

Canal Winchester

*City Hall
Council Chambers
45 East Waterloo Street
Canal Winchester, OH 43110*



Meeting Minutes - FINAL

July 5, 2022

7:00 PM

City Council

Chuck Milliken - President

Bob Clark - Vice President

Laurie Amick

Jill Amos

Patrick Shea

Mike Walker

Ashley Ward

A. Call To Order

Milliken called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

B. Pledge of Allegiance - Walker**C. Roll Call**

Present 6 – Amick, Amos, Clark, Milliken, Shea, Walker

D. Approval of Minutes**MIN-22-026**

June 20, 2022 Work Session Minutes

A motion was made by Shea, second by Amos to approve MIN-22-026. The motion carried with the following vote:

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

MIN-22-027

June 20, 2022 City Council Minutes

A motion was made by Amick, second by Shea to approve MIN-22-027. The motion carried with the following vote:

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

E. Communications & Petitions**F. Public Comments - Five Minute Limit Per Person**

Kathleen Vasko, 65 W. Columbus Street – I've been here before and I guess it's my right to be here again. I'll be here again if I feel like I have something to stay. I went back and I looked at my notes that I took from meet the candidate's night and most of you, all of you, made the comment that you were going to listen to the people. I know I'm what you consider to be a small group of people that my opinion maybe it matters to a degree politely but that's only the degree that it matters too. I would encourage you to look at recent articles that are coming out about warehouses. The anticipation is in 2024, you're going to start to see more robotics. Robots, they don't pay taxes. They'll always be some working people in warehouses but the robotic thing is going to become more and more as we move on. The numbers that we are presented with today, them are indeed that. No disregard for how the numbers is arrived at but there are numbers that maybe aren't real. You can't predict those things. I understand that you can only predict what you have in front of you at the moment and what you anticipated to be. Anticipate that the robots are coming and our tax dollars are going to diminish accordingly. The other thing that is happening is if you're reading and paying attention to what's going on in the warehouse business, the warehouse people have overshot their needs. It's partly due to COVID and warehouses in particular go look up what's going on with Amazon right now. They're scaling back. They anticipated too far needing too much and the need isn't going to be there because things are changing again. Again, I say you're boxing us in on all corners and I don't think ultimately the numbers are going to be there to make it worthwhile that we box ourselves in without looking at other opportunities. There was a gentleman here last month, he spoke about a senior center living facility for ages 55 and up. Something like that, it's very much so needed. If you've gone to any of the facilities locally, there's usually a two year wait to get into some of them. Maybe something to think about. Maybe we should be looking for some of those types of things. Those will bring people to the community that want to go shopping or that want to eat. The other thing is again, I come back around to balance. We're putting these warehouses in and we're not allowing any balance. It's just warehouses, I just don't get it. The numbers don't even support it if you look back at the numbers what we're getting in return. Anyway, we're sacrificing our land and it's not going to be what we think it is down the road. I just beg you to think about what the future is going to be and what our community is going to look like. The other thing I wanted to remind everybody about, \$1.5 million community reinvestment by NorthPoint was

actually initiated by a small group of people that what you call 539 or so people. That was initiated by a small group of people and it didn't start with you guys so I just want to remind all of you about that.

Kay Sargent, 6732 Braeswick Court – I appreciate Mrs. Vasko's comments. You all know where I stand in terms of warehouses. That's not what I want to talk about tonight. I want to talk about the people of Canal Winchester, how friendly they are, and how welcoming they are. It's really impressed me. I've lived in a number of places from Minnesota, to Germany, to the Commonwealth of Virginia and here in Canal Winchester. In all of those places people have been nice. They haven't been as friendly and welcoming as here in Canal Winchester. I volunteer here. I volunteer in Fairfield County. They are also very welcoming and friendly. I volunteer in the City of Columbus, they are nice. One of the first people to welcome me is Brandon Hord. He and his wife Amy and their lovely dog that I've kind of adopted, Rosie. They've been extremely welcoming and Brandon Hord is really committed to Canal Winchester. He eats and breathes it. I don't want to just focus on that tonight. One thing that I've noticed is how people deal with adversities and how people deal with not the best of circumstances. I happened to be able to see that in Brandon. It was a close race, it was 8 votes. It was very close. Before the vote certification, Brandon was very optimistic. I had never gone to a vote certification so I was very interested in that. I also wanted to support Brandon. I went to it and I was very positive. Brandon was very positive he was going to win. When they said no he didn't win, I was really disappointed and for Brandon it must've been a gut punch. He was speechless for a while and we sat through a little bit more of what was going on by the election officials. We both left and before we went our ways out in the parking lot, Brandon was already talking about different ways he could give to our community. He was talking about, he could work more with Lions Club, and he could work more with the Boy Scouts. Even though he got hit with this blow, he was already talking about Canal Winchester. He was not talking about leaving. He was talking about his commitment to this community. I would like you to support him in terms of the new Council member.

Christopher Ellison, 7171 Charleton Court – I'll keep this brief. I just want to thank each of you and everyone here tonight for participating in our community, stepping up, and being involved. I did have a question on which hopefully you guys can give me an answer to later. I just thought of it in regards to the Finance Report. I know that the conservative estimate was that revenues are down. I'm wondering how that's impacted by the cancellation or the ending of the emergency order from COVID that ended back on December 31st. I know I got shifted to work from home during COVID. I was still paying Columbus City taxes because I work for the state government but now I pay Canal Winchester taxes. I can't help but imagine that there's quite a few people in the same boat as me that are paying Canal Winchester City income taxes now that previously paid Columbus taxes. I can't imagine it's a lot the other way around. I'm wondering if there's been any projections on income tax growth. The second thing, I do not envy any of you today. You have a difficult decision in front of you. I don't know all the candidates that have thrown their name in the hat for the vacant City Council position. I'm sure they're all well qualified. I know Brandon, he refereed our Cub Scout Pinewood Derby this past year and did a great job. I met Will a few years ago, obviously well qualified because he's been up there with you guys. Tom, what can I say about Tom? Tom is awesome. I'm here because I want to support my good friend Doug Snyder. That's why I'm here today. Doug's been a supplier of my picture frames out of his basement shop for my movie poster collection in my basement for a number of years. I've known him for a very long time. He's my partner in crime with the Boy Scout troop. We're on the committee chair. Nobody I trust more, in fact I trusted him with my son just last week where he took him up to Minnesota to canoe the border waters up there. There're not enough good things I can say about him and I hope you all consider him.

G. Reports of City Officials and Staff*Mayor's Report*

Ebert – I really don't have a whole lot to add to my written report. I do want to go over the Canal Winchester & SWACO Partnership. The City of Canal Winchester is partnering with SWACO, Solid Waste Authority of Central Ohio. The reason for the partnership is to further teach residents of Canal Winchester how to Recycle Right. The free webinar is being offered on Thursday July 7th at 6:30 p.m. to help residents Recycle Right, answer common recycling questions, provide the necessary tools and resources residents need to make recycling right, and convenient for their household. The link to register is available on the City's website calendar. If you can't attend you can still register in advance and have the seminar emailed to your inbox. Other than that, I don't have anything new.

Fairfield County Sheriff

Sgt. Walker – I went through our call history from Friday afternoon until this morning around 7:00 a.m. and we only received about five fireworks complaints. Out of those five, we didn't cite anybody. Best course of action is to educate them. When the deputies were told they had a fireworks complaint, they go and look for them. Out of those four or five, they couldn't determine where those fireworks were coming from. There was a lot of fireworks throughout the City this weekend. No one was cited, our best course of action was trying to educate them about it. I know last time an individual came in here and stressed about a certain area. We did not get any calls about that certain area so that was good.

Shea – Any fires?

Sgt. Walker – No, that I'm aware of anyway. No fires, no hands blown off.

Shea – Very good. What about the flag that caught on fire over at the church?

Sgt. Walker – We're still investigating that.

Milliken – I've read some things recently on a national level with regards to fuel prices and how they affected Police Departments. How has the fuel affected your department? Do you have a fuel budget?

Sgt. Walker – We do have a fuel budget and right now we put into place where it's every 15 minutes out of the hour shut your car off. We do have electronics in the car that sometimes if you shut the car off, our electronics will die like our computer that holds all of our calls. Right now, we have it in place that every 15 minutes shut your car off, if you're going to be out of the car more than 15 minutes shut the car off. We're doing pretty well with it.

Law Director

Boggs – I don't have anything to report this evening but I'm happy to answer any questions you may have.

Finance Director

Jackson – I don't have anything in addition to my written report this evening but I would like to address the public comment from earlier. As you all know, we use the Regional Income Tax Agency as our third-party administrator. In order for me to really get a good idea of how the working from home has changed our income tax collections, I have to go through our reports line by line, business by business, person by person. RITA does provide some updates on where they have estimated things to have gone. I have not gotten one from them recently but I will reach out to them this week and see what they can tell us about

our accounts. They have access to stuff that I don't to make coming up with that information a lot quicker. Obviously, we know that the landscape has changed with working from home. I know years ago we used to tell you that only 6% of our residents actually paid income taxes here. I'm sure that has shifted but I can't give you a percentage right now of what that is shifted to.

Amos – Maybe I'm remembering this incorrectly but when a person files their taxes, do they have to say they worked from Canal Winchester instead of their typical answer which would be whatever City they worked generally from? If they worked from Columbus, usually you would say I work in Columbus, you'd have to say you worked in Canal Winchester in order for us to get that tax benefit.

Jackson – Yes but you still have to work with your individual employer to make sure that they are withholding property, if they're withholding property at all so I would encourage everyone to make sure that their paychecks do reflect the appropriate taxes. If you have questions about that feel free to reach out to myself or my assistant, we can help you through that. Generally speaking yes, when you fill out your tax return, you're supposed to tell them the locality you work from.

Amos – So, there's still a chance that a lot of these people who are working from home are still listed as working wherever they were before? They just don't know that they can change it.

Jackson – Correct.

Public Service Director

Peoples – Just a couple highlights from my written report. On the Water Reclamation Facility Headworks project, we've had a structural engineer look at the integrity of the wet well. The structure that we have there that we're looking to replace, we've been doing that for probably the last five years or so. This year they came with some news that it is deteriorating a little bit faster and there is some suspect structural integrity of that facility. The only thing that does is puts a little bit more expediency on the process that we're going through. We still have the schedule for the planning, design and construction but it just puts a little bit more of that focus on the need for this project. Along with that we got the funding. We received some preliminary notification that we were approved for the Water Supply Revolving Loan Account Funding for about \$2.6 million worth of water line replacements throughout the city. Mainly on Groveport Road, a small section on Gender Road, the Dye/Manor areas, as well as a new waterline connection from McGill Park to Columbus Street. I don't know any timing on that at this point. I know we need to do some infrastructure work in general in the Dye/Manor subdivisions. I think we had a discussion at the last Council meeting regarding the schedule for the TRAC application so included that in my report as well.

Shea – On the Headworks that exists currently that's deteriorating, is there anything that you need to do to shore it up or is it structurally sound still?

Peoples – It is still structurally sound but they have questions about it so what we're going to try to do is minimize the amount of entries that we do under that. Typically, every day, our crews go down into the wet well structure and clean the bar screens. We're going to eliminate those bar screens at least for the time being and see if that will reduce it down to about once a week at the most.

Development Director

Haire – Just a few items to highlight in my written report. We did receive an application for final development plan for two industrial buildings on the Schacht property. That'll be for Planning and Zoning

for consideration at their next meeting which is on Monday evening. I wanted to update in regards to 20 S High Street, I know that's on the agenda for third reading this evening. The environmental consultant has had some delay in getting their laboratory testing back and so we're looking at having that completed by next week. What I would ask is that we table the ordinance this evening until the first meeting in August. We do have time to still comply with our purchase agreement and still meet the timelines required. We'll have all the environmental reporting done at that point in time and essentially if any remediation's on the site.

H. Resolutions

[RES-22-023](#)

Mayor

Sponsor: Amick

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE LABOR DAY FESTIVAL COMMITTEE TO OPERATE THE ANNUAL "CANAL WINCHESTER LABOR DAY FESTIVAL" ON THE VARIOUS STREETS AND SIDEWALKS OF THE CITY OF CANAL WINCHESTER

- Adoption

A motion was made by Amick, seconded by Shea to adopt RES-22-023. The motion carried with the following vote:

Yes 4 – Amick, Shea, Amos, Milliken

Abstain 2 – Clark, Walker

[RES-22-024](#)

Development

Sponsor: Shea

A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE TAX INCENTIVE REVIEW COUNCIL FOR THE FRANKLIN COUNTY TAX ABATEMENT AREAS WITHIN THE CITY OF CANAL WINCHESTER

- Adoption

A motion was made by Shea, seconded by Clark to adopt RES-22-024. The motion carried with the following vote:

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

[RES-22-025](#)

Development

Sponsor: Amos

A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE TAX INCENTIVE REVIEW COUNCIL FOR THE FAIRFIELD COUNTY TAX ABATEMENT AREAS WITHIN THE CITY OF CANAL WINCHESTER

- Adoption

A motion was made by Amos, seconded by Walker to adopt RES-22-025. The motion carried with the following vote:

Yes 5 – Amos, Walker, Amick, Clark, Milliken

Abstain 1 – Shea

[RES-22-026](#)

Council

Sponsor: Amos

A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE A 42-INCH FENCE AT 70 EAST COLUMBUS STREET, FRANKLIN COUNTY AUDITOR PARCEL NUMBER 184-000057

- Adoption

A motion was made by Amos, seconded by Clark to adopt RES-22-026. The motion carried with the following vote:

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

Walker – I want to make sure we have everything we know is okay with the Landmarks and Planning Zoning.

Boggs – This resolution would approve the fence design previously approved by Landmarks Commission which is with the points. The request here for the additional height from 36 to 42 inches has not gone through Planning and Zoning Commission so we don't know what their input would be on it.

Walker – I would like to see that happen to get their point on it.

Boggs – This resolution is in lieu of a fence height variance which would go through Planning and Zoning.

Walker – Even if this is approved tonight?

Boggs – If this is approved tonight there would be no reason for him to go through Planning and Zoning to get a variance although he has an application in for the August meeting is my understanding.

Clark – So, he can build a 36-inch fence or the 42?

Boggs – He has an existing right to build a 36-inch fence. This resolution would allow him to build a 42-inch fence which is what he ultimately wanted.

Walker – Planning and Zoning approved a 36-inch fence, correct?

Boggs – Planning and Zoning did not have to act on a 36 inch because it's permitted by code.

I. Ordinances

Tabled

Third Reading

ORD-22-023

Development

Sponsor: Milliken

AN ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A REAL ESTATE PURCHASE AGREEMENT FOR THE PURCHASE OF 20 SOUTH HIGH STREET, CANAL WINCHESTER, OHIO OWNED BY DONALD E. MOODY

- Adoption

A motion was made by Milliken, seconded by Amos to table ORD-22-023. The motion carried with the following vote:

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

ORD-22-025

Finance

Sponsor: Ward

AN ORDINANCE APPROVING AND ADOPTING THE 2023 TAX BUDGET

- Adoption

A motion was made by Milliken, seconded by Amick to adopt ORD-22-025. The motion carried with the following vote:

Yes 5 – Milliken, Amick, Amos, Clark, Shea

Abstain 1 – Walker

Second Reading - NONE

First Reading**ORD-22-026***Development**Sponsor: Amos*

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF CANAL WINCHESTER TO ENTER INTO A COMMUNITY REINVESTMENT AREA AGREEMENT WITH NORTHPOINT DEVELOPMENT, L.L.C., PURSUANT TO SECTION 3735.671 OF THE OHIO REVISED CODE; AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF CANAL WINCHESTER TO ENTER INTO A RELATED SCHOOL COMPENSATION AGREEMENT WITH THE CANAL WINCHESTER LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT AND NORTHPOINT DEVELOPMENT, L.L.C.; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

- First Reading Only

ORD-22-027*Development**Sponsor: Shea*

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF CANAL WINCHESTER TO ENTER INTO A COMMUNITY REINVESTMENT AREA AGREEMENT WITH NORTHPOINT DEVELOPMENT, L.L.C., PURSUANT TO SECTION 3735.671 OF THE OHIO REVISED CODE; AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF CANAL WINCHESTER TO ENTER INTO A RELATED SCHOOL COMPENSATION AGREEMENT WITH THE CANAL WINCHESTER LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT AND NORTHPOINT DEVELOPMENT, L.L.C.; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

- First Reading Only

J. Council Reports

Rules Committee - Monday, August 1, 2022 at 5:00 p.m.

Work Session/Council - Monday, August 1, 2022 at 6:00 p.m.

Work Session/Council - Monday, August 15, at 6:00 p.m.

CW Human Services - Walker

Walker – I have nothing to report at this time.

CWICC - Ward

Clark – Next meeting is August 31st.

CWJRD - Amos/Shea

Shea – Soccer registration is going. Baseball fall is going. Swimming is wrapping up. We're having lots of fun. Costs are going to go up because referees and umpires are more and more expensive. Please be kind to those people that officiate your games.

Amos – On the business side, we're getting ready to post our positions for our assistants to the directors so that will be coming out. We're on vacation for July and will return August 18th at 7:00 p.m. in Town Hall.

Shea – Yoga in the Park summer session registration is open too.

Destination: Canal Winchester - Milliken

Milliken – Things are starting to amp up with Blues & Ribfest. Farmers Market are still every Saturday, it continues to be well attended. There's been additional seating added at the Farmers Market for attendees that want to grab something to eat or cup of coffee to sit and listen to music. There's plenty of sponsorship opportunities available for Blues & Ribfest and also volunteers are still needed to work the information booth and the greeting room for entertainment.

K. Old/New Business**OTH-22-013**

Acceptance of A. Ward Resignation

A motion was made by Shea, seconded by Amos to accept A. Ward Resignation. The motion carried with the following vote:

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

OTH-22-014

Appointment to Vacant Council Seat

A motion was made by Clark, seconded by Walker to nominate Steve Buskirk to fill the vacant Council seat. The motion carried with the following vote:

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

L. Adjourn to Executive Session @ 7:42 p.m.

A motion was made by Milliken, seconded by Amos to adjourn to executive session to consider the appointment of a public official under Ohio Revised Code Section 121.22(G) (1). The motion carried with the following vote:

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

City Council returned from executive session at 10:22 p.m.

M. Adjournment @ 10:23 p.m.

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

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