Canal Winchester

Town Hall
10 North High Street
Canal Winchester, OH 43110

Meeting Minutes - Final

May 18, 2020
6:00 PM

Council Work Session

Mike Walker - President
Mike Coolman – Vice President
Jill Amos
Will Bennett
Bob Clark
Patrick Lynch
Chuck Miliken
A. **Call To Order**  
   at 6:00 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*

D. **Reports**

   *Bill Sims*

Sims said construction work is continuing as normal. The 2020 street program is underway and the sidewalk program is complete as part of that. Paint and repairs have been done and contractor doing resurfacing work this week, today they got rained out, but paving beginning in the Ashbrook subdivision, then move to Westchester and then West Waterloo Street over the coming two weeks. The path along the creek in Cherry Landing subdivision has started. The extension to the pool parking lot has not started yet. Westchester Park improvements are almost wrapped up, shelter building is up, grass is growing, playground equipment is installed, waiting on electrical work to shelter to occur; South Central still needs to extend their service to the site. Gender Road phase five is in the design phase. We have a pre-construction meeting for Bixby Road utility extension, the water and sewer extension, is tomorrow, so hopefully we’ll see the start of work in a couple of weeks on that project. For the municipal complex we did have a kick off meeting last week with Lehman Daman and Triad. We basically set some initial goals and talked about the most important portions of the work we are considering. Also talked about the schedule and they are preparing based on our comments, a schedule for submittals and review meetings, so I expect to have that at any time. The Gender Road, ODOT project urban repaving program; the paving is complete, the contractor will be working on striping this week and there will be some congestion with that but unlike the paving it moves along quicker and hopefully won’t back up as badly as it did with the paving and traffic. That is supposed to happen this week weather depending. They are also working on the vehicle detection system that is being installed so we are converting all the intersections to the microwave cameras that you see, that we have at Groveport Road and Walnut; all of the intersections on Gender Road will have cameras now; that is underway and will take two to three weeks to complete. On the private side, Three Counts Condos continues to work, the public sanitary sewer has been installed now for about ten days; the contractor is working waterline work and on storm sewer and draining. Winchester Logistics our portion is the…onsite is basically completed, they are working their buildings and on grading; they are working on the Winchester Boulevard extension actively; utilities are installed, working on grading, but soil is a bit damp; going to get that done here this week scheduled for tomorrow but today’s rain will set them back about two days. Crossroads Church has the paving done at the right in and right out onto Gender Road by the railroad tracks; most of their onsite paving is complete now as well, it is really starting to take shape. Pediatric Associates, the public waterline associated with that project is in. Fairfield Inn and Hampton Inn are both working and are past the stages of public utility work so they are working on their buildings at this point.
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Amos asked about the McDorman building and if the community center was represented at the meeting; Sims replied they had me, he certainly understands the importance of the looking at very closely how the community are going to serve people and what we will include in that; it was one of the five most critical points, maybe even the most critical point; today I talked to Linda to bring her up to speed and let her know when we might have something to look at and be able to sit down and work on that. Amos asked about the trails and do you have anything that we can give residents that shows the ones in the community and the ones we are hoping to connect; I don’t think residents realize all of the trails that are starting to connect and I would love to share that with them; we found one in the neighborhood behind us that we didn’t know existed; I would like to share and say here is what we currently have and here is what we are working on; Sims replied he believes we have that type of document, trail connectivity and relationship to parks I believe we have a document to that but I will follow-up on that. Amos said residents would appreciate it and she has seen so many residents out walking now and it would be very beneficial. Lynch commented that it was discussed earlier in the year about how we would fund some of these trail projects so along with the map can we get an idea of how we have budgeted out and what areas will be implemented, you guys have done a great job over time of adding and adding, and what is the long term plan for that, I know we have Gender Road five, but I think people would like to know that. Peoples said we have a trail map on the website under the parks section there is a tab marked trails, the trail for McGill Park I believe is on there. Sims said the future is to connect Walnut Woods metro park is an important piece of that. Lynch made comment about Metro Parks helping to fund that and help implement that to connect Walnut Creek...Walnut Woods...connect with us, waiting on them to take initiative on that. Sims we work in conjunction with them, we have a short piece within our city limits that is part of that, we’ll have to cross Groveport Road at some location and it will be important to work with them as to where that should occur; Peoples said and a creek crossing that will require a bridge. Coolman said for the metro parks to step in we have to have all of our pieces in line already, right; Peoples said we have met with them a couple of years ago and in the currently funding cycle I am not sure when that renewal goes but at that time it was in the last two years at least when Mayor Ebert and I met with them they were...it was on their radar but not in their funding cycle; the five year plan has numerous trails on their as we have talked before; it’s a guidance document just because we are on there for 2025 doesn’t mean we are good; the only thing that is hard and fast is the stuff we are doing in the next year. Lynch said it’s the kind of stuff people like to hear about.

Clark said I am sure this has been discussed but there is a new trail going on right by Chesterville Road and Cherry Bend, where is that going to and are we doing that or is the homeowners association? Sims replied we are doing that trail as part of the street program for this year, it connects at Waterloo Street and Chesterville and goes to Bigerton Bend in the portion by the Crossroads Church development, so it basically runs right along the creek, in Cherry Landing subdivisions there are two big basins in there so we have the property between the basins and the creek, that is city property, I expect the path to be utilized a lot, it’s a connector from Groveport Road area into town. Coolman said resident there can get into the shopping center. Sims said it helps make a really good loop to go through town and on the Cherry Landing path to Bigerton Bend and then a short stretch to get into Brew Dog and over to Groveport Road and back into town to a parking lot; it really does make a nice loop without having to use the path on Gender that is immediately adjacent to the travel lanes. Amos asked about a cross walk there at Cherry Landing; Sims replied yes that is in the mill right now; last year we put in a ramp at Cemetery Road and made a crossing, there are very few pedestrian crossings on Waterloo so we put one there; this year we put one at Pfeifer Drive and at Chesterville so pedestrians can cross Waterloo; Coolman commented about this allowing residents to safely cross there now; Sims commented about each side of the road has residential

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neighborhoods and Amos said we do see a lot of residents using the crosswalk from Sarwill over into Cherry Landing. Lynch asked who has right of way in these crosswalks the pedestrian or car; Sims replied all the crosswalks they have installed are at intersections of right of way so even if it is not marked there is a crosswalk whether it is ramps, stripes or anything else and the pedestrian always has the right of way if they are in the roadway; sometimes there is a mid-block crossing that is not an intersection so there is a lot of signage that has to go in there for that but even at a mid-block crossing the pedestrian in the roadway has the right of way; there is talk of making changes to this law regarding if you are leading into the roadway without having stepped off yet as in approaching the curb. Amos said depends on if you foot is out there, I stick it out and they keep on driving past anyway. Coolman said the traffic laws in Ohio say you have to give a driver an indication, you can’t wait until a driver going 35 miles per hour is right there and you step your foot out there; Sims said now the idea is that drivers need to anticipate that if you see someone coming up to a crosswalk you need to anticipate that they wish to cross that road. Amos said goal is to make us pedestrian friendly and need to shoot for a more pedestrian friendly and ensure our residents are safe in the downtown area with new businesses coming in, I appreciate all of the crosswalks you want to throw in. Coolman said on these crosswalks as the community continues to grow, like out at the airport where drivers are picking up and they have signs there and it makes you alerted, our we planning to put signs up on some of these crosswalks to make people alerted…on the side…Lynch said that was one of his questions. Sims replied we are not required to do it but we are doing it at intersections of right of ways so we don’t have to have advanced warning signs and things of that nature, but we do in some instances, so it’s kind of a balance there, we have talked a lot about the West Waterloo and Washington Street intersection, we have done a couple of things there with nicer signage and more visible striping, we talked briefly about the rectangular rapid flashing beacons and those are all good tools but you want to put them in where they are needed not just haphazard; if we line West Waterloo Street for instance with flashing beacons it would have the opposite affect and people will stop paying attention to it so you want them where they need to be but you don’t want to overdue it cause pretty soon it is just normal to see the flashing beacon and people don’t pay attention to them; Amos said Mr. Butler who comes to coffee with council and one of his biggest complaints is just to be consistent with whatever signage you choose so that throughout the community you know when a crosswalk is there; but if you are new to town you don’t necessarily know if the brick areas are actual crosswalks or part of the canal design; Sims said right, that has been a source of confusions since there were installed and twenty years ago I always thought the one by the Interurban was a crosswalk and it boggles my mind why is there a crosswalk with no ramps and right into parking spaces but there are part of the representation of the canal and they are not crosswalks at all, particularly the one by Shades; Amos said yes the one by Shades is the representation of the old canal and then the one that crosses over Waterloo at Trine and it is the same format but it is not a representation it is an actual crosswalk so it is confusing so his whole thing was to be consistent with signage. Sims replied we are consistent with the standard crosswalks, the bricks at Shades are not an actual crosswalk so there is no signage, and if it was it would be a mid-block crossing which then there would be an advance warning sign and as well as others which we have on West Waterloo by Dr. Quinlin’s office, there is a mid-block crossing there with signs and again at any intersection of right of ways there is implied legal crossing at all times; short of if you have a problem area where there is high pedestrian traffic and a high risk situation then you can start doing things with the signage like we put at Waterloo and Washington and maybe put like a flashing beacon so what we are doing is consistent with standard practice. Amos said I do find it funny that the one by Shade is not a crosswalk but people cross there all the time; Sims said I have never seen a problem there. Coolman said the problem is at the end of the street where people stop on High Street and there is no
stop sign; Sims said that can be challenging there because there is no stop on High Street and if you are trying to cross High and you have cars coming from different directions which is difficult for a pedestrian.

E. Request for Council Action

**ORD 20-026**

Public Service

An Ordinance to Waive Competitive Bidding for Municipal Recycling, Waste Hauling and Disposal Services and Declaring an Emergency *(Ordinance)*

- Request to move to full Council

Peoples said as we discussed at the last council meeting we are moving forward with a RFP process and as part of that process it requires us to waive competitive bidding, but we will still seek competitive bids it will just not be the competitive bid process; we have used this process before and most recently for the McDorman Building for a design build and we did waive competitive bidding; it’s a similar process it is just not the same delivery. Amos asked is this partly due to the short amount of time we are working with; Peoples replied yes, if we had more of a head start we could put together a competitive bid package, and I don’t know if contract wise it would be a whole lot different but in working with Gene he said this would be the best route to go at this point in time. Lynch said would this concept…the process you want to do would it allow you to get sealed bids where the lowest bid wins but in this case you are able to look at all of the bids and choose the best bid not necessarily the lowest bid; Peoples replied yes that is correct; it is based on the evaluation criteria that we will go through as we did with the McDorman bids where the directors and the mayor did an evaluation based on criteria that Mr. Sims put together, and the lowest price did not get the contract but the best proposal was given that. Bennett asked if we would have a role in evaluating those RFPs; Peoples said similar to the McDorman process we can have a council representative take a look at those; Bennett said I would be interested in supporting that if that is amenable to the rest of council; Lynch said I don’t have a problem with that and Mr. Bennett you have done a lot of research on the trash and recycling issues so I believe you are qualified to do that; consensus from council for Mr. Bennett to participate in reviewing the RFPs; Peoples replied it sounds like you are on the team; Bennett said thank you. Peoples said he is working on the RFP now and hoping to get it out in next couple of weeks.

*Motion to move ORD 20-026 to full council made by Bennett; seconded by Milliken*

*Motion carried by the following vote:*

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

**ORD 20-027**

Public Service

An Ordinance to Make Technical Corrections to Ordinance Number 23-10 *(Ordinance, Exhibit A)*

- Request to move to full Council

Peoples said Steve Smith found a typo in one of our ordinances, it actually had instead of a milligrams per liter on tungsten for a limit on industrial discharge it was “rngl”, if you look at it real close it looks like a “rn” next to each other but Gene said the easiest way to do it was an ordinance for a technical correction and it will get put into the codified ordinances as well. Lynch said I am curious what does the “rn” stand for; People replied nothing, he had use an old document that he scanned and converted a pdf into a word file and it didn’t covert well and I was editing it and I could have made argument it was a “m” but I was overruled plus I knew what it was supposed to say and there is no such thing as “rngl” in this. Lynch said I
am impressed with Steve’s attention to detail; People said he was contacted by a local business that was inquiring about a discharge of tungsten so he started doing the research and found it and brought it to my attention; yes, he is on top of things. Clark asked since it is a technical correction can we make it an emergency and be done with it so we don’t have to read it twenty times; Peoples replied we can, if it was more of an issue of pressing, but we can, it is up to you; we didn’t request it because it was such a minor issue to have and we have had other emergency ordinances recently, this one is fine as far as I am concerned, but if you want to pass it that is fine with me as well. Coolman said as far as I am concerned I am fine with declaring an emergency if you want to declare it, normal process would put it through three readings; it’s a typo correction, it’s in our packets, we saw it, there is no pressing business on it but if you want to clear the deck by majority vote we can say yes to the emergency if you want; we can declare the emergency in council; People said you are voicing your intent now but in council would be the place to do it; Coolman said in council we can bring that up and do that, this is what work session is about. Amos asked what would be the reason for declaring the emergency; Peoples replied that our codified ordinances are incorrect at this point, Mr. Hollins talked about doing a resolution, but in talking with Mrs. Jackson we thought the ordinance would work better because it would be picked up by codification and do it as quickly as possible and he said could do it by emergency as well; this would help with any conflict in the future, a conflict with policy and we found something incorrect we would want it done as an emergency then this would definitely help out in the future if we found something in error or conflict. Coolman said are there past contracts that anybody had with the city that would be affected by this change; Peoples replied, no, tungsten is an odd one, it is more of an industrial discharge, right now the only industrial discharge we have is Brew Dog and they are not putting tungsten in anything. Coolman said I need a motion to move it and then we’ll do the emergency clause in council.

**Motion to move ORD 20-027 to full council made by Clark; seconded by Walker**

**Motion carried by the following vote:**

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

**F. Items for Discussion**

Lynch said he has been talking to some downtown businesses and I know we have talked about how we can help some of our local businesses and one thing that is popular and from a few years back has been is to create a downtown DORA district; I talked to city of Hilliard and it has been highly successful there; I talked to downtown destination Lancaster and she gave me the information on their system and it is working extremely well; they have it in Toledo, Defiance, Middletown, Lebanon, Springboro, Grove City, Hilliard. It is pretty easy to implement, I asked if there have been any problems with having this and cities said no more problems than what you would have with when people come out of bars anyway. They said it has greatly enhanced a lot of their downtown activities; we have the art stroll, the Friday night festivals...it would help bring more people here; Hilliard said it almost doubled their attendance for downtown gatherings. I think this is something we should look into. I talked to Jenny from Roman’s and she loved the idea; I talked to Greg Powers, he loved the idea; I talked to Nathan and he is onboard; I talked to the guys who own Barrell & Boar and they are very much in favor of it. There are steps we would need to take, get a letter from an executive officer, be that Amanda or the Mayor and we can get this thing rolling, a petition from one of the businesses. Clark asked what it is called; Lynch replied it is a DORA which is a Designated Outdoor Refreshment Area, I am sorry I should have stated that up front. Lynch said basically it is an open container policy that is allowed, and you have to have a designated area
to do this and the area I would propose is High Street to Columbus Street and to Mound Street, and on Waterloo from Washington down to Trine; that is basically an all commercial area; it would greatly help Destination Canal Winchester and your efforts and it is a great thing for a community to have. Marysville has had a lot of success with it, my brother owns a shop in Marysville and it brings a lot of people into the downtown when they have their weekend shop gatherings. Lynch said I am bringing this up for discussion and I think it’s a great tool we can use to help our businesses.

Clark asked we would basically be closing from Columbus Street to Mound Street; Lynch said, no, absolutely not, the neat thing about a DORA district is you don’t have to close the streets, you don’t have to fence in a festival, you don’t have to fence in a beer tent at a festival, it is basically all open; you post signs. In Lancaster they have a sign that they zip tie to a lamp post at the end of the district that basically says no alcohol beyond this point, that is how they mark it. I talked to Hilliard and they have pylons and the police set them out, a pylon with a stake and a sign to mark where the boundaries are, but no you don’t have to close the roads, you don’t have to do wristbands or nothing. Clark asked are you putting tables out on the sidewalks and people walk out of one restaurant…Lynch said what you have is a cup, a clear solo cup, that could have Destination Canal Winchester printed on it so all of the cups look alike, then each businesses buys their own boxes of cups, so I can go into Shades and ask for a to go drink, a beer or cocktail, but they have to serve it in that cup and then I can take that cup outside and walk around and attend the festival; Coolman said within the designated area; Lynch said within that boundary; he said what I cannot do is take that cup with alcohol in it into another business and it’s easy to see if it has alcohol in it because it is a clear cup. Clark said so once you buy one and go out into the street, you cannot go into in any others until you drink that one; Lynch said correct. Lynch said for some of the shops that don’t have a liquor license, if I understand it correctly, don’t quote me on this, but say Corner Smiths, I leave Shades and I want to do some shopping for my wife’s birthday, I believe I can take my drink in there if they allow it and they have the right to post no drinks allowed; but I think during a festival or a weekend thing they would want people to come in and frankly maybe some of those places would serve wine and snacks if they could but they can’t; this allows a way for people to come and mingle and get together. Peoples said we have looked at that before and Luke would probably have the information on it and when we did look at it, if I remember correctly, there was a 10,000 person population that you had to meet beforehand, and they were looking at a law change and I don’t know if it ever went through and I know it was being discussed internally, I don’t remember how long ago that was. Lynch said Ohio Revised Code 4301.82D, section 3, line B says a population of thirty-five thousand or less may create one outdoor refreshment area if the proposed area will include at least four qualified permit holders, and I think we have got at least four of the places I mentioned, and be composed of one hundred fifty or fewer contiguous acres. In 2015 it was thirty-five thousand or more was allowed to have it prior to that, and it was changed after that; Jackson said it was changed in 2019, they amended that section of the revised code in 2019. Peoples said we can get with Luke and see what information he still has; Lynch said I have a lot right here as well as the code that was written for Lancaster they said here is all of our information go for its you guys will love it. Milliken asked how would that change the set up with the festivals that we already have and the designated drinking area does that stay like that or would it open things up larger; Coolman said good question; Lynch said as I understand it we can still have that area but would not need to fence it in and have police patrol just that spot, the police can work the whole festival instead of one designated area, so you can still have the beer sales; now does that cut into beer sales for festivals and the revenue generating aspect, it might cut into it a little bit, but on the other hand it allows our restaurants to participate a little more and levels the playing field for everyone. Coolman said I have been looking into this the past year and for the Blues and Rib Fest we wanted an area that you could take
your drink...and at Destination we were trying to figure out if you take your beer from the beer tent how do you get it up to the designated drinking area in front of the stage at the main intersection, how do you do that; Shades is open during the Blues and Rib Fest, Barrel and Boar is open, Jenny is open and Harvest Moon is open so they are ready to co-mingle with us on this as well as Loose Rail, so there is five we that we have and that doesn't hurt us because the beer tent will still be the beer tent and that is where people gather and they like to see the entertainment on Waterloo or at Stradley Park, the main reason for the beer tent is so people can get together in groups and you would still have that, you are not taking away anything. Amos said the beer tent gets so over populated this might help spread that out. Clark said I think it may even increase beer sales because I have a lot of people come up and ask I want to take this beer and go listen to the music and I said you can’t and they walk away and not buy. Coolman said right, cause our main entertainment is down on the stage at Waterloo and you can’t take a beer out there and that is the main complaint out there and at the end of the show when we are cleaning up after the festival is over there are water bottles by the millions, so this way you have a cup and in my opinion it give people a reason to take care of that cup. Walker said we thought about this a couple of year ago I believe; Lynch said I have been talking about this for years, I talked to Bruce about it; Walker said I thought it was maybe because they law just changed that it had come back up; Lynch said I have been looking at this for a couple of years and last year delved into more details of it and talked to people to get a feel for how it actually has worked for them and like I said Hilliard, Marysville, Lancaster they love it and it has been a great bonus shot for the downtown business.  Amos said our competing town of Obetz for Labor Day they are allowed to travel around with alcohol. Lynch said with our population we can only have one DORA district, we can’t have multiple, I don’t see anywhere else we would have it. Coolman said the legislature has been a stumbling block for us cause we were not a big enough community to have one or we didn’t have businesses involved and we I got diving into it for the Blues and Rib Fest and how can I designated that area in front of the main stage; the old language was you got to designate the area, protect the area, identify the area and you got to patrol it, how do you do all of that and still deliver the service.

Peoples said Luke may be on the speaker; Haire said I am here and having trouble on the audio hearing people speaking so I am not getting the full story of what people are looking at but for the Designated Outdoor Refreshment Area we put together quite a bit of research on that and potential maps of what that might look like; you are capped at 150 acres and you have to have at least four establishments we would easily meet both of those requirements and encompass most of the old town areas that are commercial areas there; I have five or six examples of ordinances that other communities have passed; you are required to put together a plan for how you would operate and that allows you to limit the hours of operation so you could say only certain nights of the week, some communities do that, some communities only do certain events, like a first Friday event and only allow it during those type of events, so there are a number of ways you can do it to restrict the sales only during certain periods. The biggest issue we ran into with our research was a lot of communities said you have to have a specific cup and some businesses were having trouble getting access to those cups or they were providing alcohol in not the designated cup in maybe some other plastic cups they had and so that’s the only drawback from communities that were heard was that if you are doing a specific cup then make sure you have a supplier that can supply the number that are needed. Lynch said Lancaster’s Destination Downtown actually buys all of the cups and sells them in bulk to the local businesses for a nominal mark-up like a couple cents a cup; maybe that is something our downtown shop group or whatever or maybe destination can buy these things and inventory them and sell them out, I think that can be overcome. Lucas said I will be happy to share all the research, examples of what other communities do, you have to post specific
signage that designates the boundaries so people know not to leave a certain area with an open container; you have to have a waste plan to manage the waste, typically public trash receptacles and the locations of those so people know where they can throw away the cups once they are done with them, so we can forward the information on other communities and what they have done. Lynch said I have a whole packet and I will forward that, too. Ebert asked what would keep people coming from the outside with a cup, a different cup I know, but who is going to police that; Lynch replied it could happen, it could happen with people with water bottles with alcohol in it, it could happen today or anytime whether we have a DORA or not, I could fill up that bottle there…not sure if Jill is drinking alcohol there (laughter), but that is just one example, it could happen, how do you police it, I don’t know that you can. Coolman said these are all good point of discussion that we can have; Lynch said and the neat thing about this is we can put whatever restrictions we want on this, we can have it so you have to apply thirty days in advance for each event, or in Lancaster they fill out one for the whole year and that way they are covered for all of their events; but like you said we can designated for certain events, we can set parameters, we can set certain days of the week for it to happen, we can design this any way we want, we can set the boundaries where we want it, etc. Clark asked what kind of liability, did you talk to any of the towns and did their liability insurance go up and what kind of liability did the city have if somebody gets out of hand and they are drunk; Lynch said he did ask that but it has been a few months and he doesn’t recall the exact answer he got from Lancaster, but they didn’t seem to think it was a problem, I think it was covered under similar insurance of whatever the festivals would have, Mr. Coolman can probably speak on that. Coolman said it would be covered under liquor liability and be covered by the server, so wherever you get it from, like Shade, it would be Shades liquor liability, but if something serious were to happen to that individual, say he was walking down the street from the last place he was served, and he falls down and has a concussion and his family is looking to sue somebody for his medical bill, the law will uphold and the court will look at the last place he was served and the beer in his hand where did he get that from; if you are downtown and come from a restaurant and trip on a curb and fall down, and you want to sue the city cause the curb was too big, but you are downtown at your own free will; but when it comes to liquor involvement and incidents it is liquor liability; Clark said he want to know because the city is authorizing this and it would be a city thing; Coolman said our law director can tell us that it depends upon how bad the lawsuit is and if the numbers are big enough; in my insurance history I have seen attorneys sue everybody whether they are related or not because they are there, doesn’t hold up in court, but you know never say never. Coolman said the whole concept here is where do they get the cups at...at the bar...you go up and down the street in an out of places and chug them and refill them, but no, you were given that when you leave that establishment. Milliken said it comes down to as a bartender or server you should know not to over serve and have that liability; Coolman said there are state certified training courses that servers and bartenders have to pass. Lynch said I don’t think this changes anyone’s drinking habits, per se, or allowing them to drink more it’s just that it allows people to more around in the downtown area, and it’s good for the shops, maybe we’ll find some of the shops staying open a little later during the week if this is the case, and looking at the Weiser Building and putting shops in there it can only benefit them. Coolman said I will tell you from a stand point again, I will take my council hat off and put my president of Destination hat on, there are some events that we have been looking at and wanting to do and bring to the downtown area and we have one in mind that we, well I will just let it out, called Dining Under the Stars; we would put a row of tables out on High Street and we invite all the restaurants to participate by providing their menus, it is gated and you pay a fee to enter and again without this being in place how are they supposed to drink, have it a couple of times in the summer on a nice night and have the whole street set up and bring activity downtown, that is one of the events we are planning, sorry
Karen if I let it out, but this will only enhance those kinds of things. You have the downtown merchants that have their shop hop and this will only enhance...I agree with that. Lynch said one of the thing is in talking with a council person in Hilliard he said with their downtown festivals he said instead of doing it on a Friday they changed to do it on a Thursday night cause everybody has stuff going on Friday but Thursday not so much, they found by having the DORA and doing it on Thursday night they more than doubled their participation for outdoor concerts and such in the downtown area; and in talking about tables outside there are a lot of communities that are closing streets and allowing restaurants to move tables into streets and serve people; it is a little hard to do in our community in the fact that we can’t close down a road, it would be challenging to do, not impossible but anyway, we can always put a parking spot...maybe close of parking spots along High Street in downtown area and Shade and Barrel and Boar can bring their tables out into the parking spots; now if we have the DORA they can basically serve alcohol within that area where before they could not, like an outdoor event this would allow to serve drinks out there. Amos asked if the dining night would be on the same night as the shop hop as that would be great to dine and shop. Coolman said these are all great topics. Ebert commented on what Pat said about closing down the parking areas and that goes totally against what you have been asking for in fifteen-minute parking areas for the downtown businesses so we can’t have both when you are doing that; Lynch said that is true, but I am talking about an unprecedented time and not something that would be done year round, we are eventually going to get beyond the COVID and get back to normal, so this would be temporary. Ebert said it’s temporary, ok; Lynch said for a temporary period of time; if it helps our local restaurants be able to serve more people I think it is a win-win for them. Coolman said these are great topics, let’s not forget about this.

G. Old/New Business

H. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn made by Lynch; seconded by Clark
Motion carried by the following vote:

Yes 7 – Lynch, Clark, Amos, Bennett, Coolman, Milliken, Walker
Adjourned at 6:55 pm