



## **Meeting Minutes**

Monday, July 17, 2017 ~ 7:30 P.M.

Louis J. R. Goorey Worthington Municipal Building  
John P. Coleman Council Chamber  
6550 North High Street  
Worthington, Ohio 43085

## **City Council**

*Bonnie D. Michael, President*  
*Scott Myers, President Pro-Tempore*  
*Rachael Dorothy*  
*Douglas C. Foust*  
*David M. Norstrom*  
*Douglas Smith*  
*Michael C. Troper*

*D. Kay Thress, Clerk of Council*

**CALL TO ORDER – Roll Call, Pledge of Allegiance**

Worthington City Council met in Regular Session on Monday, July 17, 2017, in the John P. Coleman Council Chambers of the Louis J. R. Goorey Worthington Municipal Building, 6550 North High Street, Worthington, Ohio. President Michael called the meeting to order at or about 7:30 p.m.

**Members Present:** Rachael R. Dorothy, Douglas Foust, Scott Myers, David Norstrom, Douglas K. Smith, Michael C. Troper and Bonnie D. Michael

**Member(s) Absent:**

**Also present:** Clerk of Council D. Kay Thress, City Manager Matthew Greeson, Director of Law Pamela Fox, Assistant City Manager Robyn Stewart, Director of Finance Scott Bartter, Director of Service and Engineering Dan Whited, Director of Planning and Building Lee Brown, Director of Parks and Recreation Darren Hurley, Chief of Police Jerry Strait and Chief of Fire Scott Highley

There were fifteen visitors present.

*Members dispensed with the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance since it was recited during the Joint Meeting of City Council and the Sharon Township Trustees.*

**SPECIAL PRESENTATION****Resolution No. 42-2017**

Expressing the Appreciation and Best Wishes of the Worthington City Council to Pamela A. Fox for her Outstanding Service as Director of Law for the City of Worthington and for her Service to the Community.

**Introduced by Mr. Myers.**

**MOTION**

Mr. Troper made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 42-2017. The motion was seconded by Mr. Foust.

**The motion to adopt Resolution No. 42-2017 carried unanimously by a voice vote.**

*President Michael asked Ms. Fox to join her at the podium where she read Resolution No. 42-2017 in its entirety and presented her with a certified copy.*

**Courtney Chapman, Chair of the Cemetery Board of Trustees**

*Mr. Chapman shared that the Board of Trustees at the Cemetery are so grateful for the Township Trustees and the City and they feel so appreciative of two bodies that work together so well in our support. Ms. Fox has been a big part of this. He read Cemetery*

*Board of Trustees Resolution No. 2-2017 in its entirety to express their appreciation and best wishes to Ms. Fox and presented her with said resolution (copy attached).*

*Mr. Greeson commented that there are not enough kind words that he can say to express his personal appreciation and the appreciation of all of our staff to Mrs. Fox but he will try. In the Fox family moving to Florida, we are losing not just one dedicated public servant but two. Dave Fox, who is here today, retired from full-time services as a Worthington Police officer prior to Pam becoming our law director. More recently he has served the City part-time as a court liaison. We would be remiss if we didn't also thank Dave for his friendship and service in support of all of us and most importantly of Pam in these recent years. After tonight Dave, you can have your wife back on Monday nights. Mr. Fox thanked him.*

*Mr. Greeson shared that some have known Ms. Fox for many more years than he has. In the days when she served under her mentor at Baker & Hostetler, Mike Minister who served as our law director. Mr. Minister is also here tonight. Ms. Fox served as Worthington's Assistant Law Director. She left Baker to become Hilliard's law director for eight years. We were blessed to bring her back where she lives to serve as our director for the last five years. He believes she is Worthington's fourth law director since becoming a city and its first female law director.*

*In addition to a keen legal mind she brought us a love of this community and a deep appreciation for the work that public servants in local government do and we appreciate that. As everyone knows municipal lawyers are generalists. They have to research and opine on a variety of issues from zoning to police liability, to public records and open meetings law, personnel rules and regulations as diverse as bamboo and bonds. It is a true general counsel role and it is a hard job. She has been called upon to protect the city's interest and advise us as management and all of our elected officials effectively and she has performed this role exceptionally well. Some of you may know that she is a multi-generational lawyer (four generations that include her son). She is not the first female attorney in the family as her mother served as a judge. Prior to going to law school at night, Pam worked for Franklin County Children's Services. As he got to know her better it came as no surprise to him that she had been called to work in social services. She has contributed far more than just her legal opinions to our team and there are many things that he has seen firsthand that exemplify that. Despite being our law director which is one of the most important lofty roles in our government, she essentially has been willing to do anything to help our city government and the people who live here. She has approached her job practically with a focus on outcomes that are important and is always willing to lend a hand. He thinks probably all of us who have worked closely with Pam sees that she always displays a sincere concern for people, ensuring that others feel like they are treated thoughtfully and fairly. As a result of these attributes and approach that she has taken she is universally trusted. She is always sought after for advice in our organization, most of which is not legal advice. She is an incredible class act. Pam has always put others first and we appreciate that. We are pleased that she can now put herself and Dave first as well as her three, soon to be four grandchildren. On behalf of all of the staff at the city of Worthington, thank you!*

*Ms. Fox shared that it has been both a privilege and an honor it have been to serve the city of Worthington for all of these years. As Matt indicated, combined years between she and her husband is over fifty years of service. She has enjoyed working with each and every one and considers you not only colleagues but friends. Not only you but the predecessors. She is so happy to see both Mike Minister and Dr. Goorey this evening. Mike was her mentor and she can't express enough appreciation to him for bringing her along in this line of work. It has been a tremendous way to practice law and she appreciates everything he has done for her. The leadership of Council has been incredible and Dr. Goorey was a part of that for so many years and she appreciates that as well. She is sad to leave but is looking forward to spending time with her family and grandchildren and husband. She has a sister and a mother-in-law down in Florida so she will be looking forward to that. She shall miss you all and really, really appreciates the opportunity to come back and work for the City. It has been really wonderful.*

*Mr. Myers knows many who went to law school and came out and became attorneys. They read the law. They write the law and they argue the law. But only a very few become counselors. That is so much more than the law and it means so much more to the clients when you are a counselor. He thinks of all of the times that her patience and compassion got him down off of a ledge when he got a little wound up and just how important she has been for his personal growth as a Councilperson. She is truly talented in so many different ways and members have been so blessed to have her sit over there every single meeting. He can't express how much she will be missed. He thanked her for all she has given to him. Mr. Norstrom agreed.*

*Ms. Michael shared that she has known Ms. Fox from her Baker & Hostetler days. When they had the chance for her to come back, it was a done deal because she knew she would do a great job. She agrees with Mr. Myers that everyone will miss her immensely. It has just been wonderful and a pleasure to have so many years to work with her.*

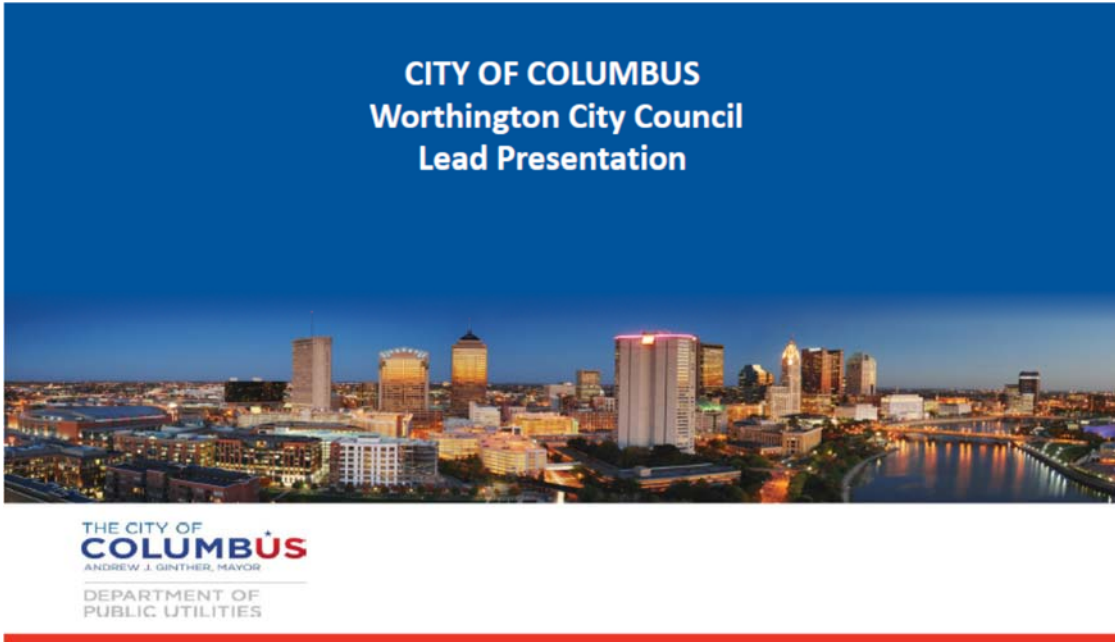
*Ms. Fox thanked members for their kind sentiments.*

- **Presentation by the City of Columbus, Department of Public Utilities regarding Lead Water Service Line Mapping**

*Mr. Greeson shared that the following presentation was requested by members. We are pleased to have representatives of the city of Columbus here this evening to help address some of the questions members have. He asked Mr. Whited to make introductions and offered his thanks to the Columbus staff members for attending tonight's meeting.*

*Mr. Whited introduced Matt Steele and John Ivanic from the city of Columbus. They intend to provide information and address questions members may have about lead.*

*Mr. Steele provided the following PowerPoint.*



### Overview of Columbus Public Water System

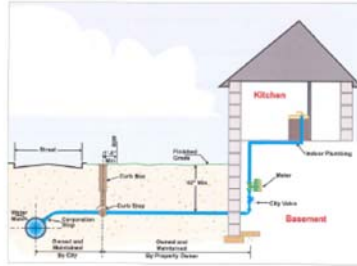
- In 2015, Columbus provided almost 49 billion gallons of safe, clean drinking water to over 1.1 million people in 23 communities throughout the Central Ohio region
- Clean, safe drinking water is truly a public health business
- Some quick facts about the Columbus water system infrastructure:
  - 3 Water Plants – 2 surface water and 1 ground water
  - 4 Reservoirs (Hoover, O'Shaughnessy, Griggs, Douth)
  - 3,518 Miles of water main maintained by the City of Columbus (2,517 miles owned by Columbus; 1,001 miles owned by suburbs)
  - 26 Booster stations operated and maintained
  - 39 Water tanks operated storing ~81 million gallons
  - 25,611 Fire hydrants owned by the City of Columbus



*Mr. Steele added that the city of Worthington receives its water from the Hap Cremean Water Plant on Morse Rd. Its source water is the Hoover Reservoir.*

**Where Can Lead In Water Come From?**

- The water leaving Columbus water plants doesn't have any lead
- Lead is found:
  - Lead based solder in home plumbing (lead solder banned in 1986)
  - Brass fixtures (brass contained up to 8% lead until 2014)
    - New rules were adopted in 2014 for lead free plumbing (<0.2% lead)
  - Customer's service pipes if lead
  - City owned service lines (~10% of city water service pipes are lead)

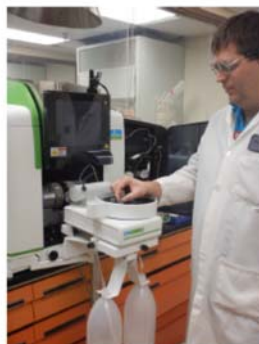


**Columbus Has an Optimal Water Corrosion Control Program**

- Treatment
  - Neutral pH adjustment to 7.8, not acidic or basic
  - Add corrosion inhibitor – **zinc orthophosphate** \$1800 per day
- **Required** Monitoring and Testing
  - Test water plant tap every other week for required water quality parameters
    - Hardness, alkalinity, pH, corrosion inhibitor
  - 50 customer homes every 3 years
  - Distribution system water quality quarterly during the same year of 50 homes
- **Additional** Monitoring and Testing
  - Test plant tap water multiple times per day for many water quality parameters
  - Test distribution system samples monthly for water quality parameters
  - Test representative distribution system samples monthly for lead
  - Lead (and other metals) coupon testing



**Other Water Systems Who Receive Our Water And Test For Lead?**



- **All are in compliance with the Lead and Copper Rule**
- Reynoldsburg – 2014
  - 30 homes every 3 years
- Bexley – 2014
  - 30 homes every 3 years
- Franklin County – 2014
  - 20 homes every 3 years
- Gahanna – 2015
  - 30 homes every 3 years
- Lockbourne – 2015
  - 5 homes every 3 years





When asked by Ms. Dorothy what it means to be Master Metered, Mr. Steele explained that in Columbus there are full service communities like Worthington, Dublin, Hilliard and Grove City where the city of Columbus takes care of everything and the community is considered part of their system. There are also master metered communities that have one meter that goes into the community and then that community rebills for water service. They have their own water department and do all of their own testing and repairs. They are considered another public water system and do all of their own monitoring as well.

### Environmental Sources of Lead

- Lead paint and lead dust (most significant source of lead) (CDC, CDPH)
- Imported medicines and makeup (CDC)
- Imported dishes and containers (CDC)
- Imported candy and toys (CDC)
- Hobbies like arts, crafts, imported clay pots, imported jewelry (CDC)
- Hunting and fishing (CDC)
- Lead service lines and home plumbing
  - From a water system without optimum corrosion control



THE CITY OF  
**COLUMBUS**  
ANDREW J. GINTHER, MAYOR

### What Can Customers Do To Reduce Their Risk?

- Check home plumbing for any sources of lead
- If their home was built before 1950's
  - Call the Division of Water to identify the service line material
- If they have lead or think they have lead:
  - Flush the tap for 30 seconds or longer if water has sat unused for more than six hours
  - Cook with cold water
- For specific questions about lead call:
  - Columbus Water Quality Assurance Lab (614) 645-7691
  - See "Lead in Water" and "Consumer Confidence Report" at [Columbus.gov/utilities](http://Columbus.gov/utilities) under document library



THE CITY OF  
**COLUMBUS**  
ANDREW J. GINTHER, MAYOR

Mr. Steele said he would be happy to answer any questions.

*Ms. Dorothy stated that we have some streets in our neighborhood that according to your website have some lead mains. She asked how proactive should customers be in getting their lines tested that go to their house or obviously they should be doing the best practices of running their faucet for 30 seconds before using it for drinking water or cooking. Mr. Steele expressed that in Columbus they feel like they have an optimized corrosion control program and the EPA considers that as well. Based on our testing, our water is not very corrosive to lead but people who feel that they have possible lead sources in their home can go to a private lab and have their water tested for about \$20.00. The Ohio EPA maintains a list of certified drinking water laboratories that would test for lead. If people are concerned they can have their water tested in addition to just letting it flush for 30 seconds or longer to bring in the fresh water from the main.*

*Ms. Dorothy concluded that if there is elevated lead in someone's system then it is more than likely the homeowner's side and they should then start improving their own utilities from the Columbus main into their house. Mr. Steele agreed. He added that if someone were to test their water and have an elevated level they could either purchase a filter that is effective at removing lead or they could begin to replace some of their faucets, etc. It is a very big expense to replace all of your internal plumbing if it has lead solder. Additionally, if they had a lead service line they could replace that line. Ms. Dorothy determined that the easiest would be to add a filter to the faucet they use for drinking. Mr. Steele agreed or they could flush it for 30 seconds or longer.*

*Mr. Greeson and Ms. Michael again thanked the Columbus staff for presenting this information this evening.*

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

**Notice to the Public:** There will be no separate discussion of Consent Agenda items as they are considered to be routine by the City Council and will be adopted by one motion. If a member of the City Council, staff, or public requests discussion on a particular item, that item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered separately.

*To address City Council regarding an item on Consent Agenda, please submit a fully completed speaker's slip to the Clerk of Council prior to the beginning of the meeting.*

*Mr. Greeson noted that a new, slightly amended job description for Resolution No. 50-2017 was distributed at member's places.*

## **Legislation to Approve/Adopt**

### **Ordinance No. 28-2017**

Amending Ordinance No. 16-2017 to Establish Compensation for the Unclassified Position of Assistant to the City Manager/IT Director and Authorizing the City Manager to Extend Certain Benefits Related to this Position.



**Resolution No. 43-2017**

A Resolution Offering the Voluntary Purchase of Service Credit Between the City of Worthington, Ohio and the Bargaining Unit Employees of the City of Worthington Division of Police Enrolled in the Ohio Police and Fire Pension Fund.

**Introduced by Mr. Foust.**

**MOTION**

Mr. Norstrom moved to adopt Resolution No. 43-2017. The motion was seconded by Mr. Smith.

**Resolution No. 44-2017**

A Resolution Offering the Voluntary Purchase of Service Credit Between the City of Worthington, Ohio and the Bargaining Unit Employees of the City of Worthington Division of Fire/EMS Enrolled in the Ohio Police and Fire Pension Fund.

**Introduced by Mr. Myers.**

**MOTION**

Ms. Dorothy moved to adopt Resolution No. 44-2017. The motion was seconded by Mr. Troper.

**Resolution No. 47-2017**

Amending the Position Description for Fire Chief.

**Introduced by Mr. Foust.**

**MOTION**

Mr. Norstrom moved to adopt Resolution No. 47-2017. The motion was seconded by Mr. Smith.

**Resolution No. 49-2017**

Appointing Scott F. Bartter to the Position of Alternate Representative for the City of Worthington to the Board of the Central Ohio Health Care Consortium.

**Introduced by Mr. Troper.**

**MOTION**

Ms. Dorothy moved to adopt Resolution No. 49-2017. The motion was seconded by Mr. Myers.

**Resolution No. 50-2017**

Amending the Position Descriptions for Fire Lieutenant and Fire Prevention Lieutenant.

**Introduced by Mr. Smith.**

**MOTION** Mr. Norstrom moved to adopt Resolution No. 50-2017. The motion was seconded by Mr. Foust.

**End of Consent Agenda**

**The clerk called the roll on the passage of the Consent Agenda. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Yes 7** Foust, Norstrom, Smith, Myers, Dorothy, Troper, and Michael

**No 0**

**The Consent Agenda is thereupon declared duly passed and is recorded in full in the appropriate record book.**

**VISITOR COMMENTS** – There were no visitor comments.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS ON LEGISLATION**

*President Michael declared public hearings and voting on legislation previously introduced to be in order.*

**Ordinance No. 25-2017**

Amending Ordinance No. 45-2016 (As Amended) to Adjust the Annual Budget by Providing for an Appropriation from the Capital Improvements Fund Unappropriated Balance to Pay the Cost of 2017 Central District Sanitary Sewer Repairs and Determining to Proceed with said Project. (Project No. 654-17)

**The foregoing Ordinance Title was read.**

*Mr. Whited shared that staff continues to conduct sanitary sewer evaluation service studies for our sewer system. The central district sewer repair studies were completed last year by DLZ and we moved forward with design of those projects. This project, which is located on East North St. was designed by DLZ and we successfully headed out for bid last Friday. Interestingly, the majority of our bids were paper bids as opposed to Bid Express this time. Layton Excavating was the successful bidder with a bid, including contingency at \$776,285.00, which is below our budget amount but slightly above our engineering estimate. We have checked references for Layton and are confident with the quality of their bid. We are happy to recommend that we proceed with this project with Layton Excavating.*

**MOTION** Mr. Norstrom made a motion to amend Ordinance No. 25-2017 in Section 1. to insert the amount of Seven Hundred Seventy Six Thousand Two Hundred Eighty Five Dollars and in Section 2. the

firm of Layton Construction, Inc. The motion was seconded by Mr. Myers.

When asked by Ms. Dorothy when the project will start and finish, Mr. Whited replied that the pre-construction conference with Layton has not yet occurred. He expects construction will take between sixty and ninety days with a start date within the next 30 to 45 days.

**The motion carried unanimously by a voice vote.**

**There being no additional comments, the clerk called the roll on Ordinance No. 25-2017 (As Amended). The motion carried by the following vote:**

<b>Yes</b>	<b>7</b>	Foust, Troper, Norstrom, Dorothy, Smith, Myers, and Michael
<b>No</b>	<b>0</b>	

**Ordinance No. 25-2017 (As Amended) was thereupon declared duly passed and is recorded in full in the appropriate record book.**

*President Michael shared that she forgot to include the approval of minutes on the Consent Agenda.*

### **Approval of the Minutes**

- **July 3, 2017 – Regular Meeting**

**MOTION** Mr. Norstrom moved to approve the aforementioned minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Smith.

**There being no additions or corrections, the motion to approve the minutes as presented carried unanimously by a voice vote.**

**Ordinance No. 26-2017** Amending Applicable Sections of Chapter 943 of the Codified Ordinances of the City to Change the Name of the Flint Road Cemetery to Flint Cemetery.

**The foregoing Ordinance Title was read.**

*Mr. Greeson shared that there is a request to change the name of the cemetery as described, Flint Road to Flint. He asked Ms. Fox to comment.*

*Ms. Fox reported having nothing further to report. This just comes as a request because it is more commonly referred to as Flint Cemetery and the Cemetery Board just wanted to reflect that name change.*

**There being no additional comments, the clerk called the roll on Ordinance No. 26-2017. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Yes 7** Troper, Norstrom, Dorothy, Smith, Myers, Foust, and Michael

**No 0**

**Ordinance No. 26-2017 was thereupon declared duly passed and is recorded in full in the appropriate record book.**

### **NEW LEGISLATION TO BE INTRODUCED**

#### **Resolution No. 45-2017**

To Authorize the City Manager to Execute the Partnering Agreement with the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC) and Other Associated Documents for Federal Attributable Funding for the Intersection Project at Huntley, Wilson Bridge, and Worthington Galena Roads.

**Introduced by Mr. Foust.**

#### **MOTION**

Mr. Norstrom made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 45-2017. The motion was seconded by Mr. Smith.

*Mr. Greeson reported that the City applied for Federal Attributable Funds through MORPC for the northeast gateway project (the intersection where Huntley Rd., East Wilson Bridge Rd., and Worthington-Galena Rd. come together). Anytime a municipality is successful in getting Federal Attributable Funds, MORPC requires the accepting entity to enter into a partnering agreement. It is a simple letter agreement that essentially spells out that we will comply with the policies that are set forth by MORPC and that we will complete the project in the timeframe that we suggested we would in our amended application that we filed last year. Staff has reviewed the letter agreement and recommends approval.*

*When asked by Ms. Dorothy about our revised timeframe, Mr. Greeson replied 2020 – 2021.*

**There being no additional comments, the motion to adopt Resolution No. 45-2017 carried unanimously by a voice vote.**

#### **Resolution No. 46-2017**

Authorizing the City Manager to Seek Financial Assistance From the Ohio Public Works Commission for Funding of the Intersection Improvements at Huntley/ Wilson Bridge/ Worthington-Galena Roads (Project Number 602-14)

**Introduced by Mr. Myers.**

**MOTION** Ms. Dorothy made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 46-2017. The motion was seconded by Mr. Troper.

*Mr. Greeson reported that the Ohio Public Works Commission has grants that are available to local governments for funding projects like the northeast gateway. They have grant funds as well as low or no interest loan funds. We are seeking Council's authorization to pursue those. Our consultant, EMH&T, has a grant writer on staff and we will be working with him to ascertain which aspects of our application can gain the most points and what mix of grant and loan funds are best in order to maximize the amount of dollars that we can attract to this project. The effect is that we are seeking to lower the amount of local funds that have to be used to match the federal funds. He asked Mr. Whited and/or Ms. Stewart to comment.*

*Mr. Whited shared that he had nothing new to add. Staff has already met with EMH&T and will continue to do so to make sure our scoring is as high as possible and that we are successful in either/or of those loan/grant applications.*

*When asked by Ms. Michael if this will be done while Council is on break, Mr. Whited replied most definitely.*

*Mr. Norstrom asked if staff has any idea of our probability of success. Mr. Whited replied that according to the discussions that we have had with both our consultant and with MORPC, we feel like our chances for success are pretty good.*

*Ms. Dorothy understands that the deadline for the applications is September 11<sup>th</sup>. She asked if staff knows when they will announce the awards. Ms. Stewart believes it will be in the November/December timeframe.*

**There being no additional comments, the motion to adopt Resolution No. 46-2017 carried unanimously by a voice vote.**

**Resolution No. 48-2017** Appointing Members to the Worthington Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Board.

**Introduced by Ms. Dorothy.**

**MOTION** Mr. Troper made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 48-2017. The motion was seconded by Mr. Myers.

*Ms. Michael explained that there are two vacancies on the Bike and Pedestrian Advisory Board. The term of one of the new members will expire on May 31, 2020 while the term of the other new member will expire on May 31, 2019. She asked for direction from members.*

**MOTION** Mr. Myers nominated John Stephan (term to expire on May 31, 2020) and Gary Schmidt (term to expire on May 31, 2019) to fill the two vacancies on the Bike and Pedestrian Advisory Board. The motion was seconded by Mr. Foust.

**The motion passed unanimously by a voice vote.**

**There being no additional comments, the motion to adopt Resolution No. 48-2017 as finalized carried unanimously by a voice vote.**

## **REPORTS OF CITY OFFICIALS**

### Policy Item(s)

- Set Public Hearing – Ordinance No. 27-2017 (Rezoning – 7007 North High Street)

*Mr. Brown reported this as the property of the current Holiday Inn that is finally moving through the process for redevelopment. Since City Council approved a code change last April that established the Wilson Bridge Rd. corridor zoning categories, staff has begun rezoning portions of the corridor. This project essentially started two years ago and staff felt that they should be moved into the new zoning categories for the corridor. The application has been to the Municipal Planning Commission and is set to come back to Council for the September 5<sup>th</sup> hearing.*

**MOTION** Mr. Myers made a motion to set the public hearing on Ordinance No. 27-2017 for the meeting of September 5, 2017. The motion was seconded by Mr. Troper.

*Mr. Foust shared that he attended the first meeting when the early proposal was kind of vetted with the public. He is a big fan of what is going on at this site. In the interest of making sure we have a happy public, he wonders what the City can do to make sure this hearing is thoroughly promoted. He asked if this will have the typical blue sign placed on the property. Mr. Brown replied that the development will still need to come before the Municipal Planning Commission, the Architectural Review Board and then on to Council for approval. This is just the zoning. It has no site plan associated with it. This application will be included on our Wilson Bridge Road page on the website, those on the “notify me” list will receive notice, and any property within 200 feet of this property will receive a notice. A blue sign will be posted as well, which is usually the key to our outreach efforts.*

*Ms. Michael requested that it be added to the City’s Facebook page.*

*Mr. Foust commented that anything associated with something this significant, recognizing that this is just a rezoning, but even that unto itself can be tempestuous. He asked if signs could be placed on all three sides (Wilson Bridge, High St. and Caren) of the property.*



*When exploring the possibility of placing a sign on the Village Green, Mr. Foust was told by Ms. Fox that the purpose of that signage is very narrow in that it announces community events. She thinks if we extend a specific zoning matter to that then we would create a forum for other sign holders that would eliminate the purpose for the signs altogether. We want to stay very narrowly focused on the community events and not specific Council actions because then we open up those signs to anybody to express their opinions on any Council actions going on.*

*Mr. Foust acknowledged that he is not an attorney but argued that putting up what is truly a city legal notice to him doesn't seem like it would open it up to anybody with public opinion who wanted to put something on the Village Green. He wants to make sure we are thorough since we have been criticized for less than perfect public communication. He thinks it is a big deal and can't be overdone.*

*Mr. Myers agreed with Ms. Fox in that it would open it up to political speech. He really doesn't want to see the Right to Life people put their banners on the Village Green and that is what he thinks it will come to.*

*Mr. Norstrom confirmed that Council has been accused of not being open and he strongly disagrees with that. There are neighborhood organizations that we alert. If somebody doesn't understand then it is because they haven't bothered to look.*

*Ms. Michael is aware of a neighborhood e-mail blast that Anne Brown sends out. She asked if this item could be added to that blast. Mr. Brown confirmed that it could be added to what Ms. Brown sends out. He also liked the idea of posting the blue hearing signs on all three sides. Mr. Foust stated that he would be satisfied with that. It is just something more than our usual so we can say that we really tried hard to get the word out.*

**The motion carried unanimously by a voice vote.**

- Motion to Recess for the Month of August

**MOTION** Ms. Dorothy made a motion for City Council to recess for the month of August. The motion was seconded by Mr. Myers.

**The motion carried unanimously by a voice vote.**

#### Other Items

*Mr. Greason shared the following items:*

- 1) He distributed a memorandum tonight from Ethan Barnhardt who is one of our summer interns. He has worked hard to put together a policy briefing for Council on Tobacco 21. This is a summary of what the city of Columbus as well as a number of other suburbs have done related to regulating the sale of tobacco to individuals under the age of 21. Staff would like for members to review this

- during the August recess and provide feedback if you are interested in hearing more on the subject. Staff has met with Columbus Public Health but we would invite them into the forum to brief members in more detail.
- 2) He announced that with the help of Ethan and Abbey (our two summer interns) and others on staff we are finalizing the details, strategies and schedule for a Citizen Academy, which was talked about by Council as a community engagement and outreach initiative. We are anticipating that it will be announced during recess. We are looking at an eight week program between late September and mid-November. It will engage citizens on the broader city government but much like what our Police Citizens Academy has accomplished in terms of sharing information about how they do business.
  - 3) Mr. Greeson recently participated in a blog about wayfinding that he hopes members saw. They can expect more of those as we move forward on various issues.
  - 4) The SR-161 Advisory Committee will meet this Wednesday (July 19<sup>th</sup>). They are at an important juncture. The public meeting was held a little over a month ago at TWHS. Then there was a 30 day input period. The committee will receive a report on the public input that was provided. The consultants will be honing their recommendations and then asking the advisory committee for feedback. Based on what is being shared with him, we expect the issues to be one of the ones members heard a week ago about the merge lane, different opinions on how best to accommodate bike and pedestrians and probably a conversation about the underpass. Staff will provide all of the materials to members as they come out and try to summarize the advisory committee's conversation.

## REPORTS OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

*Mr. Norstrom noted that members received a copy of a letter Mr. Brown had received previously from Clare Brock regarding sidewalks on Crandall Dr. He is trying to remember where we left that. The discussion was whether our sidewalk policy is effective since it has never been used or is there another way to do it. He can't remember where this stands. Mr. Greeson believes there were proposals for amendments that did not get adopted.*

*Mr. Smith reported that the proposal was his although it was actually a concept. He thinks where we left it was nowhere. If members are interested in pursuing something again, he thinks he has had enough time to sit on it and possibly figure out a better approach. He would be happy to bring that back up.*

*Mr. Norstrom shared that he is not advocating that we change the proposal at this point in time. There are many streets in our community that do not have sidewalks. He has been an advocate of trying to find a priority of why we should have sidewalks. But he doesn't want this letter just to sit here without some sort of response. We understand the safety concerns on that street but we also had advocates for and against sidewalks in that neighborhood. The neighborhood needs to come together and come to Council before any action at this point. Ms. Michael recalls the neighborhood being fully divided at this*

time. She agrees that a response should be provided and asked that a copy be forwarded to Council members prior to it going out. She asked that it not take too much time because this family is very upset.

Mr. Foust acknowledged this community as being divided. We have seen a week apart the pros and the cons and whatever in recent times. He thinks for members to wait for that group to come together in some fashion means no action anytime in the next decade. He would like to see members do something a little more proactive. In that regard he could use some education at a future date but as he was looking at that letter it occurred to him that he has a sidewalk in front of his home. The house was built in 1966. He is the second owner for the last twenty five years. He asked who paid for that sidewalk. If it was absorbed by the builder which meant the cost was passed to the original owner and then somehow baked into the cost that he paid for that house that is a different story than other ways it might have been funded. As members think about what to do with this and if we decide to make a decision as a Council rather than waiting for this group to come together then he wants to make sure that what members do is fair to everybody (those who have sidewalks, those who don't, those who pay for them someday in the future and those who paid for them in the past). We need to think this through in terms of pure economics aside from safety issues.

Mr. Greeson reported that staff has written memos on this subject of what Council can currently and legally do. There have been proposals to change that but we will draw those back out to inform this discussion.

Mr. Greeson added that Mr. Foust's sidewalk was probably a requirement of the developer. The original owner paid for it baked into the pro-forma of the overall development. Then Mr. Foust paid for it arguably in terms of the maintenance of it over time.

Mr. Foust asked if it also affects the tax value of his home. If his home didn't have those sidewalks would it be taxed a lower amount than it is. Mr. Norstrom stated that the tax would be the same amount whether you had a sidewalk or not. The value of your house may or may not be higher because of the sidewalk. Mr. Greeson thinks it is hard to look at it on an individual house basis.

Mr. Norstrom shared that the other thing members need to think about is that some residents on this street said they moved there because it didn't have a sidewalk. We also have residents who clearly moved there without a sidewalk and ignored the safety concerns. He added that those people who do not understand our sidewalk policy or are uninformed, he is not sure how many dollars we would spend to explain it and it still wouldn't be understood especially by new people coming into the community.

Mr. Greeson thinks there is research, not Worthington specific, that the more walkable the community the higher value it is. Ms. Michael reported that the County Auditor is currently re-appraising properties. She is sure they take that into consideration during that process.

*Mr. Foust shared that if he had his way we would have sidewalks everywhere but he asked if it is possible to build them at some point and rather than assess them in the moment they are constructed, somehow bake them into future taxes on that property. He would like to explore all of the options. Mr. Greeson commented that staff can put some hypotheticals together.*

*Mr. Greeson added that he would like to see Mr. Smith's new ideas. He thinks it would be helpful at some point for staff and the Bike and Pedestrian Advisory Committee to understand what Council members want their role to be because we have also called upon them to prioritize some of these areas. For instance, we are working on the Old Worthington mobility study, which he thinks some of the consultants draft work has been sent to members and some of that work as it is involved will identify gaps and priorities in areas where sidewalks could be beneficial for the safety of pedestrians. Ultimately it is a "which area" is a priority and then how do you want to attack it, whether by assessment or share or outright funding.*

*Mr. Norstrom recalls Evening St. residents as being the most successful in getting sidewalks because of the elementary kids. Mr. Greeson believes Mr. Watterson would tell the story of that decision being hotly contested. Ms. Michael agreed. Mr. Norstrom said he understands but ultimately it did happen.*

*Mr. Greeson believes it was a benefit to the community. It didn't have unanimity but he believes that was an assessment that the City contributed to. Staff will get that information to members during recess and work with Mr. Smith to make sure his information is included.*

*Mr. Myers reported that last week on the MPC/ARB agenda there were really just two notable things and Mr. Brown has already reported on one of them. The other was on changes to the Masonic Lodge development. The New England parcel had what he believes are changes for the good in that the structure will be changed from a condominium to a single family home. It goes from 6,000 sq. ft. to 4,000 sq. ft. and adds some green space. When Mr. Norstrom commented that the application was not passed, Mr. Myers added that there are a few architectural tweaks that need done because the west face being visible from High St. needs a little more prominence.*

*Ms. Dorothy reported being at that meeting. There were not many people in attendance either for or against so there wasn't a lot of interest. She doesn't know if it was because we didn't make it prominent enough or what not so she took it as people being fairly satisfied with what was proposed.*

*Ms. Michael reported there being a CIC meeting tomorrow morning. She hopes they will be moving on some things with the Kilbourne Memorial building. She added that she has received numerous positive comments on the wayfinding signs. They wanted her to thank those responsible.*

*Mr. Greeson asked to give some staff compliments publically. One is to Mr. Brown who made it his personal mission to make sure the signs look good and are done right. To Mr. Whited and his staff because he believes that every one of those post that went into the ground by the contractor did not hit a utility, which is a miracle.*

*Ms. Michael asked if the sign on one corner of the I-270 / US-23 bridge will be repeated on the other three corners. Mr. Greeson replied yes. That one is a sample that staff wanted to look at first before added the others.*

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

## **ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION** Mr. Myers made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:44 p.m. The motion was seconded by Mr. Norstrom.

**The motion carried unanimously by a voice vote.**

President Michael declared the meeting adjourned and wished everyone a happy summer break.

/s/ D. Kay Thress  
Clerk of Council

*APPROVED by the City Council, this  
5<sup>th</sup> day of September 2017.*

/s/ Bonnie D. Michael  
Council President



RESOLUTION 2-2017

Expressing Appreciation and Best Wishes of the  
 Cemetery Board of Trustees to  
 Pamela A. Fox for her Outstanding Service

Whereas, the Cemetery Board of Trustees desire to recognize the service of Pamela A. Fox, Director of Law, City of Worthington, for her tireless commitment to the community, the City of Worthington and the counsel for our Board; and,

Whereas, Pam’s exceptional legal career in the public and private practice is well recognized in the legal community; and,

Whereas, Pam has been a strong member of the Worthington and Sharon Township community; and,

Whereas, the Board has had several legal issues that could not be resolved without strong support from legal counsel and Pam provided the requisite skill and ability to fully support the Board; and

Whereas Pam's effort on behalf of the Cemetery has helped make our organization strong and effective; and

Therefore, let it be recognized that the Board

1. Wishes Pam great success and fulfillment in her retirement; and,
2. Thanks Pam for her friendship and partnership to help our organization; and,
3. That resident pricing will be preserved for her to the end of her retirement. 😊

Adopted July 12, 2017

Attest

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Cemetery Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Chair

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Trustee

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Trustee