

The Council of the City of Vandalia Meeting Minutes

March 7, 2022

COUNCILMEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Richard Herbst, Vice Mayor David Lewis, Councilman Robert Ahlers, Councilman Michael Blakesly, Councilwoman Candice Farst, Councilman Corey M. Follick, Councilwoman Constance Woods

OTHERS PRESENT: Jerry McDonald, Daniel Wendt, Missy Pruszynski, Darren Davey, Bridgette Leiter, Chief Follick, Chief Althouse, Kristen Carnes, Rob Cron, Zak Karto, Holly Wiggins, and Luther Blakely

REMOTE AUDIENCE: Steve Clark, Laura Wendt, Lisa Wendt

Mayor Herbst called the regular council meeting of the Council of the City of Vandalia to order at 7:07 p.m. **Mayor Herbst** called for a moment of reflection followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Previous Minutes:

The Council Special Council Meeting Minutes of December 20, 2021, the Council Study Session Minutes of December 20, 2021, the Council Meeting Minutes of December 20, 2021, the Special Council Meeting Minutes of January 3, 2022, the Council Organizational Meeting Minutes of January 3, 2022, the Council Study Session Minutes of January 3, 2022, the Council Meeting Minutes of January 3, 2022, the Council Study Session Minutes of January 18, 2022, and the Council Meeting Minutes of January 18, 2022 were approved as presented.

Communications, Petitions and Awards: None

Public Hearing: None

Comments from Interested Citizens

The Council of the City of Vandalia Meeting Minutes

March 7, 2022

Mayor Herbst called for comments from interested citizens either in chambers or on-line. AES Ohio representative **Holly Wiggins**, 660 Cassel Creek, reminded the audience the Gift of Power program is on-going. She advised any citizens who are having issues with paying their electric bill should contact the Salvation Army or go online to aesohio.com/gift. **Ms. Wiggins** concluded by encouraging the audience to help fellow citizens.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

Information Items:

Mr. Wendt reminded Council the Chamber Annual Meeting including the State of the City is tomorrow morning at Scene75 and breakfast starts at 7:30 a.m. He advised Council he will be meeting with Congressman Turner's office on Wednesday, March 9 to discuss potential funding for the road around the north side of the airport for logistics access and funding. **Mr. Wendt** shared that today he received a call from Montgomery County environmental services regarding monitoring of wells in Butler Township. He noted there are sixteen properties on the Ohio Department of Health map which include properties within the Vandalia corporate limit. The Vandalia residents and property owners will receive a letter offering free optional testing. **Mr. Wendt** advised this item is directly related to the PFAS groundwater contamination. The county is attempting to understand specifically where the contamination is and the corresponding levels.

Action Items: None

Old Business: None

Resolutions:

22-R-18 A Resolution Awarding The Bid For The SCBA Compressor & Fill Station Project, Requested By The Division Of Fire, To Breathing Air Systems In The Amount Of \$46,769.74 As The Lowest And Best Bid And Declaring The Current Breathing Air Compressor And Fill Station Surplus. **Mr. McDonald** read Resolution 22-R-18 by title.

The Council of the City of Vandalia Meeting Minutes

March 7, 2022

Mr. Wendt explained the Division of Fire is recommending the replacement of its 1972 breathing air compressor, as it has reached the end of its useful life. The Division of Fire budgeted \$50,000 for this project. Two bid proposals were received. Breathing Air Systems, a company that has been the City's breathing air service provider for many years, submitted a primary bid based on the specifications, which called for a full enclosed compressor, and they submitted an alternative to the primary bid which was the exact same compressor but in an "open" configuration. After careful review of each submission, the Division of Fire recommends that City Council award this project to Breathing Air Systems of Reynoldsburg Ohio, for the lowest and best bid amount of \$46,769.74. It was moved by Councilman Blakesly, seconded by Vice Mayor Lewis, to approve Resolution 22-R-18. Motion passed 7-0.

22-R-19 A Resolution Awarding The Bid For Removal And Replacement Of Certain Curbs And Sidewalks Requested By Development And Engineering Services, To D. L Smith Concrete, LLC. At The Lowest And Best Bid Price Of \$382,907.00. **Mr. McDonald** read Resolution 22-R-19 by title. **Mr. Wendt** advised bids were opened publicly for the removal and replacement of certain curbs and sidewalks on Tuesday February 15, 2022. Three sets of specifications were issued, and all three contractors submitted bids for the project. Bids ranged from \$382,907.00 to \$424,738.50. Our estimate for the project was \$443,000. This project along with our street resurfacing project is a major part of the City's Enhance Infrastructure policy goal. Not only are we replacing deteriorating section of curb and sidewalk, the City will be installing ADA Compliant handicap ramps at each intersection of the streets that will be resurfacing this year. Mr. Wendt recommended awarding the contract for this project to D.L. Smith Concrete, LLC of Norwalk, OH as the lowest and best bid at their bid price of \$382,907.00. It was moved by Councilwoman Farst, seconded by Councilman Ahlers, to approve Resolution 22-R-19. Motion passed 7-0.

The Council of the City of Vandalia Meeting Minutes

March 7, 2022

22-R-20 A Resolution Authorizing The City Manager To Contract With Motorola Solutions To Provide Maintenance And Service For The Radio Consoles And Equipment In The Police Division's Communications Center In The Amount Of \$29,989.40. **Mr. McDonald** read Resolution 22-R-20 by title. **Mr. Wendt** advised in 2016, Vandalia Division of Police purchased new Motorola radio consoles during an upgrade and remodeling of the Communications Center. Vandalia Division of Police utilizes Motorola Solutions for maintenance and service of the MCS7500 radio consoles and equipment utilized in the Communications Center. Motorola Solutions' Astro 25 Advanced Plus Services provides an integrated and comprehensive sustainment program for fixed end network infrastructure equipment, including cybersecurity products and services. The 2022 annual service and maintenance agreement is \$29,989.40. VPD budgeted \$29,622.00 for this annual maintenance agreement. We will be utilizing \$367.40 from the same line item (110.231.5272) to cover the overage billed. **Mr. Wendt** respectfully, request that competitive bidding be waived, and we continue to contract with Motorola Solutions to provide maintenance and service for the radio consoles and equipment in VPD's Communications Center. It was moved by Vice Mayor Lewis, seconded by Councilman Follick, to approve Resolution 22-R-20. Motion passed 7-0.

22-R-21 A Resolution To Enter Into An Agreement With McGohan / Brabender Agency, Inc For Brokerage And Consulting Services. **Mr. McDonald** read Resolution 22-R-21 by title. **Mr. Wendt** explained advised this proposal does not modify current employee benefits provisions or plans. Over the last year, he met with several firms to consider whether the City should migrate its brokerage services for health, dental, and ancillary services. After extensive research, I have determined that it is in the interest of the taxpayers, City organization, and employees to migrate our brokerage and consulting services. It was moved by Councilman Follick, seconded by Councilman Blakesly, to approve Resolution 22-R-21. Motion passed 7-0.

The Council of the City of Vandalia Meeting Minutes

March 7, 2022

Ordinances – First Reading: None

Ordinances – Second Reading: None

Ordinances – Emergency Reading: None

Reports from Boards and Commissions:

Variance: Audible Device within 150' of Residences – 335 S. Dixie

Mr. Wendt explained the Applicant and building owner, Bison Commercial Investments, has requested a variance to allow for an audible device within 150' of a residential dwelling unit. The Board of Zoning Appeals voted 4-0 to recommend approval of the requested variance. It was moved by Councilwoman Farst, seconded by Councilman Blakesly, to approve the variance request at 335 S. Dixie Drive. Motion passed 7-0.

Variance: Deck Setback – 1144 Rexford

Mr. Wendt advised the Applicant, Kyle Leber, has requested a variance to allow for a screened-in deck within the rear yard setback of 35'. The Board of Zoning Appeals voted 4-0 to recommend approval of the requested variance. It was moved by Councilman Follick, seconded by Vice Mayor Lewis, to approve the variance request at 1144 Rexford. Motion passed 7-0.

Variance: Solar Panels - 375 Halifax Drive

Mr. Wendt explained the Applicant, Ace Thompson, Fluent Solar, has requested a variance on behalf of Luther Blakley, property owner, to allow for 9 solar panels on the front face of the roof which faces a right-of-way, Halifax Drive. The Board of Zoning Appeals was split 2-2 on recommending denial of the requested variance. It was moved by Councilwoman Farst, seconded by Councilman Ahlers, to deny the variance request at 375 Halifax. **Councilman Ahlers** commented that he moved to deny the

The Council of the City of Vandalia Meeting Minutes

March 7, 2022

variance because staff is working on changing the existing policy that would possibly give more leeway on similar requests. He concluded by noting it is best to wait until the recommendation for the new policy is approved. Motion passed 7-0 variance denied.

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Minutes: November 17, 2021

Mayor Herbst called for comments or questions on said Parks and Recreation Advisory Board minutes. There were none.

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Minutes: February 16, 2022

Mayor Herbst called for comments or questions on said Parks and Recreation Advisory Board minutes. **Councilman Follick** inquired if staff has considered pay raises for seasonal and part-time staffing; especially, those positions that are historically difficult to fill. **Mr. Wendt** responded in the affirmative noting that he does not have a proposal prepared to discuss tonight. He concluded by advising Council that the proposal may not be ready until the April 4 Council Study Session.

Civil Service Meeting Minutes: November 4, 2021

Mayor Herbst called for comments or questions on said Civil Service Meeting minutes. There were none.

Civil Service Meeting Draft Minutes: February 25, 2022

Mayor Herbst called for comments or questions on said Civil Service Meeting draft minutes. There were none.

Council Comments

The Council of the City of Vandalia Meeting Minutes

March 7, 2022

Mr. McDonald reminded Council and the audience an Executive Session is scheduled at the end of this meeting and it is possible that action may be taken after the Executive Session.

Mr. Wendt requested in addition to what is laid out to be reviewed in the Executive Session, which is collective bargaining, he would like to discuss certain personnel matters regarding the appointment of a public employee.

Councilman Follick congratulated the nineteen city employees who were honored with service milestones in 2021, which was a total of 330 years of combined service. He said anytime an organization has employees that have in the same place for 40 years and get service awards there is something to be said about the work environment. **Councilman Follick** inquired about HB 519 Tax Penalties and inquired if City staff had looked at possible implications of HB 422 Utility Billing. **Mr. Wendt** advised he will look into it and update Council. **Councilman Follick** is excited to see that the recreational programs, participation levels and building attendance is rebounding from the pandemic

Councilman Blakesly shared condolences with the Hellard family for the loss of former Chief Thomas Hellard.

Councilwoman Woods shared she recently received a letter from an elderly lady in our community. The lady's medical professionals demanded that she go to an assisted living facility. She continued explaining that the elderly lady's two neighbors convinced the medical professionals that they would step up and give her the care she needed in order to stay at home. **Councilwoman Woods** concluded by sharing that we have incredible residents living in this city.

The Council of the City of Vandalia Meeting Minutes

March 7, 2022

Executive Session - The purpose of the Executive Session is to review a collective bargaining strategy related to the Teamsters and to discuss certain personnel matters regarding the appointment of a public employee.

Executive Session

At 7:30 p.m., during the regular council meeting, **Mayor Herbst** recommended that Council adjourn to Executive Session to discuss and to review a collective bargaining strategy related to the Teamsters and to consider and discuss certain personnel matters regarding the appointment of a public employee. It was moved by Vice Mayor Lewis, seconded by Councilman Blakesly, to adjourn to Executive Session. Councilman Blakesly voted yes, Councilwoman Woods voted yes, Councilman Ahlers voted yes, Councilman Follick voted yes, Councilwoman Farst voted yes, Vice Mayor Lewis voted yes, and Mayor Herbst voted yes. Motion passed 7-0. Council adjourned into executive session at 7:31 p.m.

Re-Convene to Council Meeting

It was moved by Councilman Lewis, seconded by Councilman Blakesly, to end the executive session and reconvene to the council meeting at 8:02 p.m. All members present voted yes. Motion passed 7-0.

After Council re-convened from the Executive Session to the Council Meeting Resolution 22-R-22 was brought forward for Council's consideration.

22-R-22 A Resolution Authorizing The City Manager To Accept The Fact Finders Recommendations Relating To The General Truck Drivers, Warehouseman, Helpers, Sales And Service, And Casino Employees, Teamsters Local Union No. 957. **Mr. McDonald** read Resolution 22-R-22 by title. **Mr. Wendt** explained this resolution

The Council of the City of Vandalia Meeting Minutes

March 7, 2022

accepts the fact finders recommendations as it relates to the general truck drivers, warehouseman, helpers, sales and service, and casino employees, Teamsters Local Union No. 957. It was moved by Vice Mayor Ahlers, seconded by Councilman Follick, to approve Resolution 22-R-22. Motion passed 7-0.

The regular Council Meeting was then adjourned at 8:03 p.m.

APPROVED:

Richard Herbst, Mayor

ATTEST:

Missy Pruszynski, Deputy Clerk of Council

The Council of the City of Vandalia Meeting Minutes

March 7, 2022

This page intentionally left blank.

DRAFT