



A regular meeting of Wickliffe City Council was called to order by Council President Ed Levon on Monday, June 10, 2024 at 7:00 PM in Council Chambers at Wickliffe City Hall following the Pledge of Allegiance.

The following were present at **Roll Call**:

Council President	Edward Levon
Council Members	Bala, Gerhardstein, Jaworski, Koski, Salotto, Thielman
Mayor	Joseph Sakacs
Law Director	Jeremy D. Iosue
Finance Director	Chlondra Hunter
Engineer	Peter J. Formica
Service Director	Ron Strauser
Building Commissioner	Raymond Sack
Recreation Director	Timothy Stopp
Police Chief	Jonathon Bush – Lt. McCaffrey
Fire Chief	Christopher Grossman – Cpt. Isom

### **Approval of Minutes**

Motion by Gerhardstein, seconded by Thielman, that the minutes of the Wickliffe City Council Meeting of May 28, 2024 be approved as presented.

Discussion: None

Roll Call:

Yes: Bala, Gerhardstein, Jaworski, Koski, Levon, Salotto, Thielman

No: None

Motion carried. **May 28, 2024 meeting minutes approved.**

Motion by Gerhardstein, seconded by Bala, to allow Councilperson Jaworski to abstain from voting on the minutes of the Wickliffe City Council Special Meeting/Public Hearing of June 5, 2024.

Discussion: None

Roll Call:

Yes: Bala, Gerhardstein, Jaworski, Koski, Levon, Salotto, Thielman

No: None

Motion carried.

Motion by Gerhardstein, seconded by Salotto, that the minutes of the Wickliffe City Council Special Meeting/Public Hearing of June 5, 2024 be approved as presented.

Discussion: None

Roll Call:

Yes: Bala, Gerhardstein, Koski, Levon, Salotto, Thielman

Abstain: Jaworski

No: None

Motion carried. **June 5, 2024 Special Meeting/Public Hearing minutes approved.**

### **Reports and Communications from Mayor/Safety Director** *Written Report Attached*

Mayor Sakacs read his written report.

There were no questions for the Mayor.

### **Reports and Communications from Director of Law**

Law Director Iosue mentioned, with regard to the Local Government Fund, that the majority of the cities need to adopt the proposal, or the state's statutory calculation will be enacted. This will be worse for Wickliffe as it is a needs-based, population-based formula that will be worse than the proposal.

There were no questions for the Law Director.

### **Reports and Communications from Council President**

Council President Levon had no report.

## **Additions or Amendments to Agenda**

Council President Levon added Codified Ordinance 1313.21 to New Business as Item C.

### **Administrators**

#### **A. *Police Chief (Bush)***

Lieutenant McCaffrey noted the police department has seen normal activity recently. This past weekend, the bike rodeo, organized by Officer DiDona, was held at the Police Station. It was a good event! Four officers, the K9, the Mayor as DJ, and many other activities were provided. Thanks to Wickliffe Eagles, Infield Chiropractic, and USA Skates for the donations.

There were no questions or comments for the Police Chief.

#### **B. *Fire Chief (Grossman) Written Report Submitted***

Captain Isom stated he had nothing to add to the written report submitted.

There were no questions or comments for the Fire Chief.

#### **C. *Finance Director (Hunter) Written Report Submitted***

Finance Director Hunter noted May is closed and the General Fund Carryover Balance is approximately \$7.8 million.

There were no questions or comments for the Finance Director.

#### **D. *Engineer (Formica)***

Engineer Formica noted he had nothing to add to his previous report.

Council person Jaworski noted the signage denotes that construction at the Rockefeller Road/Buena Vista intersection begins on June 17<sup>th</sup>.

Councilperson Gerhardstein noted he had a conversation today with the Service Director regarding a problem between the owner of Orlando Funeral Home and the contractor on East 296<sup>th</sup>. It was noted the funeral home lost phone and internet service today; Mr. Formica noted it will be taken care of as soon as possible.

There were no further questions or comments for the Engineer.

#### **E. *Service Director (Strauser) Written Report Submitted***

Service Director Strauser noted the preparation work for the Drenik Drive project began today; the main work will begin next week and residents will be informed.

The Service Director also noted the pool heaters are still down, however good news was received this afternoon: the part to repair the heater was delivered and with a little bit of luck, the heaters at both pools will be up and running by tomorrow.

There were no questions or comments for the Service Director.

#### **F. *Building Commissioner (Sack) Written Report Submitted***

Building Commissioner Sack stated he had nothing to add to his written report.

There were no questions or comments for the Building Commissioner.

#### **G. *Recreation Director (Stopp) Written Report Submitted***

Recreation Director noted the Recreation Department is very busy right now.

The 19<sup>th</sup> annual golf outing was this past Saturday and it went very well. Fifty-four (54) golfers participated, and he thanked all who supported this event.

The Concerts in the Park begin this week. Red Light Roxy, a jazz/swing band, will perform at the Community/Senior Center from 6:00-8:00 PM on Wednesday, June 12<sup>th</sup>, and there will be a few food vendors. On Friday, June 14<sup>th</sup>, Pieces of Eight and the Lakeside Brass will perform at the Gazebo behind City Hall from 7:00-10:00 PM.

There were no questions or comments for the Recreation Director.

### **Audience Participation**

Council President Levon opened Audience Participation to those in attendance at 7:10 PM.



He noted this portion of the meeting is intended for the audience to address the Council and Mayor, not the directors. Anyone wishing to address Council should use the microphone as the meetings are being streamed on YouTube; they must be acknowledged and give their name and address for the clerk's record and will be given a five-minute maximum for their comments.

After multiple calls inquiring if anyone would like to address Wickliffe City Council and there being no reply, Council President Levon closed Audience Participation at 7:11PM.

### Committee Reports

Council President Levon presented the minutes from the June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2024 Finance Committee Meeting.

Council President Levon motioned to accept the 2025 Tax Budget as presented and authorized the Law Director to prepare legislation for the 2025 Tax Budget for the next Council Meeting. Jaworski seconded the motion.

Discussion: None

Roll Call:

Yes: Bala, Gerhardstein, Jaworski, Koski, Levon, Salotto, Thielman

No: None

Motion carried.

Council President Levon motioned to authorize the Law Director to prepare legislation for the next meeting to increase the sewer rates by ten percent (10%) this year and increase the sewer rates an additional ten percent (10%) in the year 2025, and Councilperson Gerhardstein seconded the motion.

Discussion: None

Roll Call:

Yes: Bala, Gerhardstein, Jaworski, Koski, Levon, Salotto, Thielman

No: None

Motion carried.

### Commission Reports

There were no Commission Reports.

### Old Business

There was no Old Business.

### New Business

#### A. 2024 Pavement Repair Program Bid Presentation/Acceptance

Engineer Formica presented the results from the bid opening held on May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024.

Six bids were received for Contract A – Asphalt Resurfacing. Contract A bids ranged from a low bid of \$937,712.50 to a high bid of \$1,104,515.00 as compared to the Opinion of Probable Construction Cost of \$965,000.00. The low bidder was Geauga Highway Company of Hiram, Ohio. He recommends this contract be awarded to Geauga Highway.

Five bids were received for Contract B – Concrete Slab Replacement. Contract B bids ranged from a low bid of \$329,450.00 to a high bid of \$398,474.00 as compared to the Opinion of Probable Construction of \$356,000.00. The low bidder was T.C. Construction Co., Inc. of Willoughby Hills, Ohio. He recommends this contract be awarded to T.C. Construction. He also noted this contract cannot be signed until after the funds are received from OPWC in July.

Motion by Levon, seconded by Jaworski, to accept the bid from Geauga Highway Company, 14126 Main Market Road, Hiram, OH 44234, for the 2024 Pavement Repair Program Contract A – Asphalt Resurfacing in an amount not to exceed Nine Hundred Thirty-Seven Thousand Seven Hundred Twelve Dollars and Fifty Cents (\$937,712.50) as the lowest and best and to reject all other bids; and authorize the Law Director to prepare legislation to authorize the Mayor to enter into a contract with Geauga Highway Company for the 2024 Pavement Repair Program Contract A – Asphalt Resurfacing.

Discussion: None

Roll Call:

Yes: Bala, Gerhardstein, Jaworski, Koski, Levon, Salotto, Thielman

No: None

Motion carried.

Motion by Jaworski, seconded by Bala, to accept the bid from T.C. Construction Co., Inc., 2936 Lynn Drive, Willoughby Hills, OH 44092, for the 2024 Pavement Repair Program Contract B – Concrete Slab Replacement in an amount not to exceed Three Hundred Twenty-Nine Thousand Four Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$329,450.00) as the lowest and best and to reject all other bids; and authorize the Law Director to prepare legislation to authorize the Mayor to enter into a contract with T.C. Construction Co., Inc. for the 2024 Pavement Repair Program Contract B – Concrete Slab Replacement.

Discussion: None

Roll Call:

Yes: Bala, Gerhardstein, Jaworski, Koski, Levon, Salotto, Thielman

No: None

Motion carried.

**B. 2025 Tax Budget Hearing**

Council President Levon called for a special meeting/Public Hearing on the 2025 Tax Budget to be held Monday, June 24<sup>th</sup>, 2024 in Council Chambers at 6:45 PM.

**C. Codified Ordinance 1313.21**

He noted that something was added to the Ordinance that is currently on first reading on tonight's agenda, OR2024-40. He noted there was not a discussion regarding this in Committee. Council President Levon added this CH 1313.21, specifically crematoriums, to the Committee of the Whole.

**Ordinances**

**OR2024-34 By Title Only** An ordinance amending Chapter 935 Sewer Regulations and Rates of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Wickliffe, Ohio **THIRD READING**

Motion by Gerhardstein, seconded by Salotto, that Ordinance 2024-34 be adopted as presented.

Discussion: None

Roll Call:

Yes: Bala, Gerhardstein, Jaworski, Koski, Levon, Salotto, Thielman

No: None

Motion carried. **Ordinance 2024-34 adopted.**

**OR2024-36 By Title Only** An ordinance levying assessments for unpaid delinquent sewer amounts upon parcels of land in the City of Wickliffe, Ohio **SECOND READING**

**OR2024-37 By Title Only** An ordinance amending the City of Wickliffe zone map referred to in Section 1341.80 of the Wickliffe Codified Ordinances rezoning one parcel owned by SDI Construction LLC in Wickliffe, Ohio **SECOND READING**

**OR2024-39 By Title Only** An ordinance amending the City of Wickliffe zone map referred to in Section 1341.80 of the Wickliffe Codified Ordinances rezoning one hundred seventy-nine parcels in Wickliffe, Ohio **FIRST READING**

**OR2024-40 By Title Only** An ordinance amending Section 1313 entitled "General Business District" of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Wickliffe, Ohio **FIRST READING**

**Resolutions**

**RES2024-07 By Title Only** A resolution authorizing the adoption of an alternative method of apportioning the Local Government Fund; and declaring an emergency

Motion by Gerhardstein, seconded by Jaworski, the rules of Wickliffe City Council be suspended and Resolution 2024-07 be placed on third and final reading.

Discussion: None

Roll Call:

Yes: Bala, Gerhardstein, Jaworski, Koski, Levon, Salotto, Thielman

No: None

Motion carried.

Motion by Gerhardstein, seconded by Bala, that Resolution 2024-07 be adopted as presented.

Discussion: Councilperson Gerhardstein noted he and Finance Director Hunter attended the public hearing held by the County. He noted this is the best that Wickliffe can hope for.

Although we do not know the exact amount, if we do not adopt this, and have to abide by the state formula, we could lose much more. He asked Ms. Hunter if he was correct and she agreed.

Roll Call:

Yes: Bala, Gerhardstein, Jaworski, Koski, Levon, Salotto, Thielman

No: None

Motion carried. **Resolution 2024-07 adopted.**

#### **Other Legislation**

There was no Other Legislation.

#### **Miscellaneous**

Council President Levon called for a meeting of the Committee of the Whole to discuss Codified Ordinance 1313.21 on Monday, June 17<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM in Council Chambers at Wickliffe City Hall.

#### **Adjournment**

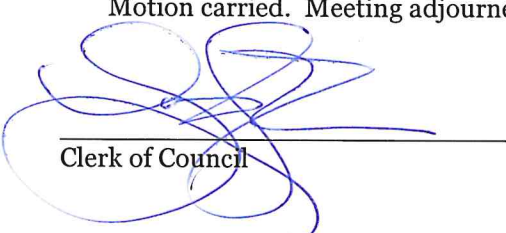

Motion by Gerhardstein, seconded by Salotto, to adjourn the meeting.

Roll Call:

Yes: Bala, Gerhardstein, Jaworski, Koski, Levon, Salotto, Thielman

No: None

Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:24 PM.

  
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Clerk of Council  
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Council President and Presiding Officer