### THE BLUE LETTER



333 James E. Bohanan Drive • Vandalia, OH 45377 • (937) 898-5891

April 28, 2023

Honorable Mayor Herbst & Esteemed City Councilmembers:

**Monday, May 1, 2023, Council Meeting:** The Study Session will begin at 6:00 pm. The Council meeting will begin at 7:00 pm.

**National Day of Prayer - Thursday, May 4th, 2023:** National Day of Prayer Breakfast will be held at First Light Church from 8:30 am - 10:30 am. Breakfast will begin at 8:30 am in the fellowship hall and the Prayer Service will begin at 9:15 am in the Sanctuary. The event is free to the community. To RSVP, call 937-898-3801.

**Council Spring Retreat - Tuesday, May 16th, 2023:** The Spring Retreat will be held at the Justice Center Community Room from 3:00 pm – 6:00 pm.

**Arbor Day!** Congrats to the Parks & Recreation Department on another successful Arbor Day! Mayor Herbst delivered remarks at the event. Parks Maintenance Technician Bryan Fine and Administrative Assistant Sherry McConnaughey are pictured handing out trees to Helke Elementary School students.





Congrats to Councilmember Corey Follick! This week, Englewood City Manager Eric Smith announced that Corey Follick will be promoted from the rank of Police Sergeant to Director of Police (Police Chief) on July 1, 2023.



Administrative Professionals Day! This week we celebrated Administrative Professionals Day. As a team, we are thankful for the hard work, and often behind-thescenes public service that our administrative professionals perform to ensure that Vandalia is an effective and efficient organization. I am especially thankful for Executive Assistant Angela Swartz and Human Resources Assistant Sherri Howard!

Focus Vandalia: Police Officer and Civilian of the Year (LINK) – This week, we featured Police Officer of the Year, Nelson Clymer, and Civilian Employee of the Year, Clerk / Typist Nancy Mandelik.

**Dog Leg Rd. Utility Extension Phase 1:** Work continues on Dog Leg Rd. Service Director Cron



and City Engineer Ben Borton were on-scene this week inspecting the culvert that was installed across the road (pictured).



### **Study Session:**

Monday, May 1, 2023 Items:

Items on this evening's Council Meeting agenda

**Resolution:** Purchase Water Meters— Last year the Public Works Division researched options for replacing water meters and briefed the City Council. The adopted capital improvement plan and 2023 budget includes replacing current meters with the Badger E-Series Ultrasonic Meters. These meters are read remotely through a cellular network. Late last year the City ordered 790 meters of various sizes and the appurtenances. The Public Works Division has begun to install replacement meters. Given lead time (~5 months) and success of the

initial meter installations, it is appropriate to order the next batch of replacement meters. Public Works crews are strategically replacing several hundred meters where the transmitters have died and have to

Page 2 of 9

be read manually. There are approximately 5,700 meters in the City's system and this project will span multiple years. I have enclosed a sample of the door hangers that Public Works crews will leave at residences when meters are being replaced. The door hangers direct utility customers to download the Eye on Water app for real-time leak detection and usage monitoring, as well as additional information on the City website (https://vandaliaohio.org/506/Water-Meter-Replacement).

Our team anticipates substantial savings over the course of the project by installing the meters ourselves (approximately \$800,000), and we are meeting new Environmental Protection Agency mandates relating to valve exercising requirements. Most meters are located outside of the home in pits. Public Works crews will be in uniform and carry City identification. The utility billing office is scheduling in-home replacements with customers. Residents and customers are encouraged to contact staff in the utility billing office with questions.

The 2023 budget and capital improvement plan include an appropriation that was authorized by City Council for \$440,000.00. This amount is divided between the water and sanitary sewer funds. The order that is being presented for your consideration and authorization will be mostly smaller residential meters; whereas larger meters and fire line meters will be ordered as needed.

### Monday, May 15, 2023 Items:

Resolution: Professional Services Agreement for Robinette Park Design - Earlier this year City Council adopted the 2023 Parks and Recreation Master Plan, which includes development of an accessible playground and splashpad as one of the primary recommendations. The Master Plan is the result of extensive and evidence-based community engagement practices. In addition, the staff has partnered with the Montgomery County Board of Developmental Disability Services and a playground advisory committee to help guide this initiative. The City has received outside funding in the form of grants and direct appropriations in support of this project. The City has applied for and is pursuing future Congressionally Directed Spending and capital budget bill funding. As such, I respectfully request that the City Manager be authorized to negotiate and to enter into a professional services contract for the purpose of performing architectural design for an accessible restroom facility, pump room, shelter, splash pad, parking modifications, and playground; civil engineering; site, survey, and geotechnical work; biding; and construction administration in an amount not to exceed \$72,000 with OHM Advisors.

OHM Advisors has partnered with the City of Vandalia on both the 2020 Vision Vandalia Comprehensive Plan and was the local partner with PROS Consulting in developing the 2023 Parks and Recreation Master Plan. Pros Consulting has worked with City staff to develop the Robinette Park conceptual design. Based on OHM's understanding of our community and the project scope, entering into a professional services agreement for the planning, design, engineering, compilation of bid documents, and associated processes relating to the Robinette Park Design Project is the best option for advancing the project in a cost effective and efficient manner. This project will improve quality of life and service delivery for the immediate neighborhood and will attract families to Vandalia. In addition, the project directly

corresponds with several 2023 Citywide Policy Goals including *Small City Big Opportunity, Enhance Infrastructure, Fiscal Sustainability, Trust and Confidence, Sharpen the Saw,* and *Vibrant.* 

Resolution: Joint Facility Use Agreement with Vandalia-Butler Schools - The City of Vandalia and Vandalia-Butler Board of Education entered into a Joint Facility Use Agreement on April 15, 2013 regarding the joint use of various city and school properties. The agreement ended on April 14, 2023 so representatives of the School District and City crafted an updated Joint Facility Use Agreement that would go into effect on July 1, 2023 with a term of five (5) years with automatic renewals for a successive five (5) years, ending on June 30, 2033. The proposed agreement continues with language from the original agreement along with updated language concerning any school district desired facility upgrades to the softball/baseball fields at the Sports Complex as well as tennis courts at Helke Park. The proposed agreement also includes references to annual agreements for use of the Recreation Center Pool for Butler Swim Teams and Cassel Hills Golf Course for Butler Golf Teams.

Resolution: VFD Radios- The Division of Fire has budgeted for the replacement (upgrade) of its portable and mobile MARCS enable two-way radios in its 2023 CIP budget. This is phase two of a radio upgrade project that began in 2022, when several of the Division of Fire's first-generation MARCS radios were replaced. The 800 MARCS radios are fifteen (15) years old (mobile vehicle mounted radios are +15 years old) and have been determined by the manufacturer to be at or approaching "end of life". Portable radios are how our fireground operations are coordinated. Fireground strategy, tactics, and tasks are communicated via vehicle/portable radios, with the goal of bringing order to chaos. Most importantly portable radios are an essential part of our firefighter's protective clothing ensemble and key to maintaining firefighter safety. The project will allow for the replacement of fourteen (14) portable radios, three (3) vehicle mounted mobile radios, the upgrade of Engine 2's onboard radio/intercom headset system to a wireless system, and the purchase of chargers/batteries for the radios. The Division of Fire is recommending that City Council waive formal bidding and award this project to P&R Communications of Dayton, Ohio for the total cost of \$81,268.65.

P&R Communications is a sole source provider for the Ohio MARCS Motorola equipment. The Division of Fire has a \$100,000 budget for this project. Furthermore, I would ask that City Council declare the equipment being replaced as surplus and that the Division of Fire be permitted to dispose of this equipment in accordance with City policy and procedures.

Resolution: Sanitary Sewer Repair – I-75 & National Road Interchange – Bids were opened publicly for the Sanitary Sewer Replacement at I-75 & National Road project on Tuesday April 25, 2023. Seven sets of specifications were issued, and six contractors submitted bids for the project. Bids ranged from \$149,692.00 to \$218,830.00. Our estimate for the project was \$240,000. This project will replace a section of 70-year-old sanitary sewer in the NW quadrant of I-75 and National Road. A section of this line collapsed last winter, and a temporary emergency repair was made. We have inspected several spans of the line and determined that these sections are in need of replacement. We have written into the bid documents that this work cannot commence until after the Air Show weekend and shall be completed

by November 3rd. Therefore, I recommend awarding the contract for this project to C.G. Construction & Utilities, Inc. as the lowest and best bid at their bid price of \$149,692.

Resolution: Final Resolution with ODOT Traffic Signal I-75 & Northwoods - The City of Vandalia and ODOT have partnered to install a new traffic signal at Northwoods Boulevard and the I-75 southbound ramps. We contracted Choice One Engineering for the engineering and design of the new signal last year. ODOT is preparing to sell the project on June 8, 2023. We need to authorize and to sign the contract and submit payment for our share of the project no later than May 26, 2023. The total estimated cost of construction is \$410,000. Our share of the construction cost is \$60,060. The Ohio Department of Jobs & Commerce has committed \$80,000 with ODOT picking up the balance. We will bring a resolution forward on the May 15th City Council Meeting for consideration and I recommend we approve the resolution to enter into the contract with ODOT to partner with them for this project and submit the payment of \$60,060.00 for the project to move forward.

Resolution: Rapid Flashing Beacon - In an effort to enhance the safety of pedestrians and children, we would like to install Pedestrian Crossing Rapid Flashing Beacons at four locations in the City. These devices are designed and used for mid-block crosswalk locations or where cross traffic does not stop. The City has worked with and communicated with the Vandalia Butler City School District. Two of the devices would be installed at the crosswalks to Demmitt Elementary and Helke Elementary Schools. One would be on Alkaline Springs Road where we have installed handicap ramps to cross from Butler High Scholl to the Vandalia Art Park. The fourth would be at crosswalk on Stonequarry Road that is at the entrance to the Copperfield Subdivision and crosses to the Sports Complex. The devices we are proposing would be solar units activated by a push button on the poles. Due to the lead time on these specialty devices, I am recommending waiving the formal bidding and purchasing the devices from the lowest and best price submitted from either Pathmaster or A & A Safety. We would like to have them installed by the beginning of next school year (fall 2023).

Ordinance: Annual DES Fees Update – Including Water & Sewer Taps – As I previously reported, this is the annual update to the fee schedule for DES. In the past we have waited several years in between fee adjustment and had to make significant increases. The current fee schedule went in to effect in May of 2022. We would like to propose a 2% adjustment to all fees listed below that would take effect on July 1, 2023. In addition to this we would like to propose an annual increase of 2% to all fees that would begin on January 1, 2024 and update on January 1 of each year after. Fees would be rounded to the nearest dollar amount except the smaller fees that are calculated by the square foot and are rounded to the nearest cent. This would include all building permit fees, zoning fees, misc. permit fees and water/sewer tap fees. We performed extensive research last year when adjusting fees and we feel we are still around the average cost as compared to other jurisdictions. We feel these minor increases will keep us competitive and will help to cover costs. DES will continue to review permit fees periodically in the future to ensure market alignment.

**Conditional Use: Day Care - 732 W. National Road –** Mr. Dan Meyer of Development Architecture Collaborative, and on behalf of Flyght Academy, has submitted an application requesting conditional use

approval for the property located at 732 West National Road. The proposal is to add a Daycare to the property. Day Care Centers are permitted only as a conditional use in the Highway Business (HB) District. As proposed, the conditional use would take up a renovated 3,445 square foot area of the existing Flyght Academy space at 732 West National Road. The proposal also includes an exterior play area. On April 25, 2023, the Planning Commission voted 4-0 to recommend Approval with the condition that no exterior play area be constructed as part of an approved conditional use unless the design and placement of the outdoor play area meets the requirements of the Vandalia Zoning Code and the Ohio Fire Code.

**Variance:** Front Yard Setback – 831 Roxana Drive - The Applicant, Mr. Jake Hayslett, has requested a variance to allow an awning to encroach on the minimum front yard setback on the property located at 831 Roxana Drive. The applicant has proposed adding a 128 (8x16) square foot awning to the front of his property and this awning would encroach on the front yard setback by four feet. The proposed awning would be aluminum. On April 26, 2023, the Board of Zoning Appeals voted 5-0 to recommend approval.

### **Discussion Items:**

60-Day Calendar - The calendar is included in your packets for your review.

### **Council Meeting:**

### Communications, Petitions and Awards

### Introduction and Oath of Office: Police Officer Matthew Nicley

City Manager Wendt will introduce and administer the Oath of Office to Police Officer Matthew Nicely who began employment April 26, 2023.

### <u>Introduction: Public Works Technician Supervisor Cody Booher</u>

City Manager Wendt will introduce Cody Booher who began employment May 5, 2019 and was promoted to Public Works Technician Supervisor February 19, 2023.

#### Introduction: Public Works Technician Aaron Evans

City Manager Wendt will introduce Aaron Evans who began employment March 22, 2023.

#### Introduction: Information Systems Administrator Paul Pollard

City Manager Wendt will introduce Paul Pollard who began employment April 12, 2023.

### Introduction: City Engineer Ben Borton

City Manager Wendt will introduce Ben Borton who began employment April 19, 2023.

### Introduction: Parks & Recreation Building Maintenance Garrett Danner

City Manager Wendt will introduce Garrett Danner who began employment April 19, 2023.

### Introduction: Parks & Recreation Maintenance Technician Harry Reed

City Manager Wendt will introduce Harry Reed who began employment April 19, 2023.

### Presentation from Montgomery County Auditor, Karl Keith

Karl Keith, Montgomery County Auditor will present on property revaluations.

### Resolutions

Resolution 23-R-31: ODOT Preliminary Participatory Legislation for Webster Street Resurfacing - The City and ODOT have previously agreed to partner in the Resurfacing of Webster Street from Stop Eight Road to Little York Road. Final plans have been submitted to ODOT and are awaiting final approvals. The total estimated cost of the project including the engineering is \$979,414.00. We have been awarded a \$717,131 grant for this project in STP Funds through MVRPC. To keep the project moving forward, we need to approve legislation authorizing us to enter into the formal agreement with ODOT to oversee and manage the bidding and construction of the project. Currently the project is scheduled to bid in March of 2024 with construction taking place in the summer of 2024 as well.

Resolution 23-R-32: ODOT Preliminary Participatory Legislation for Vandalia Bikeway Connector - The City and ODOT have previously agreed to partner in the construction of the Vandalia Bikeway Connector. Engineering and design is nearing its final stages. We are currently waiting on final approval of the right of way documents, and we will begin the right of way acquisition for the project. To keep the project moving forward, we need to approve legislation authorizing us to enter into the formal agreement with ODOT to oversee and manage the bidding and construction of the project. As we have discussed before, while we are the local sponsor of the project, we are sharing the local cost with Five River Metro Parks. Currently the project is scheduled to be bid in May of 2024 with construction starting in the summer of 2024 and scheduled to be completed by May of 2025.

Resolution 23-R-33: One Ton Dump Truck with Specialty Package - The Parks & Recreation Department solicited bids for the purchase of a 2023 One Ton Dump Truck with Specialty Package. The 2023 capital improvement plan has \$85,000 allotted for this specific purchase. Bid packets were sent directly to Smedley's Chevrolet and Beau Townsend Ford and advertised in the Daily Court Reporter. Beau Townsend Ford submitted the lone bid of \$72,600, which includes the base model vehicle with white exterior and a specialty package to include an air flow 9-foot aluminum dump body with fold down sides, steel equipment box with shelving and LED strobe lights in the grill and dump body. The 2023 Pick Up Truck will replace a 1998 Chevrolet Model Dump Truck, which will be traded in as part of the purchase for a reduction total of \$3,500, bringing the final cost of the purchase to \$69,100. Further, I recommend that City Council declare the 1998 Chevrolet Dump Truck as surplus for the purpose of disposing via trade-in as provided by law.

**Resolution 23-R-34: Purchase Water Meters**— Last year the Public Works Division researched options for replacing water meters and briefed the City Council. The adopted capital improvement plan and 2023 budget includes replacing current meters with the Badger E-Series Ultrasonic Meters. These meters are read remotely through a cellular network. Late last year the City ordered 790 meters of various sizes and

the appurtenances. The Public Works Division has begun to install replacement meters. Given lead time (~5 months) and success of the initial meter installations, it is appropriate to order the next batch of replacement meters. Public Works crews are strategically replacing several hundred meters where the transmitters have died and have to be read manually. There are approximately 5,700 meters in the City's system and this project will span multiple years. I have enclosed a sample of the door hangers that Public Works crews will leave at residences when meters are being replaced. The door hangers direct utility customers to download the Eye on Water app for real-time leak detection and usage monitoring, as well as additional information on the City website (<a href="https://vandaliaohio.org/506/Water-Meter-Replacement">https://vandaliaohio.org/506/Water-Meter-Replacement</a>).

Our team anticipates substantial savings over the course of the project by installing the meters ourselves (approximately \$800,000), and we are meeting new Environmental Protection Agency mandates relating to valve exercising requirements. Most meters are located outside of the home in pits. Public Works crews will be in uniform and carry City identification. The utility billing office is scheduling in-home replacements with customers. Residents and customers are encouraged to contact staff in the utility billing office with questions.

The 2023 budget and capital improvement plan include an appropriation that was authorized by City Council for \$440,000.00. This amount is divided between the water and sanitary sewer funds. The order that is being presented for your consideration and authorization will be mostly smaller residential meters; whereas larger meters and fire line meters will be ordered as needed.

### <u>Ordinance – Second Reading:</u>

Ordinance 23-08: Solar Panel Text Amendment - City Staff, at the direction of City Council, has proposed amendments to the City's Planning & Zoning Code to refine current regulations on Solar Energy Systems. If approved, the proposed changes would amend Chapter 1224 (Accessory Uses) and Chapter 1244 (Definitions). The proposed amendments address regulations dealing with both Roof-Mounted and Ground-Mounted Solar Panels, as well as clarifications regarding current prohibitions against standalone Solar Farms. At its meeting on March 28, 2023, the Planning Commission voted 4-1 to recommend approval of this text amendment.

**Executive Session:** I will request an executive session to discuss the sale of real property, the purchase of real property, to consider certain personnel matters including the dismissal of a public employee(s), and to review the City's collective bargaining strategy.

The next Council meeting is on Monday, May 1, 2023 at 7:00 pm. The meeting will be an in-person meeting in Council Chambers. The meeting is open to Council, staff and the public to attend in-person. The meetings will be accessible for viewing through Zoom. Please note, no comments, electronic or oral, will be allowed by people that are participating electronically through Zoom. Anyone wishing to be heard on a topic will need to appear personally at the meeting. The Study Session will begin at 6:00 pm followed by the City Council Meeting at 7:00 pm.

Please contact me directly with comments and questions.

Very Respectfully,

Dan Wendt City Manager

CC:

**Board and Commission Members** 

All City Employees

### Attachments:

- 1. 2023 Shred Day Flyer;
- 2. 2023 Garage Sale Weekend Flyer;
- News Flash Corey Follick appointed Englewood Director of Police;
   Sample Door Hanger Water Meter Replacement;
   Cassel Hills Pool Fee Schedule and Information;
   2023 Policy Goals; and
   My Vandalia Flyer.

# Avoid identity theft and safely dispose of sensitive documents!



The City of Vandalia proudly presents

# Shred Day 2023

Friday, May 19, 2023
9 a.m. to Noon
Vandalia Municipal Building
333 James Bohanan Memorial Drive

Bring your unwanted documents to this drive-up paper shredding event! Unwanted documents may include old tax returns, processed checks, loan documents, financial reports and papers that might include Social Security or credit card account numbers. There is NO NEED to remove paper clips, staples, rubber bands or folders. All paper collected will be recycled.





### FREE FOR ALL VANDALIA RESIDENTS!









May 18 - 21, 2023

Register your sale for inclusion in an area wide interactive map of all registered garage sales.



### Home

Posted on: April 27, 2023

### **Follick Appointed Next Director of Police**

The City of Englewood announces the appointment of Sgt. Corey Follick as the next Director of Police effective July 1, 2023.

Sergeant Follick began his career with the City of Englewood as a part-time dispatcher in 1995. In January of 2000, Follick joined the ranks as a police officer. Follick was promoted to Sergeant in 2015. During his time with the department, Sgt. Follick has served in the role of



School Resource Officer, manages the property room, and manages policy compliance, training, and updates for the department.

Sergeant Follick earned a Bachelor's Degree in Education from Bowling Green State University and his Master's Degree in Public Administration from the University of Dayton.

### Tools

<u>RSS</u>

### **Categories**

- All Categories
- <u>Home</u>



### Your new water meter is installed!

The City of Vandalia has replaced your water meter! This new meter is programmed to use cellular technology to report your water usage to the City of Vandalia Utility Department.

This new meter also gives you the ability to track your water usage in real time through the free EyeOnWater phone app.

The EyeOnWater app has alerts that can help you identify a costly leak before it runs up your bill.

If you have any questions about your new meter or your water bill, call the number below.



Scan the QR Code for

Vandalia

Scan the QR Code tor more information! For more information:

937-415-2231

Download the EyeOnWater App



Available at:







## Cassel Hills Swimming Pool Weekly Admission Schedule



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
11:30 am - 7:30 pm Members and Residents ONLY	11:30 am - 7:30 pm Members and Residents ONLY	11:30 am Members + Residents Admitted 12:30 pm Non-Residents Admitted	11:30 am - 7:30 pm Members and Residents ONLY		11:30 am Members + Residents Admitted 12:30 pm Non-Residents Admitted	11:30 am  Members + Residents  Admitted  12:30 pm  Non-Residents  Admitted

### **NEW ADMISSION POLICY FOR 2023!**

<u>Member and Resident Only Days</u> - Every Sunday, Monday and Wednesday, pool admission will be limited to CHP Members and Vandalia Residents, each of whom may bring up to three non-resident paying guests.

Non-residents who purchase a membership will be admitted on Member/Resident Only days.

<u>General Admission Days</u> - Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday will be General Admission Days. Any person paying the daily admission fee will be admitted until maximum capacity is reached.

On General Admission days, CHP members and residents will be admitted beginning at 11:30 am. Non-residents will be admitted at 12:30 pm.



Scan the QR Code for the 2023 Cassel Hills Pool Members and Visitor's Guide.

PROOF OF RESIDENCY will be required for admission. A "Resident Card" may be obtained by visiting the front desk of the Vandalia Recreation Center. Bring State-issued ID or a utility bill with a Vandalia address and a valid ID.

2023 Cassel Hills Pool: Membership Rates						
Category	Resident & Taxpayer	Non-Resident				
Family	\$169	\$249				
Dual	\$149	\$219				
Youth (3-17)	\$79	\$119				
Adult (18-54)	\$99	\$149				
Senior (55+)	\$79	\$119				

### **IMPORTANT!**

Beginning April 10, 2023, Season Passes for Cassel Hills Swimming Pool will go on sale at the Vandalia Recreation Center!

A <u>limited number</u> of Non-Resident passes will be available for purchase.



### 2023 Citywide Policy Goals

Approved December 5, 2022

### Live



**Small City Big Opportunity:** Be known regionally as a top-tier suburb through top- tier City services. Enhance social and economic investment by promoting the City's high-quality services, well-performing schools, available workforce, escalating quality- of-life, and growing sense of place. Incentivize developments that improve life in Vandalia.



**Safe and Secure:** Ensure that Vandalia remains a safe and secure community by investing in both traditional public safety operations and creative outreach efforts to meet the evolving needs of our residents and visitors.



**Enhance Infrastructure:** Protect public assets and infrastructure by making calculated and deliberate investments in roadways, utilities, park spaces.

### Work



**Fiscal Sustainability:** Leverage the operating position of the City to seize strategic opportunities for improving quality of life, while maintaining sustainable fiscal practices.



**Trust and Confidence:** Promote an open approach to government through coordinated, transparent, and evidence-based engagement practices. Empower residents, business owners and community stakeholders to partner in City programs.



**Sharpen the Saw:** Commit to process improvements by purposefully refining practices and leveraging technology to improve internal and external customer service.

### Play



**Vibrant:** Be a vibrant community that uses its amenities and growth mindset to create a warm and welcoming environment in which to live, work, and play.

# Now there's a new and easier way to connect with the City of Vandalia!



Introducing My Vandalia, the fast, easy and free way to connect with the City for just about anything!





Request a "vacation house check."

Report property maintenance issues in an instant.

Report a pothole in seconds! Snap a photo and the app lets us know exactly where to send the crew!

Ask a question or submit a general comment.

It's your direct access line to the City!

### Download the My Vandalia app today!





