

Canal Winchester

*City Hall
Council Chambers
45 East Waterloo Street
Canal Winchester, OH 43110*



Meeting Minutes - FINAL

March 20, 2023

7:00 PM

City Council

Chuck Milliken - President

Bob Clark - Vice President

Laurie Amick

Jill Amos

Steve Buskirk

Patrick Shea

Mike Walker

- A. **Call To Order** *Milliken called the meeting to order at 7:55 p.m.*
- B. **Pledge of Allegiance** Amos
- C. **Roll Call** *Present 7 – Amick, Amos, Buskirk, Clark, Milliken, Shea, Walker*

D. **Approval of Minutes**

[MIN-23-010](#)

March 6, 2023 Work Session Minutes

A motion was made by Clark, seconded by Amos to approve MIN-23-010. The motion carried with the following vote:

Yes 7 – Clark, Amos, Buskirk, Milliken, Shea, Walker, Amick

[MIN-23-011](#)

March 6, 2023 City Council Meeting Minutes

A motion was made by Buskirk, seconded by Amos to approve MIN-23-011. The motion carried with the following vote:

Yes 7 – Buskirk, Amos, Clark, Milliken, Shea, Walker, Amick

E. **Communications & Petitions**

[COM-23-003](#)

Madison Township Police Statistics February 2023

F. **Public Comments** - Three Minute Limit Per Person

Discussion started at 2:02:07 on YouTube Channel

Andrew Nimely, 3237 N Bixwood Court – I am running for Madison Township Trustee. I have lived in the township for over two decades. I came from Liberia with no college education. I came to Columbus, and I have never gone back home probably all my 20-some years, except last year to see my mother. I graduated from Columbus State Community College, Franklin University, and Ohio University. I got my master's degree in business administration. My background is in accounting. I own two small businesses. I'm a business executive. I have been doing that for almost 15 years. I am blessed to have a lot of residents from Madison Township and Franklin County. I teach at Columbus State as an adjunct instructor, teaching computer science even though my background is in accounting. I came to the township to say thank you to you guys for all the years, especially for the cooperation you guys are giving the township. I've come to ask for your cooperation, and I'm willing to meet with any of you guys. I'm a pastor, not a credential pastor but a supply pastor at the West Ohio Conference. My entire life, integrity, and trustworthiness are part of me. It is a blessing for me to come here today to talk to you. My job is to serve because I care. I want to learn, and I will listen. I want to thank you again for your support.

Ann Bennett, 41 Elizabeth Street – For now, I pay for the ordinances to hire a City Administrator, whom I'll call the CA', and reduce the mayor's salary while retaining the mayor-strong structure. This must be the first step of a transition and not an indefinite way of running a city for three reasons: one, the CA will be hired by the mayor and perform the overwhelming majority of the mayor's day-to-day duties, including supervision of key personnel, yet have absolutely no authority. The CA will simply be the mayor's mini-me. While this conforms to our charter, it cannot be a long-term strategy to enhance responsible growth because as long as this arrangement is in place, the person doing the heavy lifting is controlled by one person, the mayor, whose only qualifications for holding office are being able to vote and being a city resident. Very easily, someone with no authority could be reporting to someone who may have no experience. Two, it is important to begin advancing to the next phase of modifying city government, which

is implementing a city manager format. This will enable the city to avail itself of a skilled professional with defined and objective qualifications, but achieving this will require resolute planning so that the charter commission can do its work in time for proposed amendments to make it to the November 2024 ballot, the next general election. A CA does not advance the city's objective of having a professional in the city's key leadership role. All it does is add at least \$50,000 plus benefits to payrolls and invite not necessarily appropriate candidates looking for a part-time gig to run for mayor. Three, I suggest a person hired to be the CA should either be qualified to be considered for city manager when the charter is amended or have the opportunity to concurrently take graduate-level city management courses to supplement their skill sets while being the CA. I urge council to fully understand and embrace what best practices require from a strong city manager. If the person hired, as CA, lacks education or other requirements, get them some education so they are an eligible employee; otherwise, if this person cannot elevate their skill sets, then it's important that the mayor, council, and the candidate agree in advance what would happen when a city manager is hired. That concrete warehouse at Diley and Busey is ugly.

Jacquelyn Marion, 262 Woodsvie Drive – I want to urge everyone to slow down on this major decision about changing our government. It's very, very important that we plan thoroughly and think about the future. I was on the charter commission. At the time, I suggested we go to a city manager. I was the only person who wanted that, by the way. The charter commission was very disappointing to me. The only change we made was to go from ten to five years for the next charter. We talked about term limits and residency; all those things didn't pass, and I was disappointed in that. I think we should have another charter commission and talk about where our government is going to be. We need to be farsighted, not nearsighted.

G. Reports of City Officials and Staff

Mayor's Report

Discussion started at 2:09:29 on YouTube Channel

Ebert – I do not have a written report, but I'll be happy to answer any questions.

Fairfield County Sheriff

Discussion started at 2:09:40 on YouTube Channel

Sgt. Walker – I do not have a written report, but I will answer any questions if you have any.

Law Director

Discussion started at 2:09:52 on YouTube Channel

Boggs – I do not have a written report. I will answer any questions you may have.

Finance Director

Discussion started at 2:10:07 on YouTube Channel

Jackson – I just want to make one correction to my written report. For the financial statement audit, I had written that the auditors would be here next week. They're actually here this week. They were on site today, and I anticipate them being here until Thursday. Once again, the audit probably will not be done until mid-summer, so once it is done, you will all receive a copy. Just a reminder that Dr. Bender's scholarship applications are due by Friday, March 31st. At this point, I have received one, and that individual is not eligible. I encourage you to talk to anyone that you know who may be a graduating senior and encourage them to apply.

Public Service Director

Discussion started at 2:10:58 on YouTube Channel

Peoples – The only thing I'd like to add to my written report is that ODOT has started some land clearing activities as part of the sound wall project.

*Development Director***Discussion started at 2:11:15 on YouTube Channel**

Haire – A couple items to report on: today was the grand opening or ribbon cutting ceremony for Wright-Patt Credit Union. They are open and operating now. It was well attended by their staff. I was only there for probably twenty minutes, and more than a half dozen people came in from the community, and we're so glad they were there. I think it's going to be well received. They said that between Violet Township, Pickerington, Canal Winchester, and Groveport, they already have over 5,000 members that are in this area. They feel like they've got a good base to build off of, so I encourage you to stop out there and see that. Accurate Electric was approved for a new office warehouse in Canal Pointe. That was approved at the last Planning and Zoning Commission. They're going to build a 15,000-square-foot building. They're currently off Tussing Road in Columbus. They have 150 employees, so they'll be bringing those jobs to Canal Winchester. A lot of those work outside the city on construction jobs, but they do have more than 25 administrative staff that work in the building there. It'll be a really good addition, and that's the last parcel on Howe Industrial Parkway to be developed. I'd be happy to answer any questions you have.

H. Resolutions**RES-23-011***Development**Sponsor: Amos*

A RESOLUTION APPOINTING LAURIE AMICK TO SERVE A THREE-YEAR TERM AS A MEMBER OF THE HOUSING COUNCIL EXPIRING ON DECEMBER 31, 2025 AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

- Adoption

A motion was made by Amos, seconded by Buskirk to adopt RES-23-011. The motion carried with the following vote:

Yes 6 – Amos, Buskirk, Clark, Milliken, Walker, Amick

Abstain 1 – Shea

RES-23-012*Development**Sponsor: Amick*

A RESOLUTION APPOINTING STEVE BUSKIRK TO SERVE A THREE-YEAR TERM AS A MEMBER OF THE HOUSING COUNCIL EXPIRING ON DECEMBER 31, 2025 AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

- Adoption

A motion was made by Amick, seconded by Amos to adopt RES-23-012. The motion carried with the following vote:

Yes 5 – Amick, Amos, Clark, Milliken, Walker

Abstain 2 – Buskirk, Shea

RES-23-013*Development**Sponsor: Buskirk*

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER A LEASE AGREEMENT WITH THE CANAL WINCHESTER INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE CORPORATION, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

- Adoption

A motion was made by Buskirk, seconded by Shea to adopt RES-23-013. The motion carried with the following vote:

Yes 6 – Buskirk, Shea, Amick, Amos, Clark, Milliken

Abstain 1 – Walker

RES-23-014*Public Service*

A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE TRADE-IN OF A 2014 VENTRAC 4500Z MOWER

Sponsor: Amick

- Adoption

A motion was made by Amick, seconded by Buskirk to adopt RES-23-014. The motion carried with the following vote:

Yes 7 – Amick, Buskirk, Clark, Milliken, Shea, Walker, Amos

RES-23-015

Council

A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING THE COMPENSATION FOR THE OFFICE OF MEMBER OF COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CANAL WINCHESTER FOR THE PERIOD OF JANUARY 1, 2024 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2025

- Adoption

No discussion or vote occurred during this meeting. RES-23-015 was tabled during Work Session meeting.

RES-23-016

Council

A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING THE COMPENSATION FOR THE OFFICE OF THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF CANAL WINCHESTER FOR THE PERIOD OF JANUARY 1, 2024 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2025

- Adoption

No discussion or vote occurred during this meeting. RES-23-016 was tabled during Work Session meeting.

RES-23-017

Development

Sponsor: Shea

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A DEVELOPMENT AND COMPENSATION AGREEMENT WITH VIOLET TOWNSHIP, FAIRFIELD COUNTY, THE FAIRFIELD COUNTY PORT AUTHORITY, THE BOARD OF EDUCATION FO THE PICKERINGTON LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT, EXEL, INC., AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

- Adoption

A motion was made by Shea, seconded by Buskirk to adopt RES-23-017. The motion carried with the following vote:

Yes 6 – Shea, Buskirk, Clark, Milliken, Walker, Amick

Abstain 1 – Amos

RES-23-018

Development

Sponsor: Amos

A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO ACCEPT A DEED OF SIDEWALK EASEMENT FROM DANIEL ROBERT, INC.

- Adoption

A motion was made by Amos, seconded by Walker to adopt RES-23-018. The motion carried with the following vote:

Yes 7 – Amos, Walker, Amick, Buskirk, Clark, Milliken, Shea

I. Ordinances

Tabled

Third Reading - NONE

Second Reading - NONE

First Reading

ORD-23-012

Construction Services

AN ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH DECKER CONSTRUCTION COMPANY FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE

Sponsor: Amick

2023 STREET PROGRAM PROJECT AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

- First Reading Only

ORD-23-013

Finance

Sponsor: Amos

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF NOT TO EXCEED THREE MILLION SEVEN HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$3,750,000) OF NOTES IN ANTICIPATION OF THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS FOR THE PURPOSE OF (A) ACQUIRING, RENOVATING AND CONSTRUCTING A NEW MUNICIPAL COMPLEX AND RELATED PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS THERETO; (B) ACQUIRING AND CONSTRUCTING MCGILL PARK PHASE I AND RELATED PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS RELATED THERETO; APPROVING THE CITY'S APPLICATION FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE OHIO MARKET ACCESS PROGRAM (OMAP) FOR CREDIT ENHANCEMENT; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

- First Reading Only

ORD-23-014

Mayor

Sponsor: Shea

AN ORDINANCE CREATING THE POSITION OF CITY ADMINISTRATOR FOR THE CITY OF CANAL WINCHESTER

- First Reading Only

A motion was made by Shea, seconded by Amos to table ORD-23-014. The motion carried with the following vote:

Yes 7 – Shea, Amos, Buskirk, Clark, Milliken, Walker, Amick

J. Council Reports

Work Session/Council - Monday, April 3, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.

Work Session/Council - Monday, April 17, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.

CW Human Services - Walker

Discussion started at 2:20:08 on YouTube Channel

Walker – Updates from Aletha Mullins, Director of Human Services. The community Easter Egg Hunt is on Saturday, April 8th, at 10:00 a.m. The senior prom is on Thursday, May 4th, at 5:30 p.m. In the month of February, our transportation program provided 403 one-way trips and drove 3,411 miles. If you look at February 2022, we provided 287 one-way trips. This is a 40% increase over last year's February. Our transportation program has increased dramatically.

CWICC - Amick

Discussion started at 2:20:53 on YouTube Channel

Amick – Our next meeting will be on March 29th at 11:30 a.m. here in Council Chambers.

CWJRD - Amos/Shea

Discussion started at 2:21:06 on YouTube Channel

Amos – We are so excited about sports in our town. We're wrapping up a couple adult programs. We're starting some new adult programs. I think I've told you guys along the way that our wrestling just came back this year. It's been super successful. Our coach is actually looking to do a continuation of the series to help the kids get stronger as competitors, which is awesome. We have over 300 youth registered for soccer this season. That's incredible. We did want to give a huge shout-out to the city staff. The baseball fields are up and running and look absolutely amazing. Thank you to all the guys who made that happen. Mrs. Jackson, I heard that you are running a separate pool day potentially for our swimming people to sign up instead of..?

Jackson – Potentially, yes. We have discussed it.

Amos – If it does happen, thank you. I thought it was an absolutely awesome idea. Again, we sincerely appreciate the city for working with us and keeping all the youth athletics programs running because we could not do it without them. Our next meeting is April 20th.

Destination: Canal Winchester - Milliken

Discussion started at 2:22:43 on YouTube Channel

Milliken – One more winter farmer’s market to go, Saturday, April 1st, from 9:00 a.m. to noon at Faith United Methodist Church. Summer farmer’s market will begin in May. We are still planning for the Art on the Canal Stroll on May 20th. Thirsty Thursday is May 25th with the Poverty String Band from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

CW Chamber of Commerce – Buskirk

Discussion started at 2:23:20 on YouTube Channel

Buskirk – The chamber reviewed their membership of active members; it went from 162 to 164. March events: they have the Wright-Patt Credit Union Ribbon Cutting today at 2:00 p.m. Upcoming events include Prime Hydration and Wellness on Thursday, March 23rd, at 10:00 a.m. Happy Hour is on Friday, March 24th, at Olive Branch. The State of the School luncheon is on Wednesday, April 12th, at the Canal Winchester Community Center. A golf outing on May 12th at Winchester Gold Course.

K. Old/New Business

L. Adjourn to Executive Session (if necessary)

M. Adjournment @ 8:20 p.m.

*A motion was made by Amos, seconded by Clark to adjourn. The motion carried with the following vote:
Yes 7 – Amos, Clark, Milliken, Shea, Walker, Amick, Buskirk*