

# MINUTES OF THE VAN WERT CITY COUNCIL

January 8, 2024

Council President Thad Eikenbary called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Pastor Gerald Baker gave the invocation.

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

Kallas made a motion to amend the Consent Agenda to add an executive session. Bowers seconded; all concurred.

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

## **ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**

**MAYOR:** The Mayor handed out typical ordinance rules prior to the meeting and asked that all council review.

The Mayor also indicated that the City Council needs to appoint one member to the Airport Authority Board of Trustees for a two year term.

A letter has been received from The Brumback Library indicating the resignation of Gary Taylor and asking that City Council consider Nick White to fill the seat beginning February 1, 2024.

Kallas made a motion to approve Nick White as library trustee. Moore seconded; all concurred.

**SAFETY SERVICE DIRECTOR:** Fleming asked that legislation be prepared to seek a grant from ODOT to work on the bike path from Taco Bell, through Dickinson Landing, along the airport and Leeson Avenue.

Fleming also requested an ordinance to be prepared for rezoning to I-1 on two parcels near the railroad.

Fleming also indicated that reverse angle parking is going well and an ordinance should be prepared to keep the reverse angle parking permanent.

**AUDITOR:** Blackmore indicated that the December financials are complete and everything is in a positive balance.

Blackmore also requested an ordinance be prepared for supplemental appropriations due to previous typographical errors.

**LAW DIRECTOR:** The Law Director requested a Council of the Whole meeting on January 22nd at 6:00 p.m. to discuss the future of council committees.

The Law Director addressed the issue of the property taxes increase and noted property taxes and new property values come from the county, not the city. He also believes the state legislature is trying to address the issue but not sure how far along the process is. Auditor Blackmore added that anyone who believes an error has been made should contact the county auditor's office.

**COMMENTS, COMMUNICATIONS & PETITIONS:** None

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**FINANCE:** Ringwald made a motion to pass an Ordinance for Supplemental Appropriations as an emergency. Alger seconded; all concurred.

**STREETS AND ALLEYS:** Kallas made a motion for an ordinance to be prepared for reverse angle parking on Jefferson Street to be permanent. Moore seconded; all concurred.

Kallas made a motion for an ordinance to be prepared to seek a grant from ODOT to work on the bike path from Taco Bell, through Dickinson Landing, along the airport and Leeson Avenue. Marshall seconded; all concurred.

**JUDICIARY AND ANNEXATION:** Bowers made a motion for an ordinance to be prepared for rezoning to I-1 on two parcels near the railroad. Kallas seconded; all concurred.

**PROPERTIES AND EQUIPMENT:** No reports

**PARKS AND RECREATION:** Dettrow thanked all the volunteers who assisted in taking down the Christmas decorations at Fountain Park.

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

The Law Director asked Moore to schedule a meeting with him to discuss the blighted properties.

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:** Marshall thanked Kallas for his previous work. Marshall also indicated that he has been working with Brent Stevens, executive director of Economic Developments who will be at the next meeting to discuss changes.

**QUESTIONS/COMMENTS FROM COUNCIL and PUBLIC:** None

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

A Council of the Whole meeting has been scheduled for January 22nd at 6:00 to discuss council committees.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Andrew Davis from the Airport Authority Board was present and discussed the open position on the board. Jeff Agler accepted the position.

Moore made a motion to accept Agler for the Airport Authority Board. Kallas seconded; all concurred.

The Safety Service Director thanked Lt. Rob Miller, who is retiring from the Fire Department after 30 years.

**CONSENT AGENDA:** None

Agler made a motion to go into executive session at 7:11 p.m. Ringwald seconded; all concurred.

Executive session ended at 7:15 p.m.

**RESOLUTIONS & ORDINANCES:**

**Ringwald made a motion to prepare ORDINANCE NUMBER 24-01-001. Agler seconded; All concurred.**

**Ringwald made a motion to introduce ORDINANCE NUMBER 24-01-001. Moore seconded; All concurred**

**Ringwald made a motion to suspend statutory rules for ORDINANCE NUMBER 24-01-001; Moore seconded; all concurred.**

**Ringwald made a motion to pass as an emergency ORDINANCE NUMBER 24-01-001; AN ORDINANCE TO MAKE SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS TO FUNDS 101 AND 601 AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. All concurred. Ordinance Passed.**

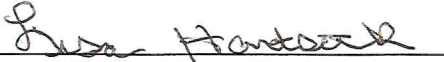
**Ringwald made a motion to prepare ORDINANCE NUMBER 24-01-002. Moore seconded; All concurred.**

**Ringwald made a motion to introduce ORDINANCE NUMBER 24-01-002. Agler seconded; All concurred**

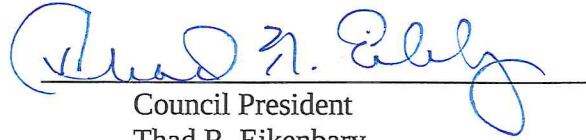
**Ringwald made a motion to suspend statutory rules for ORDINANCE NUMBER 24-01-002; Moore seconded; all concurred.**

**Ringwald made a motion to pass as an emergency ORDINANCE NUMBER 24-01-002; AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE 23-11-065 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, ALLOWANCES, IMMUNIZATION AGAINST COMMUNICABLE DISEASES, AND OTHER BENEFITS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. All concurred. Ordinance Passed.**

Alger made a motion to adjourn at 7:20 p.m. Kallas seconded; all concurred.



Clerk of Council  
Lisa K. Hartsock



Council President  
Thad R. Eikenbary

January 22, 2024  
DATE