

# Canal Winchester

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



## Meeting Minutes - Final

June 1, 2020

7:00 PM

### City Council

*Mike Walker - President  
Mike Coolman - Vice President  
Jill Amos  
Will Bennett  
Bob Clark  
Patrick Lynch  
Chuck Milliken*

A. Call To Order at 7:01 p.m.

B. Pledge of Allegiance - Clark

C. Roll Call

Present 7 – Amos, Bennett, Clark, Coolman, Lynch, Milliken, Walker

***Motion to amend the agenda and hear ORD 20-030 for its first reading made by Lynch; seconded by Coolman***

***Motion carried by the following vote:***

***Yes 7 – Lynch, Coolman, Amos, Bennett, Clark, Milliken, Walker***

D. Approval of Minutes

[20-140](#)

Minutes of May 18, 2020 Work Session ([Minutes](#))

[20-141](#)

Minutes of May 18, 2020 Full Council ([Minutes](#))

***Motion to approve minutes from 6-1-20 work session and council meetings made by Coolman; seconded by Lynch***

***Motion carried by the following vote:***

***Yes 7 – Coolman, Lynch, Amos, Bennett, Clark, Milliken, Walker***

E. Communications & Petitions

[20-139](#)

Dr. John Bender Scholarship Awards Presentation

Amos said on behalf of Canal Winchester and the Canal Winchester City Council we are thrilled to honor two students with a \$1000 John Bender Scholarship for the year 2020, so congratulations Bloom Carroll student Lauren Lyons and Canal Winchester student Lexi Henkel. They will both be receiving the \$1000 John Bender Scholarship. We are very proud of both students; their applications were absolutely wonderful. Congratulations and good luck on your future endeavors.

[20-142](#)

Schedule a Public Hearing to Consider Appeal of Planning and Zoning Approved Variance ([Letter of Appeal](#))

Jackson said given that council does not hold a second meeting in July when you take your summer recess, I would like to schedule this public hearing for June 29<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm. I know you have a Committee of the Whole meeting scheduled for that same night, so rather than bring you in for a special night, we could just do it that night and this will still allow us to meet our timeline. If anybody has objections to that let us know, otherwise we will schedule it for Monday, June 29<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm; all of the council members were in agreement with the date and time. Lynch asked if we will do the appeal first before the Committee of the Whole; the Clerk replied the Public Hearing will be a 6:00 pm and the Committee of the Whole will be at 6:30 pm.

[20-143](#)Roehrenbeck Letter ([Letter](#))[20-150](#)WOW Information ([Info](#))**F. Public Comments - Five Minute Limit Per Person**[20-144](#)Davis Public Comment ([Comment](#))**G. RESOLUTIONS****H. ORDINANCES*****Tabled******Third Reading***[ORD 20-022](#)*Finance**Sponsor: Amos*

An Ordinance Authorizing the Issuance of Not to Exceed Nine Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$950,000) of Notes in Anticipation of the Issuance of Bonds for the Purpose of Acquiring Approximately 110.244 Acres of Land and Interests in Land at the Corner of Bixby and Rager Roads and All Necessary Appurtenances and Improvements Thereto; and Reimbursing the City for Any Moneys Advanced for Such Purposes; and Declaring an Emergency ([Ordinance](#))

*- Adoption*

***Motion to adopt ORD 20-022 made by Amos; seconded by Lynch  
Motion carried by the following vote:***

***Yes 7 – Amos, Lynch, Bennett, Clark, Coolman, Milliken, Walker***

[ORD 20-025](#)*Finance**Sponsor: Coolman*

An Ordinance to Amend the 2020 Appropriation Ordinance #19-069, Amendment #2 ([Ordinance, Exhibit A](#))

*- Adoption*

***Motion to adopt ORD 20-025 made by Coolman; seconded by Walker  
Motion carried by the following vote:***

***Yes 7 – Coolman, Walker, Amos, Bennett, Clark, Lynch, Milliken***

***Second Reading******First Reading***[ORD 20-028](#)*Finance**Sponsor: Amos*

An Ordinance Authorizing the Mayor and Finance Director to Enter Into a Land and Water Conservation Fund Program State/Local Grant Agreement with the Ohio Department of Natural Resources for the Proposed McGill Park Phase One Improvements and to Declare an Emergency ([Ordinance](#))

- Request waiver of second and/or third reading and adoption

Amos asked Ms. Jackson to explain the reason for the declaration; Jackson replied this has been outstanding since we applied for this in 2018 and were awarded this in 2019 we would really like to get moving on this project.

***Motion to suspend the rules and waive the second and third readings on ORD 20-028 made by Amos; seconded by Coolman***

***Motion carried by the following vote:***

***Yes 7 – Amos, Coolman, Bennett, Clark, Lynch, Milliken, Walker***

***Motion to adopt ORD 20-028 made by Amos; seconded by Coolman***

***Motion carried by the following vote:***

***Yes 7 – Amos, Coolman, Bennett, Clark, Lynch, Milliken, Walker***

**ORD 20-029**

*Finance*

*Sponsor: Clark*

An Ordinance Approving and Adopting the 2021 Tax Budget ([Ordinance, Exhibit A](#))

- First Reading Only

**Clark stated first reading only**

**ORD 20-030**

*Public Service*

*Sponsor: Lynch*

An Ordinance Authorizing the Mayor to Enter Into an Agreement with Waste Management Amending the Host Agreement to Extend the Expiration Date and Declaring an Emergency

- First Reading Only

Amos asked Mr. Peoples to state the reason for the declaration; Peoples replied the emergency clause is there due to the timeframe needed to turn around and make sure we give Waste Management enough time for billing.

***Motion to suspend the rules and waive the second and third readings on ORD 20-030 made by Lynch; seconded by Coolman***

***Motion carried by the following vote:***

***Yes 7 – Lynch, Coolman, Amos, Bennett, Clark, Milliken, Walker***

***Motion to adopt ORD 20-030 made by Lynch; seconded by Coolman***

***Motion carried by the following vote:***

***Yes 7 – Lynch, Coolman, Amos, Bennett, Clark, Milliken, Walker***

**I. Reports**

*Mayor's Report*

**20-145**

**Report**

Mayor said thank you to council for passing Ordinance 20-028 the McGill ordinance, it's been a long time

coming, staff and myself are happy to get this and get this thing started once and for all; it was kind of frustrating along the line but the day is finally here, so thank you very much for passing that ordinance. Amanda and I met with Sgt. Hendershot last week and we are going to meet with Chief Lape next week and hopefully we can get things rolling on some deputies for Canal Winchester for 2021. Lynch said in the past we have talked about hiring a consultant to help evaluate the police force and everything and now we are going directly to...what changed, was it lack of availability and/or the process of it; I am trying to get some understanding. Mayor replied that he can barely hear what you are saying Pat. Jackson said Mayor do you want me to take this one? Mayor said what was it? Jackson said two weeks ago we discussed the consultant and how we had reached out to them; Mayor said yes, go ahead; Jackson continued saying they told us they had built a new process for this and expecting it to be done at the end of March but we had not heard anything. I did reach out to them last week and they will assign a contact, not the name I was given back in January, but I did talk to someone and she told me they have not finalized that new process and they are meeting this week to try to work on it, but she is going to keep me in the loop as to what is going on there, but in regards to the meeting with Sgt. Hendershot, yes we talked about the third party consultant, but we want to take into consideration what is our urgency, so we did meet with them and discussed some options, we need to meet with Chief Lape as the Mayor has said to make sure we are all on the same page so that we can budget accordingly if we feel we need to add deputies, and make sure the sheriff's department cause they are the ones bringing these guys on and are able to do so, this is a collaborative effort and we are starting down that path. Lynch said thank you for moving forward with this; either we use a consultant or go directly to the source of Sgt. Hendershot and his group I just want to make sure he has the personnel and equipment needed to get the job done and serve the residents of Canal Winchester. Mayor said we are very much listening to Sgt. Hendershot and what his needs are so that is where we are going with this; Lynch said outstanding.

#### *Fairfield County Sheriff*

Sgt. Hendershot said like what was said we met and talked about additional staff for next year. The reason we are starting with this is it is a long process, it takes about a month to get somebody hired, but we are currently on a hiring freeze and we are not hiring anybody, so if you guys decide you want to hire an additional deputy they would take that freeze off because it would be for Canal and not Fairfield County. So, about a month to hiring and a month to train them in the jail; so if you wanted somebody by January we would have to move forward in July. We had good conversation and ideas and I will let Chief Lape take over, he has my recommendation. On a good note, the Walmart grant for our fourth computer was approved, it took about three months because they got a new GM, that is about \$2,500 so hopefully that check comes in this week for our fourth computer for the cruiser. Mayors Court is all Thursdays this month at the community center. Milliken said in light of all the civil unrest going on throughout the country if maybe you could say a few words as far as your team's preparation and anything you can say to our residents in regards to their safety; Hendershot replied absolutely; after being on the SWAT team for ten years I got called out Saturday to help in Columbus and as I was getting ready the Mayor got a hold of me about something happening in Canal so I didn't have a whole lot of time to prepare for that one; we called in additional resources and the deputies in Canal Winchester did a wonderful job and came in on their days off and Madison Township sent some officers out. The protestors stayed on the sidewalk and they strolled downtown and the deputies of Canal and Madison all did a great job. Additional protests coming in Canal this week on Tuesday and Friday and we are prepping for that, we are not changing anything with our officers and with Madison. Milliken said thank you and thank you for your service; Walker said thank you, great job. Lynch said thank you for all you guys have been doing; in Columbus they

are issuing curfews for everything and this might be for the Mayor also has there been any talk about having to issue a curfew, is there a curfew; I know there are restaurants who are sending their people home early because of the Columbus curfews; is that based on store by store or city wide; talk to me about curfews or has there been any talk about it. Mayor replied he has been in contact with Gene Hollins on this and Gene is in the process of writing up the process on that for us to do and if it is necessary we will do that, only if it is necessary, we are not going to cite a curfew if it is not necessary; Lynch said I prefer to not see it if it is not necessary, too, so that is good at least we are making plans for it. Jackson said we do currently have a curfew on the books but it is for minors so those under the age of 18 from 11:30 pm to 5:00 am but that is the only thing that we currently have in our codified ordinances. Hendershot said some of the businesses do not know when they may close, for example, the general manager will get a call from corporate maybe an hour or half-hour before they are to close, like when they closed at 5:00 pm, and that is just nationwide; Lynch said so that is imposed by their own corporate. I have been asked about this by multiple people and they were not sure if it is business by business or city wide and I didn't think it was city wide. Walker said Sgt. Hendershot please extend thank you to all of your deputies and the good job they are doing we do appreciate it. Bennett said I would concur about all that has been said about all the deputies that were on site and quite frankly all of the work they do. I do have a questions about how long it takes to get a deputy into the field and as part of the training to get into the field in Fairfield County are there any mandated diversity training programs or minority relations, how is that handled in Fairfield County; Hendershot replied a lot of that is handled through OPOTA (Ohio Peace Officer Training Academy) when we take the initial six month training; we go through cultural diversity training and then this year we will have cultural diversity disability training on the OPOTA website that we have to take; I would have to look into it but usually we do a month of training, like one hour every month, but there is not a whole lot of training for deputies and police officers. Jackson said if I can piggy-back off of what Sgt. Hendershot said and the Mayor and I met with Sergeant earlier this year about how to get our Canal Winchester deputies some more training and we were working to send them to some courses through OPOTA but then COVID-19 hit and everything got canceled so once those courses become available again we will work with him on. These are trainings we have agreed to pay half of their costs and Fairfield County has agreed to pay the other half and this is just specifically for Canal Winchester deputies; we are trying to do what we can to get these guys and gals the training that they need. Bennett said what is OPOTA; Hendershot replied the Ohio Peace Officer Training Academy; he also said due to the COVID-19 we don't know the future of OPOTA I know a lot of workers there that have actually lost their jobs, some of the trainers that work there are looking for employment so we don't know what the future is and they are talking about shutting the whole place down and going to regular training once a year so we are hoping something happens so they find the funding and resources for classes there or they may do all online stuff which is what I don't want to do but we will continue to reach out to them and hopefully have some training in the fall and if not then sometime next year. Bennett said Sgt. Hendershot, your background before you came to Canal Winchester you were in community relations, is that correct; Hendershot replied that is correct, for about five years; Bennett said and I know since you came here you started your own coffee with the sheriff or I forget the name of that program you are working on and I know that has probably been paused due to COVID-19 and all of the restrictions, but I would be curious if there is any validity we need to do to work with minority relations or building those relationships; I don't know the relationship between the Canal Winchester resource officers who are also Fairfield County officers versus our deputies who I believe are separate but just both Fairfield County, and I am not sure but if they are separate I am not sure that they general public would necessarily see it that way either. Hendershot said once the Governor lifts all of the restrictions it is my

goal to get right back out there and teach more self-defense classes, get out there and meet the community, do the coffee with a cop, anything the community wants to do and we just want to build that bridge with the community like a did for five years in community relations because the problem is there is so much the community doesn't know what we do and the more they know the better I feel like especially in times like this and I think in July we can get that kicking again. Bennett said I would agree; on social media there was a post of one of the Fairfield County sheriff officers and one of the protest organizers and I thought that was a great photo; Hendershot said yep, Deputy Faller; in reference to the school resource officer, Deputy West, he is paid for by the schools and everything that has been going on he has been running around like crazy trying to help all of the schools and I do think they are going to add an additional SRO in the future if not next year then the year after that and he has a good relationship with all of the deputies in Canal and we work with him to try to work with the schools; one of the examples is the senior parade, we made our recommendation on what we thought the path should be and they changed it which was fine with me and we worked with the best resources that we had and the road department did a wonderful job and we had deputies that stepped up and helped out and being down a wonderful job. Lynch commented about the community coffee with a cop, I attended one of those and I highly recommend it to anyone out there in the viewing audience to attend one of these it is very, very informative and enlightening and thank you for taking the time to do that. Lynch asked about the DARE program, is that something that is currently on or is there a way we can bring that back into our schools; I have heard great things about it in the past and what are your thoughts; Hendershot said the DARE program was cut in 2005 and it took a hit financially and the deputies and then we were not able to bring it back. If we were to bring it to the schools it would be up to the superintendent and the school resource officer but I feel like as much running around as he is doing now between the schools they would have to have a second one to try to implement that; if they did bring on a second SRO and they wanted to bring DARE back there are classes out there to take to get certified and have two or three officers in Lancaster. Lynch said but we are looking to bring on a second SRO is that what I heard previously; Jackson said that is all done by the school, that has absolutely nothing to do with what we do here; Lynch said I understand, and there is nothing in writing, and that DARE program is funded by the schools, any idea what something like that costs to fund, I would be curious if you had any kind of figures if you could share them and I don't know if there is anyway the city can, I mean we give out grants and such is that a way we can actually funnel some of our funds to make this program a reality again cause like I said I have heard great results from the DARE program in the past. Lynch the second thing is since we are talking about the police protection and the budget coming up, is there anything, is there part of the discussion with you and your police chief about what kind of resources are needed, are we budgeting enough money in our fiscal budget to cover the needs of the police force as far as equipment, and I just heard you are getting a \$2,000 computer from a Walmart grant that seems very inexpensive from a city standpoint why can't we buy these computers so you guys have that fourth computer as opposed to having to apply for a grant; how can we make sure they get the funds they need to be able to buy the equipment they need, is there something we need to move around to make sure you get that. Hendershot said often what we are looking at is what is a need and what is a want and the fourth computer is more of a want because we have three computers and there are times we have nobody off that day and a fourth car being used and he doesn't have a computer, so it is more of a want than a need and that money could be used for something else that is why we reached out to Walmart for that grant. Lynch said grants are always great to get; Hendershot said and I don't have to report anything; we did talk about vehicles and additional vehicles in the future and what we might need and I feel that is all being budgeted out. Coolman said isn't that all dictated in our contract with them as far as how we equip

your vehicles and if I looked at Amanda's budget correctly it looks like those vehicles are \$50,000 per vehicle and that is a big chunk of money; Walker said the amount we talked about last was around \$75-85,000 on a cruiser but I am curious as to what it would be for one officer and one cruiser. Jackson replied the last figure we got from Fairfield County and this is just about a year old was about \$85,000 for an officer; Walker said and the cruiser; Jackson said and the cruiser is upwards of \$50,000 now because they switched to the SUVs and I don't want to say cut because that is not a good word but where else can we get some of these funds from because it is not going to be an inexpensive venture; when you are talking about one deputy and a car you are talking about \$140,000 easy so these are all things we are considering. Another thing to go along with this and the reason we need to meet with Chief Lape and when Fairfield County brings on a new deputy even if they are specifically for Canal Winchester they are absorbing the cost of training them; we do not pay for that officer until they are up here and assigned to the Canal Winchester substation so I need to be considerate of Fairfield County's budget and the sheriff's office is at the mercy of the county commissioners so we all need to work together to make sure this is going to fit into the big picture. Bennett said I know you are talking about additional conversations with Chief Lape and are we rolling 36 South High Street into that conversation as well; Jackson replied what exactly do you mean, the physical building; Bennett said adjustments that might be required if we relocate the sheriffs there in the future, is that part of the current conversation; Jackson said I guess I am not quite sure how to answer that because I am not quite sure what you mean by adjustments, are you talking about staffing; Bennett said I am talking about the building and there might need to be some renovations to move the sheriffs from town hall to 36 South High, as those future state changes in next year's budget do you think; Jackson said that is all a part of the renovations to the municipal building complex, the Bob McDorman Building, that would be rolled into that whole project; while it is not really on our agenda with our discussion with Chief Lape, we have had that discussion with him in the past, we have had that discussion with Sgt. Hendershot about what if anything needs to be done to the building; we do think there will be some modifications but we do not think it will be a large undertaking to make that building ready for them. Bennett said so what I am understanding that is part of our McDorman fund plan and renovations and the conversations we are having are about staffing and additional vehicles and those types of conversations; Jackson replied that is correct. Bennett said okay thank you for clarifying.

#### *Law Director*

Hollins said I appreciate council passing the bond legislation and I know you have been working with Ms. Jackson on that and we'll get the refunding done on the bonds and we'll continue working with Mr. Haire with the sale of that site so we can pay that borrowing off. Just to add a bit on the curfew we do that as a last resort due to the impact on businesses and residents; we have been preparing if we need to make a proclamation and hopefully it would just be a small part of the city that would need to be under a curfew if we do need to impose a curfew; obviously we do want to cooperate those who want to peaceably and orderly assemble to have their message be heard, that is a core First Amendment right and actually applaud folks for exercising those types of rights, but to the extent there is any harm to property or threats of harm to persons we will be prepared and we will continue to be prepared and do everything in our power to make sure things go as smoothly. We continue to monitor the status of the orders from the Department of Health and the Governor and when the ten-person limitation may be modified or lifted and by this time you know it has been extended another month and hopefully we'll continue to open things back up on a gradual basis and get back together in short order here as soon as we can. There is no need for an executive session and no further report.

*Finance Director*

[20-146](#)

[Report](#)

Jackson said I do not have anything to add to everything I have already discussed this evening.

*Public Service Director*

[20-147](#)

Report from Public Services ([Report](#))

[20-148](#)

Report from Construction Services and Engineering ([Report](#))

Peoples said the playgrounds are still closed per the Department of Health orders. Over the weekend someone took it upon themselves to remove all the signs and there were people out there using them on Sunday; we did re-erect the signs out there and we are complying with the Department of Health orders and keeping those closed. We have new equipment there and want people to use it, especially Westchester, but we do need to comply with the orders and keep them closed.

*Development Director*

Haire said he did not have anything to add to his work session report.

## **J. Council Reports**

*Work Session and Council Meetings on Monday, June 15, 2020 starting at 5:30 p.m.*

*Public Hearing Regarding the 2021 Tax Budget on Monday, June 15, 2020 at 6:00 p.m.*

*Public Hearing Regarding a Notice of Appeal on Monday, June 15, 2020 at 6:30 p.m.*

Jackson said she wanted to comment regarding the location of those meetings on the 15<sup>th</sup>; council will be in council chambers and it will not be open to the public. For the public hearings at six and six-thirty, the public is invited to attend at the community center and virtually discuss with council any of their public comments; this will only be for the public hearing. For the regular council meeting it will be how we have done it the last few meetings where we will take public comments through our website up until 3:00 o'clock the day of the meeting. Again, that will all be posted, it has already been put in the newspapers, but we will make sure that is also all out on the website, I believe it is, but we will double check. Lynch asked if this is the plan for the Town Hall meeting also; Jackson said perhaps, we need to see how it goes in two weeks. Lynch asked the public hearing for notice of appeal what is the topic of that; Jackson replied that is the housing of a swine; Lynch said okay, pig gate, I just wanted to check. Jackson said there are two public hearings on the 15<sup>th</sup> and we have to have another public hearing on June 29<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm and that is in regards to an appeal of a P&Z variance request that they approved for signage for the XChurch.

*Conversation with Council Town Hall Meeting on Tuesday, June 23 at 7:00 p.m. (Location To Be Announced)*

Jackson said we'll keep you updated with how that will happen, hopefully we'll know in two weeks and test out during the public hearing the ability to do this new process in a similar manner with the public at the community center and council at town hall.

*CW Human Services - Milliken*

Milliken said I do not have anything to add to the packet that was passed out, the financial statements and highlights from the Souper Bowl.

*CWICC - Clark and Coolman*

Clark said the next meeting is July 29<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 am at the Interurban Building. I also want to report on the McDorman Municipal Complex committee; there was a walk-through meeting that was held at the McDorman building with the contractor and sub-contractor and also, we are having a meeting of that committee on June 5<sup>th</sup> this Friday in the morning. Coolman said nothing else to add.

*CWJRD - Amos and Bennett*

Bennett said the next executive board meeting is June 18<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm. We are currently working on the usage agreement with the schools, we already passed the usage agreement with the city, so we may have a draft of that by June 18<sup>th</sup>. Amos said we are starting to open some summer registrations so we'll see how that goes; we are also rolling out a movie program, hoping to get a couple of organizations to partner with us so we can roll out some summer movie programs. Clark asked about the summer registrations; Amos said it is cheerleading and football are the first ones we started opening up and we did a zero-registration fee to see what interest level was there. Bennett said we are also going to meet with the commissioners for baseball and softball this week, usually those seasons wrap up around 4<sup>th</sup> of July but we are looking at potentially opening up registrations and trying to do a second half type of summer season so it may be a condensed six- or eight-week season for baseball and softball but we'll know more later on.

*Destination: Canal Winchester - Walker*

Walker said Destination: Canal Winchester kicked off with a great farmers market last Saturday; Coolman said we practiced social distancing; the location was down at the old train depot and that was a great location, we got a lot of compliments, the weather could not have been better, the attendance was great, most vendors ran out of product, some ran out of product with two hours to go and so it was well attended so the urgency for the vendors to bring more product will be there next week. We had 18 scheduled vendors and 15 showed up; we have 19 vendors scheduled for next week, so we are looking forward to it. Lynch asked how the new location compares to where you were and is there a plan to leave it at the historic center; Coolman replied after one week it compares with great reviews although people love coming down to Stradley as well; I did observe the foot traffic from the surrounding neighborhood, that was our concern because Stradley being in the middle of downtown and we can see foot traffic from all sides and we were concerned with being at the train depot if foot traffic would come from all of the neighborhoods or would we have a parking issue. We got lots of foot traffic walking from downtown and we had no parking issue. There is plenty of space back there to park and thank you to the city and Mr. Peoples and Shawn Starcher for helping set up no parking on Oak Street and that helped for the foot traffic coming in and cleared it out. After one week it was a huge success, and to answer your other question, will we be there all year, yes, we will be. Hats off and a big thank you to the Historical Society for allowing us to use their property. They are excited and they spent \$300 on decorating it, Steve Donahue and Carmen Smith used flowers and they really did a nice job, it is quite a spectacle it really is, they did a nice job and the whole venue is just great and we are excited about it. Amos said I think anytime we can highlight the historical complex on events like that brings to light the history of Canal Winchester. Coolman said people were excited to see the buildings; a lot of people made comments they

didn't know the Prentiss School building was there, what it was, where it came from, that it was even there and they drive by it every day, it was a blur to them, so we educated a lot of people, it was really good. Lynch said and the large tree to be able to get in the shade, a large shade tree, I like it, it is beautiful; Coolman said personally walking on turf versus walking on cement for the three and a half hours we are there, actually five hours there, it was really a lot easier. We had one person that was concerned when we were organizing it about the accessibility for the handicap and people with wheel chairs and people with walkers, because at Stradley it is all pavement, but here you just have a paved sidewalk and pavers parallel to the tracks for walking and all of our vendors were up front, and that lady did show up and she got around just fine, as a matter of fact, she had a walker and she even crossed the railroad tracks in front of the school house; even the small pea gravel paths were perfect even for the handicap; it couldn't have been better. Walker said currently there are no scheduled meetings; Coolman said no.

#### **K. Old/New Business**

##### 20-149

##### Discussion of Bed Tax Grant Funds for Relay for Life and Bender Virtual 5K

Jackson said she had reached out to council regarding the bed tax grant for the Dr. Bender 5K and Relay for Life. I am not sure if there was confusion based on our last discussion, but I did go back to those organizations and get some details on how they plan to alter their events given the distancing requirements and everything that has happened with COVID-19; I sent those out to council so now I need to get back to these organizations about whether or not they are allowed to keep their money and use it towards their events in 2020 or if we are going to require them to return it. Amos said I am still of the same opinion that each one of these events has shown evidence of how they are going to use it and they are still doing along the same lines as their original plan so I think we should allow them to keep the funds this year. Coolman said for the Bender 5K I went back and looked at the application and so there are still kids out there running, it might not be at the school, but and so the idea for their application was they are going to have a race and they are still having it, so I am okay with it. With Relay for Life I am not sure I was clear on what they are doing, it sounds like they are recovering a lot of their expenses for administration and having the event at school so are they still having the event. Amos replied that she talked to them today to make sure I understand where they are at and they are still running the same events that they would run that one night except they are running them throughout the week and people will be able to drop in and they are still encouraging people to do the walk, take pictures and submit them and they will have some events for survivors and things like that that will be stationed differently and spread out over a week versus just six hours; Coolman said so that sounds like to me like what they were originally going to plan to have it will just be virtual because not everybody can gather; I am okay with both of them; Lynch said yes. Mayor said to Amanda, I think Labor Day has returned their money haven't they; Jackson replied yes, they have; Mayor said okay. Jackson said I have gotten money back from several organizations and I believe there is one more that their event time has passed and their event did not take place so I will be reaching out to them to see what they are intending to do because I think they should be returning the money but we are going to take this one event at a time.

Lynch said now that we have funds to move forward with McGill Park has there been any talk about putting together a park committee, I know a few years back we talked about it during planning and everything, but now that it is actually being implemented and moving forward; we have a lot of talent in this town I have had a lot of people approach me and say they would love to be involved in it. Can we

create a committee of residents that can be a part of this whole process of developing this park, after all it is a park for the people, so what can we do to get people involved in putting this together, so what are some thoughts about putting together a park committee of residents. Amos said do we have a park committee from one year; Walker directed to Mayor Ebert; Mayor said I could hear part of it; as you know we had a park planning committee three years ago or so and McGill Park was part of that and Lucas Haire pretty much implemented and put together; after that we had another committee which consisted of Mr. Walker and Mr. Jarvis at the time who sat on the parks planning committee who looked at along with staff what types of equipment, buildings, ball diamonds, soccer fields and everything we were going to put into McGill Park at that time so most of that has already been done, it's been a while, but most of it has already been done. Amos asked is there any opportunity for resident input on what's going in or is the design layout chosen and done; Peoples said the layout is done, phase one is four soccer fields, a shelter house that will be by the existing farmhouse, a shelter house between two of the soccer fields and then parking and a playground, so the only thing design-wise would be a playground and what components are in there; we are working on getting feedback on that and spreading around, my kids are too old for the playground, but I shared it with Amanda and got some comments back on that, I think the Mayor shared it with his grandkids and we got some feedback on that, but at this point those are really the only details other than structural and engineering type of things. We are putting in four soccer fields and as long as we get the slope on it that we didn't get at Walnut Creek Park then I think we are going to be fine; they only comment we had on that was to move the bike path that goes around it a little farther away from the soccer fields; we have as much parking in there as we can, we actually moved the parking, the original plan had all of the parking adjacent to two of the four soccer fields and you had to walk around and cross two soccer fields if you can picture that and we moved the parking lot to the middle so you can access each of the two sets of fields. Other than that, we have not done anything with the design of it; working through some of the components of the nature place playground so the feedback we would be looking for would be just in that. Similar to Westchester Park and putting that together on the design I actually visited the park and talked to some residents who were there with their kids and I had a list of things to ask what you would like to play on, etc. and so parents were there and seemed to be appreciated of that type of thing. Amos said as a Toys R Us kid who never wants to grow up you are never too old for a playground and you can always enjoy yourself no matter what age you are; Peoples said with my weight I can't get on them. Amos said Mr. Lynch what were you thinking of along the lines of and you had an idea in mind; Coolman said can I interject please, how many phases are there; Peoples replied at least three depending on how we play them out; Coolman said I think what Mr. Lynch is referring to is there is more than just soccer fields and baseball fields being built and the steering committee was put into place to take community opinion on what was to be put there like a splash pad or frisbee golf and that kind of thing, am I reading it right is that more along the lines of what you are thinking because I know the first phase is just an opening phase. Lynch said not necessarily and I know planning has already been done and once you go to OHM and they produce the plans and I used to develop plans like that all the time so you develop plans and the plans are there so it has already been decided; Peoples said today; Clark said there were multiple public hearings throughout that process; Lynch said I am not arguing that, I think the plan is to develop, that's great we got the plan and now we need to implement it so we have these structures and we are going to have contractors build certain things because people can't build certain things but is there a way to get the community involved in building or implementing some of this stuff, maybe there are plants to go in or trees to go in, we have lots of agronomists here in town that know how to grown grass and that is what they do for a living. Jackson said this gets really tricky because we are doing this with grant money and there are certain laws we have to follow; Lynch said ok, but only

half of it is being done with grant money because the other half; Jackson said we still have to follow certain laws; Lynch said even with our half; Jackson said yes, you got to consider that more of this type of in-kind contribution that you are talking about is a lot more work on our end from a paper trail standpoint. If you are not familiar with how these grants work it is very particular and so Mr. Sims is probably the one who will be managing this and I don't know how Matt things but the last thing we need to do is put an undue burden on him, he is one man. It is no different to be quite honest Mr. Lynch than organizations volunteering for these types of things around the city and clean-up projects, we have had them come in and then they don't complete the project and then our guys have to complete the project so we have to consider all of these things. Mayor said a couple of years ago we had a public night at the community center and all of the different parks on the boards and they would go around there and they listed what they wanted to see at each individual park, I think we have met just about everything they listed at McGill Park and if they want it placed somewhere different than what the architect or the design team is putting it, the design team is placing everything so that we can get in everything the public asked for at that public meeting that night. It is a full park; all ninety some acres, it is all full at this point, we are going to have the inclusive playground, the natural playground, a basketball court, pickle ball courts, soccer fields for CWJRD, baseball fields, football field within the soccer field and vice-versa, trails and event center; we pretty much filled their requests at that time. Walker said we got some of the best feedback they have every received from the public so there was a lot of public input. Milliken said there is thinking of the long term and we'll be able to see over time how this functionality of the park will work and so maybe the public comes in and says I think we could use maybe another water fountain here or something like that and I think that would be valuable and feasible to do once it's done and we see how the park is functioning, there is an opportunity there to do that. Walker said OHM has been all over the state and all over the parks and teams that work and gave a lot of suggestions during the steering committee to see what works, what doesn't work, what is most popular and pretty much national wide I believe they are so a lot of great things came from them, it is going to be great, glad it has started. Lynch said I think my question was misunderstood; I understand the set of plans that we have a very complete and there was a lot of community input and it is going to be a wonderful park; the thing I was asking is there a way for residents to work together with the city to help implement this thing and if there are things they can do to help assist in that effort and is that possible but I guess what I am hearing is that is probably more burdensome than doable; so I am not questioning the plan at all I know it is a complete plan. Peoples said if somebody wants to go in there and plant some things we might have some to do like the rain garden behind the community center, if it is something like that it may be possible with a volunteer day to have and that would have to be coordinated well and well in advance so I am not sure but it sounds like that is more of what you are talking about. Lynch said that is kind of what I am talking about and we have seen schools get together and build playgrounds for students and all of these parents and working together and hands-on and it builds community and it helps people buy into the park themselves and it is a great community building event and planting trees I have done community service projects where we go out and plant one hundred large caliber trees all in one day and you get enough people out there and you just plant a hundred trees and every time people drive by they say I help plant that tree right there in that park and they buy into it and that park becomes part of their personal effort not just their tax dollars; that is the point I was trying to get at, not the design of the park but getting the community involved in the actual implementation of the park, that was my concern, I will leave it at that. Amos said I will help plant trees. Mayor said there might be possible room for that down the road but the stage we are at now, no; and the next stage after this grant and we get done with the architect then the next stage is pushing dirt and that will primarily happen on the soccer fields and the playgrounds will be

in this first phase and there might be a possibility where they could help erect the playgrounds but I don't know how that equipment goes together but we can sure take a look at it. Lynch said that would be appreciated and I think the community would appreciate a chance to be involved.

Walker said when he was in Marysville he noticed they have music playing in their downtown area from the light poles and we had discussed it in the past and it had a large cost; doesn't know now if it has become wireless and might be more feasible but he enjoyed the light music playing as you walked in town in Marysville or drove by with your windows down; Peoples said Rick Brown did some research on it about four years ago and the cost was a factor then but I know the technology has changed and he will ask Rick to check back on that and see if there is any new technology; Walker said he would look into it as well and see what he can find; enjoyed the walking and shopping and listening to music. Lynch said that would work well in the DORA district. Coolman said they have that for the Circleville Pumpkin Show and there you can log into an online camera and see who is there and what is going on and so that technology is there. Walker said it has changed so much overnight and talking about the DORA district and everybody walking in could hear music and maybe only at certain times if a band starts playing and out on a patio.

Milliken asked if there was any update on the Charter Review Commission; the Clerk replied they are still restricted because of the ten-person limitation. Walker asked is there somebody to let all of those folks know...; the Clerk responded I communicated with the Chairman of the Charter Review Commission and I can communicate with all of the members as well; Clark asked if the chair has communicated with all of the members; the Clerk replied I do not know but I can follow-up on that; Walker said and add us to the list as well to follow-up; the Clerk replied okay. Lynch said as far as the Charter Review and them being able access GoToMeetings or Zoom or anything else, is that possible as a group for them to do that; the Clerk said I know they are restricted by the ten person limit, but I don't know if Amanda wants to... Jackson said I don't know why I am being asked this question; the Clerk said well okay, I don't know; Coolman said it is totally on them, charter review that whole committee. Lynch said maybe there are a couple of committee members that don't know how to use a computer or don't have access to do this; Coolman said I would not make that kind of a comment in front of them but the Chairperson can find out, it is totally their call; the Clerk said Mr. Coolman is right and from listening to the audio from this meeting setup there are times when it is just difficult to hear and then if you get audio from thirteen people talking it's going to be difficult to hear, now that is on me, but we can certainly ask Mr. Stobart what he thinks. Lynch said do you think it is possible, we have proved that it works here, if there are a certain number of people that don't feel comfortable doing this at their kitchen table or wherever at home or a handful of less than ten people can come into this room and set up like this and the rest can work from home, I think you could still execute a meeting so this process can continue because we are looking to try to get this on the ballot by August is that correct; the Clerk replied that all depends because they don't have to have it on the ballot by August is my understanding but if Mr. Hollins could jump in if I am incorrect; Hollins said you are absolutely correct; the Clerk said in the charter they are required to finish their work by the end of 2020; Hollins said that is correct; the Clerk said they are not required to have anything on the ballot this year. Coolman said and the other issue is you are talking about the review committee using a city facility that will require employees to be here to do that; the Clerk said this setup (pointing at computers, monitors and video equipment) is Matt and Amanda's setup, they would have to be involved in that, this is their setup; I think there may be members on the commission that may not be comfortable using the virtual aspect of the meeting, they may or may not, again I haven't asked that question. Amos said Mr. Hollins correct me if I am wrong but it has to be registered with the board of

elections in July in order to be on the next one, correct; Hollins said to make the November ballot I believe it is early August if they really want to shoot for; they had a good, I don't want to speak on behalf of the charter commission, they could probably provide a report to you if you are interested, but last I understood they had a game plan and were going to take a chapter or two per meeting and be fairly aggressive with the meetings to be able to get you an ordinance; you have to have an ordinance and then you have to do your prior to the ballot date for November; if they were to shoot for that there is a pretty aggressive schedule of things that would have to occur in fairly quick succession to make that deadline; as Audra has pointed out under the charter their charge technically is to get you something to consider placing an ordinance by the end of this year; at this point, again I don't want to speak on their behalf, if they are not in a position to be able complete all of their tasks and get you some form of an ordinance or any proposed changes by early June or July. Lynch said to get the three readings it would have to be in the first of July. Hollins said get you an update as to what is going on there. Amos said Audra can follow-up; the Clerk said I can communicate with Chairman Stobart and see what his thoughts are; Walker said thank you Audra and thank you Mr. Hollins.

**L. Adjourn to Executive Session (if necessary)**

**M. Adjournment**

*Motion to adjourn made by Lynch; seconded by Milliken  
Motion carried by the following vote:*

*Yes 7 – Lynch, Milliken, Amos, Bennett, Clark, Coolman, Walker  
Adjourned at 8:20 pm*