

**MINUTES OF THE
VAN WERT CITY COUNCIL**

November 28th, 2022

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

Mazur asked for a moment of silent prayer for those who had been killed over the past few weeks due to shootings in different areas of the country.

On call of the roll: Marshall, Kallas, Bowers, Agler, Stinnett, Moore, and Davis were present.

Davis made a motion to approve the agenda for the November 14th Council meeting. Stinnett seconded; all concurred.

Davis made a motion to approve the minutes for the October 24th Council meeting. Bowers seconded; all concurred.

COMMENTS, COMMUNICATIONS, & PETITIONS

Mazur reviewed the Fire Department Year-to-Date Report that was recently received. He highlighted the events and responses, their response times, and turnout times. He thanked the Fire Department and the EMS for their diligent work.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

MAYOR: Mayor Markward stated that he had received contacts regarding the parking of recreational vehicles in the city, and whether Council can put any sort of restriction in place. He asked the Law Director to issue an opinion on this at the next meeting, so they could determine whether Council should spend any time on this topic..

Markward also discussed December's second meeting, which would fall on the Monday after Christmas (on December 26, 2022). Markward stated this was not a federal holiday, even though it might be an observed holiday, and so the meeting would not need to be moved to the Wednesday of that week. (Council rules dictate that a meeting be moved to Wednesday of the same week if the normal Monday is a federal holiday.) Discussion was held, and due to the fact that Monday, December 26, 2022, is not a federal holiday, it was determined that the meeting will be held on that day, as normal.

Markward read Resolution 22-11-060, a resolution honoring Pastor Keith Stoller for his time as Council's unofficial chaplain. A SPECIAL RESOLUTION TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR PASTOR KEITH STOLLER, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. Davis (4th Ward) made a motion to pass Resolution 22-11-060. Kallas seconded; all concurred.

SAFETY SERVICE DIRECTOR: Fleming reported all street jobs are finished, as well as miscellaneous jobs. He also stated that leaf pickup is still ongoing, with the last day for pickup as Friday, December 9, 2022.

Davis (4th Ward) asked if there would be another brush pickup, due to last wind storm that came through. Fleming acknowledged there is an abundance of stacks of sticks/brush, but he was unsure of whether another round could be done. He stated he would discuss the issue with the city staff after leaf pickup concludes.

AUDITOR: Balyeat asked if any members of Council had any questions regarding the transfers that were prepared for the evening's meeting. No questions were asked.

Balyeat detailed the supplemental appropriations for Funds 101 (General Fund), 205 (Hotel Motel Tax Fund), 230 (Municipal Court Special Project Fund), 301 (Street Construction Fund), 305 (Police and Fire Safety Fund), 850 (Police Pension Fund), and 851 (Fire Pension Fund).

Balyeat asked Agler to request legislation to approve the health insurance rates for 2023, as well as the salary ordinances for both the safety department and the service department. All legislation would need to be on an emergency.

LAW DIRECTOR: The Law Director stated that will give an opinion on the parking of motorhomes, and recreational vehicles. He conveyed that he would give that report early during the next meeting, as he had other engagements on that evening.

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS FROM COUNCIL and PUBLIC

Joe Jared, 113 W. Main, asked about the legal opinion on mobile homes. Hatcher apologized if he said mobile homes - and clarified that he was referring to RVs and motorhomes.

Mark Davis, 402 S. Tyler St., asked if this was referencing parking on private property or public property. Hatcher stated he would issue an opinion on both. Mr. Davis also asked if the definition of recreational vehicles could be made more clear in the city's ordinances. Hatcher stated he would look at the definitions portion of the ordinances as well.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

HEALTH, SERVICE, and SAFETY: Marshall deferred to the Law Director for a report on the progress of the blighted homes. Hatcher stated he did not have any updates, and will follow up at the next meeting.

Matthew Perry, 245 W. 3rd St., stated that he was the new owner of the first blighted property, and he has already started working on that property. He stated that by the next meeting, he would have a written "gameplan" for the property to give to Mr. Hatcher. It was conveyed that the deed had been recorded.

Health, Service, and Safety had no further report for the evening.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT: Economic Development had no report for the evening.

PARKS AND RECREATION: Bowers reported that the Parks Department was getting geared up for Christmas. Mazur complimented the work that the Parks Department did in getting Fountain Park ready for Christmas. Fleming stated that the city helped in that work, but that there is a large group of people who put in significant work in that project, and they all deserve credit for that.

Parks and Recreation had no further report for the evening.

FINANCE: Agler made a motion to ask the Law Director to prepare legislation to approve the health insurance rates for 2023, on an emergency. Kallas seconded; all concurred.

Agler made a motion to ask the Law Director to prepare legislation to approve the salaries and compensation for the safety department, on an emergency. Kallas seconded; all concurred.

Agler made a motion to ask the Law Director to prepare legislation to approve the salaries and compensation for the service department, on an emergency. Kallas seconded; all concurred.

Davis (4th Ward) asked about the Mayor's position and salary, noting that Markward brought up the idea of returning that position to a part-time role. It was noted that his salary was not part of either the safety department or service department ordinances, and was separate legislation. This would not need to be discussed until sometime before August 2023.

Finance had no additional report for the evening.

PROPERTIES AND EQUIPMENT: Properties and Equipment had no report for the evening.

STREETS AND ALLEYS: Moore stated she had several residents contact her about a timeline for the repaving of their streets. She noted that she directed those residents to city administration. Fleming stated that was the correct course of action, and that was one of their projects for the winter.

Moore also relayed that she had heard several compliments on the Woodland Ave. sidewalk work, and wanted to convey those compliments. Markward later clarified that this was a water main project, and not a sidewalk project, but sidewalks were redone as a result of this project.

Streets and Alleys had no further report for the evening.

JUDICIARY AND ANNEXATION: Judiciary and Annexation had no report for the evening.

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS FROM COUNCIL and PUBLIC

There were no questions or comments from the public during this portion of the meeting.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business to address.

NEW BUSINESS

No new business was brought before Council.

CONSENT AGENDA

Agler made a motion to introduce the Consent Agenda. Bowers seconded; all concurred. Agler made a motion to suspend statutory rules for the Consent Agenda. Bowers seconded; all concurred.

Agler made a motion to pass the Consent Agenda on its first and final reading:

ORDINANCE Number: 22-11-053: AN ORDINANCE TO TRANSFER FUNDS FROM FUNDS 101, 201, 230, 301, 601, 602, 701, TO FUND 550 AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

and

ORDINANCE Number: 22-11-054: AN ORDINANCE TO TRANSFER FUNDS TO FUND 560 FROM FUNDS 101, 201, 230, 301, 601, 602, 701 AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

and

ORDINANCE Number: 22-11-055: AN ORDINANCE TO TRANSFER FUNDS FROM FUND 101 TO FUND 215 AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

and

ORDINANCE Number: 22-11-056: AN ORDINANCE TO TRANSFER FUNDS FROM FUND 101 TO FUND 302 AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

and

ORDINANCE Number: 22-11-057: AN ORDINANCE TO TRANSFER FUNDS FROM FUND 602 TO FUND 603 AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

and

ORDINANCE Number: 22-11-058: AN ORDINANCE TO TRANSFER FUNDS FROM FUND 550 TO FUNDS 101 AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Kallas seconded; all concurred. The Consent Agenda passed.

RESOLUTIONS & ORDINANCES

Moore made a motion to pass ORDINANCE NUMBER 22-10-050: AN ORDINANCE REMOVING THE EASTBOUND AND WESTBOUND STOP SIGNS ON EAST JACKSON STREET AT NORTH VINE STREET, NORTH HARRISON STREET AND NORTH CHESTNUT STREET; AND TO ADD STOP SIGNS IN THE NORTHBOUND AND SOUTHBOUND DIRECTION OF NORTH VINE STREET, NORTH HARRISON STREET AND NORTH CHESTNUT STREET AT THE INTERSECTION OF THOSE STREETS WITH EAST JACKSON STREET., on its third and final reading. Bowers seconded; all concurred. Ordinance passed on third and final reading.

Second reading advisory for ORDINANCE NUMBER 22-11-052: AN ORDINANCE TO MAKE PERMANENT APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE CURRENT EXPENSES AND OTHER EXPENDITURES FOR THE CITY OF VAN WERT, OHIO, FROM JANUARY 1, 2023 TO DECEMBER 31, 2023, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. All concurred; second reading passed.

Agler made a motion to introduce Ordinance 22-11-059. Davis seconded; all concurred. Agler made a motion to suspend statutory rules for Ordinance 22-11-059. Davis seconded; all concurred.

Agler made a motion to pass ORDINANCE NUMBER 22-11-059: AN ORDINANCE TO MAKE SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS TO FUNDS 101, 205, 230, 301, 305, 850 and 851, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY., on its first and final reading. Davis seconded; all concurred. Ordinance passed on first and final reading.

ADJOURN

Davis made a motion to adjourn at 7:08 p.m. Agler seconded; all concurred.



Clerk of Council
Andrew Bittner



Council President
Gerald T. Mazur

12/12/2022

Date

