
MUNICIPALITY OF CARLISLE COUNCIL MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL
November 14, 2023 – 7:00 P.M.
760 CENTRAL AVENUE, CARLISLE, OHIO

Mayor Randy Winkler called the Carlisle, Ohio City Council Regular Meeting of Tuesday, November 14, 2023 to order in Council Chambers at the Carlisle City Hall building, 760 Central Avenue, Carlisle, Ohio. The meeting was opened at 7:07 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call:

Mr. William Bicknell	present
Mr. Jason Faulkner	present
Mr. Tim Humphries	present
Mrs. Debbie Kemper	present
Mr. Michael Kilpatrick	present
Mr. Chris Stivers	present
Mayor Randy Winkler	present

Staff members present:

- City Manager, Chris Lohr
- Finance Director, Kristina Cooper
- Police Chief, Will Rogers
- Fire Chief, Jeremy Lane
- Service Director, John Coffey
- Community Development Director, Alaina Geres

The regular Meeting Minutes of October 24, 2023, were presented to Council for review. Mr. Bicknell made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Mrs. Kemper.

Roll Call:

Mr. Bicknell	yes
Mrs. Kemper	yes
Mr. Faulker	yes
Mr. Humphries	yes
Mr. Kilpatrick	yes
Mr. Stivers	yes
Mayor Winkler	yes

The regular meeting Minutes of October 24, 2023, were approved as presented.

Public Forum:

No audience guests wished to address the Council. Mayor Winkler closed the public forum and moved on to Council Reports.

Council Reports:

Mr. Kilpatrick:

1. Wanted to thank the citizens for coming out to vote last week. According to the board of elections, we had a great turn out. Congratulations to those who won their races. It is great that we have elections and different running. It is always good to see a good field of candidates, new ideas put forward, people communicating about those ideas and holding us accountable for the platforms we are running on.

Mr. Stivers:

1. Also wanted to thank those who voted. Social media is a double-edged sword. It is great for keeping in touch with those you have not spoken to. It could be a negative for those who just want to complain and pick fights, argue. At the ballot box is where you have an opportunity to have your voice heard. you can make comments on social media, but the ballot box is where it matters. Those who voiced their opinions last Tuesday, he thanks.
2. Thanksgiving is next week. Those traveling, stay safe. Have a happy Thanksgiving.

Mr. Humphries:

1. He is saddened that our citizens and traffic had to go through the effected situation on State Route 123. He spoke to at least one department head and hopes to be better prepared if this happens again. There were no heads up or warning about what they did and how quickly they did it. They are their own government, and they are going to do what they want to. We must react and be as organized and try to take safety into consideration as quick as we can.

Mr. Bicknell:

1. Would like to thank the citizens for coming out to vote. It is always good to see the numbers. We would like to see those numbers more than just when there are big issues. Citizens should understand that every time there is an ability to vote, that vote you put in, is just as important for what is on there just as when there are certain issues. Your voice is heard as we sit up there, we hear it and everyone in the community hears it. That one vote can make a difference.
2. JEMS Building is moving along quickly. The floor is poured. Another week before it is completely cured. The building is now completely under roof. They are working on finishing that up. You can see the actual size now that the offices and dorms are completed. The workers are working tirelessly. He wants to thank everyone for allowing him to sit on the JEMS Board and allowing him to help bring a new facility that will allow us to be in the heart of the town to supply our citizens with emergency services and with Fire and Rescue when we need to.
3. Speaking with Craig Harris tonight, he wanted to make sure everyone was reminded trunk or treat was another success. Even with the weather, having it inside the gym was crazy. The line with kids and their families was clear out to the parking lot. The community came out in columns. He wanted to thank Craig Harris and all the volunteers for helping. Halloween and beggars' night was great. With the cold weather, still seeing the kids was amazing.

Mrs. Kemper:

1. Would like to thank the community for allowing her to serve another four years on council. She is very grateful. She enjoys our community the safety and working with this council. Congratulations to the winners, Mr. Stivers and Mayor Winkler. She is thankful we have a great team and good staff, police department and fire department. She is thankful to the community and there are a lot of great things happening in Carlisle and she is fortunate to continue this board. Thank you to everyone in the community.
2. She lives in Timber Ridge and the traffic was lined to Dairy Queen from the railroad crossing. She contacted the police chief, as a citizen, about placing a stop sign at Fairview. He explained a few things and they could not. This was the federal department that was working on this railroad, and you must give a thirty-day notice before putting out a stop sign, and several different things that needed to be done. We were blindsided, but luckily, it was only a few days. She spoke with different businesses, and they adjusted. We got through it, did not last long. Thank you to everyone, and the Chief, who worked through it.
3. Wanted to remind everyone about Santa. He is coming early to Carlisle on November 27th, the Monday after Thanksgiving. He is busy but got us on his schedule. That is Monday, November 27th at 6 o'clock. That is right out here, for the tree lighting and then we will be able to go to the community church for cookies, hot chocolate and all kinds of crafts and pictures with Santa. Again, that is November 27th at 6pm.
4. Wanted to tell everyone to have a very happy and safe Thanksgiving. For those who are traveling, have safe travel. Enjoy this time with your family. Be thankful and grateful for this country we live in.

Mr. Faulkner:

1. Wanted to thank everyone for their condolences for his loss on the 24th. He appreciates the cards, texts, and emails.

With that, Mayor Winkler closed the Council Report and moved on to the Mayor's Report.

Mayor's Report:

1. He would like to thank the voters who gave the vote of confidence to him to serve as Mayor another four years. He does not take that lightly, but it is very humbling to get the support of the community.
2. He wants to thank the service and police departments during this week of chaos during this railroad track. He knows they were working tirelessly, trying to do what they could to make it better, but unfortunately the railroad threw us a curve ball with two-and-a-half days' notice to set up a detour and keep traffic moving. We got through it, and he recognizes there was frustration, but he knows they did everything they could to make it as easy as possible.
3. He had an opportunity to go to the high school and see a play. We have some outstanding, talented students in our community. If you haven't had a chance to go up and see any plays, they're amazing. Every play he has been to, the kids have been phenomenal. The staff who have helped put this on are great and if you have an opportunity to support the kids, it will be well worth your time.

Mayor Winkler closed the Mayor's Report and moved on to the City Manager's Report.

Manager's Report:

1. Both the aggregation ballot measures were voted down. We have some options beyond that. One is to bring it back to vote next year. The other is doing an opt-in program, versus an opt-out program. That is something to think about, whether that is something worse pursuing further. If you have questions, just let him know. He was surprised it also failed in Franklin. Mayor Winkler said he had Tim Advent, retired from Duke, and now works for Energy Alliance, reach out to him and asked if council wanted to discuss and put on in May. Mr. Kilpatrick asked if we would need to pay for the ballot at that point. Mr. Lohr said there may be some additional costs with having it on there. Mr. Kilpatrick said we could discuss that later. Mayor Winker said the latest to do it would be December 20th if we wanted to get it on there and get back to them. Mr. Lohr said if anyone has any thoughts on that, let him know.
2. He sent some emails he wants to touch on. The governing essentials class, that was sent. It is being provided in the Columbus area, in conjunction with Ohio University. It is \$700. He was surprised by the price, but with the six training sessions and lunch provided, he feels it is a good price. If anyone has an interest in going to that, please let him know and we can figure out how to allocate the funds. He also sent an email about the second email in December. Please look and make sure it makes sense, and you are comfortable with that. If we don't have any business, it does seem we have the option to waive that second meeting by motion.
3. Mr. Lohr has been communicating with Chris Pozzuto, City Manager in Springboro, in regard to renewing our building services contract that we have with them, that helps us with building permits. They have hashed that out and he plans to bring it to Council at the next meeting or the one after that to renew the contract for the next three years.

With that the Mayor closed the City Manager's Report.

Committee Report:

None

Old Business:

None

New Business:

None

Mayor Winkler closed the Community Reports and moved on to First Readings of Ordinances and Resolutions.

First Reading of Ordinances and Resolutions:

ORDINANCE 26-23 ADOPTING THE 2024 BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF CARLISLE (FIRST READING)

Mayor Winkler asked Mr. Lohr if there was any further discussion.

Mr. Lohr stated as a brief introduction, this is for the approval of the budget for 20204. If anyone has any questions, on council or the community., he would take time to discuss that with them.

ORDINANCE 27-23 ADOPTING THE PAY PLAN FOR THE CITY OF CARLISLE (FIRST READING)

Mayor Winkler asked Mr. Lohr if there was any discussion or comments.

Mr. Lohr said this is an update to the pay plan. Annually staff brings the council a request to update this based on cost-of-living increases. He proposed a 3% increase in each of the pay categories. This is in line with what people are doing in the Dayton area, as well as our neighbors here in Warren County and adjacent communities. Mr. Stivers asked in the work session Mr. Lohr mentioned holding off on the pension portion and if this is part of that. Mr. Lohr said it was not. Mr. Faulkner said, to be fair the cost of living has been greater than 3%. Mr. Lohr agreed and said there are some communities going higher than that, the highest he has seen is 5%. Given our budgetary situation and inflation, he believes 3% is a good number to settle. If we see high inflation going forward, we may want to look at high increases in coming years.

With no further discussion, Mayor Winkler stated both ordinances will be on for a second reading at our next meeting November 28th.

Second and Third Readings of Ordinances and Resolutions:

None

Police Chief Rogers asked to have a moment to speak to Council. Mayor Winkler invited him to the podium. Chief Rogers handed out an item to pass around. He said that the Hillcrest Church wanted to do something for the Police Department. They told him the officers do a lot to protect them, and it was their turn to do something to protect them. What they are passing around is a ballistic vest plate. The vests we have are rated level 3. It will stop a round of a fired weapon, up to a 9mm. A rifled round, like a 223. This will stop one of those. The church got one of these for each of our officers and donated to the department. He wanted to commend them for taking the time to do this. When he was at church on Sunday, they blessed each of these. He really appreciates what they did for his guys. It does not require anything else to be purchased, no extra costs to us.

He wanted to mention we collected six pounds of drugs during the drug take back last week.

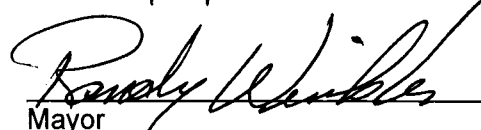
Mayor Winkler stated that is all they have on the agenda this evening and asked for a motion to adjourn. Mr. Faulkner made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Kilpatrick.

Roll Call:

Mr. Faulkner	yes
Mr. Kilpatrick	yes
Mr. Bicknell	yes
Mr. Humphries	yes
Mrs. Kemper	yes
Mayor Winkler	yes

Meeting adjourned at 7:29 p.m.

Date: 11/28/23



Mayor

Attest: 

Clerk of Council