

The Council of the City of Vandalia Meeting Minutes

February 6, 2023

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

COUNCILMEMBERS ABSENT: Councilman Robert Ahlers

OTHERS PRESENT: Jerry McDonald, Daniel Wendt, Ben Lewis, Amber Holloway, Angela Swartz, Kristen Carnes, Chief Althouse, Pete Baldauf, Melanie Clark, Riley Clark, Tom Hertlein, Mike Johnston, Dr. Pamela Combs, Jordan Shumaker, Jeff Kreill, Jack Marshall, Alicia McCracken, Whitney Hague, Aaron Messenger, Ben Walker, John Myers, Sharon Hamby, Linda Sheline, Dan & Gianna Cathcart, Larry and Cindy Doogan, Barbara Spurgeon, Tom Grice, Don Hutchison, Rismillers, Clarks, Brian Pohl, Dan Martin, Betty Forte & family.

Mayor Herbst called the council meeting of the Council of the City of Vandalia to order at 7:01 p.m. **Mayor Herbst** called for a moment of reflection followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Previous Minutes:

The Council Study Session Minutes December 5, 2022, Council Meeting Minutes December 5, 2022, Council Study Session Minutes December 19, 2022 and Council Meeting Minutes December 19, 2022 were approved as presented.

Communications, Petitions and Awards:

Proclamation Recognizing Centenarian Betty Forte

Mayor Herbst presented a proclamation to Vandalia resident Betty Forte who recently turned 100 years young.

Public Hearing: None

Comments from Interested Citizens:

Mayor Herbst called for comments from interested citizens asking if anyone who would like to speak, to please state their name and address for the record and provide any comments they may have. **Don Hutchison**, 1058 Bristol Drive, addressed Council expressing his concern about grocery stores.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

Information Items:

Mr. Wendt congratulated Sergeant Doug Nagel on his graduation from the Certified Law Enforcement Executive program. This was a 14-month process that included ten modules and is designed for law enforcement professionals who hold the rank of Sergeant and above. **Mr. Wendt** advised Council he has restructured the City Manager's Office so that IT Manager Davey and IT Division staff will report directly to Assistant City Manager

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Holloway. **Mr. Wendt** advised Council The City of Vandalia has taken possession of 69.1 acres on Webster St. The City acquired the land from Montgomery County. Approximately 18 months ago, Mr. Wendt approached Montgomery County and requested the donation for the purpose of establishing a regional public safety training facility – there is no immediate timeline for this project at this time. Public Service Director Cron, Assistant City Manager Holloway and Law Director McDonald put in a lot of work to get the acquisition over the line. In the case that the project does not get off the ground, the City has accepted the land without use restrictions, meaning it could be leveraged for economic development or possibly residential development, depending on the environmental monitoring status at that time – the landfill cell is to the South.

Action Item: None

Old Business: None

Resolutions:

23-R-06 A Resolution Waiving Competitive Bidding And Authorizing The Continued Contract With Motorola Solutions To Provide Maintenance And Service For The Marcs Radio System For The Division Of Police. **Mr. McDonald** read Resolution 23-R-06 by title. **Mr. Wendt** advised Council The Division of Police purchased three radio consoles and five consolettes from Motorola Solutions in 2015 as part of the upgrade to the Multi-Agency Radio Communications System (MARCS). Following the initial warranties, the City has continued to enter into an annual agreement with Motorola Solutions for the servicing of the hardware and software upgrades. The radio system provides Vandalia Police, Fire and EMS personnel in the field with the ability to communicate with the City's Communications Center as well as other public safety entities on MARCS. Vandalia has received exceptional reliability with Motorola public safety radio equipment since the City's first purchase in 1986. Mr. Wendt recommends City Council waive competitive bidding requirements due to the proprietary nature of the Motorola hardware and software and authorize payment of \$32,388.00 for service dates February 1, 2023, through January 31, 2024, because of the City's critical need to maintain uninterrupted connection with its public safety personnel and other users on MARCS. It was moved by Councilwoman Farst, second by Councilman Blakesly to approve Resolution 23-R-06. Motion passed 6-0.

Ordinances – First Reading:

23-03 An Ordinance To Amend Certain Provisions In The Vandalia Codified Ordinances Relating To Knives In Order To Comply With Changes In The State Law. **Mr. McDonald** read Ordinance 23-03 by title. **Mr. Wendt** advised Council this ordinance will amend certain State law provisions in the Vandalia Codified Ordinances relating to knives

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in order to comply with changes in the State Law. It was moved by Councilman Follick, second by Councilman Blakesly to approve Ordinance 23-03. Motion passed 6-0.

Ordinances – Second Reading: None

Ordinances – Emergency Reading: None

Reports from Boards and Commissions:

Vandalia Arts Council Minutes: December 20, 2022

Mayor Herbst called for comments or questions on the Vandalia Arts Council Minutes from December 20, 2022. There were none.

Council Comments

Mr. Wendt recognized the hard work of the Parks and Recreation Staff, the City Planning Staff and everyone else from the Resident Committee, Steering Committee that participated in the Parks and Recreation Master Plan.

Councilwoman Farst made a motion to excuse Councilman Ahlers from the meetings tonight. Councilman Blakesly seconded the motion. All members present voted yes. Motion passed 6-0. **Councilwoman Farst** noted she appreciates all the hard work that went into the Parks and Recreation Master Plan and would like the opportunity to discuss, as a group, the possible need for a dog park. **Councilwoman Farst** advised the first sculpture in the Public Art Program, using product from a local business Triad, was placed at the Art Park today.

Councilman Follick congratulated Kim Bruce on her retirement. **Councilman Follick** congratulated Sergeant Nagel on his achievement as a designation for C.L.E.E., noting there are less than 600 officers in the State of Ohio. **Councilman Follick** congratulated the Fire Personnel who were recently recognized for their 2022 annual awards, Ben Wilson was recognized as Firefighter of the Year, David Todd as EMS person of the Year, Captain Mike Pinson as Officer of the Year and Noah Van Doesburg as the Rookie of the Year, noting all four of these recipients are part-time employees. **Councilman Follick** referenced the January 20th Blue Letter, pointing out Mr. Wendt highlighted the City Policy Goals that Council has adopted, providing all the performance goals for 2023 for the City Managers office staff and Senior leadership, showing the work the Department heads and staff are being driven to perform and achieve in 2023 to move the organization forward and continue to provide the high level of services for the residents of Vandalia. **Councilman Follick** noted he appreciates the information Mr. Wendt provided and feels the organization and the community will benefit from the process.

Councilman Blakesly echoed Councilwoman Farst and Councilman Follick's message. He shared he really appreciates all the energy and hard work that went into the Parks

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and Recreation Master Plan. **Councilman Blakesly** congratulated Betty Forte on her 100th birthday.

Councilwoman Woods reiterated the Parks and Recreation presentation was done very well and noted the City of Vandalia has an exceptional resource that has lead families with young children to move to the area because of the Park system.

Vice Mayor Lewis noted the Parks and Recreation study is really phenomenal and hopes it is an incredibly useful tool. He recognized the City Manager and staff for working hard to receive the 69.1-acre donation from Montgomery County.

Mayor Herbst echoed the previous Councilmembers comments and added he would like to congratulate Kim Bruce on her retirement and Betty Forte on her 100th birthday.

The Regular meeting was adjourned at 7:24 p.m.

APPROVED:

Richard Herbst, Mayor

ATTEST:

Angela Swartz, Deputy Clerk of Council