

**MINUTES OF THE
VAN WERT CITY COUNCIL
May 13, 2024**

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

Judy Bowers gave the invocation.

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

Agler made a motion to amend the agenda. Kallas seconded; all concurred.

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

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

MAYOR: The Mayor stated that the Board of Zoning Appeals has an open position due to the resignation of Warren Foy and suggested Randy Baer to be appointed for the remainder of that term. Agler made a motion to appoint Randy Baer for the remainder of Warren Foy's term. Kallas seconded; all concurred.

SAFETY SERVICE DIRECTOR: Fleming asked for an ordinance to be prepared to lower the age for the position of police officer to 20 and raise the age to 43 and to make the ages for the fire department from the age of 18 up to the age of 43.

Fleming indicated the City is to receive an additional \$1.3 million grant for the second phase of the Leeson Avenue improvement project.

Fleming asked for an ordinance to be prepared to replat Jennings Crossing Subdivision with R-2 zoning to consist of 21 lots and to be prepared as an emergency.

AUDITOR: There are four invoices that need approval on the Then and Now: Software Solutions - Administration-Annual Contract in the amount of \$3,262.97; Johnson Mechanical - Muni Court Furnace Maintenance in the amount of \$3,550.36; Havel - Administration TM Mitsubishi Repair in the amount of \$7,112.37 and Choice One Engineering - 12 Final Plat in the amount of \$3,371.28.

Blackmore indicated that the yearly audit has started.

LAW DIRECTOR: The Law Director indicated that the Third District Court of Appeals will be at the Van Wert Common Pleas Court on May 14, 2024 beginning at 10:00 a.m.

Agler reminded that council voted in June of 2023 that the property owned by Eugene White was to cease and desist being used as a cardboard business and he is continuing to operate. The Law Director indicated he will take action.

Agler asked the Law Director what is being done with the house on the corner of First and Washington that caught fire two years ago. The Law Director will look into it.

COMMENTS, COMMUNICATIONS & PETITIONS:

Joe Jared, 113 W. Main indicated he believes that the council should continue with committee meetings. He was informed that if the ordinance would pass there would still be council on the whole meetings and there would still be one person in charge of each committee.

Mark Davis, 402 S. Tyler expressed that he believes council should look into passing an ordinance to get a dispensary.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE: Ringwald made a motion to approve the Then and Now. Kallas seconded; all concurred.

Ringwald made a motion to introduce a resolution to pay the Estate of Mark Barna 50% of his unused sick time. Agler seconded; all concurred.

Agler asked for money to be taken from the general fund to do repairs on sidewalks. The Auditor will review if money is available.

STREETS AND ALLEYS: Kallas made a motion to introduce an ordinance authorizing participation in the ODOT road salt contracts. Agler seconded; all concurred.

JUDICIARY AND ANNEXATION: Bowers stated she has had complaints of alleys in the city needing fixed. She will get the information to Mr. Fleming of which alleys are in need of repair.

Bowers also stated she is still doing research on tiny houses. A council of the whole meeting was scheduled for May 29 at 6:00 p.m.

Bowers made a motion for an ordinance to be prepared to lower the age for the position of police officer to 20 and raise the age to 43 and to make the ages for the fire department starting at age 18 up to the age of 43. Agler seconded; all concurred.

PROPERTIES AND EQUIPMENT: Agler asked for an ordinance to be prepared to replat Jennings Crossing Subdivision with R-2 zoning to consist of 21 lots and to be prepared as an emergency. Kallas seconded; all concurred.

PARKS AND RECREATION: No report

HEALTH, SERVICE AND SAFETY: Moore indicated there is a lot of foot traffic and bicycle traffic in the alley in the 800 block of Leeson Avenue due to construction on Leeson and asked for a temporary caution sign to be placed. Fleming will look into it.

Agler asked if the building across from the Post Office that used to be an antique flea market should be placed on the blighted property list. Moore will look into it.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT: No report

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS FROM COUNCIL and PUBLIC: Mark Davis, 402 S. Tyler indicated that people are waiting on council to make a decision on the tiny houses.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

The swimming pool was discussed and Bowers indicated that a public group will be meeting on Monday and she should have updates at the next meeting. Ed Glossett, 802 West Crawford doesn't think the swimming pool should be on the ballot and asking the public to pay for it is unfair.

Marshall made a motion for an ordinance to be prepared to rescind ordinance 17-07-045 which bans medical marijuana dispensaries. Moore seconded; all concurred.

Marshall made a motion for an ordinance to be prepared that would allow any medical marijuana businesses to be located in a B-3 business district. Kallas seconded. Ringwald, Kallas, Bowers, Dettrow, Moore and Marshall voted yes. Agler voted no.

NEW BUSINESS: None

RESOLUTIONS & ORDINANCES:

Third and Final Reading for ORDINANCE NUMBER 24-04-018; AN ORDINANCE SETTING NEW WATER TAP FEES. All concurred. Ordinance Passed.

Third and Final Reading as amended for ORDINANCE NUMBER 24-04-020; AN ORDINANCE BANNING THE CONSUMPTION OF MARIJUANA ON CERTAIN CITY OWNED PROPERTY. All concurred. Ordinance Passed.

Kallas made a motion to introduce ORDINANCE NUMBER 24-04-021; AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND VAN WERT CITY ORDINANCES SECTION 30.01 RULE 23. Ringwald, Kallas, Agler, Dettrow, and Marshall voted yes. Bowers and Moore voted no.

Ringwald made a motion to introduce RESOLUTION NUMBER 24-04-025. Agler seconded; All concurred.

Ringwald made a motion to suspend statutory rules for RESOLUTION NUMBER 24-04-025; Agler seconded; all concurred.

Ringwald made a motion to pass as an emergency RESOLUTION NUMBER 24-04-025; A RESOLUTION FOR CITY COUNCIL TO PAY THE ESTATE OF MARK BARNA FOR FIFTY PERCENT (50%) OF HIS UNUSED SICK TIME IN APPRECIATION FOR HIS MORE THAN 20 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE CITY OF VAN WERT, OHIO AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. Agler seconded; all concurred. Ordinance Passed.

Kallas made a motion to introduce ORDINANCE NUMBER 24-04-026. Agler seconded; All concurred.

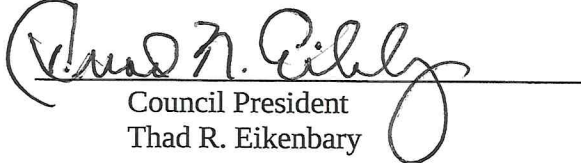
Kallas made a motion to suspend statutory rules for ORDINANCE NUMBER 24-04-026; Agler seconded; all concurred.

Kallas made a motion to pass as an emergency ORDINANCE NUMBER 24-03-026; AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING PARTICIPATION IN THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (ODOT) ROAD SALT CONTRACTS AWARDED IN 2024, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. Ringwald seconded; all concurred. Ordinance Passed.

Agler made a motion to adjourn at 7:37 p.m. Kallas seconded; all concurred.



Clerk of Council
Lisa K. Hartsock



Council President
Thad R. Eikenbary

May 29, 2024
DATE