

# Canal Winchester

*Town Hall  
10 North High Street  
Canal Winchester, OH 43110*



## Meeting Minutes - FINAL

August 17, 2020

6:00 PM

## Council Work Session

*Mike Coolman - Chair*

*Jill Amos*

*Will Bennett*

*Bob Clark*

*Patrick Lynch*

*Chuck Milliken*

*Mike Walker*

**A. Call To Order**

*Coolman called the meeting to order at 6:11 p.m.*

**B. Roll Call**

*Present 7 – Amos, Bennett, Clark, Coolman, Lynch, Milliken, Walker*

**C. Also In Attendance**

*Mayor Ebert, Matt Peoples, Lucas Haire, Amanda Jackson, Bill Sims, Sergeant Hendershot*

**D. Reports**

*Bill Sims - The 2020 Street Program is wrapping up, contractors just have punch list items to work on; stuff is done at the pool parking lot, just need to do landscape; we installed a new rain guard adjacent to the parking lot of the community center, so we will be moving those plants this fall; Bixby Rd Water and Sewer extension work is continuing they are probably a little over fifty percent complete; they have sanitary force main and water line piping in up to the new lift station location; they have about half of the gravity sanitary in and they are working on the larger fifteen in diameter gravity sanitary this week and next; so things are moving along there OK; The Municipal Complex, we continue to work on the design development of that project; we have been through plan adjustments; it is pretty close to what you saw presented at Landmarks; right now we are primarily looking for cost savings; also HVAC in the building we are evaluating; we are anticipating a public meeting on the 31<sup>st</sup> for people to take a look at and ask questions; we are also in the process of material selections like carpet and countertops; we have Gender Road Phase 5 Project, in design, we have reviewed the sixty percent plans; and they are correcting some comments we had; we did open bids for the water reclamation replacement generator and you have legislation for that tonight; on the private side, Pediatric Associates on Diley Rd is continuing; Three Fountains Condominiums sanitary sewer work is complete, sight work is continuing; Winchester Logistics are working on their sight work right now on the rear building B; Winchester Blvd is paved and they are working on street lighting; Crossroads Church is wrapping up and are working on punch list items and should be finishing up in the next few days; Skelton Trucking is underway at the end of Howell Parkway in Canal Pointe a lot of sight work going on there' they have done some utility work and they had to replace a fire hydrant; Panda Express is continuing on with their sight work and building; Fisher Homes has asked us to schedule a pre-construction meeting for Westchester Section 11-2; which is behind the school with the extension of Patch Drive into a cul-de-sac; we will have to pre-con here soon and construction will start in September; many right-of-way items continuing on; NCI have a number of permits out and have asked for extensions to get the facilities in; we are working with Zayo's Communication for fiber they are running from Columbus to West Virginia; they have an alignment through town; they will be on our right-of-way for a bit on Busey Road; Mr. Spencer sent me notes on updates with Gender Road signal timing; ODOT moving forward with that, however they did not give us a time line yet; MORPC submitted a plan modeling; we will be making comments back next week; Gender Road Phase 6 at 33, so ODOT we are anticipating a 2021 application for pedestrian safety funds; currently ODOT is not requiring any local match on that so it a great opportunity; their also working to support a project for their current US 33 study; Shane actually attend their project kick off for ODOT's US 33 Corridor Study; 33 noise wall, nothing has changed with that, looks like it will be awarded July 2021 and construction won't be complete until October 2022; still on their path but not as soon as we were initially told it would be; questions?*

*Amos: Mr. Sims, you said the meeting for the public session was August 31<sup>st</sup>, correct? Sims: Yes, before the Committee of the Whole meeting. Amos: And on the Three Fountains, I had a resident say it looked like there*

*was no movement the last couple weeks, so everything is good, are they just waiting for approvals? Sims: So, they have completed their utilities and all the grading and sight work; there has been work, last week they were removing a massive dirt pile; they did a line modification to their road way system, it typical to leave that for ten days so there is no traffic on it; they had a number of building permits in for structures, and it looks like they laid some gravel down today. Amos: Great, thank you.*

*Bennett: Question- The US 33 Corridor study, do we know what that pertains too? Sims: I do not have much information on that; they have a consultant LJB engineers are working on that; I actually wanted to comment that he has called with them to affirm the scope of the study of our interchange so basically they are looking at the entire corridor; but we wanted to make sure we are involved in what they are looking at and how they are evaluating the Gender Road infrastructure. Bennett: Yeah. Clark: And Bixby too, the corridors whole length; they are going to look at the movement of traffic in and out of Bixby and Rager and those impediments on the road still; Sims: and I don't know the limitations on that, but I can follow up with you. Bennett: OK, thank you; or Mr. Peoples, do you want to share that now? Peoples: The study is going to be from 33 to Diley Rd. interchange; they are looking at capacity of the corridor, as well as the interchanges; they are looking at some renderings for the whole 33/ 270 interchange; and then Hamilton road interchange, the capacity through there as well. Bennett: Mr. Sims, any more detail on the thoroughfare plans in Spencer's update. Peoples: We had a meeting on Friday and they have gone though one of their models and some assumptions they have made, and we are reviewing them this Friday. Bennett: What are the assumptions we are looking at? Peoples: They got with Lucas on some land use; and some population densities, some employment densities as well; they are taking it and modeling a roadway network for future capacities; I believe they will project twenty to thirty years. Bennett: So that is from ODOT's thoroughfare plans. Peoples: Yes. Bennett: Because I know we were working on our own. Haire: That's is our thoroughfare plan as well; we are working with MORPC for the model of what the road traffic projection would look like.*

*Sergeant Hendershot - Good afternoon Council; I have the July stats for 2020; Dispatch calls we had 497 over 1,000 pickup runs; 322 multiple unit calls; 95 reports; 72 vacation checks; 182 traffic stops; 53 citations; 178 warnings; 8 misdemeanor arrests; 21 warrant arrest; 22 summons; 43 misdemeanor charges filed; 4 felony charges filled; busy time total was 69.6% so almost 70%; a couple things I want to talk about; I'm not sure everyone is aware on August 9<sup>th</sup> we had a robbery at Speedway, the deputies and dispatch did a great job with that, they were able to get a license plate number; now the detective bureau will follow up to get charges on that; the next day August 10<sup>th</sup> we had an intoxicated male trying to get into a home on 132 W Columbus Street; the deputies did a great job with him; he was blocking the home owners from getting out so we towed the vehicle; we took him to Ohio Health for a medical examination; and we ended up filing charges on him as well; and then the past week and a half Captain Car Wash has been getting hit for their coins; he has cameras, and we had pictures; we set up more patrol; when a deputy left the other night, a second ship deputy decided to check and found him and his car; we were able to ID him; I think he actually hit Captain Car Wash five times; he has gotten Pickerington and Columbus; so we will be filing charges on him; just wanted to point out, any questions?*

*Bennett: Just one question; you had mentioned giving out warnings; how are we doing with the hands free, how is that coming? Hendershot: I have not checked on that; I haven't had the chance to ask; most of the stops they make are speed; I haven't inventoried or get any stats on if they have made any stops for that; I can definitely ask. Amos: With school starting soon, are you working with any of the SRO's to make sure the students are aware of the hands-free ordinance? Hendershot: I can talk to Jim about getting something sent*

out; I am going to reach out to Deputy West and Jim about getting something out.

#### E. Request for Council Action

##### ORD-20-036

Development

An Ordinance to Authorize the Mayor to Accept an Easement for Sanitary Sewer Lines from Three Fountains CW, LLC ([Ordinance, Exhibit A](#))

- Request to move to full Council

Haire - This is an ordinance to allow us to accept the sanitary sewer easement from Three Fountains; that is a condominium project on Groveport Road; typically sanitary sewer easements are all done with the plat; but in this case since this is a condominium plat instead of a subdivision plat; we need to accept the easement separately; we are only accepting the easement for sanitary sewer; sanitary sewer will be a public line; the water lines within that development will be private; so there will be a master meter for the entire community; typically that's how we handle multi-family condominium apartment projects; this is just asking to accept that easement; as Mr. Sims mentioned construction is complete and fully inspected; so we are just waiting to formally accept through this easement process; happy to answer any questions you have. Bennett: Quick question, just to clarify; Three Fountains is a condominium complex; but is not being sold as individual units; they are being held by the owner and then rented as apartments, correct? Haire: That is my understanding; there will be a condominium plat filed; but the ownership of those will not change; so an affiliate of Rockford Homes will continue to own those and lease them out; but will be individual condominiums. Bennett: A follow up question then; what is the benefit, or is there a specific reason why they do not outright mark them as apartments? Haire: Outright, I don't understand Bennett: I guess we are classifying them as condominiums... Haire: Yes, they will be filing a condominium plat, which is a form of ownership; each individual unit will be owned separately from other units; Amos: When you say each will be owned individually do you mean leased individually; they are all owned by Rockford and they will all be leased by Rockford as apartments; Haire: That is my understanding of they are going to handle it, yes. Bennett: But I guess their... they are building them to then... Rockford won't own them then; they will give ownership to someone else to own each individual until and then handle leasing. Haire: I don't understand fully how they will handle it; from a legal perspective they are filing condominium plat; each individual unit will exist individually; typically on an apartment complex, all units would be under one parcel; this will be under one parcel but it will have a condominium plat associated with it; each individual unit will get its own tax bill; it would have its own ownership under the authority of the auditor; they can transfer individually; and apartment complex cannot sell one unit. Milliken: So if I'm understanding this correctly; its more less a condominium is name only. Haire: It is my understanding it will not be for sale on an individual basis. Amos: It's almost like they are setting it up so they are in a position where they can sell it in the future as individual condominiums. Haire: Yes, I believe the settlement agreement you all signed said that they would initially be owned by Rockford. Amos: And if I recall correctly, it said they would own it for ten years; and its forty-eight units total in Three Fountains? Haire: Correct. Walker: Which started out years ago as one hundred. Haire: One of their proposals were for one hundred and twelve multistory units.

**A motion was made by Bennett to move ORD-20-036 to full council, seconded by Amos. The motion carried with the following vote:**

**Yes 7 – Bennett, Lynch, Amos, Clark, Coolman, Milliken, Walker**

##### ORD-20-037

An Ordinance to Authorize the Mayor and Finance Director to Enter Into a

*Public Service*

Contract with MG Abbott, Inc for the Water Reclamation Facility Generator Replacement Project and Declaring an Emergency ([Ordinance, Bid Recommendation/Tab](#))

*- Request to move to full Council*

*Peoples- This is an ordinance to authorize the contract with Abbott Electric for the installation of the water reclamation generator; the current generator is from 1988, it does not serve the current capacity of the plant; if there is a power outage certain things cannot come back on; we are looking at a plant expansion of the head works in the next couple years; it will include the raw sewage pumps; we need to make sure that they stay on there; so we are upgrading it will take into account some additional equipment in the back that is not proposed as part of this plan expansion; we are giving ourselves so leeway with that. Coolman: Any questions? Motion moved by Amos.*

[20-168](#)

## Police Coverage Update

*Amanda Jackson- Two weeks ago at our last council meeting there seemed to be some confusion on our relationship with Madison Township; I wanted to take this opportunity to go over it a little bit, not only for the benefit of council but for our residents; on your screen you will see a side by side comparison of our contract with Fairfield County Sheriff compared to Madison Township; with the Fairfield County Sheriff we have a three year contract that expires December 31, 2021; the contract provides eleven deputies; 376 hours a week of coverage; that includes two deputies per shift 24 hours a day, seven days a week; and one deputy to work a mutually agreed upon shift; it includes one full time sergeant at forty hours a week and one full time dispatcher; it also includes a purchase of one vehicle a year; this contract is a general fund expense; as you remember our general fund is funded by our income taxes, property taxes, building permits, etc.; and when the Fairfield County Sheriff writes a ticket; those citations are written into Canal Winchester Mayor's Court, or the county court; they can be written under Canal code or State code depending on the situation; so moving on to Madison Township; we do not have a contract; their current staffing is 2-3 officers a shift; they are funded by voted levies through property taxes; property tax levies were approved by the voters in 1976, 1980, 1986, and 2011; those are indefinite levies; no end date on those; so Canal Winchester residents as part of their property taxes, around \$600k a year to Madison Township currently; Madison Township police force has jurisdiction throughout township boundaries, including incorporated areas; so that's not just Canal Winchester, it includes Groveport and Obetz; and citations are written into county court under state code; I am not sure how many residents are aware that you can actually see where your property taxes go; as far as the many different jurisdictions; this slide and the next slide is how you can look this up; this is for our residents that live in Franklin County, but there is something similar for Fairfield County residents; I chose Franklin County since we are talking about Madison Township; here is the Franklin County Treasures website; you can search by name, address, or parcel ID; there will be a distribution tab; when you click on that it gives you the political subdivision and the amount of taxes you are paying to each; the township portion includes the police the fire and the general township levies; now let's talk about the Madison Township MOU; this is not a document allowing Madison Township officers to patrol Canal Winchester or allow them to issue citations within city boundaries; they already have the jurisdiction to do so; so last November Council passed a resolution of intent to pass an MOU with Madison Township; this a was request for Township Trustees and the Franklin County Prosecutor to begin legal processes necessary to authorize township police officers to issue citations under CW code and in CW Mayor's Court; so if they are patrolling here and pull someone over for speeding they can write that ticker into Mayor's Court; so then that money can come to Canal Winchester; right now it is all going to the county and we see next to nothing; the latest update I have as to where we are with MOU is there are additional discussions needed between the Prosecutors Office and the Canal Winchester Law Director; just a*

*side note, the Franklin County Prosecutor is involved in this because he is their legal authority; now let's talk about some staffing options; Option A- hire one additional deputy, provides 5 days a week coverage, cost \$88k a year; Option B- Hire two additional deputies two different shifts, provides 5 days a week coverage, costs \$176k a year; or Option C- hire two additional deputies on the same shift, provides 7 days a week coverage, cost \$176k a year; based on the conversation I have had with the Mayor and Sergeant Hendershot the ideal option would be option B; now, let's talk about budget; our final appropriations for 2021 have not yet been presented to Council for approval, this will happen later this fall; the Tax Budget was presented in June/July and was approved in July; which included funding for one additional deputy, starting January one; there is room for adjustment to accommodate that second deputy if we so choose; it will be based on out income tax collections; it is fluctuating daily; we will keep watching that, and hopefully have a better picture come fall; so 2020 and beyond; keep in mind our contract with Fairfield County expires 2021; next year we need to figure out what we are doing, are we renegotiating with Fairfield County? Or does Council have another desire; for the sake of discussion, we continue our contract with Fairfield County; a new contract could potentially require another sergeant; eventually the amount of deputies we have up here will require another supervisory position; and that will cost us approximately another \$105k a year; these are all number as of today, obviously it could change; our next steps from here; we need a decision from Council on what your coverage choice would be; you would need to approve an amendment of our current contract; we would also need the Sheriff's Department to approve that amendment; and like we discussed you would need to approve the final appropriations for 2021 including whatever you decide; if you have any questions about what I presented please feel free to ask Sergeant Hendershot;*

*Walker: The RFP; I know that was a part of the confusion; Council wanted that a months ago; extending that contract with Fairfield County; instead of having that RFP at the end of 2021, if we were to hire those deputies, and then go into a RFP would be counterproductive; so we would want to extend that if we want to bring in one or two deputies; and the other part is Madison Township, do we know if we need two? I mean, we might need two, but we don't have a study done; but we have a feeling from our statistics that we need two; with that being said, where would we be with Madison Township? They may be a part of that RFP; would they be willing to come in and help out? I don't know where we stand with Madison Township; it would be my thoughts to bring in two deputies; and if it take six months to train a deputy; Jackson: I did speak with Chief Lape; we would be able to start the process once we start the contract amendment; which would help get that individual in here earlier in 2021, than waiting until January 1 to start the hiring process.*

*Milliken: Ms. Jackson, if you could explain the reasoning behind option B; my thoughts would be option A; since the contract is going to be renewed in 2021, we would start with one officer; and then if need be in 2021 we would add a second officer at that point. Jackson: I actually would ask Sergeant Hendershot why two deputies five days a week would be his recommendation.*

*Sergeant Hendershot: So my recommendation was option B based on we usually have two deputies out at a time and a third working a split shift; but if we had 3 three deputies out every day; for example, today two deputies were out handling two different calls so we rely on Madison Township if we had another call; but Madison officers work a different timeframe; they do help up out when we need it; but its more busy per year on second shift; and if we can have a second officer it would go to first shift. Milliken: Thank you, I guess my reasoning for that line of questioning is more for financial aspects; Ms. Jackson you said that for option B you would have to make adjustments; I guess how... what kind of adjustments... is it a major thing, is it not a major thing... just wanted to avoid any difficulties I guess. Jackson: We haven't really gotten into the detail on where exactly that money would be coming from; I don't want to say a project would take a hit of \$88k just to*

accommodate a second deputy that probably wouldn't be the case; I don't have a straight answer for you at the moment.

Amos: My initial reaction is if our Sheriff is saying where he needs them, for me that's a no brainer, they are out there seeing things we are not; I go into my house I don't know what's happening in the community around me; I had no idea about Speedway, or the carwash; we don't know a lot of the things they are dealing with; if they say they need help we need to listen; and as far as Madison goes, we need to be a thorn in their side, saying don't forget you need to be patrolling; we have not seen them in a while; except when called upon; and asking them on a regular basis, where are you and where have you patrolled.

Coolman: I would agree with that Mrs. Amos; I would like to know from Sergeant, what percentage of calls require two deputies; it's the type of call to respond two that has increased; you saw on Amanda's PowerPoint the turf their two or three officers have to cover, it probably double the size of Canal if not triple. Hendershot: I would say about 50% of our calls are two man calls; a lot of them are thefts in progress; just throwing it out there, about 60% are commercial, and 40% are residential; like sometimes kids will be going through cars in the neighborhood, and we will take a lot of reports about them going through the cars, which you only have to have one person (deputy); I would say it is about 50%. Amos: I think for me too with the number of houses we are building, we don't want to be reactive; if things aren't happening, we don't want people saying "oh I moved to Canal Winchester, I should have never done it"; we want this system in place to keep our residents comfortable.

Clark: I am not questioning the decision of B or C; but what is the difference between 7 days and 5 days a week. Hendershot: I think there was a little confusion on what we could provide; if the busiest shift is second shift; if council was wanting to vote on an additional person every single day, because our heaviest day is on a certain day; so if we add a person to help out then they cover 6 out of 7 days, we are still short on one of those days, it's just the way it work out.

Coolman: One more question; if you have the additional deputies, do you need an additional vehicle? Hendershot: That is something me and Ms. Jackson talked about; I don't think we would need one next year; we would budget an additional vehicle if we have another contract.

Lynch: I just want to say I agree with Ms. Amos; whatever Sergeant Hendershot says we should do; he is the guy out in the field; he knows what the needs are; we obviously want to provide enough officers so that when they send two at a time that there are two available; we also have to think about the safety of our officers; if they need two they need two; I am just curious, options B and C you said B is 5 days a week and C is 7 days? Jackson: B would be two officers 5 days a week and C would be one officer 7 days a week; but it requires two officers for the relief factor, for days off. Lynch: at what point would we need an additional sergeant? Hendershot: I think the idea is overall, if we hired one or two more before the next contract, and if you decide on the next contract to add then one would have to be a supervisor; that's liability on us as supervisors and everything have to do to make sure everyone is doing their job correctly. Lynch: so where we are now, add two deputies we are good, if we go beyond that then we need additional staff. Hendershot: Correct. Lynch: and also, we talked about Madison Township, we are paying them \$600k a year for their services; we can be a thorn in their side all we want; but we need to focus on what we can truly control.

Walker: I agree with option B as well; would that be with extending the contract or would we still have the RFP? Jackson: We can have the discussion on where you want go after December 31st 2021, at a later time; we

*don't have to decide that now.*

*Jackson: I think at this point, what I have gathered from all of you is that I will work with Mr. Hollins and Chief Lape to draft an amendment to bring to council for approval. Council: Thank you.*

**H. Adjournment @ 6:59 p.m.**

***A motion was made by Lynch to adjourn, seconded by Bennett. The motion carried by the following vote:***

***Yes 7 – Milliken, Bennett, Amos, Clark, Coolman, Lynch, Walker***