Willard, Ohio

April 17, 2023

The Council of the City of Willard met in regular session on Monday, April 17, 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 April 3, 2023, were presented for approval. It is to be added that council accept the lateral transfer of seven years and ten months of employment equaling three weeks’ vacation, for police officer, Aaron Gibson. Moved by Sattig seconded by Olson that they be approved as corrected. 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:**

* The council had before them the minutes of the April 5th Zoning Board of Appeals minutes. Moved by Olson seconded by Babcock that Council accepts and place on file the Zoning Board of Appeals minutes for April 5, 2023, 2023. In a called vote, Babcock, Daniel, Elmlinger, Johnson, McKenzie, Olson and Sattig voted yea. Motion carried. Moved by Olson seconded by Babcock to accept the ZBA recommendations. In a called vote, Babcock, Daniel, Elmlinger, Johnson, McKenzie, Olson and Sattig voted yea. Motion carried.

**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 March 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 March 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 May 22nd, from 3-5 pm.

The Arbor Day Celebration is Friday, April 28th at 10 am at the Willard Reservoir. Five new maple trees will be planted, with one of them being dedicated as the official 2023 Arbor Day Tree.

On Tuesday, May 2, the City of Willard will ask voters to approve the Safety Service Levy. This levy is for the continued Fire and Police protection that our community deserves or, unfortunately, be in danger of taking a step backward in the services that can be provided. This levy will help us retain, recruit, and train our personnel. If passed, the levy will allow us to hire four full-time firefighters and three police officers. For years the fire department has relied on “volunteers” to help aid the department, however, there are no longer people interested in volunteering. With the lack of part-time employees, as well, this is leaving a burden on our seven full-time fire/EMS personnel. We cannot continue to operate in this manner as more full-time help is needed to adequately staff two ambulances at any given time. On the police side, it will bring three additional police officers which will enable us to backfill the two full-time detective positions that have been vacant for nearly a year. This levy would cost the average income earner ($48,588 Median Household Income) an additional $15.18 a month.

The city released the “Spring/Summer” edition of City Newsletter. These newsletters will be digitally released twice a year as Spring/Summer and Fall/Winter.

There is a burn ban in effect from 6 am to 6 pm in March, April, May as well as in the fall during October and November. No burning within the city limits, fires must be more than 1,000 feet from neighbor’s building, fire/smoke cannot obscure visibility on roadways, and no waste generated off the premises may be burned.

The maintenance department is working on the Myrtle Street boulevard installing underground conduit in preparation for AEP to replace existing streetlights. The city will also be installing LED uplighting on the boulevard trees, restoring the mulch rings around the trees and landscaping at both ends of

the boulevards. Donations from the Willard Moose Lodge provided funding for this renovation.

A few reminders, hydrant flushing begins next week, we are accepting applications for the Community Garden, and the community cleanup begins Monday, April 24th. Lastly, the community wide yard sale is Thursday, May 11 through Saturday, May 13. We are asking anyone interested in signing up to do so by Friday, May 5th with a nominal $3 listing fee.

**Council is requested to accept the following donations:**

$200.00 from Daryl Dawson towards the Clock Tower. 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.

$928.85 from the Willard Moose Lodge #2153 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**-

Johnson asked about the status of Dunkin Donuts. Hamons was in communication with the franchisee who stated they are just “waiting on the brand”, meaning corporate. Johnson also stated that he was able to speak with a police officer who said that the police department is having a lot of positivity with recruitment.

Olson stated that the flyer for the Willard Police and Fire Levy was put together well.

Babcock asked about the interest of the public in the Community Garden. Hamons stated that there are a couple applications at this time.

**ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS:**

**ORDINANCE. NO. 5939-23**

**AN ORDINANCE APPROVING THE EDITING AND INCLUSION OF CERTAIN ORDINANCES AS PARTS OF THE VARIOUS COMPONENT CODES OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES; PROVIDING FOR THE ADOPTION OF NEW MATTER IN THE UPDATED AND REVISED CODIFIED ORDINANCES; PROVIDING FOR THE PUBLICATION OF SUCH MATTER; AND REPEALING ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS IN CONFLICT THEREWITH,** was presented by Council President for its first reading by title only. This was done by the Council Clerk.

**ORDINANCE NO. 5940-23**

**AN ORDINANCE APPROVING THE EDITING AND INCLUSION OF CERTAIN ORDINANCES AS PARTS OF THE VARIOUS COMPONENT CODES OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES; PROVIDING FOR THE ADOPTION OF NEW MATTER IN THE UPDATED AND REVISED CODIFIED ORDINANCES; PROVIDING FOR THE PUBLICATION OF SUCH MATTER; AND REPEALING ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS IN CONFLICT THEREWITH,** was presented by Council President for its first reading by title only. This was done by the Council Clerk.

**ORDINANCE NO. 5941-23**

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 953.01(A) AND (B) OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES TO CHANGE FEES AT THE MUNICIPAL SWIMMING POOL OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES,** was presented by Council President for its first reading by title only. This was done by the Council Clerk.

**COUNCIL/MAYOR COMMENTS:**

Mayor Joe Daniel stated that City Newsletter was very informational.

McKenzie thanked the maintenance workers for their work on the Myrtle Avenue boulevard.

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