

President Vicki Hoppe called the regular Sharonville Council meeting of April 13, 2021 to order at 7:00 p.m. A moment of silence was held followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Dave Koch.

ROLL CALL

- ◆ In attendance for Roll Call were Council Members: Rob Tankersley, Mike Wilson, Charles Lippert, Shayok Dutta, Dave Koch, Sue Knight and Paul Schmidt. Also in attendance were Mayor Kevin Hardman, President Vicki Hoppe, Safety Service Director Jim Lukas, Law Director Mark Piepmeier, Auditor Ed Cunningham, Treasurer Kurt Irey, and Department Heads: Human Resources Director Noah Powers, Finance Director Scott McKeegan, Community Development Director John Creech, and Police Chief Steve Vanover.

MINUTES

- ◆ The Minutes from the regular council meeting of March 30, 2021 were approved as written and distributed.

REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

◆ MAYOR – KEVIN HARDMAN

- Oath of Office given to Dana Taggart who was promoted to Police Sergeant. Sgt. Taggart was celebrated by family, friends and co-workers at the meeting.

COUNCIL COMMITTEES (moved up on Agenda)

◆ HONORED CITIZENS – SUE KNIGHT

- In honor of National Dispatcher's Day, Councilmember Knight recognized two of Sharonville Police Department's dispatchers who were in the audience and thanked them for their work.

◆ SAFETY SERVICE DIRECTOR – JIM LUKAS

- Explanation of Legislation:
 - Resolution 2021-R-02 authorizes the city to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with other communities and organizations that make up the Sharon Creek Collaborative (those communities that are considering signing this Memorandum of Understanding are Evendale, Sharonville, Great Parks of Hamilton County, the Millcreek Alliance, the Millcreek Conservancy District, Connecting Active Communities Coalition and Tri-State Trails). The point of this MOU is to plan, construct and maintain a Sharon Creek Trail. The Great Parks of Hamilton County made a grant application to the Clean Ohio Fund to acquire about eight acres of property (excess railroad property) for a future trail that would run from Evendale into just underneath Sharon Road, and eventually going behind The Loop. Then the next phase would be from The Loop to Sharon Woods Park. The overall concept plan is to connect all the parks through various multi-use trails. The purpose of this new MOU is specifically for this area helps the grant application. John Creech, along with Michelle Gotzlich with Connecting Active Communities Coalition, presented this Resolution and was present for any questions, however none were raised. Ms. Gotzlich was excited about the project and the funding from Clean Ohio that was received and believes this trail is going to enhance all of the downtown goals and be an economic and recreation boom.
 - Ordinance 2021-24-E utilizes the Cares Act funding from late 2020, wherefrom the City set aside \$700,000 of it to support non-profit organizations and others that may experience hardship or loss during the pandemic. As such, this legislation authorizes \$50,000 of that fund be awarded to the Festivals of Sharonville for them to pass on to the umbrella of non-profits and allows for their annual event happen which would support all the other nonprofits in the community.

- Ordinance 2021-25-E appropriates \$210,000 in the 401 Capital Fund. The \$200,000 is for the right-of-way in the FEMA project at Wyscarver/Main Street. This is to handle the appraisal and acquisition cost associated with that. There is also \$10,000 to purchase the right-of-entry associated with the Kemper Sidewalk project. Scott McKeehan presented this Ordinance and was present for any questions, however none were raised.

Mayor Hardman added, in regard to the Cares Act Grant funding, this update: Jim Downton successfully awarded 35 different business grants in the amount of \$10,000 each to be used by the businesses in the community to help keep them strong. There may be one or two additional applications that came in at or just past the deadline which the City is looking into see if there are any other funds to give out in order to help. Mr. Downton is working on letting the public know that the small businesses are still here and still open.

Councilmember Lippert asked for an explanation for the need of this to be an emergency. Mr. McKeehan stated that the emergency portion of the Ordinance is needed because there is the authorization to execute on all those agreements, and especially with the FEMA project, it is time sensitive and there are a lot of boxes to check between now and the deadline which is down the road, but to work through this right-of-way and utility process ahead of the construction phase, it makes what seems like a long timeframe slip away fast. So it's important to get the ball rolling.

- Ordinance 2021-26-E provides make-while payments to Stephen Kowatsch, a convention center employee. During the pandemic, due to the downturn of business calls to the convention center, the City engaged the State of Ohio Layoff Program which provides some payments to employees who work a reduced schedule. Stefan was among those employees and an error in the program caused him to go several weeks without being paid by that program. Passing this provides him the funds he should've received and provides an agreement that when he receives that payment from the State of Ohio, he will owe a dollar for dollar back to the city. This makes sure he gets the money promised to him. Noah Powers presented this Ordinance and was present for any questions, however none were raised.

◆ **PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL – VICKI HOPPE**

- No report.

◆ **CLERK OF COUNCIL – TERI BUCHEIT**

- No report.

◆ **LAW DIRECTOR – MARK PIEPMEIER**

- No report.

RESIDENTS DESIRING TO BE HEARD BEFORE COUNCIL

- ◆ None.

COUNCIL COMMITTEES (cont'd)

◆ **COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT – ROB TANKERSLEY**

- That Dog Café is now open.

◆ **COMMUNITY SERVICES – CHARLES LIPPERT**

- The Community Development Committee met and a summary of that meeting was provided. The committee report is attached to the Minutes.

◆ **BUDGET & FINANCE – DAVE KOCH**

- No report.

◆ **PROJECT OVERSIGHT – DAVE KOCH**

- The committee met and discussed the FEMA project and has recommended that it proceed forward.

◆ **LAW & PUBLIC SAFETY – PAUL SCHMIDT**

- The next Law & Public Safety Committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 20, 2021 at 4:00 p.m. in the Administration Conference Room.

RULE SUSPENSION MOTIONS

- ◆ The motion by Mr. Lippert for the suspension of the regular rules of Council to allow for a first and only reading with immediate effectivity on Ordinances 2021-25-E and 2021-26-E, and a second and third reading with immediate effectivity of Ordinance 2021-24 was seconded by Mr. Wilson. Voice Vote on passage. Motion approved unanimously.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- ◆ **RESOLUTION 2021-R-02**, Resolution Authorizing the Safety Service Director to Enter Into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Other Communities and Organizations That Comprise the Sharon Creek Collaborative to Plan for, Construct, and Maintain the Sharon Creek Trail. Clerk of Council gave the second reading of the ordinance. Clerk of Council gave the first and only reading of the ordinance. The motion for passage by Mrs. Knight was seconded by Mr. Koch. There being no discussion, the Clerk proceeded with a Roll Call Vote on passage. Motion approved unanimously.
- ◆ **ORDINANCE 2021 – 24 – E**, Authorizing Assistance to Festivals of Sharonville and Declaring an Emergency. Clerk of Council gave the first reading of the ordinance. Clerk of Council gave the first and only reading of the ordinance. The motion for passage by Mr. Wilson was seconded by Mr. Tankersley. There being no discussion, the Clerk proceeded with a Roll Call Vote on passage. Motion approved unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

- ◆ **ORDINANCE 2021 – 25 – E**, Amending 2021 Appropriations for the 401 Capital Fund and Authorizing the Safety/Service Director to Approve Necessary Agreements to Acquire Right-of-Way and Right of Entry and Declaring an Emergency. Clerk of Council gave the first and only reading of the ordinance. The motion for passage by Mr. Koch was seconded by Mrs. Knight. There being no discussion, the Clerk proceeded with a Roll Call Vote on passage. Motion approved unanimously.

Councilmember Schmidt commented on the excellent TetraTech Report with as much detail he's ever seen. Applauded all involved at this point.

- ◆ **ORDINANCE 2021 – 26 – E**, An Ordinance Authorizing “Make-Whole” Payments to Stefan Kowatsch, an Employee of the Sharonville Convention Center, for Funds Due to Him Under the State of Ohio’s SharedWork Ohio Program and Declaring an Emergency. Clerk of Council gave the first and only reading of the ordinance. The motion for passage by Mr. Dutta was seconded by Mr. Schmidt. There being no discussion, the Clerk proceeded with a Roll Call Vote on passage. Motion approved unanimously.

RESIDENTS DESIRING TO BE HEARD BEFORE COUNCIL

- ◆ None.

OTHER MATTERS TO BE HEARD BEFORE COUNCIL

- ◆ Councilmember Dutta thanked all those who supported him and his mom and his neighbors during the day of the fire and after, especially the Fire Departments and Police Departments who responded to the call. They spent over 5 hours on scene.

ADJOURNMENT

- ◆ The motion by Mr. Tankersley to adjourn the meeting was seconded by Mr. Wilson. President of Council Vicki Hoppe adjourned the meeting at 7:35 p.m.

ATTEST

Teresa Bucheit, Clerk of Council Date

Vicki Hoppe, President of Council Date

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT COMMITTEE REPORT

April 7, 2021

Committee: Charles Lippert, Shayok Dutta, Sue Knight

2021 Curb and Sidewalks Program: Projected Start Date June 7th. Completion Date September 24th.

GVA Roof Replacement Project:

The roof projections are coming in much higher than expected and budgeted for. Reason being the cost for shingles and construction material has risen drastically. Also they are in short supply at this time.

I have Frank Krailler with The Garland Company taking a look at the project. Garland has the State Bid and may be able to save us substantial amount of money and still do the project this year. Symmes Township has used them for Sycamore School Roofs and Princeton as also used them for some of their roofing projects.

Garage Doors:

We are in the process of gathering quotes for the new garage doors. We are going to do half of the doors this year and the other half next year.

Early signs are showing that the price has risen since we got our quotes for budget last year. We may have to ask for additional funds this year or do one less door and add it onto next year.

Maintenance:

Demolition of Gorman Park is continuing. Expected Completion Date: April 9th.

Grass cutting has started. We will be starting mulch and landscaping after the completion of the Gorman Park Project.

Chester Road Banners: The last of the Chester Road new banner poles have arrived. We will be installing on both sides of Chester South of the Convention Center to Baps Road.

Training:

We have recently completed training on the following with the Fire Department:

First Aid

Training on NEW First Aid kits that will be installed in every Public Works Vehicle

New Requirement for Tourniquet that will be worn by every Public Works Employee

Blood- Bourne Pathogens

CPR and AED

Community Services Meeting Recreation Report

April 7, 2021

- SYO
 - Spring soccer games begin this Saturday (4/10)
 - Baseball/Softball/Teeball has begun and games will begin shortly
 - St. Mike's & SYO volleyball practices & games are ongoing
- Operation
 - New health order by ODH and multiple others rescinded
 - Changes:
 - Reopening: lobbies, water fountains, locker rooms, lost & found, cubbies, coat racks, track alcoves, game room (billiards)
 - Cleaning will be reduced (after approval) to occasional/daily. No cleaning closures
 - No temp screening at the door (employee temp screening only)
 - Capacity limitations still in effect – preregistration still required
 - Masks required
- Fitness Usage
 - Participation is gaining ground slowly.
 - Snapshot – Fitness Center Stats:
 - March 2020 usage was 1,836 (141/day) – closed 3/13
 - March 2021 usage was 1,832 (59/day)
- Programming
 - AARP
 - Tax deadline has been extended meaning we have more appointments available
 - Camp Sharonville
 - Registration begins Tuesday (4/13)
 - No field trips in 2021; will swim daily
 - Pickleball – approached by player to donate purchase of new equipment for additional courts
 - 4th of July – partnership with Princeton. Event will include fireworks, food, activities
- Aquatics
 - 2021 What We know so far:
 - Face coverings are required unless actively swimming, eating, or drinking
 - Social distancing of at least six feet must be maintained with non-household members
 - Gatherings are limited to no more than ten (10) with six feet of social distancing maintained between all groups
 - Individuals should perform daily health assessments and stay home if experiencing signs or symptoms of SARS-CoV-2

- Signage about required face coverings and social distancing clearly posted at entrances and throughout the facility
 - Hand sanitation stations available at entrances and frequent use locations
 - Line spacing markers placed in areas where lines may form (concessions, entry, slides, diving boards, etc.)
 - Where possible, provide one-way traffic to help maintain social distancing
 - The key part of the order that has changed is cleaning and sanitation. Cleaning and sanitation, per the new ODH Order, needs to be routine (at least once daily) and it is no longer mandated to be every two hours.
 - Swim lessons
 - Saturday mornings only. All lessons are parent + child in the water while instructor teaches from the deck.
- Rentals
 - We have begun scheduling picnic shelter rentals beginning May 1st. We worked with HCPH to create a COVID specific agreement that all renters will need to sign off on and abide by during their rental.
 - We will continue to have facility attendants loop through the park during shifts in the building. This will only be done during the hours that the building is open.
 - More signage will be added to the shelters regarding rules
- Capital Updates
 - Gower Park inclusive equipment & swings (visual)
 - Equipment has been installed. Swings are on order, will be installed upon arrival
 - Pour & play surfacing will be installed soon.
 - Goal will be to reopen that area by June 1.
 - Running track will close on May 10th for 3 weeks for replacement
 - Center elevator will be replaced likely in August/September with CDBG grant dollars
- Gorman Update
 - Demolition is coming to a close
 - Gazebo, shelter, pavers, tennis courts & fencing, restroom, old playground has all been removed.
 - New construction timeline:
 - Bidding begins May 1
 - Construction begins June 1
 - Construction on Splash pad concludes September 30
 - Next phase will cover demolition of schoolhouse and pool as well as new construction in remainder of park