

\*\*\*TO BE PUBLISHED\*\*\*

Minutes for the Woodburn City Council Meeting on October 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2023:

The meeting began at 7:00pm with the Pledge of Allegiance. In attendance was Mayor Kelsey, Superintendent Walls, Chief Parker as well as Council Members Sarrazine, Martin, Gerig, and Watts. Clerk-Treasurer Cummins and Council Member Thompson were not present. Superintendent Walls took notes for the meeting.

Chief's Report: The Chief described a situation where residents on Ash Street have voiced multiple concerns about a dog that is often times not in their yard, not on a leash, and will approach neighbors as they walk down the street. He is currently in contact with the Allen County Animal Control in an effort to resolve this issue. The Chief also discussed, with the Mayor between meetings, raises for his department and mentioned his desire to implement these raises. The extent of these raises and the timeframe to implement them is to be determined.

Superintendent's Report: The Superintendent gave an update on the sewer lift station project that has gone on longer than initially expected. He will reach out to the high school to let them know of the progress of this project. Utility staff will begin leaf pickup next week and will continue as needed.

Mayor's Report: Indiana Michigan Power has been putting up new utility poles throughout the City. Poles that have other utility service connected, specifically Frontier in several cases, are not going to be removed until all service is removed from them first.

Clerk-Treasurer's Report: The meeting minutes were presented from the September 18<sup>th</sup> meeting. After discussion, Councilman Gerig moved to accept the minutes from the September 18<sup>th</sup> meeting as presented, second by Councilwoman Sarrazine, all present in favor except Councilman Martin who abstains. The warrants were presented. After discussion, Councilwoman Sarrazine moved to pay the warrants as presented, second by Councilman Watts, all present in favor. The Clerk-Treasurer had expected to have the final readings of Ordinance 23-1417 (2024 Budget), Ordinance 23-1418 (2024 Elected Salaries), and Ordinance 23-1419 (2024 Appointed Salaries), but due to illness, was not present for the adoption of these Ordinances. Councilman Watts moved to have the final reading of Ordinance 23-1417 by title only, second by Councilwoman Sarrazine, all present in favor. Councilman Watts moved to accept the final reading of Ordinance 23-1417, second by Councilwoman Sarrazine, all present in favor. Councilwoman Sarrazine moved to adopt Ordinance 23-1417, second by Councilman Gerig, all present in favor except Councilman Watts who abstains. Ordinance 23-1417 is ratified as presented. Councilman Watts moved to have the final reading of Ordinance 23-1418 by title only, second by Councilman Gerig, all present in favor. Councilman Gerig moved to accept the final reading of Ordinance 23-1418, second by Councilman Watts, all present in favor. Councilman Watts moved to adopt Ordinance 23-1418, second by Councilwoman Sarrazine, all present in favor. Ordinance 23-1418 is ratified as presented. Councilman Watts moved to have the final reading of Ordinance 23-1419 by title only, second by Councilman Gerig, all present in favor. Councilman Gerig moved to accept the final reading of Ordinance 23-1419, second by Councilman Watts, all present in favor. Councilman Watts moved to adopt Ordinance 23-1419, second by Councilman Gerig, all present in favor. Ordinance 23-1419 is ratified as presented.

Councilmen's Report: An update was prepared for this meeting regarding a resident's previous

arrangement. She had attended a meeting on June 5<sup>th</sup> to discuss a payment plan due to her extenuating circumstances. It has been approximately 4 months with no payments and no follow-up made with City staff regarding this situation. After discussion, Councilman Watts moved to immediately rescind the previous arrangement going forward and proceed under normal circumstances regarding delinquent account balances, second by Councilman Martin, all present in favor. Councilman Gerig asked about the trash bids that were opened at the Board of Works and Public Safety meeting earlier this evening. He was informed of the results with a formal award of the contract to occur at the next Board of Works and Public Safety meeting. Councilwoman Sarrazine mentioned that there is a property at the end of her street that is unsightly in the front and back yards. She also had gotten a request from a resident asking what it would take for the community to get a grocery store to come to town. It was recommended to support the meat market and hopefully with time, there will be more businesses for residents to frequent.

Audience: A resident asked about parked cars that are not plated or tagged and if they can be cited if discovered. The Chief explained that this is typically complaint driven and is case-by-case. A resident thanked the City for removing the islands in Burnwood Place. A resident explained her concern for speeding vehicles on Becker near the new addition. It was suggested that speed limit sign locations are confirmed, and that, possibly, Allen County be petitioned to adjust the speed limit there as required.

Councilman Gerig moved to adjourn the meeting, second by Councilman Martin, all present in favor. Meeting was adjourned at 7:55pm.

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