## Minutes of WEST CARROLLTON CITY COUNCIL REGULAR Meeting

Held December 14, 2021

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Sanner at 6:30 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance and Roll Call followed.

PRESENT: Mayor Jeff Sanner, Councilmembers Harold Robinson, Jill Tomlin, Amanda Zennie, Rick Barnhart, Angie Fryman, and Leanne Nash. City Staff – City Manager Brad Townsend, Law Director Lori Denlinger, Finance Director Tom Reilly, Economic Development Director Mike Lucking, Police Chief Doug Woodard, Fire Chief Chris Barnett, Parks and Recreation Director Christian Mattingly, Public Relations Director Heidi Van Antwerp, Chief Code Enforcement Officer Carl Enterman, and Assistant Clerk of Council Tracy Rankin.

#### **MINUTES**

Mrs. Fryman moved, seconded by Mrs. Zennie to approve the regular meeting minutes of November 23, 2021. A vote was taken: Mr. Robinson-yes, Mrs. Tomlin-yes, Mrs. Zennie-yes, Mr. Barnhart-yes, Mrs. Fryman-abstain, Ms. Nash-yes, and Mayor Sanner-yes.

## **PUBLIC HEARINGS**

None

## COMMUNICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

Recognition of VFW Post 3438 for their Contribution to the Drone Program

Fire Chief Barnett and Police Chief Woodard explained they were able to purchase two drones because of a donation made by VFW Post 3438. They gave a video presentation which highlighted the capabilities of the drones. They explained how the drones will be beneficial to both the Police and Fire Departments for different types of investigations, to other departments within the City, and to the surrounding jurisdictions.

Three representatives from VFW Post 3438, Joseph Ketring, William Koehler, and Randy Allen, attended the meeting. Post Commander Ketring addressed Mayor Sanner and Councilmembers. He explained that part of the VFW project is to help the community and stated they enjoy being able to help the City.

Mayor Sanner thanked the VFW on behalf of City Council for their donation and continued support of the City.

Recognition of a Donation from Domtar to the Parks and Recreation Department

Parks & Recreation Director Mattingly explained that Domtar reached out to the City because they wanted to give back to the community in a sustainable project. It was decided with their donation the City will create a butterfly garden at Hintermeister Park. Mr. Mattingly explained the garden will be beneficial to the environment and they also

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## **COMMUNICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS (continued)**

Recognition of a Donation from Domtar to the Parks and Recreation Department (continued)

plan on adding benches and improvements to the trails. In addition to their \$10,000 cash donation, Domtar also offered labor to assist in the creation of this garden. Mr. Mattingly thanked Domtar for their generosity.

Dave Erich attended the meeting as a representative from Domtar and addressed Council. He explained Domtar is very committed in supporting the communities where their facilities are located. He stated they look forward to being a part of this project and contributing to the community.

Mayor Sanner and Councilmembers thanked Domtar for their donation.

## Oath of Office for Part-Time Firefighter EMTs Hoyt Hallford and Mark Webb

Fire Chief Barnett gave a brief background on Firefighters Hallford and Webb. Mayor Sanner administered the Oath of Office.

Mayor Sanner and Councilmembers congratulated and welcomed them to the City.

#### Resolution 37-2021

A Resolution Acknowledging the Appreciation of the Citizens and Public Officials of the City of West Carrollton for Services Rendered Unto Said City by Chris Barnett.

Mayor Sanner read the Resolution in its entirety. City Manager Townsend presented Chief Barnett with a signed copy of the Resolution and thanked him for his leadership. Chief Barnett gave a brief speech expressing his gratitude for the support he's received from Council, the Fire Department, City Staff, and most importantly his family.

Mr. Barnhart moved, seconded by Ms. Nash to approve Resolution 37-2021. A vote was taken: Mr. Robinson-yes, Mrs. Tomlin-yes, Mrs. Zennie-yes, Mr. Barnhart-yes, Mrs. Fryman-yes, Ms. Nash-yes, and Mayor Sanner-yes.

## Resolution 38-2021

A Resolution Expressing the Appreciation of the Citizens and Public Officials of the City of West Carrollton for Services Rendered Unto Said City by Joyce Garber.

Mayor Sanner read the Resolution in its entirety.

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### **COMMUNICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS (continued)**

#### Resolution 38-2021 (continued)

Mayor Sanner moved, seconded by Mrs. Fryman to approve Resolution 38-2021. A vote was taken: Mr. Robinson-yes, Mrs. Tomlin-yes, Mrs. Zennie-yes, Mr. Barnhart-yes, Mrs. Fryman-yes, Ms. Nash-yes, and Mayor Sanner-yes.

Finance Director Reilly gave a highlight of Mrs. Garber's career with the City and expressed his gratitude for her years of service.

### **COMMENTS BY THE AUDIENCE**

None

#### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

<u>Ordinance 3717</u> – An Ordinance to Make Appropriations for Current Expenses and Other Expenditures of the City of West Carrollton, State of Ohio, During the Fiscal Year Ending December 31, 2021, Amending Section 2 of Ordinance 3705, and Repealing Any Ordinances in Conflict Herewith, and Declaring an Emergency.

Mr. Reilly presented Ordinance 3717. He explained this includes a few amendments to the budget that couldn't have been anticipated at the time of budget planning. There is a \$260,000 increase due to the American Rescue Plan that came into the General Fund and is being transferred to the CIP for Economic Development purposes. There is also a \$500,000 increase to expenditures. He stated we are ahead on income tax revenue from our projections a year and a half ago. He explained revenue comes in and then is transferred to the CIP and General Fund, so the transfer is what is increasing. It is actually money coming in that is being moved to other funds. He stated we don't know exactly where we will end up at year end, but thinks we will be in more of a positive scenario than what was projected a year and a half ago.

Mayor Sanner asked if there were any questions for Mr. Reilly. There were none.

Mrs. Fryman moved, seconded by Mayor Sanner to approve Ordinance 3717. A vote was taken: Mr. Robinson-yes, Mrs. Tomlin-yes, Mrs. Zennie-yes, Mr. Barnhart-yes, Mrs. Fryman-yes, Ms. Nash-yes, and Mayor Sanner-yes.

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## **NEW BUSINESS (continued)**

<u>Ordinance 3718</u> – An Ordinance Amending Chapter 37: General Fee Schedule of the Code of Ordinances of West Carrollton Regarding Permit and Application Fees.

Mr. Townsend presented Ordinance 3718 on behalf of Mr. Gaines. He explained the Planning & Community Development staff researched and determined that our permit and development fees are higher than our neighboring communities. The first goal of this proposal is to reduce the City's fees to the mid-range of our neighbors. The second goal is to eliminate the opportunity for fudging construction costs by charging building permit fees based on the square footage of the building instead of cost of construction. Finally, this proposal would simplify our current system and consolidate a number of fees into single flat fees. Overall, the cost of our program would go down for both the development community and for our residents. This ordinance also includes an amendment that will cap the rate increase in any one year at three percent.

Mayor Sanner asked if this was a first reading. Mr. Townsend answered yes. Mayor Sanner asked if there were any questions for the City Manager or Mr. Enterman. There were none. Mayor Sanner stated this will be the first reading of Ordinance 3718.

<u>Resolution 39-2021</u> – A Resolution Requesting the Advance Payment of Tax Revenues Collected by the County Auditor for the Account of the City of West Carrollton.

Mr. Reilly presented Resolution 39-2021. Mr. Reilly explained this is an administrative resolution that is required for the county to release our funds when they become available.

Mayor Sanner asked if there were any questions for Mr. Reilly. There were none.

Mayor Sanner moved, seconded by Mrs. Tomlin to approve Resolution 39-2021. A vote was taken: Mr. Robinson-yes, Mrs. Tomlin-yes, Mrs. Zennie-yes, Mr. Barnhart-yes, Mrs. Fryman-yes, Ms. Nash-yes, and Mayor Sanner-yes.

<u>Resolution 40-2021</u> – A Resolution Authorizing The City Manager To Enter Into A Contract With Anthem Blue Cross/Blue Shield For The Provision Of Employee Health Care Beginning January 1, 2022.

Mr. Townsend presented Resolution 40-2021. Mr. Townsend explained we budgeted 10 percent as an adjustment for health insurance costs for next year, but with the assistance of LS Benefits and Human Resources Manager Teresa Brooks we were able to negotiate a contract with Anthem Blue Cross/Blue Shield for only a 1.2 percent increase. This contract will include similar plans to what we currently offer employees.

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## **NEW BUSINESS (continued)**

### Resolution 40-2021 (continued)

Mayor Sanner asked if there were any questions. Mrs. Fryman asked if the consortium that we used to be a part of was still in existence. Mr. Townsend answered yes. Mrs. Fryman asked if being a part of the consortium helped or hurt us. Mr. Townsend answered that LS Benefits has been able to do better for us than what the consortium was able to do. He further explained the consequence is that we've had to change insurance carriers on a more regular basis, but we've gotten better internally at streamlining that process. Mr. Robinson thanked Mrs. Brooks for all of her efforts with health insurance renewals throughout the years.

Mrs. Fryman moved, seconded by Mrs. Zennie approve Resolution 40-2021. A vote was taken: Mr. Robinson-yes, Mrs. Tomlin-yes, Mrs. Zennie-yes, Mr. Barnhart-yes, Mrs. Fryman-yes, Ms. Nash-yes, and Mayor Sanner-yes.

## Consideration of an Agreement with the Miami Conservancy District

Mr. Townsend apologized and advised Council that there were several attachments to this agreement that did not make it into their packet. He explained the Miami Conservancy District promotes all of the projects along the Great Miami River, from Sidney all the way to Hamilton, for communities that are involved with them. The cost associated with this agreement is \$7,000 annually for the next five years.

Mayor Sanner asked how long we've been involved with this organization. Mr. Townsend answered the last five years. Mr. Robinson stated he's attended their meetings and believes we need to stay involved with this group because it will eventually payoff. Mayor Sanner agreed. Mr. Townsend pointed out that Parks & Recreation Director Mattingly is a board member with this organization.

Mrs. Fryman moved, seconded by Mrs. Tomlin to approve the Agreement with the Miami Conservancy District. A vote was taken: Mr. Robinson-yes, Mrs. Tomlin-yes, Mrs. Zennie-yes, Mrs. Barnhart-yes, Mrs. Fryman-yes, Ms. Nash-yes, and Mayor Sanner-yes.

#### **REPORTS BY OFFICERS**

Mr. Townsend wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a safe and Happy New Year.

Mr. Reilly wished everyone Happy Holidays.

Chief Woodard wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

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## **REPORTS BY OFFICERS (continued)**

Mrs. Van Antwerp reminded everyone that the Civic Center Offices will be closed on Friday, December 24th, Monday, December 27th, and Friday, December 31st. There will be no delay in trash or recycling. She also gave updates on the following events:

Holiday Home Decorating Contest – This contest is for West Carrollton residents only. Participants must register their homes by Wednesday, December 15th at 3:00 p.m. Judging will take place on Thursday, December 16th between 6:30 p.m. and 10:00 p.m. Winners will be announced on December 17th or 18th. Luminary Walk – This event will be held rain or shine on Saturday, December 18th from 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. at Wilson Park. There will be crafts, beverages, and treats.

Noon Year's Eve – This event is for children ages 5 to 12 and will be held on Friday, December 31st at the West Carrollton Senior Center. The event will include craft making, a balloon drop, and a toast with sparkling cider. The cost is \$5.00 per child. Space is limited to 30 children. Registration is required and can be completed online under the Parks & Recreation page at <a href="https://www.westcarrolloton.org">www.westcarrolloton.org</a>.

Mrs. Van Antwerp concluded by wishing everyone a safe and Happy Holiday Season and a Happy New Year.

## **UNSCHEDULED BUSINESS**

#### Comments by the Audience

None

## Comments by Council

Mayor Sanner and Councilmembers expressed gratitude to Mr. Robinson and Ms. Nash for their service on City Council. Both of them will be greatly missed. In return, Mr. Robinson and Ms. Nash expressed how thankful they were for their time on City Council.

Mayor Sanner and Councilmembers wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

#### **WORK SESSION**

None

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## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

#### None

# **ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business, Mayor Sanner moved, seconded by Mrs. Tomlin to adjourn the City Council Meeting of December 14, 2021. A vote was taken: Mr. Robinson-yes, Mrs. Tomlin-yes, Mrs. Zennie-yes, Mr. Barnhart-yes, Mrs. Fryman-yes, Ms. Nash-yes, and Mayor Sanner-yes.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:26 p.m.

Assistant Clerk of Council

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