

**Rittman City Council Met in a
REGULAR MEETING
Monday, February 28, 2022
7:00 p.m.**

Members Present: Josh Carey, Chuck Wyatt, Ken Park, Amanda Nelson, Dave Williams and Melissa Shows

Members Absent: None

Presiding: Mayor William Robertson

The invocation was given by Dave Williams followed by the pledge of allegiance.

Approval of Minutes – February 14, 2022

Williams so moved, all Yeas on roll call and **motion carried.**

Workshop

a. **Shared Staffing with Sterling Fire Department.** Discussion was held regarding shared staffing with Sterling Fire Department. Sterling FD does not have a medic at this time. With them not having a medic they cannot carry any medic drugs on their squads. Most of these drugs would be for cardiac treatment. With Rittman staffing a medic to Sterling they would be able to continue to service their community. Rittman can provide a medic who when not on a call with Sterling will be able to continue to work virtually for the city. Only when they would be called out would they be working for Sterling. This also benefits Rittman if they would need to call Sterling for a mutual aid call.

Citizens Forum

None

Old Business

a. **Ord. No. 8267 An Ordinance of the Council of the City of Rittman, Wayne and Medina Counties and State of Ohio, Amending Section 735.06(b) License Issuance, Effective Period; Fee and 735.08 License Revocation of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Rittman. Third Reading.** Ord. No. 8267 was read on third reading. Shows moved to adopt, all Yeas on roll call and **motion carried.**

New Business

a. **Ord. No. 8277 An Ordinance of the Council of the City of Rittman, Wayne and Medina Counties and State of Ohio, Authorizing the Municipal Manager to Purchase a New Holland TS6, 110 Tractor and an Alamo Machete3 Boom Mower and Related Equipment from Akron Tractor and Equipment inc., of Akron, Ohio for a Sum not to Exceed \$134,000.00 Pursuant to the Ohio Cooperative Purchasing Act and Declaring an Emergency. Three Readings.** Ord. No. 8277 was read on first reading. Nelson moved to suspend the rules. Williams inquired if it was an emergency and was it needed right away? Lengacher stated that this has been on the capital plan since last fall. The company has one that will be available at the end of April. We need to order it now. All Yeas on roll call and **motion carried.** Nelson moved to adopt all Yeas on roll call and **motion carried.**

b. **Ord. No. 8278 An Ordinance of the Council of the City of Rittman, Wayne and Medina Counties and State of Ohio, Declaring it Necessary to Improve Eastern Road from Gish Road to Rufener Street by Planing and Milling the Existing Surface, and Installing a New Asphalt Surface, all Together with the Necessary Appurtenances thereto and Declaring an Emergency. Three Readings.** Ord. No. 8278 was read on first reading. Carey moved to suspend the rules, all Yeas on roll call and **motion carried**. Shows moved to adopt. Beshara stated that the project cost is \$483,000 with 80% funding. The 20% is \$88,000.00 and half of that will be assessed to the land owners. Some of the land owners are in Milton Township so we cannot assess them. All Yeas on roll call and **motion carried**.

c. **Ord. No. 8279 An Ordinance of the Council of the City of Rittman, Wayne and Medina Counties and State of Ohio, Authorizing the Municipal Manager to Solicit Bids for Street Improvement of Eastern Road from Gish Road to Rufener Street and Declaring an Emergency. Three Readings.** Ord. No. 8279 was read on first reading. Shows moved to suspend the rules, all Yeas on roll call and **motion carried**. Williams moved to adopt, all Yeas on roll call and **motion carried**.

d. **Ord. No. 8280 An Ordinance of the Council of the City of Rittman, Wayne and Medina Counties and State of Ohio, Amending Section 107.02(a) Bidding Provisions of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Rittman and Declaring an Emergency. Three Readings.** Ord. No. 8280 was read on first reading. Carey moved to suspend the rules, all Yeas on roll call and **motion carried**. Wyatt moved to adopt. Beshara stated that this allows to have electronic bidding if desired. It also helps safeguard against transpositional errors. All Yeas on roll call and **motion carried**.

City Manager Remarks

Virtual meetings. Governor DeWine signed HB 51 into law enabling public bodies to once again meet through virtual meetings. For our new Council members, the Governor signed a similar law enabling public entities to conduct business through the pandemic. This law is in effect until July 1, 2022.

Eastern Road resurfacing project. We are very pleased that our next road resurfacing project is going out to bid. This is another project where we applied for a grant and received 80% funding through AMATS. This resurfacing is scheduled for a 2022 completion.

Legislation amending Section 107.02(a) explained. The city recently has been given the opportunity to have bids submitted electronically and opened, publicly, but electronically through a company call BidExpress. There is no additional change for this service. Our Law Director amended the language in this section to allow for this additional method of submitting and opening bids. Many bid openings, will still be done in person. This process is acceptable for federally funded projects and currently being used by ODOT. ODOT offered this as something to be used by local entities as a convenience and also this process can provide more accurate bid openings.

RFQ-Wastewater Treatment Plant engineering. A Request for Qualifications is posted on our website through the end of March. This will enable engineering firms to have an opportunity to submit their qualifications to the city for the WW Treatment Plant project.

Service Department update. The Service Department will be hiring a new Maintenance Technician with a focus on Storm Water projects. The city imposed storm water fees in 2016 and increased fees in 2019 so that more of an emphasis could be placed on rehabilitating our storm water catch basins, replacing lines, jetting of the lines, etc. in a timely manner. This employee will still be assigned other duties such as snow plowing, help with street projects, etc. but again, their main job will be storm water. Chuck Lengacher,

Buck Rediger, Matt Bulp and I worked through the logistics and the job description is under review by AFSCME.

Finance Director's Remarks

I'd like to put out a reminder that we are still receiving income tax filings at the city. We have to divert them over to RITA which is time consuming and also with the current mailing time they may not get to RITA in a timely basis. It could be late getting to RITA. We have posted on Facebook a reminder to file through RITA. Do not drop income tax at City Hall or mail to the city. If you call RITA they will walk you through the filing over the phone.

Council Remarks

Williams – I want to thank Casey for volunteering for this and your good attitude. Thanks for taking the position for the Recruitment Retention Officer. I think you are a good fit for the program. Thank you.

Nelson – the State of the City Address and the Chamber Award Banquet is April 27 at White Timbers Winery. Hopefully we will see everyone there.

Park – nothing tonight.

Wyatt – nothing tonight.

Carey – I want to say thank you to our road crews for yet again for the great job they have been doing. I saw them out the other day before the ice storm being proactive getting ahead of things. Things have been a lot better here from the roads that I have been driving on compared to the other cities I drive through. Thank you for keeping us all safe.

Shows – thank the crews for the salt trucks keeping our kids in school, no snow days here. It is appreciated. I want to thank Chief Sweigert and his staff, Casey specifically in working on this and bringing it to Council. The administration brought it to my attention a month or so ago to discuss; it is a great opportunity for both communities. A reminder of community events, I saw April 9 is the breakfast with the bunny at the Fire Department. The pancake breakfast with the sausages that everybody loves. I saw that April 16 the Chamber basket give away is still happening again this year.

a. **Motion to go Into Executive Session to consider the Compensation of a Public Employee and to invite the Mayor and Law Director - 7:39.** Shows so moved. Wyatt seconded the motion, all Yeas on roll call and motion carried.

b. **Motion to come out of Executive Session - 8:26.** Nelson so moved, all Yeas on roll call and motion carried.

Adjourn: 8:27 p.m. Nelson moved to adjourn, all Yeas on roll call and motion carried.

Mayor

Clerk of Council