CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Fox called the Monday, November 7, 2022 Regular Meeting of Dublin City Council to order at 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present were Ms. Alutto, Ms. Amorose Groomes, Vice Mayor De Rosa, Mayor Fox, Mr. Keeler, Ms. Kramb and Mr. Reiner.

Staff members present were Ms. O'Callaghan, Ms. Readler, Mr. Stiffler, Mr. Ranc, Mr. Rogers, Mr. Gable, Ms. Weisenauer, Mr. Earman, Ms. LeRoy, Ms. Willis, Chief Paez, Ms. Murray, Ms. Goliver, Ms. Blake, Ms. Miglietti, and Mr. Ament.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

There were no special presentations.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

There were no comments.

CONSENT AGENDA

- Excuse the absence of Mayor Fox from the October 24, 2022 meeting
- October 17, 2022 Minutes of the Work Session
- October 24, 2022 Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting

There was no request to remove a consent agenda item.
Ms. Alutto moved to approve the consent agenda.
Mr. Reiner seconded.

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

SECOND READING/PUBLIC HEARING – ORDINANCES

Ordinance 56-22

Amending Chapter 35 of the Codified Ordinances to Revise the Fee and Service Charge Revenue/Cost Comparison System and Establishing a Schedule of Fees and Service Charges for the City of Dublin Services

Ms. Murray referred to a memo that was provided to Council providing additional information about the event fees related to Ordinance 56-22. No changes have been made to the Ordinance since the first reading. Staff recommended approval.

There were no public comments.

Vice Mayor De Rosa thanked staff for the additional information on the event fees. She was particularly interested in the Tier I fee increase from $50 to $200 in a few years. She asked, of the 28 Tier I events, how many of them were recurring events. Ms. LeRoy stated that about ¾ of the events are recurring.
Vice Mayor De Rosa stated that she is troubled about going up that dramatically in a short time. She is concerned about discouraging people from doing events due to the fees. She wants to encourage those events. She recommended Council consider going up to $100 next year and making it more of a gradual increase.
Ms. Kramb asked how many events are paying the full fee versus having some paid by grant money. Ms. LeRoy stated that very few of the Tier I events are covered under the Hotel/Motel funding. The Tier II events are the events that receive the Hotel/Motel tax funding.

Ms. Amorose Groomes stated that there are no changes proposed for 2023. She asked if the fee could be changed fee to $100 in 2023 and then $150 in 2024, etc.

Ms. LeRoy stated that it was possible. Ms. Amorose Groomes stated that she would be supportive of inching toward that number rather than leaping to it. Ms. Alutto agreed. Mayor Fox stated that she agreed with Vice Mayor De Rosa's comments that these events are to be encouraged because it adds to the vitality and quality of life. Tier I events are usually small, but she would advocate leaving it as low as possible.
Vice Mayor De Rosa stated that she was fine with $100.
Ms. Alutto stated that a graduated approach makes sense because these fees and costs will be evaluated again in a few years.

Ms. Amorose Groomes moved to amend the Tier I event fee to increase by 50% in 2023 and 25% every year thereafter.
Ms. Alutto seconded.

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

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

INTRODUCTION/FIRST READING/PUBLIC HEARING - ORDINANCES
Ordinance 57-22
To Appropriate an Easement from Carla Grace Baldwin, Amy Jo Hall, Danny Lynn Johnson, and the Heirs of Roy Carl Johnson (Deceased), from the Property Located at 105 Franklin Street, for the Public Purpose of Carrying out the South High Street Utility Burial Project 19-030-CIP
Ms. Alutto introduced the Ordinance.
Mr. Gable stated that this project consists of relocating overhead utility and telecommunication lines underground. The existing utility poles will be removed at the end of the second phase of this project. This project must be completed before the start of the Franklin Street Improvement project. Acquisitions from 23 property owners are necessary to begin phase 1 of this project. During the course of the acquisition phase, one of the property owners died leaving the property interests to four heirs. One of those heirs is deceased and therefore, the estate must go through the probate process. The three living owners are agreeable to the terms of the acquisition and have granted the City a Right-of-Entry to perform the work on the parcel while the probate process continues. This Ordinance allows the project to remain on schedule and proceed with construction.

There were no public comments.

Second reading/public hearing is scheduled for the November 14, 2022 Council meeting.

Mayor Fox moved to waive the Council Rules of Order and read Ordinances 58-22 through 61-22 together.
Ms. Alutto seconded.

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

Ordinance 58-22
Authorizing the City Manager to Execute and Accept Necessary Conveyance Documents and Contracts to Acquire an Easement from the Property Located on Franklin Street, Identified as Franklin County Parcel Number 273-000140-00 from Hal Stuart Mueller and Arlene Gaudens Mueller, for the Public Purpose of Carrying out the South High Street Utility Burial Project 19-030-CIP

Ordinance 59-22
Authorizing the City Manager to Execute and Accept Necessary Conveyance Documents and Contracts to Acquire an Easement from the Property Located on South High Street, Identified as Franklin County Parcel Number 273-000093-00 from Stephanie Allespach and Mark O. Allespach, Co-Trustees of "the Allespach Convertible Investment Property Trust", Dated December 13, 2011, for the Public Purpose of Carrying out the South High Street Utility Burial Project 19-030-CIP

Ordinance 60-22
Authorizing the City Manager to Execute and Accept Necessary Conveyance Documents and Contracts to Acquire an Easement from the Property Located on Franklin Street, Identified as Franklin County Parcel Number 273-000125-00 from Alan P. Szuter and Mary L. Szuter, for the Public Purpose of Carrying out the South High Street Utility Burial Project 19-030-CIP

Ordinance 61-22
Authorizing the City Manager to Execute and Accept Necessary Conveyance Documents and Contracts to Acquire an Easement from the Property Located on Franklin Street, Identified as Franklin County Parcel Number 273-000129-00 from Shannon Marie Crone, for the Public Purpose of Carrying out the South High Street Utility Burial Project 19-030-CIP
Ms. Alutto introduced the Ordinances.
Mr. Gable stated that these Ordinances are the second set of acquisitions for the South High Street Utility Burial project. Acquisitions of property interests from 23 property owners are necessary to begin phase 1 of this project. This project will begin early in 2023 and be completed in late summer of 2023. The City has participated in good faith discussions with property owners and they have come to agreeable terms.

There were no public comments.

Second readings/public hearings are scheduled for the November 14, 2022 Council meeting.

Mayor Fox announced that she would be recusing herself from the reading and discussion of Ordinance 62-22. Vice Mayor De Rosa facilitated the reading of this Ordinance.

Ordinance 62-22
Authorizing the City Manager to Execute and Accept Necessary Conveyance Documents and Contracts to Acquire an Easement from the Property Located on Dublin Road, Identified as Franklin County Parcel Number 273-011777-00 from John Begley and Lori Begley, for the Public Purpose of Carrying out the South High Street Utility Burial Project 19-030-CIP
Ms. Alutto introduced the Ordinance.
Mr. Gable stated that this is an additional acquisition of property interest for the South High Street Utility Burial project. The details of the property were provided to Council in their packet. The City has participated in good faith discussions with the property owners and they have arrived at mutually agreeable terms.

There were no public comments.

Second reading/public hearing is scheduled for the November 14, 2022 Council meeting.

Ordinance 63-22
Authorizing the Modification of the City's Investment Policy
Ms. Alutto introduced the Ordinance.

Mr. Stiffler stated that the investment policy was reviewed by the Finance Committee on three occasions. The purpose of those reviews was to update the language and any details of the investment mix the City may seek. The main modifications involve removing the Investment Advisory Committee and inserting the Finance Committee to be the reviewing body for the investment portfolio. The Finance Committee would meet annually to review investment policy compliance, reporting compliance, internal control compliance, review the sale of any security prior to the maturity date, liquidity concerns, investment inventory, transactions for the period, and realized incomes. This would allow a better understanding of Council's objectives and the Investment Advisor's performance as well as a strategy moving forward each calendar year. He stated that this policy will be revisited after we implement this new process to ensure that goals are being met.
Mr. Keeler clarified that even though the Investment Advisory Committee is being removed, the City will still be seeking a third party Investment Advisor. Mr. Stiffler responded affirmatively. He would like to contract with an Investment Advisor that is not in charge of the portfolio to advise and discuss the active management of the portfolio with the Finance Committee. Ms. Alutto agreed.

There were no public comments.

Second reading/public hearing is scheduled for the November 14, 2022 Council meeting.

Ordinance 64-22
Amending Chapter 51 Establishing User Fees and Capacity Charges for the Sanitary Sewer
Ms. Alutto introduced the Ordinance.
Mr. Stiffler stated that staff is recommending a fee increase in 2023 of 8%, which amounts to a little over a dollar per month. Years 2024 and 2025 are estimated to be a 6% increase and years 2026 and 2027, a 5% increase. As these numbers are known versus estimated, staff will continue to adjust as necessary in the CIP. Mr. Stiffler stated that the sewer extensions are fully funded by income tax; therefore, there is no positive or negative impact on the Sewer Fund. Sewer rates are largely impacted by the increase in debt service expenditures.
Mr. Stiffler stated that he is projecting little to no increase in the water fee. He stated he is projecting a 0% increase in 2023 and a 1% in years 2024-2027. He stated that if interest rates continue to go up he estimates that the percentage will be more toward zero. Water extensions are fully funded by income tax; therefore, there is no positive or negative impact on the Water Fund. Water rates are impacted by limited revenue generation; very limited cash funded projects in the next five years; utilizing debt to fund waterline replacement instead of cash to better match revenues and expenditures. A stable fund balance is projected for the next five years.

There were no public comments.

Ms. Amorose Groomes asked if it would make sense to increase these rates a little now so a larger increase may not be needed down the road. She referred to the waterline project bid that was on Council's agenda (Resolution 52-22) and asked if it makes sense to inch the rates up if the budgeted amount falls short to get the work done.
Mr. Stiffler stated it is certainly worthy of discussion. Referring to the waterline work, he stated that the funding for this project is part of last year's debt issuance. He stated that given the numbers staff has received for waterline work, it is unlikely that the work can be completed with the funding source. The Water Fund has a very low annual revenue. He offered to work up additional information and options on what rate increases might look like.
Vice Mayor De Rosa asked about last year's chart and the projected percentages. Mr. Stiffler stated that last year the projected percentages were 4% for each year. He stated that these numbers reflect more as actuals. This reflects a better estimate of

what is actually the path forward. Vice Mayor De Rosa was appreciative of the information.

Second reading/public hearing is scheduled for the November 14, 2022 Council meeting.

Ordinance 65-22
Amending Various Sections of Ordinance 15-17 (Compensation Plan for Non-Union Personnel)
Ms. Alutto introduced the Ordinance.
Ms. Miglietti stated that this Ordinance is a companion Ordinance to the Operating Budget. Many of the amendments reflect clarifying language to mirror current practices. Ms. Miglietti highlighted the following changes:

- Wage and salary structure: updating the list of job classifications consistent with what is proposed in the operating budget; and per the consultant recommendations, updating the pay grade table after an extensive biennial review of market pay data;
- Instant Bonus Program increased to $500 from $250;
- Vacation Leave: increasing vacation leave from 40 to 80 hours for employees with less than 1 year of public service; adding federal government to public service credit and removing the waiting period to use vacation;
- Tuition Reimbursement is proposed to increase from $3,000 to $5,000 per calendar year;
- Modifying the overtime to be consistent with the FLSA;
- Increasing shift differential; and
- Gender-neutral language updates.

There were no public comments.

Vice Mayor De Rosa sought clarification regarding vacation accruals. Ms. Miglietti clarified that if an employee comes to Dublin with prior public service, they will accrue vacation at a different rate than an employee with no prior public service. Any employee coming to the City of Dublin would now have two weeks.
Ms. Kramb confirmed that they would have to accrue the vacation before they can use it throughout the year. Ms. Miglietti responded affirmatively.
Ms. Kramb asked why a specific number is listed under the Instant Bonus section. Ms. Miglietti stated that it provides internal direction to staff on past practice.
Mayor Fox expressed gratitude for the additional information that was provided.

Second reading/public hearing is scheduled for the November 14, 2022 Council meeting.

<u>INTRODUCTION/PUBLIC HEARING/VOTE – RESOLUTIONS</u>
Resolution 52-22
Accepting the Lowest and Best Bid for the Waterline Replacements – Phase 6 Project
Ms. Alutto introduced the Resolution.
Mr. Stanford stated that the scope of work for this Project includes the replacement of aging 2-inch and 3-inch public waterlines with 6-inch waterline and associated hydrants and appurtenances. This project was bid with a base bid and two alternates. The base bid included waterline replacements in four locations: Hawick Court North, Hawick Court South, Gavington Court, and Whittingham Drive. Alternate #1 is for work associated with Gairloch Court. Alternate #2 is for work associated with Lochmore Court East.

The Engineer's Estimate for the base bid is $688,535. Elite Excavating submitted the lowest and best base bid of $606,535.

Staff recommended proceeding with the base bid at this time and Alternate #1 and #2 will move to the next phase of the project.

There were no public comments.

Ms. Amorose Groomes stated that because these bids came in under the estimates, in the currently inflationary environment that we are experiencing, does it make sense to allocate the additional funding for the two alternate bids and get the work done now? The bids are very favorable, and prices are not likely to go down. Mr. Stanford stated that the bids were split up purposefully to provide for flexibility and stay within budget. Ms. Amorose Groomes stated that she was asking Council whether they would be interested in doing it now rather than waiting for the prices to go up. Ms. Alutto agreed with Ms. Amorose Groomes that it makes sense to front load some of this work. Mr. Stiffler explained that if Council were to be interested in funding the alternate bids, he had some options. The City issued roughly $2.8 million in water-backed debt earlier this year. Some of the projects came in about $130,000 over budget so we already have $130,000 of additional debt that will need to be issued. If we were to proceed with the alternate bids, we would need to issue an additional $400,000 in debt next year. We have bond proceeds that we could use to fund that this year or we could use the Water Fund. So ultimately, there are funding sources to do the alternate bids work.
Ms. Amorose Groomes stated that she wanted to have the discussion about capitalizing on these favorable bids, but she stated she is not suggested over-spending or issuing a large amount of debt. Mr. Stiffler stated that he agreed we are in an inflationary environment for constructions costs that is not likely to stop soon.
Ms. O'Callaghan asked Mr. Stanford if he was comfortable with the numbers for the alternate bids. He responded affirmatively.

Ms. Amorose Groomes moved to amend Resolution 52-22, Section 1, to include the alternate bids with the base bid for a total amount of $922,910.
Ms. Alutto seconded.

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

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

Resolution 53-22
Intent to Appropriate Franklin County Parcel 273-009086-00 from Vivo Living Dublin LLC, for the Public Purpose of Constructing a Bridge Crossing over I-270 Which Shall be Open to the Public Without Charge
Ms. Alutto introduced the Resolution.
Ms. O'Callaghan stated that the Tuller Road to Emerald Parkway over I-270 Crossing project was first identified and included as a recommendation for further development during the Sawmill Road Corridor Study, completed in June 2019. This project will improve safety for all roadway users, provide better mobility for all modes of travel, ease traffic on Sawmill Road, extend the life of the I-270/Sawmill Road interchange, and expand the roadway network to improve connectivity and access north and south of the existing I-270 interchange. The Bridge Alternatives and Location Study for this project, completed in May 2022, investigated the feasibility of different crossing locations, and concluded the best location for a new 270 crossing returns Village Parkway to its previous alignment and extends north to Emerald Parkway. At this point in the project, it is necessary to begin the acquisition process. The property located at 4130 Tuller Road has been identified as a key parcel for the recommended bridge alignment in the Bridge Alternatives and Location Study. The City is hopeful that an amicable agreement can be reached with the property owner, but this Resolution does begin the eminent domain process if negotiations with the property owner are unsuccessful. Staff recommended approval.

There were no public comments.

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

OTHER BUSINESS
There were no items for discussion.

STAFF COMMENTS
Ms. O'Callaghan shared the following:

- Intelligent Community Forum (ICF) Global Summit: Dublin was proud to host intelligent community representatives from all over the globe for the 2022 ICF Global Summit October 26th and 27th in Bridge Park. Representatives from the Top 7 Intelligent communities and other smart city leaders attended the two-day summit, which culminated with New Taipei City, Taiwan, being named the Intelligent Community of the Year. Also during the Summit, Ohio was named the world's first Intelligent State. She thanked the staff members who worked very hard to plan and execute this summit and the members of Council who attended the various sessions and events associated with it.
- An Evening of Gratitude: Last Wednesday was "An Evening of Gratitude" at The Exchange at Bridge Park. She thanked staff for all of their work to prepare for a wonderful evening dedicated to all of our Boards & Commissions, Task Force Members and Leadership Volunteers. The event was filled with community engagement and camaraderie, which is just what we hoped it would be. She also thanked Council for attending and showing their support.
- City of Dublin Website Launch: Last week the new City Website was launched with a fresh look, improved navigation, enhanced language accessibility and much more. She thanked Digital and Brand Manager, Bruce Edwards, for the sleek, dynamic new design. She also thanked everyone who helped contribute content, review pages and provide feedback throughout the process.
- Dublin's Tree Lighting Ceremony: This year's ceremony will take place Thursday, December 1st in Riverside Crossing Park. The City's tree will sit just south of the entrance to the Dublin Link Bridge on the east plaza. Activities will begin at 5 p.m. and the tree will be lit at approximately 6:40 p.m. Council members should arrive prior to 6:20 p.m. to help Santa light the tree.
- Avery/Muirfield Greenway Corridor Project Update: She stated that staff was hoping to begin the project this fall; however, no bids were received for the bid opening on October 26th. Therefore, the project is now planned to begin in spring of next year. Staff is again soliciting bids for the project and the next bid opening will be on December 20th. Once staff knows the details of the project, the communication plan will be provided to City Council as discussed at the last meeting.

COUNCIL REPORTS

- Committee Reports
  - Administrative Committee: Vice Mayor De Rosa stated that a meeting was held on November 1. Topics of discussion were:
    - City website: She thanked staff for the work on the website and for taking their feedback. She invited Council members to check it out and give any feedback to CPI.
    - The DEI and Ethics curriculum for Boards and Commissions for 2023 was reviewed and will be coming to Council for consideration on November 14.

COUNCIL ROUNDTABLE
Ms. Kramb stated that Mayor Fox found that the Ohio Department of Public Safety was looking for nominations for Fire Department Awards. Ms. Kramb will confirm with the trustees that they would like to be nominated and then a nomination can be crafted.

She shared that she has received many thank yous from residents who have received an unexpected refund of sewer connection fees, so she wanted to pass along their gratitude. She has also received positive comments regarding the new historical marker on the house on Shier Rings Road.

Mr. Keeler stated that at the last Finance Committee meeting, a discussion was held regarding having an equity exposure to the portfolio. The Ohio Revised Code does not allow that. Mr. Keeler explained that it is a $200 million dollar portfolio that earns 1%-2% while inflation climbs. A large portion of the portfolio has not been touched in decades. He wanted to see if Council would entertain his bringing the idea forward to lobby the statehouse to allow municipalities to have equities in their portfolio. It would provide the opportunity to do more of what we want to do and there is a fiduciary responsibility to allow the portfolio to keep up with inflation. Mr. Keeler will bring the one-pager forward as Council agreed was the process in bringing ideas forward. He would like to explore the option. Ms. Alutto is very supportive of bringing this idea forward. She agrees it is a long game, but it is worth thinking it through. Council consensus was agreement for Mr. Keeler to bring the one-pager forward for additional consideration and discussion.
He stated that the ICF Global Summit was an impressive experience to see so many resilient, connected, innovative cities. He stated this is a great motivator.
He concluded by reminding everyone to vote on Election Day (November 8).

Mr. Reiner stated that he agreed with Mr. Keeler's idea. He suggested marking the tennis courts for pickle ball as it has gained popularity among residents. He stated that residents are asking that the courts be painted accordingly. He provided an announcement for Dublin Arts Council of an artist visiting. Masayuki Miyajima will be conducting a ceramics workshop on November 12 from 11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. He also encouraged everyone to come to the Veterans Day Ceremony.

Ms. Alutto met with a Boy Scouts Troop at Eli Pinney this week. She found their questions and comments to be very insightful. She commended staff on the leaf collection program. The ICF Dinner was very nice and she congratulated Mr. McDaniel on his award. The Evening of Gratitude was a very nice event. Earlier this evening, the Community Improvement Corporation met and discussed the Façade Improvement Program. Ms. O'Callaghan will be following up with more information.

Ms. Amorose Groomes stated that Ohio Rail Project is officially on the federal docket, which means it is among the projects for consideration by the Federal Government to make investment funds available for rail in Ohio. She will be going to the National League of Cities conference in Kansas City and will be participating in the rail roundtable next week. She echoed the comments on the Evening of Gratitude and getting out voting on Election Day. She thanked the City of Bellefontaine for hosting MORPC's Rural County Day.

Vice Mayor De Rosa added that she wanted to thank everyone who has served in the Armed Forces for their service to the country and is hopeful that they will join the Veterans Day ceremonies.

Mayor Fox enjoyed the Evening of Gratitude. She also expressed appreciation to Council members for their support in nominating the Washington Township Fire Department. She shared that a COMMA meeting was held recently with Upper Arlington hosting. She shared some highlights of the featured speaker from Columbus State Community College. She encouraged Council members to read the updates on House Bills 228 and 512.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:08 p.m.

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Mayor – Presiding Officer

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Clerk of Council