

CITY OF OBETZ
RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS



REGULAR MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 11, 2023

The regular meeting was held in Council Chambers at the Government Center, 4175 Alum Creek Drive, on Monday, September 11, 2023 at 6:00 PM with Mayor Angela M. Kirk presiding.

ROLL CALL

Ms. Boumis called the roll. Mr. Michael Flaherty – absent; Mr. Robert Kramer – present; Mr. Guiles Richardson – present; Mr. Derek Varney – present; Mr. Mike Kimbler – present; Mr. Todd Gibbs – present. Also present were Michael Confer, Police Chief; Gene Hollins, Esq., Law Director; Stacey Boumis, Community Services Director, and Rod Davisson, Esq., Administrator. Mayor Kirk called for a motion to excuse Mr. Flaherty. Motion made by Mr. Richardson; seconded by Mr. Kimbler. Voting as follows: Mr. Richardson – yes; Mr. Kramer – yes; Mr. Kimbler – yes; Mr. Gibbs – yes; Mr. Varney – yes. Motion carried.

MINUTES

Mayor Kirk called for a motion to approve the minutes of August 14th and August 28th. Motion made by Mr. Gibbs; seconded by Mr. Richardson. Voting as follows: Mr. Richardson – yes; Mr. Kramer – yes; Mr. Kimbler – yes; Mr. Gibbs – yes; Mr. Varney – abstained. Motion carried.

ORDINANCES

First Reading

No first readings.

Second Reading

No second readings.

Third Reading

Ms. Boumis read the title of Ordinance 27 – 23: An Ordinance Accepting The Recommendations Of The Tax Incentive Review Council Regarding Several City Tax Incentives And Declaring An Emergency. Mr. Davisson discussed the Ordinance. He stated the TIRC recommended continuing all abatements. Mayor Kirk called for a motion to adopt Ordinance 27 – 23. Motion made by Mr. Richardson; seconded by Mr. Kramer. Voting as follows: Mr. Richardson – yes; Mr. Kramer – yes; Mr. Kimbler – yes; Mr. Gibbs – yes; Mr. Varney – yes.

Ms. Boumis read the title of Ordinance 31 – 23: An Ordinance Approving The City Of Obetz' Tuition Reimbursement Policy. Mr. Davisson discussed the Ordinance. He stated the City previously offered tuition reimbursement but that program has been suspended for twenty years. He stated this is a way to attract and retain employees. Mayor Kirk called for a motion to adopt Ordinance 31 – 23. Motion made by Mr. Gibbs; seconded by Mr. Kimbler. Voting as follows: Mr. Richardson – yes; Mr. Kramer – yes; Mr. Kimbler – yes; Mr. Gibbs – yes; Mr. Varney – yes.

Emergencies

Ms. Boumis read the title of Ordinance 35 – 23: An Ordinance To Accept The Amounts And Rates As Determined By The Budget Commission And Authorizing The Necessary Tax Levies And Certifying Them To The County Auditor And Declaring An Emergency. Mr. Davisson discussed the Ordinance. He stated this is so the City can collect 1.7 mils of tax money. This amount has not increased for decades. Mayor Kirk called for a motion to suspend the rules regarding the adoption of Ordinance 35 – 23. Motion made by Mr. Richardson; seconded by Mr. Gibbs. Voting as follows: Mr. Richardson – yes; Mr. Kramer – yes; Mr. Kimbler – yes; Mr. Gibbs – yes; Mr. Varney – yes. Motion carried. Mayor Kirk called for a motion to adopt Ordinance 35 – 23. Motion made by Mr. Richardson; seconded by Mr. Kramer. Voting as follows: Mr. Richardson – yes; Mr. Kramer – yes; Mr. Kimbler – yes; Mr. Gibbs – yes; Mr. Varney – yes. Motion carried.

Ms. Boumis read the title of Ordinance 36 – 23: An Ordinance To Provide For A Contracting Procedure For Construction Of Lancaster Park Improvements, And Declaring An Emergency. Mr. Davisson discussed the Ordinance. He stated the City wants to get some construction started this year. Construction drawings are being finalized. The City will get multiple quotes. This Ordinance authorizes phase 1 only. He further stated there is no project planned for a roundabout or to remove the gazebo. Mayor Kirk called for a motion to suspend the rules regarding the adoption of Ordinance 36 – 23. Motion made by Mr. Kimbler; seconded by Mr. Varney. Voting as follows: Mr. Richardson – yes; Mr. Kramer – yes; Mr. Kimbler – yes; Mr. Gibbs – yes; Mr. Varney – yes. Motion carried. Mayor Kirk called for a motion to adopt Ordinance 36 – 23. Motion made by Mr. Kramer; seconded by Mr. Gibbs. Voting as follows: Mr. Richardson – yes; Mr. Kramer – yes; Mr. Kimbler – yes; Mr. Gibbs – yes; Mr. Varney – yes. Motion carried.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Kirk stated the City has again received the Auditor of State Award for Finance. She thanked staff for their work during ZucchiniFest. She further stated Captain Edwards' last day was Friday. Captain Ferrel is taking over the Community Paramedic Program. She then stated the Mayor's Golf Outing for the Food Pantry is Friday, September 15th.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

No committee meetings were held.

ADMINISTRATION'S REPORT

E. Rod Davisson, Esq., Administrator – Mr. Davisson stated the ZucchiniFest was fantastic.

REMARKS FROM THE AUDIENCE

Jerry Benson – Mr. Benson stated he has been approached by quite a few people with questions so he came to the meeting to get answers. He asked if a roundabout was going to be installed at Veterans' Park. Mayor Kirk stated nothing has been proposed and the City is not starting any project like that. She further stated Odis Jones has plans prepared decades ago that showed a roundabout in the downtown. Mr. Benson asked if the gazebo is going to be destroyed. He stated it could be moved anywhere and people associate the gazebo with Obetz. He then stated

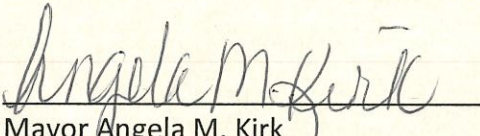
he would not object to a roundabout; it just needs something in the center to say "this is the history of Obetz; this is where we were founded". Mayor Kirk stated there are no solid plans for anything. The City would talk to all the downtown business owners prior to undertaking any large scale project. Mr. Davisson stated if something were done downtown, the gazebo could be relocated. There will not be any changes in the near future; nothing is on the radar. The City will engage the stakeholders. He then stated he told the Historians that their bricks would fit better in Lancaster Park since improvements are underway in that park.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

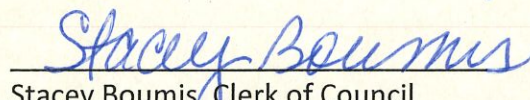
Mayor Kirk called for a motion to go into executive session under ORC 121.22(g)(1) to discuss compensation of a public employee and ORC 121.22(g)(3) to discuss pending or imminent court action. Motion made by Mr. Richardson; seconded by Mr. Kimbler. Voting as follows: Mr. Richardson – yes; Mr. Kramer – yes; Mr. Kimbler – yes; Mr. Gibbs – yes; Mr. Varney – yes. Motion carried. Council went into executive session at 6:28 PM. Council returned from executive session at 7:22 PM with all five members in attendance.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Kirk called for a motion to adjourn. Motion made by Mr. Kramer; seconded by Mr. Kimbler. All ayes. Council adjourned at 7:23 PM.



Mayor Angela M. Kirk



Stacey Boumis, Clerk of Council