

CITY OF OBETZ
RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS



REGULAR MEETING OF AUGUST 12, 2024

The regular meeting of August 12, 2024 was held at 6:00 PM in Council Chambers at the Government Center, 4175 Alum Creek Drive, with Mayor Angela 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. Joey Enders, the City's summer college intern, was in attendance and participating in the meeting.

PROCLAMATION

Mayor Kirk read a proclamation celebrating the 37th year of the ZucchiniFest.

MINUTES

Mayor Kirk called for a motion to approve the minutes of the July 23rd meeting. 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.

ORDINANCES

First Readings

No first readings.

Second Readings

Ms. Boumis read Ordinance 33 – 24: An Ordinance Authorizing The Mayor To Modify The Employment Agreement With E. Rod Davisson, And Enter Into Employment Agreements With Michael Corbitt And Stacey Boumis. No discussion.

Third Readings

No third readings.

Emergencies

Ms. Boumis read the title of Ordinance 35 – 24: An Ordinance To Amend Section 157.08 Of The Codified Ordinances Related To The Disposal And Sale Of Surplus Property And Declaring An Emergency. Mr. Enders discussed the Ordinance. He stated the proposed changes streamline the disposal of surplus property. Additionally, the threshold requiring Council approval prior to disposal has been increased from \$20,000 to \$30,000. Mayor Kirk stated the original ordinance was written in 2013 and requires an adjustment. Mayor Kirk called for a motion to suspend the rules regarding the adoption of Ordinance 35 – 24. Motion made by Mr. Richardson; seconded by Mr. Flaherty. Voting as follows: Mr. Flaherty – yes; Mr. Richardson – yes; Mr. Kimbler – yes;

Mr. Gibbs – yes; Mr. Varney – yes; Mr. Kramer – yes. Motion carried. Mayor Kirk called for a motion to adopt Ordinance 35 – 24. Motion made by Mr. Richardson; seconded by Mr. Varney. Voting as follows: Mr. Flaherty – yes; Mr. Richardson – yes; Mr. Kimbler – yes; Mr. Gibbs – yes; Mr. Varney – yes; Mr. Kramer – yes. Motion carried.

Ms. Boumis read the title of Ordinance 36 – 24: An Ordinance To Approve Changes To The 2024 Appropriations For The Current Expenses And Other Expenditures Of The City Of Obetz. Mr. Enders discussed the Ordinance. He stated an additional \$50,000 is required to cover special duty costs associated with the Hamilton Township Fire Department (HTFD) and Franklin County Sheriff's offices. Mayor Kirk stated the HTFD wants overtime covered this year. The City has not paid for services related to the ZucchiniFest in a long time. Mr. Flaherty stated this is a strange request; this is a community event. Council discussed the Ordinance. Members of Council asked how the amount of overtime and the fees were calculated. Mayor Kirk stated it is a special duty rate. Mr. Varney stated the request seems out of nowhere. Mayor Kirk called for a motion to suspend the rules regarding the adoption of Ordinance 36 – 24. Motion made by Mr. Flaherty; seconded by Mr. Richardson. Voting as follows: Mr. Flaherty – yes; Mr. Richardson – yes; Mr. Kimbler – yes; Mr. Gibbs – yes; Mr. Varney – yes; Mr. Kramer – yes. Motion carried. Mayor Kirk called for a motion to adopt Ordinance 36 – 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.

Tabled

Mayor Kirk called for a motion to remove Ordinance 28 – 24 from the table. Motion made by Mr. Gibbs; seconded by Mr. Flaherty. Voting as follows: Mr. Flaherty – yes; Mr. Richardson – yes; Mr. Kimbler – yes; Mr. Gibbs – yes; Mr. Varney – yes; Mr. Kramer – yes. Motion carried. 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. Mayor Kirk opened the public hearing. Ms. Boumis reviewed the proposed changes to the Zoning Code and the proposed boundaries of the district. She stated Groveport Road is the second busiest corridor in the City and there are still a lot of areas for new businesses. She stated the design guidelines currently in place will be updated and mimic the guidelines on Alum Creek Drive. The overlay boundary will then get extended to Groveport/Bixby Roads. The Planning and Zoning Commission recommended approval. Mayor Kirk called for a motion to adopt Ordinance 28 – 24. Motion made by Mr. Richardson; seconded by Mr. Flaherty. Voting as follows: Mr. Flaherty – yes; Mr. Richardson – yes; Mr. Kimbler – yes; Mr. Gibbs – yes; Mr. Varney – yes; Mr. Kramer – yes. Motion carried.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Kirk stated Lancaster Park will be renamed Junction Park. The ribbon cutting will be August 19th and the first fifty black card holders in attendance will receive pickleball sets. She then stated she was on the radio last Saturday with Dan Longenette promoting the car show. She will be on the radio on August 23rd during the drive at 5:00 PM on QFM96. Next she stated the

City needs to open up a Visa account for use at Costco. Currently the City uses MasterCard. Council has no objections.

Mayor Kirk stated the next Council meeting is August 26th. This is the week of ZucchiniFest and she asked Council to cancel the meeting. There is still time to hold the required 22 meetings a year. Mr. Flaherty moved to cancel the August 26th Council meeting, seconded by Mr. Richardson. Voting as follows: Mr. Flaherty – yes; Mr. Richardson – yes; Mr. Kimbler – yes; Mr. Gibbs – yes; Mr. Varney – yes; Mr. Kramer – yes. Motion carried.

Mayor Kirk then stated school starts Wednesday. Officers will be ticketing cars parked in the yellow areas. Mr. Kramer asked if there are any busing issues in the Groveport Madison School District. Mayor Kirk stated she has not heard anything.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

No reports.

ADMINISTRATION'S REPORT

Mike Confer, Police Chief – Chief Confer discussed a new scam involving EBT food stamp cards. Another new scam involves landscapers showing up at houses to give estimates even though homeowners have not requested them. There was a stolen car on fire on Pine Drive recently. Since the last meeting there have been 1733 calls for service. Officers have patrolled 6235 miles. Four parking citations were issued in Butler Farms today. Mayor Kirk and Council then discussed drug related issues.

Olivia Taylor, Legal Intern – Ms. Taylor thanked Mayor Kirk and Council for this opportunity. She discussed her experience this summer and the activities that she has undertaken as an intern for the City of Obetz.

Joey Enders, Administrator's Intern – Mr. Enders discussed his experience this summer. This was his third year working with Mr. Davisson. During the summer, he managed the high school interns and was involved in numerous projects within the City of Obetz. He also reported to Council that the City is working on the school resource officer's contract with the Hamilton Local School District. The City received a request from Terry Marioth for a special meeting. The request was denied. It is time to renew the contract with the Hamilton Township Fire Department.

Mayor Kirk stated these interns work; they just don't sit around. They are critical in the summer and this was a great group of kids.

E. Rod Davisson, Esq., City Administrator – Mr. Davisson stated the City received a complaint about salty water. He stated there was a broken panel in the water treatment plant. The section of the City affected by this issue is not on Columbus water until the issue can be fixed. Mr. Davisson, Mayor Kirk and Council discussed issues related to water service. Mr. Kramer asked which area is on Columbus water. Mr. Davisson stated satellites 1, 2 and 6 are always on

Columbus water. The entire City can be put on Columbus water if needed. The City is going to undertake a water study. It will be completed by the end of the year.

REMARKS FROM THE AUDIENCE

James Bennett addressed Council. He stated semi trucks and box trucks park on Lauren Fields Drive North for days on end. This is a residential street. The owners of these vehicles don't live in the neighborhood. Mayor Kirk stated she will look into the issue and take appropriate action.

Greg McDowell addressed Council. He stated traffic on Groveport Road has increased. He then stated he has concerns about truck traffic. He also asked if the name of Groveport Road was going to be changed. Next, he stated he heard a rumor that the land across the street from Possum Hollar Pizza was going to be a golf course. Mayor Kirk stated that is not a rumor. He stated he doesn't want a golf course; he wants a driving range.

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. Flaherty. Voting as follows: Mr. Flaherty – yes; Mr. Richardson – yes; Mr. Kimbler – yes; Mr. Gibbs – yes; Mr. Varney – yes; Mr. Kramer – yes. Motion carried. Council adjourned into executive session at 7:12 pm. All six members of Council returned from executive session at 7:48 pm.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Kirk called for a motion to adjourn. Motion made by Mr. Richardson; seconded by Mr. Flaherty. All ayes. Council adjourned at 7:49 PM.



Mayor Angela M. Kirk



Stacey Boumis, Clerk of Council