



City Council Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, January 23, 2024

1. Call to Order

President Lampke called the meeting to order at 6:02 pm.

2. Roll Call of Members

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

3. Pledge of Allegiance – led by Scout Troop 166

President Lampke welcomed Scout Pack 166 to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

No speaker slips for items not on the agenda.

5. President's Report

President Lampke reminded everyone that there is an Ethics report due which she will send a reminder about closer to the deadline. Ms. Lampke then mentioned a couple of upcoming events, including the Texas Hold 'Em Fundraiser for Bexley Community Foundation

6. City Attorney Report

No report.

7. Auditor's Report

Mr. McPeek paused to acknowledge a speaker slip submitted by one of the visiting scouts, but he declined to speak at that time. Mr. McPeek also welcomed Ms. Martin to her first Council meeting before sharing an update regarding an exploratory conversation with Julian and Grubbe regarding internal process auditing.

8. Administrative Update

- a. Administrative & Development Update – Megan Meyer

Mayor Kessler covered some of the highlights of Ms. Meyer's update to Council as she is out ill.

- b. Finance Department Update – Beecher Hale/Karrie Martin

Mr. Hale covered some of the highlights of his report. He did speak to a potential slowing of a portion of tax income. Ms. Lampke asked a question about the timing of grant income versus expenditures, which Mr. Hale and Mayor Kessler answered.

- c. Service Department – Andy Bashore

Mr. Bashore didn't have anything to add to his report. Ms. Saad asked us to consider putting LED lights all around the medians on Drexel and Mayor Kessler provided an update to some of the planned enhancements to these medians including tree lighting and lane. Mayor Kessler also reminded Council that the intent of the project is to reduce the speed on Drexel. Mayor Kessler also confirmed that he spoke with the City Engineer and the project on Charles will be completed this year. Mr. Silverman asked about paving on Cheslea and Grandon. Mr. Bashore reported that the alley will be paved in Spring. Mr. Bashore then answered a few additional questions from Mr. Silverman. Mayor Kessler also clarified that alleys are held to a different standard than streets as they typically have lower traffic volumes. Ms. Feibel asked about an area with deteriorating pavement. The scout, a minor, who had submitted a public speaker form earlier was invited to speak and shared concerns about the deteriorating condition of the alley between Euclaire and the library.

- d. Mayor's Update

Mayor Kessler spoke about the Commonwealth Park Workshop tomorrow at 5:30 pm and about the upcoming program at the library with Michael Wilkos on Planning for the Future of Central Ohio. Mayor Kessler also spoke about some other updates and answered questions from Ms. Saad and Mr. Silverman. Ms. Feibel also spoke about the skating workshop she attended, sharing some of the input they received and some of the items discussed.

9. Consent Agenda (No Speaker Slip Required)

- a. Meeting Minutes from December 20, 2023
- b. Meeting Minutes from January 2, 2024
- c. Meeting Minutes from January 9, 2024

Mr. Fishel read the items on the Consent Agenda.

Ms. Lampke moved to approve the items on the Consent Agenda.

Mr. Marcellino seconded.

All in Favor Danny Hurley, Sam Marcellino, Jess Saad, Monique Lampke, Lori Ann Feibel, Troy Markham, Alex Silverman
Motion passed 7-0.

10. Third Readings (No 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 invited Mayor Kessler to discuss some of the adjustments to the attachment, which he did.

Ms. Lampke asked if there were any questions.

The scout who had spoken before asked what the project is and what it would do. Mayor Kessler clarified that this project is a small park that will be constructed between the Bexley Public Library and the Torat Emet temple on Main Street.

Ms. Lampke moved to adopt Ordinance 46-23.

Mr. Marcellino seconded.

All in Favor Danny Hurley, Sam Marcellino, Jess Saad, Monique Lampke, Lori Ann Feibel, Troy Markham, Alex Silverman
Motion passed 7-0.

11. Second 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 Ordinance 01-24 and spoke about the purpose of this ordinance. Ms. Fishel asked if there any questions. This Ordinance will be moved to the Consent Agenda.

- 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 the ordinance and Mr. Markham spoke to the background and rationale behind this ordinance which does provide coverage to Bexley by four separate Columbus fire departments outstanding. This ordinance will also be on the consent agenda for the next meeting.

- 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 Ordinance 03-24 and Ms. Saad provided some brief background on this ordinance. Ordinance 03-24 will be added to the Consent Agenda.

Ms. Lampke requested that Council move on to First Readings as a guest speaker for Ordinance 04-24 had not yet arrived.

- 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 returned to read this ordinance at Ms. Lampke's request at 6:56 pm. Mr. Marcellino spoke briefly about this ordinance and invited Mayor Kessler to provide an overview of some of the changes, which he did. Ms. Cunningham, who is our Zoning Council was invited to speak and reminded everyone that this ordinance will be heard at the January 25 BZAP meeting and will also be heard with public hearing at the February 13 Public Hearing at 6:00 pm. Ms. Cunningham spoke about the proposed Livingston Avenue overlay and the intention to ensure that this new overlay falls into the process appropriately and to ensure all of the overlays along our commercial corridors are treated and processed the same way. Mr. Hurley asked about one of the attachments and specific language regarding plans or design guidelines approved by Council. City Council members, Mayor Kessler, Ms. Cunningham, and Mr. Sudy discussed this matter for several minutes, asking about future plans and design guidelines along with the interplay between this ordinance and Ordinance 05-24.

At the conclusion of Council's discussion, Ms. Lampke reminded the public about the process for public comments.

Mike McKinney of 832 South Roosevelt read a written statement in opposition to this ordinance, stating his background in real estate and his opinion that the ordinance and plan does not present an economic benefit but does present substantial risk to this community and a negative impact on potential future investments.

Ms. Leah Turner of 993 Frances Avenue spoke in opposition to this ordinance, stating her concerns with the vagueness of language, the proposed increase in density and traffic. She also spoke of the safety issues she experiences in the area and stated her belief that the ordinance will create a negative impact.

Mr. David Greene of 806 Frances Avenue expressed some questions about the definitions in the plan and about access management and driveways. Mr. Green stated that while this is an opportunity, he would like more detail and has concerns with the appropriateness of businesses in the area.

Hearing no more comments, Ms. Lampke reminded everyone of the public hearing and third reading

for Ordinance 04-24 on February 13 at 6:00 pm.

12. First Readings (Speaker Slip Required)

- a. **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.

Mr. Fishel read the ordinance and Ms. Saad briefly covered the rationale behind this ordinance and invited Mayor Kessler to provide more detail. Mayor Kessler provided a brief presentation on the Joint Livingston Avenue Plan and scope of this plan. Ms. Feibel also spoke about being on the Joint Livingston Avenue Working Group.

Ms. Lampke then invited Mr. Sudy to speak about this ordinance. Mr. Sudy clarified that this is not zoning for a site, it is zoning for a corridor and the intent is to avoid single spot zoning, focusing instead on consistent zoning along an entire corridor. Mr. Sudy also clarified that this does include addressing access. Mr. Sudy also clarified that this doesn't remove any uses, but does address any future redevelopment, encouraging redevelopment that is more walkable and pedestrian friendly and spoke about the advantages of Mixed Use Corridors. Mr. Marcellino asked about the interplay between 04-24 and 5-24 and asked if the project included in 05-24 could proceed without the passage of 04-24. This matter was briefly discussed.

13. 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.

No action on tabled ordinances.

14. Finance Committee – Jessica Saad, Chair

Ms. Saad spoke about some invoices that require a motion and invited Mayor Kessler to provide some additional background on these invoices which were all impacted by year end processes that impact PO closure and reopening dates.

Ms. Saad moved to approve listed invoices for Core and Mail, Goodale, Fishel Downey, Boyd Brothers Trees, and Creative Graphics.

Ms. Feibel seconded.

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

Motion passed 7-0.

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

Ms. Feibel spoke about the upcoming spaghetti dinner at St. Charles and spoke about the recent Rec Board meeting. Ms. Feibel also spoke about upcoming Recreation Board meeting on February 7, and spoke again about the skate park workshop. Ms. Feibel also spoke about the ice rink and reminded everyone of the upcoming BCF Texas Hold'em Poker Tournament and also encouraged others to attend the Commonwealth Unification Workshop and spoke in favor of this as both a Council member and a resident who lives near the area. Ms. Feibel also spoke about the recent town hall at JCC and complimented Chief Lewis on his work.

16. Service and Environmental Committee – Alex Silverman, Chair

Mr. Silverman spoke about the City's receipt receipt of a Solsmart Gold award and about our success with the aggregation program and spoke about the commercial and multifamily recycling getting started.

17. Zoning and Development Committee – Sam Marcellino, Chair

Mr. Marcellino spoke about the recent BZAP meeting and how impressed he was with the background and care this committee takes. Mr. Marcellino spoke about the tremendous change we're experiencing in the City and mentioned it may be necessary to consider some additional support in the Building and Zoning Department. Mr. Marcellino also spoke about a recent meeting with Nate Green for a CIC update.

18. Strategic and Health Committee – Danny Hurley, Chair

Mr. Hurley is beginning the planning for the 2024 Strategic retreat and asked Council members to reach out if they had any specific suggestions. Mr. Hurley also spoke about the Board of Health meeting, and reported about the resources they have available to home health and community health, and an initiative for community health action teams that he's going to be researching. Mr. Hurley also mentioned the pending state legislation on tobacco and the likelihood that we will need to revisit our

tobacco ordinance. Mr. Hurley also mentioned recent legislation that will impact members of the LGBTQ community and encouraged Council members to reach out to those individuals.

19. Safety Committee – Troy Markham, Chair

Mr. Markham spoke about the Tree and Public Garden Commission and plans to plant trees and plans for Landmark Trees which will be focused on sycamore trees this year. Mr. Markham also reported a discussion about the noxious weeds ordinance, which was revisited a few years ago. Mayor Kessler mentioned how excited the Tree and Public Garden Commission was to have Mr. Markham.

Mr. McPeck asked to briefly speak and mentioned that a liquor license is changing hands at Khaab Indian Restaurant. Hearing no interest in pursuing a hearing, Ms. Lampke moved on.

20. Public Comments (No Speaker Slip Required)

None.

21. Adjourn

Ms. Lampke reported that she has requested that Ms. Vawter will be handling the equipment after meetings.

Ms. Lampke moved to adjourn.

Mr. Hurley seconded.

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

Motion passed 7-0.

Ms. Lampke adjourned the meeting at 8:04 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.