

Canal Winchester

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



Meeting Minutes - FINAL

May 1, 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 7:20 p.m.*
- B. **Pledge of Allegiance** Milliken
- C. **Roll Call** *Present 6 – Amick, Amos, Buskirk, Milliken, Shea, Walker*

A motion was made by Amick, seconded by Buskirk to excuse Mr. Clark from the City Council meeting. The motion carried with the following vote:

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

D. Approval of Minutes

MIN-23-016

April 17, 2023 Work Session Minutes

A motion was made by Buskirk, seconded by Amos to approve MIN-23-016. The motion carried with the following vote:

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

MIN-23-017

April 17, 2023 City Council Meeting Minutes

A motion was made by Buskirk, seconded by Amick to approve MIN-23-017. The motion carried with the following vote:

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

E. Communications & Petitions

COM-23-005

Madison Township Police Statistics March 2023

F. Public Comments - Three Minute Limit Per Person

G. Reports of City Officials and Staff

Mayor's Report

Discussion started at 1:56:40 on YouTube Channel

Ebert – I don't have anything to add to my written report, but we do have a couple visitors here tonight that I'm going to go to the podium for. As you know, we award the Dr. John Bender scholarship every year to two deserving students who live in the City of Canal Winchester. Tonight, we have Alyssa and Shelby. I think we had 13 applicants, which is probably a little bit more than par, but we average around eight or ten, maybe twelve. I will have to say that it was not an easy decision. It was a tough call. It really was. It was very competitive this year, but the two of you came out on top, so congratulations. I have a certificate for each of you. A certificate of recognition and honor for outstanding academics, community service, and leadership. Canal Winchester City Council proudly congratulates each of you as a 2023 Dr. John Bender scholarship recipient. Congratulations.

Shea – Parents, congratulations to you. Mayor, are you guys working on the city administrator?

Ebert – We can't do anything until after 30 days.

Shea – We're two weeks out; that's the only reason I asked. You can't begin to get it ready?

Ebert – We discuss it, but we can't do any advertising or anything for the job posting.

Fairfield County Sheriff

Discussion started at 1:59:37 on YouTube Channel

Sgt. Walker – I have nothing to add to my written report, but if you have questions, I'd be happy to answer them for you.

Amos – Do you feel like we're getting adequate support from Madison Township at this point in time?

Ebert – That's a loaded question.

Sgt. Walker – That is a loaded question.

Amos – Do you feel like we need to schedule another meeting with them as a whole?

Sgt. Walker – I feel like the sheriff's office does a great job of patrolling the city of Canal Winchester. I'm going to leave it at that.

Milliken – I'll just say, on a personal note, that I've seen an increase in presence. It could just be coincidental that I happen to be where they are, but I feel like I'm seeing them quite frequently.

Amos – I see them driving around, but I just want to make sure that they're assisting our team.

Sgt. Walker – I don't know if they have MARCS radios or not. I know that before, they only had one radio that they shared. I don't know if that goes to the SRO while he is in the school or if that goes to someone who is patrolling. I know that we do not dispatch for Madison Township. I mean, I can tell you that. We do not dispatch for them.

Amos – Can I request that somebody ask Chief York to come into a meeting soon?

Milliken – Is the purpose just to find out whether he's got these radios or not?

Amos – We get their reports of what they're doing, but it doesn't sound like it's meshing well with our systems yet or that they're not responding to or helping with any of our calls.

Sgt. Walker – I mean, we don't dispatch for them. They don't answer calls for service.

Amos – Right now, we don't know if they can even hear you.

Sgt. Walker – Right. That is correct. I cannot answer that question. I do know that we do not dispatch for them. If a call goes through Franklin County, Franklin County transfers it to us, and we handle the call.

Amos – So, maybe we can start there. We can ask Chief York if they have those radios up and running yet, and then we can decide if we need to bring him in to have more conversations. I would just be interested in that follow-up. If I need to do it myself, please let me know.

Ebert – I really don't think they have them yet, but we can find out. They were supposed to get them citywide, but I don't think it's happened yet.

Amos – I know they’ve made multiple promises to all of us that they’ve got that handled and it is coming. It’s been a year, so I appreciate you following up with them.

Jackson – I can tell you that they have written 14 traffic citations since the beginning of the year, which is about 14 more than normal. Copies are sent to us, so we know that they were written, but they go through Franklin County. I don’t know about any other types of citations that they may have written within the corporation limits.

Ebert – The presence in town is probably more important than anything. They have been in town.

Law Director

Discussion started at 2:03:52 on YouTube Channel

Boggs – I do not have anything to report to council this evening. I’m happy to answer any questions you have.

Finance Director

Discussion started at 2:04:05 on YouTube Channel

Jackson – I would like to start my report by answering a question Mr. Shea asked during work session. In 2022, we paid Destination Canal Winchester approximately \$131,000 in bed tax funds. For my written report, the month of May is going to be busy prepping the swimming pool for opening just before Memorial Day. I am also starting to work on our 2024 tax budget because that does need to be approved by council prior to, I believe, July 20th this year. I am working on that, and my plan is to bring it to council. We will do three reads, and those would be the two meetings in June and your meeting in July since your meeting is prior to that deadline. I did want to ask council for a little feedback on when you would like me to do the presentation on the tax budget. Would you like to see it first? Give yourself some time to digest it before I present it. Or do you want me to give my presentation on the first read? You don’t have to give me an answer tonight. You can give me an answer in two weeks, but I did want to put that out there to see what you prefer.

Amos – Did the \$131,000 include the salary?

Jackson – That is just bed tax money. The actual salary comes out of the general fund. It is \$22,000 a year.

Shea – So, between the two funds, it’s more like \$153,000.

Jackson – Correct. The \$22,000 is specific to the salary of the executive director.

Amos – I have no problem with Mrs. Jackson presenting it the first time. It’s a lot to swallow, but she also gives us three readings to get through it. I’m not opposed to doing it on the first read, but I’ll defer to everybody else.

Milliken – Same.

Public Service Director

Discussion started at 2:06:37 on YouTube Channel

Peoples – The only thing I’d like to highlight from the public works reports is that, as you’ve probably seen, we received our 30-year Tree City USA award. We’re very proud of that. We planted a whole lot of trees during that time. We’ve also taken down a whole lot of trees in that time. There were a couple of other

communities that got a separate award that I'd like to go after next year. We'll see where that goes.

Development Director

Discussion started at 2:07:40 on YouTube Channel

Haire – A few items I'd like to highlight from my report: The Ohio Health Corporation recently purchased 6.75 acres of property on West Waterloo Street. It is directly adjacent to the Wright-Patt Credit Union. The intent is to build out that space with a medical office and health care services. There are no specific plans at this time, but hopefully over the next few months they'll be developing more of an idea of what type of services will be offered there and then a timeline for construction. We'll keep you updated on that, and then Homestead Tap Room and Kitchen opened today at 10 S. High Street. It's a new restaurant concept. It's replacing Barrel and Boar. They are open to the public as of today.

Shea – Is there a maximum height restriction on the Ohio Health building?

Haire – Yes. We have a height restriction in our zoning code. It is 40 feet in that location, but there are also some deed restrictions on height, and I don't know the specific deed restrictions. Walmart is deed restricted; they have a deed restriction across all the property CASTO owns. There are other standards in that as well, but our code is 40 feet, which is three stories.

H. Resolutions

I. Ordinances

Tabled

Third Reading

ORD-23-015

Finance

Sponsor: Walker

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE 2023 APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE #22-041, AMENDMENT #3

- Adoption

A motion was made by Walker, seconded by Amos to adopt ORD-23-015. The motion carried with the following vote:

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

ORD-23-017

Public Service

Sponsor: Amos

AN ORDINANCE TO UPDATE THE SWIMMING POOL DAILY ADMISSION RATES

- Adoption

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

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

Discussion started at 2:10:13 on YouTube Channel

Peoples – We did make a change to this. We added a Sunday rate. We found out that last year, when we opened up the pool parties for Sunday afternoon from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., the window from noon to 4:00 p.m. was rather small. We did have a lot of people complain that they came in at 2:00 p.m. and the pool shut down at 4:00 p.m., so we did take that Sunday rate from an \$8.00 charge to a \$5.00 charge. In this ordinance and the next one as well, we did add emergency language. If we had waited the 30 days, it would've been after we opened the pool.

ORD-23-018

Public Service

AN ORDINANCE CREATING THE POSITION OF SEASONAL AQUATICS SUPERVISOR AND ESTABLISHING A PAY RANGE

Sponsor: Amick

- Adoption

A motion was made by Amick, seconded by Buskirk to adopt ORD-23-018. The motion carried with the following vote:

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

Second Reading - NONE

First Reading

ORD-23-019

Construction Services

Sponsor: Shea

AN ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH ELITE EXCAVATING COMPANY OF OHIO, INC. FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE 2023 WATERLINE IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

- Request waiver of second and third reading and adoption

A motion was made by Shea, seconded by Amos to suspend the rules and waive the second and third reading of ORD-23-019. The motion carried with the following vote:

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

A motion was made by Shea, seconded by Amos to adopt ORD-23-019. The motion carried with the following vote:

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

ORD-23-020

Public Service

Sponsor: Shea

AN ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT TO PURCHASE PROPERTY FOR USE AS RIGHT OF WAY, AND TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY

- Request waiver of second and third reading and adoption

A motion was made by Shea, seconded by Buskirk to suspend the rules and waive the second and third reading of ORD-23-020. The motion carried with the following vote:

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

A motion was made by Shea, seconded by Buskirk to adopt ORD-23-020. The motion carried with the following vote:

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

J. Council Reports

Work Session/Council - Monday, May 15, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.

Committee of the Whole - Tuesday, May 30, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.

CW Human Services - Walker

Discussion started at 2:15:58 on YouTube Channel

Walker – Nothing to report.

CWICC - Amick

Discussion started at 2:16:04 on YouTube Channel

Amick – Our next meeting will be June 29th at 11:30 a.m. here in City Hall.

CWJRD - Amos/Shea

Discussion started at 2:16:13 on YouTube Channel

Amos – Our next meeting is May 18th at 7:00 p.m. at the Old Town Hall. We are getting ready to schedule our community meetings to engage the public.

Shea – We had an issue with parking at McGill Park, but Mr. Sims promptly pointed out that we didn't have an issue with the number of spaces. We had an issue with overscheduling games at the fields.

Destination: Canal Winchester - Milliken

Discussion started at 2:17:16 on YouTube Channel

Milliken – Art on the Canal Stroll at Stradley Park is on May 20th from noon to 6:00 p.m. Thirsty Thursday is from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at Stradley Park on May 25th with the Poverty String Band. The first summer farmer's market is May 27th from 9:00 a.m. to noon at the Historical Complex.

Chamber of Commerce – Buskirk

Discussion started at 2:17:48 on YouTube Channel

Buskirk – We have several upcoming events. The golf outing is on Friday, May 12th, at the Canal Winchester Golf Course. We'd love to see you there. The community networking and hiring event is on Thursday, June 15th. This is going to be at the Community Center at 7:00 p.m. How to Market Your Business Digitally is on June 21st at the Community Center.

K. Old/New Business**Discussion started at 2:18:19 on YouTube Channel**

Milliken – I promised I was going to touch on the Committee of the Whole. As of right now, do we have anything currently scheduled for that? I would like to propose; I don't know if this is the proper avenue, but reviewing Landmarks. Is that something we feel like we need to discuss?

Boggs – Are you meaning reviewing Landmarks just...?

Milliken – Yes. In lieu of all the things we've discussed this evening and in the past.

Boggs – Committee of the Whole certainly could be a place to get that conversation going.

Haire – I would just ask specifically what you would like us to prepare to discuss. It's a pretty broad topic.

Amos – So, council is allowed to review it and make any changes, correct?

Haire – Correct.

Amos – Would it be feasible if some of the members could come in and we could have conversations with them?

Haire – The commission members?

Amos – Yes.

Haire – Yes. I mean we can make that request.

Amos – I think that's what we're looking for: to review some of these and understand them better.

Haire – Review the boundaries? Review the guidelines? What aspects?

Amos – Yes.

Haire – I would say many of you are likely not familiar with the guidelines or the boundaries. I want to help you prepare for that. How can I best do that?

Shea – How about why we have them.

Haire – Sure. A history of the Landmarks Commission?

Shea – Maybe. I was talking to Andrew on Friday about this particular appeal that we heard tonight. It was really educational for me, and I got a lot out of it. It made me understand why a lot more. I think it's really important.

Milliken – I think specifically to the issue that we were discussing this evening, a lot of it had to do with the boundary of the preservation district. If that's something we want to reconsider.

Haire – There have been a number of instances in the past where we've looked at expanding and contracting boundaries.

Amos – I think it would be great if they were here. This is something they do all the time; obviously, we don't. To understand if they disagree on something or if we disagree on something. To see where they're coming from so we can understand better. I want to make sure that when Landmarks asks us to enforce something, we have an understanding of why.

Boggs – I don't know how you frame that discussion with the Landmarks Commission members because I presume they're going to say we're trying to apply the design guidelines that you put forward.

Ebert – The council's wishes are basically what they're trying to uphold.

Walker – I believe what I caught in that also is that if we open up and let someone do that, then it could be on Columbus Street. It could be on High Street. It'd open up that door to now not having it preserved at all.

Milliken – I wasn't really planning on going there yet, but it kind of let you see where my mind was going. Having that discussion is like allowing it here and not allowing it there; it's on a case-by-case basis. Some people come to us for an appeal, and some people don't; they just do it. I know we've had the conversation in the past about code enforcement, and forgive me, I don't recall all those conversations we've had or where those conversations have landed, but is that something else that we want to discuss again? How we approach code enforcement in Canal Winchester is a topic that we could discuss at the Committee of the Whole alongside this.

Shea – I would encourage anybody wanting to go down the code enforcement route to spend some time talking to Mr. Moore and Mr. Haire about what that looks like and what kind of effect it can have on relations inside the community. I've talked to Mr. Haire about it extensively a couple times.

Milliken – I know we've had that conversation, and I don't know if there's a solution or what the solution might look like. I wouldn't necessarily want overly aggressive code enforcement, but I don't know, like I said, to have the discussion to try and see what avenues are out there.

Shea – Speaking of code enforcement, can I register a complaint about the pothole at the Starbucks drive-thru, please?

Ebert – Already did.

Amick – Have we always had a preservation district and a historic district?

Haire – I believe the preservation district was adopted in the early 2000s. The Landmarks Commission was started by a group of residents. The Historical Society and the Landmarks Commission were both created as a result of Huntington Bank being built. They tore down a historic hotel building that was there, and there was no protection for any of the buildings here, and people didn't want to see the character of our community change. They wanted to protect the character of our community. The Historical Society started at that same time, and then an offshoot of that was the Landmarks Commission, which established historic districts to protect those areas.

Amick – I didn't go through and study at great length the differences between the two districts. Is that clearly labeled in the Old Town Plan?

Haire – It is.

Ebert – As the city gets older, houses get older. We've got subdivisions now that are 50 or more years old. That's something that you have to take into consideration for the future, too.

L. Adjourn to Executive Session (if necessary)

M. Adjournment @ 7:52 p.m.

*A motion was made by Shea, seconded by Amos to adjourn. The motion carried with the following vote:
Yes 6 – Shea, Amos, Buskirk, Milliken, Walker, Amick*