



City Council Minutes
Tuesday, February 27, 2024

1. **Call to Order**

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

2. **Roll Call of Members**

Council members in attendance: Danny Hurley, Sam Marcellino, Jessica Saad, Monique Lampke, Lori Ann Feibel, Alex Silverman

Ms. Lampke moved to excuse Mr. Markham's absence.

Mr. Marcellino seconded.

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

Motion passed 6-0.

3. **Pledge of Allegiance**

4. **Special Guests**

1. **Jackson Monus (OHSAA Division II State Diving Champion)**

a. Proclamation Presentation

Mayor Kessler presented Mr. Monus with a Proclamation.

2. **Lauren Cardoni, MORPC Active Transportation & Safety Program Manager**

a. Presentation on Metropolitan Transportation Plan

Mayor Kessler welcomed Ms. Cardoni to the meeting and Ms. Cardoni covered the highlights of the Metropolitan Transportation Plan presentation.

5. **Public Comments regarding items not on the Agenda (Speaker Slip Required)**

Mr. Bryan Drewry of 919 Grandon spoke on behalf of BMPA to thank City Council and Mayor Kessler for their support of their Black History Month banners which have received lots of great feedback. Ms. Lampke thanked Mr. Drewry for his support of the project as well.

6. **Ordinances with Special Guests**

Third Reading:

1. **Ordinance 05-24** authorize the Mayor and City Auditor to accept funding and enter into an agreement with the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission pertaining to the Livingston Avenue Reconstruction Capital Improvement Project and to enter into a Capital Improvement Project Intergovernmental and Contribution Agreement with the City of Columbus relative to the Project; to authorize the City Auditor to appropriate funds received from MORPC for the Project including providing funding to the City of Columbus in their administration of the Project; to establish auditor certificates as needed and requested for the Project; and to, as necessary, authorize the Auditor to receive any unspent balance of funding deposited by Bexley to the City of Columbus for the Project, introduced by Jessica Saad on January 23, 2024.

Special Guests from City of Columbus: Eric Lambert and James Young

Mr. Fishel read the ordinance and Ms. Saad spoke briefly about the background of the ordinance, inviting Mr. Eric Lambert and Mr. James Young from the City of Columbus to present. After presenting, Mr. Lambert and Mr. Young, along with Mayor Kessler, answered questions from multiple Council members about project timing and changes to the plans, infrastructure, and other related items.

Ms. Saad moved to pass Ordinance 05-24.

Mr. Marcellino seconded.

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

Motion passed 6-0.

Second Reading:

1. **Resolution 01-24** supporting the purposeful unification of Commonwealth East and Commonwealth West Parks into a single cohesive park, including the closure of North Columbia Avenue between Commonwealth Park North and Commonwealth Park South, introduced by Lori Ann Feibel on February 13, 2024.

Mr. Fishel read the ordinance and Ms. Feibel provided some background, clarifying that this resolution only asks Council to approve or not approve unification of the park and does not speak to specifics of a unification plan.

Mayor Kessler and Mr. Price provided a presentation on the history and scope of the process thus far. Mr. Marcellino asked about ongoing costs with the Park and asked about future traffic studies to ensure there aren't calming devices needed with an increase in traffic related to the unification and the closure of Commonwealth. Ms. Lampke asked about infrastructure.

After questions were answered, Ms. Lampke shared that the Tree and Public Gardens Commission unanimously recommended this unification. Ms. Feibel added that the Recreation Board also unanimously approved the unification.

7. **President's Report**

No report.

8. **City Attorney Report**

Mr. Fishel introduced his associate who may fill in for him from time to time. Mr. Fishel also provided an update on recent tobacco legislation.

9. **Auditor's Report**

No report.

10. **Administrative Update**

1. Recreation Department Update – Mike Price

Mr. Price covered some of the highlights of his report and answered questions from Mr. Silverman and Ms. Feibel. Ms. Feibel then spoke about the proposed option of adding lights to the pickleball courts, and shared that a public workshop is likely to be held for this purpose. Ms. Saad asked about how late the tennis courts are lit.

2. Service Director – Andy Bashore

Mr. Bashore had no additions to his report. Ms. Saad asked about the timing for paving Drexel which is still slated for late summer.

3. Development and Administration Director – Megan Meyer

Mr. Meyer shared some of the highlights from her report.

4. Finance Department - Karrie Martin

Ms. Martin is out ill but Mayor Kessler provided a brief update of the highlights of her report.

5. Mayor's Update

Mayor Kessler provided some of the highlights of his report.

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

1. Meeting Minutes from February 13, 2024

Ms. Lampke moved to approve the consent agenda.
Mr. Marcellino seconded.

All in Favor: Danny Hurley, Sam Marcellino, Jessica Saad, Monique Lampke, Lori Ann Feibel, Alex Silverman
Motion passed 6-0.

12. **Second Readings (Speaker Slip Required)**

1. **Ordinance 06-24** establishing the Craig Kleiman Fund to Support Families with Special Needs, designed to receive donations intended for the provision of support and services for Bexley residents and families facing special needs challenges, and to authorize the appropriation of \$5,000 from the unencumbered General Fund to provide funds to match private donations, introduced by Jess Saad on February 13, 2024.

Mr. Fishel read the ordinance and Ms. Saad briefly discussed the background.

Ms. Saad moved to approve amendments to Ordinance 6-24.

Mr. Marcellino seconded.

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

Motion passed 6-0.

Ms. Lampke asked if this ordinance could be moved to the Consent Agenda. Hearing no concerns from Council, she requested that this ordinance be moved to the Consent Agenda at the next meeting.

13. **First Readings (Speaker Slip Required)**

1. **Ordinance 07-24** to Amend Section 262.02(c)(3), Holidays, in order to re-codify Juneteenth as a holiday for non-bargaining unit employees introduced by Jess Saad on February 27, 2024.

Mr. Fishel read the ordinance and Ms. Saad discussed the rationale behind this ordinance. Mr. Fishel also clarified that this is a clean-up ordinance from a previous missed item in a codification process.

2. **Ordinance 08-24** to amend 2024 pay rates for Building Department Assistant to capture and reflect the additional responsibilities added to this job description, introduced by Jess Saad on February 27, 2024.

Mr. Fishel read the ordinance and Ms. Saad provided some background. Mayor Kessler provided some additional information and answered a question for Mr. Marcellino.

3. **Resolution 2-23** adopting the Solid Waste Management Plan for the Solid Waste Authority of Central Ohio, introduced by Alex Silverman on February 27, 2024.

Mr. Fishel read the ordinance and Mr. Silverman provided some brief background and then invited Mayor Kessler to share more background, which he did. Mr. Hurley asked a few questions which Mayor Kessler and Mr. Fishel answered.

14. Tabled Ordinances

1. **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.
2. **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.
3. **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.

Mr. Marcellino moved to remove Ordinance 41-23 from the table.

Ms. Lampke seconded.

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

Motion passed 6-0.

Mr. Marcellino shared some brief background on this and then invited Mayor Kessler to provide more detail, which he did, sharing about the rationale behind the ordinance and the timing of the required notices. Mr. Hurley asked a question which Mayor Kessler answered.

Mr. Marcellino moved to approve Ordinance 41-23.

Ms. Lampke seconded.

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

Motion passed 6-0.

4. **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.

15. Finance Committee – Jessica Saad, Chair

Ms. Saad spoke about an invoice requiring a motion.

Ms. Saad moved to approve the attached invoice from the Franklin County Prosecutor’s Office.
Mr. Marcellino seconded.

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

Motion passed 6-0.

Ms. Saad provided some updates on Pedal for Pancakes and shared that Team Bexley is providing Team Bexley jerseys to everyone. Ms. Saad also reminded everyone of the Bexley Education Foundation event on April 6.

16. Recreation and Parks Committee – Lori Ann Feibel, Chair

No report.

17. Service and Environmental Committee – Alex Silverman, Chair

Mr. Silverman recognized Sydney Swendal, a student at Bexley High School, for her work to create a new little free pantry in Bexley. Mr. Silverman also spoke about the Chamber of Commerce’s Leap of Kindness Day to fill the little free pantries in the area.

18. Zoning and Development Committee – Sam Marcellino, Chair

Mr. Marcellino spoke about the upcoming CIC and Land Use meetings along with the ARB meeting. Mr. Marcellino also asked Council to be prepared to discuss Ordinance 04-24 at the next meeting for a potential vote at the next meeting, followed by the vicious animal ordinance at the following meeting and the marijuana ordinance after that.

19. Strategic and Health Committee – Danny Hurley, Chair

Mr. Hurley will work with Ms. Lampke and Ms. Vawter and will share out a Doodle poll for the retreat. Mr. Hurley also shared about his intention to bring a new resolution forward but he is working on some additional information.

20. Safety Committee – Troy Markham, Chair

Mr. Markham did report through Ms. Lampke that the Tree and Public Garden Commission had approved the proposal to unify Commonwealth Park.

21. Public Comments (No Speaker Slip Required)

None.

22. Adjourn

Ms. Lampke adjourned the meeting at 8:24 pm.

MINUTES APPROVED: _____, 2024 _____
Monique Lampke Matt McPeek
President of Council Clerk of Council

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 five (5) 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.