

# Canal Winchester

*Town Hall  
10 North High Street  
Canal Winchester, OH 43110*



## Meeting Minutes - FINAL

March 21, 2022

6:00 PM

### Council Work Session

*Bob Clark - Chair  
Laurie Amick  
Jill Amos  
Chuck Milliken  
Patrick Shea  
Mike Walker  
Ashley Ward*

**A. Call To Order**

*Clark called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.*

**B. Roll Call**

*Present 7 – Amick, Amos, Clark, Milliken, Shea, Walker, Ward*

**C. Also In Attendance**

*Mayor Ebert, Matt Peoples, Lucas Haire, Amanda Jackson, Bill Sims*

**D. Reports of City Staff**

*Bill Sims*

*Sims - We're working a lot on the 45 E. Waterloo, new city hall building this week as we are working toward starting to physically move on Friday and open on Monday the 28<sup>th</sup> in that building. So, there is a lot of activity over there with contractors, also with our folks as we're starting to get some furniture items in there from the other building, things of that nature and basically, getting prepared for the move as well. I see a lot of the offices are packed up now in the existing building. So that is progressing and at this point it looks like that schedule that we put out there is going to work. There will probably still moving to be done, non-essential type things, non-priority things, after we're in there. We should have really other than the Friday of physical moving, that should be the only down time to services in the city hall. Gender Road Phase 5 - you've probably seen some traffic signal work ongoing there at Canal Street and Gender Road. We did have two issues with the traffic signal poles. One is being resolved at the contractor Jard, the manufacturer is coming there to fix an arm and the other is more significant than a pole, it has to be remanufactured. We are expecting to see that early April so they can get wrapped up. In the meantime, we are finishing everything else that we can up to that point, there's only that delayed work that's going to happen at that point. McGill Park - work has been under way out there. They've been working on the playground, installing slides and building the walking bridge in the playground area as well. The parking lot lighting is complete. At this point lighting is on the soccer shelter well so we are progressing toward getting things complete out there hopefully within this next month. All the mulch is piled up out there needs to be moved into the playground as well. As soon as were done with physical work in the playground that will get moved into place. The McGill Park lift station is part of the utility project, we've dealing with some issues on the lift station. I think the last site visit will be Thursday to run through and make sure everything is working exactly the way it should and then we will have that job wrapped up. The contractor for the trail project is actually going to be on site starting tomorrow and working on some restoration issues. We did restoration kind of late in the year last year so they're coming back to address a number of things that they couldn't do because of the weather at that time. The 2022 street program, we had bid opening for that project. Decker Construction is the apparent low and there is legislation for you folks to consider later on in this meeting. Also, you will see legislation for the 36 S. High renovation to convert to a substation this evening as well. A private project – you should have seen some activity on the 29 W. Waterloo site right around the corner here as they work to extend the water line across the street into the site. There still will be a little bit of disturbance in the road way here in the next couple of weeks as they still have the two old water services for the houses that used to sit there that need to be abandoned at the main so those will be just small isolated holes on one side of the road. There will traffic control on those days as well. Right-of- way work, been working with AT&T pretty much all winter on a number of areas that are going to be running fiber so they're starting to get things wrapped up and paying fees and bonds. So, we are expecting to see those jobs go this summer They'll be extending fiber into a couple of subdivisions as well as some of their backbone stuff, even here on W. Waterloo St. Any questions?*

*Amos – Are we paying somebody to move this stuff or are we doing it ourselves?*

*Sims – We are doing it ourselves.*

*Amos – That is lovely.*

*Sims – It is working out fine. At this point when you break it down and look at what it would take to move a office it's not an insurmountable task. It is pretty reasonable. There's just a number of them. The big plus is we are not moving all the furniture so it's a lot more manageable, it's more boxes than very large items that need to be disassembled and reassembled.*

*Amos – The items that are remaining, that we're not moving. Additional desks or things that are not coming with us. What's the plan? Are we doing federal surplus?*

*Sims – We will take the best of those and re-use them for the substation. We won't take the old metal desks out of this building and re-use those so we have a fair amount of furniture at 36 and from the old community center as well so we will repurpose those and*

then I guess we will evaluate. There is a couple of things that are not worth trying to sell off. I mean you probably couldn't even move them very well without damaging them. There may be a few pieces to get rid of.

Amos – Then on the 36 S. High renovation, I know I see the bid coming up later or the request to waive competitive bidding, did you create a list that you're asking them to work off of or are you asking them to come in from scratch and create the work list?

Sims – I created a set of criteria essentially for the project based on what we looked at, discussions with the Sheriff's office as well so we know what the needs are that we are trying to meet. Actually, we worked up three independent options, initially this would have been last year that we looked at internally. Some of them were pretty robust so the dollar price tag estimates were pretty high. We essentially settled on the most basic of changes necessary to get the Sheriffs into a better space.

Amos – Roof on the 36 and this building, were they able to fix the repairs and the leaks that were coming in?

Sims – That would probably be a question more directed to Matt. The street department is primarily involved in the roof work.

Peoples – We had a contractor, the roof on this is over 20 years old and probably will need to be replaced. There were some repairs that were done to it. The roof on the other one is only about 5 years old and they think it was on the skylight over there that was not part of the replacement on the roof. So, they did some sealing on that.

Shea – The contractors with the pole snafu, the city is not going to incur an additional expense correct?

Sims – Are you referring to the AT&T pole on Trine Street?

Shea – The street light poles up at Gender 5

Sims – That is correct. It is a manufacturing error.

Shea – Did I see a zipline at McGill Park?

Sims – Yes, that is correct.

Shea – I did get some feedback about the McGill Park lights. Folks are concerned about how much light they're throwing off at night. Do we have a plan to use them when we need them and minimize the light pollution out there?

Sims – We are looking at some options there which was always our intent. We fired them up because we wanted to see them because they were done so we had them on for a few days. The lights themselves are actually are great to be honest with you. They are exactly what we intended for them to be. They're not necessarily shedding light off the site as much as it becomes really obvious that there is lights there because it was always pitch black on that side of the road in that area and now there's lights, a bunch of lights. The warm color of the lights, is very similar to our downtown lighting so even though they are LED, they are probably 2700 kelvin, they're not too white in color. So, we are looking at ways to reduce the amount of lighting that's on overnight which would help residents that are looking out their window at it as well as electrical costs. Currently, our parks are typically open till dark. That park will probably move into later hours, as other portions of it are finished but initially it will be closing at dark. So, they will have all the parking lot lighting on overnight seems like overkill. There are multiple circuits out there so we are going to look at the ways to adjust those.

Shea – I didn't know you were doing a test run. They just said WOW.

Sims – I understand that, I mean if you looked out your window and you saw darkness or a single security light for decades, and now it's a parking lot. Absolutely, it is very different. You probably won't have the opportunity until we turn them back on but taking a look up at them at night the lighting is actually very similar to our downtown lighting as far as the color goes and they are designed not to shed light across the roads.

Shea – I always liked the downtown lights. It just feels warm and inviting and not so like industrial bright lights in your face.

Sims – So if you drive down the road, you will notice there are many 5000 kelvin lights out there that are extremely white and extremely bright. Much brighter than our lights are for sure but that is why we have the sodium lights in town here because it creates a warm comfortable feeling and that's very similar out there. I was actually glad to see where we were able achieve that

with the LEDs. I think you may have seen some of the street light replacements around town done by the electric company and you can see a drastic difference there but those are like a 5500-kelvin light. They are very, very white.

Shea – You're talking about excess furniture. At some point, Council Chambers is moving. All these beautiful wood chairs here, can we do something crazy like donate them to the historical society and let them sell them for a fundraiser?

Ebert – We are going to re-use them.

Shea – Worth a shot. Then the emergencies if we agree to the emergency stuff tonight on your legislations that, allows you to lock in prices right now so you're not looking at anymore increases?

Sims – On the street program, the emergency allows us to begin the contract work right now because we have those definite time frames we have to abide by in order to get the notice to proceed issued on time within the requirements of the contract and law. Then yes, on the 36 S. High that gets us moving on our prices. We had initial cost estimate of \$138,000. We sat down, we had some conversations and an idea sharing session. They worked up so much of VE options based on that and so we can drive it down as far as about 126 with the decisions that we make. Repurposing furniture, for instance is one big one because we were initially I had in built counters for work areas where as we could use furniture. Mismatch maybe but it's still in good condition.

Shea – In your mind, Decker is absolutely the best way to go on that one?

Sims – Yes, all of our bidders have done street programs for us successfully in the past. I felt very good about the bidders we had. Decker has done the project and some other projects for us over the years. No qualms at all with Decker, they have proven themselves in the past.

Amick – The 36 S. High project, the bid from Ferguson was \$130K with not to exceed clause on that. Do we know there won't be any surprises in that building like the need to do asbestos abatement or any additional clean up and if so, would that just be a change order or has that already been explored?

Sims – If there were something that was unforeseen or unforeseeable for them then it could possibly be a change order certainly. With the scope of that project and as close as they have looked at it, I don't anticipate that. The last remodel isn't that old, quite frankly. From our removal stand point, we're looking at a patrician wall and then the reconstruction is one short segment a wall of with two doors. From that stand point I don't expect to see much of an issue. We considered a lot of other things as well. Trying to tie in and match existing items in there without getting crazy about redecorating the entire building. The first floor there are some challenges there but we have seen that. That is a very unique carpet for instance. We are not going to match that carpet so we are going to have to take out that lobby area carpet for sure. There is very lovely wallpaper in most of that first floor. Again, we won't be able to match that so were going to have to strip the wallpaper and paint it.

Amick – Does the price already include a contingency on their part should something change or will it be 100% a change order required?

Sims – We do not have a contingency line item here. Again, I think the scope is so small at this point even if we were to take 10%, we are talking about \$10,000. That's a pretty significant amount, there's not many \$10,000 single work items in there. My explanation is, I have said \$130K, plus or minus but I think it can be lower than that. I kind of just picked the middle of the road as a go between number. We were at somewhere between \$126 and \$138 so that seems reasonable. If we choose not to choose every value engineering option, we can do that.

Amos – When you said the park closes at dark, as we think about the park closing, is somebody physically shutting gates? I know I saw the things across it this weekend but is somebody going to be closing that at night or is it just going to be an honors system when we officially go live?

Sims – Right now, there is no gate anticipated. Most of our parks you can physically go into even though they're technically closed. I am sure that probably will become part of a route for the later shifts for deputies, for sure. At some point we will have security cameras installed as well, I would expect not too far down the road. Right now, there is no plan for a gate.

Amos – That's perfect, I just wanted to make sure we weren't committing to.

Ebert – All of our parks have that rule now.

Amos – That is what I thought. You said closed at dark I just wanted to make sure we weren't having people come in to shut gates.

Sims – That is correct. I'd suppose we have occasional people wonder in afterwards but gates are great for keeping vehicles out but they don't necessarily keep people out. They do prevent others from circling in there but it's probably better for it to be open and being on some type of patrol schedule.

Ebert – There will be a point once we start putting baseball fields in, because one of them is going to be lighted, the park will no longer be closed at dark. And when the event center goes in way in the back, it will no longer close at dark.

Sims – Even when we get to the three seasons shelter, that facility may not have to close at dark either.

Amos – Outstanding. It looks great.

## E. Request for Council Action

### RES-22-009

Mayor

A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE MAYOR'S APPOINTMENT OF MATTHEW PEOPLES TO SERVE A TWO-YEAR TERM AS A TRUSTEE OF THE CANAL WINCHESTER INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE CORPORATION EXPIRING ON MARCH 21, 2024.

- Request to move to full Council

Ebert – I can't think of a better or more qualified person than Matt. He meets and exceeds all the qualifications as a resident and a city employee and for business in town. I don't think of anyone else that would fit the category such as a council member or whatever else it was. Planning and zoning manager, city solicitor, nothing against you, city engineer. I think Matt fits the cases as well as anybody. He knows infrastructure, knows all about water and sewer, he knows where the right a ways are, where the easements are. So, all of that would be very helpful to this commissions so that is my biggest reason for appointing Matt.

Amos – Did he accept it?

Ebert – I don't he's spoken yet. He's waiting for you to say something.

Amos – I'll motion to move it before he has a chance to change his mind.

**A motion was made by Amos, seconded by Ward to move RES-22-009 to full Council. The motion carried with the following vote:**

**Yes 7 – Amos, Ward, Amick, Clark, Milliken, Shea, Walker**

### ORD-22-009

Construction Services

AN ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH DECKER CONSTRUCTION COMPANY FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE 2022 STREET PROGRAM PROJECT AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

- Request to move to full Council

Sims – We did open the bids for this project on March 11<sup>th</sup> and utilizing our new online program for excepting and proceeding bids. When we make a plug for that we will really save a lot of time and effort all the way around for us and contractors. It is going to be a good tool. Moving forward we received several good bids with contractors we have worked with in the past. In this case, the lowest bid was Decker Construction and we also felt confident to call them the lowest and best in this project. We've also attached a summary of those bids to the ordinance for your review, prices from the other contractors and also the recommendation from EMH&T. So, we went back obviously and made sure all the paperwork is correct and double check all the math. So, again we have a work history with Decker on projects here in the village of the past. And I'd like to request that Council move forward with awarding that project.

Shae – How much did your cost of asphalt go up this year from last?

*Sims – Well, they are up about 25%. We were quite frankly very fortunate, some of the more recent projects that were opened. We are usually very early in the bidding process for our local communities on these types of projects. We were a little bit later this year, it was a little delayed with getting the Bid Express process set up, make sure it was in place the way we needed it. So, there were a couple of other projects that had opened that we could refer back to and they were kind of seeing 25% across the board actually on cost. We actually came in just under our estimates. So, they were conservative, we are anticipating some change. Asphalt prices definitely are up. I think the numbers we were seeing and the bid tabulation were very good. I think we are very fortunate. I don't know if we hit the right time possibly, where there is maybe not so much uncertainty possibly as earlier in the year but I was a little concerned we wouldn't be able to do the alternate, the Trine Street portion, because we wouldn't have the money but the prices came in well enough we are going to be able to do that as well.*

***A motion was made by Amick, seconded by Amos to move ORD-22-009 to full Council. The motion carried with the following vote:***

***Yes 7 – Amick, Amos, Clark, Milliken, Shea, Walker, Ward***

**ORD-22-010**

*Construction Services*

AN ORDINANCE TO WAIVE COMPETITIVE BIDDING FOR THE 36 S. HIGH ST. SUBSTATION REMODEL PROJECT AND TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR AND FINANCE DIRECTOR TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH FERGUSON CONSTRUCTION COMPANY AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

*- Request to move to full Council*

*Sims – The desire to convert 36 S. High into the new substation has been out there since we started the process really with the McDorman building. The question on what to do with 36 has been there and that was one of the ideas that definitely had traction. I think if you've have been downstairs here you can see that its maybe not the best working environment for the deputies. It's also not real friendly for the public quite frankly if you need to go down and have some discussions, you are entering a musty basement. Not that pleasant so I think it's a great choice to make 36 available for that use. Obviously much better work environment for the deputies but also for that interaction and a presence in our community. That's a lot more prominent for sure so to that end we looked at making that conversion and understanding that there is a lot of cost involved in that and we wanted to try minimize the amount of work that had to be done to make it a secure location and that was going to fit properly with the number of people they have. I think we've done that, I think we have pretty much knocked out everything extra on that and that's pretty much a bare bones remodel at this point but it will provide for sure a better situation for folks that need to visit the substation. I know I drive by here regularly and see folks standing outside waiting, looking in the window, knocking on the glass, I'm not sure if they can see someone. Of course, if you are a single deputy there and you are on the phone, puts you in a bind as well if it's raining. So, people can come enter a building now and they will be able to come to an actual entry point where they can be greeted by someone at a window. Then the decision can be made, can handle the situation right there at the service window or do they need to come in. There will be access into a meeting room for a public and for the deputies from two different entrances keeping it secure space as well so people don't have to enter the entire substation just sit down with you. It also provides for much better scenarios and things like the evidence room, area for a deputy door, or for a detective to work. There is enough area there they can use it for Community Watch if they have to get their folks together, go over things, a meeting or something of that nature. There is plenty of room for that. It's going to be a good project. We knocked out as much of the extras as we possibly could, get down to bare bone and then we tried to leverage our good working relationship with the contractor we have in town working on the other building to get this done. At this point we have put this together in such a manner we have minimal costs in trying to get this out on the street to get some pricing on it and finding a contractor that was interested in it. I think we got an excellent price on the work to be done. I think we are getting value with our relationship with the contractor and knowing how we can work together on trying to find those VE options, what we will accept, what we won't. My estimation is we move forward in another manner I guess my opinion is anyway that were going to be in for more costs quite frankly. Literally even just putting together formalized plans and try to do it as a design-bid-build project, we're looking at expenses there that we just aren't going to get back on any kind of cost savings. It's my desire that you'd move that forward for Council's consideration tonight.*

*Shea – In your opinion, as the director construction services and as a resident of the city, you are very confident in what you've done here?*

*Sims – That’s the interest. To do what’s best for the city. I think this is the best possible scenario. I’m not saying we couldn’t go out, we certainly could. We’re probably going to have to go out and spend some money up front just to have more legitimate criteria documents from a professional.*

*Shea – You’re the expert.*

*Sims – Yeah.*

*Shea – I trust you. You’re the expert, but you tell me this is the best, this is the best. That’s all I need to hear from you.*

*Sims – That is my recommendation, that is correct.*

*Clark – I guess I will just add, I think this is smart from a stand point that we’ve got a good contractor here already and we are using, that we’re leveraging that they’re already here and I think they can realize they can do the work while they got the work for us and they got the equipment and everything here. Not having somebody else bring all that in and incur all that cost on top of the construction. So, I agree. I think we got a good deal.*

**A motion was made by Shea, seconded by Milliken to move ORD-22-010 to full Council. The motion carried with the following vote:**

**Yes 7 – Shea, Milliken, Amick, Amos, Clark, Walker, Ward**

**ORD-22-011**

**Public Service**

**AN ORDINANCE TO UPDATE THE SWIMMING POOL RATES**

**- Request to move to full Council**

*Peoples – This is an ordinance to amend the swimming pool membership rates, daily admission. A lot of this has to do or really addresses some of the conditions we had last year and I’ll jump right to the daily admission rates. First of all, some of the problems we experienced last year, if some of you remember we had daily rates. There were just some behavioral issues that we had at the pool. There was some interference with the swim team. There were fights there. There was quite of bit of unruly behavior and we kind of tracked it back to daily rates. If you remember we actually shut down daily rates and went memberships only last year right around 4<sup>th</sup> of July. Which obviously takes away from some of our revenue for that. I don’t know what we were but we were probably 75% or less of revenue than what we would have been. Looking at the daily rates, it was a \$5 flat fee. We have put in the model and are proposing to go with the resident, non-resident just the same as what we have on the memberships themselves. Another item on there was the after 5 p.m. rates. Eliminating the \$2 discount for after 5 p.m. and going with the full rate, not providing a discount. Again, that goes back to most of the troubles that we had last year were also after 5 o’clock. We have moved it from 6 o’clock to 5o’clock probably about 6 or 8 years ago. Up to last year we some intermittent problems but last year was just horrible as far as that goes. That is what the daily admission rates and then just doing the resident, non-resident to match up with the memberships. On to the memberships, we proposed some changes in that where before it was basically just flat rates for an entire family to be able to go in there. Mrs. Jackson and Mrs. Williams in finance spent countless hours trying to figure out who was a family, who was supposed to be on a pass, who was not supposed to be on a pass. This was the model we had. I think it was 2017 we changed it and there were, it might’ve been before that, it might’ve been the same time we did the 6 p.m. to 5 p.m. We had a per family. We tried to ease it in, try to make it more simple and not have to worry about the accounting of it. The last couple of years it just has been getting worse as far as the amount of time being spent on it. Additionally, previously we had a manager for the pool basically knew all the kids and all the families that were here. The families that we did have or the way we had it set up before it was Canal Winchester city and school district residents only. Back in 2017 we changed it to just resident, non-resident to be able to get some more people coming in. Those are the big additions or big changes proposed for that and I’d be happy to answer any questions.*

*Jackson – I’d like to add a couple of things. Included in your packet along with the new ordinance is the old ordinance to allow you to compare. So, as you can see when we broke out the family membership based on the size of the household, we used a household of 4 as sort of our basis point. That is the same rate that it was previously for a household of 4 so if you have less than that the rate is actually less than it was in previous years. If you have a family larger than that it will cost you a little bit more. And we also changed the definition of a household. It used to be 2 adults and dependent children and under the age of 18. We have increased that age to 22 to allow for maybe a college student who is home for the summer to be on their families pass as a member of their household. So, we are trying to make a few changes to, as Mr. Peoples said, make it a little bit easier for us to verify that a family unit is a family unit. Minimize those trying to add individuals that are not member of their households onto a pass, things along those lines.*

*Ward – You talked about the resident and the school district. So, is that what it was considered a resident and now were changing that to exclude those that are in the school district but not in Canal Winchester?*

*Peoples – No, I'm sorry. The previous to 2017, the attendance criteria was a resident of the city or the school district and that's it. In 2017, we changed it to basically a resident of the city and then a non-resident. I know a South Bloomfield family had a membership here and they had called and I remember conversation with them in the past.*

*Jackson – The challenge is that the individuals who worked at the pool don't know our boundaries. As long as their ID said Canal Winchester they were getting into the pool. So, the resident, non-resident, and moving to more of an electronic process, has helped us determine who actually is a resident, who is a non-resident. It just clarified things. It made things easier for the kids at the pool to do that.*

*Peoples – Another thing I forgot What we are looking at implementing is registration for day passes. So, regardless you'll still be able to get a day pass but you'll have to register on our website. Basically, pay there. It'll make the front desk a whole lot quicker and easier. You'll have to print out or have it on your phone and show them and scan a barcode. Another reason to the easier operation up front would but also let us know who is in there so we can identify some people and exclude them if they are part of the trouble makers that we may have.*

*Amos – Last year at the end of the season I thought we said didn't lose a whole bunch. Do you have like a guesstimate on what we lost last year?*

*Jackson – I can tell you what we lost last year but it is not going to paint an accurate picture because we spent a lot of money on capital at the pool. We had the pool painted, I believe. We also put in the sun shades so it's really not the full picture but last year we lost \$71,000 on the pool. That is going to vary from year to year based on whatever capital needs we have.*

*Amos – For me, I think the pool is a community, it's a benefit, it's a perk, it's awesome. We are lucky to have one. I question whether \$8 is enough with all the trouble that we had last year. You have Groveport is \$12, Jackson Lake down the road is \$15 so our two biggest competitors are over \$10. I am not sure that we are charging enough to help keep it out. I do like the pre-registration. Can they register same day?*

*Peoples – Yes, same day. It just has to be registered. As we started formulating, we are still working through some of that. Last year when we talked about it, we were actually going to implement it before we completely did away with the day passes. We had discussed and talked about registering the night before to be able to go that day. Since this year that really hasn't come up a whole lot but with the rates we try to balance it as well. We believe it's an amenity but there's also a lot of costs that go along with it. So we just try to balance that with the affordability of it as well.*

*Ward – I am a little bit uncomfortable because it sounds like we are raising the price to try to keep low income people out of the pool which is a really uncomfortable place for me to be.*

*Shea – I haven't heard anyone say that.*

*Ward – No but that what it sounds like.*

*Shea – Maybe that's your bias.*

*Ebert – The pool season is a few days longer this year too.*

*Ward – Right and you know I am wondering when I spoke with some citizens, they were concerned because the people working were high schoolers. So, when there was any trouble the high schooler really wasn't trained or equipped to deal with it. So, I am wondering also if it would be a benefit to increase the amount we pay for a manager to get maybe a retired person or an adult who wants to be working there.*

*Peoples – The manager rates are dictated by Columbus Pool Management. We have a 3-year contract, I think we are in our second year. They set the rates on that which is probably why they get a lot of high schoolers that come out of there, the college kids that come back. Most of our managers have been lifeguards first and they just worked their way up through the organization, that's why Columbus Pool Management loves to be able to do that because they are familiar with the pool. They are young, there is no doubt and that has been one of the biggest concerns when there is a problem is that there is not, what some residents seem to claim as, an adult while they are over 18. Their experience is not as much as someone who is a little older. We have kind of been looking around and put some feelers out to have someone from the city's staff to be out there just as a presence. But also, really do think the daily admission is our biggest problem and being able to address, that not to mention the cost. I understand what you're saying on the low-income standpoint. We want to make sure we are still affordable and if we're cheaper or at least close to Jackson Lake and*



Groveport than I think we recognize that but the registration for it is the biggest part to me that's going to help us out with the unruly behavior because we just lock them out.

Amos – So, I will take your \$8 this year but if it becomes a problem next year maybe we will re-visit the cost.

Ebert – When we do registrations Amanda, I assume we're taking names?

Jackson – We will for daily admissions this year since we requiring purchase online.

Ebert – And that is something we've never done before on dailies. They could walk up to the gate, get a pass and they are in.

Peoples – We have other tools as well. We get the sheriff's department involved, we can tell them they're no longer welcome back, if they do they will be trespassed. There are certain things that we can do to not only lock them out but if it's egregious enough then we can make sure they don't come back all year. We can kick them out of all of our parks the way the park rules ordinance is set up which will probably be having to be changed but that's a later discussion. We do have some of those tools available to us.

Amos – I do love the fact that you've changed the pricing on family. I know we discussed last year because we had families of 20 in a household so I am glad that we are looking at it more conforming now than what other cities are doing because a lot of them do charge start at a family of 4 and work their way up. I'll take your word for it, we can start at \$8. My worry is just the amount of time that you guys had to spend on this last year and the amount of city staff had to be involved, Mrs. Jackson and you spent a considerable amount of patience and love to keep that pool going.

Shea – I am thinking about other municipalities around the city and there are several that are only open to residents only and I know even saying that I'm going to be called all sorts of dirty names. This is a city pool. I like the policy you had previously that was through 2017 which was, residents and school district residents. Mrs. Jackson and I have spoken a little bit about this and with technology it seems like it's going to be easier to identify that. This is our city pool, we're allowed to let in city residents. I mean that's our call. Does anybody else have anything like this? I can tell you this, as a father of 2 daughters to go to the pool it was a much safer situation after you went to passes only. Now, I realize it wasn't great for revenue but it was a much safer situation. I think that's something we all need to consider, seriously.

Milliken – I think in the nature of speaking to it as an amenity and we're taking a loss on it, I wouldn't have a problem with that. I don't know if I'd go down the route of saying I'm for it at this point. I think this is a thing that will continue to be fluid on a yearly basis. I agree with the day pass registration, I think that is going to be our number one tool that we use. My only question at this point, maybe help answer that would be, what does Columbus Pool Management say as far as our average attendance on a daily basis? I mean I don't need a number that's not what I am looking for. I guess, do they say that our pool attendance is at a level of where we can keep things safe for the kids and for all that attend? If it is approaching a level that would make it unsafe or allow us to reconsider rates up in the ranges that Mrs. Amos was speaking to. That is kind of where my head is at right now, not saying that is a bad idea, I think it is a good idea. I just want to make sure that we're exploring all of our options and we had a lot of this discussion last year too.

Peoples – We have not had a number attendance issue where they felt it was unsafe. It was the behavior that made it unsafe.

Ward – I would just say, we are taking a loss on the pool so I would be open to restricting it to residents and school district.

Amos – So last year we had a lot of residents that did come in or at least spoke to, I know all of us were approached by members over the last year and the city spent a lot of time doing it. We had a lot of residents have said they have not gone to the pool in years because we allow outside and that if it was more back to what it used to be then many of them would come back. Whether that is the case or not, who knows but we heard that multiple times last year that if we went back to a city pool that they would, again join the pool because as the one mom said you know whose kids are running around so you knew who to call when they got out of line.

Ebert – Well, and as Matt mentioned earlier, we are looking at additional adult staff to be there that the city will hire, not necessarily Columbus Pool Management so hopefully with some adult presence over there throughout the day so we can control some things there. I mean all we can get for lifeguards is high school kids, sometimes you get a college kid but they don't want to tell their friends what to do and that is an issue.

Ward – If the problems are more in the evening to, maybe we could provide a higher wage for a more experienced person to come in the evening hours.

Peoples – I think the change away from the \$2 as well, that was way too easy. You get kicked out, you lost \$2. \$5 anymore these days doesn't seem like it's that much more but you get to thinking about it when it's just a couple dollar bills you're going to be out if you get kicked out. The biggest thing to me is the registration, even if we try to do it the night before or the day before they have to do it. We will have more problems at the gate that way. It's going to be a big education process regardless. A lot of times when we

did it last year there were people, when we shut off day passes last year we actually had people sitting at the gate paying while they were doing that and we had the Columbus Pool Management helping them out to navigate the website.

Amos – Refresh my memory, if you suddenly decide to lock it back down, it did not require us to have action?

Peoples – This gives us permission from a legal standpoint. This just gives us the ability to charge those rates, it doesn't require us to offer those day passes so if we do have a problem we can shut it down again.

Amos – I couldn't remember if we had to approve it, I didn't think so.

Peoples – Last year we did not. It was more of an emergency situation.

Ward – I would like to explore what Patrick said about restricting it to just residents and school district.

Shea – Is that something we can just do and come back and add it to legislation?

Peoples – Well, that is just a policy decision. That is not a legislation. We have taken out some of the very specific detailed oriented rules and made it as an administrative type of thing so that will definitely help us out as well. We've got three readings on this. I think we can take a look at it. We have to check some software capabilities.

Milliken – That is kind of where I was going to land the plane for me. Having 3 readings helps. I would encourage the public hopefully we have some people that give us some feedback and tell us what they think about this because we can make some changes between now and the third reading.

**A motion was made by Shea, seconded by Walker to move ORD-22-011 to full Council. The motion carried with the following vote:**

**Yes 6 – Shea, Walker, Amick, Amos, Clark, Milliken**

**No 1 – Ward**

**ORD-22-012**

Finance

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE 2022 APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE #21-053, AMENDMENT #2

- Request to move to full Council

Jackson – This ordinance is a lot of balancing of our current capital projects. As Mr. Sims discussed earlier, we're coming to the end of our municipal building renovation, we have the 36 S. High Street renovation, as well as McGill Park. So those projects were all on going in 2021 when we were preparing the 2022 budget. Did not have any idea where we were going to end the year as far as how much money we would have spent verses how much cash was remaining in any of those funds. This entry or this request is to appropriate the money that we ended up not spending in 2021 that was not included in the original 2022 budget, so I am kind of go through this one section at a time. Out of the General Fund we're asking for \$200,000. Out of that \$200,000 that money is going to be put into two separate funds. One is the General Obligations Bonds Fund and one is the Capital Improvement Fund. In the General Obligations Fund we are then asking to appropriate that \$100,000 that we just moved from the General Fund to the General Obligation Bonds Fund. That money is going to be used to pay down our outstanding bond anticipation notes that we issued in 2021 for the 45 E. Waterloo renovation as well as McGill Park Phase 1. So, we issued \$6.5 million in debt. The original 2022 budget included about \$650,000 to pay down that debt. We had a good year in '21 so I would like to increase that to \$750,000 plus interest to pay that down and I will discuss the remainder of that debt issuance in my report in City Council. Out of the Capital Improvement fund, again the \$100,000 that were transferring from the General Fund along with \$96,000. That \$96,000 is cash already sitting in that fund that was not appropriated for 2022, that is the remainder of the bond anticipation notes that we did not spend in '21. The \$196,000 would cover the renovation of 36 S. High Street as well as all of the minor pieces of furniture and miscellaneous stuff that we need to finish out the municipal building at 45 E. Waterloo. Once we move in, it's just like a house, I am sure there are going to be plenty of things that we have not yet purchased or things that were not in our contract with Ferguson that we said that we would take care of purchasing. That money is going to be used for that. It's not going to cost us all of that money but rather than coming back to you and asking for more money, if I were to under budget, we're just going to ask for everything that is sitting in that fund currently. Then, finally out of the State Grant Capital Projects Fund we have \$549,000. We actually have that cash again sitting in the fund. It was not appropriated for 2022 and as Mr. Sims reported previously were working on the three seasons shelter project at McGill Park and this money would be used toward that project.

Amos – So we're taking no debt out of the renovation of S. High?

Jackson – Correct.

Amos – Is there additional debt that were taking out on three seasons or will this cover a big chunk of it?

Jackson – It is going to cover majority of it.

Shea – Where do you find the balance for the three seasons?

Jackson – We actually have some federal funds that are already appropriated, that was done last year, that we will be using for the balance on it.

Clark – Federal funds from a grant that we got?

Jackson – It was COVID money.

**A motion was made by Amos, seconded by Amick to move ORD-22-012 to full Council. The motion carried with the following vote:**

**Yes 7 – Amos, Amick, Clark Milliken, Shea, Walker, Ward**

## F. Old/New Business

### 22-003

### WALMART TRUCK PARKING

Shea – Everyone knows I love trucks, I mean they're cool right? They can haul a couple hundred thousand pounds down the road and can do some really cool things but they don't look so good parking in front of our Walmart all the time. I called Mr. Boggs and got some information from him we actually have an ordinance on the books. I just wanted to bring that up and Mrs. Jackson has informed me that Sgt. Walker has been working on it. I know that's tough because those guys are sleeping, usually on break and can't move because they have to stop at a certain point. That puts them in a heck of a pickle and I don't know what we do from here but we have this law on the books. I know that there's people that live next door that really don't appreciate the semi-trucks being there and it just doesn't look that great. We want it to look pretty. That's where I'm at.

Amos – We have talked about the fact that Walmart needs to change how they have it listed on the web and because the list themselves as a trailer/truck friendly.

Shamp – They do. Nationwide, trailers, RV's and everything. That's sort of their pitch. We can certainly try to have a conversation with Walmart, I don't know how effective that would be but it would be worth a shot if we haven't already done that.

Shea – You've done it over and over again haven't you?

Haire – We have. It's fallen on deaf ears many times. They said they don't list it on their website so it's out of their control if it's listed on outside parties.

Amos – And we do have the no trucks?

Haire – They do have the no trucks signs on their lot. It's up to them to enforce that.

Shea – Let's start writing tickets. That will get their attention. Listen, I can tell you working in a commercial motor vehicle, you get a ticket on a truck. One, it gets paid and two, that guy never comes back.

Amos – And they tell everybody?

Shea – They do. I mean if we are rolling out the red welcome mat for them that's good. I am not trying to turn you guys into a bunch of ticket tickers, I'll go out there help you write some myself.

Sgt. Walker – No, I am totally for it for the overnight parking restrictions but then we have the issue of parking there during the day as well and there is nothing I can do when they park there during the day.

Shea – Can we amend this ordinance or do we need to do a new one?

Shamp – We can amend this through a new ordinance and it will take three readings then we just add in we changed it from overnight to commercial parking. There would need to be a little more nuance, I think, because of loading and offloading, but we could do that.

Shea – Well sure, we're not going to interfere with their business operations with their docks.

Shamp – Sure.

Milliken – When we talked about this last year, weren't they supposed to be informing their drivers to park behind the building somewhere?

Shea – They do. Their drivers park over by the grocery dock which is over there by the building where like Massey's and Jimmy Johns is. Where they park their units that's not there but out front I mean we look like a truck stop.

Milliken – I just wanted to confirm that I wasn't misremembering because I have never drove behind Walmart before. Sometimes the amount of trucks up front, I am like I don't know if all those are going to fit but there is definitely space. I know they got the auto center there too. If there is room back there, I mean I agree.

Clark – Sgt. Walker how does this work in practical terms? How would we know if someone just pulled off the side and just checked their log and a cruiser ends up having to come by and slap this guy with a ticket but pulled off for one second or whatever verses staying overnight?

Sgt. Walker – There are several different things we can do. Obviously when that 3<sup>rd</sup> shift deputy or 2<sup>nd</sup> shift, 2<sup>nd</sup> shift is a little busy, but normally, I have my 3<sup>rd</sup> shift deputy go straight to Walmart. they check the lot so we can say check the lot, come back in a few hours, and see if they are still there. If they are still there then we ticket them. Like you said, who knows if they are just going in there to grab a bite to eat, relax a little bit before pulling back off. So, we can definitely say hey if they are after three, start ticketing. That is perfectly fine with me. I think that would work best just to make sure they are not just grabbing something to eat. But then we come into the other thing, am I going to ticket them when they're at their limit of driving and they have to pull off and stop and they think this area is a safe spot for them to pull off?

Shea – It's a tough, tough world.

Milliken – Don't you argue at the liberty though? When we knock on the door, say hey, can you just move it around back? Or say hey, the city is starting to take this a little more seriously.

Sgt. Walker – Sure. That is what we've been doing. Saying hey, if you guys could pull over to where the Shoe Depot is. That way if they do happen to leave them running cause they're in their unit, it is not as loud for the condos. It doesn't echo off of the fences but they can't move once they hit that limit. They have to park there for however many hours.

Shea – 10.

Sgt. Walker – So they have to stay for 10 hours before they can move again.

Amick – Isn't that their issue though? That they didn't plan well enough to make sure that they did not put themselves in that predicament.

Shea – In fairness to them, it's kind of a societal issue because there is not enough truck parking in the world to go around. Our infrastructure with rest stops and truck stops does not have enough spaces. It is a convenient solution to the truckers but truck parking is a real challenging part of a driver's daily job. Where am I going to land tonight? Is it going to be safe? So I understand why they want to be there but I also understand there are people that live next door that doesn't sleep as well as they used to.

Ebert – We used to have them, not too many years ago parking on the entry ramps and exit ramps too. I think if we disallow them there, they will start doing that again. Then you are going to have ruts in the shoulders and everything else.

Amos – Now, we have them parking on the other side of 33 along Winchester Lakes.

Shea – That is in Columbus.

Amos – But, that is their new thing. There will be 4,5,6,7 semis parked down that Winchester Lakes road.

Shea – That is in Columbus, 311.

Clark – Is there enough room in the back or a good number to move, let's say you got 6 trucks out there one night, is there enough space to go 6 trucks back there?

Sgt. Walker – I think 6 is really cutting it.

Clark – How many normal trucks do you have on a night?

Sgt. Walker – I think you can probably fit 4 back there but again it's not Walmart that is parking out front. It's all of different companies park their trucks out front. We have car haulers that park out front. It's all different kinds that park out front.

Shea – For the record, we do have a valuable business member in the community Skelton Trucking and what they do with their trucks they give their drivers a shuttle car from their terminal that you will see at Meijer, at Walmart, at Kroger wherever the drivers want to go shopping for that particular time. They leave their equipment back at their shop and then they use this courtesy car to

run and go get groceries themselves. I'm not trying to turn away people that are shopping but I don't think we want it to continually be a rest area for trucks and that is what it is turning into.

Shamp – We have the ordinance, I mean I think it boils down to your point is that we have permitted it for some time. Until we enforce the ordinance, how can they know they should not park there? If you want to enforce it, I think we should talk to Sgt. Walker about how to prosecute those and move forward with it.

Shea – Yeah, start off with pay \$25 first time, next time \$300. Something that will get their attention.

## 22-004

### BED TAX FUND DISCUSSION

Shea – I don't know if you guys know this, I get these crazy ideas on occasion. I wanted to see if we could take some of this bed tax money and I would like to take one of those Northport 1 or 2 buildings and I would love to buy a big slap on mural like we got here on the buildings around town. I look around in this building and I got all this beautiful artwork. I mean how cool and how much of an advertisement would it be for the City of Canal Winchester to take Dick Weiser's painting that's up behind Matt Peoples head and slap it on the side of one of those warehouse buildings and say 'Welcome to Canal Winchester.' Let's take something that is not so pretty and make it more beautiful and more inviting, celebrating the charm of our town. I didn't know who gets the estimates for the slap on signs, paintings and stuff like that but I figured that would be a good place to start. Where can we get one that is 400' x 200'?

Amos – Destination: Canal Winchester puts the ones up on the building.

Haire – The Art Guild generally does that.

Ebert – The murals that are up now are only guaranteed to stay there for a one year.

Haire – They are anywhere from \$800 - \$1,500 for the one year.

Shea – So, we are looking at about \$50,000?

Haire - I don't know how you would want to put it, they can put it over windows but it's the same material like they wrap vehicles in.

Shea – I think that would be pretty cool. Does anybody think it is a horrible idea?

Milliken – I think it is a great idea. My only question is the feasibility of it. How much money are we talking? We can all go down this road and find out obviously. Do we have someone that can do it? Willing to do it? How much? If we can do it, can we encourage the NorthPoint to come back and do the other buildings and put two more on there?

Shea – I am pretty sure they are going to Columbus.

Milliken – I know we have talked a couple times about the overpass right? Having the Canal Winchester on it like all the other cities do, and how expensive that would be for us because of all the letters in Canal Winchester. I think it's something unique we could do to differentiate ourselves. Like I said I just don't know how feasible that is.

Shea – Maybe we just get like a picture of some corn growing and we change it out with the seasons.

Ward – I like that idea Patrick. I've seen other people supportive of that from the community. I think we would have to talk about what picture to put on there. It would be cool if we had some kind of contest and engage the citizens.

Amos – If you are seriously interested, I would encourage you to seek pricing first and then come back to us and tell us what that would be. To paint or to vinyl whatever we have and then we can decide whether it's something we can seriously consider.

Haire – The first step would be to find a willing property owner.

Amos – Yeah, the first step would be to get the owner on board. That might be a minor detail.

Clark – I have been a big proponent on last councils and onto this council is we're getting more and more bed tax in and I would like to see it go to something that we know is going to draw tourism. I came up with McGill Park before you were onto lock up some of that excess money that we are getting that would go to McGill and get that built quicker and through the phases and things. I know Labor Day committee also, we've got out 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary coming up. Mayor, the Labor Day committee, you are probably needing some funds?

Ebert – With 2 or 3 years of COVID, we had a hometown day last year. Sponsorships were pretty thin so we spent a lot of our saved up money we had for the 100<sup>th</sup>. I think our annually we spend for Labor Day this is year is going to be different. Annually we spend

over \$80,000 for Labor Day. We currently have about \$27,000 I believe. I don't know how sponsorships are going to go this year. You never know till you have it in your hand. So yeah, we could probably use it.

Clark – I know it is always a struggle. I mean it's our largest event between that and the Blue's and Rib fest bringing people into our community. I know other communities has support. I know Lancaster Festival, the Lancaster city council gives them I think \$30,000. Fairfield County I think gives them another \$30,000 so they start off with \$60,000. I think if we are getting more and more bed tax, I think for that or McGill, goes right to tourism. Not that the murals don't look nice, don't get me wrong but there is other entities that can do that if we work with them. Now if they need a little bit of assistance, I know they come in and get \$2,000 I think of the bed tax, is that right?

Ebert - \$2,000 for advertising.

Clark – Not the Labor Day, I'm sorry, I jump shipped. The Art Guild. Puts in \$2,000 request for money to help do those murals and not to say we couldn't do some more. Once you check into it and where they think it would be and go from there.

Ebert – Bob, you know because you're in Labor Day committee yourself but almost every year the committee members are donating out of their own pockets \$250 to \$500 each. And they're the ones that are working this thing all year long and were putting a lot of money into it ourselves.

Clark – I know it's tough, we had the money but then we had a lot people that wanted the hometown, wanted us to do something and it was tough to go out. We got some resistance from the businesses because of you know, they were hurting. How can we participate when we are just coming off all the COVID stuff and just barely making it? So, I know it's been tough.

Milliken – Mr. Clark I agree with you. I prefer to spend the money on things like that but correct if I am wrong Mrs. Jackson, the bed tax fund usually has a healthy carry over balance year to year, right?

Jackson – It does now, yes.

Milliken – So, that fund is going to continue to grow. I am not saying it's something maybe we should pull the trigger on right now but thinking about some of the public comments that came in about the warehouses. "They're ugly" I don't think they are ugly but I can see where someone might want to spruce them up a little bit. If the fund balance continues to grow and like I was saying if we can look into how much this is going to cost then maybe 2 or 3 years down the road if that fund balance is still there, the numbers make sense then maybe we can do that project.

Ward – Amanda, can you refresh me on how much is in the bed tax funds?

Jackson – As of the end of February there was a little over \$200,000 in that fund.

Ward – Then a certain percentage?

Jackson – Half of what is in that fund has to go to a destination.

Ward – So, half of it goes to destination and then from that half can that go towards the Labor Day festival?

Clark – It could if we wanted to. It can go to anything. It can go to McGill, Labor Day, it's at our discretion of where we want to put it.

Shea – Do we put earmarks on Destination when we give them because their money is growing every year?

Clark – That is an Ohio revised code. They get a certain percentage.

Shea – They get half but are we allowed to give half and go hey we would like to see something like this happen?

Clark – Yes, you can ask them but their board would have to approve spending their money that way.

*Amick – I was just going to give a quick update on the comprehensive planning process. It's moving along, we had two of the consultants come in last week both giving presentations about why we should pick them. We had some follow up conversation with some other questions that we wanted to ask them. That process has concluded, this Thursday we will be meeting with the intent that we will select one of the two consultants to move forward with. At that meeting we also intend to talk about next steps and how we transition from a selection committee over to a steering committee. So, it's moving along pretty quickly and I am pleased of the amount of cooperation were having from the selection committee keeping this thing on track.*

*Amos – I'll update real quick on bed tax. My final quote that I was waiting on did not arrive yet. But they are trying to negotiate, if you order in certain increments you get better pricing. So, since this will be something that will be re-ordering often, they're trying to negotiate one last price cut for us with the company. I was hoping to have it today but it has not arrived. In the interim Greg from Shades sent me a cool picture from another city that he was in and wanted us to look at these things, so I am looking at pricing for those just so I can include them on what I present to you.*

*Clark – So are we moving forward with purchasing these cups?*

*Amos – No. So, all I am bringing forward at the meeting is everything that I have gathered, how much we are looking at.*

*Shea – In the JRD meeting it came out that the high school is getting a new baseball score board. Mr. Butler from the school board asked if we might be able to bring that over for JRD and install it at one of the fields. He said that was a possibility so Matt I want to circle back with you on that and see if that's something we can talk about.*

*Peoples – Sounds good.*

*Clark – The police report is in your packets today from Mrs. Jackson so you can catch that when you have time.*

#### **G. Adjournment @ 7:21 p.m.**

***A motion was made by Milliken, seconded by Shea to adjourn. The motion carried with the following vote:***

***Yes 7 – Milliken, Shea, Amick, Amos, Clark, Walker, Ward***