

FINDLAY CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

REGULAR SESSION

MAY 21, 2024

COUNCIL CHAMBERS

ROLL CALL of 2024-2025 Councilmembers

PRESENT: DeArment, Frische, Greeno, Hellmann, Niemeyer, Palmer, Russel, Warnecke, Wobser

ABSENT: President of Council Harrington, Mayor Muryn, Bauman

President of Council Pro-Tem Russel notified Council that Mayor Muryn, President of Council Harrington, and Councilman Bauman informed him that they would not be in attendance tonight. Councilman Greeno moved to excuse President of Mayor Muryn, Council Harrington, and Councilman Bauman seconded by Councilman DeArment. All were in favor. Filed.

President of Council Pro-Tem Russel opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence. Filed.

ACCEPTANCE/CHANGES TO PREVIOUS CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES:

- Councilman Palmer moved to accept the May 7, 2024 Public Hearing meeting minutes for the zoning of the Sheetz/Hat Trick/Buchanan annexation via Ordinance No. 2024-045, seconded by Councilwoman Warnecke.
- Councilman Palmer moved to accept the May 7, 2024 Regular Session City Council meeting minutes, seconded by Councilwoman Warnecke.

All were in favor. Filed.

ADD-ON/REPLACEMENT/REMOVAL FROM THE AGENDA:

Councilman Wobser moved to add-on the following on tonight's agenda, seconded by Councilman Hellmann. All were in favor. Filed.

ADD-ONS:

1. Letter from Service-Safety Director Martin – H2Ohio Equipment Grant) (**REPORTS OF MUNICIPAL OFFICERS AND MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENTS** section).
2. Ordinance No. 2024-073 – H2Ohio Equipment Grant (**LEGISLATION** section).

PROCLAMATIONS: none

RECOGNITION/RETIREMENT RESOLUTIONS: none

PETITIONS:

Alley vacation request – 2nd Street to 3rd Street

Melinda Speck is requesting a vacation of the east-west alley between 2nd Street and 3rd Street between lots 5581 and 5582 in the Leiser Addition. Referred to City Planning Commission and Planning & Zoning Committee.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS:

Lisa Kelso – HWE Franchise

Ms. Kelso is the Vice President of Customer Experience for American Electric Power Ohio. AEP Ohio has a deep commitment to Findlay and surrounding communities. AEP Ohio has thirty-four (34) employees that work in the City of Findlay. Last year, AEP Ohio contributed nearly two million five hundred thousand dollars (\$2,500,000.00) in property taxes to the City and its school district. AEP Ohio also supports local area non-profits contributing almost six hundred thousand dollars (\$600,000.00) to organizations like the United Way, Habitat for Humanity, and the University of Findlay over the last four (4) years. AEP Ohio champions economic development policies that attract new investment, grow communities, and increase jobs.

Her remarks today will provide a background of the two (2) types of utility franchise agreements and will explain why AEP Ohio believes non-exclusive franchise agreements are a powerful tool for local economic development. Under Ohio Law, charter municipalities like Findlay have the authority to regulate utility service in their municipality through utility franchise agreements, contracts, and other legislation. Municipalities typically enter into either exclusive or non-exclusive utility franchise agreements. Exclusive franchise agreements grant a single electric service provider the ability to serve new customers within the municipality limits. Non-exclusive franchises allow multiple electric suppliers to serve new customers in a municipal area. This type is often used where municipal borders encompass the certified territory of more than one electric supplies like in Findlay. Non-exclusive franchise agreements afford communities maximum flexibility when working with perspective businesses and site location consultants. Communities can enter into non-exclusive franchise agreements with more than one electric service provider that allows new customers to select their preferred utility. AEP Ohio was granted a twenty-five (25) year non-exclusive franchise by Findlay in 2009. AEP Ohio's Economic Development team consistently receives feedback from new customer prospects on having the ability to choose their electric utility is a huge benefit. AEP Ohio firmly believes that restricting choice of provider for new loads within the City borders will be a barrier to economic development in the City of Findlay. One provider may be in a better position to serve the customer more quickly or better meet the customer's unique needs. For example, many businesses have company commitments related to the environment, and that under Ohio Law, AEP Ohio customers can choose a contract with renewable energy options and can also shop from competing generation suppliers which can result in significant cost savings. Electric cooperatives do not allow customers to choose their own generation supplier under the restrictive franchise agreement that is proposed today. Hancock-Wood Electric is not obligated to facilitate development and cooperate with a Findlay customer that wants AEP Ohio to serve them. This issue was previously considered by Council in 2009, and at that time, Council determined that a non-exclusive franchise agreement with AEP Ohio would benefit the community. That agreement was approved for a period of twenty-five (25) years and will not expire until 2034. While AEP Ohio opposes Ordinance No. 2024-067, should Council decide to move forward with it today, AEP Ohio strongly urges it to be referred it to committee for more discussion. AEP Ohio is committed to the City of Findlay and supporting them in their economic development efforts. Filed.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS:

email from Steve Wilson – Performance R&D.

discussion:

Councilwoman Frische moved to read the email in its entirety, seconded by Councilman Wobser. All were in favor. The Council Clerk read the email in its entirety:

Email from Steve Wilson to Mayor Muryn on May 8, 2024 . . . I had a few minutes to watch the Council Meeting. Contrary to the statement from an elected County Official, and I think you already know this, the Performance R&D purchase is absolutely for Flood Mitigation. We will be removing 6,000 cubic yards of material from the property. The bike path is ancillary. Thanks again for your help with this.

discussion:

Councilwoman Frische noted that this clarifies that these funds should have been paid for through the County and not the City. Filed.

REPORTS OF MUNICIPAL OFFICERS AND MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENTS:

Officer/Shareholders Disclosure Form from the Ohio Department of Commerce Division of Liquor Control for Ralphs Appliance Inc. dba Ralphs Joy of Living, 1922 Tiffin Avenue, Findlay, Ohio for D5 and D6 liquor permits. This requires a vote of Council.

James H. Mathias, Chief of Police – Ralphs Appliance Inc. dba Ralphs Joy of Living, 1922 Tiffin Avenue, Findlay, Ohio. A check of the records shows no criminal record on the following:

Ralph C. Smothers II,
Julie A. Smothers

Councilman Wobser moved for no objections be filed, seconded by Councilman Palmer. All were in favor. Filed.

Treasurer’s Reconciliation Report – April 30, 2024. Filed.

A set of summary financial reports for April 30, 2024:

- Summary of Year-To-Date Information as of April 30, 2024
- Financial Snapshot for General Fund as of April 30, 2024
- Open Projects Report as of April 30, 2024
- Cash & Investments as of April 30, 2024

Filed.

Revolving Loan Fund minutes – ~~February 8, 2024~~ May 10, 2024.

discussion:

Council Clerk DeVore noted that the minutes should be dated May 10, 2024.

City Auditor Staschiak learned a fact prior to tonight’s meeting on the use of the generator that they were asking for support of for a community center type for emergency situations. Had he known that during the meeting, he would have voted in support of the request, but that it passed regardless of his vote. Filed.

Design Review Board minutes – January 10, 2024, February 28, 2024, March 13, 2024, May 8, 2024.

discussion:

Councilman Wobser noted that all of these minutes are very old and asked if there is a reason for that. Councilman Russel replied that the minutes had not been a regular part of Council packets, but because of the situation of the new courthouse building, he had looked for them and asked that they be included. The Council Clerk and the Hancock Regional Planning Commission Office will ensure that they will be a regular part of Council packets just as the Board of Zoning Appeals minutes, and also the City Planning Commission minutes are. Councilman Wobser is glad that they will be part of Council’s packet. It is nice to be able to read the minutes of those meetings. It was nice to be able to get the true detail of what was going on with the Justice Center. Filed.

Police Chief Mathias – Ohio Attorney General Law Enforcement Continuing Professional Training Grant

The City of Findlay Police Department received fifteen thousand nine hundred eighteen dollars and twenty-four cents (\$15,918.24) check from the State of Ohio that will be deposited to the ORC Police Department Required Training Project. These funds will be used to fund outside training for Police Offers. Legislation to be appropriated from the Ohio Attorney General Law Enforcement Continuing Professional Training Grant to the Findlay Police Department Training Program is requested. Ordinance No. 2024-063 was created.

FROM: Ohio Attorney General Law Enforcement Continuing Professional Training Grant \$ 15,918.24
TO: 2024 ORC Required PD Training (31940600) \$ 15,918.24

Filed.

Findlay Municipal Court Activities Report – April 2024. Filed.

Mayor Muryn – Hometown Hero Banner Program

The City of Findlay ordered banners for the Hometown Hero Program to be hung from May 2024 through July 2024. Participants in the program paid a fee to the City to cover the cost of the banners which has been deposited in the General Fund. Legislation to appropriate funds is requested. Ordinance No. 2024-064 was created.

FROM: General Fund	\$ 1,328.34
TO: Mayor’s Office #21002000-other	\$ 1,328.34

Filed.

Mayor Muryn – annual bids and contracts

Each year, the City of Findlay formally bids a number of chemicals, materials and services. The contracts for these items run for a calendar year with option(s) to renew the contracts in one year increments. In July, a review and evaluation of the current contracts and contracted vendors will be conducted. For those contracts that will not be renewed, the City of Findlay will advertise and receive bids in October. Items that are normally bid each year include several chemicals used by the Water Treatment Plant and Water Pollution Control Center, materials, uniforms, services, and supplies. Legislation authorizing the Mayor and Service-Safety Director to contract these items is requested. Ordinance No. 2024-065 was created. Filed.

City Engineer Kalb – Runway 7/25 Nav-Aid Rehab, Project No. 35234500 Reconfiguration Flight Inspection

As part of the PAPI and REILs replacement project on Runway 7/25, the City of Findlay will be required to perform a flight inspection on Runway 7/25. This flight inspection is performed by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and is reimbursable. As part of the agreement with the FAA, the City is required to prepay the entire estimated cost of the flight inspection prior to submitting for any reimbursements. To ensure that there are enough funds in the project to cover the estimated cost of the flight inspection, an appropriation of funds will need to be made. Legislation to appropriate and transfer funds is requested. Ordinance No. 2024-066 was created.

FROM: CIT Fund – Capital Improvement Restricted Account	\$ 21,293.28
TO: Runway 7/25 Nav-Aid Rehab, Project No. 35234500	\$ 21,293.28

discussion:

Councilman Russel asked if the City will be reimbursed for this, but that in order to be reimbursed, the City has to first pay the money. City Engineer Kalb replied that is correct. Per the agreement, the City has to put the money up first and then submit it through their system, and then they will reimburse the City for it.

City Auditor Staschiak noted that this is not uncommon with some of the City’s federal programs. Filed.

City Engineer Kalb – CDBG Critical Infrastructure Application Bernard Waterline Replacement and Carnahan Storm Sewer

The City of Findlay Engineering Department is working with the Hancock Regional Planning Commission (HRPC) Office to submit two (2) applications to the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) for the Critical Infrastructure Grant. As part of the allocation this year, the City will be able to submit two (2) applications for possible funding. In years past, the City has been awarded up to five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000.00) for critical infrastructure projects. The first application will include the replacement of an existing 6-inch waterline on Bernard Avenue with a new 8-inch main line. Over the past couple of years this line has experienced a number of breaks. The second applications will include the replacement of a section of storm sewer on Carnahan Avenue. In the past week, the City of Findlay Sewer Department discovered a large hole in the 72—inch storm sewer. With this being a double lined brick sewer, a section of the storm line will need to be replaced to ensure there is an adequate pipe. Legislation authorizing City Representatives to execute the necessary grant application(s) and/or agreement(s) to receive the grant funding is requested. Resolution No. 015-2024 was created.

discussion:

Councilman Russel asked if this has a deadline on it. City Engineer Kalb replied yes. This one and the other CDBG project request have timelines. He provided two (2) letters for tonight's CDBG projects because the City is allowed to submit two (2) applications per year and want to take full advantage of that. Councilman Russel asked if Resolution Nos. 015-2024 and 017-2024 need to be adopted tonight. City Engineer Kalb replied that is correct. Filed.

Mayor Muryn – AMERICA 250-OH

The City of Findlay is honored to be invited to be an America250 community by the Ohio Commission of the U.S. Semiquincentennial (ORC 149.309). The 29-member nonpartisan commission is charged with preparing the State to participate in the United States of America's 250th anniversary which culminates on July 4, 2026. This multi-year effort is an opportunity to pause and reflect on our nations' past, honor the contributions of all Americans, and look ahead toward the future we want to create. The City of Findlay looks forward to working with community partners to celebrate the story of Findlay, and from the Fort that founded us, to the people that make up our community today. Resolution No. 016-2024 was created. Filed.

City Engineer Kalb – CDBG grant application allocation Melrose Avenue multiuse path

The City of Findlay Engineering Department is working with the Hancock Regional Planning Commission (HRPC) Office to submit an application to the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) for allocation grant funds. With the allocation grant, the City will be allocate two hundred twenty-two thousand dollars (\$222,000.00) towards a project. As part of this year's allocation, the City will be submitting an application to install a multiuse path on Melrose Avenue. This project was originally submitted to the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) for Transportation Alternative Plan (TAP) funds, but recently found out that the project did not receive ODOT funding. Since this area is a highly traffic pedestrian corridor, these funds will help to construct a ten foot (10 ft) wide multiuse path from Crystal Avenue to Bright Road. Legislation authorizing City Representatives to execute the necessary grant application(s) and/or agreement(s) to receive the grant funding is requested. Resolution No. 017-2024 was created. Filed.

Mayor Muryn – Hancock Wood Electric Cooperative Territorial Protection Franchise

The Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUCO) establishes territories for electric providers across the State of Ohio. These territories can be found at <https://puco.ohio.gov/utilities/electricity/service-area-map/electric-certified-territories-web-mapping-application>. The majority of the City of Findlay is located within the American Electric Power (AEP) territory, however, due to a non-exclusive franchise agreement between the City of Findlay and Ohio Power Company (AEP) authorized under Ordinance No. 2009-013, AEP's territory has expanded with the City of Findlay corporation limits. This has taken away parcels from the Hancock-Wood Electric Cooperative (HWE) territory. To protect the PUCO approved HWE territory and allow for competition, Mayor Muryn is requesting authorization to enter into a non-exclusive franchise agreement with HWE. This agreement would allow for HWE to provide services on properties currently within their territory even upon annexation into the City of Findlay. It would not allow HWE to take over service from AEP defined parcels unless both entities (HWE and AEP) agreed. Additionally, in the event HWE is unable to provide adequate service to a potential customer, and AEP could, HWE would be responsible for transferring that parcel to AEP to ensure that potential development is not hindered. Mayor Muryn believes this agreement is fair and appropriate for potential customers, electric providers, and is in the best interest of the City of Findlay as a whole. If Council would like this discussed at a committee, Mayor Muryn requests that it be sent to the PLANNING AND ZONING COMMITTEE as it is a planning matter. Ordinance No. 2024-067 was created.

discussion:

Councilwoman Frische moved to read the email in its entirety, seconded by Councilman Palmer. Ayes: DeArment, Frische, Greeno, Hellmann, Niemeyer, Palmer, Warnecke, Wobser. Nays: Russel. The Council Clerk read the email in its entirety.

Councilman Hellmann moved to refer this to the PLANNING AND ZONING COMMITTEE meeting, seconded by Councilman DeArment. It will be addressed at their June 13, 2024 at 12:00pm meeting in the first floor Council Chambers which will be before the third reading of the Ordinance. Councilman Hellmann asked if this will continue through Council. President Pro-Tem Russel replied yes, it will receive its second reading on June 4, 2024, and a third reading on June 18, 2024. All were in favor. Filed.

City Engineer Kalb – Rawson & Swale Restroom Construction (CDBG), Project No. 31933300

In 2023, the City of Findlay received a CDBG-CV grant for the construction of new restroom facilities at Rawson and Swale Parks. This grant was able to cover one hundred percent (100%) of the design and construction cost for the new facilities. During excavation of the new foundations, there were a number of unexpected stumps and logs that were buried under the existing structures. This organic material will pose a problem with the new foundation, so the material was removed and Control Density Fill (CDF) was placed to give the foundation a strong base. At this time, there are not enough CDBG funds in the project to cover the additional work needed for the excavation and backfill. To ensure the City can compensate the contractor for the additional work, an appropriation from the Capital Fund will need to be made. Legislation appropriate and transfer funds is requested. Ordinance No. 2024-068 was created.

FROM:	CIT Fund – Capital Improvements Restricted Account	\$ 70,000.00
TO:	Rawson & Swale Restroom Construction (CDBG), <i>Project No. 31933300</i>	\$ 70,000.00

Filed.

City Engineer Kalb – Third Capital Improvement Appropriation of 2024

The third Capital Improvement allocation of the year is to transfer funds into capital projects in order to continue on with a couple of projects and to purchase a couple pieces of equipment. Legislation authorizing the Mayor, Service-Safety Director and/or City Engineer to advertise for bids and enter into contracts, as well as appropriate and transfer funds is requested. Ordinance No. 2024-069 was created.

FROM:	CIT Fund – Capital Improvements Restricted Account	\$ 95,000.00
TO:	Recreation Function #21044400- <i>other</i>	\$ 70,000.00
TO:	Cemetery #21046000- <i>other</i>	\$ 25,000.00
FROM:	CIT Fund – Capital Improvements Restricted Account	\$ 355,000.00
TO:	2024 Annual Street Resurfacing/Curb Repairs (38240100)	\$ 200,000.00
TO:	File Scanning and Microfilm (31920800)	\$ 35,000.00
TO:	Riverside Toy and Surface (31941100)	\$ 60,000.00
TO:	Rawson/Cooper Ballfield Lighting Upgrade (31942300)	\$ 60,000.00

Filed.

Hancock Regional Planning Commission Director Cordonnier – Findlay Revolving Loan Fund for 50 North

The Hancock Regional Planning Commission Office is the administrator of the Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) on behalf of the City of Findlay. HRPC is requesting that an ordinance be passed allowing the granting of up to \$165,000 Findlay RLF dollars for the replacement of a generator and installation of a security system at 50 North, as well as authorizing the submission of an application and execution of all necessary documents to the Office of Community Development for this project. The current generator at 50 North is almost 20 years old and continues to have multiple issues that require significant cost expenditures. Because 50 North is an emergency shelter within the City of Findlay and Hancock County, it is imperative for them to have a working generator.

In addition, addressing significant safety issues is a priority for 40 North. Currently, there is a deficit in providing a safe environment for staff and community members. The security system installation will include access control with card readers, test program and training, and intrusion detection. A pre-application has been submitted to and approved by the Office of Community Development finding that these projects meet the minimum requirements for an RLF Community Development Project. As 50 North provides programs and services to seniors, the project therefore meets the national objective by serving elderly adults, a limited clientele presumed class. The City RLF Board met on May 10, 2024 to discuss the project and voted 3-1 in recommendation of the 50 North project. The RLF Board minutes are attached to this letter as referenced in Exhibit "A". The total Findlay RLF balance is currently \$701,417.27. The unencumbered balance of the City RLF Program is \$401,417.27. HRPC Director/RLF Manager Cordonnier is confident that they can complete this Community Development project and still have adequate funds to assist small businesses in the City of Findlay. He is in support of the use of Findlay RLF dollars for this Community Development project. Ordinance No. 2024-070 was created. Filed.

Mayor Muryn – CAV/FEMA floodplain regulations violations

The City of Findlay is prepared to begin the process of bringing the properties identified by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) during the City of Findlay’s Community Assistance Visit (CAV) into compliance. During the beginning phase, an elevation certificate will be created by a professional surveyor for approximately thirty-five (35) dwellings. The elevation certificate will verify and help determine what corrections will be needed in order to bring any properties with violations into compliance with floodplain regulations. Upon approval of this appropriation, the attached letter will be sent to impacted property owners. Legislation to appropriate funds is requested. Ordinance No. 2024-071 was created.

FROM:	Stormwater Account	\$ 15,000.00
TO:	Flood Plain/Storm Water Regulation Upgrades, <i>Project No. 35512700</i>	\$ 15,000.00

discussion:

Councilman DeArment noted that the City is going to survey thirty-five (35) properties and compare the first floor elevation to the flood map. He asked if the City is okay if it is above the flood level and if the City will take action if it is below. City Engineer Kalb replied that it will be outside components such as electrical, air conditioning, etc. that will be included with it. If crawl spaces were to be put in, they would be too deep compared to what FEMA classifies as a crawl space and may have to be filled in which would include venting in buildings where they are needed. Councilman DeArment asked if the City would be filling them in. City Engineer Kalb replied yes most likely the City would be because years ago, the City approved the certificates so the City would be the corrective action on it. Service-Safety Director Martin added that since this is part of the City’s responsibility, we have to work to have these parcels become compliant with FEMA regulations. Those elevation surveys are going to help identify what needs to be done. Once the City identifies what that looks like, then we will work with the property owners to see how we can work through this. Councilman DeArment asked if it will all be at the City’s cost. Service-Safety Director Martin replied it can be.

City Auditor Staschiak asked that in light of the amount of flood work that has been done and the number of properties anticipated to be removed from the flood work, if it would be worth it to attempt to acquire some time from FEMA on this until it is a little further along in the remapping project in order to not end up throwing good money after bad. Service-Safety Director Martin replied that these properties have been identified as having to have elevations done regardless of the remapping. This has to be done to what FEMA has identified. Once the City understands what they are, then it will come back to Council for discussion about what needs to be done.

Councilwoman Frische asked how many properties this includes. Service-Safety Director Martin replied that he does not have the specific parcel locations, but that it is thirty-five (35) in total.

Councilman Russel asked if there is a timeline on when they have to be completed. Service-Safety Director Martin replied it has been an ongoing process for quite a few years now with the City’s Zoning Department facilitating it, so this is the first step to start the process.

Councilman DeArment asked if the City is going to take remedial action until all of the remapping is done. Service-Safety Director Martin replied that this is for venting of crawl spaces. The remediation has to be done regardless of where they are in the mapping.

Councilwoman Frische asked where the properties are located. She asked if they are in Hunters Creek, by Riverside Park, parcels over by Clinton or where they are. She would like to know where phone calls might be anticipated to be coming from once the letters go out. Service-Safety Director Martin replied that without having the specific addresses or parcel numbers in front of him, he is not one hundred percent (100%) sure, but believes they are in the downtown area along the river. He will provide more specific details in the future. Filed.

City Auditor Staschiak – severance payout appropriation

There have been several retirements that have already occurred and some that are scheduled to occur this year that were not included in the original budget figures because the City did not have written notification of the retirements at the time of budget development last fall. Legislation to appropriate funds is requested. Ordinance No. 2024-072 was created.

FROM:	Severance Payout Reserve Fund	\$ 357,900.00
TO:	Severance Payout Reserve #22090000-personal services	\$ 357,900.00

discussion:

City Auditor Staschiak pointed out that this is a very large severance payout. Some concern about the amount of transfer that was done in the Severance Reserve Fund was discussed during the budget meeting, but that it is needed and puts the City in a solid financial position that the City has funded already in anticipation of them, but that there were at least three (3) of them that were not anticipated.

Councilman DeArment asked how much will be in the fund after. City Auditor Staschiak replied close to two million dollars (\$2,000,000.00). He does not have the number tonight, but will provide that before Council passes this. Filed.

Board of Zoning Appeals minutes – April 11, 2024. Filed.

Service-Safety Director Martin – H2Ohio Equipment grant

The City of Findlay has been notified by the Ohio’s EPA division of Drinking and Ground Water that the City of Findlay Water Department is eligible for equipment funding through the H2Ohio Equipment Grant. This is a non-match, reimbursement grant. These grant dollars will upgrade equipment such as telescope valve wrenches, couplings, and distribution clean water pumps that the crews use routinely. Legislation authorizing the Administration to sign and accept the grant, as well as appropriate the grant dollars once received to the project number is requested. Ordinance No. 2024-073 was created.

FROM:	OEPA Drinking Water Distribution
TO:	Drinking Water Distribution Equipment Grant #35742800-other

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

An AD HOC COMMITTEE met on May 13, 2024 to finalize the 2024-2025 Council Rules of Procedures and to allow for public comment. The AD-HOC COMMITTEE previously meet on March 13, 2024, March 26, 2024, April 9, 2024, May 3, 2024 for the review and discussion of said rules of procedures.

We recommend adoption of revised Rules of Procedure for City Council meetings as is on a two month (4 meetings) trial basis.

Councilman Palmer moved to accept the committee report, seconded by Councilman Hellmann. Ayes: DeArment, Greeno, Hellmann, Palmer, Russel, Warnecke, Wobser. Nays: Frische, Niemeyer. The committee report is accepted. Filed.

LEGISLATION:

RESOLUTIONS:

RESOLUTION NO. 015-2024 requires three (3) readings

first reading - adopted

(CDBG Critical Infrastructure Application Bernard Waterline Replacement and Carnahan Storm Sewer)

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR, SERVICE-SAFETY DIRECTOR AND/OR CITY ENGINEER OF THE CITY OF FINDLAY, OHIO TO FILE APPLICATIONS TO THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT FOR CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE GRANT FUNDS AND, IF AWARDED, TO SIGN A GRANT AGREEMENT WITH THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENT.

discussion:

Councilman Wobser noted that this is one of the two CDBG requests that City Engineer Kalb would like to get going on, so he will make a motion to give it all three (3) readings tonight and adopt it.

Councilman Wobser moved to suspend the statutory rules and give the Resolution its second and third readings, seconded by Councilman Greeno. Ayes: DeArment, Frische, Greeno, Hellmann, Niemeyer, Palmer, Russel, Warnecke, Wobser. The Resolution received its second and third readings. Councilman Wobser moved to adopt the Resolution, seconded by Councilman Palmer. Ayes: Frische, Greeno, Hellmann, Niemeyer, Palmer, Russel, Warnecke, Wobser, DeArment. The Resolution was declared adopted and is recorded in Resolution Volume XXXV, and is hereby made a part of the record.

RESOLUTION NO. 016-2024 (AMERICA 250-OH) requires three (3) readings

first reading

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF FINDLAY, OHIO SUPPORTING THE OHIO COMMISSION FOR THE UNITED STATES SEMIQUINCENTENNIAL (AMERICA 250-OH).

First reading of the Resolution.

RESOLUTION NO. 017-2024 requires three (3) readings

first reading - adopted

(CDBG Grant Application – Allocation Melrose Avenue Multiuse Path)

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR, SERVICE-SAFETY DIRECTOR AND/OR CITY ENGINEER OF THE CITY OF FINDLAY, OHIO TO FILE AN APPLICATION TO THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT FOR ALLOCATION GRANT FUNDS AND, IF AWARDED, TO SIGN A GRANT AGREEMENT WITH THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENT.

Councilwoman Warnecke moved to suspend the statutory rules and give the Resolution its second and third readings, seconded by Councilman DeArment. Ayes: Greeno, Hellmann, Niemeyer, Palmer, Russel, Warnecke, Wobser, DeArment. Nays: Frische. The Resolution received its second and third readings. Councilman Palmer moved to adopt the Resolution, seconded by Councilman Hellmann.

discussion:

Councilwoman Frische asked if this originally was an ODOT project. She asked what the total cost of the project is. City Engineer Kalb replied that this portion of it is approximately four hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$450,000.00), that will cover roughly half of the project. Councilwoman Frische asked what the entire project cost is. City Engineer Kalb replied that the TAP project that Councilwoman Frische is referring to includes Bright Road, but that he did not include the Bright Road portion of it. This is just the Melrose portion. Councilwoman Frische asked if Bright Road is already approved and is one hundred percent (100%) paid by ODOT. City Engineer Kalb replied no. The City did not receive any TAP funds. The Melrose area is a heavy pedestrian traffic area which is why he chose the Melrose area for it to utilize some allocation funds towards it to get that portion done, but that TAP did not give the City any funding for Melrose or Bright Road. Councilwoman Frische asked if the City is not doing that. City Engineer Kalb replied at this point, no. Councilwoman Frische asked if this resolution is to apply for a grant that was originally thought to be one hundred percent (100%) paid for . . . City Engineer Kalb replied it was ninety-five percent (95%) paid for. Councilwoman Frische asked if the City is now only doing Melrose at this point and putting in sidewalks for commercial locations that do not have sidewalks because they may not have a structure on them yet. City Engineer Kalb replied no, these are residential areas. Melrose on the north and south side are residential areas. This will eventually go over to the Bright Road and Crystal Avenue area. There are schools over on Blanchard.

Councilwoman Frische asked what percentage has sidewalks already. City Engineer Kalb replied that he cannot tell her what percentage but that there is a gap in the middle. Councilwoman Frische asked if those gaps will just be filled in and if the parcels have sidewalks or if the City is going to tear out the ten foot (10 ft) wide. City Engineer Kalb replied that this is for a multiuse path that will be ten foot (10 ft) wide from Crystal to Bright Road. It will tie in two (2) sidewalks at Crystal Avenue and will help set up for future tap projects. ODOT informed him that the City did not score as high because there is no network in that area. He is hoping that the TAP project will start developing that network and eventually tie the 236 project into the Blanchard Street project. Instead of using full capital funds for this, it is a good allocation project because it is a CDBG eligible area. In order to accomplish that and start the leg of the multiuse path for future TAP applications, the City is putting funds into the multiuse infrastructure which is why the City is going after these TAP projects. Councilwoman Frische noted that the City is doing a lot with the multi-use paths. City Engineer Kalb replied that is correct. They are through TAP funds. Councilwoman Frische asked if the City did not get this one because it was not connecting to those. City Engineer Kalb replied no. The City applies for some that are not awarded to the City. In looking at stats and sites where it tracks pedestrian usage and runners usage, this is a highly trafficked area and want to make sure it is safe for everyone and that multiple people can use it. Councilwoman Frische replied that this is her ward area and sees the pedestrian concerns, especially on the north side of the road, however, when putting in sidewalks with City dollars, she would rather see this get discussed if changing the sidewalk ordinance for sidewalks on properties that are not improved before doing just a partial because the grant was not awarded to the City and hope that it helps with the TAP grant later. She does not see the sense of urgency. She sees that the ordinance needs to be improved on properties that are not developed yet to force those sidewalks because parts of it were not originally within the City limits. City Engineer Kalb asked Councilwoman Frische if it would change her view if it were on the south side of the roadway. Councilwoman Frische replied no because unless the City is going to start fixing everyone's sidewalks or put them in because they didn't, then the sidewalk policy needs to be addressed if the City is not getting the TAP grant. It is not the responsible time to be moving forward with a partial grant on a project. Originally, it was to go all the way on Bright Road those walking to work. City Engineer Kalb replied that it does go to Bright Road. It is Crystal to Bright Road. Councilwoman Frische replied that the City is not doing the second phase of it because the full dollars were not awarded. She cannot support it because it looks as if the City is giving certain property owners sidewalks and making others pay for them, and that it is not a full project because the TAP funds were not awarded.

Councilman Wobser understands what Councilwoman Frische is saying, but that this does go to Bright Road and there definitely is a need there. There are a lot of people going from residential areas down towards the industrial park and down to the retail area which has very heavily traffic. This is a good project to use the money the City has received and should get started on it.

Councilwoman Frische raised her hand to speak with President Pro-Tem Russel stating that she has already made her point and that a comment was not made back to her, so he asked what additional . . . Councilwoman Frische replied that she does not know what the problem is with her responding as she knows she has not taken her full five (5) minutes . . . President Pro-Tem Russel replied that she did not provide a direct question. Councilwoman Frische replied that she did not ask him to give her a . . . President Pro-Tem Russel replied that this is under discussion . . . Councilwoman Frische replied that yes this is under discussion and that she has not hit her five (5) minutes so she'd like to finish her comments. She asked if he could make eye contact and acknowledge that . . . *no response was given* . . . Councilwoman Frische continued stating that she will then just go ahead and speak and say that . . . President Pro-Tem Russel replied that he knows she will speak regardless of what he says. Councilwoman Frische replied that yes she will when she is within the rules . . . President Pro-Tem Russel replied that Council has a right to conduct business . . . Councilwoman Frische replied yes they do . . . President Pro-Tem Russel continued that Council has a right to conduct business in an orderly manner and that it supersedes Councilmember rights to talk. Councilwoman Frische replied no it doesn't, so point of order. President Pro-Tem Russel asked what her point of order is.

Councilwoman Frische replied that Councilman Wobser made a comment that it is a good project, and that she does not disagree with what he is saying . . . President Pro-Tem Russel replied that Councilwoman Frische made a point of order . . . Councilwoman Frische asked Council is under discussion. President Pro-Tem Russel asked Councilwoman Frische what her point of order is. Councilwoman Frische replied that her point of order is that President Pro-Tem Russel is out of line. She asked if Council is under discussion, yes or no, and if he has timed her and if she has used her five (5) minutes. President Pro-Tem Russel asked Councilwoman Frische what her point of order is. She called a point of order so he is responding to her point of order. When point of order is called, that stops all business . . . Councilwoman Frische replied yep and that she would like to finish her comment. President Pro-Tem Russel asked Councilwoman Frische what her point of order is. He asked her if it is that she would like to continue to talk. He asked Councilwoman Frische to please state her point of order because as President Pro-Tem, he rules on the point of order. Councilwoman Frische replied repeating that President Pro-Tem Russel rules on point of orders. President Pro-Tem Russel replied yes that Roberts Rules state . . . Councilwoman Frische replied that her point of order is that Council is in discussion and that she has the right to have the floor, and that Councilman Wobser had the right to have the floor, and that President Pro-Tem Russel is taking up time that Council could be getting out of this Council meeting, but that if he wants tonight's meeting to go two (2) hours, she guesses Council could do that. President Pro-Tem Russel replied that point of order is granted. Councilwoman Frische replied that again, Councilman Wobser has a point, however, her point is different in that if the City starts doing this, we would be doing sidewalks for certain property owners at zero cost paying for it with taxpayer funds, and when we do not have a full project, that is when the City is in a situation. Also, City Engineer Kalb just stated that a good portion that Melrose does have sidewalks there are a hodge podge mix. She sees Councilman Wobser's point and that she hopes he sees hers and that she wishes this could have been taken to a sidewalk committee to let them figure out the sidewalk ordinance.

Ayes: Hellmann, Niemeyer, Palmer, Russel, Warnecke, Wobser, DeArment, Greeno. Nays: Frische. The Resolution was declared adopted and is recorded in Resolution Volume XXXV, and is hereby made a part of the record.

ORDINANCES:

ORDINANCE NO. 2024-056 requires three (3) readings

third reading - adopted

(approve 2023 ordinances & resolutions changes)

AN ORDINANCE TO APPROVE CURRENT REPLACEMENT PAGES TO THE FINDLAY CODIFIED ORDINANCES, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Councilman Palmer moved to adopt the Ordinance, seconded by Councilman Hellmann. Ayes: Niemeyer, Palmer, Russel, Warnecke, Wobser, DeArment, Frische, Greeno, Hellmann. The Ordinance was declared adopted and is recorded in Ordinance Volume XXIII, Page 2024-056 and is hereby made a part of the record.

ORDINANCE NO. 2024-058 (WTP generator replacement) requires three (3) readings

second reading

AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING FUNDS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Second reading of the Ordinance.

ORDINANCE NO. 2024-059 (West Park sanitary extension-septic removal) requires three (3) readings

second reading

AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING FUNDS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Second reading of the Ordinance.

ORDINANCE NO. 2024-062) requires three (3) readings

second reading - adopted

(Blanchard Street Waterline Replacement Phase II, OPWC)

AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING FUNDS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

discussion:

Councilman Russel asked if this project is ready to go and asked if there is a timing concern on it. City Engineer Kalb replied that this is for a 16-inch line and would like to get the valves ordered as soon as possible because of the long lead times on them. Councilman Russel asked when construction is anticipated to start. City Engineer Kalb replied that it is dependent on how soon they can get those valves because one will be needed when starting out.

Those sixteen inch (16") butterfly valves are going to need to be on hand and need to be ordered. Councilman Russel asked if this is bid out and if a contractor has been awarded. City Engineer Kalb replied yes. Beaverdam Contracting Inc. was the low bidder and was awarded the contract. This money will be used to contract with them. Beaverdam will order the valves. Councilman Russel asked if the timing of this will interfere with the BalloonFest. City Engineer Kalb replied that the portion in front of the BalloonFest area will be done as soon as possible so that it is done before the BalloonFest rolls around.

Councilman Palmer moved to suspend statutory rules and give the Ordinance its third reading, seconded by Councilman Greeno. Ayes: Palmer, Russel, Warnecke, Wobser, DeArment, Frische, Greeno, Hellmann, Niemeyer. The Ordinance received its third reading. Councilman Palmer moved to adopt the Ordinance, seconded by Councilman Greeno. Ayes: Russel, Warnecke, Wobser, DeArment, Frische, Greeno, Hellmann, Niemeyer, Palmer. The Ordinance was declared adopted and is recorded in Ordinance Volume XXIII, Page 2024-062 and is hereby made a part of the record.

ORDINANCE NO. 2024-063 requires three (3) readings

first reading - adopted

(Ohio Attorney General Law Enforcement Continuing Professional Training Grant)

AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING FUNDS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

discussion:

Councilman Russel pointed out that this is a simple request to move grant funds from one account to another, so he will make a motion to give it all three (3) readings tonight.

Councilman Russel moved to suspend statutory rules and give the Ordinance its second and third readings, seconded by Councilman Palmer. Ayes: Warnecke, Wobser, DeArment, Frische, Greeno, Hellmann, Niemeyer, Palmer, Russel. The Ordinance received its second and third readings. Councilman Palmer moved to adopt the Ordinance, seconded by Councilman Hellmann. Ayes: Wobser, DeArment, Frische, Greeno, Hellmann, Niemeyer, Palmer, Russel, Warnecke. The Ordinance was declared adopted and is recorded in Ordinance Volume XXIII, Page 2024-063 and is hereby made a part of the record.

ORDINANCE NO. 2024-064 (Hometown Hero Banner Program) requires three (3) readings

first reading - adopted

AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING FUNDS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

discussion:

Councilwoman Warnecke noted that this money has already been collected and just needs moved into the right fund, so she is going to make a motion to give it all three (3) readings tonight.

Councilwoman Warnecke moved to suspend statutory rules and give the Ordinance its second and third readings, seconded by Councilman Palmer. Ayes: DeArment, Frische, Greeno, Hellmann, Niemeyer, Palmer, Russel, Warnecke, Wobser. The Ordinance received its second and third readings. Councilman Palmer moved to adopt the Ordinance, seconded by Councilman DeArment. Ayes: Frische, Greeno, Hellmann, Niemeyer, Palmer, Russel, Warnecke, Wobser, DeArment. The Ordinance was declared adopted and is recorded in Ordinance Volume XXIII, Page 2024-064 and is hereby made a part of the record.

ORDINANCE NO. 2024-065 (annual bids and contracts) **requires three (3) readings** **first reading**

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND/OR SERVICE-SAFETY DIRECTOR OF THE CITY OF FINDLAY, OHIO, TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS AND ENTER INTO CONTRACTS, WITH OPTION YEARS, FOR THE PURCHASE OF THE MATERIALS, CHEMICALS, AND SERVICE AGREEMENTS NEEDED BY THE VARIOUS DEPARTMENTS OF THE CITY OF FINDLAY, OHIO COMMENCING JANUARY 1, 2025, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

discussion:

Councilman Palmer asked if there is a time sensitive nature to this to negotiate prices. Service-Safety Director Martin replied this can go through another reading.

First reading of the Ordinance.

ORDINANCE NO. 2024-066 **requires three (3) readings** **first reading**

(Runway 7/25 Nav-Aid Rehab Reconfiguration Flight Inspection)

AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING AND TRANSFERRING FUNDS, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

First reading of the Ordinance.

ORDINANCE NO. 2024-067 **requires three (3) readings** **first reading**

(HWE Cooperative Territorial Protection Franchise)

AN ORDINANCE GRANTING TO HANCOCK WOOD ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC., ITS SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS, THE RIGHT TO ACQUIRE, CONSTRUCT, MAINTAIN AND OPERATE IN THE STREETS, THOROUGHFARES, ALLEYS, BRIDGES AND PUBLIC PLACES OF THE CITY OF FINDLAY, STATE OF OHIO, AND ITS SUCCESSORS, LINES FOR THE DISTRIBUTION OF ELECTRIC POWER AND ENERGY TO PARTS OF THE CITY OF FINDLAY AND THE INHABITANTS THEREOF FOR LIGHT, HEAT, POWER AND OTHER PURPOSES AND FOR THE TRANSMISSION OF THE SAME WITHIN, THROUGH OR ACROSS SAID CITY OF FINDLAY, STATE OF OHIO, SUBJECT TO AND IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE CERTIFIED TERRITORIES FOR ELECTRIC SUPPLIERS ACT (OHIO REVISED CODE SECTIONS 4933.81 TO 4933.90).

discussion:

Councilman Hellmann noted that earlier in tonight's meeting, Council referred this to the PLANNING AND ZONING COMMITTEE and asked if Council needs to vote on it now. President Pro-Tem Russel replied that Council does not need to vote on it now. Councilman Hellman pointed out that a representative from the American Electric Power Company spoke before Council tonight, and that there are also two (2) representatives from Hancock Wood Electric present tonight.

First reading of the Ordinance.

ORDINANCE NO. 2024-068 **requires three (3) readings** **first reading - adopted**

(Rawson & Swale Parks restroom construction CDBG)

AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING AND TRANSFERRING FUNDS, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

discussion:

Councilman Russel asked what the timing issues are on this. City Engineer Kalb replied that an unknown stump was found underneath the known existing structure. It looked small when they started, but was actually a large stump causing extra back fill to be put in with CDF stone to make sure it was structurally sound in order to keep moving on the project. He would now like to compensate the contractors for what they had to do in order to make sure the foundations were strong. It is his desire to give this ordinance all three (3) readings tonight. Councilman Russel asked if the contractors have expended their resources. City Engineer Kalb replied that is correct. This happened when they were digging the foundations and would not have been able to proceed forward. If the City does not compensate them, then there will not be full restrooms in the end. There are timelines on this project because it is a CDBG project that had to proceed forward.

Councilman Wobser asked what the total amount is on this project. City Engineer Kalb replied seventy thousand dollars (\$70,000.00).

Councilman Wobser moved to suspend statutory rules and give the Ordinance its second and third readings, seconded by Councilman Palmer. Ayes: Greeno, Hellmann, Niemeyer, Palmer, Russel, Warnecke, Wobser, DeArment, Frische. The Ordinance received its second and third readings. Councilman Wobser moved to adopt the Ordinance, seconded by Councilman Greeno. Ayes: Hellmann, Niemeyer, Palmer, Russel, Warnecke, Wobser, DeArment, Frische, Greeno. The Ordinance was declared adopted and is recorded in Ordinance Volume XXIII, Page 2024-068 and is hereby made a part of the record.

ORDINANCE NO. 2024-069 (*third Capital Improvement appropriation of 2024*) **requires three (3) readings** **first reading**
AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR, SERVICE-SAFETY DIRECTOR AND/OR CITY ENGINEER OF THE CITY OF FINDLAY, OHIO, TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS WHERE REQUIRED AND ENTER INTO A CONTRACT OR CONTRACTS FOR CONSTRUCTION OF VARIOUS PROJECTS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE 2024 DEPARTMENT EQUIPMENT LIST, APPROPRIATING AND TRANSFERRING FUNDS FOR SAID CAPITAL EXPENDITURES, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.
First reading of the Ordinance.

ORDINANCE NO. 2024-070 (*Findlay RLF for 50 North*) **requires three (3) readings** **first reading**
AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING TO UTILIZE CITY OF FINDLAY REVOLVING LOAN FUND DOLLARS FOR 50 NORTH PROJECTS, AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF AN APPLICATION AND EXECUTION OF ALL NECESSARY DOCUMENTS TO THE OFFICE OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, APPROPRIATING AND TRANSFERRING FUNDS THERETO.
discussion:

Councilwoman Warnecke noted that it has been general practice to approve RLF funding in one reading for as long as she has been on Council so that the money can get put to use, so she is going to make a motion to suspend rules and give the ordinance its second and third readings.

Councilwoman Warnecke moved to suspend statutory rules and give the Ordinance its second and third readings, seconded by Councilman DeArment. Ayes: Niemeyer, Warnecke, DeArment, Hellmann. Nays: Palmer, Russel, Wobser, Frische, Greeno. Motion failed.

First reading of the Ordinance.

ORDINANCE NO. 2024-071 (*CAV/FEMA floodplain regulations violations*) **requires three (3) readings** **first reading**
AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING FUNDS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.
First reading of the Ordinance.

ORDINANCE NO. 2024-072 (*severance payout appropriation*) **requires three readings** **first reading**
AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING FUNDS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.
First reading of the Ordinance.

ORDINANCE NO. 2024-073 (*H2Ohio Equipment grant*) **requires three readings** **first reading - adopted**
AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR, SERVICE-SAFETY DIRECTOR AND/OR CITY ENGINEER OF THE CITY OF FINDLAY, OHIO TO EXECUTE THE NECESSARY AGREEMENTS IN ORDER TO RECEIVE AWARDED REIMBURSEMENT GRANT FUNDS FROM THE OHIO ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY DIVISION OF DRINKING AND GROUND WATER FOR EQUIPMENT FUNDING THROUGH THE H2OHIO EQUIPMENT GRANT PROJECT, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THERETO, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Councilwoman Frische moved to suspend statutory rules and give the Ordinance its second and third readings, seconded by Councilman Palmer. Ayes: Warnecke, Wobser, DeArment, Frische, Greeno, Hellmann, Niemeyer, Palmer. Nays: Russel. The Ordinance received its second and third readings.

discussion:

Councilman Russel asked what the timing is on this. He thought it was an application. Service-Safety Director Martin replied that it is a reimbursement through H2Ohio who has equipment dollars that they want to give the City, but that it is reimbursement and that the City cannot spend it until this legislation is approved saying the City can spend it, and then the City will sign the agreement with them. Once it is signed, the City can then spend the money and then they will reimburse us. It is a different process than what is usually done. This had to go through the legislative process first.

Councilman Russel moved to adopt the Ordinance, seconded by Councilman Greeno. Ayes: Warnecke, Wobser, DeArment, Frische, Greeno, Hellmann, Niemeyer, Palmer, Russel. The Ordinance was declared adopted and is recorded in Ordinance Volume XXIII, Page 2024-073 and is hereby made a part of the record.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

OLD BUSINESS:

Councilwoman Frische asked for an update on the Blanchard Street bike path study. City Engineer Kalb replied he will look and locate the exact time, but that he received an update this afternoon. They are coming into town in two (2) weeks. There was some signal timing that they had to change due to that. They will do a walk through with the City's Traffic Division and City Engineer Kalb on changes. He has not had a chance to read it yet. After he reads through it, he will provide comments back to them and then will get back to Council. Councilwoman Frische asked if he could send a copy to all of Council. City Engineer Kalb replied yes he will do so. Filed.

NEW BUSINESS:

City Auditor Staschiak pointed out that there are a lot of bird watchers in the community and that Council may or may not be aware that the Fire Department spent \$3,500.00 to bring in some swans to the pond out by fire station #4. There was also a lot of information in the paper about the comeback of the threatened swans in the state, but that Hancock County is not noted as having any swans. The chicks have value and cannot be given away or traded, so they should not be put on govDeals. He encouraged the Administration to get the City on the map as a place to see swans. He hopes ODNR works something out with the City for taking those eggs and placing them throughout the State. It is a neat thing that he is glad the City did and that the City inspired some other organizations to purchase swans for their communities. Filed.

City Engineer Kalb provided an update on the East Gate Subdivision that was discussed at the WATER AND SEWER COMMITTEE meeting on April 1, 2024. The County Commissioners asked the City to take over the sewer system in which the City told them that if they can find the funds to fully replace it as a gravity system and pay for the design, construction, management, etc., that the City would proceed forward with it. He received word back from them that they do have funding for it and will need to work out the final details. The City of Findlay will be designing it, inspecting it, and bidding it out for installation. The County will be funding it with no City funds put towards it similar to the Spring Lake project. This project is moving forward. He will bring more information to Council as he receives it. Filed.

Councilman Russel will be scheduling a WATER AND SEWER COMMITTEE meeting in the next week or so to discuss the following agenda items:

1. Water and Sewer rules
2. existing septic systems within the City limits
3. sewer extension request to Township Road 101

He asked those on the WATER AND SEWER COMMITTEE to check their schedules of when they can meet. Filed.

Service-Safety Director Martin informed Council that last week was law enforcement appreciation and recognition week. The City has a tremendous law enforcement department. He suggested anyone that has an opportunity should thank an Officer for the service that they provide. There was a wonderful memorial last Monday for fallen law enforcement Officers that was touching and puts things in perspective with what they do every day. This week is EMS week (Firefighters, EMT, Paramedics, law enforcement, etc.) who provide selfless sacrifice of hours that they are away from their homes and families to serve the community.

Councilman Russel added that he sat behind Bluffton Police Officer Dominic Francis's parents from Bluffton when he attended the Police memorial, which was a humbling experience. Vaune Akers, wife of a fallen Findlay Police Officer spoke, giving some personal and heartfelt comments concerning Police mental health. He gives her credit for the strength she showed to deliver those words. Filed.

Councilman Russel thanked the Downtown Findlay Improvement District and the City's Public Works Department for starting to install the downtown flower baskets. They look spectacular. The DFID provided the funding for the flowers with City crews installing them. Filed.

Councilman Palmer moved to adjourn City Council at 7:09pm, seconded by Councilman Greeno. All were in favor. Filed.

CLERK OF COUNCIL

PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL PRO-TEM