

The Council of the City of Vandalia Meeting Minutes

February 20, 2023

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

COUNCILMEMBERS ABSENT: Mayor Richard Herbst, Councilwoman Candice Farst and Councilman Robert Ahlers.

OTHERS PRESENT: Jerry McDonald, Daniel Wendt, Darren Davey, Amber Holloway, Angela Swartz, Bridgette Leiter, Kristen Carnes, Chief Althouse, Ben Walter, Brandon Sucher, Mike Hammes, Amy Hoffman, Peter Breidenbach, Lisa Sellars, Holly Wiggins, Ben Licklitter, Jeff Kreill, Amber Weaver, Jack Shirley, Margues & Terri Jones, James Frye, Larry and Cindy Doogan, Barbara Spurgeon, Tom Grice and Don Hutchison.

Vice Mayor Lewis called the council meeting of the Council of the City of Vandalia to order at 7:00 p.m. **Vice Mayor Lewis** called for a moment of reflection followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Previous Minutes:

The Council Study Session Minutes January 3, 2023, Council Meeting Minutes January 3, 2023, Council Study Session Minutes January 17, 2023 and Council Meeting Minutes January 17, 2023 were approved as presented.

Communications, Petitions and Awards:

Introduction and Oath of Office: Firefighter/Paramedic/Inspector Gage Duvall

City Manager Wendt introduced and administered the Oath of Office to Firefighter/Paramedic/Inspector Gage Duvall who began employment February 1, 2023.

Introduction and Oath of Office: Firefighter/Paramedic/Inspector

Noah Van Doesburg

City Manager Wendt will introduce and administer the Oath of Office to Firefighter/Paramedic/Inspector Noah Van Doesburg who began employment February 2, 2023.

Introduction and Oath of Office: Firefighter/Paramedic/Inspector Marque Jones

City Manager Wendt will introduce and administer the Oath of Office to Firefighter/Paramedic/Inspector Marque Jones who began employment February 9, 2023.

Public Hearing:

Vice Mayor Lewis advised there are two public hearings on the agenda for tonight.

First Public Hearing: Miami Valley Communications Council Electric Aggregation Program.

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Vice Mayor Lewis open the February 20, 2023 public hearing for Electric Aggregation.

Pursuant O.R.C. Sections 4928.20 (C) and call on the City Manager for an introduction.

Mr. Wendt gave a brief introduction explaining the Electric Aggregation Plan of Operation and the governance program document. **Mr. Wendt** advised Council there will be a second public hearing on March 6th.

Vice Mayor Lewis called for comments from members of the audience who would like to speak for or against the Plan of Operation or the Electric Aggregation in general, to please state their name and address for the record and provide any comments they may have. There were no comments from interested citizens. The public hearing was closed.

First Public Hearing: Miami Valley Communications Council Natural Gas Aggregation Program

Vice Mayor Lewis open the February 20, 2023 public hearing for Natural Gas Aggregation. Pursuant O.R.C. Sections 4929.26 (C) and call on the City Manager for an introduction. Mr. Wendt gave a brief introduction explaining the Natural Gas Aggregation Plan of Operation and the governance program document. **Mr. Wendt** advised Council there will be a second public hearing on March 6th.

Vice Mayor Lewis called for comments from members of the audience who would like to speak for or against the Plan of Operation or the Natural Gas Aggregation in general, to please state their name and address for the record and provide any comments they may have. There were no comments from interested citizens. The public hearing was closed.

Comments from Interested Citizens:

Vice Mayor Lewis 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. There were no comments from interested citizens.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

Information Items:

Mr. Wendt congratulated Mr. Cody Booher who has been appointed next Supervisor in the Public Works Division. **Mr. Wendt** stated he looks forward to introducing Mr. Booher at a future Council meeting. **Mr. Wendt** informed Council the Public Works Division took delivery of the new combination jet / vacuum truck this week and it is parked in outside of the Municipal Building on display for Council and members of the audience to view. This piece of equipment has been slated in the capital improvement plan for many years and by buying a 2022 model, the City saved \$56,000 from what was budgeted. This truck will improve the efficiency on many projects as well as providing a safer way to

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excavate around other utilities. **Mr. Wendt** shared Friday, February 24th is the Employee Service Awards luncheon, which will be held at Cassel Hills Golf Course Clubhouse from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Many employees will be recognized for their service to the City of Vandalia, with a combined total of 395 years of service.

Action Item: None

Old Business: None

Resolutions:

23-R-07 A Resolution Authorizing The Purchase Of A John Deere 1575 Terrain Cut Mower With Snow Blower And Broom Attachment, Requested By The Parks And Recreation Department At The State Of Ohio Contract Bid Price And Requesting Council Declare The Current 2000 John Deere 1145 Model Terrain Cut Mower Being Replaced Surplus Property. **Mr. McDonald** read Resolution 23-R-07 by title. **Mr. Wendt** advised the Parks and Recreation Department is requesting to purchase a John Deere Terrain Cut Mower with Snow Blower and Broom Attachments from Deer & Company through the State of Ohio Purchasing Contract #800750-STS515AG at a total cost of \$40,474.72, after trade-in. The 2023 capital budget has \$75,000 allocated for the purchase based on a price quote received during our budget preparation process. This specialty piece of equipment provides versatility in one machine as the unit will mow grass, blow snow and broom sidewalks, pathways and parking lots. The park maintenance division's current Terrain Cut Mower is a 2000 John Deere 1145 model with 822 hours of service. We are proposing to trade in the current model as part of the purchase. It was moved by Councilman Follick, second by Councilman Blakesly to approve Resolution 23-R-07. Motion passed 4-0.

23-R-08 A Resolution Authorizing The Purchase Of A Three (3) John Deere 950m Zero Turn Mowers At The State Of Ohio Contract Bid Price And Requesting Council Declare Two Current 2007 John Deere 757 Models Being Replaced Surplus Property.

Mr. McDonald read Resolution 23-R-08 by title. **Mr. Wendt** advised the Parks and Recreation Department is requesting to purchase three (3) John Deere 950M Zero Turn Mowers from Deer & Company through the State of Ohio Purchasing Contract #800750-STS515AG at a total cost of \$32,471.09, after trade-in. The 2023 capital budget has \$30,000 allocated for the purchase. The balance of funds for the purchase would come from Terrain Cut Mower purchase remaining balance to cover the additional expense for the three (3) zero turn units. **Mr. Wendt** advised the purchase will include the trade-in of two (2) 2007 John Deere 757 Model units with 1358 and 1700 operating hours. The third unit being replaced had no trade-in value due to the condition of the motor, therefore, the Parks and Recreation Department plans to keep this unit for parts and eventually scrape

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the remains of the unit. It was moved by Councilwoman Woods, second by Councilman Blakesly to approve Resolution 23-R-08. Motion passed 4-0.

23-R-09 A Resolution Waiving The Formal Bidding Process And Authorizing The Purchase Of Three (3) High Capacity Smart Waste And Recycling Units From Bigbelly Llc, Of Needham Ma At The Proposal Price Of \$34,541.50. **Mr. McDonald** read Resolution 23-R-09 by title. **Mr. Wendt** advised the Parks and Recreation Department is the recipient of a Montgomery County Solid Waste District Waste Reduction/Recycling Grant in the amount of \$22,287.65 for the purchase of three (3) High Capacity Smart Waste & Recycling Units from BigBelly LLC of Needham, MA. The City's share of the cost of the units is \$12,253.85 for a grand total project cost of \$34,541.50. **Mr. Wendt** advised Bigbelly's HC5 is a smart, solar-powered, compacting waste and recycling station. This compacting model holds 5-10X real capacity over an average traditional waste bin. It is equipped with sensors that monitor and report fullness levels and collection activity. It harvests solar power to compact waste and communicate its real-time status. All units will include lifecycle cloud-based software that will allow for communications concerning real-time status of the units. The Bigbelly system will allow for cleaner public spaces, increase maintenance staff productivity and measurable sustainability with the installation of double stations (landfill waste and recycling) at our busiest parks. The units will be placed at the Art Park, Sports Complex and Helke Park and will provide smart, connected waste and recycling stations that keep waste contained and report fullness status to collection crews to enable increased productivity. Staff is anticipating up to 80% collection reduction in addition to cleanliness, operational, economic, and environmental benefits as a result of this project. All three (3) units will be custom wrapped and have a foot pedal for a hands-free option. The City of Vandalia will receive a check in the amount of \$22,287.65 from Montgomery County once the project is completed. It was moved by Councilman Blakesly, second by Councilman Follick to approve Resolution 23-R-09. Motion passed 4-0.

23-R-10 A Resolution Authorizing The City Manager To Purchase Intrado's Viper Phone System To Replace The Current Phone System That Was Damaged By Water In The Amount Of \$121,851.02. **Mr. McDonald** read Resolution 23-R-10 by title. **Mr. Wendt** advised On December 25, 2022, the Vandalia Division of Police's Intrado Viper 911 emergency telephone system was catastrophically damaged by water when the Justice Center's sprinkler system's pipes ruptured. This phone system provides 9-1-1, TXT2 9-1-1 and non-emergency phone services for police, fire, and EMS calls for service. VPD's Communications Center is operational utilizing a borrowed, older Intrado telephone system from another local government entity while waiting for a new replacement system. Members of the Division of Police and IT Division researched replacement phone systems

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and received demonstrations and cost proposals from Intrado for the Viper phone system and Motorola for the VESTA phone system. After evaluating features and service for both systems, we believe the Intrado Viper emergency telephone system provides the best option for purchase and replacement of our phone system. **Mr. Wendt** advised the Intrado's Viper emergency telephone system is familiar to our public safety specialists, replaces the damaged Intrado system we have been utilizing for the past six years and continues to meet the needs of the Division. Intrado provides excellent service and is responsive to any service needs we have. Intrado's Viper emergency telephone system is approximately one-half the cost of Motorola's VESTA system and has lower annual maintenance costs. The installation time for Intrado's system is much shorter than Motorola's system. **Mr. Wendt** requested City Council waive the competitive bid process and approve an emergency resolution authorizing the Division of Police to purchase the Intrado's Viper emergency telephone system to meet the public safety needs of our community. This purchase is not a 2023 budget item but will be submitted with the insurance claim filed with MVRMA from the water damage for reimbursement. The total purchase and installation cost is \$121,851.02, which includes the first-year warranty. It was moved by Councilman Blakesly, second by Councilwoman Woods to approve Resolution 23-R-10. Motion passed 4-0.

Ordinances – First Reading: None

Ordinances – Second 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 in the second reading. **Mr. Wendt** advised this ordinance will amend certain provisions in the Vandalia Codified Ordinances relating to knives in order to comply with changes in the State law. **Mr. Wendt** advised this is largely a housekeeping matter in order to ensure that Vandalia Codified Ordinances are not in conflict with Ohio Revised Code. It was moved by Councilwoman Woods, second by Councilman Follick to approve Ordinance 23-03. Motion passed 4-0.

Ordinances – Emergency Reading:

23-04 An Ordinance Approving Individual Assessments Amounts And Directing The Finance Director Or Her Designee To Certify The Amounts To The County Auditor For Collection And Declaring An Emergency. **Mr. Wendt** advised per the City Charter, five Councilmembers must be present to pass an emergency ordinance. **Mr. McDonald** advised this ordinance will be heard as a first reading tonight and considered for final adoption by City Council of Vandalia, Ohio on Monday, March 6, 2023. **Mr. McDonald** read Ordinance 23-04 by title in a first reading. **Mr. Wendt** advised this ordinance assesses properties for delinquent accounts related to storm water fees, trash collection,

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delinquent sewer & water, and weed cutting. It was moved by Councilman Follick, second by Councilman Blakesly to approve Ordinance 23-04. Motion passed 4-0.

Reports from Boards and Commissions: None

Vice Mayor Lewis reviewed the January Bill Listing in the amount of \$3,405,644.30, the list of January Expenses over \$50,000, and the January Purchasing Card Detail in the amount of \$10,463.33. He solicited comments or questions. There were none.

Council Comments

Mr. Wendt noted a correction on the agenda for the Executive Session for the second item, to consider certain personnel matters, not personal matters.

Councilman Follick congratulated Chief Althouse on his appointment to serve as the Vice President of the Ohio Association of Chiefs of Police noting it is great to have our Police Chief in a leadership role at the OACP at the State level for the next three years. Councilman Follick shared he was thrilled to see the new Firefighters sworn in tonight, noting during the budget process, there was a lot of discussion about fire department staffing. He added Council committed to adding six full-time positions, three of those positions as promotions and backfilling those open positions, making the Fire Department less dependent on part-time staffing and more dependent on full-time staffing making this a good balance to provide services to the Community.

Councilman Blakesly made a motion to excuse Mayor Herbst, Councilman Ahlers and Councilwoman Farst from the meetings tonight. All members present voted yes. Motion passed 4-0.

At 7:32 p.m., **Vice Mayor Lewis** noted it is recommended that Council enter into an Executive Session to consider the purchase of real property and consider certain personnel matters relating to the employment of a public employee. **Vice Mayor Lewis** advised the audience Council will adjourn to Executive Session. It was moved by Councilman Follick, seconded by Councilman Blakesly, to adjourn into Executive Session. Councilwoman Woods voted yes, Councilman Blakesly voted yes, Councilman Follick voted yes, and Vice Mayor Lewis voted yes. Motion passed 4-0. Council adjourned into Executive Session at 7:32 p. m.

At 7:51 p.m., Vice Mayor Lewis reconvened the regular council meeting. It was moved by Councilman Follick, seconded by Councilman Blakesly, to amend the meeting agenda to add 23-R-11, a resolution authorizing the transfer of certain real property to

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the City via a donation by the property owner. Councilman Blakesly voted yes, Councilman Follick voted yes, Councilwoman Woods voted yes, and Vice Mayor Lewis voted yes. Motion passed 4-0.

Mr. McDonald read Resolution 23-R-11 by title. **Mr. Wendt** advised Council the 16.1568 acres of land located on Northwoods Blvd, east of the shopping plaza, has been on the market for numerous years and the City has been working with Midland Atlantic to secure a donation of the land. **Mr. Wendt** advised the purpose of the land is to be used for a public purpose and the primary intention is to put a Public Works Facility on the land. It can be used for other public purposes and if the City does not want the property after ten years or would like to pursue a different purpose, the City can choose to do whatever they want with the land. **Mr. Wendt** advised Council there is an easement from North Brown School to Northwoods and there is no intention to connect these roads, stating if a Public Works facility is built on the property, he does anticipate a gated access for the facility, buffered by the park space from the residences and the access would only be used in responding to emergencies by Public Works or by Public Safety. It was moved by Councilman Follick, second by Councilman Blakesly to approve Resolution 23-R-11. Motion passed 4-0.

The Regular meeting was closed at 7:55 p.m.

APPROVED:

David Lewis, Vice Mayor

ATTEST:

Angela Swartz, Deputy Clerk of Council

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