

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of
BARRETT BROTHERS - DAYTON, OHIO

Dublin City Council

Meeting
Form 6101

Held June 14, 2021

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Amorose Groomes called the Monday, June 14, 2021 Regular Meeting of Dublin City Council to order at 6:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

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

Staff members present were Mr. McDaniel, Ms. Readler, Ms. Rauch, Ms. O'Callaghan, Mr. Earman, Mr. Rogers, Mr. Hammersmith, Mr. Stiffler, Ms. Weisenauer, Mr. Dearth, Ms. Gilger, Ms. Rigano, Mr. Bishara and Chief Paez.

Also present: David Guion, Dublin Arts Council; Steve Bunyard, Debbie Donahey, Chelsea Shields and Adam Zeyen, OhioHealth Dublin Methodist Hospital.

ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

- To consider the sale or other disposition of unneeded, obsolete, or unfit- for- use property
- To consider the purchase of property for public purposes
- To consider confidential information related to a request for economic development assistance that involves public infrastructure improvements that are directly related to an economic development project, and which executive session is necessary to protect the possible investment or expenditure of public funds to be made in connection with the economic development project.

Mr. Keeler seconded the motion.

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

Mayor Amorose Groomes reconvened the meeting at 7:03 p.m. She stated that, given the current pandemic conditions and as allowed by the state legislature, we will continue to conduct our public meetings virtually for one more meeting to maintain the safety of all of Council, City staff and our residents. She shared that the public can access the live-stream on the City's website or on YouTube and can submit comments throughout the meeting. She stated that Council and staff want to accommodate public participation and comment to the greatest extent possible and comments on public business are welcomed.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mr. Rogers led the Pledge of Allegiance.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

OhioHealth Dublin Methodist Hospital

Mayor Amorose Groomes shared that Mr. Bunyard, President of Dublin Methodist Hospital, has announced that he will retire. She highlighted many of his achievements throughout his work history and his steadfast partnership with the City of Dublin.

Mayor Amorose Groomes read the Proclamation recognizing Dublin Methodist Hospital for being named the number one hospital in the medium community hospital category on the Watson Health® 2021 list of the top 100 hospitals. Mayor Amorose Groomes wished Mr. Bunyard well on behalf of Council. Mr. Bunyard thanked Council for the partnership and expressed that he has enjoyed his tenure at Dublin Methodist. He thanked City Council for the proclamation. He commended the exceptional staff at Dublin Methodist and stated that they value the partnership with the City of Dublin.

Dublin Arts Council (DAC) Update

Mr. Guion, Dublin Arts Council Executive Director, thanked Council for their support in helping to provide critical funding for unique and engaging community art experiences. He provided the following update:

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- The Aida Garrity: *Dublin Golfscapes* exhibition was completed last week. Mr. Guion noted the great media attention that this exhibition received.
- The current exhibition by Leo Hong Mao: *Painterly Perspectives*, is able to be viewed at Dublin Arts Council through July 23. Mr. Guion credited Mr. Reiner with bringing Mr. Mao to the attention of the Arts Council. His exhibition has been in the planning stage for years as he wanted to create this work for the benefit of his community, where he lives and paints - Dublin.
- There were no field trips this year due to the pandemic, so Dublin Arts Council created a project with the schools to address the impact of the pandemic on students. The Community Time Capsule project included more than 500 students. The capsule will be unearthed in 2033.
- The Far from Ordinary, Close to Home campaign has been launched. Mr. Guion shared an illustration of Captain Creative, one of four local superheroes featured in the campaign. This effort features community storytelling and will project coloring books that will be distributed throughout Dublin.
- Dublin Arts Council will feature a collaboration with the Japan America Society of Central Ohio (JASCO) to enhance their July 7 Tanabata Festival. Tanabata is a traditional cultural celebration where people are encouraged to hang wishes on bamboo branches.
- The Sunday at Scioto Concert series will return on August 15 and will run eight consecutive Sundays through October 3. Mr. Guion noted the generous media and community partners that have sponsored and/or advertised the concert series.
- Mr. Guion shared that DAC is excited to assist City staff in the creation of a public art bicycle loop. The public art loop will be part of the Emerald Trail/Central Ohio Greenway network. He also mentioned the collaboration with City staff regarding Dublin Irish Days Wee Folks area, with an addition of 2,000 grab-and-go Irish art projects.

Mr. Guion shared some highlights of the community impact through programming during the last 14 months. He stated that the DAC will launch two new park-based Art & Wellness projects in the Fall of 2021.

He also provided an update regarding the launch of the next Art in Public Places commission. A jury has been chosen for the commission and the call for artists is ready to launch.

Mayor Amorose Groomes congratulated Mr. Guion for being named the Chamber of Commerce's Business Person of the Year. She thanked him and his staff for all they do for the community. Mr. Reiner and Ms. Fox congratulated Mr. Guion and thanked him and his staff for all the work they do in the community.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

No comments were received regarding items not on this meeting's agenda in advance of the meeting.

CONSENT AGENDA

- Approval of Minutes of May 24, 2021 Regular Meeting

There was no request from Council to remove an item from the Consent Agenda. Ms. Weisenauer noted that no comments have been received regarding the Consent Agenda.

Mayor Amorose Groomes moved for approval of the Consent Agenda.
Vice Mayor De Rosa seconded the motion.

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

SECOND READING/ PUBLIC HEARING - ORDINANCES

[Ordinance 23-21 was read before Ordinance 22-21 due to staff audio/visual complications.]

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Ordinance 23-21

Amendments to Zoning Code Section 153.022 (Definitions) and Section 153.026 (Suburban Office District) to add a New Land Use Classification for Specialty Hospitals to the Suburban Office District (Case 21-009ADMC).

Ms. Rauch stated that there have been no changes to this Ordinance from the first reading. Staff recommended approval.

Ms. Weisenauer noted that no comments have been received regarding this item.

Ms. Fox inquired as to the licensing requirement of these types of facilities. Ms. Readler stated that if a facility did not have the proper licensing, then the City could complain to the licensing entity. She stated that the City is mainly regulating the exterior, and the licensing requirements and enforcement should be left to the licensing agency. Ms. Fox thanked Ms. Readler for the information and added that she wanted to make sure that our bases were covered.

Mayor Amorose Groomes commended the Planning and Zoning Commission members for their hard work on this amendment.

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

Ordinance 22-21

Adopting the Proposed Tax Budget for Fiscal Year 2022.

Mr. Stiffler stated that there have been no changes or revisions to this legislation from the first reading. Staff recommended approval.

Ms. Weisenauer noted that no comments have been received regarding this item.

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

INTRODUCTION/FIRST READING/ PUBLIC HEARING - ORDINANCES

Ordinance 24-21

Amending the Annual Appropriations for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2021.

Ms. Alutto introduced the Ordinance.

Mr. Stiffler stated that the memo that accompanied this Ordinance in Council's packet materials provided additional details regarding these appropriations.

Ms. Weisenauer noted that no comments have been received regarding this item.

Vice Mayor De Rosa inquired as to the appropriation for the North Pool and whether or not it was necessary due to the changes in the health orders. Mr. Stiffler stated that the appropriation is out of an abundance of caution at this point. He doesn't anticipate needing that funding, but this will allow the City to be prepared for any unforeseen occurrences.

Vice Mayor De Rosa asked about Section 4 of the Ordinance regarding Riverside Crossing Park and the request to put the \$5.7 million for the current phase into the Bridge Street Fund. Mr. Stiffler stated that this is an accounting measure to track this expenditure because it is eligible for Tax Increment Financing.

Second reading and public hearing is scheduled for the June 28, 2021 Council meeting.

Ordinance 25-21

Authorizing the City Manager to Enter into a Real Estate Purchase Agreement for Certain Property owned by Denise M. Jewett located in Franklin County, Ohio; Authorizing the Execution of Related Agreements and Documents, and Appropriating Funds Therefor.

Ms. Alutto introduced the Ordinance.

Mr. McDaniel stated that the City has engaged in discussions with Denise M. Jewett to purchase property owned by her that is comprised of approximately 93.54 acres, located in Franklin County, Ohio. City Council has discussed the need to have additional acreage in the City's possession. Such purchases of land enable the City to control the ultimate use of the property. Additionally, as the City continues to grow

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and/or build out, opportunities to purchase property, such as this, will diminish. The City has experienced much success over the years through such purchases be they for economic development, transportation and/or recreational use. The purchase price of the property has been determined to be \$85,000 per acre for the 65.77 acres immediately south of Darree Fields Park and \$100,000 per acre for the 27.77 acres immediately east of Daree Fields Park. The prices for these properties are consistent with purchases made by the City in the nearly immediate area in recent years. The total price for the properties will be \$8,387,000. Staff recommended approval of this Ordinance at the second reading/public hearing on June 28.

Ms. Weisenauer noted that no comments have been received regarding this item.

Second reading and public hearing is scheduled for the June 28, 2021 Council meeting.

INTRODUCTION/PUBLIC HEARING/VOTE – RESOLUTIONS

Resolution 35-21

Appointing a Member to the Community Services Advisory Commission.

Ms. Alutto introduced the Resolution.

Vice Mayor De Rosa shared that the CSAC suffered a loss due to the unfortunate passing of Gary Gassin. She stated that it is the responsibility of Council to fill any vacancies; therefore, as Chair of the Administrative Committee, she was pleased to bring forward Ms. Hong Qiu for Council's consideration for appointment to CSAC.

Ms. Weisenauer stated that no comments have been received regarding this item.

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

Resolution 36-21

Accepting the Lowest and Best Bid for the 2021 Street Maintenance - Phase 1.

Ms. Alutto introduced the Resolution.

Mr. Hammersmith stated that on May 27, 2021, five bids were received, publicly opened and read by Engineering staff for the 2021 Street Maintenance Program – Phase 1. This project consists of roadway resurfacing and reconstruction, base stabilization, spot repair and other associated street maintenance work. This will maintain the average condition rating at 77 with an overall goal of 75. The streets included in Phase 1 of the 2021 program were provided in Council's packet.

All work will be performed while maintaining traffic, where possible, with efforts being taken to minimize interruptions to motorists, provide access for emergency services, maintain access to driveways and adjacent streets as much as possible, while consistently providing a safe work area for motorists and workers.

Mr. Hammersmith highlighted the communication methods that will be used to communicate information with the residents and motorists. The work is to commence in late June or early July with completion in October of this year.

The Engineer's estimate for this program is \$3,500,000.00. The budgeted funds in 2021 for the annual Street Maintenance Program (Phase 1 & 2) in the 2021-2025 Capital Improvements Program is \$6,615,000.00

Strawser Paving Company, Inc. submitted the lowest and best bid of \$3,114,482.03.

Staff has thoroughly reviewed the bid submitted by Strawser Paving Company, Inc. Previous experience with Strawser Paving Company, Inc. has been favorable. Staff recommended approval of this Resolution.

Ms. Weisenauer stated that no comments have been received regarding this item.

Mayor Amorose Groomes inquired as to whether or not additional streets will be added to the program because the bid came in \$400,000 lower than expected. Mr.

Hammersmith stated that it is certainly a possibility, but they do keep funds available for any change orders throughout the project.

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

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OTHER BUSINESS

• Abbey Theater Brand Refresh

Mr. Bishara stated that the Abbey Theater of Dublin has become a destination for theater companies and artists to produce diverse, inclusive regional and world premiere productions for audiences of all ages. He reported that staff has partnered with a wide variety of multi-cultural groups such as the Columbus Black Theatre Festival as well as Central Ohio's only LGBTQ+ theatre company, Evolution Theatre Company, in an effort to bring diversity, equity and inclusion to the stage in Dublin. During the pandemic, the Abbey was at the forefront of virtual theatre initiatives, garnering a Greater Columbus Arts Council (GCAC) Community Arts Innovation nomination for **The Virtual Theatre Project**.

Mr. Bishara shared that staff also revisited the Mission Statement and the Vision Stated for the Abbey Theater of Dublin. The new statements are:

Mission: *The Abbey Theater of Dublin creates dynamic programming for the stage, classroom and the community that captivates and inspires.*

Vision: *The Abbey Theater of Dublin lights the sparks of curiosity, empathy and humanity.*

These statements are centered around serving the community, arts and children. To align with this new direction, staff feels a logo refresh is well timed. The goal of this refresh is to establish and implement a dynamic Abbey Theater of Dublin production strategy that connects the theater with the community and to increase audience and community engagement. Staff identified several weaknesses surrounding the current logo:

- Branding confusion with DCRC = diminished community awareness
- Lack of clarity on what makes the Abbey Theater unique compared to other theaters
- Lack of Social Media presence
- Unique, tailored marketing that tells the Abbey Theater of Dublin's story

Mr. Bishara stated that the objective was to build a unique and branded presence on Social Media Channels in order to further communicate our unique brand offerings and leveraging the optimal channel for the right program with the best brand-right message. The refreshed logo is designed in a vertical style to allow for more versatility in print, digital and other assets. This brand refresh maintains a visual connection to how the brand identity was seen before, but the new logo is up-to-date, vibrant and designed for today's audiences.

Ms. Weisenauer stated that no comments were received regarding this item. Council members responded favorably to the new mission and vision statement as well as the new branding.

Architectural Support Services

Ms. Rauch stated that City Council requested architectural expertise be provided to supplement staff reviews and to inform Board and Commission actions. Staff has evaluated options to meet the need for additional ongoing professional architectural reviews and support. Each option could include training, support and design review for development applications. Staff recognizes a need to balance thoughtful architectural input with a user-friendly development review process. Additionally, staff recognizes that it is imperative to select design professionals who can provide honest critiques of their peers' work. The budget to provide these professional services within the Planning Division's operating budget is up to \$50,000. She provided the following options for Council's consideration:

Integrated Design Review (Subject Matter Experts) : establishing a formalized Integrated Design Review (IDR) within the existing development review process by consulting with multiple design professionals having experience in various specialties including: historic preservation, mixed-use development, office/institutional

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development, landscape architecture, and residential development. The design professional would be asked to make independent recommendations informed by their expertise in the form of a written report to City Boards and Commissions and they would participate in Board and Commission meetings. Additionally, specialists could provide on-going professional development for Board and Commission members.

The approach provides:

- a seamless development review experience for our external customers.
- a more robust method to engage architectural expertise and support, and more meaningful collaboration with the Board and Commission members.
- The opportunity to consult these professionals at least once a year to proactively provide the Board and Commission members with information about recent trends in materials and identify materials that should be considered with future development proposals.

Design Review Committee: establishing a new Design Review Committee (DRC) body and process to review development proposals across the City as an added component to the development review processes. The DRC would be comprised of three members including two architects and one landscape architect. The DRC would meet regularly in accordance with a published schedule. Projects requiring design review would need to be submitted by a deadline, in advance of the DRC meeting, to afford the group adequate review time.

This approach would:

- be a new process that would precede Board and Commission reviews.
- make independent recommendations to staff and the Boards and Commissions. Proposals reviewed by various professional experts would be forwarded to the DRC.
- require additional staff support as a standing body. This process would also add time and additional steps in the review process, which would impact the developer and their timeline.

Staff recommended establishing a formalized Integrated Design Review process to ensure reviews are conducted in alignment with areas of professional expertise and continue to ensure a seamless user experience for applicants when interfacing with City Boards and Commissions. Establishing this formalized process would not create additional steps or add more time to the overall development review process. In addition to the individual application review, a consultant could also provide support, information, and training to the Board and Commissions, as needed.

Staff recommended City Council refer this matter to the Community Development Committee for further discussion.

Ms. Weisenauer stated that no comments were received regarding this item.

Ms. Fox thanked staff for this work and stated that it will be a great benefit to our Boards and Commissions and the process that applicants must go through.

Vice Mayor De Rosa also thanked staff and stated that when she and Mayor Amorose Groomes spoke with Board and Commission members individually, this was the number one request they received.

Mayor Amorose Groomes moved to refer this topic to the Community Development Committee.

Ms. Alutto seconded.

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

TIRC Report

Mr. Stiffler stated that the Tax Incentive Review Council (TIRC) met on May 14. The City of Dublin was found to be in compliance with their TIF Districts. The Franklin County Auditor prefers City Council formally accept the minutes and reports of the TIRC so that there is a public record which reflects that Council has received the information.

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Mayor Amorose Groomes moved to accept the TIRC Report.
Ms. Alutto seconded.

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

- Riverside Crossing Park Financing

Mr. Stiffler stated that the 2021-2025 Capital Improvements Program included \$5.85 million in 2021 for next phase of Riverside Crossing Park, which consisted of \$150,000 in cash for design and \$5.7 million in bond proceeds for construction.

During the CIP discussions, several members of Council expressed a desire to consider cash funding all or part of the \$5.7 million in construction costs. At that time, staff recommended approving the CIP while retaining the project's proposed debt financing, but indicated that prior to making the final determination regarding the debt financing additional discussions could occur about the opportunity to cash finance the project.

The next supplemental appropriation ordinance (Ordinance 24-21) includes an advance of \$5.7 million from the General Fund to fund this project. Utilizing an advance will allow this project to proceed on schedule while also allowing staff and City Council additional time to gain information to reduce the uncertainty around the financial impact of the twenty-day rule and remote work on the City's income taxes. Staff recommended the continued deferral to maintain the maximum amount of flexibility to respond to any upcoming financial changes.

Vice Mayor De Rosa stated that she supports the deferral recommendation, but inquired as to why January 2024 is the deadline to make a decision. Mr. Stiffler stated that he has been working closely with bond counsel to ensure that IRS regulations and deadlines are adhered to. Typically, the deadline is three years from the first expenditure. In response to Vice Mayor De Rosa's question regarding whether or not this flexibility could be provided for future projects as well, Mr. Stiffler stated that it is possible, however, he would question what would be gained with that flexibility because there is interest rate risk in a rising rate environment that could change the cost structure of the bonds.

Mr. Reiner agreed with the deferral option.

Mayor Amorose Groomes stated that she supports the deferral as well.

- 2035 Framework Public Engagement

Ms. Rauch stated that the next phase of the 2035 Framework is Milestone Two, which includes our public and expert engagement phase. The focus of Milestone Two includes the following:

- Reviewing key research findings and supporting data;
- Incorporating community ideas, insight, and interests;
- Learning expert perspectives on essential topics and areas of interest; and
- Identifying additional stakeholders to engage in the conversation including Board and Commission members.

Staff has outlined a strategy to meet the focus for Milestone Two pertaining to expert and public engagement as follows:

- **Expert Engagement:** As part of the June 21, 2021, Council Work Session, staff and the consultant team have arranged for a futurist speaker, Nikolas Badminton of Futurist.com, <https://nikolasbadminton.com/about> to make a virtual presentation to City Council. Mr. Badminton has been provided the work completed by Council Committees to prepare for the Work Session. Additionally, staff has developed a webpage dedicated to the 2035 Framework with information about our expert engagement and Council discussion planned for June 21 meeting, as well as access to the previous committee sessions and the upcoming public engagement (<https://dublinohiousa.gov/dublin-2035>). Information about Mr. Badminton's presentation has also been shared by our Communications & Public Information team through all our various channels

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including Dublin News Now eNews, GoDublin, resident and business group outreach (HOAs, HDBA, Crawford Hoying, etc.), and social media outlets.

- Public Engagement: The goal of the public engagement portion is to gather input from residents, workers, visitors and anyone who is passionate about the future of Dublin. The public engagement portion will include several components that will happen in a series of events over the course of the summer and into the early fall, including:
 - Community Input – Big Ideas: a questionnaire will be launched after the June 21 Work Session and run through July.
 - Stakeholder engagement: Staff and the consultant team (planning NEXT) intend to gain direct feedback from the Planning and Zoning Commission, Architectural Review Board and the Board of Zoning Appeals at their regularly scheduled meetings in July. Additionally, representatives from Washington Township and the school district will also be engaged during this timeframe.
 - Community Survey: a quantitative community survey will be conducted following City Council's review of all the public input and expert engagement in late summer/early fall.

Ms. Fox encouraged as much in-person interaction as possible to spark creativity. She also asked if videos could be made to create some excitement.

Ms. Weisenauer stated that Vice Mayor De Rosa will be featured in a Dublin News in 90 segment about Dublin 2035. She stated she would also like to put a video together with Mr. Badminton because he is a dynamic, engaging individual.

In response to Ms. Fox's question regarding whether the stakeholder discussion with Boards and Commissions will happen at the end of the meeting, Ms. Rauch stated that she has not yet confirmed dates for an additional meeting, but it can be arranged. Mayor Amorose Groomes thanked staff for the information.

STAFF COMMENTS

Mr. McDaniel shared the following:

- Congratulated City Staff for winning first place in the Spark Columbus Fit City Challenge in the Large Companies category;
- Congratulated the Finance team for earning the 2019 PAFR Award; and
- There are seven candidates for the position of Director of Communication and Public Information. The final round of interviews will be coming up shortly and he invited one Council Member to join the final panel interviews. He stated that if a Council Member is interested, they should let him know.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Administrative Committee:

Vice Mayor De Rosa shared that the Council retreat is quickly approaching. She invited Council Members to share a list of topics that they would like to discuss during retreat.

Community Development Committee:

No report.

Finance Committee:

Ms. Alutto stated that the Finance Committee met on May 25. She stated that the following items were discussed:

- Visit Dublin Ohio: The Finance Committee will recommend approval of an appropriation of \$116,000 to support Visit Dublin Ohio operations for July through December 2021. This recommendation has been incorporated into the Q2 Supplemental Ordinance (Ordinance 24-21) for Council's consideration.
- Storm Water Grant Program: The Committee will be recommending to City Council for their approval, the creation of a two-year Storm Water Grant Pilot

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Program in the amount of \$30,000 per year to be funded from the Capital Improvements Tax Fund and included in the 2022-2026 CIP Program.
Ms. Alutto moved, seconded by Mr. Peterson, to approve the creation of a two-year Storm Water Grant Pilot Program.

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

CSAC has recommended to City Council the possibility of a storm water utility as being a potential funding source to address the long-term needs of the City. She asked Council Members if they were interested in having staff pursue this option. Mayor Amorose Groomes stated she was supportive of pursuing a study. Consensus of Council was to direct staff to explore the possibility of a storm water utility.

- Cemetery Perpetual Care Fund: The Committee was supportive of exploring potential uses for the Cemetery Perpetual Care Fund. Any potential uses discovered will be brought forward for Council’s consideration. Council was supportive of exploring potential uses for this fund. In response to Ms. Fox’s question, Mr. Stiffler stated that the columbarium did not come from this fund.
- 2021 Bed Tax Grant Awards: Ms. Alutto explained how these grant awards were handled this year as some requests were not fully funded. The Finance Committee recommended approval to City Council regarding changes to the amounts awarded to organizations for the 2021 Bed Tax Grant Program. Council will take action on this recommendation at their June 28 meeting.
- Bed Tax Appropriation: The amount of community grant funding from the Hotel Motel Tax Fund has been set at \$200,000 since 2009. The Finance Committee will be recommending to Council for their approval, as part of the Operating Budget process, guidance that sets the original budget appropriation at the greater of \$225,000 or 6.5% of the prior year’s actual bed tax revenues. Vice Mayor De Rosa stated that she was pleased to see some new organizations coming forward for Bed Tax Grants for events.

Public Services Committee:

- The Public Services Committee will meet tomorrow, June 15 at 5:30 p.m.

COUNCIL ROUNDTABLE

Ms. Fox stated that the plan for the wall behind the new dais in the new Council Chamber was to put the City Seal as it was in the former Council Chamber. She stated it would be about 8 feet in diameter and could be made out of a number of materials, but she wanted Council consensus before the decision was made. She asked fellow members if the City Seal is what should be on that wall. Mr. Reiner agreed with putting the City Seal on the wall.

Vice Mayor De Rosa asked if any other ideas came forward.
Mayor Amorose Groomes stated that it ties the old Chamber to the new one. Vice Mayor De Rosa, Ms. Alutto and Mr. Keeler all responded favorably.

Mr. Reiner encouraged everyone to see the current Art exhibit at the Arts Council.

Mr. Keeler expressed kudos to staff for the North Pool. He stated that the Memorial Tournament was a successful event. He appreciated the well sculptured lawns around the City. He did express concern regarding the condition of some of the City’s gateways. They can use some attention.

Vice Mayor De Rosa stated that the policies regarding traffic were developed in 2004. She stated that traffic is a regular concern that she receives from residents. She would like Council’s support in directing staff to begin the process to update the policies and possibly involving CSAC in the process. Council consensus was that they were supportive of exploring updates to the policies.
Vice Mayor De Rosa wished Ms. Alutto a very happy birthday.

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Mayor Amorose Groomes thanked the Memorial Tournament for another world-class event. She congratulated all students who graduated from high school. She shared that she had the opportunity to throw a pitch out for the Miracle League. She stated that it was wonderful to see the kids out there living their big league dreams. She stated Vice Mayor De Rosa’s birthday was last week and expressed well wishes.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:54 p.m.

Mayor – Presiding Officer

Clerk of Council