

**MINUTES OF THE
VAN WERT CITY COUNCIL**
April 27th, 2020

Van Wert City Council held the meeting via Zoom to adhere to social distancing rules due to COVID-19.

The President called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

President Jon Tomlinson gave the invocation.

On call of the roll: Marshall, Kallas, Penton, Agler, Mergy, Hellman and Davis were present.

Agler made a motion to approve the amended agenda for the April 27th meeting. Seconded by Davis; all concurred.

*Changes Made: Council of the Whole minutes were added from April 20th, 2020 and an Executive session was added, regarding AFSCME Union Contract.

Mergy made a motion to approve the 4/13/20 minutes. Seconded by Agler; all concurred. Agler made a motion to approve the Council of the Whole minutes from April 20, 2020 regarding zoning. Hellman seconded; all concurred.

COMMENTS, COMMUNICATIONS & PETITIONS

Crisis Care Director Kathy Taylor spoke about Crisis Care and their services available to the public. Crisis Care accepts men, women and children. Kathy spoke of her concerns that Council provides adequate zoning classification. She also requested that the Crisis Care location remain confidential for the safety of the clients that they serve.

Joshua Nolan, the attorney who represents Haven of Hope, asked Council if they had further discussed the need for conditions under the ordinance, regarding homeless shelters that is being considered.

The President responded that city council had not.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

MAYOR: The Mayor reported that curbside recycling collection would resume on Monday, May 4. The recycling center drive thru will be open this week on Wednesday and Friday for city residents to drop off recyclables.

The Mayor interpreted the current zoning language. There are two categories, one is permitted and one is conditional. Under conditional use, the zoning board is the first procedural step.

Mr. Nolan stated his understanding of Ohio Law regarding conditional uses. Conditional uses have to identify the conditions under which those uses will be permitted. Hatcher spoke about the uses and ideas that had been discussed and researched, with the goal of being fully conclusive to the issue of zoning language and ordinances.

SAFETY SERVICE DIRECTOR: Fleming reported that all City employees would be back to work, with regular hours on May 4 but that the City Building would remain closed for at least another week. He also noted that the first brush pick up is starting on May 4. Fleming also reported that the north water tower painting job would begin on the first of June.

AUDITOR: Balyeat requested that Agler request legislation for salary ordinance to be prepared, amending 20-04-021, regarding the service categories. This ordinance would authorize the city to create full time positions in the service category that are not 40-hour work weeks and can become one, at the city's discretion. Balyeat reported that the Government Finance Officers Association had conducted a survey amongst their members to determine how Covid-19 will impact revenues. 63 responded. Of the 63 respondents, 30% felt there would be a 6-10% decrease in their general fund revenues. 24% felt there would be a 6-10% decrease overall in their general fund. Balyeat reported that after speaking with the Van Wert tax administrator a projected 10% general fund loss would total \$672,000. A 10% income tax loss would be \$437,000. She also noted that a 10% loss would fall within the city's reserve fund total. With a 10% loss, the City would still be within the 10% reserve that the city likes to keep. No projection higher than 10% had been made. Other area of losses impacted by COVID-19 could be fund 201, the main revenue sources is gas tax. There was an anticipation of increase this year because of the raise in gas tax. Gas prices are low and no one is traveling. If a shortfall affects this fund, charges to those expenses would be charged to fund 301, the street maintenance fund. Lastly, Balyeat stated that most of the municipalities that responded to the survey felt that there would be a 50% chance of a full recovery by the end of 2021. Balyeat stated that she wasn't sure what that meant for Van Wert but hoped we could weather the storm.

LAW DIRECTOR: Hatcher reported that the first pretrial for Haven of Hope is set for Thursday, April 30th regarding scheduling and verifying the record. He also stated he has been in discussion with Mr. Nolan to make sure Judge Burchfield has a complete record of everything that has transpired to make an informed decision. He will have more information after the pretrial and will report at the next city council meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

HEALTH, SERVICE AND SAFETY: No Report was given
Marshall asked Davis to speak about the special permit zoning language shared via email with council members.

A lengthy discussion ensued regarding zoning language that Davis found from the city of Piqua. Davis proposed an addition to the zoning category called special use permits, in addition to the permitted and conditional uses categories.

Pastor Kurt Tomlinson asked how a person would know if they needed to apply for this zoning.

Council noted that they would need to continue to work on the language before anything was passed.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT: No report was given.

PARKS AND RECREATION: Penton reported that he had no updates on the softball or baseball leagues or how the park facilities will be used. Penton noted he should know more by the next council meeting to report more information

FINANCE: Agler motioned for an ordinance to be prepared, amending Ordinance 20-04-021, on an emergency basis. Hellman seconded; all concurred. Agler motioned to introduce **Ordinance Number 20-04-025**. Marshall seconded; all concurred. Agler motioned to suspend statutory rules to **Ordinance Number 20-04-025**. Kallas seconded; all concurred. Agler motioned to pass **Ordinance Number 20-04-025: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE 20-04-021 PROVIDING FOR THE SALARIES AND COMPENSATION OF EMPLOYEES IN THE SERVICE DEPARTMENT, AUDITOR'S OFFICE, INCOME TAX AND ADMINISTRATION OF THE CITY OF VAN WERT, ESTABLISHING JOB CLASSIFICATIONS, SALARY RANGES AND LIMITATIONS, AUTHORIZING SPECIFIC NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES, PROVIDING FOR SICK LEAVE, VACATION SCHEDULE, ALLOWANCES, IMMUNIZATION AGAINST COMMUNICABLE DISEASES, AND OTHER BENEFITS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY** on its first and final reading. Hellman seconded; all concurred.

JUDICIARY AND ANNEXATION: Mergy noted that some great points were made during the meeting, regarding zoning and that it would be premature to request to introduce any legislation. She expressed that more research should be done before any decisions were made.

Mergy motioned for an ordinance to be prepared, adopting a supplement to the code of ordinances on an emergency basis. Agler seconded; all concurred. Mergy motioned to introduce **Ordinance Number 20-04-026**. Agler seconded; all concurred. Mergy motioned to suspend statutory rules to **Ordinance Number 20-04-026**. Hellman seconded; all concurred. Mergy motioned to pass **Ordinance Number 20-04-026: AN ORDINANCE ENACTING AND ADOPTING SUPPLEMENT TO THE CODE OF**

ORDINANCES FOR THE CITY OF VAN WERT, OHIO, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY on its first and final reading. Marshall seconded; all concurred.

STREETS AND ALLEYS: No report was given

PROPERTIES AND EQUIPMENT: Davis requested for Hatcher to provide Council with ideas on what it would take to implement special permit strategy and what that process looks like.

Hatcher reported that he would provide basic guidelines of how it should look and when to use and not use it scenarios.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Code Enforcement
Charter Government

NEW BUSINESS

CONSENT AGENDA

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

3rd & Final Reading:

Hellman motioned to pass

Ordinance Number 20-03-019

Committee: Streets and Alleys

AN ORDINANCE CHANGING THE SPACE 82 FEET NORTH OF THE INTERSECTION OF WEST MAIN STREET AND NORTH SHANNON STREET ON THE WEST SIDE OF N. SHANNON STREET FROM A LOADING ZONE TO 15 MINUTE PARKING

on its third and final reading. Davis seconded.
Marshall, Kallas, Penton, Agler, Mergy voted yes.

At 7:36 pm, Agler motioned to go into executive session, regarding AFSCME Union contracts. Davis seconded; all concurred.

At 7:53 pm, Agler motioned to exit the executive session. Davis seconded; all concurred.

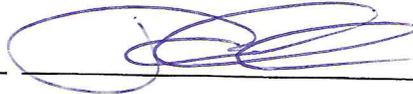
Agler motioned for an ordinance to be prepared, authorizing the Mayor and Safety Service Director to contract with local #3767 of the AFSCME, Ohio Council 8, AFL-CIO on an emergency basis. Kallas seconded; all concurred.

Agler motioned to introduce Ordinance Number 20-04-027. Davis seconded; all concurred. Agler motioned to suspend statutory rules to Ordinance Number 20-04-027. Hellman seconded; all concurred. Agler motioned to pass Ordinance Number 20-04-027: AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND SAFETY-SERVICE DIRECTOR TO CONTRACT WITH LOCAL #3767 OF THE AFSCME, OHIO COUNCIL 8, AFL-CIO, RELATIVE TO WAGES, HOURS, TERMS AND OTHER CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY on its first and final reading. Marshall seconded; all concurred.

Agler made a motion to adjourn at 7:57 p.m.; seconded by Davis; all concurred.



CLERK



PRESIDENT

5/11/20

DATE

