

**Rittman City Council Met in a  
REGULAR MEETING  
August 12, 2019  
7:00 p.m.**

**Members Present:** Brian Smith, Josh Carey, Philip Decker, Dave Williams and Leah Weirick  
**Members Absent:** None  
**Presiding:** Mayor William Robertson

The invocation was given by Pastor Bud Olszewski, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Approval of Minutes – July 8, 2019.**

Williams moved to approved, all Yeas upon roll call and **motion carried.**

**Approval of Minutes – July 31, 2019 Special Meeting.**

Carey moved to approved, all Yeas upon roll call and **motion carried.**

**Citizens Forum**

Stephen Nicewander – 347 Villa Street. Mr. Nicewander attended to voice concerns about the noise ordinance. He states that Republic Waste Management is picking up dumpsters near him at 4:00 a.m. – 5:00 a.m. He stated that they wake him up every Monday and Friday and wants to know if there is something the City can do about it.

Ron Tisher - 294 Winkler Drive. Mr. Tisher attended the Council Meeting to voice his concerns regarding property maintenance, or the lack of. Mr. Tisher stated that he is also on the Board of Zoning. It was his understanding that a police officer was hired full time to take over this position when the previous property maintenance employee resigned. At this point there is no initiative to issuing citations. All citations are complaint driven. Enforcement is not happening.

**Old Business**

**None**

**New Business**

**a. Presentation from U.S. Census 2020** – Jamie Johnson attended to give a presentation about the 2020 U.S. Census.

**b. Update on SAFER Grant** – Andy Baillis, Recruitment and Retention Coordinator, presented a report on the status of the SAFER Grant.

**c. Motion to Remove Resolution No. 8115 and Ordinance 8116 from the Table.** Weirick moved to approve, all Yeas on roll call and **motion carried.**

Pam Keener explained that the next three were hers. Chief Sweigert applied for a grant for the self-contained breathing apparatus which is about \$200,000.00. We are still waiting at this point to find out whether or not we are awarded the grant. That's promising because we have not gotten rejection letters. However, his SCBA's are out of date so we had to get them ordered this month. We were going to lease them, then when we were awarded the grant, we would pay off the lease. There is a 3% penalty for early

payoff. The capital project is going to upfront the money for the SCBA's, but in the meantime we are hoping that we will still get the grant then we will reimburse the general fund with the grant proceeds. However, if we don't get the award we are still going to go after the lease or financing and that's what the first legislation is, that the IRS requires. If we are going to reimburse our self for out of pocket expenses, we have to pass this legislation for the tax-exempt financing.

d. **Res. No. 8124 A Resolution of the Council of the City of Rittman, Wayne and Medina Counties and State of Ohio, Authorizing Declarations of Official Intent Under U.S. Treasury Regulations with Respect to Reimbursements from Proceeds of Bonds, Notes or Other Obligations of Temporary Advances Made for Payments Prior to Issuance, and Related Matters. Three Readings.** Res. No. 8124 was read on first reading. Williams moved to suspend the rules, all Yeas upon roll and **motion carried.** Smith moved to adopt. William stated that this is a big purchase of essential equipment for your safety. Was this something that was in a bigger plan? Keener advised that it was in the Capital Plan. All Yes upon roll and **motion carried.**

e. **Ord. No. 8125 An Ordinance of the Council of the City of Rittman, Wayne and Medina Counties and State of Ohio, Amending the Annual Appropriation Ordinance No. 8081, as Amended According to the Attached Sheet(s) and Declaring an Emergency. Three Readings.** Ord. No. 8125 was read on first reading. Smith moved to suspend the rules, all Yeas upon roll and **motion carried.** Weirick moved to adopt, all Yes upon roll and **motion carried.**

f. **Res. No. 8127 A Resolution of the Council of the City of Rittman, Wayne and Medina Counties and State of Ohio, Authorizing the Finance Director to Make Advances and/or Transfers to or From Appropriate Accounts. Three Readings.** Res. No. 8127 was read on first reading. Carey moved to suspend the rules, all Yeas upon roll and **motion carried.** Smith moved to adopt, all Yes upon roll and **motion carried.** Keener advised the \$11,000.00 was the membership contribution for Wayne Economic Counsel. We had actually been in AMATS before but our membership had lapsed, it had been a couple of years since we have been in it. Feuerstein responded we were in it in 2012. Williams stated that he was going to stir the pot, and asked what has Wayne Economical Council done for Rittman? Feuerstein responded that they have actually been very involved. They assisted with the Opportunity Zone as designation, they assisted me in applying for that and we received that. They are looking to do a market study for our Opportunity Zone.

g. **Res. No. 8128 A Resolution of the Council of the City of Rittman, Wayne and Medina Counties and State of Ohio, Determining that Lot Number 4 Owned by the City of Rittman is no Longer Needed for Municipal Purposes and Authorizing the Municipal Manager to Solicit Bids for its Sale as Required by Law. Three Readings.** Res. No. 8128 was read on first reading. Weirick moved to suspend the rules, all Yeas upon roll and **motion carried.** Weirick moved to adopt, all Yes upon roll and **motion carried.**

h. **Ord. No. 8129 An Ordinance of the Council of the City of Rittman, Wayne and Medina Counties and State of Ohio, Amending Section 945.09 (B) Base Rate, of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Rittman. First Reading.** Ord. No. 8129 was read on first reading. Weirick moved to place on second, all Yeas on roll call and **motion carried.**

i. **Res. No. 8130 A Resolution of the Council of the City of Rittman, Wayne and Medina Counties and State of Ohio, Authorizing the Municipal Manager to Submit an Application to Participate in the Ohio Public Works Commission State Capital Improvement and/or Local Transportation**

**Improvement Program(s) and to Execute Contracts Pertaining Thereto as Required for the Purpose of Storm Water Improvement on Grandview Boulevard from Metzger Avenue to Sterling Avenue and Declaring an Emergency. Three Readings.** Res. No. 8130 was read on first reading. Weirick moved to suspend the rules, all Yeas upon roll and **motion carried.** Smith moved to adopt, all Yes upon roll and **motion carried.**

j. **Res. No. 8131 A Resolution of the Council of the City of Rittman, Wayne and Medina Counties and State of Ohio, Authorizing the Municipal Manager to Submit an Application to Participate in the Ohio Public Works Commission State Capital Improvement and/or Local Transportation Improvement Program(s) and to Execute Contracts Pertaining Thereto as Required for the Purpose of the Rehabilitation of Sterling Avenue from Main Street to City Corporation Limits and Erie Street from Sterling Avenue to Main Street and Declaring an Emergency. Three Readings.** Res. No. 8131 was read on first reading. Decker moved to suspend the rules, all Yeas upon roll and **motion carried.** Williams moved to adopt. Williams inquired if there is there a prioritization of roads or is it grant driven or of the traffic levels of roads? Feuerstein replied that there are a number of roads, but Sterling is one that we receive a lot of calls about. It's a road that takes people in and out of the City. Williams inquired if this will be milled down and put new asphalt? Feuerstein replied that it would be milled with new asphalt. Williams inquired if the citizens come to them as Council members, and they say they are paying .10 more per gallon for gas and I'm going to be assessed for this. How can we explain that to them? Feuerstein replied that infrastructure needs are expensive. The amount of money, we are trying to get a grant. If we assess something, the whole project as we have done previous streets before, I know Council's goal is trying to get away from that. I'm looking for more grants. I am trying to be creative with the dollars we receive. We are not getting a huge increase from the State. The dollars that we would spend on the road would mainly go for that road and we wouldn't have anything else for the rest of the City. So, it's us trying to spread as much as wealth as we got from the State, trying to find other ways to make the dollar stretch. That's the best answer I can give. Williams also stated that there is a small culvert between Ganyard and Grandview. For a couple years now there has been barrels with police tape across it to protect people from falling off the sidewalk. Is that a part of the project? Feuerstein replied that the service department is working on that right now. That will be fixed before we get to that project. Decker inquired about the rehabilitation of Sterling Avenue and Grandview's system being redone as a resident of that neighborhood I have seen more often than not the storm water system on Sterling Avenue itself also needing to be addressed. It appears that fixing the problem on Ganyard is good, but that only adds more water to an already overloaded system at the bottom of the hill. The stormwater on Sterling Avenue never gets into the system. I can watch from my house water coming out of the system and the water along the road never going into the culvert that is in my front yard. I am just curious if fixing Grandview doesn't actually create some potentially bigger problems under Sterling Avenue that we're going to be fixing? Feuerstein responded that last year when we had the heavy storm around Tax Day 2018, I had asked Palmer Engineering to conduct a study Sterling Avenue to find out what is causing a lot of it. When Palmer Engineering studied Sterling, they saw the problem was mainly coming from Grandview. The size of the system on Grandview is not large enough to handle the water. The waters don't get into Grandview. So, they rush down Grandview and hit Sterling. The goal is if we expand Grandview that water will finally make it into the system. You won't have as much runoff, so you won't have all the surface waters hitting at the same point. Putting them where they are supposed to be designed and put in. I've asked Palmer Engineering and they gave me a report on the study that they did. They assured me that this is how you fix Sterling. Decker stated that last year this Council worked on approving the purchase of equipment for us to begin doing our own roads. Where does that come into play at some point and we're shelling out funds for paving. Feuerstein stated that for a

project like Sterling, I don't think that our crew is ready yet for that type of project. We are trying to buy a trailer to finish the last part of the paver as well. We also hope to use that to try to repave some of the parking lot at Fritz to try to give ourselves some training. We thought we had a trailer being purchased back in May and the company has not really gotten back to us. The goal is that we have AMATS we have OPWC those would be where I would look at for our bigger streets or bigger avenues. Sterling, N. Main, Ohio, Sunset. Those that would require the expertise of more of a true paving company. Then the paver if we use that, that could be set aside then to do our side streets. All Yes upon roll and **motion carried.**

### **City Manager's Remarks**

Stated he wanted to commend the work that Amanda Nelson, Chief Sweigert and the rest of the committee for the Sleepwalker. We don't hear any complaints about the festival, that 's always a good thing because we always hear the negative. The fact that everyone had a good time and the parade was fantastic.

### **Finance Director's Remarks**

Stated she emailed notifications that the Audit was officially released today.

a. **Approval of Financial Report for July, 2019.** Weirick moved to approve, all Yeas on roll call and **motion carried.**

### **Council Remarks**

Carey – thank everybody for coming out today. Mr. Tisher, I fully echo your concerns on some of those things. Your comments are not falling on deaf ears.

Williams – thanks Mr. Johnson for presenting the importance of the Census for our City and how it pertains to us. I'd like to thank the two gentlemen from the City who brought their concerns forward. Along with Mr. Tisher, I echo that. I have a property about 150 yards west of my house that's not been taken care of for six years. It encroaches the street, there's pot holes everywhere. You can't see the stop sign, its on a hill, it's a disaster waiting to happen, it's an accident waiting to happen. There are kids in the neighborhood, including my own. Quite frankly, I'm tired of it, and I wish we would do something about it. I believe the landlord is from the Wadsworth area. I think we need to be very aggressive. It's not just an eyesore, but it's community hazard. Six years has been way too long to address this issue. I'd like to thank Andy for his comprehensive report. It's good to be informed with how we are growing the department and how we are taking care of our citizens. Thanks everybody else for coming out.

Weirick – nothing further.

Smith – It's always hard to follow Dave because he covers everything. It's nice to see Mr. Carey sitting here.

Decker – thanks Mr. Johnson for your presentation, the information, counting people, sounds like fun. Mr. Nicewander hearing that twice a week, I'm sorry for that. We will look into how we can address this. Hopefully we can come to some kind of resolution. As for how we are addressing property maintenance issues, I brought a concern to the City Manager myself this week. Mr. William's you brought a number of them to our attention this week as well. We see it and it would be really great especially in the summer when we have the school resource officer who is not at the school. Those were hours were back into the force that hopefully would have been able to free up the officer to address some of these issues. I hope that we don't lax further as we address these things. It might be time that we re-address having a complaint-based system. If laws are meant to be enforced, we shouldn't wait for somebody to complain to enforce them. As far as this grant for the breathing apparatus, it would be good to know one way or the other as soon as we know. Are we going with the leased, we get the grant rather than waiting until the next meeting or whenever to find out. It would be good to know that.

Mayor Robertson – stated that some are dressed more casually than normal. Today was the Chamber Golf outing. Amanda Nelson stated that there were 60 players. The Mayor stated that it was a real nice turnout. Thanks to the Chamber for putting on events like that.

a. **Approval of June Voucher #'s 10309 thru 10457 and Memo Expense #'s M61922 thru M71918.** Weirick moved to approve, all Yeas on roll call and **motion carried.**

**Adjourn: - 8:22 p.m.** Williams moved to adjourn, all Yeas on roll call and **motion carried.**

---

**Mayor**

---

**Clerk of Council**