Willard, Ohio

March 20, 2023

The Council of the City of Willard met in regular session on Monday, March 20, 2023, with the President of Council calling the meeting to order. The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL:** The Clerk called the roll and reported the following councilpersons present: Babcock, Daniel, Elmlinger, Johnson, McKenzie, Olson and Sattig.

**MINUTES:** Minutes of the Regular Council meeting held on March 6, 2023, were presented for approval. In that copies were furnished to each Councilperson prior to the meeting, there was no request they be read. Moved by Olson seconded by Babcock that they be approved as received. In a called vote therein Babcock, Daniel, Elmlinger, Johnson, McKenzie, Olson and Sattig voted yea. Motion carried.

**CITIZENS DISCUSSIONS:**

**BID PROPOSALS:**

**SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS:**

* Community Fireworks date will be Friday, July 7th with a rain date of Saturday, July 8th.

**COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS:** None.

**TABLED ITEMS:** None.

**REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES:**

1. Charter/Legislative – McKenzie, Johnson
2. Finance –Olson, Sattig
3. Public Works – Babcock, Daniel
4. Safety – Babcock, Daniel, Olson
5. Utilities – McKenzie, Daniel, Olson

**REPORTS FROM OFFICERS:** Finance Report for February 2023 was presented by the Finance Director. Moved by Olson seconded by Babcock that Council accepts and place on file the Finance Director’s Report for February 2023. In a called vote, Babcock, Daniel, Elmlinger, Johnson, McKenzie, Olson and Sattig voted yea. Motion carried.

**REPORT FROM CITY MANAGER:** The City Manager’s report was reviewed as it was presented to Council.

The next food giveaway is April 17th. Volunteers are needed and always welcome.

The city website has moved to [www.willardohio.gov](http://www.willardohio.gov). This is the same website the change was just to make the website more secure with the vetted .gov only issued to governmental agencies. The 2022 Annual Report for the City can be found on the new website under the City Managers tab.

Willard was named Tree City USA for the 43rd consecutive year. Tree City USA started in 1976 and the city received its first award in 1980 from the work that was done is 1979. There are four requirements that need to be met and that is maintaining a tree board, having a tree care ordinance, dedicating an annual community forestry budget of at least $2 per capita, and hosting an Arbor Day observance or proclamation.

The Ohio Department of Development Demolition Grant funded the properties of 615 Fink Street and 630 Pleasant Street to be torn down and removed. Four downtown commercial properties are also slated to be demolished as part of this grant.

Reminder that the city offers general recycling at the Wastewater Plant. Once bins are full, they are transported to the Huron County Transfer Station. It is very important residents make sure they put the correct recycled materials into the correct bins. If a bin is full or absent, please do not put material in other bins. Currently extra recycling bins are unavailable.

The Water Plant filled the reservoir will nearly 7ft of water, over 500 million gallons which will be in good standing until filled again next year.

Clarifier #3 has been put back into service at the wastewater treatment plant after an outside contractor made repairs. All three wastewater clarifiers are now operational and in service.

The Maintenance Department recently received additional training in underground utility safety as the attended Ohio 811 refresher course. They also continue to trim trees almost being complete on the north and south roads and will start on the east and west roads soon. They were also able to salvage parts of fire hydrants.

Council is requested to accept the following donations:

$200.00 from Albert Heydinger to the Willard Clock Fund. Moved by Olson seconded by Babcock that this donation be accepted by Council. In a called vote, Babcock, Daniel, Elmlinger, Johnson, McKenzie, Olson, and Sattig voted yea. Motion carried.

$674.91 from the Willard Moose Lodge to go towards the Decoration Fund. Moved by Olson seconded by Babcock that this donation be accepted by Council. In a called vote, Babcock, Daniel, Elmlinger, Johnson, McKenzie, Olson, and Sattig voted yea. Motion carried.

**President asked for Questions-**

Babcock questioned the water leak in the reservoir that Hamons indicated was a leak on Main Street that has been repaired.

Johnson asked when we anticipate the US 224 Storm Sewer Replacement project will be started. Hamons stated that the date will not be known until the contract is signed.

**ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS:**

 **ORDINANCE NO. 5937-23**

**AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO AGREEMENT WITH BUCKEYE EXCAVATING AND CONSTRUCTION, INC. TO AWARD BID NO. 2023-01 FOR THE US 224 STORM SEWER REPLACEMENT, IN THE AMOUNT OF $136,419.00, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY,** was presented by Council President for its final reading by title only. This was done by the Council Clerk.

Moved by Olson seconded by Babcock that the Ordinance be declared an emergency measure and the rule requiring it to lay over for 7 days be waived. In a called vote, Babcock, Daniel, Elmlinger, McKenzie, Olson, and Sattig voted yea. Johnson voted nay. Motion carried.

Moved by Olson seconded by Babcock that the Ordinance be adopted. In a called vote Babcock, Daniel, Elmlinger, Johnson, McKenzie, Olson, and Sattig voted yea. Motion adopted.

 **RESOLUTION NO. 2567-23**

**A RESOLUTION URGING THE LEGISLATIVE BRANCHES OF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AS WELL AS THE STATE OF OHIO TO ENACT LEGISLATION TO FURTHER PROTECT THE CITIZENS OF THE CITY OF WILLARD, OHIO FROM THE INHERENT DANGERS OF A TRAIN DERAILMENT ON THE TRACKS LOCATED IN AND NEAR OUR CITY,** was presented by Council President for its first reading by title only. This was done by the Council Clerk.

Moved by Olson seconded by Babcock that the rules be suspended, and the Resolution adopted on its first reading. In a called vote, Babcock, Daniel, Elmlinger, Johnson, McKenzie, Olson voted yea. Sattig voted nay. Motion carried.

Moved by Olson seconded by Babcock that the Resolution be adopted. In a called vote. Babcock, Daniel, Elmlinger, Johnson, McKenzie, Olson, and Sattig voted yea. Motion adopted.

**COUNCIL/MAYOR COMMENTS:**

Daniel stated that today was the first day of Spring and the grass will soon be growing and needing cut!

Olson was happy to see that Willard was named Tree City USA for the 43rd consecutive year.

Babcock thanked the Maintenance Department for their hard work.

Johnson made a shoutout to the Police Officer who delivered his council packet and took his trash that was on the deck to the garbage can.

Elmlinger stated that a group letter needs to be composed for the levy coming up in May.

Moved by Olson, seconded by Babcock that Council adjourn. In a called vote therein Babcock, Daniel, Elmlinger, Johnson, McKenzie, Olson, and Sattig voted yea. Motion carried.

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 President of Council Clerk of Council