

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Dublin City Council

Minutes of

Meeting

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

Held _____

December 9, 2024

_____ 20 _____

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Amorose Groomes called the Monday, December 9, 2024 Regular Council Meeting of Dublin City Council to order at 5:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL

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

Staff members present were Ms. O'Callaghan, Mr. Hartmann, Chief Paez, Ms. Weisenauer, Mr. Stiffler, Mr. Earman, Ms. Willis, Ms. Rauch, Ms. Wawzkiewicz, Ms. Hoffman, Mr. Gable, Mr. Fleming, Mr. Gracia, Ms. Blake, Ms. Goliver and Mr. Ament.

Others present were Steven Reinsel, Everhart Financial Group; and Dr. Cherie Smith, Jeff Kasler, and Roland Tokarski, OhioHealth.

ADJOURNMENT TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mayor Amorose Groomes moved to adjourn to executive session for the following purposes:

- Personnel Matters: Considering the Employment of a Public Employee.

Vice Mayor Alutto seconded.

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Amorose Groomes invited Ms. De Rosa to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

There were no comments.

CONSENT AGENDA

- Minutes of the November 8, 2024 Council Fall Retreat
- Minutes of the November 12, 2024 Council Work Session
- Minutes of the November 18, 2024 Regular Council Meeting

There was no request to remove an item from the Consent Agenda.

Mayor Amorose Groomes moved to approve the Consent Agenda.
Vice Mayor Alutto seconded the motion.

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

SECOND READING/PUBLIC HEARING – ORDINANCES

Ordinance 46-24

Rezoning of Approximately 0.913 acres on Both Sides of N. Riverview Street, South of North Street and North of Wing Hill Lane from HD-HR, Historic District - Historic Residential and HD-HP, Historic District - Historic Public to HD-HC, Historic District - Historic Core (Case 24-110Z)

Ms. Rauch stated that there have been no changes to this Ordinance from the first reading on November 4.

There were no public comments.

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

Ordinance 50-24 (Amended)

Amending the Annual Appropriations for the Fiscal Year Ending December 31, 2024 (Q4)

Mr. Stiffler stated that there were modifications made to Ordinance 50-24 as outlined in the memo provided to Council. Additionally, the memo provides information that was requested at the first reading. Staff recommended approval.

There were no public comments.

Ms. De Rosa asked about the \$270,000 in Section 14 of the Ordinance and wanted to know specifically what activities are in the implementation strategy plan. Ms. Willis stated that the \$270,000 is to support the planning initiative of the West Innovation District Strategic Framework Plan. This is the transportation component of that project that needs to be completed as part of the broader planning initiative. In response to Ms. De Rosa's question regarding whether this amount includes construction, Ms. Willis indicated that it did not. Ms. Willis added that this is the plan to create the actual mobility footprint.

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

Ordinance 51-24

Establishing Appropriations Based on the 2025 Annual Operating Budget of the City of Dublin, State of Ohio, for the Fiscal Year Ending December 31, 2025

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

There were no public comments.

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

Mayor Amorose Groomes announced that she would be abstaining from Ordinance 52-24. [Mayor Amorose Groomes departed the Council Chamber.]

Ordinance 52-24

Authorizing the Provision of Certain Incentives to Everhart Financial Group, Inc. to Induce it to Purchase an Office Building for the Relocation of the Company's existing office and the expansion of that Office and its Associated Operations and Workforce within the City; and Authorizing the Execution of an Economic Development Agreement

Mr. Fleming stated that there are no changes to this Ordinance from the first reading. He introduced Steven Reinsel, Everhart Advisors, who was present at the meeting. Mr. Reinsel thanked Council for the support. He provided a brief summary of Everhart's history in the City of Dublin and expressed excitement over being able to expand in the community. Staff recommended approval.

There were no public comments.

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

[Mayor Amorose Groomes rejoined the meeting].

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Ordinance 53-24

Authorizing the Continuing Provision of Certain Incentives to OhioHealth Corporation to Induce it to Continue to Retain and Expand its Office and its Associated Operations and Workforce, all within the City; and Authorizing the Execution of an Amended and Restated Economic Development Agreement

Mr. Gracia stated that there are no changes to this Ordinance from the first reading. He introduced Dr. Cherie Smith, Jeff Kasler, and Roland Tokarski who were present representing OhioHealth. Dr. Smith thanked Council for their support and expressed enthusiasm over the growth they have experienced in Dublin. She shared that they are proud to be one of the largest employers in the City of Dublin with over 3,400 jobs. She stated that they are expanding to an additional 180,000 square feet. This project will further enhance access to high quality care. Staff recommended approval. Mayor Amorose Groomes thanked OhioHealth for being a great community partner, continuing to grow in Dublin and providing exceptional care to our residents.

There were no public comments.

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

Mayor Amorose Groomes moved to waive the Council Rules of Order and consider Ordinances 54-24 through 65-24 together.

Ms. Alutto seconded the motion.

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

Ordinance 54-24

Authorizing the City Manager to Execute and Accept Necessary Conveyance Documents and Contracts to Acquire a 0.044-Acre Easement from the Property Located at 158 South High Street, Identified as Franklin County Parcel Number 273-000067-00 from Karen L. Strauss, Trustee of the Karen L. Strauss Declaration of Trust Dated October 4, 2004 and as Amended March 10, 2015 for the Public Purpose of Carrying out the South High Street Utility Burial – Phase 2 Project (22-018-CIP)

Ordinance 55-24

Authorizing the City Manager to Execute and Accept Necessary Conveyance Documents and Contracts to Acquire a 0.030-Acre Easement from the Property Located at 156 South High Street, Identified as Franklin County Parcel Numbers 273-000078-00 & 273 -013090 From Amy Elizabeth Bechert, Trustee of the Amy Elizabeth Bechert Trust Dated the 18th day of September 1998 for the Public Purpose of Carrying out the South High Street Utility Burial – Phase 2 Project (22-018-CIP)

Ordinance 56-24

Authorizing the City Manager to Execute and Accept Necessary Conveyance Documents and Contracts to Acquire a 0.029-Acre Utility Easement and a 0.051-Acre Sanitary Sewer Easement from the Property Identified as Franklin County Parcel Number 273-013083-00 from Deborah S. Steele for the Public Purpose of Carrying out the South High Street Utility Burial – Phase 2 Project (22-018-CIP)

Ordinance 57-24

Authorizing the City Manager to Execute and Accept Necessary Conveyance Documents and Contracts to Acquire a 0.023-Acre Utility Easement and a 0.040-Acre Sanitary Sewer Easement from the Property Located at 138 South High Street, Identified as Franklin County Parcel Number 273 -000063 -00 from

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M & D Partners, LLC for the Public Purpose of Carrying out the South High Street Utility Burial – Phase 2 Project (22-018-CIP)

Ordinance 58-24

Authorizing the City Manager to Execute and Accept Necessary Conveyance Documents and Contracts to Acquire a 0.039-Acre Utility Easement and a 0.053-Acre Sanitary Sewer Easement from the Property Located at 126 South High Street, Identified as Franklin County Parcel Number 273-000085-00 from What's the Point? Properties, LLC for the Public Purpose of Carrying out the South High Street Utility Burial – Phase 2 Project (22-018-CIP)

Ordinance 59-24

Authorizing the City Manager to Execute and Accept Necessary Conveyance Documents and Contracts to Acquire a 0.002-Acre Easement from the Property Located at 76-82 South High Street, Identified as Franklin County Parcel Number 273-000061-00 from Bavelis Family, LLC for the Public Purpose of Carrying out the South High Street Utility Burial – Phase 2 Project (22-018-CIP)

Ordinance 60-24

Authorizing the City Manager to Execute and Accept Necessary Conveyance Documents and Contracts to Acquire a 0.004-Acre Easement from the Property Located at 66 South High Street, Identified as Franklin County Parcel Number 273-000074-00 from Karmi Capital, LLC for the Public Purpose of Carrying out the South High Street Utility Burial – Phase 2 Project (22-018-CIP)

Ordinance 61-24

Authorizing the City Manager to Execute and Accept Necessary Conveyance Documents and Contracts to Acquire a 0.001-Acre Easement from the Property Located at 54 South High Street, Identified as Franklin County Parcel Number 273-000097-00 from 54S High LLC for the Public Purpose of Carrying out the South High Street Utility Burial – Phase 2 Project (22-018-CIP)

Ordinance 62-24

Authorizing the City Manager to Execute and Accept Necessary Conveyance Documents and Contracts to Acquire a 0.005-Acre Easement from the Property Located at 55 South Riverview Street, Identified as Franklin County Parcel Number 273-000048-00 from Angela Kne and Michael Kne for the Public Purpose of Carrying out the South High Street Utility Burial – Phase 2 Project (22-018-CIP)

Ordinance 63-24

Authorizing the City Manager to Execute and Accept Necessary Conveyance Documents and Contracts to Acquire a 0.002-Acre Easement from the Property Located at 38 South High Street, Identified as Franklin County Parcel Number 273-000072-00 from Lucky Duck Investments, LLC for the Public Purpose of Carrying out the South High Street Utility Burial – Phase 2 Project (22-018-CIP)

Ordinance 64-24

Authorizing the City Manager to Execute and Accept Necessary Conveyance Documents and Contracts to Acquire a 0.002-Acre and a 0.003 -Acre Easements from the Property Located at 14-18 South High Street, Identified as Franklin County Parcel Number 273- 000040 from C&A Dublin Properties, LLC for the

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Public Purpose of Carrying out the South High Street Utility Burial – Phase 2 Project (22-018-CIP)

Ordinance 65-24

Authorizing the City Manager to Execute and Accept Necessary Conveyance Documents and Contracts to Acquire a 0.110-Acre Temporary Easement from the Property Located at 195 South Riverview Street, Identified as Franklin County Parcel Number 273-000081-00 from William Stephen Easterday Jr. for the Public Purpose of Carrying out the South High Street Utility Burial – Phase 2 Project (22-018-CIP)

Mr. Gable stated that there are no changes to these ordinances from the first reading. Staff recommended approval.

There were no public comments.

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

INTRODUCTION/PUBLIC HEARING/VOTE – RESOLUTIONS

Resolution 62-24

Accepting the Lowest and Best Bid for the Amberleigh Park Kayak Launch Renovation Project

Vice Mayor Alutto introduced the Resolution.

Mr. Eaman stated that on November 13, 2024, two bids were received and publicly opened for the Amberleigh Park Kayak Launch Renovation Project which aims to improve public access to the river. This project will focus on two areas including repairing the damaged concrete stairs and extending the stairs down to the river's edge for easier and safer access. Janco LLC submitted the lowest and best bid in the amount of \$253,650 which is approximately 4.5% over the engineer's estimate. This contractor has successfully performed numerous other projects for the City. Staff recommended approval.

There were no public comments.

Mr. Reiner asked about the status of working with Columbus regarding a launch site at the O'Shaughnessy Dam. Mr. Earman stated that Columbus is interested in having the conversation. He added that as part of the Master Plan for Riverside Crossing Park, staff did conduct a thorough river study from the Dam all the way down past the 161 Bridge. Armed with that information, staff will continue to have those conversations and see where it leads.

Mr. Keeler clarified that this project is to repair and maintain the kayak launch site at Amberleigh Park, but the City is still studying the feasibility of future kayak launch locations. Mr. Earman responded affirmatively.

Ms. Kramb asked if, in the interest of safety, the City had any type of hazard warning that is posted near the launch site that cautions against launching a kayak in fast or high water. Mr. Earman stated that there is currently no signage to that effect.

Ms. Kramb suggested that signage be considered as she has witnessed kayakers having to be rescued because they launched them when they should not have due to water conditions. She suggested posting a type of flag or something to warn people. Mr. Earman stated that staff can look into that.

Mayor Amorose Groomes stated that it appears to her that the stairs have been damaged by people not putting their kayak on the slider and just dragging it down the stairs. She asked if the repair will include a metal edge on the stairs to protect the stairs from that damage in the future. Mr. Earman stated that he is not certain if that is included in the

design, however he is aware that a lot of the damage to the stairs is due to rocks being rolled down the stairs.

Mayor Amorose Groomes stated that she is hopeful the design includes something to protect the concrete from whatever activity is damaging the stairs. Mr. Earman will check the design for that detail.

Mayor Amorose Groomes added that her hesitation with putting up a flag or a sign is that high or fast waters are not always due to weather. Sometimes water is released from the Dam and if we are not privy to when they are going to do that, then we would not know to put the flag out. She stated that coordination would need to happen before we can embark on something like that.

Discussion was held about putting a sign with a link or a QR code so people could check for up-to-date information themselves prior to launching.

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

Resolution 63-24

Approving the Mayor's Appointment of Magistrates for Dublin Mayor's Court and Authorizing the Execution of Contracts for Magistrate Services

Vice Mayor Alutto introduced the Resolution.

Mr. Stevens stated that in 2010, the City first conducted a competitive Request for Proposals (RFP) process to select a primary and secondary/backup magistrate for Dublin Mayor's Court. Two of the current magistrates were appointed in 2014, and two additional magistrates were appointed earlier this year pursuant to Resolution 48-24.

The City recently completed a competitive RFP process to select magistrates for Dublin Mayor's Court. Mr. Stevens recommended that Retired Judge Scott VanDerKarr and Joshua E. Hall be retained to serve as magistrates for the Dublin Mayor's Court pursuant to their current contracts. In addition, he recommended that Sean Maxfield and Retired Judge Charles Schneider be selected to serve as magistrates for the Dublin Mayor's Court.

All four individuals meet the State requirements and are all qualified to serve as Magistrate. Staff recommended approval.

There were no public comments.

Mayor Amorose Groomes thanked Mr. Stevens for his time and research regarding these appointments.

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

Resolution 64-24

Adopting the Metro Center Revitalization Plan

Vice Mayor Alutto introduced the Resolution.

Mr. Will provided a history of the Metro Center Revitalization Plan. He stated that stakeholder and community engagement was an important part of this process in formulating a plan. City Council provided guidance at key milestones. The Metro Center Revitalization Plan consists of five sections: the Context, the Vision Framework, Guidelines, Implementation and a technical appendix. The plan provides a snapshot of Metro Center today which is a project of its era characterized by single-use buildings, limited amenities and an abundance of surface parking. To address today's challenges and opportunities, the plan identifies key elements. One key element is a new identity of Metro Center as a vibrant, mixed-use neighborhood, which connects development with nature. The importance of architecture in establishing a unique identity for the district has been stated in previous discussions. The development of design guidelines is recommended by the plan and will study details such as balconies, windows and other architectural details. Council feedback also specified ensuring that public spaces provide flexibility for both large and small events and further defining placemaking. Staff recommended adoption of the plan.

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There were no public comments.

Ms. Fox expressed her appreciation for the collaboration across many departments in the creation of this plan. She stated that the guidelines must insist on not only unique and creative architecture, but also must be a space that connects people to the natural environment that we are promoting and fostering. She added that urban architecture that is not flat with generic walls and right angles is needed. She stated that the widespread opinion of most of our community has been a desire for a more organic and human-centric design in the architecture. Biophilic design is an approach that connects people with nature by integrating not only natural elements into the architecture of buildings, but also applies to organic and dynamic shapes in architecture. She would also like to see the materials be transparent or fluid in the design and use gardens, water fountains or artistic sculptures to enhance the experience. She noted that balconies or terraces that frame views and orient the living toward nature are important as well. She stated that she would like to help our Planning and Zoning commissioners understand the necessity of having this biophilic design approach that will allow the enjoyment of the area whether in summer or winter. She reiterated that the design guidelines need to be created in such a way to create the placemaking that is desired.

Mr. Reiner agreed with Ms. Fox's comments about bringing the landscape inside and using the natural environment as features for the area to create interest. He stated his interest in signage and how that will be developed. He commented on the model that was created for the vision of this plan and how well done it was.

Mayor Amorose Groomes stated that Council is passionate about this project and wants to see a great outcome. She shared that there have been many extensive discussions about this area and the plan. She stated that this revitalization plan will navigate itself through the public process and that community members will continue to have opportunities to weigh-in on any development that would happen in the Metro Center area.

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

Resolution 65-24

Accepting the Lowest and Best Bid for the Eiterman Road Relocation Project (23-023-CIP)

Vice Mayor Alutto introduced the Resolution.

Ms. Wawzkiewicz stated that staff conducted a competitive bid for the Eiterman Road Relocation project which would construct a portion of new roadway proposed with the West Innovation District. As part of the City's overall partnership with Ohio University, this was contemplated through the Ohio University Framework Plan. The project moves the roadway to the west allowing room for the development of subarea three, which includes the hotel and conference center site and a roundabout. This project emphasizes the pedestrian environment and crossings along the new aligned roadway consistent with the Ohio University Framework Plan. A shared-use path will connect SR 161 to the Ohio University entrance at Bobcat Way. Coordination of this project is occurring not only with Ohio University, but also with two other construction projects in the area. The 2024-2028 CIP includes \$7.8 million for the construction of the project.

On November 19, seven bids were received and publicly opened. George J. Igel and Co, Inc. submitted the lowest and best bid in the amount of \$6,299,073.22 which is 18% under the engineer's estimate of \$7.7 million. Construction is expected to begin this winter and be completed in the fall of 2025. Staff recommended approval.

There were no public comments.

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

Resolution 66-24

Accepting the Lowest and Best Bid for the Emerald Parkway Bridge Deck Sealing Project (23-025-CIP)

Vice Mayor Alutto introduced the Resolution.

Mr. Gable stated that staff conducted a competitive bid for the Emerald Parkway Bridge Deck Sealing Project, which will perform surface preparation and sealing on the Emerald Parkway Bridge over the Scioto River. This project is included in the 2023-2027 CIP but was not advertised for bids in 2023 due to the lack of available funding. Funding was identified from other unencumbered budgeted funds within the Bridges and Culverts account in the 2024-2028 CIP. The project will be completed prior to the Memorial Tournament in 2025.

On November 20, one bid was received and publicly opened. The bid documents for this project included a base bid for a limited closure of the Emerald Parkway Bridge and an alternate bid or a full closure of the bridge to perform the work. AAD Contracting Inc. submitted the lowest and best bid of \$147,544.00 for the alternate bid. The alternate bid provides for a single full closure (both directions) of Emerald Parkway between Dublin Road and Riverside Drive to occur over a single weekend, as opposed to the base bid which maintained one-way traffic only across Emerald Parkway but required the work to occur over multiple closures both nightly and on weekends. Staff recommended the alternate bid for the project. Staff has thoroughly reviewed both bids submitted by AAD Contracting Inc. This contractor has not previously performed work with the City of Dublin, and as a result staff made inquiries to the references provided by the contractor. These references provided positive feedback about the contractor and several have had work performed by the contractor on multiple projects. Staff stated their confidence that AAD Contracting Inc. has the capability and experience necessary to perform the work well for this project. Staff recommended approval of the Resolution.

There were no public comments.

Mr. Reiner asked about the status of the lighting of the US 33 Bridge that would be visible from the Dublin Link Bridge. Mr. Gable stated that the project is still in the planning phases. Mr. Gable stated that he believes the project is slated for some time in 2026 or 2027 through the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT). Ms. Willis stated that the lighting plans have been generated and concepts have been developed for the decorative lighting of the US 33 Bridge and those ideas will be brought forward to Council at a future Council meeting.

Mr. Reiner also noted the paint chipping on the I270 Bridge and asked that it be repaired. Ms. O'Callaghan stated that staff can ask ODOT when their schedule stipulates repainting the steel.

Mr. Keeler recalled four or five years ago the Emerald Parkway Bridge was milled down. He clarified that this project is the sealing only. Mr. Gable responded affirmatively and added that the standard maintenance procedure is to perform the sealing about five years after the milling which helps with the longevity overall. Mr. Gable explained that Franklin County maintains some of these structures as well. In response to Mr. Keeler's question, Mr. Gable stated that what work the City is responsible for depends on who built the structure.

Ms. Krumb asked if the concrete divider (eastbound left turn lane) could be fixed during this project closure because the concrete is chipped and cracked. Mr. Gable stated that it has been repaired many times, but if it is needed again, it can be done during this project or prior to this project. He stated that the Street Department staff have done a very good job maintaining the median.

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

Resolution 67-24

Authorizing the City Manager to Enter into an Intergovernmental Agreement with Washington Township for the Shier Rings Road, Eiterman to Cosgray Shared Use Path Project (23-008-CIP)

Vice Mayor Alutto introduced the Resolution.

Mr. Hammersmith stated that the scope of this project includes the construction of 1,730 feet of an eight-foot-wide shared-use path along the south side of Shier Rings Road, connecting to an existing shared-use path on the east end and on the west end to a shared-use path as part of the Arshire Farms residential development. Washington Township initially approached the City of Dublin about pursuing this shared-use path project based on the positive feedback from a survey of Township residents. Since the path benefits both Township and City residents, an intergovernmental agreement between Washington Township and the City of Dublin is necessary to detail the cooperative responsibility and financial participation for each agency. Mr. Hammersmith provided a visual explanation of the parties' responsibilities as stipulated in the agreement:

Agency	Design Participation	Acquisition Participation	Construction Participation
City of Dublin	100%	50%	30%
Washington Township	0%	50%	70%

Project Cost	City of Dublin Participation		Washington Township Participation	
Engineering	\$ 89,586.62	Engineering - 100%	\$ 89,586.62	Engineering - 0%
Estimated Acquisition	\$ 199,160.00	Acquisition - 50%	\$ 149,580.00	Acquisition - 50%
Estimated Construction	\$ 268,413.60	Construction - 30%	\$ 80,524.08	Construction - 70%
Project Total	\$ 657,160.22	Total	\$ 319,690.70	Total

Mr. Hammersmith stated that the City's estimated total is \$319,690.70 and Washington Township's is \$337,469.52.

Mr. Hammersmith added that this project is included in the LinkUS Transit Plan funded in 2026 at \$500,000. Since the LinkUS proposal was approved by voters, it is anticipated that the allocated funding will be applied to the construction of this project in 2026, and the City and Township will both benefit proportionally from the funding. The City's Engineering staff is managing all components of the project. Finalization of the construction plans and necessary acquisitions for the project are scheduled to be completed in 2025. The City will be responsible for all future maintenance for the completed shared-use path.

There were no public comments.

In response to Ms. Kramb's question regarding using the funding retroactively toward the engineering and acquisitions for the project, Mr. Hammersmith stated that staff will clarify this, but it is believed to be only for construction.

Mayor Amorose Groomes stated that this may be the first LinkUS project to come through the pipeline in our region and expressed excitement for the quick pace in executing those public dollars.

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

Resolution 68-24

Authorizing the City Manager to Enter into a Letter of Agreement with the Ohio Power Company ("AEP Ohio") for the South High Street Utility Burial - Phase 2 Project (22-018-CIP)

Vice Mayor Alutto introduced the Resolution.

Mr. Gable stated that the South High Street Utility Burial project will perform the burial of existing overhead primary electric lines underground and relocate existing overhead electric and telecommunication utility lines along Blacksmith Lane, South High Street and intersecting streets to underground. At the completion of the project, all overhead utility lines and poles in the project area will be removed between West Bridge Street and Short Street. To bid the project, the City needs to finalize the design, execute necessary utility agreements and complete acquisitions on the project. Resolutions 68-24 through 71-24 are to execute utility agreements with each of the impacted aerial utility companies. The project is planned to start construction this coming spring 2025 and is anticipated to be completed at the end of 2025. The removal of the utility lines and poles along S. High Street will be completed over the winter of 2025-2026. Staff has coordinated the required relocations for this project with AEP Ohio, AT&T, Breezeline and Charter. A letter of agreement has been drafted for each of the four companies. Mr. Gable highlighted the following per the agreements:

- Utility companies to provide equipment for City installation;
- The City will install separate conduits in a joint trench for each utility company and other required equipment at both grade and below ground;
- Utility companies will install wiring in City installed conduit, including commercial and residential service laterals; and
- Utility companies will remove abandoned overhead wires and poles.

Once all services have been transferred, the City will reimburse the utility companies for the required beautification project relocations. The total estimated cost for all utility companies combined is \$460,325.18. Staff recommended approval of Resolutions 68-24 through 71-24.

There were no public comments.

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

Resolution 69-24

Authorizing the City Manager to Enter into a Letter of Agreement with Ohio Bell Telephone Company d/b/a AT&T for the South High Street Utility Burial - Phase 2 Project (22-018-CIP)

Vice Mayor Alutto introduced the Resolution.

Mr. Gable stated that as stated above, this is the letter of agreement for AT&T with a relocation cost estimate of \$73,603.40. Staff recommended approval.

There were no public comments.

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

Resolution 70-24

Authorizing the City Manager to Enter into a Letter of Agreement with Cogeco US (OH), LLC d/b/a Breezeline for the South High Street Utility Burial - Phase 2 Project (22-018-CIP)

Vice Mayor Alutto introduced the Resolution.

Mr. Gable stated that this Resolution is regarding the agreement with Breezeline and the estimated cost of relocation is \$7,094.67. Staff recommended approval.

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There were no public comments.

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

Resolution 71-24

Authorizing the City Manager to Enter into a Letter of Agreement with Spectrum Mid-America, LLC ("Charter") for the South High Street Utility Burial - Phase 2 Project (22-018-CIP)

Vice Mayor Alutto introduced the Resolution.

Mr. Gable stated that this final Resolution is regarding Charter with an estimated relocation cost of \$21,520.27. Staff recommended approval.

There were no public comments.

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

STAFF COMMENTS

Ms. O'Callaghan shared the following:

- The NW 33 Innovation Corridor Council of Governments (COG) held its bi-monthly board meeting December 4th. The board heard reports from Executive Director of the Beta District, Doug McCollough, who also presented the 2025 budget proposal. The COG board approved a three-month budget to allow time to further review the proposed budget. On December 5th, a group of COG committee members met for a strategic planning session. This effort served to review the Beta District's strategic plan and the group performed a SWAT analysis. The next COG board meeting is scheduled for January 8th.
- She participated in the Broadband Access Ohio Board meeting earlier today (12/09/24) and a legislative update was provided. She stated that she is not aware of any discussions in the legislature at this point in lame duck that would be of concern to the interests of that group. The Board also worked on its legislative policy agenda for 2025 and will continue developing that agenda at our next meeting in January.
- As part of the Waterways Maintenance Program, the City of Dublin has contracted with Franklin Soil and Water Conservation District to perform waterways inspections within City of Dublin limits. Notification postcards will be sent to impacted property owners at least seven calendar days prior to waterways inspections taking place. Waterways inspections are expected to commence in late December and be completed by the end of 2025.
- Finally, she recognized Chief Finance Officer Matt Stiffler, as this will be his last Council Meeting before he embarks on a new opportunity at Columbus State Community College. She shared the following:

"For the past 10 years, Matt has been an invaluable member of the City's leadership team. His tenure has been marked by significant contributions that have positively impacted our operations, earning both state and national accolades for transparency and government accounting excellence, including three-time Triple Crown honors by the Government Financial Officers Association. Matt conducted the first five-year forecast for the General Fund and led the development of the financing plan for the largest land acquisition in the City's history. His career exemplifies our culture of career progression and internal promotion. He started as a financial analyst in 2014 and was promoted to Deputy Director of Finance after four years. One year later he was appointed Interim Director of Finance. Fun fact: he presented the operating budget on his first day in that role! He then was promoted to CFO in May of 2020

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and has done an amazing job serving in that role since. Matt has been a pleasure to work with and I am proud of all he accomplished in Dublin, including building a very talented Finance team. We are working with Director of Finance Operations Jaime Hoffman on a seamless transition. For those of you that don't know, Matt's office is adjacent to mine and he does his best work to very loud music and he even sometimes sings along. I will sincerely miss his eclectic selection of music and hearing him enjoy his work and having him as my work neighbor. Matt's last day will be January 10th, and we wish him all the best at Columbus State and know that he will do a great job.

- She stated that this is the final Council meeting of the year, and she took a moment to recognize and celebrate an exceptional year for our community. A gathering was held last week (12/05/24) with staff to celebrate the work completed in 2024. She thanked the Communication and Human Resources teams for all their efforts planning that event. It has been a year marked by collaboration and progress. She stated that she is particularly proud of the Envision Dublin community plan update, the progress on Council's goal to revitalize Metro Center, and the strategic acquisition of 243 acres in our West Innovation District to enhance recreation, transportation, and economic development opportunities in our City. She thanked Council for their continued support and vision. She wished everyone a happy holiday season and best wishes for a prosperous new year!

COUNCIL REPORTS

- **Administrative Committee Report:**
Ms. De Rosa shared that the Administrative Committee met on December 3 to discuss two topics. The first was the draft Council Goals for 2025. She provided a copy of the draft goals to Council members. She stated that it is anticipated that Council will finalize the goals and adopt them by resolution at the first meeting in January. The second topic of the meeting was to discuss the meeting schedule. The meetings dates will remain the same, but the start time has been moved to 4:45 p.m.

COUNCIL ROUNDTABLE

- Ms. Krumb thanked Mr. Stiffler for his explanation of complicated financial topics over the years. She added that he always expressed confidence in his answers, and he was patient with all their questions. She wished him good luck in his next endeavor. Ms. Krumb also thanked the Clerk's office and IT staff who will continue to work over the holiday break to get the new software implemented. She thanked them for their work all year long.
- Ms. Fox stated that Mr. Stiffler will be missed. She agreed with Ms. Krumb's sentiment that Mr. Stiffler always made government finance understandable. She expressed appreciation of staff and their talents. She shared that she attended the staff celebration last week and there are a lot of talented people who work for the City. She gave a "shout out" to Gary Browning who is leaving after 28 years and Robin Myers who is retiring in December. She wished everyone a happy holiday and a prosperous new year.
- Mr. Reiner stated that this Saturday (12/14/24) is the Wreaths Across America ceremony at the Dublin Cemetery at 10:00 a.m. Mr. Reiner shared that in recent discussions with Cardinal, they suggested the City have a meeting with our local businesses to share knowledge about cybersecurity best practices. He expressed appreciation for Mr. Stiffler and thanked him for serving the citizens of Dublin so well. He wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.
- Mr. Keeler expressed appreciation for Mr. Stiffler and his love of numbers and math. He wished everyone happy holidays.

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- Ms. De Rosa stated that Mr. Stiffler will be so incredibly missed. She stated that he could do a masterclass in how to make policy and finances interesting and understandable. She stated that few people can say that they really changed the landscape and raised the bar in their profession and he has. She wished him and his family all the best. She thanked staff for their hard work and accomplishments this year. She thanked Ms. O'Callaghan for all of her work this year.
- Vice Mayor Alutto stated that she has served with Mr. Stiffler on the Finance Committee for nine years. She stated that he has helped change and implement policies to the betterment of the community and will take us to the next level and beyond. He has been open to ideas and handled any challenges with grace and knowledge. She shared that she has appreciated his leadership, comradery and skill. She thanked Ms. O'Callaghan and staff for their hard work in 2024. She wished everyone safe and happy holidays.
- Mayor Amorose Groomes shared the following updates:
 - November 21: she attended the Ohio Mayor Alliance meeting as the Co-Chair of the Legislative Affairs Committee and she agrees that there do not seem to be a large number of bills at this time that would have a negative impact on Dublin;
 - Also on November 21, she visited the third graders at Abraham Depp Elementary School who were delightful;
 - December 2: she attended the Cardinal Health/Dublin City Schools/City of Dublin meeting to talk about future land uses;
 - December 3: the Intergovernmental Affairs Committee that she is a member of due to her affiliation with the FCC, voted out their report to Chair Rosenthal. It is a very good report and it came out with a unanimous vote for which she was pleased.
 - She noted that during the meeting, "Rip and Replace" was brought up which we will probably see more conversation about in the future. She suggested that in any upcoming discussions with altafiber, it would be wise to talk about rip and replace and where the source is for the communication modules that are in the Fiber to Every Home project. She believes there may be some eligibility to make it an even more secure system.
 - December 4: She attended the Chamber of Commerce Government Affairs Committee meeting. It was a great conversation with Chris Valentine, Dublin City Schools and Leadership Dublin was there as well.
 - December 5: She attended the MORPC Executive Committee meeting and attended the City's Tree Lighting event.
 - December 6: She attended the Economic Development 411 conversation downtown.
 - She mentioned that there will be an upcoming trip to Texas the week of February 23rd, but specific details are not yet known.
 - She recognized Mr. Stiffler for his outstanding career in Dublin. She stated that it gives a great sense of sorrow and pride simultaneously to know that the kind of talent that is here would be attractive to an organization like Columbus State Community College. It speaks to the talent that we have in Dublin and certainly the talent of Mr. Stiffler. She stated that she will miss Mr. Stiffler's intelligence, experience and unparalleled ability to explain complex financial concepts in a very understandable way. Under his leadership, the City has set the standard for fiscal transparency and accountability. His expertise guided us through the pandemic and in 2023, the City's income tax revenue exceeded \$100 million for the third year in our history. She stated her favorite quote from Mr. Stiffler is, "we government it up." She stated that he will be missed and she wished him and the family all the best.
 - She wished everyone happy holidays and to enjoy the time with loved ones. The next meeting will be January 13, 2025.

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ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:21 p.m.



Mayor – Presiding Officer



Clerk of Council