

**RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS
CITY OF BOWLING GREEN CITY COUNCIL**

Minutes of

Meeting

BEAR GRAPHICS 800-325-8094 FORM NO. 10148

MONDAY, AUGUST 3, 2020

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 Hollenbaugh. The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

On roll call, Council Members Herald, Hollenbaugh, Robinette, and Zanfardino were present. Council Members Leontis, Phipps, Rowland were present via teleconferencing. Also present were Mayor Mike Aspacher, Municipal Administrator Lori Tretter, City Attorney Michael Marsh, and Public Works Director Brian Craft. Planning Director Heather Saylor, Parks and Recreation Director Kristin Otley, and Utilities Director Brian O'Connell were not present.

Council Member Herald moved, Robinette seconded, to approve the minutes of the special meeting held July 14, 2020 and the regular meeting held July 20, 2020 as distributed. On unanimous voice vote, Council President Hollenbaugh declared motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

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

LOBBY VISITATIONS

There were no lobby visitations.

NEW LEGISLATION

There was no new legislation introduced at this evening's meeting.

OFFICIAL REPORTS

Mayor Mike Aspacher read a statement announcing that parking in the downtown area will be free on a permanent basis. A copy of Mayor Aspacher's statement is attached and made a part of these minutes.

Council Member Herald commended the Mayor for making such a bold decision that will make a lot of people happy and indicated that he feels that this is a good step forward.

Council Member Leontis asked about the employees who have been doing the job of parking enforcement and if they have been reassigned to other duties. The Mayor responded that enforcement of the 3-hour limit and overnight parking will continue and there will be a shifting of resources to other nuisance enforcement that will be beneficial to the neighborhoods. Mayor Aspacher noted that there will be no reduction in employees due to this initiative.

Council Member Rowland stated that she believes this is a good move towards showing the downtown businesses that we are behind them and we want them to thrive.

Municipal Administrator Lori Tretter had no report.

Planning Director Heather Saylor was not present.

Parks and Recreation Director Kristin Otley was not present.

City Attorney Michael Marsh had no report.

Public Works Director Brian O'Connell was not present.

Public Works Director Brian Craft updated Council on current Public Works projects on Thurstin Avenue, Flanders, and S. Maple Street.

COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS

Council Member Robinette reported that the Finance Committee met earlier this evening and heard an update on the City's finances from Finance Director Brian Bushong. Robinette also noted that a recycling/refuse report that was received from the Administration.

READING OF LEGISLATION

There was no legislation for first reading.

Clerk read Ordinance #8864 determining to proceed with the Plan of Services of the expanded Bowling Green Central Business Special Improvement District, Inc., and providing for the levy of assessments therefore, and declaring an emergency, for second reading.

Clerk read Ordinance #8858 authorizing the Utilities Director to advertise for bids and enter into a contract or contracts for electric distribution improvements at the Water Pollution Control facility, for third reading.

Council Member Leontis moved, Herald seconded, to adopt Ordinance #8858. On roll call vote, Council Members Hollenbaugh, Leontis, Phipps, Robinette, Rowland, Zanfardino, and Herald voted yes. Council President Hollenbaugh declared motion carried, and Ordinance #8858 adopted.

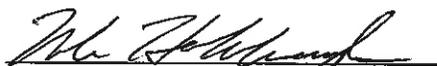
Clerk read Ordinance #8859 accepting a deed from HCF Realty of Bowling Green, Inc., for right-of-way and utility purposes on W. Poe Road, for third reading.

Council Member Leontis moved, Herald seconded, to adopt Ordinance #8859. On roll call vote, Council Members Leontis, Phipps, Robinette, Rowland, Zanfardino, Herald, and Hollenbaugh voted yes. Council President Hollenbaugh declared motion carried, and Ordinance #8859 adopted.

Council Member Leontis read a personal letter he drafted to send to Ohio U.S. Senators Portman and Brown regarding rapid testing for COVID-19. The letter was not introduced for action by the full Council. There was no discussion and no vote was taken. A copy of the letter is attached and made a part of these minutes.

Council Member Herald moved, Zanfardino seconded, to adjourn. On unanimous voice vote, Council President Hollenbaugh adjourned the August 3, 2020 regular meeting of the City Council at 7:24 p.m., subject to call.


Kay D. Scherrek, Clerk of Council


Mark Hollenbaugh, President of Council



FINANCE DEPARTMENT
CITY OF BOWLING GREEN

August 3, 2020

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

Transfers requested for the month of August include:

Fund	Dept.	Account	Description	From	To
1010	190	92400	General, Miscellaneous, Transfer To Capital Projects	\$ 2,911.67	
4030	000	69410	Green Space Acquisition Fund, Revenue, Transfer From General		\$ 2,911.67
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
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	\$ 33,621.88	
3025	000	69440	Debt Service, Revenue, Transfer From Capital Projects		\$ 33,621.88
4018	810	92400	Capital Improvement, Capital Improvement, Transfer To Capital Projects	\$ 28,283.33	
4005	000	69440	Equipment Capital Reserve, Revenue, Transfer From Capital Projects		\$ 28,283.33
4029	423	92300	Street Repair, Street Repair, Transfer To Debt Service	\$ 37,824.90	
3025	000	69440	Debt Service, Revenue, Transfer From Capital Projects		\$ 37,824.90
4055	710	92300	Aquatic Facility Capital Improvement, Recreation Department, Transfer To Debt Service	\$ 20,764.06	
3025	000	69440	Debt Service, Revenue, Transfer From Capital Projects		\$ 20,764.06
2016	710	92300	Park, Playground and Recreation, Recreation Department, Transfer To Debt Service	\$ 19,209.90	
3025	000	69420	Debt Service, Revenue, Transfer From Special Revenue		\$ 19,209.90

5111	651	92500	Electric Revenue, Administrative and General, Transfer To Enterprise	\$ 65,560.00	
5112	000	69450	Electric Capital Reserve, Revenue, Transfer From Enterprise		\$ 65,560.00
5221	651	92500	Water Revenue, Administrative and General, Transfer To Enterprise	\$ 68,537.00	
5222	000	69450	Water Capital Reserve, Revenue, Transfer From Enterprise		\$ 68,537.00
5331	651	92500	Sewer Revenue, Administrative and General, Transfer To Enterprise	\$ 19,004.00	
5332	000	69450	Sewer Capital Reserve, Revenue, Transfer From Enterprise		\$ 19,004.00
Total				\$ 305,441.74	\$ 305,441.74



MAYOR'S OFFICE
CITY OF BOWLING GREEN

August 3, 2020
Contact: Joe Fawcett 419-354-6204

Mayor Aspacher Statement: Downtown Free Parking

BOWLING GREEN — In August of 2019, Mayor Edwards and City Council announced an early parking holiday that removed the charge to park within city owned parking lots and at on-street meters. This was done in an effort to welcome people back in to the downtown area following two years of extensive construction. During this time we have seen that parking enforcement can be successful and still occur without a meter or kiosk, and there has been a very positive response to free parking in these areas. I applaud the Police Division for their hard work and dedication in re-working how they enforce the parking laws. As a result of these outcomes, I am asking City staff to begin taking steps to make this arrangement permanent.

This decision did not come easily. There are numerous pros and cons to this issue and in making this decision I have talked with staff, downtown property owners, business owners, and everyday residents. In removing the fee to park I hope to remove any barriers that may prevent residents and those visiting our community from enjoying our wonderful downtown. This does come with a financial impact and I recognize that. We will be selling the kiosks and associated hardware in order to recoup some of the costs of that system. Further, the City will save money with on-going maintenance to kiosks, the associated equipment, and the parking meters, as well as tax savings. Additionally, because there would be no need to attend to meters, kiosks, collect money, replenish receipts, etc..., we will realize additional savings by reducing the number of full-time employees required to perform parking related functions.

Once this goes in to effect, downtown residents will now be able to obtain a parking permit at no charge so that they may park in a city owned lot overnight. Those downtown residents interested in obtaining a permit will need to visit the Police Division as they normally would, the only difference is that they will be asked to show proof of residency. I ask that downtown residents and merchants utilize the 10-hour parking areas, leaving the 3-hour parking areas for visitors of our downtown.

#

20-053



City of Bowling Green City Council

August 3, 2020

Dear Senators Sherrod Brown, Rob Portman, and Members of the Ohio Congressional Delegation:

We thank you for all of your hard work and sacrifice during this time of national crisis.

We are elected members of the City Council and Administration of Bowling Green, Ohio.

One of the most pressing issue we all face today is to bring the COVID-19 pandemic under control. The pandemic is spreading rapidly because:

1. Recently infected people, who don't know they are infected because they don't have symptoms, can infect other people. Best estimates from the CDC are that 50% of infections are caused by infected persons before they develop symptoms. See: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/planning-scenarios.html>
2. Current testing methods are expensive and can take days to give results - during this time infected persons continue to spread the disease to others.
3. Many infected persons are never tested, because they never develop serious symptoms.

The good news is that the technology now exists for rapid, inexpensive, at-home, "spit-on-paper," COVID-19 tests ("Rapid tests"). In the coming months, we can manufacture and distribute hundreds of millions of these tests to determine, cheaply and right away, who is infectious and can spread the disease. This will allow us to safely reopen our schools and universities, businesses, factories, and public buildings.

As members of the U.S. Congress, you have the power to make this happen, so we ask you to please:

1. Immediately encourage the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to fast track development, improvement, and licensing and approval of Rapid, Inexpensive Tests for COVID-19.
2. Immediately fund the manufacture and distribution of rapid tests for everyone to use them every day, especially our health workers, school children, students, and teachers.
3. Provide adequate funding to support and protect all infected people and their families during quarantine, with humane living conditions, medical care and salary support, to prevent hardship and spread of the virus to their family members and others in the community.

Important additional Background Information:

- Rapid inexpensive tests that directly detect intact virus particles (so-called "antigen tests") are sufficiently sensitive to detect who is shedding enough virus to infect others.
- Rapid tests can easily be taken at home and results are available in minutes. No blood, laboratory equipment or medical professionals are needed to run the test.
- Those who test positive using rapid tests can immediately self-isolate and stop the spread of SARS-CoV-2 virus.
- Rapid tests cost as low as \$1 each, so everyone can test themselves every day before work, school, or

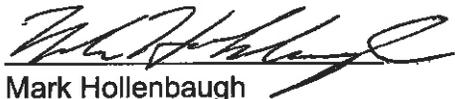
social events.

- The “gold standard” RT-PCR tests are inappropriate for daily screening of large numbers of people to identify people when they are most infectious, because they are too expensive (\$50 to \$100) and slow. They require trained medical professionals and specialized laboratories, so results can be delayed for several days, during which time infected persons can infect others.
- Mass production and distribution of the rapid tests is much cheaper than another shut-down.
- Several companies have already developed rapid tests.
- The low cost and ease-of-use of rapid tests is crucial to protect vulnerable people, who have been hardest hit by the pandemic, including people over 65, disabled or immunocompromised persons, or those without health insurance.

In conclusion, widespread use of rapid tests, combined with adequate support to protect and support infected persons in quarantine, will stop the spread of the virus and allow life to return safely to nearly normal.

Thank you in advance for your attention to this extremely urgent matter.

Sincerely,



Mark Hollenbaugh
President



Sandy Rowland
At-Large Representative



John Zanfardino
Second Ward Representative



Neocles Leontis
At-Large Representative



Rachel Phipps
Third Ward Representative

P.S. To learn more about the rapid tests and their benefits, please consult the interview with Dr. Michael Mina, Assistant Professor of Epidemiology, Harvard University, on the podcast, [This Week in Virology](https://www.microbe.tv/twiv/twiv-640/), episode #640 (specifically minutes 22-33). This podcast was released on July 16, 2020. (<https://www.microbe.tv/twiv/twiv-640/>). Dr. Mina co-authored the op-ed published in the New York Times on July 3, 2020 with economist Laurence Kotlikoff, Boston University Professor of Economics at), titled [Coronavirus Testing the Cheap, Simple Way](#). The popular weekly podcast, [MedCram - Medical Lectures explained Clearly](#), aired on July 20, 2020, discussed the importance of rapid testing and how these tests work.