

**MINUTES**  
**WADSWORTH CITY COUNCIL MEETING**  
**January 19, 2021**

*The regular meeting of Wadsworth City Council, Tuesday, January 19, 2021, at 5:00 p.m., was held through means of both electronic video conferencing and in-person attendance at City Council Chambers. It was broadcast live on City Link Channels 17 & 329 and on Spectrum Channel 1024 at the scheduled time, and was streamed live at [WatchWCTV.com](http://WatchWCTV.com).*

**PRESIDING:** Bob Thurber, *President of Council*

**MEMBERS OF COUNCIL PRESENT:** Ralph Copley, Bruce Darlington, Patty Haskins, Jeanne Hines, Tom Stugmyer, David Williams, Jon Yurchiak \*

**OFFICIALS PRESENT:** Mayor Robin Laubaugh, Director of Public Service Robert Patrick, Director of Public Safety Matt Hiscock, Auditor Catherine Fix, Director of Law Director Tom Morris, Economic Development Director Jim Gray, Clerk of Council Tammy Guenther \*

**OTHERS PRESENT:** *None*

**Mr. Thurber** called the meeting to order at approximately 5:02 p.m. **Mr. Thurber** led the Pledge of Allegiance and gave the Invocation. The Clerk of Council called the roll.

**MINUTES:** **Mr. Copley** made a motion, which was seconded by **Mr. Williams**, to adopt the minutes of the Council meetings of **January 5, 2021**. An all-in-favor vote was taken and all Council members present voted in favor of the motion. **THE COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES of January 5, 2021 WERE APPROVED.**

Mr. Thurber offered a couple of quick housekeeping items. They were broadcasting live from City Council Chambers with a hybrid type meeting that was both in person and through Zoom. In the City Council Chambers, it was working nicely, but they understood it was not working so well over Wadsworth televisions. Next week, they would work on the video. This week, he thought they had solved the audio issues. The sound in the Chambers over the last decade or so had never been better. Mr. Thurber thanked Council Member Tom Stugmyer, WCTV Technician Drew Bixler, and Derrick Gorman for working on it.

He asked them to bear with him as he made a few more remarks. A couple people had asked Mr. Thurber why City Council decided to come together in person and do Zoom. They realized that Walmart, Lowe's, Home Depot and 3,700 students, as well as churches and restaurants had been opened for months. They just felt there was some sort of obligation, said Mr. Thurber, to try to do this in person. They'd done it for 240 years now and thought it was time to start coming back. Nothing was as good as being in person with body language. Any teacher would tell them that. Hundreds of teachers had been showing up at Wadsworth City Schools because they knew it was much better than Zoom.

He asked for patience as they got the kinks out. Any Council member or member of the Administration was of course welcome to join the meeting by Zoom. It was perfectly okay.

Mr. Thurber said the Administration had done an extraordinary job of making sure the Chamber was safe for all of them and he appreciated that. He said to please not hesitate to ask any questions of him or the Public Service Director Robert Patrick.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** Ms. Guenther noted one item, which was a certificate from their fiscal officer, Auditor Fix, which was in regard to one of the agenda items, Ordinance No. 21-004, in regard to a warrant for payment. It verified that funds were available.

**LEGISLATION:**

*The following legislation was read for the first time and acted upon as follows:*

**ORDINANCE NO. 21-002 (1<sup>st</sup> RDG.): AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF AN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT REVOLVING LOAN FUND ADMINISTRATION AGREEMENT WITH THE STATE OF OHIO, DEVELOPMENT SERVICES AGENCY AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY**

- Sponsored by Council Member Thomas Stugmyer
- Forwarded by Economic Development & Planning Committee January 11, 2021

Mr. Stugmyer said he would address any questions related to the ordinance. On January 8, a letter was received from the Ohio Development Service Agency. Every three years, they had to sign the agreement and the agreement was for the Economic Development Revolving Loan Fund. They had done it three years ago. The agreement “maintained adequate program oversight and ensures communities adhere to the terms of the agreement with the state.” The letter was received on a Friday and it was discussed at the Economic Development and Planning Committee on Monday, January 11. The Economic Development Director Mr. Gray also followed up with the department to make sure the City still needed to sign the agreement again this year for the next three years. That was affirmative. This was what the ordinance was about, to authorize the agreement with the Ohio Development Service Agency for the loan fund. They would need to suspend and call on the matter because the agreement needed to be delivered by February 1. They were acting on it as quickly as possible, having just received the notification on January 8. Mr. Stugmyer asked for any questions. There were none.

Mr. Stugmyer made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Copley, to suspend the three reading rule on Ordinance No. 21-002. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Hines, Copley, Yurchiak, Darlington, Williams, Stugmyer, Haskins. Nays: none. Mr. Stugmyer called the question. Mr. Thurber called for a vote. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Copley, Yurchiak, Darlington, Williams, Stugmyer, Haskins, Hines. Nays: none. **Ordinance No. 21-002 declared to have been adopted January 19, 2021.**

**ORDINANCE NO. 21-003 (1<sup>st</sup> RDG.): AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE TO ENTER INTO CONTRACT WITH THE OHIO DIRECTOR OF TRANSPORTATION AS NECESSARY TO COMPLETE THE RESURFACING OF MED-CR16-06.08 (SEVILLE ROAD) FROM STATE STREET TO S.R. 94 IN THE CITY OF WADSWORTH AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY**

- Sponsored by Council Member David Williams
- MED-CR16-06.08 (Seville Road) Agreement No. 35197
- Forwarded by Public Ways Committee January 11, 2021

Mr. Williams asked Mr. Patrick if he would address the legislation. Mr. Patrick wished a good evening to everyone. He stated that the ordinance was for the resurfacing of Seville Road, which would continue to State Route 94. The project occurred through TIF (Tax Increment Financing) Funding, through NOACA (Northeast Ohio Area Coordinating Agency) and actually paid for the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT). It was a good project, with 80 / 20 funding, and was estimated to cost \$360K now. That was an estimate and hopefully bids would come in lower than that, when ODOT went through that process this year.

Mr. Williams asked about any deadlines associated with the project. He wanted to know whether there was an emergency to pass the legislation. Mr. Patrick said that there was. They would like to get the ordinance to them as soon as possible so they could keep things moving. Mr. Williams added that the Public Ways Committee had discussed the matter.

Mr. Williams made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Stugmyer, to suspend the three reading rule on Ordinance No. 21-003. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Yurchiak, Darlington, Williams, Stugmyer, Haskins, Hines, Copley. Nays: none. Mr. Stugmyer called the question. Mr. Thurber called for a vote. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Darlington, Williams, Stugmyer, Haskins, Hines, Copley, Yurchiak. Nays: none. **Ordinance No. 21-003 declared to have been adopted January 19, 2021.**

**ORDINANCE NO. 21-004 (1<sup>st</sup> RDG.): AN ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE DRAWING OF A WARRANT IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$8,099.76 FOR THE PAYMENT OF THE AMOUNT DUE UPON A CONTRACT WITH QUALITY CONTROL INSPECTION, INC. AND TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY**

- Sponsored by President of Council Bob Thurber

Mr. Thurber asked whether there were any questions regarding the ordinance and there were none.

Mr. Copley made a motion, which was seconded by Ms. Haskins, to suspend the three reading rule on Ordinance No. 21-004. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Williams, Stugmyer, Haskins, Hines, Copley, Yurchiak, Darlington. Nays: none. Mr. Copley called the question. Mr. Thurber called for a vote. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Stugmyer, Haskins, Hines, Copley, Yurchiak, Darlington, Williams. Nays: none. **Ordinance No. 21-004 declared to have been adopted January 19, 2021.**

**ORDINANCE NO. 21-005 (1<sup>st</sup> RDG.): AN ORDINANCE RENEWING A FRANCHISE TO FLIGHT SERVICES OF WADSWORTH, LLC TO OPERATE AND MAINTAIN THE WADSWORTH MUNICIPAL AIRPORT, SETTING FORTH CONDITIONS ACCOMPANYING THE GRANT OF FRANCHISE, PROVIDING FOR USE OF SAID AIRPORT, AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE TO ENTER INTO A FRANCHISE AGREEMENT PERTAINING THERETO AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY**

- Sponsored by Council Member David Williams

Mr. Williams made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Copley, to remove Ordinance No. 21-005 from the Council agenda. An all in favor vote was taken and all Council members present voted in favor of the motion. **Ordinance No. 21-005 was removed from the City Council Agenda January 19, 2021.**

**ORDINANCE NO. 21-006 (1<sup>st</sup> RDG.): AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SAFETY TO PURCHASE PARCEL 040-20C-04-071 CONSISTING OF LAND LOCATED AT 329 COLLEGE STREET AT A TOTAL PRICE NOT TO EXCEED ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$125,000.00) AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY**

- Sponsored by Council Member Ralph Copley
- Discussed by Public Safety Committee January 19, 2021

Ms. Guenther stated that she had an additional new ordinance on first reading for the agenda that was received at the end of the day. She sent it to all Council members. She wanted to know if she should display the legislation on the screen. It was numbered 21-006 and was in regard to a land purchase. Mr. Thurber said that it had been discussed in the Public Safety Committee and they were all familiar with it. He asked her to proceed.

Mr. Williams noted one question. He wanted to know whether the purchase price contained all of the closing costs. **Mr. Hiscock** repeated the question and said, to their knowledge, that those costs were included. Obviously, they did not have any closing costs yet, but they were including that it the amount. Mr. Williams thanked the Safety Director for the clarification.

Mr. Copley made a motion, which was seconded by Ms. Haskins, to suspend the three reading rule on Ordinance No. 21-006. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Haskins, Hines, Copley, Yurchiak, Darlington, Williams, Stugmyer. Nays: none. Mr. Copley called the question. Mr. Thurber called for a vote. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Hines, Copley, Yurchiak, Darlington, Williams, Stugmyer, Haskins. Nays: none. **Ordinance No. 21-006 declared to have been adopted January 19, 2021.**

*The following legislation was read for the third time, having been previously read at different meetings on different days, and acted upon as follows:*

**AMENDED RESOLUTION NO. 20-29 (3<sup>rd</sup> RDG.): A RESOLUTION PURSUANT TO SECTION 5705.03 OF THE OHIO REVISED CODE DETERMINING THAT IT IS NECESSARY TO LEVY A TAX OUTSIDE THE TEN-MILL LIMITATION FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING AND MAINTAINING FIRE APPARATUS, MECHANICAL RESUSCITATORS, UNDERWATER RESCUE AND RECOVERY EQUIPMENT, OR OTHER FIRE EQUIPMENT AND APPLIANCES, BUILDINGS AND SITES THEREFOR OR SOURCES OF WATER SUPPLY AND MATERIALS THEREFOR, FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT AND MAINTENANCE OF LINES OF FIRE-ALARM COMMUNICATIONS OR FOR THE PAYMENT OF OTHER RELATED SERVICES AS AUTHORIZED BY SECTION 5705.19(I) OF THE OHIO REVISED CODE AT THE RATE OF 1.5 MILLS FOR EACH ONE DOLLAR OF VALUATION SET FORTH IN THE COUNTY AUDITOR'S CERTIFICATION, TO BE IN EFFECT FOR A PERIOD OF FIVE (5) YEARS, TO BE PLACED ON THE BALLOT AT THE MAY 4, 2021 ELECTION, THE TERRITORY WHERE THE TAX IS TO BE LEVIED SHALL BE THE ENTIRE TERRITORY OF THE CITY OF WADSWORTH, MEDINA COUNTY, OHIO AND THE CITY HAS TERRITORY IN MEDINA COUNTY AND IN NO OTHER COUNTY AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

- Sponsored by Council Member Ralph Copley
- Discussed in Public Safety Committee January 19, 2021

Mr. Copley called the question on Amended Resolution 20-29. Mr. Thurber called for a vote. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Copley, Yurchiak, Darlington, Williams, Stugmyer, Haskins, Hines. Nays: none. **Amended Resolution No. 20-29 declared to have been adopted January 19, 2021.**

*That concluded the legislation for the meeting.*

**OTHER BUSINESS:** Mr. Thurber asked the Administration for any thoughts or questions.

Mr. Hiscock came forward and spoke at the podium. He wanted to make an announcement in regard to a grant award. The announcement had also been made at their Public Safety Committee prior to Council that evening. He thought it was pertinent and wanted to offer thanks and congratulations to their Fire Chief Bob Lindner, who, end of last year, applied for a MARCS or Multi-Agency Radio Communications Systems grant through the Ohio Department of Commerce. Mr. Hiscock was happy to announce to Council that the City, after many years of applying for this particular type grant, was awarded the grant, which was actually the third or fourth largest awards in this round, from the Department of Commerce. It amounted to \$49,000 and some change for emergency radio. As the Council knew, the City had an emergency radio system project that was ongoing that year. The grant would go a long way to meet the needs of the Fire Department for emergency radio. He wanted Council to know about it – an excellent effort by their Fire Chief and in favor of their community.

Mr. Copley thanked him, as did Mr. Thurber.

Mr. Thurber asked for any thoughts and question of the Council.

Mr. Stugmyer indicated that on the next day, at the Soprema Senior Center, they would be doing mask giveaways, as they'd done in December. That event would take place from 2:00-4:00 p.m. at 617 School Drive. Everything was non-contact. Individuals could drive up and masks would be put in the trunk. The first 200 seniors would receive a gift bag, compliments of the Professional Friends of the Center for Older Adults.

Mr. Thurber again thanked Derrick Gorman, Drew Bixler and especially Tom Stugmyer for working on the audio. They put in many hours that week to get it fixed. They would work diligently on the video as well. He thanked the community for bearing with them.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Mr. Copley made a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Mr. Stugmyer. All were in favor. **The meeting was adjourned at approximately 5:22 p.m.**

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Clerk of Council

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President of Council