

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of

Dublin City Council

Meeting

GOVERNMENT FORMS & SUPPLIES 844-224-3338 FORM NO. 10148

Held May 9, 2022 20

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Fox called the Monday, May 9, 2022 Regular Meeting of Dublin City Council to order at 6:16 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present were Ms. Alutto, Ms. Amorose Groomes, Vice Mayor De Rosa, Mayor Fox, Mr. Keeler, and Ms. Kramb (virtual). Mr. Reiner arrived just after Executive Session began. Staff members present were Mr. McDaniel, Ms. Readler, Ms. O’Callaghan, Mr. Earman, Mr. Stiffler, Mr. Rogers, Ms. LeRoy, Mr. Dearth, Ms. Goliver, Ms. Blake, Ms. Mullinax, Ms. Rauch, Ms. Weisenauer, and Chief Paez.

Also present: Ty Wilson and Omar Ayoub, Student Wrestling Champions.

ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mayor Fox moved to adjourn to executive session for the purposes of:

- Personnel Matters: Considering the Appointment of a Public Official;
- Conferencing with an attorney for the public body concerning disputes involving the public body that are the subject of pending or imminent court action; and
- To consider the Purchase of Property for a Public Purpose.

Ms. Alutto seconded.

Vote on the motion: Ms. Amorose Groomes, yes; Ms. Kramb, yes; Mayor Fox, yes; Ms. Alutto, yes; Mr. Keeler, yes; Vice Mayor De Rosa, yes.

RECONVENE – 7:00 P.M.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Fox invited Mr. Keeler to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

- Ty Wilson – Wrestling Champion
- Omar Ayoub – Wrestling Champion

Mayor Fox invited the champion wrestlers forward and read the proclamations.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Alexander Herridge, 5004 Galway Dr., Dublin, stated that he wanted to bring forward the topic of the sustainability plan. He wanted to make sure the plan was still in place. He wants to see Dublin become a leader in sustainability and take environmental issues seriously. The majority of U.S. adults think that addressing climate change is a priority. He stated that the there is a Sustainability Framework from 2018-2020 that is already in place, but only 15 of the 35 stated goals have been completed. He would like to see the City continue to work on the remaining goals. Developing a website for sustainability to inform residents what the City is doing and to demonstrate how the citizens can participate is important. He asked that the Sustainability Advisory Team be reinstated. Mayor Fox thanked Mr. Herridge for his comments. She suggested that staff could answer any questions he has about what the City is doing for sustainability. He asked about what staff members he could speak with. Mr. McDaniel asked Mr. Earman to exchange contact information with Mr. Herridge.

Ms. Alutto encouraged Mr. Herridge to reach out to the Solid Wast Authority of Central Ohio (SWACO) as they are working on sustainability initiatives also.

CONSENT AGENDA

There was no request to remove any of the consent agenda items.

- April 25, 2022 Regular Meeting Minutes
- Notice to Legislative Authority of a New D5J Liquor Permit for Meatball Mafia LLC, 55 S. High Street, Suite 101 and 103, Dublin, Ohio 43017.

Mayor Fox moved to approve the consent agenda items.



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Mr. Reiner seconded.

Vote on the motion: Mr. Keeler, yes; Mr. Reiner, yes; Ms. Alutto, yes; Ms. Kramb, yes Mayor Fox, yes; Vice Mayor De Rosa, yes; Ms. Amorose Groomes, yes.

SECOND READING/PUBLIC HEARING – ORDINANCES

Ordinance 16-22  
Amending Ordinance 84-21 Adjusting the Ward Boundaries of the City of Dublin, as Required by Article 9.04 of the Revised Charter

Mr. Rogers stated that there are no changes from the first reading of this Ordinance. Staff recommended approval.

There were no public comments.

Vote on the Ordinance: Ms. Kramb, yes; Mr. Reiner, yes; Mr. Keeler, yes; Ms. Amorose Groomes, yes; Vice Mayor De Rosa, yes; Mayor Fox, yes; Ms. Alutto, yes.

Ordinance 17-22  
Petitioning the Board of County Commissioners of Union County, Ohio to Adjust the Boundary Lines of Jerome Township so as to Exclude that Territory that, as a Result of Annexation, now lies Within the Corporate Boundaries of the City of Dublin (Roger Warren Gorden, Trustee of the Roger Warren Gorden Living Trust and Denise Ann Gorden, Trustee of the Denise Ann Gorden Living Trust’s Annexation of 44.0 +/- Acres – Ordinance 87-17)

Ms. Readler stated that there are no changes from the first reading. Staff recommended approval.

There were no public comments.

Vote on the Ordinance: Ms. Alutto, yes; Mayor Fox, yes; Mr. Keeler, yes; Mr. Reiner, yes; Ms. Kramb, yes; Ms. Amorose Groomes, yes; Vice Mayor De Rosa, yes.

Ordinance 18-22  
Authorizing the City Manager to Enter into a Real Estate Purchase Agreement for Certain Property Owned by the Orr Family LP in Franklin County, Ohio, Authorizing the Execution of Related Agreements and Documents and Appropriating Funds Therefor

Ms. Readler stated that there are no changes from the first reading. Staff recommended approval.

There were no public comments.

Vote on the Ordinance: Vice Mayor De Rosa, yes; Ms. Amorose Groomes, yes; Ms. Kramb, yes; Mr. Reiner, yes; Mr. Keeler, yes; Ms. Alutto, yes; Mayor Fox, yes.

INTRODUCTION/FIRST READING/PUBLIC HEARING - ORDINANCES

Ordinance 19-22  
Amending the Annual Appropriations Ordinance for the Fiscal Year Ending December 31, 2022

Ms. Alutto introduced the Ordinance.  
Mr. Stiffler provided a brief financial overview. He stated that the income tax revenues are up 23% so far this year. The City is well ahead of the projection and budget for this year. The Hotel/Motel Fund shows the importance of summer. The City is well ahead of budget in this fund as well. Regarding the General Fund balance, the balance is currently \$65.8 million which is \$21 million in excess of our reserve requirements. Mr. Stiffler illustrated that all of the funds that have expenditures in this Ordinance are



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well funded to make these appropriations and still have a significant amount of fund balance remaining.

Ms. Alutto asked about utility increases. Mr. Stiffler stated that we are seeing increases in the fuel line.

There were no public comments.

Second Reading/Public Hearing is scheduled for the May 23, 2022 Council Meeting.

INTRODUCTION/PUBLIC HEARING/VOTE – RESOLUTIONS

Resolution 21-22  
Authorizing the City Manager to Enter into an Agreement with Artist Ilan Averbuch for the Design, Construction and Installation of “The Boat in the Field” located at M. L. “Red” Trabue Nature Preserve

Ms. Alutto introduced the Resolution.

Mr. Earman stated that Council selected the M.L. “Red” Trabue Nature Preserve as the location for an Art in Public Places installation. In early 2022, the Public Art Committee selected a work by Ilan Averbuch for that installation. Hotel/Motel funds were appropriated to fund this project. This resolution authorizes the City Manager to enter into contract with the artist for the remaining design, construction and installation of the artwork. Staff recommended approval.

Alvey Smith, 9023 Portofino Place, expressed excitement about the Boat in the Field artwork and stated that he likes all the art in the City.

Vice Mayor De Rosa asked about benches or any other additions to the area around the artwork. Mr. Earman stated that this contract only covers the artwork, but staff could go back later and add benches.

Mayor Fox asked about the natural environment and how much of it will be cleared. Mr. Earman stated that the rendering accurately depict what will be cleared.

Vote on the Resolution: Mr. Reiner, yes; Ms. Amorose Groomes, yes; Vice Mayor De Rosa, yes; Mr. Keeler, yes; Mayor Fox, yes; Ms. Kramb, yes; Ms. Alutto, yes.

Resolution 22-22  
Adopting the City of Dublin’s Goals for 2022-2023

Ms. Alutto introduced the Resolution.

Mr. Rogers stated that, as directed by Council at their 2022 retreat, staff is bringing forward a Resolution accepting the 2022-2023 goals and the 2022 retreat report.

There were no public comments.

Vote on the Resolution: Mr. Keeler, yes; Ms. Kramb, yes; Ms. Amorose Groomes, yes; Ms. Alutto, yes; Vice Mayor De Rosa, yes; Mr. Reiner, yes; Mayor Fox, yes.

OTHER BUSINESS

- Buidling Use Policy for Council Chamber Building

The Clerk of Council gave the following report. The policy before Council at this meeting was reviewed by the Administrative Committee on October 5 and then by Council as a whole at their October 18, 2021 work session. Consensus was reached on the policy as provided at the work session, with the addition of special permit language regarding alcohol and one follow-up item, which was requiring a credit card or deposit to use the space. The Clerk discussed deposits with the Finance Director. He stated that staff eliminated the collection of deposits for the rental of City facilities at the Dublin Community Recreation Center. It was determined that the costs associated with administering deposits are substantial and the efforts far outweigh the need to secure and hold deposits. The policy does have language noting that the requestor for



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the space is responsible for any damages and a signature would be required indicating acknowledgment of that responsibility.

There were no public comments.

Mayor Fox asked about the use of space in the evening and whether or not there was a cost associated with that. The Clerk responded that there would likely be a charge for that due to the requirement that a staff member would need to be present.

Ms. Alutto moved to adopt the Building Use Policy for the Council Chamber Building. Vice Mayor De Rosa seconded.

Vote on the motion: Ms. Amorose Groomes, yes; Ms. Kramb, yes; Mr. Reiner, yes; Vice Mayor De Rosa, yes; Ms. Alutto, yes; Mayor Fox, yes; Mr. Keeler, yes.

- Beautify Your Neighborhood Grants

Ms. Mullinax stated that on April 18, 2022, the Community Development Committee reviewed and recommended approval of six applications from the following associations:

- Village at Coffman Park (\$4,840)
- Killilea (\$3,977)
- Hawks Nest (\$5,000)
- Heather Glen (\$1,398)
- Tartan West (\$5,000)
- Llewellyn Farms (\$5,000)

The total requested funds with this round of applications is \$25,215. The total funding available for 2022 is \$32,000, with the maximum amount permitted per application of \$5,000.

Mr. Reiner moved to approve Beautify Your Neighborhood Grant Applications as recommended by the Community Development Committee. Ms. Alutto seconded.

Vote on the motion: Mayor Fox, yes; Ms. Amorose Groomes, yes; Mr. Keeler, yes; Ms. Alutto, yes; Vice Mayor De Rosa, yes; Mr. Reiner, yes; Ms. Kramb, yes.

- Independence Day Event Admission Prices

Ms. LeRoy stated that the industry-wide costs for event entertainers and related services have increased significantly since 2019. As such, staff has reviewed the estimated cost for this year’s Independence Day celebration and is proposing changes to the following admission fees to help offset the anticipated increases.

Proposed Admission Fee Changes:

	Previous	Proposed
General Admission Prices		
Presales – Dublin & School district	\$3	\$5
Onsite Sales – All	\$5	\$10
Reserved Table Sales of 8	\$150/Table of 10	\$200/Table
Kid’s Area Wristbands	\$5	\$10

Mr. Keeler stated that the prices seem low in comparison to other events. Ms. LeRoy stated that in 2019, staff had asked to increase prices, but Council wanted to keep the price affordable.

Vice Mayor De Rosa asked about wristband sales being online as well. Ms. LeRoy stated that it is an option to purchase them online. She stated that tracking residency is easier to do online now, so they will be able to do more online. Vice Mayor De Rosa stated that she was in favor of an increase of 10%.



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Ms. Alutto stated she would like to see a discount for people to buy kid’s area wristbands online.

Mr. Keeler moved to approve the price increase.  
Ms. Aluttol seconded.

Vote on the motion: Vice Mayor De Rosa, yes; Mr. Reiner, yes; Ms. Amorose Groomes, yes; Ms. Alutto, yes; Ms. Kramb, yes; Mayor Fox, yes; Mr. Keeler, yes.

- Holiday Markets

Ms. LeRoy stated that the Holiday Market topic was referred to the Public Services Committee (PSC) by Council on February 28, 2022. Staff posed a number of questions to the Committee, and the PSC determined that there is a lack of firms that specialize in providing feasibility analysis for an event as unique as holiday markets. Therefore, the PSC supported staff conducting an internal feasibility study rather than engaging a third-party firm. Staff provided the PSC potential dates, costs, and destinations for an international fact-finding trip, focused on researching holiday markets in Germany and other potential European locations. The PSC engaged in a broad conversation regarding the pros and cons of a fact-finding trip, particularly an international fact-finding trip. There was discussion regarding the necessity of experiencing a European holiday market to gain a comprehensive understanding of the type of event the City desires, as well as the ability to interview event organizers and make connections with potential vendors on-site.

There were no public comments.

Vice Mayor De Rosa stated that it has been the history of this Council to go out and look at things around the world. Many of these successful ideas exist outside the U.S. There are local markets we can learn things from. If we are going to truly explore the feasibility of a holiday/Christmas market, then it is better to go to the source. She referenced the fourth Council goal that was just passed, which is to be the destination of choice for the next generation. She stated that timing is a really important part of this. It is her perspective that travel (staff and Council) to these markets is imperative to learning more about it.

Mr. Keeler agreed with Vice Mayor De Rosa’s perspective. He stated that it has been awhile since Council traveled abroad and he expressed its importance to understanding these types of events. He is supportive of Council’s travel abroad.

Mr. Reiner agreed and stated that there is additional knowledge to be gained while on the trip such as performing arts centers, architecture, parks, etc. The last few trips out of Ohio were very fruitful and there is a lot to be gained from these trips.

Ms. Amorose Groomes stated that when the Irish Festival started, we were able to see what we were capable of and what the community interest was. It would be important to introduce this to the community to gauge their level of interest in an event like this. Dublin has never set out to copy someone else, but it might be appropriate to look around close by to get started. She would rather see Dublin build this organically rather than transplant something from somewhere else. She would be supportive of looking domestically first and seeing if there is community interest.

Mayor Fox stated that there are many good examples domestically, but they all probably originated from the European markets. She agreed there are many opportunities to engage with the public. She stated that she is in favor of this because it is part of Council’s goals to have a unique event like this and it will be beneficial to the hospitality service industry as well.

Ms. Kramb stated that she agrees with Ms. Amorose Groomes about engaging public interest. She would suggest starting with the feasibility study and exploring local first. Ms. Alutto commented (inaudible).

Mayor Fox expressed the concern that if you visit domestic holiday markets first, then a whole year will pass before you would have the opportunity to see the international markets.



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Vice Mayor De Rosa stated that traveling to the domestic markets and interviewing staff to see what the staff has learned would be very useful. She stated that the challenge is that there is not an equivalent in the U.S. to the international markets. She had the opportunity to speak with Mr. Dring and he too, would be interested in traveling overseas to see these attractions.

Mr. Reiner stated that there are many other things to see as well such as the architecture, parks, etc. This is an opportunity to see and study many different things. If we want to be a progressive City, then we need to be out there doing the progressive things.

Mr. Keeler stated that the City has a history of travel, so that is not unusual. He added that the community has put Council in this position to make the difficult decisions. He supports traveling abroad because it is important to think big.

Ms. Alutto stated that there was a great deal of public engagement around the Dublin Link and Bridge Street.

Mayor Fox stated that there was consensus on the feasibility study. She stated there was also consensus regarding engagement with the public. At the conclusion of the feasibility study, travel can be entertained. She asked Mr. McDaniel for his suggestions.

Mr. McDaniel stated that the City has been aggressive in the Economic Development strategy to engage overseas. We have also had friendship city engagements. The City budgets for international travel as needs arise. The City has a long history of benchmarking. This comes down to the following: level of interest in a holiday market; what we need to know about holiday markets; how much is enough to know and whether we should benchmark off of those who invented these markets in Europe. If so, then the international travel is necessary to benchmark and learn more. The domestic markets are a good start; however, you will miss the international markets. If Council is serious enough about holiday markets, then be willing to do both domestic and international research.

Ms. Alutto moved to direct staff to conduct a feasibility study.  
Vice Mayor De Rosa seconded.

Vote on the motion: Ms. Alutto, yes; Ms. Kramb, yes; Vice Mayor De Rosa, yes; Mr. Keeler, yes; Mayor Fox, yes; Ms. Amorose Groomes, yes; Mr. Reiner, yes.

Vice Mayor De Rosa moved to explore the feasibility of holiday markets both domestically and internationally.  
Mr. Reiner seconded.

Ms. Amorose Groomes suggested that staff report back to Council on what a holiday market would cost. She explained that if it is reasonable to explore further after seeing those costs, then she would be supportive of travel to see some of these markets.

Vote on the motion: Ms. Amorose Groomes, yes; Mr. Reiner, yes; Mr. Keeler, yes; Ms. Alutto, yes; Mayor Fox, yes; Ms. Kramb, no; Vice Mayor De Rosa, yes.

- General Fund Balance Utilization

Mr. McDaniel stated that this discussion is a follow-up to the discussion held at the Council Retreat. Mr. Stiffler stated that at the Council retreat, staff presented a path forward to minimize audit risk and maximize flexibility regarding administration of the American Recuse Plan (ARPA) Funds. Mr. Stiffler explained that the ARPA funding will be utilized for safety expenditures, thereby freeing up general fund dollars that were originally slated for those same expenditures to be used to subsidize Recreation and Hotel/Motel Tax Funds. Looking beyond the City's Recreation and Hotel/Motel Funds, staff identified priorities with regard to this funding focusing on providing funding for improvements or activities that will provide a direct and lasting benefit to the community as well as supporting those organizations that have seen increased needs and provided additional support to different parts of our community as a result of COVID-19. Staff brought forward recommendations regarding the funding. Mr. Stiffler



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explained that these appropriations will occur through supplemental appropriation ordinances if approved by Council.

There were no public comments.

Mr. Keeler stated that he would be supportive of increasing the funding for the recreation center.

Ms. Amorose Groomes stated that she agreed with looking harder at recreation facilities.

Vice Mayor De Rosa stated that it is a broad scope of assistance to help these organizations gain some longevity. She is hopeful that this will allow these organizations to jump start some fundraising to help them reach their goals.

Mr. Reiner agrees with the recommendations.

Mayor Fox read the following:

Funding in General Fund made available by American Rescue Plan Funding		Amount
City Safety Operations		
Social worker		\$150,000
Support for Community and Regional Organizations		
Dublin Arts Council Building Improvements*		\$180,000
Art In Public Places		\$225,000
Dublin Arts Council Subsidy		\$300,000
Visit Dublin Ohio Subsidy		\$300,000
Dublin Food Pantry*		\$75,000
Dublin Bridges*		\$75,000
Dublin Food Pantry Building Fund*		\$300,000
Dublin Community Foundation Grant*		\$25,000
Syntero		\$75,000
Downtown Coordination Group and/or Events		\$325,000
Council of Governments		\$75,000
Dublin Chamber of Commerce		\$50,000
Renovation of City Facilities		
Dublin Community Recreation Center		\$3,000,000
* Requires 50% match of City funding		

Mr. Keeler moved to direct staff to proceed with bringing forward legislation.

Ms. Alutto seconded.

Vote on the motion: Ms. Kramb, yes; Mr. Keeler, yes; Mr. Reiner, yes; Vice Mayor De Rosa, yes; Mayor Fox, yes; Ms. Alutto, yes; Ms. Amorose Groomes, yes.

STAFF COMMENTS

Mr. McDaniel shared that in celebration of Bike Month in May, staff has organized a Bike Rodeo event on May 14 between 10:00 a.m. – noon at the Darby Lot in Historic Dublin. The focus of the Rodeo is to focus on safety and introduction to micromobility. There will be music and a food truck as part of the celebration as well.

COUNCIL REPORTS

- Committees
  - Administrative Committee: no report.
  - Community Development Committee: no report.
  - Finance Committee: Ms. Alutto stated the next meeting is tomorrow (May 10).
  - Public Services Committee: Ms. Kramb stated the next meeting will be Monday, May 16.



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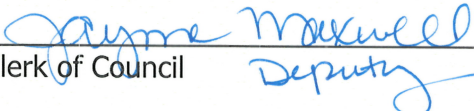
COUNCIL ROUNDTABLE

- Mr. Keeler: commended the Dublin Chamber of Commerce for Community Service Day. There was a lot of great work happening in the City for the benefit of the community as a whole. He also shared the importance of testing our technology and he was happy to have Ms. Kramb join virtually.
- Mr. Reiner: shared that the Guided Nature Walks provided by the Dublin Arts Council, are starting.
- Ms. Amorose Groomes: reminded everyone of the Dodgeball Tournament on Friday, May 13 to benefit the Dublin City Schools; and
  - She also thanked the Leadership Dublin project team that is working on childcare initiatives.
  - She thanked Chief Paez for the Drug Take Back Day.
  - She shared that the Rapid 5 initiative is gaining traction.
  - Encouraged Council members to watch the PZC meeting on May 5. There was great dialogue and great work being done.
  - She thanked the Chamber for the Community Service Day. So many people came out to help their neighbors and it was great to see.
  - She congratulated Representative Beth Liston for receiving the COSI STEM Award.
  - She shared that she reached out to Senator Kunze and Representatives Tracy Richardson and Beth Liston regarding HB 563.
  - She has a follow-up meeting about workforce initiatives tomorrow with the Lieutenant Governor and she will provide an update on that meeting.
- Vice Mayor De Rosa: Thanked the Parks and Recreation teams for keeping the paths lovely and encouraged everyone to get out and celebrate Bike Month.
- Mayor Fox: Congratulated the students involved with the Historic Davis Cabin on a wonderful event by turning the cabin into a living museum. They collected items and provided demonstrations. She congratulated the teacher for this successful event.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:29 p.m.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor -- Presiding Officer

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk of Council Deputy