

**BELLEFONTAINE CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES FOR TUESDAY, MAY 9, 2023
7:30 pm**

CALL TO ORDER: Zeb Wagner
PLEDGE & INVOCATION:
ROLL CALL: Baker - absent
DeSomma **First Chair**
James
Lile
Reser
Springs - absent
Aler **Minister**

Motion to excuse the absence of Mrs. Baker and Mr. Springs moved by Aler, seconded by James V Ayes

SUSPENSION READING OF MINUTES: moved by James, seconded by Reser V Ayes

CORRECTIONS/ADDITIONS: none

ADMINISTRATION REPORTS:

Mayor - Planning Commission met at 4:00 pm this afternoon for an alley vacation involved with the Lutheran Community Center.
Asks President Wagner to add Heather Feasel to the Board of Tax Review. The Ohio Revised Code allows a member to be a municipal employee for the 2 year term.

Motion to appoint Heather Feasel to a 2 year term on Board of Tax Review moved by Lile, seconded by DeSomma V Ayes

S/SD - Street Department completed the installation of lighted pedestrian crossings at Madriver and Williams. Also at Lake Ave. and Harding.

Demolition of thirteen (13) structures through the Land Bank have completed, all but two (2) are down. The contractor allowed the Fire Dept. to conduct training in the last house. The project should wrap up tomorrow and proceed with grading and seeding.

Made an offer to a new employee for the Street Department and it was accepted.

One year ago, high winds caused limbs and debris down throughout the city. The State made a disaster declaration which opened funding. We applied and will be receiving \$30,000 back from the State for the \$43,000-\$44,000 that we invested for clean-up. This should be back in the general fund at the end of the month.

Law - Last week we held elections. Congratulates Mr. Chrissman. Thanks Mayor Stahler for his service and both for a campaign well run. Our City Prosecutor, Chrystal Welch and Mr. Estes ran a great campaign. Mr. Estes came out the winner for our Municipal Court Judge in 2024. As a result, we have unfortunately received a letter of resignation from Ms. Welch who will be leaving in June. Publicly thanks her for her service as an excellent prosecutor and a great attorney.

Auditor - No report

Police Chief - Recently we swore in Savarrah Crabtree who had her formal graduation last evening and was awarded as the top scorer on the state testing process.

All of the body worn cameras are in. Waiting to schedule with the vender to get those implemented and set up.

Concerning the Autumn Woods traffic problem, directed our supervisors to directed patrol to set up speed trailer. After keeping track, they were out in the area on 21 occasions for traffic enforcement, resulting in 4 traffic stops. We responded to two (2) reckless drivers that were unfounded. The speed trailer was there on three (3) occasions.

Fire Chief - The aerial ladder is on schedule for July completion, August delivery.

The department took full advantage on the demolition house with two (2) full days of training.

New hire Jimmy Brown completed his fire school last week and has passed the state fire test.

Questions answered.

Engineer- Levan Excavating is currently working on W. Williams and West Street project.

- Bids were also opened for the annual resurfacing program.
- Parks & Rec-** Presents the Bellefontaine Parks and Rec District Master Plan through power point and hand outs with John Freytag, Freytag and Associates and Cindy Driskell, Jacyn Design Group. Council was also given the power point on a flash drive for review.
- Economic Dev-** Not present

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES:

- Finance –** Explained ordinances on the agenda and the removal of Ordinance 23-24 due to the absence of two (2) Finance Committee members.
- Motion to remove Ordinance 23-24 from the agenda moved by Aler, seconded by Reser* *V Ayes*
- Rules -** Explained ordinance on the agenda
- Safety -** No report
- Utilities -** No report
- Streets -** No report
- Sidewalks, Curbs & Parks -** Attended senior meeting last Monday. New push button doors have been installed.
- Audit –** No report

COMMUNICATIONS FROM CITIZENS: Victoria Maddix, 556 E. High Ave. Apt. 2, Bellefontaine. Here as a member of the LBGQT community who have been protesting the attempt of banning drag which she believes is impossible to do without breaking the 1st Amendment. Also, to report that they have been receiving threats from the KKK. Hate against her community is terrible and lack of communication from Council is noticeable. Standing alone against hate. Asks Council to stand against the hate. Hand outs are left for Council. (copy att to clerk’s official minutes)

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES:

1. ORDINANCES FOR 1ST READING

2. ORDINANCES FOR 2ND READING

- 23-23 A. AN ORDINANCE CHANGING THE ZONING CLASSIFICATION OF 929 AND 933 N. MAIN STREET FROM R-3, MULTI-FAMILY RESIDENCE DISTRICT, TO B-3, GENERAL BUSINESS DISTRICT, AMENDING THE ZONING MAP. **RULES**
- 3RR- Moved by Reser, seconded by Lile V Ayes
- Passage-
- Adoption-

3. ORDINANCES FOR 3RD READING

- 23-21 A. AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE CITY AUDITOR TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS FOR A \$5,000 CONTRIBUTION TO THE LUTHERAN COMMUNITY SERVICES FOR ITS NEW FOOD PANTRY PROJECT AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. **FINANCE**
- Adoption- Moved by Aler, seconded by James V Ayes

COMMUNICATIONS FROM CLERK: none

COMMUNICATIONS FROM COUNCIL: none

ADJOURNMENT – 8:05 pm moved by Lile, seconded by Aler

Bonnie Campbell, Clerk of Council

Zeb Wagner, President of Council