

**MINUTES OF THE  
VAN WERT CITY COUNCIL**  
February 13, 2023

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

Judy Bowers gave the invocation.

On call of the roll: Marshall, Kallas, Bowers, Stinnett, Moore, and Davis were present. Agler was not present. Motion was made by Stinnett to excuse Agler from the February 13, 2023 Council meeting. Bowers seconded; all concurred.

Davis made a motion to approve the agenda for the February 13, 2023 Council meeting. Kallas seconded; all concurred.

Davis made a motion to approve the minutes for the January 23, 2023 Council meeting. Moore seconded; all concurred.

**COMMENTS, COMMUNICATIONS & PETITIONS**

Davis congratulated the DARE program for their successful pancake fundraiser.

Joe Jared, 113 W. Main Street recommended a dietary supplement.

**ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**

**MAYOR:** The Mayor congratulated the Police Department for being Agency of the Month by the Ohio Association of Police Chiefs and the Law Enforcement Foundation.

The Mayor has appointed Bonnie Thatcher to the Woodland Union Cemetery Board.

The process to replace Stacy Adams who is retiring from the Van Wert Area Economic Development Corporation is winding down and an offer has been made to one of the candidates and an announcement should be coming soon.

**SAFETY SERVICE DIRECTOR:** Fleming requested authorization to advertise, bid and award contracts for the Vision Drive extension in the Vision Industrial Park.

Fleming requested that an ordinance be passed allowing him to sign a contract with members of the Local No. 681 of the International Association of Firefighters AFL-CIO. The three-year contract would give annual raises and reduce the notice firefighters give to retire from 12 months to six months to receive their maximum sick leave pay with no other changes to the contract.

The sanitary sewer work at Eggerss Stadium is expected to begin next week as all equipment is now here.

Fleming also asked council to pass an emergency ordinance for an easement for property located at 137 E. First St. to change the alley right-of-way.

Fleming stated that the water meter project is not complete as not all parts have been delivered.

**AUDITOR:** There are four invoices that need approval on Then and Now: 1) Fire Service for Aerial ladder repair in the amount of \$23,869.09; 2) Everett J. Prescott Inc. for support on the Water Meter Project in the amount of \$3,600.00; 3) Lima Radio Hospital Inc. - Radio Maintenance Agreement in the amount of \$3,957.00 and 4) Sound Communications for audio software at the Municipal Court in the amount of \$4,806.00.

The Police Department asked for an ordinance establishing a new fund to be known as the Police Department Goodwill Fund with donations being used to provide wellness incentives, annual service recognition and appreciation with plaques, certificates or banquets.

The Auditor is requesting supplemental appropriations to be prepared and read at the next meeting.

The Auditor also informed the council that the Fire Department is buying a new fire truck. The plan was to buy it next year but if the money was paid up front, the city would save \$45,000 and receive a guarantee of no price increase for two years.

**LAW DIRECTOR:** The Law Director informed the council that the Board of Zoning Appeals has granted a 12 month permission for a stone-crushing operation on the old Shell Station property on Washington Street. Those behind the business would like permission for 30 months. The ordinance doesn't allow more than a 12-month time waiver but the council could change the ordinance. Council agreed this should be appealed and council will discuss an extension at the next meeting.

#### **QUESTIONS/COMMENTS FROM COUNCIL AND PUBLIC:**

Mark Davis, 402 S. Tyler St., stated he attended the Zoning Committee meeting and wanted the council to be aware that the stone crushing business was not a daily operation and may take over 12 months to get the business up and running.

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**HEALTH, SERVICE AND SAFETY:** No reports.

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:** Work at the site of the former Van Wert Inn should be completed by March 19 and work on the former Anthony Wayne School site should be done sometime next month. The two completed demo properties, the Schaffer Street property and the property on Lincoln Highway will be made available to the public on the website at Vanwerted.com/landbank sometime in March.

**PARKS AND RECREATION:** No reports.

**FINANCE:** Davis made a motion to approve the invoice from the Then and Now. Bowers seconded; all concurred.

Davis asked that an ordinance be prepared on the supplemental appropriations. Kallas seconded; all concurred.

**PROPERTIES AND EQUIPMENT:** No reports.

**STREETS AND ALLEYS:** Moore requested preparation for an ordinance authorizing the Safety Service Director to advertise, bid and award contracts for the Vision Drive Extension.

**JUDICIARY AND ANNEXATION:** Davis requested that an ordinance be prepared in allowing the safety service director to enter into a contract with the Firefighters Union and to do so as an emergency. Kallas seconded; all concurred.

**QUESTIONS/COMMENTS FROM COUNCIL and PUBLIC:**

Joe Jared, 113 W. Main St., asked if there were any other changes on the Agenda not discussed and at this time there are none.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** Davis made a motion for an ordinance to be prepared for changes on the existing rules concerning the agenda. Stinnett seconded; all concurred.

Davis made a motion to appoint Judy Bowers to the Cemetery Board. Stinnett seconded; all concurred.

Stinnett made a motion to appoint Mark Schumm to the Community Reinvestment Board. Bowers seconded; all concurred.

Candidates are still being sought for the position on the Tax Review Board.

**NEW BUSINESS:** None

**CONSENT AGENDA:** None

## RESOLUTIONS & ORDINANCES:

Davis made a motion to suspend statutory rules for ORDINANCE NUMBER 23-01-006; Kallas seconded, all concurred.

First advisory reading for ORDINANCE NUMBER 23-01-006: AN ORDINANCE TO ENACT NEW CHAPTER 53 OF THE VAN WERT CODE OF ORDINANCES TO REPLACE CHAPTERS 51 AND 52 OF THE VAN WERT CODE OF ORDINANCES. All concurred, first reading passed.

Davis made a motion to prepare ORDINANCE NUMBER 23-02-010; Kallas seconded; all concurred.

Davis made a motion to introduce ORDINANCE NUMBER 23-02-010; Stinnett seconded; all concurred.

Davis made a motion to suspend statutory rules for ORDINANCE NUMBER 23-02-010. Kallas seconded, all concurred

First advisory reading for ORDINANCE NUMBER 23-02-010: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE 22-12-061 BY AMENDING THE SALARY ORDINANCE SAFETY DEPARTMENT EMPLOYEES PROVIDING FOR THE SALARIES AND COMPENSATION OF EMPLOYEES IN THE POLICE DEPARTMENT AND FIRE DEPARTMENT, NON-BARGAINING UNIT MEMBERS OF THE CITY OF VAN WERT, ESTABLISHING JOB CLASSIFICATIONS, SALARY RANGES AND LIMITATIONS, AUTHORIZING SPECIFIC NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES, PROVIDING IMMUNIZATION AGAINST COMMUNICABLE DISEASES, AND OTHER BENEFITS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. All concurred, first reading passed.

Stinnett made a motion to prepare ORDINANCE NUMBER 23-02-012; Davis seconded; all concurred.

Stinnett made a motion to introduce ORDINANCE NUMBER 23-02-012; Bowers seconded; all concurred.

Stinnett made a motion to suspend statutory rules for ORDINANCE NUMBER 23-02-012. Moore seconded, all concurred

First advisory reading for ORDINANCE NUMBER 23-02-012: AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SAFETY SERVICE DIRECTOR TO SIGN AN EASEMENT AGREEMENT WITH THE PROPERTY OWNER AT 137 E. FIRST STREET, VAN WERT, OHIO AND DECLARING THE SAME AS AN EMERGENCY. All concurred, first reading passed.

Davis made a motion to prepare ORDINANCE NUMBER 23-02-013; Bowers seconded; all concurred.

Davis made a motion to introduce ORDINANCE NUMBER 23-02-013; Bowers seconded; all concurred.

Davis made a motion to suspend statutory rules for ORDINANCE NUMBER 23-02-013. Stinnett seconded, all concurred

First advisory reading for ORDINANCE NUMBER 23-01-013: AN ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH A NEW FUND TO BE KNOWN AS THE POLICE DEPARTMENT

GOODWILL FUND TO PROVIDE WELLNESS INCENTIVES, ANNUAL SERVICE RECOGNITION AND APPRECIATION WITH PLAQUES, CERTIFICATES OR BANQUETS. All concurred, first reading passed.

Davis made a motion to prepare ORDINANCE NUMBER 23-02-014; Stinnett seconded; all concurred.

Davis made a motion to introduce ORDINANCE NUMBER 23-02-014; Moore seconded; all concurred.

Davis made a motion to suspend statutory rules for ORDINANCE NUMBER 23-02-014. Morris seconded, all concurred

First advisory reading for ORDINANCE NUMBER 23-02-014: AN ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR AND SAFETY-SERVICE DIRECTOR TO CONTRACT WITH LOCAL # 681 OF THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FIREFIGHTERS, AFL-CIO, RELATIVE TO WAGES, HOURS, TERMS AND OTHER CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. All concurred, first reading passed.

Moore made a motion to prepare ORDINANCE NUMBER 23-02-015; Stinnett seconded; all concurred.

Moore made a motion to introduce ORDINANCE NUMBER 23-02-015; Bowers seconded; all concurred.

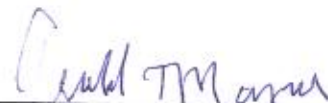
Moore made a motion to suspend statutory rules for ORDINANCE NUMBER 23-02-015. Stinnett seconded, all concurred.

First advisory reading for ORDINANCE NUMBER 23-02-015: AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SAFETY SERVICE DIRECTOR ADVERTISE, BID AND AWARD CONTRACTS FOR THE VISION DRIVE EXTENSION IN THE VISION INDUSTRIAL PARK IN THE CITY OF VAN WERT, OHIO AND DECLARING THE SAME AS AN EMERGENCY. All concurred, first reading passed.

Bowers made a motion to adjourn at 7:43 p.m. Moore seconded; all concurred.



Clerk of Council  
Lisa K. Hartsock



Council President  
Gerald T. Mazur

2/28/23

DATE