



City Council Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, November 28, 2023

1) Call to Order

Council President Markham called the meeting to order at 6:01 pm.

2) Roll Call of Members

City Council Members in Attendance: Troy Markham, Jessica Saad, Matt Klingler, Lori Ann Feibel, Monique Lampke, Sam Marcellino, Jen Robinson

3) Pledge of Allegiance

4) Presentations/Special Guests

a) Proclamation for Amiya Bowles

Mayor Kessler presented a proclamation to Amiya Bowles on the occasion of her second girls tennis championship.

b) 2023 Citizen's Police Academy Graduating Class

Lieutenant Overly presented the certificates for the Citizen's Police Academy to the graduates of the 2023 class with Chief Lewis, Mayor Kessler, and Officer Adams.

5) Ordinances with Special Guests

6) Public Comments (Speaker Slip Required)

Babek Djourabchi of 447 South Drexel expressed concerns about a recent car theft and expressed his appreciation for the Police Department's response but discussed the specifics of the crime and asked City officials to consider some trail cameras to improve surveillance in the area.

7) President's Report

No report.

8) City Attorney Report

Mr. Fishel spoke about the upcoming negotiations for the collective bargaining agreement.

9) Auditor's Report

No report.

10) Administrative Update

a) Finance Department Update – Beecher Hale

Mr. Hale provided a brief overview of his report for the month. Ms. Lampke asked a question, which Mr. Hale answered.

b) Police Department Update – Chief Gary D. Lewis, Jr.

Chief Lewis provided an update on some of the highlights of his report, including a recent educational workshop on Judaism that was provided to the police department by a local rabbi. Ms. Feibel expressed her appreciation for this education. Ms. Robinson asked about Project Taillight, which Chief Lewis answered. Ms. Lampke asked about safety tips and the potential of including them on the Blast. Chief Lewis will work with Natalie to put something together.

c) Recreation Department Update – Mike Price

Mr. Price is out, but Mr. Kessler briefly covered a few points on his report.

d) Service Department Update – Andy Bashore

Mr. Bashore had nothing to add. Ms. Saad and Mr. Markham complimented the leaf pickup crew. Mr. Marcellino also complimented the leaf crew and asked some questions about the alley work in south Bexley.

e) Mayor's Update

Mayor Kessler provided an update on some of the items on his report and also spoke about some of the work he's doing with the Chief to address pursuits from other law enforcement agencies that end in Bexley. Ms. Robinson expressed her appreciation for this and shared that her son was eager to check out the progress on Commonwealth Pond.

11) Consent Agenda (No Speaker Slip Required)

- a) Meeting Minutes from November 14, 2023.

Mr. Markham moved to approve the Consent Agenda.

Ms. Feibel seconded.

All in Favor: Troy Markham, Jessica Saad, Matt Klingler, Lori Ann Feibel, Monique Lampke, Sam Marcellino, Jen Robinson

Motion passed 7-0.

12) Third Readings (No Speaker Slip Required)

None.

13) Second Readings (Speaker Slip Required)

- a) **Ordinance 37-23** to authorize supplemental appropriations for calendar year 2023, introduced by Monique Lampke on November 14, 2023.

Mr. Fishel read the ordinance and Ms. Lampke provided some background on this ordinance. Mr. Hale mentioned there should be a proposed amendment to this ordinance. Mayor Kessler pulled this up for review and Mr. Hale explained the modification that is needed to properly fund this appropriation.

Ms. Lampke moved to amend Ordinance 37-23.

Mr. Markham seconded.

All in Favor: Troy Markham, Jessica Saad, Matt Klingler, Lori Ann Feibel, Monique Lampke, Sam Marcellino, Jen Robinson

Motion passed 7-0.

Ms. Lampke moved to suspend the three reading rule for Ordinance 37-23.

Mr. Markham seconded.

All in Favor: Troy Markham, Jessica Saad, Matt Klingler, Lori Ann Feibel, Monique Lampke, Sam Marcellino, Jen Robinson

Motion passed 7-0.

Ms. Lampke moved to adopt amended Ordinance 37-23.

Mr. Markham seconded.

All in Favor: Troy Markham, Jessica Saad, Matt Klingler, Lori Ann Feibel, Monique Lampke, Sam Marcellino, Jen Robinson

Motion passed 7-0.

- b) **Ordinance 38-23** to establish compensation for non-bargaining unit employees of the City of Bexley, effective as of January 1, 2024, introduced by Monique Lampke on November 14, 2023.

Mr. Fishel read the ordinance and Ms. Lampke provided some background and covered some of the changes included in the proposed amendment. Mayor Kessler added that some additional changes are likely for the next meeting.

- c) **Ordinance 39-23** authorizing appropriations for the calendar year beginning January 1, 2024; to reappropriate all unexpended OPWC project appropriations for 2024 and to confirm the appointment of Marc Fishel as City Attorney, introduced by Monique Lampke on November 14, 2023.

Mr. Fishel read the ordinance and Ms. Lampke provided some brief background, inviting Mayor Kessler to lead us through the budget section being covered this evening. Mr. Kessler started with a review of the Capital Budget for 2024, speaking to line items for different departments. Mr. Kessler then answered questions from Council members and the City Auditor regarding the proposed items. Some items will need additional clarifications from Mr. Price who will be in attendance at the next meeting.

Upon concluding the presentation of the capital budget, Mayor Kessler invited Mr. Bashore to cover the scope of his budget. Mr. Bashore discussed the changes and rationale behind his budget areas. Mr. Bashore and Mayor Kessler answered questions and provided detail as requested by Council members.

- d) **Ordinance 40-23** to amend Chapter 1254, Commercial and Institutional District Regulations, in order further affirm the prohibition of uses involving any Adult Use Cannabis Operator; Adult Use Cultivator, and Adult Use Dispensary introduced by Matt Klingler on November 14, 2023.

Mr. Fishel read the ordinance and Mr. Klingler provided some background on this ordinance. There may be a small language change amendment on this ordinance.

14) First Readings (Speaker Slip Required)

- a) **Ordinance 41-23** to amending Ordinance No. 91-04 to extend the life of the Main Street Incentive District ("Main Street Redevelopment and Streetscape TIF") and the period of the tax exemption provided therein by an additional fifteen years introduced by Matt Klingler on November 28, 2023.

Mr. Fishel read the ordinance and Mr. Klingler spoke about this ordinance briefly and invited Mayor Kessler to provide additional information, which he did. Mayor Kessler then responded to a couple of questions from Council members regarding this ordinance.

- b) **Ordinance 42-23** authorizing the Mayor and Auditor to enter into a contract between the City of Bexley and Franklin County Public Health, introduced by Sam Marcellino on November 28, 2023.

Mr. Fishel read the ordinance and Mr. Marcellino spoke briefly about this.

- c) **Ordinance 43-23** adding Chapter 1485 to the City of Bexley Codified Ordinances establishing requirements for automatic External defibrillators (AED) and Bleeding Control Kit (BCK) in certain establishments within the City, introduced by Sam Marcellino on November 28, 2023.

Mr. Fishel read the ordinance and asked questions about this. Mr. Marcellino also provided some additional information on this.

- d) **Ordinance 44-23** to establish the Water and Sewer Rates charged by the City of Bexley, and to declare an emergency, introduced by Monique Lampke on November 28, 2023.

Mr. Fishel read the ordinance and Ms. Lampke provided some brief additional information.

- e) **Resolution 9-23** confirming the Mayor's appointments of members to the Community Improvement Corporation; the CRA Housing Council; and the Board of Zoning and Planning introduced by Jen Robinson on November 28, 2023.

Mr. Fishel read the ordinance and Ms. Robinson and Mr. Kessler provided some additional information on this ordinance.

- f) **Resolution 10-23** to schedule the Bexley City Council meeting dates and times for the year 2024, introduced by Troy Markham on November 28, 2023.

Mr. Fishel read the ordinance and Mr. Markham briefly discussed the proposed meeting. Mr. Marcellino and Ms. Saad recommended against an election night meeting.

- g) **Resolution 11-23** adopting the City of Bexley 2023 Strategic Plan Update, introduced by Jen Robinson on November 28, 2023.

Mr. Fishel read the ordinance and Ms. Robinson briefly covered this resolution. Ms. Robinson will be looking at an another meeting at 5:00 pm on December 5 or December 12.

Mr. Markham reminded Council that meetings will be required until the budget is passed.

15) Tabled Ordinances

- a) **Ordinance 35-23** to amend section 618.16(a)(5) of the Bexley Codified Ordinances to amend the definition of "Vicious Animal", and to reorder and amend existing Section 618.16(a)(8), introduced by Sam Marcellino on September 12, 2023.

No action.

16) Recreation and Parks Committee – Jessica Saad, Chair

Ms. Saad asked Council Members to sign up to volunteer at the Pancake Breakfast.

17) Finance Committee – Monique Lampke, Chair

Ms. Lampke had no report, but reminded everyone the next Council meeting will be December 5, where Council will hear the third reading of budget.

18) Safety and Health Committee – Sam Marcellino, Chair

No report.

19) Strategic Committee – Jen Robinson, Chair

No report, but please read the Strategic Plan and be prepared for the Strategic Plan meeting coming soon.

16) Zoning and Development Committee – Matt Klingler, Chair

Mr. Klingler shared upcoming dates for the next ARB and BZAP meetings.

17) Service and Environmental Committee – Lori Ann Feibel, Chair

Ms. Feibel spoke briefly on the two recent Tree and Public Garden Commission meetings.

18) Public Comments (No Speaker Slip Required)

None.

19) Executive Session

- a) Executive Session to discuss consider the appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion or compensation of a public employee or official, per section 121 of the Ohio Revised Code.

Mr. Markham moved to enter executive session per the above.

Mr. Marcellino seconded.

All in Favor: Troy Markham, Jessica Saad, Matt Klingler, Lori Ann Feibel, Monique Lampke, Sam Marcellino, Jen Robinson

Motion passed 7-0.

Council entered Executive Session at 9:10 pm.

Mr. Markham moved to exit executive session.

Mr. Klingler seconded.

All in Favor: Troy Markham, Jessica Saad, Matt Klingler, Lori Ann Feibel, Monique Lampke, Sam Marcellino, Jen Robinson

Motion passed 7-0.

Council exited Executive Session at 9:29 pm.

20) Adjourn

Mr. Markham moved to adjourn.

Mr. Klingler seconded.

All in Favor: Troy Markham, Jessica Saad, Matt Klingler, Lori Ann Feibel, Monique Lampke, Sam Marcellino, Jen Robinson

Motion passed 7-0.

Council President Markham adjourned the meeting at 9:29 pm.

City Council Policy for Public Comments:

Public Comments:

For the purpose of receiving the orderly comments from all speakers desiring to address City business before Council, adopts the following policy:

- Any speaker addressing Council shall complete a Speaker Slip to be turned in prior to the start of the meeting.
- Any speakers who have public comments at the end of the meeting do not have to have a Speaker Slip but they do still need to provide their name and address.
- Please note that all public comments should pertain to City of Bexley business only.
- All reasonable comments must be made within a maximum of three (3) minutes when addressing City Council.
- Undue interruption or other interference with the orderly conduct of remarks is not permitted.
- Defamatory or abusive remarks are always out of order.
- If the subject of the comment is not on the Council Agenda, the public may discuss the City issue during the Public Comments portion of the meeting. If the subject of the comment is on the Council Agenda, the public may discuss the issue at the time the issue is addressed during the Council meeting.
- Violation of this policy may result in termination of the speaker's comments and/or removal from the meeting.
- President of Council reserves the right to limit the length and scope of all Public Comments.

Presentations and Guests:

While we are grateful to have you attend a City Council meeting, please be sure to keep your presentation to a maximum of five (5) minutes in order to keep the meeting moving in an efficient and productive manner. Thank you for your understanding.

City Council Policy for Correspondence:

All correspondence addressed to City Council or requested to be distributed to City Council by the named sender is a matter of public record and will be placed on the City of Bexley Website (www.bexley.org) at Public Documents/City Council/Council Correspondence. If the subject of the correspondence is not on the Council Agenda, but pertains City business, the sender may discuss the issue during Public Comments. If the subject of the correspondence is on the Council Agenda, the sender may discuss the issue at the time the issue is addressed during the Council meeting.