MUNICIPALITY OF CARLISLE COUNCIL MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL
OCTOBER 26, 2021 – 7:00 P.M.
760 CENTRAL AVENUE, CARLISLE, OHIO

Mayor Randy Winkler called the Carlisle, Ohio Municipal Council Regular Meeting of Tuesday, October 26, 2021 to order in Council Chambers at the Carlisle Town Hall building, 760 Central Avenue, Carlisle, Ohio. The meeting opened at 7:01 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call:

Mrs. Debbie Kemper present
Mr. Randal Jewett present
Mr. William Bicknell present
Mrs. Kim Bilbrey present
Mr. Chris Stivers present
Mr. Tim Humphries present
Mayor Randy Winkler present

Staff members present: Village Manager Julie Duffy
Finance Director Ryan Rushing
Clerk of Council Jennifer Harover

The minutes of October 12, 2021 were presented to Council for review. Mr. Humphries asked for one correction in the Minutes during his Council Comments. He mentioned the Rumpke trucks having a new device and that is on the front of the vehicle versus the rear. Mrs. Bilbrey made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Mr. Bicknell.

Roll Call:

Mrs. Bilbrey yes
Mr. Jewett yes
Mrs. Kemper yes
Mr. Stivers yes
Mr. Humphries yes
Mr. Bicknell yes
Mayor Winkler yes

Minutes of October 12, 2021 were approved.

The Work Session minutes of October 12, 2021 were presented to Council for review. Mrs. Bilbrey made a motion to approve the minutes as presented, seconded by Mrs. Kemper.
Roll Call:

Mr. Bicknell       yes
Mr. Stivers       yes
Mrs. Bilbrey     yes
Mr. Humphries    yes
Mrs. Kemper      yes
Mr. Jewett       yes
Mayor Winkler    yes

Work Session minutes of October 12, 2021 were approved.

Public Forum:

Mr. Travis Swain of 251 Janet Avenue approached Council. He wanted to bring their attention to area named “Katy’s Ditch” which is an area behind some private properties in Carlisle. This was put in somewhere during the 1950’s by the property owners. This is not an easement so the city does not have control over the ditch line. It is now a FEMA floodway and is under their control and the owners can do nothing to the erosion that is happening. He is not permitted to add dirt, nor can he change the grading of this area. He has spoken in the past to Mrs. Duffy as well as contacted FEMA. He has contacted the county to see about possible grants. The information received from the county was that there was nothing they could do. However, the issue isn’t so much the maintenance of the ditch line as it is with the enforcement of the city’s current grass ordinance. He argues that the spirit of that ordinance is to keep property values up and to keep pests at a minimum. He feels it is basically for those that abandon properties. Punishments to this ordinance are extreme with a second offense possibly being 30 days in jail. He feels that the city is misusing this ordinance in relation to the upkeep of the ditch line. He feels the ditch line should be monitored for water flow impedance and not necessarily for maintaining property values. He showed a letter that he received a few weeks ago from the City’s Code Enforcement Officer. This letter showed the wrong address with his name. Typically, when we have a heavy rain, or a few days of water flow and the area turns into a mud pit. It seems as though a couple days after that, properties will begin receiving letters. There never really seemed to be a problem with the water flow until the expansion of subdivisions up on Union Hill as well as lowered the height of the bridge. His concern isn’t the maintenance of the ditch line, it is the haphazard enforcement of the ordinance as well as using this specific ordinance to force the citizens to maintain the property. He spoke with Mr. Dan Casson, Service Director, last year when he came out to the property. Mr. Casson explained to him that the area is too unsafe for his department to come out and mow. Again, he finds it odd that the city will force compliance, yet they would not have their own employees do the work. He is aware that some of Council is aware of this situation, and some have even been out to see it.

Mayor Winkler stated Council will definitely be looking into this situation. He mentioned that he is very familiar with Katy’s Ditch as he grew up on Janet Avenue and still lives there. His property does not abut the ditch but he is considered to be in the flood plain due to the ditch. The bridge on Montgomery that Mr. Swain mentioned does seem lower but it was widened to accommodate the water. However, there is a lot of debris that gets caught on that bridge. Most of it seems to be corn stalks and other debris coming from the fields upstream. Mr. Swain stated that the water moves fast in this ditch after a
rainfall. He has tried to place cinderblocks in areas of erosion only to have them washed away after a heavy rain. Mayor Winkler commented that he is not sure what the answer is but they will definitely do some research to see how they can help or perhaps find some available grants. He knows the property lines from Maple and Janet meet in that ditch line which makes it difficult for the City to work on private property. He does feel as if the ditch line needs to be cleaned out as, over the years, the silt has built up in it. Mr. Swain explained that it is visible coming down Fairview turning onto Janet as it is practically a waterfall in that area. When walking the ditch line, there are numerous areas of large holes where water has eroded different areas. He has two elm trees on the corners of his property and the water has exposed the roots of one tree and the slope is more than 45 degrees. It is hazardous to maintain. Mrs. Bilbrey requested that Council review the ORC language for a second offense as it seems a bit much. Mayor Winkler explained that he has had several property owners approach him in years past talking about how some don’t even try to maintain their section of the ditch line. They felt that the high grass not getting mowed was actually causing more back-up in the flow of water. He was recently told that one property owner had sprayed Roundup on their section to kill all of the grass. This will actually create more issues with erosion.

Mr. Swain explained that the inconsistency of the code enforcement is also causing more issues. For example, the resident at 261 Janet is a single mother of a special needs child and rents the property. Any time she receives a letter, justified or not, the property owner fines her $50. He has recently been taking care of her section to keep the extra burden from her. He feels that a friendly reminder like what used to go out with utility bills would work better than sending out enforcement letters threatening jail time.

Mayor Winkler thanked Mr. Swain for bringing this issue to Council’s attention. They will discuss this with staff and look into some sort of resolution for this issue.

Police Chief Rogers approached Council. He informed residents that there has been some recent circulation on social media about an armed gang in communities. First off, that is not 100% true and stemmed from a report of increased break-ins and car thefts. As always, residents should lock their vehicles and houses, do not leave garage doors open and don’t leave valuables or keys in your vehicle. He has spoken to Chiefs in surrounding communities and all reports in their areas are related to vehicles being unlocked. As we are entering into colder weather, people will begin to leave their vehicles running in driveways. Do not give thieves this opportunity. He has never run across something being stolen from a vehicle simply because someone broke in to look around. Thieves steal things they can see so do not give them this opportunity. Residents need to be attuned to these types of activities to protect themselves. Our community does a great job of watching out for each other. Our police officers can not be everywhere at the same time. If you see something that looks odd or seems suspicious, call it in and let the police check it out. It is better to be safe than sorry. He is not wanting people to live in terror but he does want them to be aware so they can keep the opportunity of theft to a minimum. He also informed Council of the department’s second round of DEA drug take back event. They took in 2.5 lbs of unwanted drugs. Between the two separate events, they have taken in twelve pounds of unnecessary drugs. That is a lot of narcotics that are now being properly disposed. He feels this volume from our small community is a great effort. He also made Council aware that over the next several months, they will begin seeing more “scruffy” police officers. They will be participating in the No Shave Event which a lot of other agencies partake in each year. Monies raised during this event will be given to Children’s Hospital at the officers’ request. Children’s has always been a great partner with the
department. If anyone gets questions as to why our officers are growing beards, please let them know about the event as it often leads to more donations of support. He also wanted to take a minute and encourage everyone to get out and vote on Tuesday, November 2nd. Local issues have more of an impact in our day-to-day lives than state or national issues. Researching and understanding each issue or each candidate should be done before voting.

With no other members of the public coming forward, Mayor Winkler closed the public forum.

Council Report:

Mr. Bicknell thanked the resident for coming in and informing Council of the ditch issue. This is exactly how the public forum should be utilized and he encourages citizens to come in to ask questions or present an issue. He appreciates Chief Rogers speaking to them. There was a JEMS board meeting last evening and they are inching closer to getting all information gathered to begin the bid process. They are still working on a possible location. Chief Madden has a meeting with Mrs. Duffy tomorrow. There was another draft from the feasibility study that went out. He expects them to have a final draft by mid-November. He knows that Mr. Rushing was trying to solidify a date for a Finance Committee meeting. If November 4th works for everyone else, he can make that work for his schedule.

Mrs. Kemper thanked Chief Rogers. She appreciates all that he and his officers do to keep the community safe. She thanked Mr. Swain for coming in and hopes that Council can get some answers for him. She reminded everyone that Tuesday is Election Day. She encourages everyone to do their research because every vote counts. Early voting is still taking place at the Board of Elections in Lebanon. Daylight Savings Time will begin on November 6th so everyone will set their clocks back one hour. This is also a great time to change the batteries in your smoke detectors. Beggar’s Night will be Sunday, October 31st from 6:00-8:00pm. Please be cautious that evening as there will be plenty of little ones moving about the sidewalks and streets. Trunk or Treat will be held at the school lot from 4:00-6:00pm on Sunday as well.

Mr. Jewett thanked Mr. Swain for coming in and speaking to Council about his issues. Instead of passing this issue on, he would like to suggest Council have a quick work session tonight following their meeting to discuss this further. He wants to make sure that this issue does not fall on deaf ears and talk through it.

Mrs. Bilbrey explained to Council that she recently toured Katy’s Ditch with Mr. Swain at his request. Shew as not familiar with this area and got to experience it first-hand. She would like to have some sort of action plan discussed as well. She thanked Chief Rogers for his update on those rumors and she appreciates him sharing what is actually happening. She loves all of the reminders about voting and is glad that so many have voted early. Trunk or Treat has a huge amount of businesses, school board members and private residents taking part this year. All of the participants are listed on her page. She congratulated Valley Real Estate and Church in the Village for putting on these events for our community. She extended her prayers to the family that had the house fire this past weekend. She understands that there are no children in this home but if the family needs anything, she hopes that they know to reach out. She and Mrs. Kemper went to two meetings this past week. The Municipal League dinner was at the Great Wolf Lodge and was also attended by Mr. Humphries. The speaker had great information and she always appreciates the opportunity to attend. The Republic Women of Warren County meeting was last evening and they got to see many levels of elected officials. She
thanked everyone who was able to come out for that at Valley Vineyards. If anyone is interested in learning more about this group, she would be happy to give out more information. She is good with November 4th for the Finance Committee meeting.

Mr. Stivers again reiterated that Beggar’s Night will be Sunday and Election Day will be on Tuesday. Polling locations will be crowded so he encourages everyone to be cautious as you pull in and out of traffic. During Beggar’s Night, please be cautious of the kids. He thanked Mr. Swain for coming in and addressing Council. This is definitely something that he wants addressed. There is a new juice bar coming in to town. There will be a ribbon-cutting on Friday. They will be opening officially on Friday at 9:00am. He extended his congratulations on opening a new business and he hopes they do well.

Mr. Humphries attended the Planning Commission and the majority of the meeting was about Casey’s. After the meeting, he spoke to their representatives, and they spoke very highly of our staff, engineer and manager as far as the process, availability and information. He thanked staff for making this happen. He attended the Meet the Candidate event at the school and it was nice to them reach out to our Manager to be the moderator of the evening. The City and School were involved together for the election process and he thanked Mrs. Duffy for being available.

**Mayor’s Report:**

Mayor Winkler explained that all of his points for the evening have already been discussed.

**Manager’s Report:**

Mrs. Duffy commented on the Drug Takeback Day. It is a singular day that happens twice in our community. Prescription and over-the-counter drugs tend to pile up in our cabinets and drawers throughout the year so this process allows our community to safely and properly dispose of them. If you miss either of these dates, Franklin Police Department keeps a secure drop box in the lobby of their building. She highlighted a great area program, Franklin Area Community Services, as it serves the communities of Franklin, Springboro, Carlisle, Franklin Township and Clearcreek Township. It is a non-profit 501(3)(c) corporation that receives some operating funds from United Way of Warren County as well as donations from various agencies and organizations as well as individuals. It is there for anyone who needs it at any time. The services they offer expand more than just the food pantry. They have a commodity supplemental food program for those 60 and older. They do special referral programs and are able to provide small financial assistance. They do a children’s Christmas gift program and sign-ups will begin on Wednesday, November 3rd. Items will be accepted until their limit has been reached. At Thanksgiving, they do distribute turkeys and holiday food on a first-come, first-serve basis on Thursday, November 18th beginning at 9:30am. They have a great website and she encourages everyone to take a look – [www.facswarren.org](http://www.facswarren.org)

**Committee Report:**

None

**Old Business:**

None
New Business:

Mayor Winkler explained that Council has been discussing the possibility of changing their December meeting schedule. He believes they have decided to have their meetings on December 7th and December 14th.

Mr. Stivers made a motion to accept December 7th and December 14th as Council meeting dates; seconded by Mrs. Kemper.

Roll Call:

- Mr. Bicknell: yes
- Mrs. Bilbrey: yes
- Mr. Jewett: yes
- Mr. Stivers: yes
- Mr. Humphries: yes
- Mrs. Kemper: yes
- Mayor Winkler: yes

Council’s meeting dates for December will be the 7th and 14th.

Mayor Winkler commented that Council interviewed Glenna Griffin early this evening for a seat on the Parks & Recreation Board. They also interviewed Matt Bishop in the past for the same board. He asked if any council member would be interested in nominating one or both of these residents for these open seats.

Mrs. Bilbrey made a motion to appoint Mrs. Griffin and Mr. Bishop to the Parks & Recreation Board; seconded by Mrs. Kemper.

Roll Call:

- Mr. Jewett: yes
- Mrs. Bilbrey: yes
- Mrs. Kemper: yes
- Mr. Bicknell: yes
- Mr. Humphries: yes
- Mr. Stivers: yes
- Mayor Winkler: yes

Mayor Winkler thanked both Mrs. Griffin and Mr. Bishop for their interest in serving the community and for wanting to help make our parks better for everyone.

First Reading of Ordinances and Resolutions:

RES. 13-21 A RESOLUTION DESIGNATING PEOPLES BANK, FIFTH THIRD BANK, AND HUNTINGTON BANK AS THE DEPOSITORIES FOR THE CITY OF CARLISLE OHIO AND AUTHORIZING OFFICIALS TO ENTER, SIGN, AND CONTRACT ALL DOCUMENTS AND IS ON AS A SINGLE READING.
Mr. Rushing explained this legislation will designate Peoples Bank, Fifth Third Bank and Huntington Bank as the public funds depositories for the City of Carlisle for a five-year contract effective December 1, 2021 through November 30, 2026. This is pursuant to Chapter 135 of the Ohio Revised Code which is known as the Uniform Deposit Act. This Act stipulates that municipalities have to set, every five years, the public funds depositories for their interim and active funds for a term not to exceed five years. A request for proposal ("RFP") was published in the newspaper on August 26, 2021 requesting that all qualified institutions to submit responses by a specific date. He received four responses, however, Farmer & Merchants Bank actually declined to submit. The Finance Committee of this Council met on September 26, 2021 and reviewed the submittals of Peoples Bank, Fifth Third Bank and Huntington Bank and all three of these responses either met or exceeded the qualifications laid out in the RFP. As each of these have met or exceeded qualifications, it is his recommendation that all three be authorized as depositories. This does not mean that all three will be active depositories, but it will give him the flexibility, depending on market rates and/or interests of the City, to place funds in one, two or three of these institutions. He has personally interviewed each of the institutions and he is waiting on the responses from each of their final offer and he will plan on choosing the one in the best interest of the community. Passing of this legislation will approve all three of the institutions and give him the latitude to place funds as necessary over the next five years.

Mr. Stivers made a motion to suspend the rules requiring three readings, and have one reading by title only, seconded by Mrs. Bilbrey.

Roll Call:

  Mr. Humphries        yes  
  Mrs. Kemper          yes  
  Mr. Bicknell         yes  
  Mr. Jewett           yes  
  Mr. Stivers          yes  
  Mrs. Bilbrey         yes  
  Mayor Winkler        yes

With no further discussion, Mrs. Bilbrey made a motion to adopt, seconded by Mr. Stivers.

Roll Call:

  Mr. Jewett           yes  
  Mr. Humphries        yes  
  Mr. Bicknell         yes  
  Mr. Stivers          yes  
  Mrs. Kemper          yes  
  Mrs. Bilbrey         yes  
  Mayor Winkler        yes

Resolution passed on this day will be entered into Ordinance Record Book as Res. 13-21.
ORD. 25-21  AN ORDINANCE ACCEPTING THE FINAL PLAT OF TRACKSIDE SUBDIVISION AND CONFIRMING THE DEDICATION OF EASEMENTS AND IS ON AS A SINGLE READING.

Mrs. Duffy explained this ordinance is to accept the final plat of Trackside subdivision. She showed a map of its location as it is currently five separate parcels on Linden Avenue. This issue has gone through all of the proper channels for approval. It went through the required zoning process with the Board of Zoning Appeals as well as the required development plan process with the Planning Commission. Part of those discussions was that it needs to be merged into one single parcel. Before Council this evening is the mechanism to merge those individual parcels into one so it can continue with the development. This is a final plat and is on as a single reading in order for this development to continue through the process and begin before the ground freezes. It was reviewed and approved by Planning Commission on October 14, 2021. The next step for this development will be the submission of building permits.

Mrs. Bilbrey made a motion to suspend the rules requiring three readings, and have one reading by title only, seconded by Mrs. Kemper.

Roll Call:
Mrs. Bilbrey  yes
Mrs. Kemper  yes
Mr. Stivers  yes
Mr. Jewett  abstain
Mr. Bicknell  yes
Mr. Humphries  yes
Mayor Winkler  yes

With no further discussion, Mrs. Kemper made a motion to adopt, seconded by Mrs. Bilbrey.

Roll Call:
Mr. Bicknell  yes
Mrs. Bilbrey  yes
Mr. Jewett  abstain
Mr. Stivers  yes
Mr. Humphries  yes
Mrs. Kemper  yes
Mayor Winkler  yes

Ordinance passed on this day will be entered into Ordinance Record Book as Ord. 25-21.

Second and Third Readings of Ordinances and Resolutions:

ORD. 22-21  AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTION 618.18 DANGEROUS ANIMALS AND REMOVE SECTIONS 618.18(B)(3) AND 618.18(F) REGARDING PIT BULLS.

This legislation will be on Council’s agenda for a third and final reading on November 9, 2021.
ORD. 23-21  AN ORDINANCE TO ACCEPTING THE DEDICATION OF STREETS IN THE EAGLE RIDGE SUBDIVISION, SECTION EIGHT.

This legislation will be on Council’s agenda for a third and final reading on November 9, 2021.

Mr. Jewett asked if this issue takes 30 days to go into effect after November 9th, will the City plow this street if we happen to get snow during that period. Mrs. Duffy explained that past practice of the City has been to perform snow removal during this 30 day enactment period. The issue would be any major repairs or structural issues during this time would not be the responsibility of the City.

Mayor Winkler stated that Council will be having an Executive Session to discuss ORC Section 121.22(g)(4), preparing for, conducting or reviewing negotiations or bargaining sessions with public employees concerning their compensation or other terms and conditions of their employment. There will be no action to follow.

Mr. Bicknell made a motion to enter into Executive Session; seconded by Mr. Jewett.

Roll Call:

Mrs. Bilbrey         yes
Mr. Jewett          yes
Mrs. Kemper         yes
Mr. Stivers         yes
Mr. Humphries       yes
Mr. Bicknell        yes
Mayor Winkler       yes

Council entered into Executive Session at 7:48 p.m.

Mr. Bicknell made a motion to re-enter into regular session; seconded by Mr. Stivers.

Roll Call:

Mrs. Kemper         yes
Mr. Jewett          yes
Mr. Bicknell        yes
Mrs. Bilbrey        yes
Mr. Stivers         yes
Mr. Humphries       yes
Mayor Winkler       yes

Council re-entered regular session at 8:42 p.m.

Mayor Winkler explained that Mr. Jewett asked for a quick work session following tonight’s meeting.
With no further business, Mr. Bicknell made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mrs. Kemper.

Roll Call:

Mr. Jewett  yes
Mrs. Bilbrey  yes
Mrs. Kemper  yes
Mr. Bicknell  yes
Mr. Humphries  yes
Mr. Stivers  yes
Mayor Winkler  yes

Meeting adjourned at 8:43 p.m.

Date: 11-9-21

Mayor

Attest:
Clerk of Council