

# RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Dublin City Council

Minutes of

Meeting

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

Held

August 30, 2021

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## CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Amorose Groomes called the Monday, August 30, 2021 Regular Meeting of Dublin City Council to order at 5:00 p.m.

## ROLL CALL

Present were Mayor Amorose Groomes, Vice Mayor De Rosa, Ms. Alutto, Mr. Keeler, Mr. Peterson and Mr. Reiner. Ms. Fox arrived at 5:01 p.m.

Staff members present were Ms. Readler, Ms. O'Callaghan, Mr. Ranc, Mr. Earman, Mr. Rogers, Mr. Farrar, Ms. Weisenauer, Ms. Blake, Ms. Kennedy, Ms. Murphy, Mr. Ashford, Lt. Lattanzi, Mr. Krawetzki and Chief Paez.

## CIP PRESENTATION

Mr. Stiffler began the CIP presentation by reviewing the Water fund. He stated that the Water fund would be covering the tank painting and booster station upgrades, among other projects.

Mr. Ranc stated that the Tartan West Water Tank Repainting project includes the exterior painting as well as the dry interior and wet interior painting. The appearance of the tower will be the same as it is now after completion of the project.

Mr. Ranc shared that the Tartan West and Post Road Booster station upgrades will increase the efficiency of the Tartan West station, provide upkeep of architectural features of the stations, and increase service life of existing equipment.

Mr. Stiffler stated that the first policy change proposed in the CIP is to the Parkland Acquisition Fund 402. He shared an illustration showing the fund balance as well as the projected fund balance through 2026. He explained that the maximum millage of 1.75 was allocated in the early years of this fund (2001-2006). From 2006 to 2011 it was decreased to its current rate of .35 mills where it has remained steady. Since 2016, the fund balance has been shedding debt obligations and therefore been able to keep more of the revenues deposited into that fund. 2021 is the first year that prior obligations, such as Metro Parks, Coffman Park Expansion and Riverfront Property purchases, do not exist. The fund balance will grow quickly in this environment to over \$7 million by the end of this CIP. The proposed 2022-2026 CIP allocation maximizes flexibility regarding land acquisition by allocating 100% of the inside millage to the Capital Improvements Fund. The land acquisition allocation in the Capital Improvements Fund can be used for all types of land acquisition, with whatever restrictions that Council imposes. Funding in the Parkland Acquisition fund can only be used for Parkland Acquisition, which is a legal restriction.

Ms. Fox sought clarification regarding how the Parkland Acquisition Fund will receive zero allocation going forward but still continue to grow. She asked Mr. Peterson and Mr. Reiner to explain past Council's viewpoint regarding the Parkland Acquisition Fund. Mr. Reiner stated that the City was in the process of acquiring land along the river. It was an aggressive period for land acquisition of riverfront properties. As years passed, they realized that there was too much money in the Parkland Acquisition Fund. Mr. Peterson stated that past Council's began getting more aggressive in land purchases other than parkland for the purposes of economic development. Then as years passed, it became evident that the Parkland Acquisition Fund was becoming less critical due to space limitations. Ms. Fox asked if the Parkland Acquisition Fund is only for Parkland Acquisition and is not for maintenance or renovation etc. Mr. Stiffler indicated that was correct.

In response to Ms. Fox's question regarding whether or not there is a fund policy on the Parkland acquisition fund, Mayor Amorose Groomes clarified that the projection for the Parkland Acquisition Fund is to grow to over \$7 million. Mr. Stiffler stated that if the policy did not change and the City made no parkland purchases, then that was his estimate. Mayor Amorose Groomes stated she is not supportive of defunding our Parkland Acquisition Fund. She understands that purchases can still be made, but it may come down to a question of how a purchase would be funded. She suggested not letting the fund balance grow in perpetuity, but to have a policy. She stated that Dublin is largely what it is because of the green space and parks. Acquiring parks is more difficult if there is no dedicated fund from which to purchase them. She does not



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advocate hoarding large sums of money, but it is important to be able to do what we want to do. Parkland that is attractive is getting more and more expensive. She stated that she wanted to keep funding the Parkland Acquisition Fund.

Ms. Alutto stated she agreed that there should be a Parkland Acquisition Fund Policy. She is aligned with Mayor Amorose Groomes' comments. She agrees there is no reason to let it keep growing, but she does like having funding specifically for parkland.

Mr. Peterson stated that there is likely an equation that can be relied upon to figure out what the right amount is for that fund. He doesn't want Council's decisions to be driven by emotion because everyone loves parkland.

Vice Mayor De Rosa stated that the 2035 discussions have involved greenways, so she is confident that the funding will be used. She likes the policy the way it is until the 2035 framework is completed.

Ms. Alutto asked if this funding could be used for greenways. Mr. Stiffler responded in the affirmative.

Mr. Reiner commented on the price of real estate in Dublin.

Mayor Amorose Groomes stated that the funding has already been reduced from 1.75 mills to .35 in the recent past.

Mr. Keeler stated that the cost of real estate is not as it was in 2008. He agrees that it should remain the same and not change it.

Ms. Fox asked if there were no allocations to this fund, how it would grow to \$7 million in 2026. Mr. Stiffler stated that it would not grow. The \$7 million by 2026 projection is if nothing changed and we continued to allocate .35 to Parkland Acquisition.

Mr. Stiffler clarified that the intention was to add flexibility to land acquisition. If, in a future year, a purchase were to be made, land acquisition could be used also.

Ms. Fox stated that she doesn't feel anything needs changed now, but opportunities may come along as the Parks and Recreation Master Plan update develops and the 2035 Framework is completed. This discussion must be brought back for additional conversation about parkland policy and how those funds are used and how much is in the fund going forward. Future Council Members will need to know how to use this fund.

Mr. Stiffler stated that Council can let him know how much they would like to have it grow and he can adjust the millage.

Mayor Amorose Groomes summarized that Council's consensus was to leave the fund as it is and that additional discussion will come on this topic.

Vice Mayor De Rosa stated that the discussion should happen after the Parks and Recreation Master Plan update and the 2035 framework.

Mr. Stiffler provided additional information on the debt profile in previous years as well as projecting out to 2045. Proposed debt consists primarily of Fiber to the Home projects as well as the water and sewer extensions, per the policy. The new issuances of debt regarding income tax are fairly minimal in this CIP. He shared an analysis of current debt and what additional debt could be afforded. He noted that under the debt policy in 2022, the City could afford an addition \$75.8 million in debt. There is approximately \$70 million in debt capacity even if we do not establish any other TIFs. Vice Mayor De Rosa asked for clarification on the portion of debt that was unvoted general obligation. She stated she was interested in creating a path to "come down the hill so we can run up the hill again" later.

Mr. Keeler agreed. He recommended being mindful of limitations.

Ms. Fox asked if grants or intergovernmental agreements or funding, can be used to pay down debt. Mr. Stiffler stated that generally not, however grants and other funding could displace funding that was being used to pay down debt.

Ms. Fox stated that she was having difficulty in determining how many grants as a source of revenue we have received. Mr. Stiffler stated that generally speaking, we have not been successful receiving grants on the operating side. On the Capital side, there has been some success on different or interest projects. For future discussion, she would like to see what grants we have applied for and from what departments.

Mayor Amorose Groomes stated that she agrees with the analogy of coming down the hill to prepare yourself to run up again. She stated that the charts offered are assuming no other projects which we know is unrealistic.

Mr. Stiffler stated, in response to Council Member Keeler's earlier statement, that TIFs



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fund a significant amount of our debt service payments which is a great use.

Mayor Amorose Groomes stated that income tax instability has become a part of the conversation for the first time. Mr. Stiffler agreed that there is some instability in our income tax revenue and there likely will be for the next year or longer.

Mr. Keeler stated that the amount of debt relative to the income sources, none of the income sources will be going to zero. He reiterated that he is an advocate of setting limits.

Ms. Alutto agreed and stated that this is the reason that there is a debt policy.

Mr. Reiner stated that TIFs are important, but he agrees with his colleagues that there is instability that Council should examine further.

Mr. Stiffler shared the proposed Water Funding in the proposed CIP. He stated that for the water fund, staff is proposing debt funding for the Tartan West and Post Road Booster Station Upgrades and the Water Line replacements every other year. This represents a policy change from prior CIPs where these would normally be cash funded. The water line extensions are fully funded by transfers from the Capital Improvement Funds. The proposed CIP shows debt funding for Sewer Lining and Repair in the Sewer Fund as well as the large projects such as the Avery Road Relief Sewer and the Glick Road Relief Sewer for design and construction. He noted that this is a situation where staff is proposing to debt fund design.

Mr. Stiffler shared the chart illustrating the allocations for water and sewer. It shows the allocation from the Capital Improvements Fund (income tax dollars) to these enterprise funds (water and sewer). Mr. Stiffler briefly reviewed the revenues and expenditures for the Sewer Fund from years past. This is a very flat fund. He then reviewed Sewer Rates. The proposed sewer rate increase is 4%. The model shows increases of 4% for each year of the CIP through 2026. The policy considerations regarding the Sewer Fund are:

- The sewer extensions are funded 100% through transfers from the Capital Improvements Fund
  - No impact on sewer rates from extension program;
  - 2022-2026 CIP extensions will cost up to \$950,000 annually; and
  - Future extensions totaling \$2.1 million will cost an additional \$100,000 annually.
- The Sewer Fund is facing significant rate pressure from debt service costs
  - \$1.5 million every other year for Sewer Lining and Repair since 2015;
  - \$3.5 million in 2021 for Deer Run Sanitary Sewer Improvements, Group #1;
  - \$2.6 million in 2024 and 2025 for Deer Run – Avery Road Relief Sewer; and
  - \$5.6 million in 2023 and 2024 for Deer Run – Glick Road Relief Sewer.

The Sewer Fund Balance is not anticipated to increase during this CIP period. The pressure on rate increases to maintain a stable fund balance is expected to increase.

Ms. Fox stated that the Public Services Committee reviewed the Water and Sewer Extension Policy recently. She asked if the policy changes and we extend out farther or we allow people to choose to maintain an independent system on their property, how that would effect the funds. Mr. Stiffler stated that it would have no impact. The extension program is completely different due to the way it was funded. Regarding rate increases, he stated he is trying to avoid a large future rate increase so he is using a slower methodical approach to this plan. In response to Ms. Fox's question regarding if it were possible to cash fund some of this to avoid a 4% increase, Mr. Stiffler stated that technically it is possible, but highly unusual because enterprise funds are expected to support themselves.

Mayor Amorose Groomes stated that she doesn't think 4% will be greater than inflation over the next several years. She is fine with 4% because she believes it will still be under inflation. Ms. Alutto agreed with the proposal.

Vice Mayor De Rosa stated that the 4% each year is predicatable for people and she agrees with the slow and steady plan.

Mr. Stiffler stated that the water fund revenues are flatter and more consistent. The expenditures are consistent and have not had the debt service like the sewer fund has.



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The fund balance has remained relatively flat. The unofficial fund balance policy of this fund is 25% of system replacement value, which is currently estimated to be \$16 million. Mr. Stiffler stated this proposal is for a 3% increase in 2022 and every year thereafter. He summarized the policy considerations as follows:

- The water extensions are funded 100% through transfers from the Capital Improvements Fund;
  - No impact on water rates from extension program;
  - 2022-2026 CIP extensions will cost up to \$250,000 annually; and
  - Future extensions totaling \$567,000 will cost an additional \$45,000 annually.
- The water fund is utilizing debt financing to pay for capital improvements instead of cash funding the projects in order for expenditures related to capital improvements to better align with revenues.
  - This will prevent further decreases in the fund balance as the water rates are slowly increased over time.
- The water fund balance is not anticipated to increase during this CIP period.
  - Utilizing debt financing will keep the fund balance steady, but additional rate increases or growth in service levels will be needed to reach fund balance policy goals.

Mr. Stiffler provided an illustration regarding fund balance policy. He stated that going into this CIP, there was an unencumbered, unassigned balance of about \$10.9 million. He explained that many times these projects are closed out with funds still remaining due to over-estimating costs to ensure that the cost does not go over the available funding. Those funds that are left over are then released back into fund 401 at the close of the project. Mr. Stiffler explained the carryover projects and the funding that remains due to changes in the project (Avery-Shier Rings Roundabout).

Vice Mayor De Rosa stated that the bottom line is that we are starting this year off \$9 million dollars more than we thought we would be. Mr. Stiffler responded affirmatively.

Mr. Stiffler stated that a previously discussed item was the COTA Bus Shelter. He stated that Council had requested the addition of text addressing technology. Upon reviewing Public Services Committee minutes, staff found there was related discussion as it relates to the Mobility Hub topic. Staff will discuss the project scope in detail with the Public Services Committee in an upcoming meeting to ensure that technology is addressed.

Mr. Stiffler stated that, regarding the Franklin Street Improvements, staff will remove the language citing specific project details and specifications and leave it more broad to facilitate further discussion.

Mr. Stiffler stated that the Dublin Springs Park Improvements can be programmed in the CIP for \$100,000 without cutting any other projects. He asked for Council direction on whether or not to proceed. Mayor Amorose Groomes stated that it was the consensus of Council to see those improvements included in the CIP.

In response to Ms. Fox's question regarding the specifics of the improvement, Mr. Stiffler stated that it would be open for design.

Mayor Amorose Groomes stated that the intention later in the Council meeting will be that this will not be voted on at this meeting. Council will vote at the next meeting once the completed, revised document is ready and before them for approval.

Ms. Fox stated that she was concerned about park assets (playstructures, etc.) and that the requests for funding were not increasing despite the new developments and assets. She asked if staff conducts an asset management review of park structures as they do with streets, etc.

Mayor Amorose Groomes stated that there will be opportunity to discuss this further this evening when it comes up on the agenda.

## ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

- Personnel Matters – considering the employment of a public employee
- Conferences with an attorney for the public body concerning disputes involving the public body that are the subject of pending or imminent court action.



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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 7:00 p.m.

## **SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS**

- Ty Wilson – State Wrestling Champion (Dublin Scioto High School)  
Mayor Amorose Groomes read the proclamation and congratulated Mr. Wilson. Mr. Wilson thanked Council, his family and teammates for their support.

- Seth Shumate – State Wrestling Champion (Dublin Coffman High School)  
Mayor Amorose Groomes read the proclamation and congratulated Mr. Shumate. Mr. Shumate thanked Council and shared that he appreciated being a part of such a supportive community.

- Mayor Amorose Groomes recognized the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of September 11 and the events of that day in 2001.

## **CITIZEN COMMENTS**

There were no citizen comments.

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

- Approval of Minutes of August 16, 2021 Regular Meeting
- Notice to Legislative Authority of a Transfer of a D5 and D6 permit from Martinos Inc., dba Martinos Sports Bar & Grille, 6645 Dublin Center Drive & Patio, Dublin, Ohio 43017 to E & S Hospitality LLC, 6645 Dublin Center Drive & Patio, Dublin, Ohio 43017.
- Notice to Legislative Authority of a New D5J Permit for FTBHG LLC, dba Kitchen Social, 6791 Longshore Street, Dublin, Ohio 43017.

There was no request from Council to remove an item from the Consent Agenda. Mayor Amorose Groomes moved for approval of the Consent Agenda. Ms. Alutto 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 43-21**

### **Adopting the 2022-2026 Five-Year Capital Improvements Program**

Mr. Stiffler stated that there was a robust discussion regarding this CIP. Staff recommended that Council postpone this item to the September 13 Council meeting. There was no public comment.

Ms. Fox inquired about whether or not the amount of funding for parks amenities was sufficient for all the new park amenities that have been added recently. She asked if we have a park asset evaluation that is done.

Ms. O'Callaghan stated that there is an evaluation done of parks and assets each year and the funding requests in the CIP is reflective of those inspections. She stated that the asset management program for the City has been in place for five or six years and they will be incorporating parks into the program over the next year or so. She added that the new park assets that have been in development recently will not require capital maintenance for a while. She also noted that the Parks and Recreation Master Plan is going through a review process so some additional projects may come from that.

Ms. Fox asked if it were preferable to have a City-wide asset management program or to have it be more specific by department. Mr. Ranc stated that Mr. Taylor, Director of Asset Management and Support Services, brings a great deal of expertise in



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management of assets. He added that Parks are unique and that department will work with Mr. Taylor on capital maintenance needs. He stated that he does feel there is a benefit to having asset management be City-wide and under one umbrella as it provides a holistic view of needs in preparation for the CIP.

Ms. Fox asked if the evaluation that is done takes into consideration whether new amenities should be brought into the park system, or are the amenities we have still relevant, etc. Ms. O'Callaghan stated that the asset management program has helped to determine with more specificity what projects need to come to the CIP and in what year. Prior to having the asset management program, it was all done based on estimates. Mr. Earman stated that, regarding the parks renovations budget, it is related to maintenance items of existing assets. The update to the Master Plan will include a trend analysis, need analysis, community surveys, etc. This will give us a way of determining what needs replaced. In response to Ms. Fox's question regarding maintenance dollar amounts, Mr. Earman stated that those requests will be coming forward in the operating budget. Mr. Keeler stated that the parks should see an increase in operating expenses, not capital.

Vice Mayor De Rosa asked if Council had a desire to move the Riverside Crossing Park up in the CIP from 2025 to 2024. If so, what would that do to the CIP?

Mr. Stiffler stated that this amendment would require the following:

- Move \$975,000 in design currently cash funded in 2024 to debt funded in 2023
  - Financing could be reevaluated prior to 2023; may be able to cash fund;
  - Or project currently in 2023 could be moved back to 2024.
- Move \$5.3 million in debt financing from 2025 to 2024.

He stated that the financial impact would be:

- An estimated increase of \$73,000 (design costs) in debt financing costs from 2023 to 2042;
- Increase in cash available of \$975,000 in 2024;
- Estimated increase of \$424,000 in debt financing costs in 2024; and
- Estimated decrease of \$424,000 in debt financing costs in 2044.

Mr. Stiffler stated that it is not expected to materially impact the debt policy, debt metrics or debt profile.

Vice Mayor De Rosa stated that it may be a possibility that we wouldn't have to debt finance this. Mr. Stiffler stated that while we budget conservatively, he stated that each year the CIP is reviewed so, Council would have the opportunity to prioritize cash funding that project.

Vice Mayor De Rosa stated that she raises this for consideration because this is such a jewel for the community.

Ms. Fox stated that her primary concern is safety. She believes finishing the promenade would give some protective barrier between the park and Riverside Drive.

Ms. Alutto asked from a construction perspective if moving it up was possible. Mr. Stiffler stated that it is. She is supportive of moving it up.

Mayor Amorose Groomes asked about the \$975,000 and its purpose. Mr. Stiffler stated that those funds were for design. Mayor Amorose Groomes stated that she would be in favor of at least moving the design up. She stated this affords Council the opportunity to plan for the construction. Mr. Stiffler stated that he will make those amendments to the CIP and Council will have the opportunity to reevaluate again next year.

Mayor Amorose Groomes moved to postpone the second reading and public hearing to the September 13 Council meeting.

Ms. Alutto seconded.

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

Mayor Amorose Groomes moved to waive Council Rules of Order to consider Ordinances 44-21 through 53-21 together.

Ms. Alutto seconded.



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

**Ordinance 44-21**

**Authorizing the City Manager to Execute an Easement with Property Owner Scott Carney along the Indian Run Meadows Planned Use Development Corridor for Landscape Maintenance**

**Ordinance 45-21**

**Authorizing the City Manager to Execute an Easement with Property Owner Tiffany Crosby along the Indian Run Meadows Planned Use Development Corridor for Landscape Maintenance**

**Ordinance 46-21**

**Authorizing the City Manager to Execute an Easement with Property Owners Charles and Carla Dearing along the Indian Run Meadows Planned Use Development Corridor for Landscape Maintenance**

**Ordinance 47-21**

**Authorizing the City Manager to Execute an Easement with Property Owner David Francis along the Indian Run Meadows Planned Use Development Corridor for Landscape Maintenance**

**Ordinance 48-21**

**Authorizing the City Manager to Execute an Easement with Property Owner Luan Huynh along the Indian Run Meadows Planned Use Development Corridor for Landscape Maintenance**

**Ordinance 49-21**

**Authorizing the City Manager to Execute an Easement with Property Owners Michael and Sheri Kielian along the Indian Run Meadows Planned Use Development Corridor for Landscape Maintenance**

**Ordinance 50-21**

**Authorizing the City Manager to Execute an Easement with Property Owners Stephen and Amy Lytle along the Indian Run Meadows Planned Use Development Corridor for Landscape Maintenance**

**Ordinance 51-21**

**Authorizing the City Manager to Execute an Easement with Property Owner Teri Nowe Myers along the Indian Run Meadows Planned Use Development Corridor for Landscape Maintenance**

**Ordinance 52-21**

**Authorizing the City Manager to Execute an Easement with Property Owners Thomas and Carrie Walters along the Indian Run Meadows Planned Use Development Corridor for Landscape Maintenance**

**Ordinance 53-21**

**Authorizing the City Manager to Execute an Easement with Property Owner Hayes Wilcox along the Indian Run Meadows Planned Use Development Corridor for Landscape Maintenance**

Mr. Earman stated that there are no changes from the first reading. These Ordinances are for maintenance easements along Avery-Muirfield Drive in the Indian Run Meadows subdivision.

There was no public comment.

Mayor Amorose Groomes thanked the residents for their participation in this project.



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

## **FIRST READING/PUBLIC HEARING - ORDINANCES**

### **Ordinance 54-21**

#### **Adopting and Enacting a Supplement (S-50) to the Code of Ordinances for the City of Dublin, Ohio**

Ms. Alutto introduced the Ordinance.

Ms. Readler stated that this supplement includes local legislation approved by City Council through June 30, 2021 and State legislation current through March 31, 2021. Typically there are no issues with the proposed supplement. This supplement included a state law amendment regarding low speed micro-mobility devices (scooters) to be on City streets, sidewalks and shared use paths. Council referred this topic to CSAC in 2018. CSAC's recommendations were that no changes were made to the Code. Ms. Readler stated that staff's recommendation is that the sections regarding the low speed micro-mobility devices be deleted from the supplement. Any future regulation of scooters would be subject to a more thorough analysis.

There was no public comment.

Ms. Fox stated that scooters are being used on our shared-use paths by children. She asked the Police Chief what he is encountering since it is not allowed. Chief Paez stated that they are not actively enforcing the prohibition of scooters on shared-use paths, however, if there are complaints then they will respond and try to educate those using the scooters.

Ms. Alutto stated that she looked at past discussions and she agreed with striking them out and then have a deeper discussion about micro-mobility devices. Mayor Amorose Groomes agreed. Ms. Readler stated that it will be deleted for the second reading.

Second Reading/Public Hearing is scheduled for September 13, 2021.

### **Ordinance 55-21**

#### **Amending the Annual Appropriations for the Fiscal Year Ending December 31, 2021**

Ms. Alutto introduced the Ordinance.

Ms. Ocheltree stated that Ordinance 55-21 amends the annual appropriations for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2021 to provide supplemental funding in certain budget accounts for the third quarter of 2021. She stated that the descriptions of the appropriations are in the sections of the Ordinance.

There was no public comment.

Vice Mayor De Rosa stated that, regarding Section 5, this is an increase that was not anticipated and will be used to pay down the associated debt related to that. Ms. Ocheltree stated that was correct.

Vice Mayor De Rosa asked why the increase was there. Mr. Stiffler stated that these are collections from the County Auditor for NCA charges on the parcels. There could be a number of reasons for the delay in receiving it.

Mayor Amorose Groomes asked about the contractual obligations regarding disinfectant spraying in Section 1. She asked why there were two different obligations. Mr. Stiffler stated that the first obligation is for city-wide facilities and the second is specific to the Dublin Community Recreation Center.

Mayor Amorose Groomes asked about the \$65,000 in Other Professional Services in Section 2. Mr. Stiffler stated that those are locating services associated with the water and sewer lines. In response to Mayor Amorose Groomes' question regarding who does the locating services, Mr. Stiffler stated it was USIC.

Mayor Amorose Groomes asked about appropriating the unappropriated funds in the Capital Improvement Construction Fund and the Sewer Extension Fund in Section 4. Ms. Ocheltree stated that this is just an accounting entry.

Second Reading/Public Hearing is scheduled for September 13, 2021.



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## **Ordinance 56-21**

### **Authorizing the City Manager to Execute an Easement with American Electric Power for the Installation of Supplemental Electric Service from Riverside Drive to Riverside Crossing Park**

Ms. Alutto introduced the Ordinance.

Mr. Earman stated that American Electric Power (AEP) was contracted to provide supplemental electricity service to Riverside Crossing Park's Lower Plaza and Open Lawn area. The necessary higher voltage source was not available prior to the July 26, 2021 approval of Ordinance 26-21, which allowed for the new underground service adjacent to the park along Riverside Drive. The AEP transformer will be significantly screened in a landscaping bed within the current Riverside Crossing Park as part of the Phase II construction. Mr. Earman provided renderings showing the screening that will be provided to keep the transformer from being visible. This easement is required for supplemental electric service to the park and is to the City's sole benefit.

There was no public comment.

Mr. Reiner thanked staff for the work on this. He asked if this would continue down the greenway toward the bridge. Mr. Earman stated that we could establish for future service down that line as needs arise.

Mayor Amorose Groomes asked if this will have a master meter. Mr. Earman stated that each will have its own as they all have to be connected to the same source.

Mayor Amorose Groomes stated it would be nice to have a master meter there to avoid having several meter pits along there.

She asked about the screening and plantings. Mr. Earman stated that these will be included in the current plantings. He added that there is a fair amount of screening there now.

Vice Mayor De Rosa asked if there was consideration to a more permanent screening such as a wall. Mr. Earman stated that this was an initial look at screening. Once the landscaping is in, additional screening can be explored.

Second Reading/Public Hearing is scheduled for September 13, 2021.

## **INTRODUCTION/PUBLIC HEARING/VOTE – RESOLUTIONS**

### **Resolution 50-21**

#### **Appointing a Member to the City of Dublin Architectural Review Board**

Ms. Alutto introduced the Resolution.

Vice Mayor De Rosa, as Administrative Committee Chair, stated that earlier this summer there was a resignation on the Architectural Review Board. Council held interviews on August 19. She stated she is pleased to bring forward a Resolution for the appointment of Michael Jewell to fill that vacancy.

There were no public comments.

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

### **Resolution 51-21**

#### **Authorizing the City Manager to Enter into a Service Agreement with Washington Township to Provide Flushing and Pumping Services for the Public Fire Hydrants in the City of Dublin**

Ms. Alutto introduced the Resolution.

Mr. Stanford stated that the City of Dublin has had the Washington Township Fire Department perform flushing and pumping services on a biannual basis. The most recent agreement expired August 1, 2021. Washington Township has agreed to continue to provide these services at the same rate of \$7.00 per hydrant. The projected annual cost for these services are \$46,522.

There were no public comments.



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

**Resolution 52-21**

**Declaring Certain City-Owned Property as Surplus and Authorizing the City Manager to Dispose of said Property in Accordance with Section 37.07 of the Dublin Codified Ordinances**

Ms. Alutto introduced the Resolution.

Mr. Ashford stated that this Resolution would authorize the City Manager to dispose of 12 vehicles and 4 non-vehicles. He stated that usually the property is put on GovDeals and has been very successful. This year, because car dealers are offering such great deals on trade-in pricing, staff requested that the Fleet Manager be allowed to explore getting trade-in offers. This will allow staff to set the minimum pricing on GovDeals. There was no public comment.

Mayor Amorose Groomes thanked Mr. Ashford for all his work on the New Council Chamber.

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

**OTHER BUSINESS**

• DORA UPDATE

Ms. LeRoy provided an update on the DORA pilot. She reviewed the feedback from Police, businesses and patrons. Lt. Lattanzi stated that the Police provided additional staffing at an approximate cost of \$9200 in overtime. There were over 90 calls for service in Bridge Park and Historic Dublin. Only five can be possibly attributed to the DORA. Officers assisted in quickly resolving the issues.

The business feedback was favorable, as was the resident feedback. She noted the importance of the DORA in why patrons chose to come to Dublin.

The days and hours of the DORA, according to the survey targeting businesses, were too few and too short. The businesses are in favor of increasing the days and hours of the DORA. The patrons largely felt that the days and hours were just right.

Ms. LeRoy stated that composting bins have been ordered. There are some storage issues regarding compostable cups and how they are stored. There is a national cup shortage. The City is currently limiting the number that retailers can order. Staff is hopeful that more will arrive in the coming weeks. 50,000 non-compostable cups have been backordered. Compostable cups may be available to order in 10-12 weeks. Ms. LeRoy stated that the DORA is in place, so no action would be required to extend it to year-round.

Proposed changes that staff is recommending include:

- Thursday/Friday – changing the start time from 5:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.;
- Saturday – changing the start time from 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 a.m.; and
- Sunday – currently there are no Sunday hours and staff recommended adding the hours 1:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.

Ms. LeRoy referenced the letter of support from Visit Dublin Ohio and the Historic Dublin Business Association that was included in Council's materials asking for extended days Monday through Wednesday. Staff is not recommending that at this time due to the patron feedback.

Staff is also recommending a change to the cost of the cups. Ms. LeRoy stated that the cost to the City for the cups is 20 cents per cup, not including the cost of the cup, based on Police, start up costs, signage, etc. The cost of the actual cups is going to fluctuate, so staff proposes charging patrons 25 cents a cup rather than 10 cents a cup.

Ms. LeRoy stated that the Pedestrian Bridge was commented on in many of the public comments on the surveys. Staff recommends no changes at this time, but to revisit this topic in the first quarter of 2022.

There was no public comment.



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Mr. Reiner stated that he is pleased that Dublin is doing this. He thanked the Police for their report.

Ms. Fox asked if the City pays for the cup or the restaurant pays for the cup. Currently, the City buys the cups and then the restaurant places an order with the City. Staff is hopeful that the process will change and allow the cups to ship directly to the restaurants. In response to Ms. Fox's comments regarding recovering the cost of the cups, Ms. LeRoy stated that we are not currently recovering the cost of the cups.

In response to Ms. Fox's question regarding the business responses to the surveys, Ms. LeRoy stated that there was a nice mix of businesses on the east and west sides of the river.

In response to Ms. Fox's question regarding the number of police calls in the area of Bridge Park, Lt. Lattanzi stated that he could not speak for certain regarding the average number of calls, however response times were fast due to staff already being in the area.

Ms. Fox asked about the types of calls received in the Historic District during the entertainment activity. Lt. Lattanzi stated that they have focused additional attention along Riverside Drive and are working with Bridge Park to address some concerns regarding the parking garages.

In response to Mr. Reiner's question regarding loud vehicles along Riverside Drive, Lt. Lattanzi stated that they are researching some options to educate and address the problem.

Mr. Keeler asked about the cups and how the patron will identify a compostable cup versus a non-compostable cup. Ms. LeRoy stated that they would have to read the fine print on the cup. The goal is to have all cups compostable and do the education along with that. Mr. Keeler asked how much regular trash ends up in the recycling bins and how feasible is it to sort that. He is supportive of zero waste, but he is wondering if, in practice, it is feasible today. Ms. LeRoy stated that Hilliard is trying this and asking volunteers to monitor what is being thrown in the bins. It will take a good deal of education to learn how to use this.

Vice Mayor De Rosa asked if this was the mid-point check-in. Ms. LeRoy stated that this was the point in time that staff stated they would come back to Council to see if Council wished to continue the DORA.

Vice Mayor De Rosa asked what the overall cost of this program is and what it will look like moving forward. Ms. LeRoy stated that the majority of the costs are the Police costs. She will provide the total cost. Vice Mayor De Rosa would like to see the final cost especially if we are adding times and days.

Ms. LeRoy stated that since May she estimates the cost at being \$15,500.

Vice Mayor De Rosa stated that she would like to see the impact and what the impact will be moving forward.

Vice Mayor De Rosa asked about recycling cans. Ms. LeRoy stated that they are only on the east and west plazas. She added that Crawford Hoying handles the trash. Vice Mayor De Rosa stated that recycle bins seems like a reasonable request. Ms. O'Callaghan stated that staff can have that conversation with Crawford Hoying as the DORA moves forward.

Mayor Amorose Groomes asked if there are waste receptacles and do they match what we have in the parks. Ms. O'Callaghan stated that their receptacles are different.

Mayor Amorose Groomes stated that another hurdle could be the colors of the bins being different.

Mayor Amorose Groomes stated that she noticed a large number of the negative comments regarding the DORA were from Bridge Park residents. She asked if the survey was divided by the location of where the responder lives. Ms. LeRoy stated that was not the case with this particular survey but they can do that analysis.

Mayor Amorose Groomes is interested to know why the negative comments were from Bridge Park. She also would like to get to a place where any business that offers any kind of take out item does so using compostable materials. She suggested offering earlier end times on nights preceding a work day. Ms. LeRoy stated that staff was concerned about confusion and stated that consistency helps.

Mayor Amorose Groomes stated that she would like to see a comprehensive total of City costs.



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Ms. Alutto stated that a proforma on the costs would be helpful. She would also like to see a breakdown of the 25 cents per cup. She is okay with the hours changes.

Ms. Fox stated that the 9:00 a.m. start time seems a bit early to begin on Saturday. She feels that noon is much more reasonable. Ms. Alutto agreed that 9:00 a.m. does seem a bit early.

In response to Mayor Amorose Groomes' questions, Ms. Readler stated that no motion is required to continue the DORA. Staff will come back with additional information on a future agenda. Ms. LeRoy clarified the cost information Council would like to see. Mayor Amorose Groomes stated a comprehensive look overall and an average of how many cups we have used so far.

Ms. O'Callaghan stated that some of the costs will be estimates due to not knowing if trash receptacles, for example, are full due to DORA patrons.

Vice Mayor De Rosa would also like to see the business costs – what do the businesses pay and any cost recovering for the City.

Mr. Keeler asked additional questions regarding the cups and cost recovery. Ms. LeRoy stated that discussions were happening until the cups became unavailable.

Discussions are anticipated to resume once cups become available again.

Mayor Amorose Groomes stated that she would like to see a start time certain Monday through Friday; a start time certain Saturday and Sunday and then a stop time certain Sunday through Wednesday; and a stop time certain Thursday through Saturday to eliminate confusion. Ms. O'Callaghan stated that staff would be supportive of that.

## STAFF COMMENTS

Ms. O'Callaghan stated that the Dublin Community Recreation Center is currently shut down through September 6 for annual cleaning and maintenance.

## COUNCIL REPORTS

### • Committees

#### Administrative Committee:

Vice Mayor De Rosa stated that a meeting was held on Tuesday, August 24. The following topics were covered: an update from IT Staff, the Council Rules, and the Council communication and engagement plan. A work plan will be developed for Council to consider. Council retreat is coming up on September 9 and 10.

#### Community Development Committee:

Mr. Reiner stated that a meeting was held on August 24, 2021 discussing the Metro Center Visioning process. A number of developers and stakeholders were present for the robust conversation. There will be a number of follow-up discussions.

#### Public Services Committee:

Ms. Fox stated that a meeting was held on Monday, August 23. The water and sanitary sewer extension policy was discussed. The committee members asked for updated numbers of homes to be serviced with an extension, financing options and a reassessment of the health and safety risk. Waterway maintenance was also discussed as well as waterway enhancements.

### • Liaison Reports

Ms. Fox gave the following reports:

- Dublin Bridges encourages everyone to log-on to the website (dublinbridges.org) to contribute to the Personal Pantries that are in each of the schools. A \$10 donation would go a very long way in keeping the pantries stocked.
- Washington Township has trainings that will be open to the public in the coming weeks. On September 20, they are offering CPR and AED Certification Training for ages 12 and up. On September 21, a class called, "Until Help Arrives" will provide information regarding what people can do to help prior to emergency personnel arriving for ages 13 and up.



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- o September 11, 2021 at 9:59 a.m., a ceremony will be held at Station 93 on Brand Road marking the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of September 11.

Mr. Keeler reported on the Logan/Union/Champaign County Regional Planning Commission and stated that he is always amazed at the amount of development occurring in Union County in very close proximity to our borders.

Mr. Reiner shared that the Dublin Arts Council's Sundays at the Scioto Concert Series is underway.

Mayor Amorose Groomes stated that there is a MORPC Executive Committee meeting scheduled for this week (September 2).

## COUNCIL ROUNDTABLE

Vice Mayor De Rosa shared the following:

- She mentioned the Business Impact Breakfast that was held in Marysville, Ohio last week. She stated that Megan O'Callaghan did a great job speaking about the Beta District.

Mayor Amorose Groomes stated that she attended the Welcome Warehouse event to announce their rebranding to One Dublin.

## ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:52 p.m.

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Mayor – Presiding Officer

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Clerk of Council