

**MINUTES OF THE
VAN WERT CITY COUNCIL**
October 23, 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, Agler, Stinnett, Moore and Davis were present.

Kallas made a motion to amend the Consent Agenda. Bowers seconded; all concurred.

Davis made a motion to approve the amended Consent Agenda. Kallas seconded; all concurred.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

MAYOR: The Mayor reminded everyone that Trick or Treat will be Saturday, October 28 from 4:00 to 6:00 PM and to leave your porch light on if you are participating.

Leaf pickup will begin on November 6th and run through December 8th.

SAFETY SERVICE DIRECTOR: Fleming informed the council that he is working on rules and regulations for the water department and will discuss all the changes at the next meeting.

Fleming also indicated that changes have been made at the Ervin Road/Westwood Drive intersection and a radar detection system has been installed to help traffic flow.

Councilman Agler indicated he has had complaints of the reverse angled parking on Jackson making it a dangerous intersection. The Mayor indicated that they would need to call the Mayor's office to issue their complaints.

AUDITOR: Balyeat indicated she is working on the 2024 budget and should have a report at the next meeting.

LAW DIRECTOR: The Law Director discussed ongoing efforts to deal with the blighted properties. He indicated that one property is currently active in the Common Pleas Court with the owner discussing tearing down the property.

COMMENTS, COMMUNICATIONS & PETITIONS

Joe Jared, 113 W. Main Street indicated that there is a speaker from the city's public address system right by his daughter's bedroom window and it plays throughout the evening. Mazur told administration to talk to Mitch Price, Executive Director of Main Street Van Wert to have the speakers turned off in the evening.

Kallas reminded the council of a mayor's debate put together by high school students to be held on October 24, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. at the NPAC.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Brent Stevens of the Van Wert Area Economic Development Corporation discussed a pending addition to Vision Industrial Park. Melhorn Sales Service & Trucking will bring 37 new jobs with the hopes of 50 total jobs within two years. He requested the transfer of property at Vision Park to the Community Improvement Corporation for the new structure.

Stevens also told council he has received about 35 RFI's (Request for Information) and is working on several retail possibilities.

Councilman Agler stated a concern with the possibility of asbestos when tearing down abandoned property and asked if there is a way to regulate asbestos abatement by the City. The Law Director will look into it.

Councilman Davis stated there has been interest in a couple of new corporate style hangers at the airport which would increase the need for the extension of the runway. Work should begin in the spring of 2024 to extend the runway.

HEALTH, SERVICE AND SAFETY: Marshall discussed the blighted properties and appreciated the work being done by the Law Director.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT: No reports

PARKS AND RECREATION: Bowers indicated that she thought the recent committee meeting to discuss the possibility of a city pool went well and indicated there is still a lot to be done. She indicated she will continue to do research, contact people and work closely with the Parks and Recreation Director.

A brief discussion was held about the need that if the majority of the committee is in discussion outside of an official meeting that it needs to take place in a public format and be publicized.

FINANCE: No reports

Agler did express his concerns that in April of 2023 Eugene White was denied industrial rezoning however he continues to do his cardboard business at that address. The Law Director will review the situation.

PROPERTIES AND EQUIPMENT: Stinnett made a motion to have an ordinance prepared to transfer tract #2 in Vision Park to the Community Improvement Corporation and be prepared as an emergency. Kallas seconded; all concurred.

STREETS AND ALLEYS: No reports

Moore has heard a lot of positive things about the city pool issue and thanked Councilwoman Bowers for all of her efforts.

JUDICIARY AND ANNEXATION: No reports

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS FROM COUNCIL and PUBLIC:

Mark Davis, 402 S. Tyler St. expressed his concerns that the Parks and Recreations committee meeting was not on the council's website.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: The intersection of Frothingham and Race was discussed with the Law Director indicating that the Safety Service Director is empowered to designate any intersection as a stop intersection.

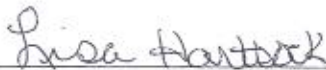
NEW BUSINESS: None

CONSENT AGENDA: None

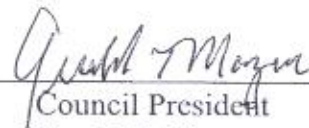
RESOLUTIONS & ORDINANCES:

First reading advisory for **ORDINANCE NUMBER 23-10-053; AN ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH A NEW FUND HEREAFTER KNOWN AS FUND 216 (OPIOID SETTLEMENT) FOR THE PURPOSE OF RECEIVING AND DISBURSING FUNDS FROM THE OPIOID SETTLEMENTS.** All concurred.

Agler made a motion to adjourn at 7:24 p.m. Bowers seconded; all concurred.



Clerk of Council
Lisa K. Hartsock



Council President
Gerald T. Mazur

November 13, 2023
DATE