



City Council Minutes
Tuesday, June 11, 2024

1. Call to Order

2. Roll Call of Members

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

3. Pledge of Allegiance

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

Ms. Sharon Montgomery of 572 Bonington Way in Gahanna, Ohio spoke about accountability for distracted driving and spoke positively about Bexley's actions against distracted driving and asked Council to consider stronger penalties when a driver using a phone causes an accident that causes serious injury and/or death.

5. Confirmation of Matt Klingler as Director of Building and Planning

City Council agreed no Executive Session was needed to discuss this confirmation.

Mayor Kessler welcomed Mr. Klingler and spoke about the interview process and selection process. He then shared that his intent is to appoint Mr. Klingler as the new Director of Building and Planning and is presenting him to Council for confirmation as the City Charter requires. Ms. Lampke shared her excitement to have him on board and asked him to briefly speak about his background and interest as well as his primary goals in this role. Mr. Klingler answered this, sharing that customer service will be a primary focus. Mr. Markham spoke about his confidence in Mr. Klingler and his belief that he has the perfect background for this. Ms. Feibel also spoke positively about her experience working with Mr. Klingler and her enthusiasm for what he'll bring to this role. Ms. Saad also spoke positively about his background and asked him to highlight some of his experiences with the City of Columbus, which he did, sharing about some of the projects he's overseen.

Ms. Saad moved to approve the appointment of Matt Klingler to the position of Director of Building and Planning.

Ms. Lampke seconded.

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

Motion Passed 7-0.

Mayor Kessler thanked Council for their vote and then spoke in gratitude for Ms. Rose's service and spoke positively of her institutional knowledge and time with the City. Ms. Lampke echoed these sentiments, sharing a positive experience she had with Ms. Rose.

6. Special Guest

1. Tiasha Letostak – Board of Zoning Appeals and Planning Candidate

Ms. Lampke introduced Ms. Letostak and invited her to speak about her background, which she did. Mayor Kessler then spoke about a meeting where Ms. Letostak spoke.

2. Ahdra Young – Tree and Public Gardens Commission Candidate

Mayor Kessler introduced Ms. Young and invited her to speak about her background, which she did.

7. City Attorney Report

Mr. Fishel spoke about the liquor license notice he received.

8. Administrative Update

1. Police Department – Chief Gary D. Lewis

Chief Lewis had no additions to his update, but invited questions. Ms. Lampke asked about a recent conference, which Chief Lewis answered. Ms. Feibel??? Asked about a recent event at St. Charles. Officer Grimes stepped in and spoke about this event, and Chief Lewis spoke positively about Officer Grimes and the work he's done and the tremendous representation he offers. Mr. Silverman spoke about Cops and Kids day and asked about potential opportunities for youth programming through the Police Department, which Chief Lewis answered. Mr. Markham asked about a recent Flock related arrest and our status, which Chief Lewis provided.

2. Building Department - Kathy Rose

Ms. Rose added some updates on the 2200 Main Street project, which now has an active demolition permit as they met the needed conditions. Ms. Saad asked if there would be any disruption on Main Street. Ms. Rose did share that the curb lane may be closed for safety reasons during a portion of the day, but not before 9:00 am to accommodate morning rush hour. The sidewalk will also be closed for an extended period for safety.

3. Mayor's Update

Mayor Kessler shared some of the highlights of his report, including an update on the Mural Festival planning. He then shared a tribute to the late Mayor Madison and asked Council to observe a moment of silence in honor of his passing. Ms. Lampke spoke about her last encounter with Mayor Madison.

Ms. Lampke thanked Ms. Feibel and Mr. Silverman for offering to serve on a Council Communications Committee and also spoke about the Bexley Pride Walk and wished Ms. Feibel a belated happy birthday.

9. Consent Agenda (No Speaker Slip Required)

1. Meeting Minutes from May 28, 2024
2. Meeting Minutes from City Council Retreat

Ms. Lampke moved to adopt the Consent Agenda.

Mr. Marcellino seconded.

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

Motion Passed 7-0.

10. Third Readings

1. **Ordinance 15-24** to appropriate \$10,000 from the unencumbered General Fund "Estimated Social Services" reserve line item to provide funding to support the Bexley Summer Food Program, introduced by Jess Saad on May 14, 2024.

Mr. Fishel read the ordinance and Ms. Saad spoke about the background and history of this ordinance.

Ms. Saad moved to approve Ordinance 15-24.

Mr. Marcellino seconded.

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

Motion Passed 7-0.

11. Second Readings (Speaker Slip Required)

1. **Resolution 03-24** accepting the amounts and rates as determined by the Budget commission and authorizing the necessary tax levies, introduced by Jess Saad on May 28, 2024.

Mr. Fishel read Resolution 03-24 and Ms. Saad spoke about the background of this ordinance and Ms. Lampke asked if Council would feel comfortable moving this to the Consent Agenda for next meeting. Hearing no comments, Ms. Lampke requested that this be added to the Consent Agenda.

2. **Resolution 04-24** confirming the Mayor's appointments of members to the Architectural Review Board; the Board of Zoning Appeals and Planning; the Recreation and Parks Board; the Tree and Public Gardens Commission; the Board of Health; the Board of Tax Review; the Civil Service Commission; the Citizen Review Board; the Tax Incentive Review Committee; and the Environmental Sustainability Advisory Committee, introduced by Danny Hurley on May 28, 2024.

Mr. Fishel read the ordinance and Mr. Hurley shared that there is a proposed amended ordinance but we won't be acting on it just yet. Mr. Hurley invited Mayor Kessler to provide more detail which he did, sharing that he's still waiting to speak with a few members. Mr. Silverman asked if Mayor Kessler had spoken to the school about Pat King, who is the Bexley City Schools representative on the Recreation Board. Due to him also being on the Board of Zoning Appeals and Planning, he will be moving off of the Recreation Board.

- 3. Ordinance 16-24** to amend Chapter 474.02(j) to add protective helmet requirements in instances of persons under 16 years of age to wear a protective helmet while operating an electric bicycle, skateboard, scooter, roller skates, hoverboard or similar vehicle on any city street, alley, park, recreational path, or sidewalk, introduced by Danny Hurley on May 28, 2024.

Mr. Fishel read the ordinance and Mr. Hurley spoke about some of the background and some recent research he's completed in an effort to clarify a definition in the ordinance. He also spoke about an interest in stipulating helmet and restraint use for children in bike trailers and seats and will provide some additional information and hopefully some subject experts to answer questions. Ms. Saad shared the positive feedback she's heard from community members on this ordinance. Mayor Kessler encouraged Council to consider raising the age to 18.

12. Executive Session to consider the purchase of property (both real and personal, tangible or intangible), or to consider the sale of property (either real or personal) by competitive bid if disclosure of the information would give a competitive advantage to the other side by division (G)(2) of section [121.22](#) of the Revised Code.

Mr. Fishel explained that we will need an executive session and invited a motion.

Ms. Monique Lampke moved to enter Executive Session for the reason stated.

Mr. Marcellino seconded.

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

Motion Passed 7-0.

Council entered executive session at 7:10 pm

Ms. Lampke moved to exit executive session.

Mr. Hurley seconded.

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

Motion Passed 7-0.

Council exited executive Session at 7:27 pm.

13. First Readings (Speaker Slip Required)

- 1. Ordinance 17-24** to authorize the Mayor to execute an Access Easement between the City of Bexley and CAG Bexley Apts, LLC, in order to provide for

cross-access to and from the Bexley City Hall site (parcel #020-001825) and the adjacent property to the west at 2200 East Main Street (parcel #020-00350), introduced by Sam Marcellino on June 11, 2024.

Mr. Fishel read the ordinance and Mr. Silverman invited Mayor Kessler to share the background and purpose of this ordinance, which he did.

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.

No action.

15. Finance Committee – Jessica Saad, Chair

Ms. Saad shared that the Bexley Education Foundation will have a retreat on June 20 and also reminded everyone about Pedal for Pancakes on Saturday.

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

Ms. Feibel shared that this a month that highlights how great our Recreation Department is and expressed her gratitude. Ms. Feibel also shared that the Recreation Board did pass the proposal to add lights to the pickleball courts, but did share they will be adding some operating hours. Mr. Silverman asked about one of the pool policies, which Ms. Feibel answered.

17. Service and Environmental Committee – Alex Silverman, Chair

Mr. Silverman spoke about the upcoming Juneteenth Celebration at Jeffrey Mansion and shared that we have a Bexley resident's small business moving back to Main Street in the recently vacated space.

18. Zoning and Development Committee – Sam Marcellino, Chair

Mr. Marcellino spoke about some upcoming meetings.

19. Strategic and Health Committee – Danny Hurley, Chair

Mr. Hurley shared briefly about some follow up retreat items, and then shared his appreciation to Council for joining him at the Bexley Pride Walk. He also shared about some recent issues other experiences have faced against their LGBTQ communities and expressed his appreciation that Bexley remains a welcoming space.

20. Safety Committee – Troy Markham, Chair

No report.

21. Public Comments (No Speaker Slip Required)

Ms. Lewis of 663 Euclaire asked about recent work at the Capital University tennis courts and asked if the City could purchase them for pickleball courts. Mayor Kessler shared that Capital is considering improvements to these courts, including the addition of pickleball, and also shared that the City has offered assistance in exchange for public access, so this is under discussion.

22. Adjourn

Ms. Lampke moved to adjourn.

Mr. Hurley seconded.

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

Motion Passed 7-0.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:44 pm.