

Canal Winchester

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



Meeting Minutes – FINAL

July 17, 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 7:11 p.m.*
- B. Pledge of Allegiance** Amos
- C. Roll Call** *Present 6 – Amick, Amos, Clark, Milliken, Shea, Walker*
A motion was made by Amos, seconded by Amick to excuse Mr. Buskirk from the City Council meeting. The motion carried with the following vote:
Yes 6 – Amos, Amick, Clark, Milliken, Shea, Walker
- D. Approval of Minutes**
- [MIN-23-027](#) June 19, 2023 Public Hearing Minutes
A motion was made by Clark, seconded by Amos to approve MIN-23-027. The motion carried with the following vote:
Yes 6 – Clark, Amos, Milliken, Shea, Walker, Amick
- [MIN-23-028](#) June 19, 2023 Work Session Minutes
A motion was made by Walker, seconded by Clark to approve MIN-23-028. The motion carried with the following vote:
Yes 6 – Walker, Clark, Milliken, Shea, Amick, Amos
- [MIN-23-029](#) June 19, 2023 City Council Meeting Minutes
A motion was made by Amick, seconded by Shea to approve MIN-23-029. The motion carried with the following vote:
Yes 6 – Amick, Shea, Walker, Amos, Clark, Milliken
- E. Communications & Petitions**
- [COM-23-011](#) Madison Township Police Statistics June 2023
- F. Public Comments - Three Minute Limit Per Person**
Discussion started at 1:15:45 on YouTube Channel
Mike Coolman, President of Destination Canal Winchester – I would just like to take a minute to say that in two weeks we'll have our annual Blues and Ribfest. It'll be the 28th and 29th. I just want to say, ahead of time, thank you for passing a resolution allowing us to continue to host the event on the popular streets in the downtown area.
- G. Reports of City Officials and Staff**
Mayor's Report
Discussion started at 1:16:27 on YouTube Channel
Ebert – Just a couple things to go along with what Mike just said: this week is our last Music in the Park of the year already; it doesn't seem possible, but it's here. The Gas Pump Jockeys and the car show will be available, and from what I heard, the weather is supposed to be decent.
- Shea – Has the city administrator position been posted?*
- Ebert – It has been posted internally, yes.*
- Shea – Will it be posted publicly?*
- Ebert – After I determine if the applicants are going to get the job or not, it may not be external.*
Shea – Do you have more than one applicant?

Ebert – Multiple, yes.

Shea – How many?

Ebert – Multiple.

June 2023 Mayor's Court Report

A motion was made by Amick, seconded by Clark to approve June 2023 Mayor's Court Report. The motion carried with the following vote:

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

Fairfield County Sheriff

Discussion 1:18:08 on YouTube Channel

Sgt. Walker – I do not have a written report. As Chief Collins told you guys, we would be going to a new reporting system, and we did. With anything new, there are technical difficulties, and so I am still trying to navigate those to come up with that written report for you guys. In the last few weeks, we've had vehicle break-ins and cars stolen, due in part to citizens not locking their vehicles, so just remind everybody to take their valuables out of their cars and lock their vehicles. I'll take any questions if you have any.

Law Director

Discussion started at 1:19:02 on YouTube Channel

Shamp – I also don't have anything official to report, but I'm happy to take any questions.

Finance Director

Discussion started at 1:19:27 on YouTube Channel

Jackson – I kind of wanted to circle back to the capital project discussion we were having. As we discussed, we have a whole list of things that will likely occur over the next several years, but we just wanted to get a clear answer if you would like us to move forward with the pickleball courts, get that out to bid, and bring to you an appropriation amendment.

Amick – Can you clarify just one thing for me, Mr. Peoples? Were the pickleball courts part of the original plan for McGill Park?

Peoples – They were not. There were basketball courts at this location that we're looking at for the pickleball courts. As I'm sure a lot of you have heard, we have a very large population that would like to play pickleball.

Amick – What is the delta between the estimates that were going to be forecasted for basketball versus the \$733,000 for pickleball?

Peoples – The original estimates were concept plans from 2017. I'll get that for you, but I don't know if they specifically listed out the courts themselves, plus they have some age to them.

Amick – I'm just curious if we're talking a half-million-dollar increase from what was originally part of McGill Park or if it's \$50,000. I'm just trying to get a feel for that.

Amos – Does anybody have an issue with them putting it out to bid?

Jackson – We just don't want to go through the whole process of putting this out there for bid, taking the bids, and then having the council decide you don't want to move forward with the project.

Clark – I think I'm okay. Are you comfortable, Amanda, with where we are financially and what you've seen in the last few years? I respect your opinion.

Jackson – We want to keep moving forward in this park 100%. We've been having discussions since we purchased the park about how we were going to fit this in with everything else that we have going on. It's not that we're not financially prepared to take on this cost; it's just that we do have other things that have come up that we need to take into consideration. There is a large demand for it. We have heard over and over again from our residents and the surrounding community that they want to see this happen. We want to make this happen for them, so if the council is comfortable with it, we're comfortable with it.

Amick – For me, it kind of comes down to what got sacrificed for pickleball. When you think about the large project list, does that mean you had to take something off to include this at this particular time? Did something get sacrificed?

Jackson – No, not at this point. As we've discussed in Work Session, we have these other projects that we are farther along in the process of that do have funding gaps, which could mean that something else we wanted to do next year may not come to fruition, or maybe it's the year after. It may have a trickle effect. I'm not saying it will; I'm just saying we have to look at that possibility.

Shea – The general fund balance you just mentioned was \$14 million.

Jackson – Unencumbered, yes.

Shea – Do you know where we were last year in the second quarter? I just want to see how much it grew in a year.

Jackson – You're not really going to get a true feel for it that way, but let me pull up what I have from last June. That was not a June number I gave you; it was as of today. Last June, we were at a little over \$13 million.

Shea – So we've managed to increase the general fund by \$1 million over the past year. Is that accurate?

Jackson – Honestly no. You're not comparing apples to apples. A lot of things come out of the general fund that are sometimes cyclical. We pay for our street program out of the general fund. This time last year, I could have paid them half their contract. This year, we paid them nothing. So there are things that are not accounted for in there when you are trying to compare last year to this year.

Shea – Sure, but that would be an encumbered fund, right? Not unencumbered.

Jackson – It should be, but you're not comparing apples to apples. Let me just say that. It's easier to look at it at the end of the year than it is to look at it at any given point in the year.

Public Service Director

Discussion started at 1:25:46 on YouTube Channel

Peoples – Mr. Haire just brought this up: the revised concept plan. It did have pickleball in there in 2018.

Haire – Two full basketball courts and then four pickleball courts were what we had in there previously, and then three sand volleyball courts.

Jackson – Were they actually listed as pickleball and not tennis?

Haire – They're listed as pickleball in this 2018 draft. We were looking for cost estimates. We don't have those right now.

Peoples – Just a couple highlights from my written report: we are proud to announce that we did have four promotions, one in the Urban Forestry Department and three of them in the Street Department; Austin Lynch, Travis Lynch, John Moore, and Lacey Moore have been promoted to Class II Maintenance Workers. I'm proud of those guys for going through the program. Well deserved. We talked a little bit about the Winchester Boulevard reconfiguration, an OPWC project application that we're anticipating. A public meeting will need to be scheduled. It will have to be done at one of the next two council meetings. We found out the application is due a full week earlier than we originally thought it was. The last item is the covered bridge roof. We had the reappropriation amendment that was passed, I believe, at the last council meeting. We are working to obtain quotes for the replacement of the covered bridge roof. This project is over the bidding threshold but is still small enough to not be efficient for the traditional competitive bidding process. We are planning to present legislation to waive the competitive bidding requirements and award the contract directly. It does trigger the prevailing wage, so we're working with those contractors to make sure that they will be able to comply with the prevailing wage. It's a little bit atypical of what they do, so we want to make sure in case we have to get some other contractors.

Shea – What kind of roof are we putting on it?

Peoples – It's the same thing that's on there now, cedar shake. We had considered a synthetic material. We're working with Andrew Moore in Planning and Zoning to make sure it meets the historical guidelines. We started thinking that we would have to put sheeting on the entire roof, so we decided to go back to the original material. The shingles on the bridge are currently from 1992, I believe. We needed to replace the roof years ago. There were trees that were growing over the top, so it wasn't able to dry out as much as we'd like, so we moved those trees back.

Milliken – So we need to get the public meeting on the books?

Peoples – We're working through the application process, so it's likely it will be at the second August council meeting. We'll have that information for you at the next council meeting.

Development Director

Discussion started at 1:31:21 on YouTube Channel

Haire – We've had a few grand openings since the last council meeting. I wanted to make note of those. Sheetz had their grand opening on Gender Road in their new location. They're open and operating, and they seem to be very popular when I drive by. The grand opening was probably the best-attended grand opening with the exception of BrewDog since I've been here, but that's what happens when you give away 2,500 gift cards. Jersey Mike's is now open. They're in the Waterloo Crossing shopping center. The Kazoku Dojo is now open. They are at 7 North High Street, above Harvest Moon. The Chamber of Commerce is

having an interesting luncheon at their August 23rd meeting. There's a meeting called Intel on Intel. They're having a speaker, Betsy Goldstein, who has done a lot of research on Intel and has given a lot of speeches around central Ohio. It's really talking about the impacts that this type of transformative investment would have on our community—not specific to Canal Winchester but all of central Ohio—and the impacts it's going to have that many people aren't thinking about and how communities can start to prepare themselves for that. It is from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. If any of you would like to attend, please let me know and we'll get you registered.

Shea – The buildings that are empty—any leasing activity on those?

Haire – There has been some leasing activity on them, yes. Some of the buildings have letters of intent that have been put out on them; for others, there's just activity but nothing committed.

H. Resolutions

RES-23-024

Development
Sponsor: Shea

A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE TAX INCENTIVE REVIEW COUNCIL FOR THE FRANKLIN COUNTY TAX ABATEMENT AREAS WITHIN THE CITY OF CANAL WINCHESTER

- Adoption

A motion was made by Shea, seconded by Amos to adopt RES-23-024. The motion carried with the following vote:

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

RES-23-025

Development
Sponsor: Amick

A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE TAX INCENTIVE REVIEW COUNCIL FOR THE FAIRFIELD COUNTY TAX ABATEMENT AREAS WITHIN THE CITY OF CANAL WINCHESTER

- Adoption

A motion was made by Amick, seconded by Amos to adopt RES-23-025. The motion carried with the following vote:

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

Abstain 1 – Shea

RES-23-026

Finance
Sponsor: Shea

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING DESTINATION: CANAL WINCHESTER TO OPERATE THE "CANAL WINCHESTER BLUES AND RIBFEST" ON THE VARIOUS STREETS AND SIDEWALKS OF THE CITY OF CANAL WINCHESTER

- Adoption

A motion was made by Shea, seconded by Milliken to adopt RES-23-026. The motion carried with the following vote:

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

Abstain 1 – Walker

I. Ordinances

Tabled

Third Reading

ORD-23-021

AN ORDINANCE APPROVING AND ADOPTING THE 2024 TAX BUDGET

Finance

- Adoption

Sponsor: Shea

A motion was made by Shea, seconded by Amos to adopt ORD-23-021. The motion carried with the following vote:

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

ORD-23-022

Finance

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE 2023 APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE #22-041, AMENDMENT #4

Sponsor: Amick

- Adoption

A motion was made by Amick, seconded by Shea to adopt ORD-23-022. The motion carried with the following vote:

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

Second Reading - NONE

First Reading

ORD-23-024

Development

AN ORDINANCE TO ACCEPT THE DEDICATION OF REAL PROPERTY FROM BD33 PARTNERS, LLC FOR USE AS PUBLIC RIGHT-OF-WAY

Sponsor: Amos

- First Reading Only

J. Council Reports

****CANCELED**** *Committee of the Whole - Monday, July 31, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.*

Public Hearing - Monday, August 7, 2023 at 5:30 p.m.

ZM-22-001 Recommendation From Planning And Zoning

Work Session/Council - Monday, August 7, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.

CW Human Services - Walker

Discussion started at 1:37:44 on YouTube Channel

Walker – Quarter 4 April-June 2023 update: the Food Pantry program includes the Community Food Pantry, Market Day, Feeding Our Future, Pop-Up Markets, Blessing Boxes, and Snack Shack. The Community Food Pantry/Market Day served 1,355 people and provided 20,325 meals. Our numbers have been on the rise, and we expect them to continue. The word is spreading about our pantry, as we served 40 new households this quarter. 23,422 pounds of food were distributed. Feeding Our Future (22/23 school year) Final total: 7,278 meals served to 121 kids per week. Senior Transportation Program: 900 one-way trips were provided, for a total of 6,545 miles. We have seen a rise in clients needing transportation despite this difficult quarter. We had several drivers out on medical leave and/or vacation. We are hoping in the next quarter to have everyone back, healthy, or maybe an additional driver added to the team. Out to Lunch Brunch has become extremely popular, and we are happy to be able to offer this service.

Quarterly Updates: One for the Cupboard had another successful year. The final donation count was 146 items and \$2,601.00. We are so thankful for the opportunity to partner with such caring local businesses and people. Carm also matched the donations and gave \$2,601.00 to Samaritan's Purse for the earthquake victims in Turkey and Syria. Spring Community Care Day: It was a great year. The seniors were very grateful for the help from the Canal Winchester High School football team. Community Easter Egg Hunt: Thank you for partnering with us to host the annual Easter Egg Hunt. The Community Watch was a huge help in making sure parking was a success. Community Gardens: this was the first year we were able to offer 30 garden beds, and all of them have been claimed. The 8th grade still has their STEM bed, and this

year the high school has a garden bed as well. The high school has started a garden club and reached out to us to see if they could use one of our garden beds. We are excited to be able to help them make this club a success. Senior Prom: the students, staff, and seniors were so happy for the Senior Prom to come back. Everyone had a wonderful evening of dancing, food, and fun. We are so thankful for our partnership with the high school. Brock Walk had another amazing year. The generosity of this community is incredible. This year, 19,830 items were collected. This collection will help us get through the summer months and ensure our pantry clients are served. Fundraising Updates: Loose Rail Brewing Company chose us as their recipient of their Fun-Raiser Tuesdays. Every Tuesday during June, they donated 10% of their sales to us. In August, they will be featuring us again, and the funds will go towards our Tools for School initiative. We would like to thank everyone who came out and showed their support. It is greatly appreciated. X Church 5K is once again hosting a 5K, with all proceeds going to Canal Winchester Human Services. The race is on July 15th and is a family-friendly event. Tools for School: The Community Center agreed again this year to display a collection box for our Tools for School donation drive. We greatly appreciate the opportunity to display boxes throughout the community. We will be collecting supplies until the last week of July. We are so thankful for the partnership with our city. The support we receive allows us to do so much for our community. Everyone is so grateful for the services and outreach that we offer and that you help make possible.

CWICC - Amick

Discussion started at 1:43:00 on YouTube Channel

Amick – I have nothing to report this evening. Our next meeting is August 30th.

CWJRD - Amos/Shea

Discussion started at 1:43:12 on YouTube Channel

Amos – CWJRD is currently on break for the month of July as far as meetings go, so our next meeting will be August 17th at Town Hall. We are working on some new additional programming, so we'll have some more details to follow on that once we have a couple meetings with the parties involved. It is a joint venture with the school, so we're excited to see where this takes us.

Destination: Canal Winchester - Milliken

Discussion started at 1:43:39 on YouTube Channel

Milliken – We're all pretty excited for the Blues and Ribfest. I'm looking forward to that.

CW Chamber of Commerce - Buskirk

K. Old/New Business

Discussion started at 1:44:14 on YouTube Channel

Amick – I just want to note that the Rules Committee has agreed to meet on September 5th at 5:00 p.m. for our Rules Committee annual meeting.

Amos – Mr. Peoples, were the bricks in front of Town Hall part of your downtown project?

Peoples – Yes.

Amos – Until then, are we just dealing with the bricks that are missing that keep seeming to be falling apart?

Peoples – Yes. I mean, unless there's a hole. I know the surface is worn out in front of 10 North High Street.

Amos – Yes, it looks like they were missing. When I was there this past week for a meeting, it looked like

we were missing about six bricks.

Peoples – I know the tops of the bricks have basically deteriorated. The brick is still there. I didn't think there were holes.

Amos – I felt like there were actually pieces of brick missing, like someone had been picking at it.

Peoples – I'll take a look.

Ebert – I just want to mention one thing that happened over the weekend. Walmart Corporation had a toy drive that they had through their stores, and they donated \$330,000 worth of toys this past weekend to military kids at Rickenbacker. I was part of being there and helping out a little bit, but you've never seen so many happy little kids in your entire life. I've got some pictures, and it is incredible how many toys were there. Walmart causes a lot of grief, but it also does some good.

L. Adjourn to Executive Session (if necessary)

M. Adjournment @ 7:44 p.m.

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