed the City's 50/50 program for sidewalk repair and indicated that they are in the process of putting together a list of possible projects for the spring and summer months.

NEW LEGISLATION

The following new legislation was recommended by the Administration and presented to Council for introduction:

Council Member Jeffers, for the Planning, Zoning and Economic Development Committee, introduced an ordinance amending the Zoning District Map of the City of Bowling Green, Ohio, for the approximately 8.41 acres of land located on South Main Street from B-2 General Commercial and M-1 Light Industrial to R-3 Multiple Family Residential, Moderate Density zoning classification.

Council Member Jeffers, for the Planning, Zoning and Economic Development Committee, introduced an ordinance accepting an easement from Nietz & Messenger, LLC for right-of-way purposes.

Council Member Aspacher, for the Public Utilities Committee, introduced an ordinance authorizing a wholesale water supply contract with the City of Waterville.

COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS

There were no Council Committee reports.

LOBBY VISITATIONS

Karen Wood, 840 Clough Street, addressed Council inquiring about the status of the historic preservation ordinance that was previously on Council's agenda.

Council President Aspacher responded that there remains a great interest on the part of City Council to pursue the matter, but it was tabled at the request of the Mayor in order for other groups and citizens to communicate back and forth regarding the matter. Aspacher indicated that it is the intention of City Council to revisit the issue at a future time.

Mayor Edwards indicated that one of the primary areas to look at in terms of historic preservation is the historical Courthouse Square area. He noted that he hopes that someday citizens will become comfortable that historic preservation does not mean government in your face. The Mayor further noted that the City of Toledo was able to utilize $3.7 million in historic preservation tax credits to refurbish one of that City's commercial sectors. It applies to neighborhoods as well and energy needs to go into educating people to alleviate their concerns.

READING OF LEGISLATION

Clerk read Ordinance #8413 amending the Zoning District Map of the City of Bowling Green, Ohio, for the approximately 8.41 acres of land located on South Main Street from B-2 General Commercial and M-1 Light Industrial to R-3 Multiple Family Residential, Moderate Density zoning classification, for first reading.

Council Member Jeffers announced that a public hearing will be held regarding Ordinance #8413 on Monday, May 18, 2015, at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chamber.

Clerk read Ordinance #8414 accepting an easement from Nietz & Messenger, LLC for right-of-way purposes, for first reading.

Council Member Jeffers moved, Gavarone seconded, to suspend the rules and give Ordinance #8414 its second and third reading. On roll call vote, Council Members Gavarone, Gordon, Jeffers, McOmber, Rowland, Zanfardino, and Aspacher voted yes. Council President Aspacher declared motion carried, and rules suspended.

Clerk read Ordinance #8414 for second and third reading by number and title only.

Council Member Jeffers moved, Zanfardino seconded, to adopt Ordinance #8414. On roll call vote, Council Members Gordon, Jeffers, McOmber, Rowland, Zanfardino, Aspacher, and Gavarone voted yes. Council President Aspacher declared motion carried, and Ordinance #8414 adopted.

Clerk read Ordinance #8415 authorizing a wholesale water supply contract with the City of Waterville, for first reading.

Clerk read Ordinance #8410 establishing interim zoning of A-1 Agricultural for approximately 0.86 acres of land located at 14099 Mitchell Road, recently annexed as petitioned for by Douglas and Joyce Hinesman, for second reading.

Clerk read Ordinance #8411 amending the Zoning District Map of the City of Bowling Green, Ohio, for the properties generally known as 518-522 East Wooster Street from B-2 General Commercial to B-5 Transitional Central Business District zoning, for second reading.

Clerk read Ordinance #8412 amending and adopting Section 150.16 of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Bowling Green, Ohio, changing the maximum building height in the B-5 zoning classification from 25 feet to 35 feet, for second reading.

Clerk read Resolution #3585 authorizing the Mayor of the City of Bowling Green, Ohio, to file an annual application (plan) and five-year consolidated plan and execute a contract upon grant application approval under the Community Development Block Grant: Entitlement Program as authorized by the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended, for third reading.

Council Member Gordon moved, Jeffers seconded, to adopt Resolution #3585. On roll call vote, Council Members Jeffers, McOmber, Rowland, Zanfardino, Aspacher, Gavarone, and Gordon voted yes. Council President Aspacher declared motion carried, and Resolution #3585 adopted.

Clerk read Ordinance #8409 granting an easement to Columbia Gas of Ohio, Inc., in the City Park, and declaring an emergency, for third reading.

Council Member Gavarone moved, Rowland seconded, to adopt the emergency clause for Ordinance #8409. On roll call vote, Council Members McOmber, Rowland, Zanfardino, Aspacher, Gavarone, Gordon, and Jeffers voted yes. Council President Aspacher declared motion carried, and the emergency clause adopted.

Council Member Gavarone moved, Jeffers seconded, to adopt Ordinance #8409. On roll call vote, Council Members Rowland, Zanfardino, Aspacher, Gavarone, Gordon, Jeffers, and McOmber voted yes. Council President Aspacher declared motion carried, and Ordinance #8409 adopted.

At the end of the meeting, Council Member Jeffers asked Council Member Zanfardino about what issues concerning complete streets might be the most difficult for the City to deal with should legislation be enacted. Jeffers indicated his concern that while there might be a policy that looks good on paper, but would create situations where it could be very costly to put into place.

Council Member Zanfardino responded that the ideal would be that once an ordinance on complete streets was put into place, that each project would be looked at individually and see what the cost would be to add, for instance, a bike lane. Zanfardino indicated that there would be different ways to address cost and to reduce cost. He did acknowledge that even making a change to a roadway the least expensive way will add cost to the project.

Jeffers indicated that they need to consider how much "teeth" to put into the ordinance so that it can move forward, but also make it so cost-prohibitive elements can be worked out on a project by project basis.

Rowland noted that in some areas there delineated levels of completeness are set up for particular projects and if one idea does not work then others are examined. She indicated that complete streets would not simply be an overnight creation in the City and would have to evolve over years with a great deal of planning.

Council Member Gordon indicated that he thinks it would be useful for Council to hear from officials in communities where the complete streets concept has been adopted. He also said that the one key element that he keeps hearing about in discussions is the cost, but he feels there could be a cost of inaction, for instance, how businesses might lose customers without better street access for customers.

Council Member Zanfardino indicated that more study is needed and further discussion of the Transportation & Safety Committee needs to occur before legislation is drafted for consideration.

Council Member Zanfardino moved, Gavarone seconded, to adjourn. On unanimous voice vote, Council President Aspacher adjourned the April 6, 2015 regular meeting of the City Council at 8:05 p.m., subject to call.

Kay D. Scherreik, Clerk of Council

Michael Aspacher, President of Council