

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 2019

Held _____

20 _____

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, Herald, Hollenbaugh, Jeffers, Robinette, Rowland, and Zanfardino were present. Also present were Mayor Richard Edwards, Municipal Administrator Lori Tretter, City Attorney Michael Marsh, Public Works Director Brian Craft, Utilities Director Brian O'Connell, Planning Director Heather Saylor, and Parks and Recreation Director Kristin Otley.

Council Member Rowland moved, Jeffers seconded, to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held August 19, 2019 as distributed. On unanimous voice vote, Council President Aspacher declared motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

Clerk of Council Kay Scherreik noted that Mayor Edwards submitted a request to appoint Steve Knape to the Human Relations Commission for a term ending May 30, 2023 for approval by City Council. Council Member Herald moved, Rowland seconded, to approve the appointment as requested by the Mayor. On unanimous voice vote, Council President Aspacher declared motion carried.

Clerk also noted that a listing of budget transfers for the month of September was received from Finance Director Brian Bushong and distributed to Council prior to the meeting for approval. Council Member Jeffers moved, Zanfardino seconded, to approve the transfers as presented. On unanimous voice vote, Council President Aspacher declared motion carried. A copy of the transfers is attached and made a part of these minutes.

Clerk reported that fees for the rental of the new Veterans Building in City Park were approved by the Parks & Recreation Board and distributed to Council Members for approval. Council Member Rowland moved, Jeffers seconded, to approve the fees as presented. On unanimous voice vote, Council President Aspacher declared motion carried.

SPECIAL RECOGNITIONS – MAYOR EDWARDS

There were no special recognitions.

LOBBY VISITATIONS

Michael French, 61 Windrush Bourne, also representing Ashbury Hills Association, spoke to Council in support of the proposed property transfer from the City to the Bowling Green City Schools. He expressed two concerns regarding the ditch located at the back of the Ashbury Hills property that hasn't been cleaned in over five years, and the fact that there is only one way in and out of Ashbury Hills for residents and emergency vehicles. He indicated that the association would like to propose that if the property transfer moves forward that perhaps the street could be extended to allow for another exit from the Ashbury Hills development.

Frank McLaughlin, 505 Erie Court, indicated to Council that he recently had the opportunity to visit the area around the University of Toledo and noticed remarkable changes to the development of the area around the university. He said that he was reminded about the importance of the appearance of neighborhoods to a university community. McLaughlin encouraged Council to remain focused regarding the East Wooster "white paper report" and that progress continues in the development of that corridor. McLaughlin also expressed his disappointment that the plastic bag ban ordinance was tabled last month because of pending action by the state. He said that in his opinion the state of Ohio has not been supportive of sustainability efforts. He said that

he hopes the plastic bag ban ordinance does not get lost and, that even though it's a small step, small steps are how things get done.

Superintendent Francis Scruci and Ginny Stewart, Bowling Green City Schools, addressed City Council together. Scruci indicated that getting the school year off to a great start and expressed his appreciation to Council Members, Mayor Edwards, members of the City Administration, and members of the Police and Fire Divisions for joining school officials as they greeted students on the first day as they returned to school. School Board President Ginny Stewart thanked Mayor Edwards, City Administration and City Council on behalf of the School Board for the proposed donation of land north of the location specified for the community elementary school. Stewart said that the support ensures that the proposed community elementary school will have safe and convenient access for students, parents and school buses. Stewart thanked Council for helping to facilitate this critical project for the City's future and well-being.

Sue Smith, 1142 Alexandria Boulevard, addressed City Council to express her concerns regarding Simpson Garden Park. Smith indicated that her property abuts Simpson Park and that some of the grasses in the park have been allowed to grow very tall throughout the summer. Smith noted that she sent letters to the City concerning the grass, but has not received satisfactory responses. She noted that for the first time in sixteen years, she has been seeing fox in her yard and on her deck and porch. She's concerned for the safety of the pets in the neighborhood and asked that something be done. She said that in previous years the grasses have always been mowed. Smith gave copies of the letters she has written since July to Council Members.

Brenda Pike, 543 Haskins Road, expressed her concerns regarding the replacement of all parking meters in City parking lots with the kiosk system. Pike indicated that she feels that this poses a problem for older residents many who have no understanding of how they work and can become frustrated. Pike said that the kiosks are complicated and sometimes require people to walk a distance in order to utilize one. Pike presented a petition to City Council with more than 100 signatures asking the City to allow one parking lot to keep its meters so that people can visit downtown without the hardship of having to use the kiosk system. Pike also voice concerns about the tall grasses in Simpson Garden Park saying that they are a safe haven for fox, ticks and field mice. She said that the health of the citizens should take priority over the grass.

Bud Henschen, 426 S. Mitchell Road, asked if there was a swapping of property between the City and the school district. Council President Aspacher responded that there is no exchange of property between the City and the schools. The legislation on this evening's agenda is for a transfer of land directly to the school board in the event that the bond issue is successful. Aspacher reiterated that there is no land swap involved in the legislation at all.

NEW LEGISLATION

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

Council Member Jeffers, for the Finance Committee, introduced an ordinance providing supplemental appropriations for the current expenses and other expenditures of the City of Bowling Green, Ohio, during the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2019 and ending December 31, 2019.

Council Member Jeffers, for the Finance Committee, introduced a resolution transferring previously appropriated funds.

Council President Aspacher, for the Committee-of-the-Whole, introduced an ordinance determining certain real properties no longer necessary for municipal purposes, and authorizing the Municipal Administrator to transfer said properties to the Bowling Green City School District Board of Education.

OFFICIAL REPORTS

Mayor Dick Edwards read a prepared statement, a copy of which is attached to and made a part of these minutes. Council President Aspacher gave his support to the Mayor's comments regarding the need for Council to come together as a community support the schools and their efforts to solve the facility issues.

Municipal Administrator Lori Tretter reviewed street and parking lot closures for the Black Swamp Arts Festival which will be held in the downtown area of Bowling Green this coming weekend. Tretter noted that as discussed in previous meetings, the downtown area is still an active construction area, and encouraged people to be aware and exercise caution.

Planning Director Heather Saylor reported that U.S. Census employees have begun canvassing neighborhoods. She noted that they carry identification badges, but will be knocking on doors verifying addresses. Saylor distributed information on the upcoming NIOT Community Conversations Series noting that the first one will be held on Thursday, September 19, from 7-9 p.m. at the Wood County Board of Developmental Disabilities Conference Room located at 1921 E. Gypsy Lane Road.

Parks and Recreation Director Kristin Otley reminded Council Members of the upcoming 24th wine and cheese fundraising event on Friday, September 27, starting at 5:30 p.m. at the Simpson Garden Park building. Proceeds from the event will benefit the new shelter planned for Carter Park. Otley alerted citizens to upcoming traffic pattern changes in City Park due to the construction of the new building. She also noted that the pool has closed for the season.

Council Member Herald asked Otley to comment about issues raised about Simpson Garden Park and the upcoming Parks & Rec strategic plan update. Otley responded that the original group who planned the Simpson Garden Park seventeen years ago met and will continue to meet to review the park's history and other matters relating to the park. That group is helping to kick off into the department's master planning process consisting of focus groups led by Dr. Shannon Orr. Otley noted that dates for those groups have not been finalized. In response to Herald's question about public notice regarding those meetings, Otley assured him that there will be plenty of notice given to all citizens in the City.

City Attorney Michael Marsh had no report.

Utilities Director Brian O'Connell reported to Council the City sent a mutual aid electric line crew to Florida to assist in hurricane disaster recovery. O'Connell noted that the crew is expected to be gone for seven to ten days.

Council Member Herald asked O'Connell about the ditch in Ashbury Hills that was brought up during lobby visitations. O'Connell responded that he is not familiar with the exactly location of the ditch, but will have it checked out to see if it needs cleaning.

Public Works Director Brian Craft updated Council on the paving of the roundabouts at I-75 noting that there is still work to be done on the sanitary sewer and water lines. Craft also reported that brush collection will be done the week of September 16. Calls for pickup can be made to the Public Works office until September 9.

COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS

Council Member Robinette reported that he had a meeting last week with Municipal Administrator Lori Tretter regarding ongoing CAP and East Wooster projects. Robinette indicated that he plans to distribute a written report at the next meeting. He said that a lot of progress has been made on the list of priorities and wants to give Council a status update. Council Member Jeffers commented to Robinette that it's good to be reminded from time to time that progress is being made and thanked him for keeping Council up to date.

READING OF LEGISLATION

Clerk read Resolution #3741 transferring previously appropriated funds, for first reading.

Council Member Jeffers moved, Rowland seconded, to suspend the rules and give Resolution #3741 its second and third reading. On roll call vote, Council Members Herald, Hollenbaugh, Jeffers, Robinette, Rowland, Zanfardino, and Aspacher voted yes. Council President Aspacher declared motion carried, and rules suspended.

Clerk read Resolution #3741 for second and third reading by number and title only.

Council Member Jeffers moved, Zanfardino seconded, to adopt Resolution #3741. On roll call vote, Council Members Hollenbaugh, Jeffers, Robinette, Rowland, Zanfardino, Aspacher, and Herald voted yes. Council President Aspacher declared motion carried, and Resolution #3741 adopted.

Clerk read Ordinance #8795 providing supplemental appropriations for the current expenses and other expenditures of the City of Bowling Green, Ohio, during the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2019 and ending December 31, 2019, for first reading.

Council Member Jeffers moved, Rowland seconded, to suspend the rules and give Ordinance #8795 its second and third reading. On roll call vote, Council Members Jeffers, Robinette, Rowland, Zanfardino, Aspacher, Herald, and Hollenbaugh voted yes. Council President Aspacher declared motion carried, and rules suspended.

Clerk read Ordinance #8795 for second and third reading by number and title only.

Council Member Jeffers moved, Rowland seconded, to adopt Ordinance #8795. On roll call vote, Council Members Robinette, Rowland, Zanfardino, Aspacher, Herald, Hollenbaugh, and Jeffers voted yes. Council President Aspacher declared motion carried, and Ordinance #8795 adopted.

Clerk read Ordinance #8796 determining certain real properties no longer necessary for municipal purposes, and authorizing the Municipal Administrator to transfer said properties to the Bowling Green City School District Board of Education, for first reading.

Clerk read Resolution #3739 accepting the amounts and rates as determined by the Budget Commission and authorizing the necessary tax levies and certifying them to the County Auditor, for second reading.

Clerk read Resolution #3740 authorizing an application and a contract with the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) for congestion mitigation and air quality funds for the improvement of the intersection of Dunbridge Road and Woodbridge Boulevard, for second reading.

Council Member Aspacher moved, Jeffers seconded, to suspend the rules and give Resolution #3740 its third reading. On roll call vote, Council Members Rowland, Zanfardino, Aspacher, Herald, Hollenbaugh, Jeffers, and Robinette voted yes. Council President Aspacher declared motion carried, and rules suspended.

Clerk read Resolution #3740 for third reading by number and title only.

Council Member Aspacher moved, Jeffers seconded, to adopt Ordinance #3740. On roll call vote, Council Members Zanfardino, Aspacher, Herald, Hollenbaugh, Jeffers, Robinette, and Rowland voted yes. Council President Aspacher declared motion carried, and Ordinance #3740 adopted.

Clerk read Ordinance #8791 levying a \$5.00 motor vehicle license tax as authorized by Section 4504.173 of the Ohio Revised Code, for second reading.

Clerk read Ordinance #8792 amending the Zoning District Map of the City of Bowling Green, Ohio, for the properties generally known as 1019 Mourning Dove Lane and 936 Robinwood Lane from S-1 Planned Residential to R-2 Single Family Residential zoning, for second reading.

Clerk read Ordinance #8793 amending and adopting Section 150.55 of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Bowling Green, Ohio, regarding off-street parking, for second reading.

Clerk read Ordinance #8794 authorizing the sale or disposal of former transit service vehicles by the Municipal Administrator as no longer necessary for municipal purposes, for second reading.

Clerk read Resolution #3738 amending and adopting changes to the Procurement Manual for B.G. Transit, for third reading.

Council Member Zanfardino moved, Jeffers seconded, to adopt Resolution #3738. On roll call vote, Council Members Aspacher, Herald, Hollenbaugh, Jeffers, Robinette, Rowland, and Zanfardino voted yes. Council President Aspacher declared motion carried, and Resolution #3738 adopted.

Clerk read Ordinance #8787 certifying unpaid cost of weed mowing to the County Auditor for placement on the tax duplicate, for third reading.

Council Member Jeffers moved, Zanfardino seconded, to adopt Ordinance #8787. On roll call vote, Council Members Herald, Hollenbaugh, Jeffers, Robinette, Rowland, Zanfardino, and Aspacher voted yes. Council President Aspacher declared motion carried, and Ordinance #8787 adopted.

Clerk read Ordinance #8788 amending and adopting Section 33.08 of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Bowling Green, Ohio, regarding Police Division Composition, for third reading.

Council Member Jeffers moved, Zanfardino seconded, to adopt Ordinance #8788.

Council Member Rowland asked that with the retirement of the Animal Control Officer, who will be handling complaints to the Police Division regarding dogs. Police Chief Tony Hetrick responded that canine enforcement will be given to the Wood County Dog Warden's office. Bowling Green Police Officers will still be doing some after hours enforcement with regards to canines, but will continue to handle small nuisance animals like possums and raccoons, etc. during normal work hours.

On roll call vote, Council Members Hollenbaugh, Jeffers, Robinette, Rowland, Zanfardino, Aspacher, and Herald voted yes. Council President Aspacher declared motion carried, and Ordinance #8788 adopted.

Clerk read Ordinance #8789 authorizing the Utilities Director to request proposals and enter into a contract or contracts for a battery energy storage system, for third reading.

Council Member Herald moved, Jeffers seconded, to adopt Ordinance #8789. On roll call vote, Council Members Jeffers, Robinette, Rowland, Zanfardino, Aspacher, Herald, and Hollenbaugh voted yes. Council President Aspacher declared motion carried, and Ordinance #8789 adopted.

Council Member Herald moved, Rowland seconded, to adjourn. On unanimous voice vote, Council President Aspacher adjourned the September 3, 2019 regular meeting of the City Council at 8:04 p.m., subject to call.



Kay D. Scherreik, Clerk of Council



Michael Aspacher, President of Council



September 3, 2019

TO: Bowling Green City Council
 FROM: Brian Bushong, Finance Director

Transfers requested for the month of September include:

Fund	Dept.	Account	Description	From	To
1010	190	92400	General, Miscellaneous, Transfer To Capital Projects	\$ 3,042.58	
4030	000	69410	Green Space Acquisition Fund, Revenue, Transfer From General		\$ 3,042.58
4030	710	92100	Green Space Acquisition Fund, Recreation Department, Transfer To General	\$ 2,225.00	
1010	000	69440	General, Revenue, Transfer From Capital Projects		\$ 2,225.00
1010	190	92200	General, Miscellaneous, Transfer To Special Revenue	\$ 2,916.67	
2007	000	69410	Payroll Stabilization, Revenue, Transfer From General		\$ 2,916.67
2078	170	92300	Municipal Court Special Projects, Municipal Court, Transfer To Debt Service	\$ 7,500.00	
3025	000	69420	Debt Service, Revenue, Transfer From Special Revenue		\$ 7,500.00
4018	810	92300	Capital Improvement, Capital Improvement, Transfer To Debt Service	\$ 33,055.25	
3025	000	69440	Debt Service, Revenue, Transfer From Capital Projects		\$ 33,055.25
4018	810	92400	Capital Improvement, Capital Improvement, Transfer To Capital Projects	\$ 11,616.67	
4005	000	69440	Equipment Capital Reserve, Revenue, Transfer From Capital Projects		\$ 11,616.67
4055	710	92400	Aquatic Facility Capital Improvement, Recreation Department, Transfer To Capital Projects	\$ 2,083.33	
4010	000	69440	Facility Capital Reserve, Revenue, Transfer From Capital Projects		\$ 2,083.33
4029	423	92300	Street Repair, Street Repair, Transfer To Debt Service	\$ 38,481.58	
3025	000	69440	Debt Service, Revenue, Transfer From Capital Projects		\$ 38,481.58
1010	190	92200	General, Miscellaneous, Transfer To Special Revenue	\$ 4,542.92	

2021	000	69410	ODOT Transportation Grant (Taxi), Revenue, Transfer From General		\$ 4,542.92
4055	710	92300	Aquatic Facility Capital Improvement, Recreation Department, Transfer To Debt Service	\$ 21,001.58	
3025	000	69440	Debt Service, Revenue, Transfer From Capital Projects		\$ 21,001.58
2016	710	92300	Park, Playground and Recreation, Recreation Department, Transfer To Debt Service	\$ 17,389.08	
3025	000	69420	Debt Service, Revenue, Transfer From Special Revenue		\$ 17,389.08
5111	651	92500	Electric Revenue, Administrative and General, Transfer To Enterprise	\$ 184,036.00	
5112	000	69450	Electric Capital Reserve, Revenue, Transfer From Enterprise		\$ 184,036.00
5221	651	92500	Water Revenue, Administrative and General, Transfer To Enterprise	\$ 78,623.00	
5222	000	69450	Water Capital Reserve, Revenue, Transfer From Enterprise		\$ 78,623.00
5331	651	92500	Sewer Revenue, Administrative and General, Transfer To Enterprise	\$ 16,040.00	
5332	000	69450	Sewer Capital Reserve, Revenue, Transfer From Enterprise		\$ 16,040.00
Total				\$ 422,553.66	\$ 422,553.66

Richard A. Edwards, Mayor
Report to City Council
September 3, 2019

Mr. President, Members of Council and all assembled:

How pleased I was to read in the current issue of Cities and Villages, the magazine of the Ohio Municipal League, an editorial by Executive Director Kent Scarrett praising the National League of Cities (NLC) campaign of "Love My City."

This national campaign is designed to "spotlight the love residents feel for their cities". The idea for this national campaign originated by Gary, IN Mayor Karen Freeman-Wilson.

I wholeheartedly applaud the NLC's initiative and the work of Mayor Freeman-Wilson.

In reading the editorial, it immediately brought to mind what we all know and experience on an almost daily basis, i.e., how much the citizens of BG love their city and are not the least bit hesitant to share passions and feelings about our city.

It is precisely why we are all looking forward to the ^{26th} 23rd annual Black Swamp Arts Festival this weekend.

It is precisely why the City Administration with your strong backing supported investing more than \$3 million in infrastructure improvements in historic Downtown BG combined with an additional huge investment by Columbia Gas.

Yes, many of these dollars could have been redirected to neighborhood street improvements but we opted to take the long view in trying our best to preserve and enhance downtown BG. Most citizens and property owners understand the rationale for this investment.

That is why with your strong backing we opted to institute the free parking proclamation well ahead of the usual holiday policy. The downtown needed a psychological lift after many months of construction and some unfortunate delays related to weather and the complexities of removing debris some probably 100 years old.

When the project is fully completed, I sincerely hope that the leadership of Downtown BG will celebrate the return to a solid, forward looking and inviting business climate. Yes we all have our stories of tough business conditions but the important thing is that we are all looking ahead and seizing opportunities for enhancing business.

In this same vein, I am pleased to see that you will be giving a second reading tonight for an ordinance requiring buffers for parking lots and sprucing up setbacks for our major traffic arteries.

That is why the recent meeting of the Planning, Zoning, and Economic Development Committee carries with it great import for addressing the needs for rezoning, especially along the East Wooster corridor where the University has already made a substantial investment in purchasing some unsightly properties.

In the interest of looking ahead and reflecting on the best interests of our community, I applaud the important initiative of identifying some parcels of city-owned land that will assist in the construction of a new all-in-one elementary school if approved by the voters. As a community we simply must look and plan ahead. The delays in moving forward to address the acute needs and important issues confronting our school system has unfortunately hurt our community and put us at a distinct disadvantage with neighboring communities.

Ditto for tonight's meeting as a Committee of the Whole on the important topic of Sustainability and the City's contract with the Bowling Green Recycling Center

In keeping with the NLC's "Love My City" campaign, let's enjoy the Black Swamp Arts Festival, encourage citizens to sign up as volunteers, and support our local businesses and the return of historic Downtown BG to a vastly improved condition and celebrate the many attributes of our community, one of the best traditional college towns in Ohio and in the U.S.

Mr. President and members of Council, this concludes my report unless you have questions for me.
Thank you!