

MINUTES OF THE VAN WERT CITY COUNCIL

February 24, 2025

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

President Eikenbary gave the invocation.

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

Bowers was not present.

Moore made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda from the February 10th meeting. Agler seconded; all concurred.

SCHEDULED PUBLIC SPEAKERS

None.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

MAYOR: Not present.

SAFETY SERVICE DIRECTOR: No report.

AUDITOR: Not present.

LAW DIRECTOR: Mr. Hatcher shared an update on variety store property across from the post office on E. Main St. It is currently in litigation. A productive meeting was held and the law director is hopeful for a quick resolution on that matter.

March 13 holds several hearings on other blighted properties.

The director will be absent for the meeting on March 24th, so he plans to give an update to the Health, Service & Safety chair to give a full update on the blighted property hearings.

In general court hearings, shoplifting has slowed immensely, but for texting and driving, there are still 2-4 cases per week. During summer, it was double to triple that according to the law director. The law director reminds the public that your phone should just not be in your hand. Choose a cradle device to hold your cell phone; court presence is required for these hearings.

Mr. Agler asks if a charge means you will automatically get points on your license. Mr. Hatcher explains for first time offenders, there is an option for offenders to take a course to waive fees and points on your license.

COMMENTS, COMMUNICATIONS & PETITIONS:

None.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE: Ringwald shared information from the executive session on city council salary changes. A motion must be made to prepare an ordinance by beginning of June in order for the salaries to go through 3 readings and go into effect by the time August voting comes around.

STREETS AND ALLEYS: Kallas made a motion to introduce ordinance number: 25-02-010. Moore seconded; all concurred.

JUDICIARY AND ANNEXATION: Not present. Vice chair has no report.

PROPERTIES AND EQUIPMENT: Agler asked if council wanted to hold another session on discussing salaries to come to a final decision before making a motion. Another meeting will be held at a later date not yet set.

PARKS AND RECREATION: No report.

HEALTH, SERVICE AND SAFETY: No report.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT: No report.

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS FROM COUNCIL and PUBLIC: Mark Davis, 402 S. Tyler St. asked the purpose of the purchase on John Brown Rd. The safety service director said there are no set plans for the property at this time.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS: Law Director Hatcher is proposing a discussion on hiring a full-time administrative assistant. A small discussion was held with the treasurer, but another meeting will be necessary before presenting to council.

RESOLUTIONS & ORDINANCES:

Agler made a motion to pass on it's Third and Final Reading, Resolution Number: 25-01-003; **A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SALE DURING CALENDAR YEAR 2025 OF MUNICIPALLY OWNED PERSONAL PROPERTY WHICH IS NOT NEEDED FOR PUBLIC USE, OR WHICH IS OBSOLETE OR UNFIT FOR THE USE FOR WHICH IT WAS ACQUIRED BY INTERNET AUCTION, PURSUANT TO OHIO REVISED CODE SECTION 721.15(D), AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.** Roberts seconded; all concurred. Resolution passed.

Kallas made a motion to pass on it's Third and Final Reading, Ordinance Number: 25-01-004; **AN ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE SAFETY-SERVICE DIRECTOR TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS AND AWARD CONTRACTS TO THE LOWEST AND**

BEST BIDDER FOR THE 2025 STREET PAINTING. Agler seconded; all concurred. Ordinance passed.

Second Reading Advisory for Ordinance Number: 25-02-009. All concurred.

Kallas made a motion to suspend statutory rules on Ordinance Number: 25-02-010. Ringwald seconded; all concurred.

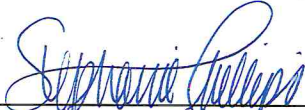
Kallas made a motion to pass on it's first and final reading, Ordinance Number: 25-02-010; AN ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE SAFETY-SERVICE DIRECTOR AND THE MAYOR TO NEGOTIATE THE PURCHASE AND SIGN ANY DOCUMENTS NECESSARY TO EXECUTE THE PURCHASE OF REAL PROPERTY LOCATED ON THE SOUTH EAST CORNER OF JOHN BROWN ROAD AND WOODLAND AVENUE IN THE CITY OF VAN WERT AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. Ringwald seconded; all concurred. Ordinance passed.

Marshall made a motion to introduce Ordinance Number: 25-02-011. Moore seconded; all concurred.

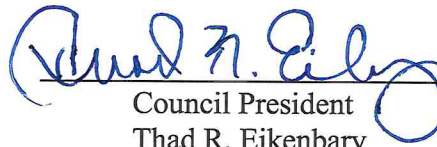
Marshall made a motion to suspend statutory rules. Moore seconded; all concurred.

Marshall made a motion to pass on it's first and final reading, Ordinance Number: 25-02-011; AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE 21-05-036 BY AMENDING AND EXTENDING THE MAP OF THE DORA DISTRICT AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. Moore seconded; all concurred. Ordinance passed.

Agler made a motion to adjourn at 6:55 p.m. Marshall seconded; all concurred.



Clerk of Council
Stephanie R. Phillips



Council President
Thad R. Eikenbary

March 10, 2025
DATE

