

Wilmington City Council met in regular session on Thursday, November 2nd, 2017, at 7:30 p.m. with President Randy Riley presiding.

CALL TO ORDER

President of Council called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Roll Call: Purkey, present; Spicer, present; Stuckert, present; J. McKay, present; Swindler, present; Liermann, present; M. McKay, present.

Chief Weyand was present.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**MOMENT OF SILENCE****PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL**

President Riley inquired if there were any changes to the agenda. Purkey asked to remove the legislation under Judiciary, item 12b, O-17-62 due to the specificity of the Ordinance. Purkey stated that it would need to be rewritten and reintroduced at the next meeting.

Clerk Miller stated they would also be removing the first reading of item 11c under Finance Committee, O-17-69 the 2018 Budget, from the agenda and defer it to the next council meeting. President Riley stated that time wise, they will still be ahead of schedule and the discussion of the budget will go on as planned.

A motion was made by Purkey and seconded by Liermann to approve the agenda as amended.

Motion passed.

Agenda approved as amended.

Mayor Stanforth noted one correction on the first page of the minutes, the last name should be "Rayson" not "Rice".

A motion was made by Swindler and seconded by J. McKay to approve the October 19th minutes as amended.

Motion passed.

Minutes approved as amended.

President Riley introduced Tom Bellish with Buckeye Energy Brokers and opened the floor for the public hearing on Aggregation. Mr. Bellish discussed rate structures and outlined the ongoing Electric Aggregation program for the City of Wilmington.

Miller stated that the city is perusing it as an opportunity to control administrative costs.

MAYOR

Mayor Stanforth praised the Trunk or Treat that was hosted by the Park. Stanforth stated it was a great event, and noted the Fire Department won the "best trunk" award for the evening. Stanforth thanked the Police Department for handling parking and stated there were around 1,400 people in attendance. Stanforth stated there was also a good turn out for the Skate Park opening.

AUDITOR

Auditor – Auditor Hollingsworth was absent.

COMMITTEE REPORTS AND ACTION

Asset, Acquisition and Use – Chairperson Purkey had no action items.

Cemetery Committee – Chairperson J. McKay had no action items.

Downtown Revitalization Committee – Convener M. McKay reminded everyone that Holidazzle will take place on November 25th and this will be the 11th year. M. McKay

stated that Main Street Wilmington would be heading up the planning. M. McKay also stated the window decorating contest would be starting soon.

Finance Committee – Chairperson M. McKay had two pieces of legislation. The first O-17-67, making supplemental appropriations from the Police Fund to “Fingerprint Expense” the sum of \$1,000.00, from the Waste Fund to “Landfill Vehicle Exp” the sum of \$25,000.00., from the General Fund to “EMS Billing Fees” the sum of \$5,000.00, from the General Fund to “Income Tax Refunds” the sum of \$35,000.00, from the Water Bond Service Fund to “Principal-Bond Holders” the sum of \$265,000.00, and from the Water Bond Service Fund to “Interest-Bond Holders” the sum of \$181,313.37.

A motion was made by M. McKay and seconded by J. McKay to give the first reading only on Ordinance No. O-17-67 Making supplemental appropriations.

All yeas.

Motion passes.

The Law Director read the Ordinance by title only.

A motion was made by M. McKay and seconded by Swindler to suspend the rules and regulation and give a second and third reading on the Ordinance.

Roll call.

Purkey, yes; Spicer, yes; Stuckert, yes; J. McKay, yes; Swindler, yes; Liermann, yes; M. McKay, yes.

Motion passes.

The Law Director read the Ordinance by title only.

A motion was made by M. McKay and seconded by Swindler to pass the Ordinance as read.

Roll Call.

Spicer, yes; Stuckert, yes; J. McKay, yes; Swindler, yes; Liermann, yes; M. McKay, yes; Purkey, yes.

Motion passes.

President of Council declared Ordinance No. O-17-67 passed as read.

M. McKay introduced O-17-68 making miscellaneous transfers from “Education and Training” to “Medical Supplies/Incidentals” the sum of \$12,500.00 and from “Water Treatment” to “Consultant Services” the sum of \$13,400.00.

A motion was made by M. McKay and seconded by Swindler to give the first reading only on Ordinance No. O-17-68- Making miscellaneous transfers.

All yeas.

Motion passes.

The Law Director read the Ordinance by title only.

A motion was made by M. McKay and seconded by Swindler to suspend the rules and regulation and give a second and third reading on the Ordinance.

Roll call.

Stuckert, yes; J. McKay, yes; Swindler, yes; Liermann, yes; M. McKay, yes; Purkey, yes; Spicer, yes.

Motion passes.

The Law Director read the Ordinance by title only.

A motion was made by M. McKay and seconded by Swindler to pass the Ordinance as read.

Roll Call.

Swindler, yes; Liermann, yes; M. McKay, yes; Purkey, yes; Spicer, yes; J. McKay, yes; Stuckert, yes.

Motion passes.

President of Council declared Ordinance No. O-17-68 passed as read.

Judiciary Committee – Chairperson Purkey had one item, the second reading on O-17-66 regarding the shift differential.

A motion was made by Purkey and seconded by Swindler to give the second reading only on Ordinance No. O-17-66- An Ordinance amending Section 133.20 of the City of Wilmington Codified Ordinances (Ord. 4704. Passed 8-16-07)

All yeas.

Motion passes.

The Law Director read the Ordinance by title only.

Purkey requested the third reading be on the agenda for the next Council meeting.

Parks and Recreation Committee – Chairperson Liermann had no action items.

Safety/ Transportation Committee – Chairperson Spicer had no action items but asked for a Safety Committee meeting for the following week.

Solid Waste/Recycling – Chairperson Spicer had no action items.

Streets Committee – Chairperson Spicer stated there were no action items.

Wastewater/Sewer Committee - Chairperson Stuckert had no action items but stated the committee meeting went really well and he thanked Superintendent Harry McVey. Stuckert stated they will go into more detail when they go over the budget.

Water Committee – Chairperson Swindler had no action items but stated at the committee meeting they discussed the \$875,000 deficit facing that department. Swindler stated this deficit will put them into the Water Fund. Swindler stated Rick Schaffer has created a detailed spreadsheet outlining the changes. Swindler stated this is necessary due to differed maintenance, the algae bloom, and other unforeseen issues with their equipment. Swindler praised Superintendent Shaffer's work and knowledge going forward in this difficult situation and stated the most important thing going forward is making the water as safe as possible.

Swindler also stated they are not budgeting for fluoride in 2018, due to pressing emergent issues in the Water Department. The only costs that might be associated with it are ones that have guaranteed reimbursements from the State of Ohio, but nothing will be budgeted.

Mayor Stanforth stated that the water supply is safe, but they have serious issues they are dealing with at the Water Plant. Stanforth stated due to short staffing and delayed maintenance at the plant, these issues will need to be addressed and corrected.

Swindler stated that it is upsetting to not know that valves have been exercised and now need to be replaced. Swindler stated she is grateful that Superintendent Shaffer has brought these issue to their attention.

M. McKay stated that the Water Fund is a stand alone fund and is in no way associated with the tax increase.

Safety/Service Director – Director Shidaker had no action items but stated the Cuba Road railroad crossing is being repaired.

REPORTS TO COUNCIL

A motion was made by Purkey and seconded by J. McKay to accept the Income Tax Report.

Motion passed.

Report accepted as presented.

OPEN TO PUBLIC

FINANCE- BUDGET DISCUSSION

M. McKay stated they would begin the budget discussion first and then end with the payroll discussion.

Clerk Miller stated there were a few changes that had been made, specifically an extra zero was removed from the Water portion of the budget. Miller also stated she had received information on the Municipal Court increase, which is based on digitizing

tickets for the county with the end goal being obtaining a grant from the Supreme Court to cover the amount.

M. McKay asked Stuckert to present the Wastewater Sewer budget. Stuckert stated he wanted to highlight some of the increases, one of which is commercial lab fees, an increase in architectural engineering due to the updated master plan. Stuckert stated they also noted the property taxes had changed due to them renting a larger portion of the Textron Building. Stuckert stated facility maintenance amounts had gone up as well due to a roof repair of the Textron building. Miller stated the \$250,000 was for a patch on a portion of the roof. Stuckert stated there is also equipment maintenance that needed upgraded. Property and casualty insurance has gone down for the year but a meter replacement will need to take place. Stuckert also stated the chemical costs have gone up due to some EPA requirements and they have also budgeted for some capital equipment purchases, but not as much as last year. Stuckert stated the budget as a whole is down from last year.

Purkey asked if they have upgraded the computer equipment for the plant controllers. Stuckert stated they are still working on the upgrade.

M. McKay asked Swindler to present the Water budget. Swindler stated they will be budgeting for three additional employees, a Licensed Operator/Lab Technician, a Maintenance Mechanic, and a Source Water Protection Coordinator. Swindler stated utilities decreased, but commercial lab fees increased. Swindler stated postage has gone down due to paperless billing and stated that the ODNR payments went up and the department has no control over the amount due to the contract. Swindler stated architectural and engineering increased \$65,000 for EPA mandated capital projects that are required for the upcoming work on the master plan. Swindler stated there were several other small increases and decreases in the department.

Spicer asked if the city is the only one in the state paying for ODNR. Shidaker stated he thinks they are paying more than anyone and it's a very frustrating issue.

M. McKay stated there wasn't any further budget discussion that needed to occur, and they could move on to the discussion of employee compensation.

Mayor Stanforth stated this is his budget, and it's responsible and conservative. Stanforth said this budget protects Safety Services, continues to repair our streets and infrastructure, and maintains the carry over balance. Stanforth stated the General Fund budget is 10.2 million dollars, with projected revenue of 10.5 million. Stanforth stated he has also included a 2% increase to all non-bargaining department salaries with the goal of giving the bonus next year if the revenue projections are correct. Stanforth said he is not asking for across the board percentage increase because that type of increase has long lasting impact on future budgets. Stanforth stated the employees deserve to be fairly compensated, and the taxpayers money wisely spent. Stanforth asked that Council support his budget unanimously.

Purkey stated they had previously discussed two different parts of a bonus, a bonus for this year, and budgeting in a bonus for the next year. Purkey stated the concern was that new council members would be voted in, and at this point they would be unable to put a bonus guarantee in place. Purkey stated that he wasn't sure if bonuses are the best way to compensate the employees, but that is what the Mayor would like to see happen.

Spicer stated if they budget the 2% in for the next year, and then find they aren't able to afford it then they would be in a difficult position. Spicer stated the step increases are essentially a built in raise, also stated the city is not financially stable yet, and while he knows it's better for the employee to have a percentage raise, the bonus would be the better choice currently.

General discussion about bonus versus raises.

Liermann stated that the insurance claims have been down and it has been cost saving. Clerk Miller asked Liermann to clarify what insurance he was speaking of, because property and liability were down, but health care claims were up. Liermann stated he was speaking about MVRMA. Purkey stated that savings was where the intention give

bonuses came from, and Stanforth stated the employees are partially responsible for that savings.

Swindler stated she supports the administration's decision to look at bonuses rather than across the board raises because they don't have the data from the wage survey to understand where the city is right now. Swindler stated they don't have the data to support a decision in that regard yet.

M. McKay stated they are trying to put together the best package they have with the limitations they are facing. Stuckert stated he personally feels like the bonus is the better option. Stanforth stated this year would be a flat bonus across the board, in the next year it would be a percentage increase based on your pay.

J. McKay stated that he firmly believes that you have to take care of the people who take care of the city, and he also agrees that there is the need to be fiscally responsible.

Liermann stated the feels bonuses are the best way to go, but they still need to make sure the money is spent wisely.

M. McKay stated to wrap up, the bonus situation seems like the best option, and they will wait on the 2%. Swindler stated that she wants to make sure that everything is transparent. President Riley also clarified that the bonus this year would be a flat amount.

M. McKay asked if anyone had comments, due to the fact there are people in the audience who will be affected by what they are discussing.

General comments and concerns from employees in attendance.

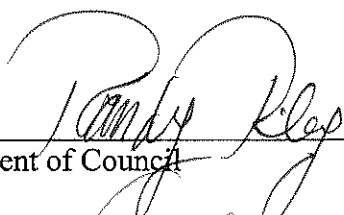
ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Purkey.

President Riley declared meeting adjourned.

Council adjourned at 9:06 p.m.

ATTEST:



President of Council



Clerk