

**CITY OF OBETZ
RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS**



REGULAR MEETING OF JUNE 24, 2024

The regular meeting of June 24, 2024 was held at 6:00 PM in Council Chambers at the Government Center, 4175 Alum Creek Drive, with Mayor Angela M. Kirk presiding.

ROLL CALL

Mayor Kirk called the roll. Mr. Michael Flaherty – present; Mr. Robert Kramer – present; Mr. Guiles Richardson – present; Mr. Derek Varney – present; Mr. Mike Kimbler – present; Mr. Todd Gibbs – present. Also present were Gene Hollins, Esq., Law Director; Stacey Boumis, AICP, Clerk, Mike Confer, Police Chief, and Rod Davisson, Esq., City Administrator.

MINUTES

Mayor Kirk called for a motion to approve the minutes of the June 10th meeting. Motion made by Mr. Richardson; seconded by Mr. Kramer. Voting as follows: Mr. Flaherty – yes; Mr. Richardson – yes; Mr. Kimbler – yes; Mr. Gibbs – yes; Mr. Varney – yes; Mr. Kramer – yes. Motion carried.

PROCLAMATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

A member of the Ohio Sons of the American Revolution Central District addressed Council. The organization is collecting signatures of elected officials. The signatures are on the back of a copy of the Constitution. The goal is to collect the signatures of all the elected officials in the State. The document will be presented to the Governor of Ohio.

ORDINANCES

First Readings

Ms. Boumis read the title of Ordinance 28 – 24: An Ordinance To Modify Certain Definitions In Chapter 1133 Of The Zoning Code, Amend Chapter 1161 Overlays, Changing The Name Of The Obetz Junction Center Overlay To The Groveport Road Overlay, Modifying The Uses And Standards Of The Overlay And Expanding The Parcels In The Overlay District.

Ms. Boumis read the title of Ordinance 29 – 24: An Ordinance To Provide For A Contracting Procedure For Residential Garbage And Refuse Collection Services. Mr. Davisson discussed the Ordinance. He stated the trash contract is expiring soon. He stated there are several options. This ordinance waives competitive bidding and allows the City to start negotiating with various trash companies. If the Council does not want to waive competitive bidding, staff can start preparing the bid documents for a full bidding process. He then stated he will need to know Council's expectations for a new contract. There are only a few trash service providers – Waste Management, Local Waste, and Rumpke are the major companies. Mayor Kirk and Mr. Davisson both stated Waste Management has provided great service to the City over the years.

Second Readings
No second readings.

Third Readings

Ms. Boumis read the title of Ordinance 26 – 24: An Ordinance To Adopt The Tax Budget For The City Of Obetz, Ohio For The Fiscal Year Beginning January 1, 2025 And To Submit The Same To The Franklin County Budget Commission And Declaring An Emergency. Mayor Kirk opened the public hearing. Mr. Davisson stated this is a statutory requirement in Franklin County to get inside millage. He provided a broad overview of the budget. Mayor Kirk closed the public hearing. Mayor Kirk called for a motion to adopt Ordinance 26 – 24. Motion made by Mr. Richardson; seconded by Mr. Gibbs. Voting as follows: Mr. Flaherty – yes; Mr. Richardson – yes; Mr. Kimbler – yes; Mr. Gibbs – yes; Mr. Varney – yes; Mr. Kramer – yes. Motion carried.

Emergencies
No emergencies.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Kirk stated Full Throttle Thursdays have been going well. Zucchinifest planning continues. Lancaster Park construction is in full swing. Dave Humphries, a resident, stated the black cards are an extra level of bureaucracy. Mayor Kirk stated the black cards are optional for residents. They give residents extra perks at events. The cards are a way for staff to know who is a resident and who is not.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

No reports.

ADMINISTRATION'S REPORT

Mike Confer, Police Chief – Chief Confer stated it is rumored street racers will be out Friday. Since the last meeting officers have responded to 897 calls for service and driven 3625 miles.

David Rosenberger, Hamilton Township Fire Chief – Chief Rosenberger stated in May there were 23 fire runs and 79 EMS runs in Obetz. On September 15th there will be an open house at Station 172. The Department is also collecting and distributing fans.

Eugene Hollins, Esq., Law Director – No report.

Rod Davisson, Esq., City Administrator – No report.

NEW BUSINESS

Kerri Doddroe, Parks and Recreation Director, addressed Council. She stated the City is starting a Parks and Recreation Master Plan. She discussed the process and the opportunities for public engagement. She stated the Plan will be completed early 2025.

REMARKS FROM THE AUDIENCE

No remarks.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mayor Kirk called for a motion to go into executive session under ORC 121.22(g)(8) to discuss economic development. Motion made by Mr. Richardson; seconded by Mr. Kramer. Voting as follows: Mr. Flaherty – yes; Mr. Richardson – yes; Mr. Kramer – yes; Mr. Kimbler – yes; Mr. Gibbs – yes; Mr. Varney – yes. Motion carried. Council adjourned into executive session at 6:34 pm. All six members of Council returned from executive session at 7:14 pm.

ADDITIONAL NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Davisson discussed the Lancaster Park renaming. The public has weighed in and now it is time for Council to vote. Council discussed the top names the public liked. Mr. Kramer stated the name needs to have the word “park” in the name. Mr. Davisson stated “park” is implicit in the name. He gave a rundown of the different names. The top names are Obetz Junction, Junction Park, Recreation Station, Shire Park, and Junction 39⁰. He stated Obetz was never named Obetz Junction. The public vote counts as one vote. Each Council member and the Mayor get one vote for a total of eight votes. The public’s top choice is Obetz Junction. If there is a tie, the Mayor breaks the tie. Upon tallying the votes there were three votes for Obetz Junction, one vote for Junction Park, one vote for Shire Park, and three votes for Junction 39⁰. Mr. Davisson stated he liked the name Junction 39⁰ the most; celebrating the junction of a railroad doesn’t relate the playing outside. The Mayor selected Junction 39⁰ as the new name for the park.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Kirk called for a motion to adjourn. Motion made by Mr. Richardson; seconded by Mr. Flaherty. All ayes. Council adjourned at 7:25 PM.



Mayor Angela M. Kirk



Stacey Boumis, Clerk of Council