

**Rittman City Council Met in a  
PUBLIC HEARING  
July 13, 2020  
7:00 p.m.**

**2020 Tax Budget Hearing**

Discussion was had regarding the tax revenue due to Covid and residents not working. The Finance Director responded that revenue was down about 25% in June, however this is due to the filing deadline being extended this year. Withholding is doing well, but still a little behind. Conservatively we are behind where we were last year. Also discussed if Rittman had any indicators that Rittman could be in financial trouble. Revenue sources are being reviewed very critically to allow us to be competitive. There are so many items that can be cut. We are certainly not in a fiscal emergency or in imminent danger. Also discussed was the carryover balance and why the carryover can't be used or applied to other funds.

**Rittman City Council Met in a  
REGULAR MEETING  
July 13, 2020  
7:12 p.m.**

**Members Present:** Melissa Shows, Amanda Nelson, Josh Carey, Philip Decker, Dave Williams and Leah Weirick  
**Members Absent:** None  
**Presiding:** Mayor William Robertson

The invocation was given by Philip Decker, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Approval of Minutes – May 28, 2020 - Amended.**

Williams moved to approve. The amendment included that an issue with a potential discrepancy with the payroll process early on during the Coronavirus Pandemic. The discrepancy in scheduling hours worked was handled immediately with the effected departments. We will continue to monitor to ensure that there are no further issues. All Yeas upon roll call and motion carried.

**Approval of Minutes – June 8, 2020.**

Nelson moved to approve. It was brought to attention that there was an error in the language. Motion to approve as amended, all Yeas upon roll call and motion carried.

**Citizens Forum**

Gene Morris, 3596 Greenwich Road, Seville, Ohio, owner of Jarvis Septic and Drain. Mr. Morris attended the meeting to voice his concerns regarding the septage receiving plant closing to dumping his sludge waste. He stated that he has been doing business with the City for approximately five years since they opened the waste water treatment plant to septic disposal. Mr. Jarvis stated that he sent everyone on Council an email regarding this. It is his understanding that the program was receiving money for the City. He would like Council to take into consideration his concerns and to reopen the plant.

Don Sweigert and Cali Reeves, Rittman Chamber of Commerce. Stated that there is not going to be a Sleepwalker Festival this year. However, the City is still allowing yard sales without a permit to go on. Chamber would like to have a food and music event on Saturday, July 25 at the First Street Park. The park offers a lot of space. There is approximately 11 acres where people can socially distance. Also, would like to bring food

trucks in that are all self-contained. They would just be there for that day. There is also a safety plan in place. Chamber would like the City's approval to hold this event in the park. City Manager Beshara stated she had several concerns about holding this event. Mayor Robertson suggested that perhaps a vote on this matter should be taken. Law Director Simpson stated that a simple motion be made at the appropriate time.

Todd Supeck – 6407 Norwalk Road, Medina, owner of Supeck Septic Services. Mr. Supeck also attended to voice his concerns regarding the septage receiving plant closing.

Mike Brown – Utilities Director – stated that with the SRS concerns, he would like to invite Council members to contact him, if they would like to tour the facility to see why it was closed. The invite was also extended to Gene and Todd.

### **Old Business**

a. **Ord. No. 8176 An Ordinance of the Council of the City of Rittman, Wayne and Medina Counties and State of Ohio, Amending Section 171.197 Compensatory Time of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Rittman. Second and Third Reading.** Decker moved to suspend the rules, all Yeas upon roll and **motion carried**. Weirick moved to adopt. Discussion was had on if there were any time limitations or cap out and carryover year to year. Compensatory time will be treated the way it was previous. All Yes upon roll and **motion carried**.

### **New Business**

a. **Motion to Approve the 2021 Tax Budget.** Weirick moved to approve, all Yeas on roll call and **motion carried**.

b. **Motion to Support the Chamber's Wishes to use Ashton Hall Memorial Park on Saturday, July 25, 2020 for Concerts and Self-Contained Food Trucks and to Follow County Guidelines.** Weirick moved to approve. Chamber advised that they would be responsible for any crowd control and clean up. Chamber also stated that they will have portable restrooms available. City Manager Beshara had concerns about people congregating together for several hours. Discussion was also held regarding the continuation of the event if the County was elevated to a Level 3. It was stated that all County recommendations would be followed. Also discussed was the liability, if any, to the City. Law Director Simson advised that it was hard to pin liability on a city, this is not a city sponsored event. Council requested a copy of the safety plan Chamber had drafted. It was also noted that the safety plan would be discussed with the County Health Department after approval by Council to hold the event. City Manager Beshara requested that she be included in the discussion on finalizing the rules of safety. Upon roll call Decker – Yes, Weirick – Yes, Nelson – Abstain, Williams – Yes, Shows – Yes, Carey – Yes and **motion carried**.

c. **Ord. No. 8175 An Ordinance of the Council of the City of Rittman, Wayne and Medina Counties and State of Ohio, Amending the Annual Appropriation Ordinance No. 8141, as Amended According to the Attached Sheets(s) and Declaring an Emergency. Three Readings.** Ord. No. 8175 was read on first reading. Carey moved to suspend the rules, All Yeas upon roll and **motion carried**. Williams moved to adopt, all Yes upon roll and **motion carried**.

d. **Ord. No. 8177 An Ordinance of the Council of the City of Rittman, Wayne and Medina Counties and State of Ohio, Authorizing the Municipal Manager to Enter into a Contract with Kimble Recycling & Disposal, Inc., of Dover, Ohio and Declaring an Emergency. Three Readings.** Ord. No. 8177 was read on first reading. Nelson moved to suspend the rules, All Yeas upon roll and **motion carried**. Weirick moved to adopt. It was stated that recycling will now be every week. It will be a five-year contract. Discussion was had about customer care and handling complaints. Kris handles the complaints and passes them along to Kimble. The day of the week has not changed for

collection. Discussion was also had on how Kimble leaves debris along the roadway after emptying the cans. Kimble has also been made aware of this issue and are correcting the issue. It is also a driver by driver issue. Some are very good. All Yes upon roll and **motion carried**.

e. **Res. No. 8178 A Resolution of the Council of the City of Rittman, Wayne and Medina Counties and State of Ohio, Authorizing the Municipal Manager to Accept Funds as Provided in the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act in House Bill 481 and Declaring an Emergency. Three Readings.** Res. No. 8178 was read on first reading. Carey moved to suspend the rules, All Yeas upon roll and **motion carried**. Williams moved to adopt, all Yes upon roll and **motion carried**.

f. **Res. No. 8179 A Resolution of the Council of the City of Rittman, Wayne and Medina Counties and State of Ohio, Authorizing the Finance Director to Create the Coronavirus Relief Fund and Declaring an Emergency. Three Readings.** Res. No. 8179 was read on first reading. Weirick moved to suspend the rules, All Yeas upon roll and **motion carried**. Weirick moved to adopt. It was stated that this money is at the County. The County received 1.6 million dollars. The County believes that they will keep about a half of million. The communities will receive a disbursement. All of the Directors and Chiefs are keeping track of money spent regarding Corona Virus. Right now, we are keeping track of everything including hours worked for our first responders, including when somebody goes home because there might be someone in their family is being tested and they have to use emergency FMLA. If money goes back to the county can we earmark that the money will be used for a small business in Rittman? This is in the beginning stages and it can be looked into. Other communities cannot find enough items to buy to use all of the funds available. It is unlikely that Rittman will be able to. All Yes upon roll and **motion carried**.

g. **Ord. No. 8180 An Ordinance of the Council of the City of Rittman, Wayne and Medina Counties and State of Ohio, Amending Section 1301.57 Notice of Meeting of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Rittman and Declaring an Emergency. Three Readings.** Ord. No. 8180 was read on first reading. Williams moved to suspend the rules, All Yeas upon roll and **motion carried**. Nelson moved to adopt. We are changing section one from \$50.00 to \$100.00 for the Board of Zoning Appeals. This Ordinance is to keep consistent with all other Ordinances. All Yes upon roll and **motion carried**.

h. **Res. No. 8181 A Resolution of the Council of the City of Rittman, Wayne and Medina Counties and State of Ohio, Declaring it Necessary to Improve Seneca Street from Ohio Avenue to Grant Street by Planing and Milling the Existing Surface, and Installing a New Asphalt Surface, all Together with the Necessary Appurtenance Thereto and Declaring an Emergency. Three Readings.** Res. No. 8181 was read on first reading. Shows moved to suspend the rules, Discussion was had regarding getting resident input and listening to their concerns. It was stated that this is resolution is just stating the necessity to improve the street. The next step is to send the homeowners a certified letter with the estimated cost. They then have the opportunity to appeal this issue and attend a meeting of the Equalization Board. All Yeas upon roll and **motion carried**. Weirick moved to adopt. Discussion was had regarding estimates and costs of all of the streets that need repair. Seneca is the only one we will be able to do this year. Also discussed was the percentage that was assessed to the homeowner. All Yes upon roll and **motion carried**.

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

City Manager Beshara stated that she is continuing with Cares Act Zoom meetings and will continue to see what can be done with those dollars. Corona Virus numbers are going up. We are being very careful with our employees; with the vehicles we are cleaning everything. Everyone is wearing masks. We are not allowing anyone in the

building. Monitoring of employees will continue, not just physical health, but mental health as well. This is a very difficult on everyone.

The Mayor has taken 68 groups out to the Nature Preserve. This is moving forward. Hopefully there will be access off of Route 57. There is a meeting to tomorrow with ODOT and are hopeful that access off of Route 57 into Project Area 1.

We are looking at user fees for water and sewer fee to see if they need to be increased.

There was a meeting with Muskingum Watershed to discuss Chip Creek and the flooding. They have been working on a flood plain project for the last year. We should get that report hopefully by the end of the year. They will be coming out for a tour.

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

Finance Director Bubp stated nothing further to add that hasn't already been talked about.

a. **Approval of Financial Report for May, 2020.** Weirick moved to approve, all Yeas on roll call and **motion carried.**

b. **Approval of Financial Report for June, 2020.** Carey moved to approve, all Yeas on roll call and **motion carried.**

### **Council Remarks**

Williams – thanked the septic business owners for giving their input and giving their support to our City and the Waste Water Treatment Plant. Also thanked Mike Brown for his leadership and inviting Council out. Perhaps look into what it would take to working with public and private partnership to see viable to come up with a good solution. Also thanked the department heads, Matt, for preparing the tax budget, Kris and Ken for getting trash bids. Amanda for looking at the streets. Despite all of the Covid stuff the City is moving forward.

Carey – echoed what Dave said. Thanked Finance Director Bubp for the work on the budget. Also thanked Mr. Morris and Mr. Supeck for their thoughts tonight.

Nelson – Thanked the Council members for support the Chamber.

Shows – echoed everything, Thanked Mr. Morris and Mr. Supeck for attending and speaking on their behalf. Also thanked Chamber for the work they have put into their event. While there are reservations and concerns, they are trying to do something positive for the community. Thank you for the continued efforts.

Decker – nothing further to add.

Weirick – nothing further, thank you.

a. **Approval Voucher #'s 12471 thru 12580 and Memo Expense #'s 0M62001 thru M62018.** Weirick moved to approve, all Yeas on roll call and **motion carried.**

b. **Motion to go into Executive Session Discuss Pending Litigation with Legal Counsel, for the Purchase and Sale of Public Property and for the Hiring and Firing and Dismissal and Discipline of a Public Employee and to Invite the Mayor, Law Director, Finance Director, City Manager. – 8:44 p.m.** Weirick so moved. Nelson seconded the motion, all Yeas on roll call and **motion carried.**

c. **Motion to Come Out of Executive Session – 9:26 p.m.** Carey so moved, all Yeas on roll call and **motion carried.**

**Adjourn: - 9:27 p.m.** Williams moved to adjourn, all Yeas on roll call and **motion carried.**

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**Mayor**

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**Clerk of Council**