

BRYAN CITY COUNCIL

March 4, 2024

Council President Mary Leatherman opened the meeting with the following members present: Jim Kozumplik, F. John Betts, Richard Hupe, and Stephen Alspaugh. Also attending were: Mayor Carrie Schlade, City Engineer Brian Wieland, Police Captain Jamie Mendez, Fire Chief Doug Pool, Street Commissioner Tyson Engstrom, Parks and Recreation Director Benjamin Dominique, Director of Utilities Derek Schultz, Bryan Board of Public Affairs Members Richard Long and Jim Salisbury, and Clerk-Treasurer John Lehner.

Mr. Betts moved, Mr. Alspaugh seconded, to approve the minutes from the February 19, 2024 Regular Meeting as written. Roll call vote: all ayes; nays, none. Motion carried.

Bryan resident Bill Metz addressed the Council with a follow-up to his comments on the reestablishment of video recording of Bryan City Council and Bryan Board of Public Affairs meetings, and his opinion that it does not have to be an expensive endeavor. He referred to a video recording and livestreaming program called OBS Studio as a cost-effective and simple solution. Director of Utilities Schultz and Board of Public Affairs Member Long offered their concerns, which included cost of replacement equipment comparable to what had been used previously, the ongoing personnel costs of operating the equipment, and concerns about public records storage and security issues if a third-party were to be used. Further discussion was held. Council Member Alspaugh suggested deferring to the technical opinion of the Communications Department staff. Council Member Betts highlighted the cost/benefit comparison that was used to help make the decision to discontinue video service based on low viewership.

Resolution No. 16, 2024, titled,

A RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT A \$134,000.00 GRANT FROM BRYAN AREA FOUNDATION, TO THE PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT FOR THE LINCOLN PARK RESTROOMS.

was presented and read by title only. Parks and Recreation Director Dominique requested Council accept the \$134,000 donation from the Bryan Area Foundation that will fund much of the cost of the new Lincoln Park Restroom project. He added the amount represents the contributions of many individual donors.

Mr. Kozumplik moved, Mr. Alspaugh seconded, to suspend the reading of Resolution No. 16, 2024, on three separate days. Roll call vote: all ayes; nays, none. Motion carried.

Mr. Hupe moved, Mr. Betts seconded, to pass Resolution No. 16, 2024. Roll call vote: all ayes; nays, none. Motion carried.

Ordinance No. 6, 2024, titled,

AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE TRANSFER OF FUNDS FOR THE CITY OF BRYAN, FOR THE MONTH ENDING MARCH 31, 2024.

was presented and read by title only. Clerk-Treasurer Lehner explained that most of the request was for regularly budgeted operational transfers plus a small transfer needed to complete the clean-up of the Safe Routes to School Project Fund.

Mr. Betts moved, Mr. Kozumplik seconded, to suspend the reading of Ordinance No. 6, 2024, on three separate days. Roll call vote: all ayes; nays, none. Motion carried.

Mr. Hupe moved, Mr. Alspaugh seconded, to pass Ordinance No. 6, 2024. Roll call vote: all ayes; nays, none. Motion carried.

Ordinance No. 7, 2024, titled,

AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR ANNUAL APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE CITY OF BRYAN, FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2024, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

was presented and read by title only. Clerk-Treasurer Lehner explained this amended appropriation is necessary to authorize the expenditure of donated funds from the Bryan Area Foundation discussed earlier.

Mr. Kozumplik moved, Mr. Hupe seconded, to suspend the reading of Ordinance No. 7, 2024, on three separate days. Roll call vote: all ayes; nays, none. Motion carried.

Mr. Hupe moved, Mr. Betts seconded, to pass Ordinance No. 7, 2024. Roll call vote: all ayes; nays, none. Motion carried.

Ordinance No. 8, 2024, titled,

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH SIEBENALER CONSTRUCTION CO. FOR THE PROJECT KNOWN AS “LINCOLN PARK RESTROOM FACILITY.”

was presented and read by title only. City Engineer Wieland explained the winning bid for the Lincoln Park Restroom project was \$155,225. It was noted this was a re-bid, and he explained that modifications from the original bid specifications included lowering the ceilings from 10 feet to 8 feet and changing the flooring material from tile to concrete.

Mr. Kozumplik moved, Mr. Alspaugh seconded, to suspend the reading of Ordinance No. 8, 2024, on three separate days. Roll call vote: all ayes; nays, none. Motion carried.

Mr. Hupe moved, Mr. Betts seconded, to pass Ordinance No. 8, 2024. Roll call vote: all ayes; nays, none. Motion carried.

Resolution No. 17, 2024, titled,

A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE FINAL PLAN FOR THE COUNTYWIDE 9-1-1 SYSTEM IN WILLIAMS COUNTY, OHIO

was presented and read by title only. Mayor Schlade explained that the newly drafted countywide plan is necessary for Williams County to be fully compliant with requirements of the Ohio Revised Code, and for the City of Bryan Dispatch operation to participate in upcoming next-generation 9-1-1 communications technologies being implemented statewide.

Mr. Betts moved, Mr. Kozumplik seconded, to suspend the reading of Resolution No. 17, 2024, on three separate days. Roll call vote: all ayes; nays, none. Motion carried.

Mr. Alspaugh moved, Mr. Hupe seconded, to pass Resolution No. 17, 2024. Roll call vote: all ayes; nays, none. Motion carried.

Resolution No. 18, 2024, titled,

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE APPOINTMENT OF CITY ENGINEER BRIAN M. WIELAND TO THE DISTRICT #5 INTEGRATING COMMITTEE FOR THE OHIO PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION.

was presented and read by title only. Mayor Schlade asked that Council reappoint City Engineer Wieland to another three-year term on the Committee, for which he has served for many years.

Mr. Betts moved, Mr. Alspaugh seconded, to suspend the reading of Resolution No. 18, 2024, on three separate days. Roll call vote: all ayes; nays, none. Motion carried.

Mr. Kozumplik moved, Mr. Alspaugh seconded, to pass Resolution No. 18, 2024. Roll call vote: all ayes; nays, none. Motion carried.

Mayor Schlade reminded Council of the need to appoint a new Negotiations Committee for 2024, now that the Street Department negotiations were complete. Further discussion was held.

Mr. Alspaugh moved, Mr. Betts seconded, to appoint Council President Mary Leatherman and Council Member Jim Kozumplik to the Negotiations Committee for the remainder of 2024. Roll call vote: all ayes; nays, none. Motion carried.

Fire Chief Pool requested Council approve and appoint the following list of people to the Volunteer Firefighter's Dependents Fund Board for 2024:

Council Member Rick Hupe
Council Member Mary Leatherman
Fire Chief Douglas Pool
Firefighter Gregory Grisier
City Resident Russ Davies

Mr. Kozumplik moved, Mr. Alspaugh seconded, to approve and appoint members of the Volunteer Firefighter's Dependents Fund Board for 2024, as requested. Roll call vote: all ayes; nays, none. Motion carried.

Mayor Schlade requested Council approve and appoint the following list of people to the Volunteer Peace Officers Dependents Fund Board for 2024:

Council Member Jim Kozumplik
Council Member Rick Hupe, Secretary
Police Chief Gregory Ruskey
Police Sergeant Jeremy Viers
City Resident Jim Livengood

Mr. Betts moved, Mr. Alspaugh seconded, to approve and appoint members of the Volunteer Firefighter's Dependents Fund Board for 2024, as requested. Roll call vote: all ayes; nays, none. Motion carried.

Police Captain Mendez presented the 2023 Police Department Annual Report which highlighted operational statistics, staff and staffing shortage issues, training activities, dispatch operations, K-9 use, and fleet status, among others. Mayor Schlade informed Council that the Department's current breathalyzer equipment needs to be replaced, and an order is in the works that has an approximate 12-month delivery time. Further discussion was held.

Mayor Schlade informed the Council that she had given, through Lynn Weiland, about 20 City of Bryan lapel pins to Alex Miller to take on his upcoming trip to Australia as a participant in the Special Olympics. She thought it was a great idea to express local pride in Bryan and wished Mr. Miller the greatest experience. She offered thanks to all who have participated in the Lincoln Park Restroom project, to Police Captain Mendez for his presentation, and congratulated all the high school winter sports athletes participating in post-season tournaments.

Parks and Recreation Director Dominique thanked the Bryan Area Foundation for its fundraising efforts for the Lincoln Park Restroom project, and Bryan Municipal Utilities employees who helped unload trailers full of the playground equipment to be installed at the new park site.

Other Council Members offered similar thank yous.

Mr. Betts offered special appreciation to the Bryan High School Girls Basketball team for its kind gesture in honor of his son, David Betts, during its recent tournament play.

Mr. Alspaugh moved, Mr. Betts seconded, to adjourn the meeting. Roll call vote: all ayes; nays, none. Motion carried.

President of Council

Clerk-Treasurer