

# RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of

Dublin City Council

Meeting

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

Held

March 21, 2022

20

## CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Fox called the Monday, March 21, 2022 Regular Meeting of Dublin City Council to order at 7:00 p.m.

## ROLL CALL

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

Staff members present were Mr. McDaniel, Mr. Boggs, Ms. O'Callaghan, Mr. Ranc, Mr. Krawetzki, Mr. Earman, Mr. Stiffler, Mr. Rogers, Ms. Willis, Ms. Wawszkiewicz, Ms. LeRoy, Mr. Dearth, Ms. Goliver, Ms. Blake, Mr. Hammersmith, Ms. Rauch, Ms. Weisenauer, and Chief Paez.

Also present: Mr. and Mrs. Hidaka, 2022 Grand Leperchauns

## PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

## SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

- Grand Leprechaun Recognition

Mayor Fox recognized Mr. and Mrs. Hidaka as the 2022 Grand Leprechauns. She stated that the Grand Leprechaun selection is one of many Dublin St. Patrick's Day Celebration traditions. This honor recognizes an individual, or couple, who has made significant contributions to the Dublin Community. Hidaka USA was established in Dublin in 1989. Mr. Hidaka serves on the board of the Japan-America Society of Central Ohio (JASCO), the Dublin Chamber Board of Directors and the Dublin Methodist Foundation Board. Mrs. Hidaka has served on the Dublin Arts Council Board and is a member of Sayu, which is an organization of volunteers who demonstrate traditional Japanese tea ceremonies to local schools and universities. The Hidakas were instrumental in fundraising for the new Dublin branch of the Columbus Metropolitan Library in 2019. We appreciate how they share their Japanese culture with us. Each year Hidaka USA and Mr. and Mrs. Hidaka host a hanami, which is a cherry blossom viewing party. In Japanese tradition, it represents rebirth and new beginnings. On behalf of City Council and the City of Dublin, she thanked Mr. and Mrs. Hidaka for their years of service and dedication to the Dublin community.

## CITIZEN COMMENTS

There were no comments.

## CONSENT AGENDA

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

- February 24, 2022 Special Meeting Minutes
- March 2, 2022 Special Meeting Minutes
- March 7, 2022 Regular Meeting Minutes
- March 8, 2022 Special Meeting Minutes

Mayor Fox moved to approve the consent agenda items.

Ms. Alutto seconded.

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

## SECOND READING/PUBLIC HEARING – ORDINANCES

### Ordinance 02-22

**Rezoning the Shoppes at River Ridge including two parcels (PIDs 273-008269 and 273-012909) from BSD-C, Bridge Street District - Commercial District, to BSD-SRN, Bridge Street District - Scioto River Neighborhood District; and Zoning one parcel (PID 273-012910), formerly right-of-way,**

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**BSD-SRN, Bridge Street District - Scioto River Neighborhood District, totaling 14.02 acres located southeast of the Riverside Drive and S.R. 161 roundabout (Case 21-189Z)**

Ms. Rauch stated that this is the second reading of this Ordinance. Ms. Rauch stated that there were a number of questions from first reading that were addressed in the packet materials. She highlighted some of those items that were addressed, such as:

- BSD-C intent versus BSD-SRN intent: Properties zoned BSD-C are intended to be rezoned to mixed-use districts;
- Neighborhood District designation: Requires elevated design standards for open space, streetscape, placemaking, gateways, shopping corridors, and signs; and minimizes opportunity for auto-oriented uses and prioritizes vibrant, walkable mixed-use neighborhoods.
- Building types: Ms. Rauch illustrated the difference in permitted building types and development standards between BSD-C and BSD-SRN; and
- Review Process: All properties zoned BSD are subject to a three-step development review process with Planning and Zoning Commission and/or City Council.

Planning and Zoning Commission recommended approval to City Council on January 20, 2022.

Staff recommended approval. Ms. Rauch stated that on behalf of the applicant, Russ Hunter, Crawford Hoying, was present and available to answer any questions.

Public comment was received and read by Ms. Weisenauer as follows:

Robin Galieti, 6449 Martin Place, wrote:

*I live on the cul de sac directly behind where this proposed building is to go (Martin Place off of Martin Road). As I am for the development of this property, I am totally opposed to a 5 or 6 story building being planned for this area. As I am hopeful that the design of the building will be beautiful, I am concerned about there being the possibility of the residents being able to view this tall of a structure, from our street. This, may in turn, cause our property values to go down. Thank you for your consideration.*

Public comment was also given by:

Thomas Kromer, 6450 Martin Place, stated that he has lived at this address for 29 years and enjoys being a part of the Dublin community. He recalled attending some of the public meetings at Wendy's about the build-out of Bridge Street. He stated there is a character to their neighborhood and he would not want his neighborhood impacted. The neighborhood is a single family residential area. He is not in favor of anything approaching 5-6 stories in the area. There is no connector from these neighborhoods along Riverside Drive to downtown.

Gayle Griffith, 6465 Martin Place, read comments that she had submitted. She had written:

*For 37 years, I have lived just south of the subject property, with some (mostly vacant) office buildings between the subject property and my home. I look out my window for much of the day, while I'm preparing meals and while in my family room, which has sliding glass doors for a north wall to enable me to enjoy the beauty of the outdoors. As I look out those doors now, it breaks my heart to think of having a five or six story building just a short distance from my property line. The folks inhabiting floors two or three and above will be able to look onto my swimming pool and into my house. I can hardly imagine that a tall building will do anything but cause me great distress and devalue my property. I hope the Council will agree that it isn't right to enable the building of such a tall building right next to a Dublin neighborhood.*

Scott Haring, 3280 Lilly Mar Court, stated that he has been in Dublin for 25 years and has been involved in the traffic calming process in his neighborhood. It is all single-

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family homes. His biggest concern is building height that is allowed. He would like any project to be limited in its scope and height.

Russell Hunter, Crawford Hoving, 6640 Riverside Drive, stated that what they are currently focused on is up against Riverside Drive. It is a complicated site with two parcels. Access is another complicated factor. He stated it will be expensive to figure out these challenges before they can bring a project forward. As they do have a project in mind, he stated that they are committed to meeting with the residents in the area.

Dana Kromer, 6450 Martin Place, read comments that she had submitted. She had written:

*Hello, my family has lived on Martin Place since 1993. There have obviously been many changes to Dublin in those 28+ years. Most of the changes have been positive. I am concerned about the request for rezoning of the property described in Ordinance 02-22 and in particular the request for consideration of a six-story structure. I doubt that a six-story structure located at the Riverside Dr/161 roundabout would have much impact on my neighborhood, but a six-story structure located within the area of the Shoppes at River Ridge would have a very negative impact. Without an actual project plan in place, it is hard to discuss this fully, but such a tall structure located within any area of the shops would likely be seen from Martin Place and Lilly Mar Court. I feel that a looming building would certainly hurt our property values and quality of life. Lower residential building within the Shoppes at River Ridge could offer a better transition between the Bridge Park area and the residential areas off of Martin Road. I look to Dublin City Council to balance the needs/requests of business with the needs of the residents who live in and support our community. The developer of this project needs to provide a detailed plan for the sites involved so that local residents and City Council can better understand what is being proposed.*

Mr. Keeler asked about the difference in elevation between the old Wendy's site and the former Montgomery Inn site. Ms. Rauch stated that the grade at Riverside is about 20+ feet lower than the grade at the former Montgomery Inn site.

Mr. Keeler asked how many feet are considered one story. Ms. Amorose Groomes stated it is on average 12 feet.

In response to Mr. Reiner's question, Ms. Rauch stated that the Shoppes at River Ridge and the homes just to the south are at about the same grade.

Ms. Kramb stated that if a new street grid is laid out and a new east/west street is created, then buildings could be built looking down at the homes. She stated that it would be better to wait until a project comes forward to provide the residents some reassurance.

Vice Mayor De Rosa asked for the definition of a Corridor Building. Ms. Rauch stated that a corridor building is one of the building types and is meant as a multi-story building and then there are a number of requirements in the Code regarding uses, occupancy, etc.

Vice Mayor De Rosa asked if a hotel would be a corridor building. Ms. Rauch stated that it could be. She added that it really comes down to the building design.

Vice Mayor De Rosa asked for the definition of a podium apartment. Ms. Rauch stated that a podium apartment is a building type where there is parking located under the building.

Ms. Amorose Groomes asked if it was intended for the street grid network to allow Stoneridge Lane to come through this site. Ms. Rauch stated that it does intend for additional street connections. Ms. Amorose Groomes stated that she is aware that it is allowable to bring forward a rezoning without a project. She stated that this is sensitive and would want it to be clear to the applicant that even though it says "up to," it is not likely to happen due to the residences to the south.

Ms. Alutto stated that the challenge for her is hearing about a concept at a Finance Committee and then hearing that there is no project feels disingenuous. She agrees

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that this is sensitive and encouraged the applicant to continue to work with the residents.

Mr. Reiner stated that he would assume that the applicant would need to do a feasibility study to see what is even possible on this site. He agreed that the height and density is important when adjacent to residential.

Ms. Kramb stated that she is supportive of redevelopment, but she would rather see the rezoning and a concept plan come together.

Vice Mayor De Rosa stated that four or five stories are already in the Code. This change would allow for some mixed use that the area wants. The height is a very important conversation that would happen no matter what. The rezoning sets conditions to match the spirit of what we want there.

Mr. Reiner reiterated the importance of connectivity also.

Mayor Fox stated that extending Stoneridge Lane could be concerning. If the intention is to bring vitality, but to protect the back side of the property, then she could be supportive. She does not want to see any opening for large buildings along the south side. She stated that there is absolute sensitivity to building height on the south side.

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

## **Ordinance 04-22**

### **Amending the Annual Appropriations Ordinance for the Fiscal Year Ending December 31, 2022**

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. Alutto, yes; Mayor Fox, yes; Mr. Keeler, yes; Mr. Reiner, yes; Ms. Kramb, yes; Ms. Amorose Groomes, yes; Vice Mayor De Rosa, yes.

## **Ordinance 05-22**

### **Providing for the Issuance and Sale of Bonds in the Maximum Aggregate Principal Amount of \$3,460,000 for the Purpose of Paying the Costs of Improving the Municipal Sanitary Sewer System by Extending Certain Sewer Lines, Repairing and Lining Certain Existing Sewer Lines, Reducing Inflow and Infiltration, and Installing New Sewer Lines, New Force Mains, a Lift Station and a Pump Station, Together with all Incidental work and related Appurtenances Thereto**

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

## **Ordinance 06-22**

### **Providing for the Issuance and Sale of Bonds in the Maximum Aggregate Principal Amount of \$2,725,000 for the Purpose of Paying the Costs of Improving the Municipal Waterworks System by Upgrading the Existing Tartan West Booster Station, Adding a Water Quality Monitoring Unit to the Post Road Booster Station, Replacing Water Lines and Installing Water Line Extensions, Together with all Incidental work and related Appurtenances Thereto**

Ms. Kramb stated that she would be abstaining from the vote on this Ordinance due to the improvements being the area that affects her property.

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

There were no public comments.

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

## **Ordinance 07-22**

### **Providing for the Issuance and Sale of Bonds in the Maximum Aggregate Principal Amount of \$2,850,000 for the Purpose of paying the costs of Refunding Bonds previously issued by the City for the Purpose of paying the costs of various Public Infrastructure Projects**

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

## **Ordinance 08-22**

### **Providing for the Issuance and Sale of Bonds in the Maximum Principal Amount of \$5,700,000 for the Purpose of Improving the Municipal Parks and Recreation System by Paying a Portion of the Costs of Constructing the Riverside Crossing Park, together with all Incidental Work and Related Appurtenances Thereto**

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. Amorose Groomes, yes; Ms. Kramb, yes; Mr. Reiner, yes; Vice Mayor De Rosa, yes; Ms. Alutto, yes; Mayor Fox, yes; Mr. Keeler, yes.

## **Ordinance 09-22**

### **Adopting and Enacting a Supplement (S-51) to the Code of Ordinances for the City of Dublin, Ohio**

Mr. Boggs stated that there were no changes to this Ordinance from the first reading. He stated that there was a question about the tax collection language in the supplemental, but upon review, there was no conflict.

There were no public comments.

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

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

### **Ordinance 10-22**

#### **Amendments to Section 153.158 regarding the Temporary Sign Provisions of the City of Dublin's Zoning Code**

Ms. Alutto introduced the Ordinance.

Ms. Rauch stated that in January 2022, Council provided feedback and referred this topic to the Community Development Committee (CDC). The CDC met for discussion which included commercial real estate market representatives. In February, the CDC recommended revisions to Council for consideration. Proposed updates include:

- Allow one sign per parcel with an additional sign for parcels with freeway frontage to allow for additional visibility;

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- Similar sign sizes and heights are recommended compared to the approved regulations;
- Require a uniform sign design with green background and white lettering; and
- Allow for one-year duration with a yearly renewal.

Ms. Rauch illustrated a comparison and reviewed the previous sign requirements with the 2021 revised version and also with the proposed version. Staff recommended approval of this Ordinance at the second reading.

Public comment was received and read by Ms. Weisenauer as follows:

Brian Griffith, 3852 Carberry Drive wrote:

*Specifically I am opposed to amending 153.158(I)(5) to remove the reasonable limits on the duration of sign displays. The proposed revision will undo these restrictions and leave our community once again with perpetual display of temporary real estate signs. These signs detract significantly from the otherwise clean and consistent appearance of the city.*

Mike Copella, Managing Director, Coldwell Banker Richard Ellis (CBRE), thanked Council for the great discussion at the committee level. He asked for Council support for the temporary sign ordinance.

Brent Swander, Chief Executive Officer, Columbus Realtors, thanked Council for the work at the committee level. He stated that the average time for a commercial property on the market is about 19.5 months. He shared the history of the multiple listing service (MLS) for commercial property, and stated that Xceligent was what everyone used, but it went bankrupt in 2017. There is no one company that is doing what Xceligent did before. He also added that the MLS for residential properties is currently under scrutiny for anti-trust issues and class action lawsuits. 90 days is far too short of duration for leasing signs in the commercial market.

In response to Ms. Alutto's question regarding colors on signs and how many signs are permitted, Ms. Rauch stated that it is usually one sign per a certain amount of frontage, but staff will provide additional information about that at second reading.

Ms. Amorose Groomes stated that there was discussion regarding how many names are permitted on a sign. Mr. Swander stated that per the Ohio Revised Code, the brokerage name must be as large or prominent as any other single name. Mr. Copella stated that he agrees multiple names needs to be thought out.

Ms. Kramb stated that we cannot regulate what names we put on the sign. She asked if there was a fee to renew this sign. She stated it is not a temporary sign when you renew it every year. Ms. Amorose Groomes stated that they will have to have a space for lease on the market in order to renew.

Mr. Reiner stated that he appreciated all the discussion at CDC.

Vice Mayor De Rosa stated that she would like to see a technology solution such as a QR code on their permanent signs. QR codes are permitted on permanent signs. She is hopeful that there would be an electronic solution. She doesn't want to stop here. She suggested using the information we are collecting to create a broader solution that would be a benefit to both the market and the community.

Mayor Fox stated that she appreciates that the aesthetic will improve drastically. She agrees with Vice Mayor De Rosa that we need to keep investigating solutions.

Second reading/public hearing is scheduled for the April 11, 2022 Council meeting.

## **Ordinance 11-22**

**Execute and Accept Necessary Conveyance Documents and Contracts to Acquire Certain Property Located on Riverside Drive, Identified as Franklin County Parcel Number 273-008396-00 from Thomas A. McDowell, Successor Trustee of the Diane Alane McDowell Revocable Living Trust, under agreement 2/12/2020 and Thomas A. McDowell, for the Public Purpose of Constructing a New Shared-Use Path Which Shall be Open to the Public Without Charge**

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Ms. Alutto introduced the Ordinance.

Mr. Hammersmith stated that the Riverside Drive East Shared-Use Path – Section 1 Project will provide a shared-use path on the east side of Riverside Drive from Emerald Parkway to 500 feet north of Hanna Hills Drive. The current schedule is to advertise the project for bid in spring 2022. Good faith negotiations were held. Once the construction contract is executed, construction activities are expected to commence in June 2022.

There was no public comment.

Ms. Amorose Groomes asked about the bump-outs that were shown on the map, to which Mr. Hammersmith responded that they are culverts.

Ms. Kramb asked where the path was to the little cemetery. Mr. Hammersmith stated that this path will not be in the way of the cemetery.

Second reading/public hearing is scheduled for the April 11, 2022 Council meeting.

## **Ordinance 12-22**

### **To Remove Special Assessments Previously Levied for Certain Public Improvements in the City of Dublin, Ohio in Cooperation with the Columbus Regional Energy Special Improvement District (5500 Frantz Road Project)**

Ms. Alutto introduced the Ordinance.

Ms. O'Malley stated that the building ownership at 5500 Frantz Road previously requested the use of PACE Financing for its energy efficiency improvement project totaling \$515,883. The owner of 5500 Frantz Road in Dublin, Ohio, Frantz Investments, LLC has recently sold its property to a new owner. As such, the original owner/PACE applicant, has requested to pay off the PACE financing for the property, which requires Dublin City Council to pass a new Ordinance removing the special assessments from the property.

There was no public comment.

Second reading/public hearing is scheduled for the April 11, 2022 Council meeting.

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

### **Resolution 13-22**

#### **Appointing Members to the Various Boards and Commissions of the City of Dublin**

Ms. Alutto introduced the Resolution.

Vice Mayor De Rosa explained that as a result of vacancies, interviews were held by Council for board and commission members. She brought forward the candidates names for Council approval and read them into the record as follows:

- Jamey Chinnock and Kathy Harter are hereby appointed to four-year terms on the Planning and Zoning Commission, such terms expiring on March 31, 2026;
- Michael Jewell is hereby reappointed to a three-year term on the Architectural Review Board; and Hilary Damaser is hereby appointed to a three-year term on the Architectural Review Board, such terms expiring on March 31, 2025;
- Joseph Nigh is hereby reappointed to a three-year term on the Board of Zoning Appeals; and Patrick Murphy is hereby appointed to a three-year term on the Board of Zoning Appeals, such terms expiring on March 31, 2025;
- Vicki von Sadovszky is hereby appointed to the Community Services Advisory Commission to fulfill an unexpired term ending March 31, 2023. Vivekanandan Arunachalam is hereby reappointed to a three-year term on the Community Services Advisory Commission, and Tanner Pryor is hereby appointed to a three-year term on the Community Services Advisory Commission such terms expiring on March 31, 2025;

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- Betty Clark-McClenaghan is hereby reappointed to a three-year term as City representative to the Visit Dublin Ohio Board, such term expiring on March 31, 2025;
- Sandra Puskarcik is hereby reappointed to a two-year term as City representative to the Dublin Arts Council, such term expiring on March 31, 2024;
- Mark Heeter is hereby appointed to a three-year term on the Personnel Board of Review, such term expiring March 31, 2024; and
- Bill Root and Dale Saylor are hereby reappointed to two-year terms on the Tax Board of Review, such terms expiring March 31, 2024.

There were no public comments.

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

## **Resolution 14-22**

### **Authorizing the City Manager to Enter into a Maintenance Agreement with the Ohio Department of Transportation for the US 33 – SR 161 – Post Road Interchange Upgrade Project**

Ms. Alutto introduced the Resolution.

Mr. Ranc stated that the City of Dublin is working cooperatively with project partners at the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) and Union County to improve the interchange at US 33–SR 161–Post Road. Construction for the project is currently programmed to begin in 2022, with an anticipated substantial completion date in 2024. Dublin requested unique enhancement features to be incorporated into the plan, to give drivers not only a safe and efficient travel experience, but also to welcome them to Dublin in a distinctive manner. An architect and landscape architect were engaged in the design process to introduce color, texture, and decorative design, enhancing ODOT's standard process. Pursuant to the Maintenance Agreement, Dublin agrees to maintain the aesthetic features, including the stone clad retaining walls and decorative bridge elements, landscaping, watering system, post mounted signs, street lighting, and overhead sign support painting on US 33. ODOT agrees to reimburse Dublin for the routine lighting maintenance and maintain the interchange as required by the Ohio Revised Code, and specifically, ODOT will be responsible for structural repairs. Staff recommended approval.

There were no public comments.

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

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

- City Entryway Signs

Mr. Ranc stated that in October 2021, City Council referred the topic of City Entryway Signs to the Community Development Committee (CDC). The CDC discussed this topic at both the November 2021 and February 2022 meetings. CDC has recommended enhancements to both the standard entryway signs and the monument signs. Mr. Ranc provided photos to demonstrate the current entryway signs. He also showed the options presented to CDC and the font and shadowing that was chosen. The accolades were removed from the signage. He also provided a sign that was fabricated in the City's sign shop to demonstrate the quality of the sign. Each of these signs is estimated to cost \$7100 and it is estimated that 25 signs are needed. The CDC recommended a phased approach to replacing the signs so the cost can be absorbed in the operating budget.

There was no public comment.



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In response to Mr. Keeler's question regarding how the sign is attached, Ms. Willis stated that the signs will be attached with rivets which is the standard that the City uses.

Mayor Fox asked about the height of the sign. Mr. Ranc stated that it will be 5-6 feet which is the height of the current signs.

Vice Mayor De Rosa asked how this compares to the Park signs. Mr. Ranc stated that it is slightly smaller than the entry to the parks. When asked why that would be the case, Mr. Ranc stated that it is aesthetically pleasing at this size. The particular question was not discussed in committee. Ms. Amorose Grooms stated that CDC did discuss looking at park signs next.

Vice Mayor De Rosa asked why we would do a phased approach with the signs and not just replace them all at once. Mr. Ranc stated that phasing would help develop a maintenance schedule with the signs going forward.

Mr. Reiner clarified that the picture is the actual rendering of the sign.

Mayor Fox confirmed that the proportions that are in the picture are what will be created. Mr. Ranc responded affirmatively.

Mayor Fox was supportive of replacing all the signs at once.

Mr. Reiner asked if there was a finial that would be placed on the top of the sign. Mr. Ranc responded in the negative. Ms. Amorose Grooms asked if it was a cap on top of the pole. Mr. Ranc responded affirmatively. Ms. Willis stated that staff could investigate a finial for the top of these poles, but that it would change the aesthetic rather significantly and it would be more costly.

Ms. Krumb was supportive of keeping the cap the way it is. Ms. Amorose Grooms agreed. There was consensus to keep the cap.

Mr. Ranc sought clarification on the implementation of new signs. Consensus was reached regarding implementation of the signs to be done all at once.

Mr. Ranc shared a map of where the six proposed monument signs would be located. The CDC selected a sign concept with a stacked stone column and wooden mast arm to hold the sign. Keeping that direction in mind, staff brought five different variations of monument sign designs back to CDC. CDC recommended the monument sign consistent with the initial concept. The monument sign is 8 feet tall. The CDC also recommended monument sign features such as using Ohio limestone and a traditional stone cap. The cost of each sign is about \$20,000 and the CDC is recommending these signs at six locations for a total (after contingencies) of about \$162,000. Mr. Ranc stated that it is staff's recommendation to include these signs as part of the upcoming CIP process and implement them all at once.

Ms. Krumb asked about the landscaping around the signs in the photo. Mr. Ranc stated that there would be a landscaping bed similar at every location. It is included in the estimate.

Mayor Fox asked about the the proportion of the arm. She also asked if lighting was included. Mr. Ranc stated that lighting was not included in the cost estimate. Mr. Krawetzki stated that the arm could be lengthened to the desired length. Lighting was discussed but it was not carried forward. Mayor Fox stated that she liked the idea of the light. Mr. Ranc stated that he can have the lighting included when staff brings it back for the CIP.

Mr. Reiner stated that there is a subtle difference in the two pictures of the initial design and the recommended design. The scale of the initial is slightly more pleasant than the second photo (of the recommended sign).

Vice Mayor De Rosa stated that the sign doesn't feel big enough in proportion to the post. She stated that lighting would be nice and she suggested solar.

Mayor Fox stated that Council consensus was a stone cap.

Mayor Fox moved to approve the recommendations of the Community Development Committee regarding city entryway signs.

Ms. Alutto seconded.

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

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- Sawmill Road/I-270 Interchange Landscape Plan

Mr. Ranc stated that at the October 11, 2021 City Council meeting, there was a request to consider an improved landscape plan at the Sawmill Road/I-270 Interchange. At the February 22, 2022 Community Development Committee (CDC) meeting, three potential concept designs for landscape improvements were considered. He provided illustrations of the three concepts A, B and C. The CDC recommended concept A to Council. Concept A provides the use of large street trees, ornamental grasses, evergreen shrubs, decorative grasses, ornamental flowering trees and large interchange trees. This option provides a nice, cost effective improvement to the existing interchange. The total cost, with contingencies, is just under \$565,000. The eastern portion of this interchange is outside Dublin City limits. CDC wanted Council consensus for these improvements outside the Dublin corporate boundaries. If Council approves this plan, this would be part of the 2023-2027 CIP and staff will work through design details with the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT).

There was no public comment.

In response to Ms. Alutto's question regarding additional maintenance cost, Mr. Ranc stated the estimate of maintenance is about \$55,000 which is about \$15,000 more than just mowing would cost.

Mr. Kramb asked about the median on Sawmill and Mr. Ranc stated that the City of Dublin will be taking over maintenance of the median as well.

Mayor Fox asked who's responsibility this would be on this interchange. Mr. Ranc stated it would be ODOT's responsibility. In response to Mayor Fox's question regarding whether or not ODOT ever participates in the landscaping of the interchanges, Mr. Ranc stated that they do not. Mayor Fox stated that she can justify the cost for outside our City limits because it leads into our City.

Mayor Fox moved to direct staff to move forward with the proposed landscape improvements.

Mr. Keeler seconded.

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

## STAFF COMMENTS

Mr. McDaniel shared the following:

- His appreciation for everyone's efforts for a successful State of the City; a successful Riverside Crossing Park and Dublin Link Dedication; and the celebration in the park in lieu of the St. Patrick's Day parade that had to be canceled due to weather.
- He expressed appreciation for a successful Council retreat.
- The 62 W. Bridge Street building will be demolished next week.

## COUNCIL REPORTS

- **Committees**

- Administrative Committee: Vice Mayor De Rosa expressed gratitude for the participation in Council retreat. Goals will be summarized and brought back to Council in a future meeting.
- Community Development Committee: Mr. Reiner stated that they heard from the Heritage Ohio group regarding Main Street programs and will be submitting a report in the near future.
- Finance Committee: Ms. Alutto stated that the Bridge Park NCA attended the meeting and provided an update as they do annually.
- Public Services Committee: Ms. Kramb stated the Committee will be meeting tomorrow (March 22) in the old Council Chamber (in the Development Building).

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- **Liaison Reports**

- Ms. Amorose Groomes reported on behalf of MORPC that the State of the Region was held on the 18<sup>th</sup>. She had dinner with Andy Burke and they discussed challenges with broadband around the country. She stated that the Commission meeting was held with guest speaker Lydia Mihalik who was there to discuss Brownfields. There is grant money available for Brownfields.

## COUNCIL ROUNDTABLE

- Ms. Kramb provided information to Council Members in the packet regarding a resident who would like to work with the City to increase native plants for our pollinators and bee population. He has offered to do educational programs and meeting with HOAs. She would like to refer the topic to CSAC for further discussion.

Ms. Alutto stated that she is supportive of more native plants.

Ms. Alutto moved to refer the topic of native plants programming to CSAC. Mayor Fox seconded.

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

- Mr. Keeler expressed gratitude for the State of the City and dedication events held the previous weekend.
- Mr. Reiner expressed gratitude for the retreat. He thanked everyone for the prep work.
- Ms. Alutto agreed with the thanks expressed and stated that she appreciates looking back at what has been accomplished at each retreat. She thanked staff for the hard work. She expressed gratitude for the St. Patrick's Day celebration.
- Ms. Amorose Groomes expressed thanks for the events surrounding St. Patrick's Day and for staff's efforts. She also thanked everyone for the retreat preparation. She also shared that she attended the National League of Cities Capital City Conference for the Federal Advocacy Committee meeting for information technology and communications. She stated that it was a robust discussion and for Dublin, it comes down to the economic development piece. She also participated in the Rail Rountable with Amtrak with discussions about what the future of rail might be and where Ohio is placed on the list. Relative to investing federal dollars, it appears to be entitlement versus competitive grants. The State of Ohio is distributing the competitive grants largely to the private sector. The entitlement grants will come in a different fashion so she is hopeful that Dublin will receive some of the funding. She talked with state legislators about HB 563 - the Short Term Rental issue. She met with Congressman Balderson about the 270 bridge. She will be talking about workforce development with the Lieutenant Governor. She will update Council on what next steps might be.
- Vice Mayor De Rosa shared that the LinkUS meeting will be taking place in the Council Chamber tomorrow (March 22). She commented on the fireworks in the snow at the dedication for the Riverside Crossing Park and Dublin Link Bridge.
- Mayor Fox stated that it has been proven that Dublin can pivot when needed (referring to the St. Patrick's Day festivities). She was so impressed by Kenny

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McDonald's talk at the retreat. She thanked Council for supplying so many interesting topics at the retreat.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:17 p.m.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor – Presiding Officer

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