

Held

MONDAY, MARCH 2, 2015

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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 Planning Director Heather Saylor.

Council Member Jeffers moved, Rowland seconded, to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held February 17, 2014 as distributed. Council President Aspacher declared motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

Clerk Kay Scherreik reported that the revised Parks & Recreation fees were distributed to Council Members for approval. Council Member Rowland moved, Gordon seconded, to approve the fees as presented. On unanimous voice vote, Council President Aspacher declared motion carried.

OFFICIAL REPORTS

Mayor Dick Edwards thanked Council Member Gavarone for holding a public forum earlier this evening on the "Green Space". Mayor Edwards indicated that he looks forward to more dialogue regarding the use of this space.

Mayor Edwards reminded Council Members of the upcoming Interfaith Breakfast being held on Friday, March 6, at 7:30 a.m. at the Simpson Garden Park. Mayor Edwards indicated that he is greatly encouraged by the response thus far as more than 100 have indicated that they will be in attendance.

Mayor Edwards announced that the annual City/BGSU Staff and Student Leader Luncheon will be held at the Simpson Building this year on Thursday, April 2, beginning at 11:30 a.m. The Mayor invited interested Council Members to attend.

Another event announced by Mayor Edwards is the State of the City report will be held on April 23 at 7:30 a.m. at the Library Atrium. The Mayor noted that this year he has elected to take a slightly different approach to demonstrate community collaborations and how effectively the community is working together. He noted that he will present an overview that will be followed by reports from the Municipal Administrator, President of City Council, the Board of Public Utilities, BGSU, Downtown BG, and Bowling Green Economic Development.

Municipal Administrator John Fawcett reported that another snow emergency was declared on Sunday which resulted in 32 vehicles being ticketed and 15 vehicles being towed. Fawcett indicated that these numbers were slightly lower than during the previous snow emergency on February 21.

Fawcett noted that Columbia Gas will hold another informational meeting regarding the upcoming gas line replacement project this spring. The meeting will be held on March 26 at 9:30 a.m. at the Library.

Fawcett was happy to report that the Police Division received a \$7200 grant from the Justice Assistance program that will be used to replace two in-car cameras in Division patrol cars.

Fawcett noted that the Human Relations Commission has changed the March regular meeting from March 8 to March 13 at 8:00 a.m. in the Council Chamber.

At the end of his report, Mr. Fawcett officially announced that he would be retiring from his position as Municipal Administrator on July 1, 2015. Fawcett then requested a Executive Session at the conclusion of this evening's meeting to discuss a personnel matter.

Planning Director Heather Saylor had no report.

City Attorney Michael Marsh had no report.

Utilities Director Brian O'Connell reported that he will be attending the APPA Legislative Rally in Washington, D.C. On March 9-11.

Public Works Director Brian Craft reported that TMACOG will be holding a public forum on the 2045 Transportation Plan on March 12 at the Wood County Commissioner's office at 6:30 p.m.

Craft also reported that thus far in 2015, Public Works employees have utilized 1,861 overtime hours on the snow removal process. He also noted that they have ordered the last 270 tons of road salt today. This amount completes the amount that was contracted for through ODOT for this winter season.

NEW LEGISLATION

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

Council Member McOmber, for the Finance Committee, introduced a resolution approving the "Agreement and By-Laws of BORMA, Inc." as amended in accordance with recommendations of the Board of Trustees of BORMA, Inc., on November 20, 2014, and ratifying all actions taken by the Board in accordance with the By-Laws as amended.

Council Member Aspacher, for the Public Utilities Committee, introduced an ordinance authorizing the Utilities Director to advertise for bids and enter into a contract or contracts for HVAC and boiler replacement services for the Electric Facility, and declaring an emergency.

Council Member Gordon, for the Community Improvement Committee, introduced a resolution 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.

Council Member Gavarone, for the Public Lands and Buildings Committee, introduced an ordinance granting an easement to Columbia Gas of Ohio, Inc., in the City Park, and declaring an emergency.

COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS

Council Member Gavarone reported that the Public Lands and Buildings Committee met earlier this evening and heard a presentation made by the "Green Space Matters" group.

LOBBY VISITATIONS

Alice Calderonello, 307 Haskins Road, asked Council when they expect to hold the first hearing regarding uses of the green space formerly occupied by the junior high school building. She said that it makes her sad to see the space sit there going unused and wondered when the process of deciding what is going to happen to the space is going to be started.

Council Member Gavarone responded that the process has already started by examining different ideas and looking at what can be done. Gavarone indicated that there is a lot of work ahead in planning what the best use is of that area and as Council

sets priorities for action based on the Future Land Use Plan they will be developing a roadmap of how best to proceed.

Council President Aspacher agreed with Council Member Gavarone but indicated that he feels that it is a bit premature to be establishing a set in stone timeline, but noted that there is significant interest on behalf of Council to pursue the matter. Aspacher that along with gaining public input on uses for the space, they will also have to address the revenue issue that go along with any decisions that are made.

John Calderonello, 307 Haskins Road, asked what it would take for Council Members to be convinced that the issue of this green space is important to people. He also addressed the concerns of funding indicating that things could be done on a small scale at first and it could evolve over the years as funding permits. Calderonello asked if there was any money in the budget that could be used to get started on this if City Council decides that this one of its top priorities.

Council President Aspacher responded that Council understands and is appreciative of the fact that there is a great amount of sentiment for developing some semblance of green space on that site. Aspacher noted that Council has heard what has been said and will continue to listen to those citizens who are coming forward. Aspacher indicated that it is the intent of City Council to move forward with investigating the options. As far as whether there is money budgeted for any improvements for this project, Aspacher said that the 2015 budget does not contain any funds for a project on that property.

Council Member McOmber responded that City Council adopted a budget this year that shows the City spending more money than is going to come in and that's without anything in the budget for this particular project. McOmber also noted that the amount of money that the City has in reserve is less than the amount that is recommended in the City's Financial & Debt Policy. He indicated that the City has recovered a bit from the recession that hit, but is still at a level that is below recommendations.

Steve Doyle, 1047 Lindenwood Lane, asked if City Council has considered putting the land in a public trust and then seeking public-private funding for the project.

Council President Aspacher responded that although they haven't looked specifically at that scenario, he feels that all options are still on the table.

Council Member Rowland commented that it is obvious that the community loves green space. She noted that she doesn't doubt that at all and indicated that as Council President Aspacher has indicated, all options are on the table.

Dallas Black, 536 Buttonwood, addressed Council regarding the City's snow emergency policy questioning whether or not there are ordinances on the City's books regarding the ticketing and towing policy. City Attorney Michael Marsh confirmed that there is a City ordinance that allows for the ticketing and towing process.

Black also noted that he brought to the attention that there was an incorrect URL of the City's website on recent citations he has received. Black was informed that the error has been corrected.

Holly Myers, 5 Parkwood Drive, encouraged Council to look into how uses for the green space can be incorporated into the neighborhood and to maintain it as green space.

READING OF LEGISLATION

Clerk read Resolution #3584 approving the "Agreement and By-Laws of BORMA, Inc." as amended in accordance with recommendations of the Board of Trustees of BORMA, Inc., on November 20, 2014, and ratifying all actions taken by the Board in accordance with the By-Laws as amended, for first reading.

Council Member McOmber moved, Rowland seconded, to suspend the rules and give Resolution #3584 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 #3584 for second and third reading by number and title only.

Council Member McOmber moved, Rowland seconded, to adopt Resolution #3584. On roll call vote, Council Members Gordon, Jeffers, McOmber, Rowland, Zanfardino, Aspacher, and Gavarone voted yes. Council President Aspacher declared motion carried, and Resolution #3584 adopted.

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 first reading.

Clerk read Ordinance #8408 authorizing the Utilities Director to advertise for bids and enter into a contract or contracts for HVAC and boiler replacement services for the Electric Facility, and declaring an emergency, for first reading.

Council Member Aspacher moved, Zanfardino seconded, to suspend the rules and give Ordinance #8408 its second and third reading. On roll call vote, Council Members Jeffers, McOmber, Rowland, Zanfardino, Aspacher, Gavarone, and Gordon voted yes. Council President Aspacher declared motion carried, and rules suspended.

Clerk read Ordinance #8408 for second and third reading by number and title only.

Council Member Aspacher moved, Jeffers seconded, to adopt the emergency clause for Ordinance #8408. 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 Aspacher moved, Gavarone seconded, to adopt Ordinance #8408. On roll call vote, Council Members Rowland, Zanfardino, Aspacher, Gavarone, Gordon, Jeffers, and McOmber voted yes. Council President Aspacher declared motion carried, and Ordinance #8408 adopted.

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

Clerk read Ordinance #8403 authorizing the Municipal Administrator and the Utilities Director to enter into a contract or contracts with specified vendors for work that may exceed \$50,000 annually for calendar year 2015, for second reading.

Clerk read Ordinance #8404 accepting annexation of approximately 0.86 acres of land in Plain Township, Wood County, Ohio, from Douglas and Joyce Hinesman, petitioners, for second reading.

Clerk read Ordinance #8405 authorizing the Utilities Director to advertise for bids and enter into a contract or contracts for tree trimming and removal services, for second reading.

Clerk read Ordinance #8406 authorizing the Utilities Director to advertise for bids and enter into a contract or contracts and/or participate in State of Ohio purchasing programs for the purchase of vehicles and equipment as well as the trade-in or outright sale of vehicles and equipment being replaced and/or no longer needed for municipal purposes, and declaring an emergency, for second reading.

Clerk read Ordinance #8407 authorizing the Utilities Director to advertise for bids and enter into a contract or contracts for various utility projects, for second reading.

Clerk read Resolution #3580 adopting the Bowling Green Fire Division 5-year Strategic Plan, for third reading.

Council Member Zanfardino moved, Rowland seconded, to adopt Resolution #3580. On roll call vote, Council Members Zanfardino, Aspacher, Gavarone, Gordon, Jeffers, McOmber, and Rowland voted yes. Council President Aspacher declared motion carried, and Resolution #3580 adopted.

Clerk read Ordinance #8398 amending and adopting Section 33.04(H) of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Bowling Green, Ohio, relative to pay scales for seasonal employees, for third reading.

Council Member McOmber moved, Zanfardino seconded, to adopt Ordinance #8398. On roll call vote, Council Members Aspacher, Gavarone, Gordon, Jeffers, McOmber, Rowland, and Zanfardino voted yes. Council President Aspacher declared motion carried, and Ordinance #8398 adopted.

Clerk read Ordinance #8400 authorizing the Municipal Administrator to advertise for bids and enter into a contract or contracts and/or participate in State of Ohio purchasing programs for the construction of a clear span salt storage building and other related facility improvements at the Public Works Facilities Building located at 815 East Poe Road, for third reading.

Council Member McOmber moved, Gavarone seconded, to adopt Ordinance #8400. On roll call vote, Council Members Gordon, Jeffers, McOmber, Rowland, Zanfardino, Aspacher, and Gavarone voted yes. Council President Aspacher declared motion carried, and Ordinance #8400 adopted.

Clerk read Ordinance #8401 authorizing the Municipal Administrator to participate in the State of Ohio Department of Transportation sodium chloride (rock salt) purchase agreement for the 2015-2016 winter season, for first reading.

Council Member McOmber moved, Gordon seconded, to adopt Ordinance #8401. On roll call vote, Council Members Gordon, Jeffers, McOmber, Rowland, Zanfardino, Aspacher, and Gavarone voted yes. Council President Aspacher declared motion carried, and Ordinance #8401 adopted.

Clerk read Ordinance #8402 amending and adopting Section 76.23(D) of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Bowling Green, Ohio, regarding operation of meters, coin deposit and time mechanism, for third reading.

Council Member McOmber moved, Rowland seconded, to adopt Ordinance #8402. On roll call vote, Council Members Jeffers, McOmber, Rowland, Zanfardino, Aspacher, Gavarone, and Gordon voted yes. Council President Aspacher declared motion carried, and Ordinance #8402 adopted.

Council Member Jeffers moved, McOmber seconded, to move Council into Executive Session at 8:12 p.m. for the purpose of discussing a personnel matter. On roll call vote, Council Members McOmber, Rowland, Zanfardino, Aspacher, Gavarone, Gordon, and Jeffers voted yes. Council President Aspacher declared motion carried.

Council Member Rowland moved, Gordon seconded, to move Council out of Executive Session at 9:20 p.m. On roll call vote, Council Members Rowland, Zanfardino, Aspacher, Gavarone, Gordon, Jeffers, and McOmber voted yes. Council President Aspacher declared motion carried.

Council Member Jeffers moved, Gavarone seconded, to adjourn. On unanimous voice vote, Council President Aspacher adjourned the March 2, 2015 regular meeting of the City Council at 9:21 p.m., subject to call.



Kay D. Scherrek, Clerk of Council



Michael Aspacher, President of Council