



City Council Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, August 15, 2023

1) Call to Order

President Markham called the meeting to order at 6:03 pm.

2) Roll Call of Members

Council Members in Attendance: Jessica Saad, Matt Klingler, Troy Markham, Lori Ann Feibel, Sam Marcellino

Council Members Absent: Monique Lampke, Jen Robinson

Mr. Markham moved to excuse Jen Robinson and Monique Lampke.

Mr. Klingler seconded.

All in Favor: Jessica Saad, Matt Klingler, Troy Markham, Lori Ann Feibel, Sam Marcellino

Motion passed 5-0.

3) Pledge of Allegiance

4) Presentations/Special Guests

a) Ella Roxey and Anusha Singh, Period OSU

Ms. Roxey and Ms. Singh spoke about a program they developed to address period poverty, especially students, specifically mentioning the recent inclusion of funding in the State of Ohio budget for free period products in schools serving students sixth through twelfth grade. Ms. Saad thanked them both for their hard work and expressed interest in speaking with both of them later regarding this. Mr. Kessler also spoke about this.

b) Avry Overly, Scholarship Recipient

Mr. Nathans spoke on behalf of the Bexley Citizens' Police Academy Alumni Association about the scholarship being awarded to Avry.

Mr. Lee Nathans then provided an update on a project with the Bexley Citizen's Police Academy, which will launch on Sunday, October 1 at 3:00 pm when elected officials will be trained on CPR. This will be followed by regular free CPR training sessions for community members scheduled at various times.

5) Ordinances with Special Guests

a) **Resolution 5-23** confirming the Mayor's appointments to the Architectural Review Board; the Board of Zoning Appeals and Planning; the Recreation and Parks Board; and the Environmental Sustainability Advisory Committee; introduced by Jen Robinson on August 15, 2023.

a. Tyler Stanley, candidate for Recreation and Parks Board

Mr. Stanley introduced himself and provided a brief background and spoke about his interest. Mr. Marcellino expressed his excitement to have Mr. Stanley involved on the Recreation Board. Ms. Saad expressed her excitement to work with Mr. Stanley and expressed her excitement about the ideas and experience he'll bring to the table.

6) Public Comments (Speaker Slip Required)

None.

7) President's Report

Mr. Markham welcomed everyone back and spoke about a recent Bexley Day program at the Bexley Public Library led by Larry Helman, who has served on a variety of Boards including the current Land Use Strategy committee. Mr. Markham praised this program and spoke about his excitement to hear the Landmark Trees Program which he has championed for many years be included in this presentation.

8) City Attorney Report

No report.

9) Auditor's Report

No report.

10) Administrative Update

a) Recreation Department Update – Mike Price

Mr. Price briefly covered some of the highlights of his report. Mr. Klingler spoke about some comments he'd heard in favor of the new pool membership fee structure. Ms. Saad spoke about the benefit of more middle graders at the school. Mr. Kessler spoke in support of this fee change and asked if there were any concerns about attendance being too high due to the increase in pool memberships, but Mr. Price if he didn't hear about this. Mr. Price thanked Mayor Kessler for his support.

b) Service Department Update – Andy Bashore

Mr. Bashore added that Columbia Gas will be off of College Avenue on Thursday, in time for the Capital University move in day. He also spoke about the status of the Drexel projects and reported that trolley tracks were located under the medians.

c) Finance Department Update – Beecher Hale

Mr. Hale provided brief highlights from his report. Mr. Klingler asked a question about the income, which Mr. Hale and Mr. Kessler answered.

d) Police Department Update – Chief Gary D. Lewis, Jr.

Chief Lewis did not have any additions to his report but did mention that he has completed his first year of service and some of the great things he's accomplished. Mr. Kessler thanked Chief Lewis for his service and spoke about an example of the great work he's doing, the National Night Out Event. This event came together quickly and to tremendous success in the community. Ms. Saad spoke in support of National Night Out. Ms. Feibel also spoke about her love of the Chief's presence. Mr. Marcellino also thanked the Chief for his collaboration with other groups. Mr. Klingler spoke about the marked improvement in the culture of the police department. Mr. Markham praised the National Night Out and the fact that we were searching for a chief who would truly embrace community policing, and Chief Lewis does that. Chief Lewis spoke about how amazing this community is and in praise of the collaboration he's enjoyed throughout this year.

e) Mayor's Update

Mayor Kessler spoke about the special feeling of coming home to Bexley, the atmosphere and community create a sense of calm for feeling. Mr. Kessler then spoke about the hard work of the Recreation, Service, and Police Departments for their long work on July 4. He then spoke about upcoming events. He also spoke about the aggregation program and provided Year of the Parks updates along with an update on the Drexel project. Mr. Klingler asked about an update on the skate park, which Mr. Price provided.

11) Consent Agenda (No Speaker Slip Required)

a) Meeting Minutes from June 27, 2023

Mr. Fishel read the item on the consent agenda.

Mr. Markham moved to adopt the Consent Agenda.

Mr. Klingler seconded.

All in Favor: Jessica Saad, Matt Klingler, Troy Markham, Lori Ann Feibel, Sam Marcellino

Motion passed 5-0.

12) Third Readings (No Speaker Slip Required)

13) Second Readings (Speaker Slip Required)

a) **Ordinance 19-23** declaring the improvements to the former Trinity Seminary apartments site to be a public purpose; declaring such improvements to be exempt from real property taxation; requiring the owners thereof to make service payments in lieu of taxes; designating the public infrastructure improvements to be made that will directly benefit the real property; establishing a public improvement tax increment equivalent fund for the deposit of service payments; authorizing a revenue sharing agreement with the Bexley City School District; and authorizing a tax increment financing and redevelopment agreement with the developer of the site introduced by Matt Klingler on June 27, 2023.

Mr. Klingler spoke about the status of this ordinance and some anticipated next steps. Mr. Klingler expressed his intent to table this ordinance and Mr. Markham requested that Mr. Klingler regularly monitor and share activity on this matter, being willing to take this off the table as updates develop.

14) First Readings (Speaker Slip Required)

- b) **Ordinance 23-23** to appropriate \$10,000 from the water fund and \$10,000 from the sewer fund to pay overtime for the remainder of 2023; introduced by Monique Lampke on August 15, 2023.

Mr. Fishel read the ordinance and Mr. Kessler provided some background and rationale on this ordinance in Ms. Lampke's absence. Mr. Marcellino asked if this will be enough and Mr. Kessler confirmed that he'd need to defer that question to Mr. Hale and Mr. McPeck.

- c) **Ordinance 24-23** to appropriate \$15,906 from the Law Enforcement Trust Fund (Fund 18) and to appropriate \$21,425 from the DUI Enforcement and Education Fund (Fund 24); introduced by Monique Lampke on August 15, 2023

Mr. Fishel read the ordinance and Ms. Saad provided some brief background and invited Mr. Kessler to provide additional details, which he did.

- d) **Ordinance 25-23** to appropriate \$35,000 to the Senior Program Professionals Account (01-355-51135) to cover the additional costs associated with an increase in programming; introduced by Monique Lampke on August 15, 2023.

Mr. Fishel read the ordinance and Ms. Saad provided a brief background, inviting Mr. Kessler and Mr. Price to provide more details. Mr. Markham asked what additional program we can expect, and Mr. Price spoke to some of the increase in these costs. Mr. Markham asked about any trends he's seeing, and Mr. Price reported the popularity of the cocktail hour events. Ms. Feibel spoke in praise of developments and expansions of programming.

- e) **Ordinance 26-23** to establish the position of Human Resources Coordinator and to establish the pay range at \$27.26 per hour to \$41.61 per hour, and to appropriate \$25,000 to the Salary & Wages line item of the Mayor's Office account, and to declare an emergency; introduced by Monique Lampke on June 27, 2023.

Mr. Fishel read the ordinance and Ms. Saad provided some background and invited Mr. Kessler to provide some details. Mr. Kessler thanked the Auditor and City Council for encouraging him to look into this. He then spoke about the process and requested suspension and adoption. Mr. Marcellino thanked Mr. Kessler for looking into this situation and expressed his appreciation for the care taken with this process. Mr. Kessler also expressed his excitement for the candidate he's interested in offering the position to.

Constance Lewis of 663 Euclaire expressed her support of the Ordinance.

Ms. Saad moved to suspend the three-reading rule for Ordinance 26-23.

Mr. Marcellino seconded.

All in Favor: Jessica Saad, Matt Klingler, Troy Markham, Lori Ann Feibel, Sam Marcellino

Motion passed 5-0.

Ms. Saad moved to adopt Ordinance 26-23.

Mr. Marcellino seconded.

All in Favor: Jessica Saad, Matt Klingler, Troy Markham, Lori Ann Feibel, Sam Marcellino

Motion passed 5-0.

- f) **Ordinance 27-23** to amend Chapter 452.06, “Unattended Vehicles: duty to lock ignition, remove key, set brake, etc.” in order to modernize provisions of this section and to expand restrictions on idling for the protection of both the health of citizens and the environment, and to add Section 618.25, Animals in Unattended Motor Vehicles, in order to protect the health and welfare of animals in unattended vehicles; introduced by Lori Ann Feibel on August 15, 2023.

Mr. Fishel read the ordinance and Ms. Feibel spoke about the background and rationale behind this ordinance and presented on some of the environmental and health benefits of decreasing idling and expressed that the intent of this ordinance to be educational rather than punitive. Ms. Saad complimented Ms. Feibel’s presentation. Ms. Feibel did clarify that she is working with the City Attorney on some vehicles that are required to idle. Mr. Marcellino asked about stop lights and penalties, which Ms. Feibel answered. Mr. Kessler also provided some additional clarifications on the intent for this ordinance. Mr. Markham asked about the driveway idling and potential issues with defrosting windshields. Various Council members and the Mayor discussed this, with Mr. Marcellino and Mr. Fishel expressing some concerns with the enforcement and Mr. Markham and Ms. Saad posing some potential thoughts for consideration and Mr. Klingler expressing some concerns about leaving the education of this initiative to officers, versus the potential of starting with a campaign.

- g) **Ordinance 28-23** to amend Chapter 1456.01, Registration Required and to provide standards of care for the areas surrounding trees in the tree lawn; introduced by Lori Ann Feibel on August 15, 2023.

Mr. Fishel read Ordinance 28-23 and Ms. Feibel provided some background on this ordinance and shared that Mr. Wilson from the Tree and Public Garden Commission will present on this at the next meeting. Mr. Markham asked about some language, which Mr. Kessler answered.

- h) **Resolution 4-23** to authorize the Mayor to seek financial assistance from the Ohio Public Works Commission for funding of various capital infrastructure improvement projects; introduced by Monique Lampke on August 15, 2023.

Mr. Fishel read the ordinance and Ms. Saad invited the Mayor to provide more information on this ordinance, which he did.

15) Tabled Ordinances

16) Recreation and Parks Committee – Jessica Saad, Chair

Ms. Saad provided some updates on events in July, including the library program on property reappraisals. Mr. Markham thanked Ms. Saad for her assistance. Ms. Saad also shared about her participation in Pelotonia.

17) Finance Committee – Monique Lampke, Chair

Ms. Saad shared that Ms. Lampke shared to start thinking about the budget.

18) Safety and Health Committee – Sam Marcellino, Chair

No report.

19) Strategic Committee – Jen Robinson, Chair

No report.

20) Zoning and Development Committee – Matt Klingler, Chair

Mr. Klingler provided a brief update on the next Land Use Strategy meeting.

21) Service and Environmental Committee – Lori Ann Feibel, Chair

Ms. Feibel confirmed that ESAC met tonight and Tree and Public Gardens Commission meeting tomorrow. Ms. Feibel also invited everyone to attend the Smoke & Fire Festival and the Labor Day Block Party and Brewfest. He also spoke about the final Main Event which will feature *Top Gun Maverick*. Ms. Feibel also spoke about a student from St. Charles who is interested in local politics this summer and he may be interning with City Council this fall or winter. Ms. Feibel will introduce him soon.

22) Public Comments (No Speaker Slip Required)

Ms. Constance Lewis of 663 Euclaire asked about the Bexley Century home sign that was discussed at the Bexley History presentation at the library. She also complimented the new football stadium.

23) Executive Session to confer with an attorney for the public body concerning matters involving the public body which are or may become the subject of litigation;

No need for an executive session.

24) Adjourn

Board of Control meeting will be held.

Mr. Klingler moved to adjourn.

Mr. Marcellino seconded.

All in Favor: Jessica Saad, Matt Klingler, Troy Markham, Lori Ann Feibel, Sam Marcellino

Motion passed 5-0.

President Markham adjourned the meeting at 8:36 pm.

City Council Policy for Public Comments:

Public Comments:

For the purpose of receiving the orderly comments from all speakers desiring to address City business before Council, adopts the following policy:

- Any speaker addressing Council shall complete a Speaker Slip to be turned in prior to the start of the meeting.
- Any speakers who have public comments at the end of the meeting do not have to have a Speaker Slip but they do still need to provide their name and address.
- Please note that all public comments should pertain to City of Bexley business only.
- All reasonable comments must be made within a maximum of three (3) minutes when addressing City Council.
- Undue interruption or other interference with the orderly conduct of remarks is not permitted.
- Defamatory or abusive remarks are always out of order.
- If the subject of the comment is not on the Council Agenda, the public may discuss the City issue during the Public Comments portion of the meeting. If the subject of the comment is on the Council Agenda, the public may discuss the issue at the time the issue is addressed during the Council meeting.
- Violation of this policy may result in termination of the speaker's comments and/or removal from the meeting.
- President of Council reserves the right to limit the length and scope of all Public Comments.

Presentations and Guests:

While we are grateful to have you attend a City Council meeting. Please be sure to keep your presentation to a maximum of five (5) minutes in order to keep the meeting moving in an efficient and productive manner. Thank you for your understanding.

City Council Policy for Correspondence:

All correspondence addressed to City Council or requested to be distributed to City Council by the named sender is a matter of public record and will be placed on the City of Bexley Website (www.bexley.org) at Public Documents/City Council/Council Correspondence. If the subject of the correspondence is not on the Council Agenda, but pertains City business, the sender may discuss the issue during Public Comments. If the subject of the correspondence is on the Council Agenda, the sender may discuss the issue at the time the issue is addressed during the Council meeting.