



## City Council Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, January 9, 2024

### 1) Call to Order

Ms. Lampke called the meeting to order at 6:01 pm.

### 2) Roll Call of Members

Council Members in Attendance: Sam Marcellino, Danny Hurley, Jessica Saad, Monique Lampke, Troy Markham, Alex Silverman, Lori Ann Feibel

### 3) Pledge of Allegiance

### 4) Oath of Office – Jessica Saad

Ms. Saad's oath of office will be administered after the presentation as she is waiting on some special guests.

### 5) Presentations/Special Guests

- a) St. Alban's Church and Mid-Ohio Food Bank – presentation of check from 2023 Turkey Trot which funds many regional food banks.

Scott McKinley and Marshall Long of St. Albans came to present the Turkey Trot check to council and spoke about the great event and the important funds raised.

The Oath of Office was administered to Councilwoman Jessica Saad at this time.

### 6) Ordinances with a Public Hearing

- a) **Ordinance 40-23** to amend Chapter 1254, Commercial and Institutional District Regulations, in order further affirm the prohibition of uses involving any Adult Use Cannabis Operator; Adult Use Cultivator, and Adult Use Dispensary introduced by Matt Klingler on November 14, 2023. This Ordinance is currently tabled.

Mr. Marcellino moved to take Ordinance 40-23 off the table.

Mr. Hurley seconds

All in Favor: Sam Marcellino, Danny Hurley, Jessica Saad, Monique Lampke, Troy Markham, Alex Silverman, Lori Ann Feibel

**Motion passes 7-0.**

Hearing no public comment, Mr. Marcellino invited any further discussion on this ordinance. Mr. Markham asked for the legal requirements for this ordinance, which Mr. Fishel answered. Mr. Hurley asked what other communities are looking at this legislation, and Mr. Kessler provided some detail that other communities are looking at our ordinance but nothing specifically like this in place. Ms. Feibel stated her feeling that this ordinance is in line with other ordinances in Bexley and expressed her support of moving slowly as it would provide the opportunity to take time to see how this unfolds in the region. Mr. Silverman spoke about his recent research on the results of the election on this issue, and spoke of interest in revisiting should marijuana be legalized on a federal level, but expressed his support for this ordinance in the meantime. Mr. Marcellino stated his opinion that the approval throughout the state may not fully reflect the setup of our community, which has limited space and spoke in support of Ms. Feibel's comment to move slowly here. Mr. Markham spoke in support of this ordinance, sharing about casual conversations he'd had with Bexley police officers who are in support of this restriction. Ms. Lampke also spoke in support of this but would be happy to table to provide more time. Ms. Saad shared that she had not heard formally from many residents on this, and spoke in favor of tabling this ordinance to provide more opportunity for residents to review. Mr. Marcellino asked a procedural question which Mr. Fishel answered.

Mr. Marcellino moved to table Ordinance 40-23.

Ms. Saad seconded.

All in Favor: Sam Marcellino, Danny Hurley, Jessica Saad, Monique Lampke, Troy Markham, Alex Silverman, Lori Ann Feibel

Motion passed 7-0.

## **7) Public Comments (Speaker Slip Required)**

None.

## **8) President's Report**

Ms. Lampke said she is honored to serve as president and congratulated Ms. Saad and Mr. Markham for their reelection and especially thanked Mr. Markham for his leadership. Ms. Lampke spoke about her excitement about the coming term.

## **9) City Attorney Report**

Mr. Fishel spoke positively and with gratitude on Mr. Markham's leadership. Mr. Fishel spoke about an opportunity before the Ohio General Assembly to potentially veto certain vaping legislation. If this happens, some of Bexley's recently passed tobacco legislation would be likely open to

challenge. Mr. Fishel also spoke about a recent lawsuit against the City of Athens regarding a Single Plastics Use Ban that may impact us in Bexley in the future.

## **10) Auditor's Report**

Mr. McPeek spoke about the plans for a transition for Karrie Martin into the Finance Director role.

## **10) Administrative Update**

Ms. Lampke and Mayor Kessler spoke about the new process for bringing in directors in two groups so that Directors will each be at Council once per month with Mr. Price, Ms. Rose, and Chief Lewis on the first meeting of the month and Ms. Meyer, Mr. Bashore, and Mr. Hale and/or Ms. Martin on the second meeting of the month.

### **a) Recreation Department Update – Mike Price**

Mr. Price spoke briefly about some of the highlights of his report. Ms. Feibel expressed her excitement about the recent announcement of the ODNR bridge grant, which Mayor Kessler provided more detail on. Ms. Saad spoke about the upcoming meetings for Commonwealth Park and the Skate Park and Mr. Price and Mayor Kessler provided some additional detail. Mr. Silverman then asked a question about the pedestrian bridge which Mayor Kessler answered.

### **b) Police Department Update – Chief Gary D. Lewis, Jr.**

Chief Lewis thanked Mr. Marcellino for all of his support and help throughout his hire and in his role as Safety liaison and expressed his excitement to work with Mr. Markham. Ms. Feibel shared some complimentary comments, but the microphone did not pick these up. Mr. Silverman wanted to highlight a report of a senior dog who was found by microchip and complimented the Animal Control Officer for this activity.

### **c) Mayor's Update**

Mayor Kessler provided some of the highlights of his report and did share that the funding the City had hoped to secure a grant for the former gas station site at Main and Chelsea but these funds are no longer available. We will continue to look into other resources. Mayor Kessler also provided some other brief highlights to his report. Ms. Saad asked about the Commonwealth Park meeting. Mr. Hurley asked about the working group meetings for parks will be public and Mayor Kessler provided some more detail on that. Ms. Lampke asked about the One Bexley Coordinator, and Mayor Kessler answered this sharing that Lachandra Baker will be the primary coordinator and Steve Shapiro will also be involved in some of this programming.

## **11) Consent Agenda (No Speaker Slip Required)**

### **a) Meeting Minutes from December 12, 2023.**

Mr. Fishel read the item on the consent agenda.

Ms. Feibel moved.

Ms. Lampke seconded.

All in Favor: Sam Marcellino, Danny Hurley, Jessica Saad, Monique Lampke, Troy Markham, Alex Silverman, Lori Ann Feibel

Motion passed 7-0.

## **12) Third Readings (No Speaker Slip Required)**

## **13) Second Readings (Speaker Slip Required)**

- a) **Ordinance 46-23** to approve an inter-governmental agreement between the City of Bexley and the Bexley Public Library, and to declare an emergency, introduced by Monique Lampke on December 12, 2023.

Mr. Fishel read the ordinance and Ms. Lampke provided some background on this ordinance. Ms. Lampke asked to move this to the consent agenda for the next meeting.

## **14) First Readings (Speaker Slip Required)**

- a) **Ordinance 01-24** to Amend Chapter 220.01, Rule 8 of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Bexley, introduced by Monique Lampke on January 9, 2024.

Mr. Fishel read the ordinance and Ms. Lampke spoke about this ordinance which will make slight adjustments to Council member responsibilities to put them in line with Ms. Lampke's 2024 Committee assignments.

- b) **Ordinance 02-24** authorizing a contract between the City of Bexley and the City of Columbus, Ohio for the provision by the City of Columbus of fire protection and emergency medical service for the five-year period beginning January 1, 2024 and ending December 31, 2028, and to declare an emergency, introduced by Troy Markham on January 9, 2024.

Mr. Fishel read this ordinance and Mr. Markham provided some background and invited the Mayor to provide additional information which Mayor Kessler did. Mr. Fishel noted that we need to add the Ordinance number in and then execute once Council passes this. Ms. Lampke asked Chief Lewis if he had any concerns with service and he does not and expressed a positive opinion of the Columbus Fire Department. Mayor Kessler echoed these sentiments.

- c) **Ordinance 03-24** to appropriate \$22,738 from the Law Enforcement Trust Fund (Fund 18) introduced by Jessica Saad on January 9, 2024.

Mr. Fishel read this ordinance and Ms. Saad spoke briefly about this ordinance, inviting the Chief to provide additional detail. Chief Lewis provided some additional information. Mr. Silverman asked if this is a yearly allotment and Chief Lewis shared that it is not, rather it is contingent on the court's schedule for releasing funds.

- d) **Ordinance 04-24** to Amend Sections 1226.12, 1230.61, 1254.03, 1254.09, 1254.11 and 1254.13, of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Bexley, Planning and Zoning Code To Repeal Sections 1254.05, 1254.12 of the City's Codified Ordinances and Enact New Sections 1254.05 and 1254.12, and to Amend the Zoning Classification and Official Zoning Map for All Property

Located in the Commercial Service (CS) District and Certain Property in the Low Density Multifamily Residential (R-12) District to Mixed-Use Commercial (MUC) and Livingston Avenue District (LA) Overlay introduced by Sam Marcellino on January 9, 2024.

Mr. Fishel read the ordinance and Mr. Marcellino invited Mayor Kessler to provide the background of this ordinance. Mayor Kessler shared that the initial concept for this ordinance was drafted after the creation of the Joint Livingston Avenue Plan but was put on hold due to legal action surrounding the Livingston Avenue area. While this ordinance is not specific to this case, it is responsive to the case and ensures that residential development can continue in Bexley. Mayor Kessler also stated we will need to have a Public Hearing for this zoning change and asked Council to consider allowing February 13 to serve as that public hearing date. Ms. Saad asked if Zoning could come in and speak about this ordinance. Mr. Marcellino agrees with this. Catherine Cunningham at next meeting? Jason Sudy? At the next meeting? Council Members continued to discuss this and ask questions for several minutes.

#### **15) Tabled Ordinances**

- a) **Ordinance 35-23** to amend section 618.16(a)(5) of the Bexley Codified Ordinances to amend the definition of "Vicious Animal", and to reorder and amend existing Section 618.16(a)(8), introduced by Sam Marcellino on September 12, 2023.
- b) **Ordinance 40-23** to amend Chapter 1254, Commercial and Institutional District Regulations, in order further affirm the prohibition of uses involving any Adult Use Cannabis Operator; Adult Use Cultivator, and Adult Use Dispensary introduced by Matt Klingler on November 14, 2023.
- c) **Ordinance 41-23** to amending Ordinance No. 91-04 to extend the life of the Main Street Incentive District ("Main Street Redevelopment and Streetscape TIF") and the period of the tax exemption provided therein by an additional fifteen years introduced by Matt Klingler on November 28, 2023.
- d) **Ordinance 43-23** authorizing to add Chapter 1485 to the City of Bexley Codified Ordinances establishing requirements for Automatic External Defibrillators (AED) and Bleeding Control Kit (BCK) in certain establishments within the City, introduced by Sam Marcellino on November 28, 2023. (This is the Third Reading)

No action on tabled ordinances.

#### **16) Safety Committee – Troy Markham, Chair**

Mr. Markham provided an update on the Land Use Strategy and future plans to renovate the caretaker cottage at Jeffrey Mansion.

#### **17) Strategic and Health Committee – Danny Hurley, Chair**

No update at this time.

**18) Zoning and Development Committee – Sam Marcellino, Chair**

Mr. Marcellino spoke about the CIC meeting and some of the discussions surrounding the proposed parking garage and also shared that Office Hours will be coming back.

**19) Service and Environmental Committee – Alex Silverman, Chair**

Mr. Silverman sent condolences to Ms. Ellman and expressed his excitement to work with her.

**20) Recreation and Parks Committee – Lori Ann Feibel, Chair**

Ms. Feibel shared her excitement to be working with the Recreation Department, whose first meeting of 2024 will be held tomorrow.

**21) Finance Committee – Jessica Saad, Chair**

Ms. Saad reminded everyone that April 6 is this year's Bexley Education Foundation's fundraiser

**22) Public Comments (No Speaker Slip Required)**

Ms. Constance Lewis of 663 Euclaire wished everyone a Happy New Year and asked if it was okay to enjoy the new fire pit. Mayor Kessler will share when the liner is installed and the fire pit is up and ready.

Mr. Don Lewis of 663 Euclaire asked about the gas station funding and whether the City would cover this and Mayor Kessler said he's still optimistic about finding funding and doesn't feel like we're there yet.

**23) Adjourn**

Ms. Lampke moved to adjourn.

Mr. Silverman seconded

All in Favor: Sam Marcellino, Danny Hurley, Jessica Saad, Monique Lampke, Troy Markham, Alex Silverman, Lori Ann Feibel

Motion passed 7-0.

**Meeting Adjourned at 7:30 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](http://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.