

City Council Minutes
Tuesday, November 19, 2024

1. Call to Order

Ms. Lampke called the meeting to order at 6:04 pm and shared that Mr. Marcellino is running a few minutes late.

2. Roll Call of Members

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

Ms. Feibel seconded.

All in Favor: Lori Ann Feibel, Troy Markham, Monique Lampke, Jess Saad, Danny Hurley
Motion passed 5-0.

3. Pledge of Allegiance

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

None.

5. President's Report

Ms. Lampke thanked Ms. Saad for her support last week and also expressed her appreciation for Council Members and for the residents she serves.

Mr. Marcellino arrived at 6:07 pm.

6. City Attorney Report

Mr. Fishel also expressed his appreciation for living in such an open and accepting community.

7. Auditor Report

No report.

8. Administrative Update

a) Mayor's Update

Mayor Kessler expressed enthusiasm for having Mr. Price and Mr. Bashore. Mayor Kessler also called out the vile behavior displayed by protestors on High Street. Mayor Kessler also shared about the third grade class visit today and shared that he spoke about the importance of pedestrian safety. Mayor Kessler asked everyone to weigh in on the presence of a skeleton that is present year-round. He shared that we're receiving some complaints at City Hall which are technically against code. Council members shared concerns with most Council members expressing understanding, but also expressing concerns or hesitation with any imminent enforcement of removal. Mayor Kessler also asked about the placement of City trees in right-of-way that's directly adjacent to front yard space in certain spaces throughout the City. While the City technically has the right to do this, he felt the complaints we've received warranted further discussion with Council. Mr. Marcellino expressed that he feels we should not plant unwanted trees in these situations. Ms. Saad also expressed the opinion that a discussion should be had prior to any planting. Mr. McPeck asked for the logic of why these are chosen and Mr. Hurley asked if this falls underneath the Tree and Public Gardens Commission and Mayor Kessler shared they are currently revisiting the authority of the Tree and Public Gardens Commission over this situation.

b) Recreation Department - Mike Price

Nothing to add to his report but thanked Council for recent volunteering at events.

c) Service Department - Andy Bashore

Mr. Bashore didn't have anything to add to his report but Mayor Kessler did add that the City officially closed on Columbia Place this week, so it is now officially a public street.

9. Consent Agenda (No Speaker Slip Required)

a) Meeting Minutes from November 12, 2024

b) **Ordinance 36-24** to authorize the Mayor and Auditor to enter into a contract between the City of Bexley and Franklin County Public Health, introduced by Danny Hurley on October 22, 2024.

Mr. Fishel read the items on the Consent Agenda.

Ms. Lampke moved to approve the Consent Agenda.

Mr. Hurley seconded.

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

Motion Passed 6-0.

10. Third Readings (No Speaker Slip Required)

a) **Ordinance 35-24** authorizing appropriations for the calendar year beginning January 1, 2025; to reappropriate all unexpended OPWC project appropriations for 2025, to authorize general Fund Transfers in 2024 and to confirm the appointment of Marc Fishel as City Attorney, introduced by Jess Saad on October 22, 2024.

Mr. Fishel read the ordinance and Mayor Kessler invited Ms. Martin and Ms. Meyer to talk about some of the changes and updates, which they did. Mayor Kessler added some additional information and answered a few questions before inviting Mr. Price to present the Recreation and Parks budget.

Mr. Price shared the highlights of his budget, including the addition of charges to use Wolfe Park, funds being set aside for marketing, and funds being set aside for the potential need to rent space for a temporary center. Mr. Price then answered questions regarding specifics on the rentals and the anticipated revenue impact of marketing Jeffrey Mansion on knot.com, about Jeffrey Mansion rental rates, the correlation between the increased income and how that increases expenditures, and questions about potential wear on both Jeffrey Mansion and the staff.

Mayor Kessler then invited Mr. Price to share about the Capital Budget for the Rec Department, which he did, answering questions about pickle ball lights, use of pickle ball courts, and the four-season shelter house.

Mayor Kessler then invited Mr. Bashore to discuss his budget for the Service Department, which he did, covering some proposed funding, especially in Water Administration and Distribution, Sewer Administration and Distribution and refuse. Mr. Bashore then answered questions from Council Members and the City Auditor with support from Mayor Kessler on dump trucks.

Mayor Kessler shared that we'll have a revised version shared to Council on November 29.

Ms. Saad moved to table Ordinance 35-24.

Mr. Marcellino seconded.

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

Motion Passed 6-0.

b) **Ordinance 37 -24** approving supplemental appropriations in the 2024 budget of \$30,000 Jeffrey Summer Camp S&W (05-580-51010), \$10,000 Before/After Care S&W (05-526-51010), \$14,000 Recreation Professionals (05-520-51710), and \$4,000 Recreation Special Activities (05-520-51321) to pay the

additional costs associated with an increase in programming, introduced by Jess Saad on October 22, 2024.

Mr. Fishel read the ordinance and Ms. Saad briefly covered the background of this ordinance.

Ms. Saad moved to approve Ordinance 37-24.

Mr. Marcellino seconded.

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

Motion Passed 6-0.

c) **Ordinance 38-24** to Establish the Water and Sewer Rates charged by the City of Bexley, introduced by Jess Saad on October 22, 2024.

Mr. Fishel read the ordinance and Ms. Saad provided background on this ordinance.

Mr. Hurley asked a question about the water fund which Mayor Kessler answered.

Ms. Saad moved to approve Ordinance 38-24.

Mr. Marcellino seconded.

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

Motion Passed 6-0.

d) **Ordinance 39-24** to establish compensation rates for non-bargaining unit employees of the City of Bexley, effective as of January 1, 2025, introduced by Jess Saad on October 22, 2024.

Mr. Fishel read the ordinance and Ms. Saad provided some background on this ordinance. Ms. Lampke has a question about two positions which she'll ask later.

Ms. Saad moved to table Ordinance 39-24.

Mr. Marcellino seconded.

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

Motion Passed 6-0.

e) **Resolution 10-24** confirming the Mayor's appointments of members to the Community Improvement Corporation Board, introduced by Danny Hurley on October 22, 2024.

Mr. Fishel read the ordinance and Mr. Hurley mentioned that we're looking to table this Resolution as the right candidate hasn't been identified.

Mr. Hurley moved to table Resolution 10-24.

Mr. Marcellino seconded.

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

Motion Passed 6-0.

11. Second Readings (Speaker Slip Required)

- a) **Ordinance 40-24** amending Section 266.04 of the City of Bexley Codified Ordinances, introduced by Danny Hurley on November 12, 2024.

Mr. Fishel read Ordinance 40-24 and Mr. Hurley provided some background on this ordinance and reasoning behind it.

12. First Readings (Speaker Slip Required)

- a) **Resolution 11-24** to establish the dollar threshold of blanket purchase orders in the City of Bexley, introduced by Jess Saad on November 12, 2024.

Mr. Fishel read the ordinance and Ms. Saad and Ms. Martin provided some additional information and rationale behind this ordinance.

- b) **Ordinance 41-24** authorizing the Mayor and Auditor to sign a Consent and Hold Harmless Agreement on behalf of the City of Bexley with the property owner 2409 Plymouth Ave. (Parcel No. 020-000309-00), regarding improvements made upon and within the City owned right-of-way between the sidewalk and the property line, introduced by Sam Marcellino on November 19, 2024.

Mr. Fishel read the ordinance and Mr. Marcellino spoke briefly on the purpose before inviting Mayor Kessler to provide more information. Mayor Kessler shared some background on the particular project and on uniqueness of right-of-way on Plymouth. Ms. Saad and Mr. Markham asked questions, which Mayor Kessler answered. Ms. Saad asked an additional question and Mr. Hurley asked a question, which Mayor Kessler answered. Mr. Marcellino also asked additional questions.

- c) **Ordinance 42-24** to grant area variances, with conditions, from the minimum lot requirements to the property located at 700 Grandon Avenue zoned R-6 residential in order to allow that single lot to be split and to form two new lots that would not meet existing R-6 minimum lot requirements, and to grant additional variances to the applicable R-6 development standards for minimum yard requirements, introduced by Sam Marcellino on November 19, 2024.

Mr. Fishel read the ordinance and Mr. Marcellino shared some information about this proposed lot split and other factors in this particular area in Bexley. Mayor Kessler also spoke on this ordinance.

- d) **Ordinance 43-24** authorizing the Mayor and Auditor to sign a Consent and Hold Harmless Agreement on behalf of the City of Bexley with the property owner 44 S Parkview (Parcel No. 020-004348-00), regarding improvements made upon and within the City owned right-of-way between the sidewalk and the property line, introduced by Sam Marcellino on November 19, 2024.

Mr. Fishel read the ordinance and Mr. Marcellino invited Mayor Kessler to provide some background and information, which Mayor Kessler spoke on briefly, both specifically to this project and address, and to the broader issue here. Ms. Feibel made a comment on this.

- e) **Ordinance 44-24** to appropriate \$194,872 from the water fund into the Water Administration account to pay the 2024 third quarter water invoice from the City of Columbus, introduced by Jess Saad on November 19, 2024.

Mr. Fishel read the ordinance and Ms. Saad invited Mayor Kessler to provide some background on this ordinance and the cause of the higher invoices. Ms. Lampke and Ms. Saad asked questions which Mayor Kessler answered.

Ms. Saad moved to suspend the three reading requirement for Ordinance 44-24.

Mr. Marcellino seconded.

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

Motion Passed 6-0.

Ms. Saad moved to adopt Ordinance 44-24.

Mr. Marcellino seconded.

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

Motion Passed 6-0.

13. Tabled Ordinances

- a) **Ordinance 24-24** to create Section 452.24, Electric Vehicle Charger Metered Parking, in order to provide for the placement and enforcement of metered parking for on-street electric vehicle charging infrastructure, introduced by Alex Silverman on August 13, 2024.

No action on tabled ordinance.

14. Public Comments (Speaker Slip Required)

None.

15. Finance Committee – Jessica Saad, Chair

Ms. Saad reminded Council of the upcoming Bexley Education Foundation meeting tomorrow and spoke about the upcoming OSU and Indiana University game.

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

No report.

17. Service and Environmental Committee – Alex Silverman, Chair

Ms. Lampke shared about the upcoming Repair Café on behalf of Mr. Silverman.

18. Zoning and Development Committee – Sam Marcellino, Chair

Mr. Marcellino thanked everyone for the budget work and expressed his appreciation for the process and clarity.

19. Strategic and Health Committee – Danny Hurley, Chair

Mr. Hurley spoke about upcoming Land Use Strategy and CIC meetings. Mr. Hurley also spoke about Transgender Awareness Week and Transgender Remembrance Day.

20. Safety Committee – Troy Markham, Chair

No report, but did speak about the OSU Games.

Ms. Lampke wished everyone a good Thanksgiving.

21. Adjourn

Ms. Lampke moved to adjourn.

Mr. Marcellino seconded.

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

Motion Passed 6-0.