

BRYAN CITY COUNCIL

January 23, 2025

Council President Mary Leatherman opened the meeting with the following members present: Richard Hupe, Jim Kozumplik, F. John Betts, and Stephen Alspaugh. Also attending were: Mayor Carrie Schlade, City Engineer Brian Wieland, Police Chief Greg Ruskey, Fire Chief Doug Pool, Street Commissioner Tyson Engstrom, Wastewater Superintendent Wes Wygant, Parks and Recreation Director Benjamin Dominique, and Clerk-Treasurer John Lehner.

Mr. Alspaugh moved, Mr. Kozumplik seconded, to approve the minutes of the January 6, 2025 Regular Meeting, as written. Roll call vote: all ayes; nays, none. Motion carried.

Several residents of Eastland Estates (the Huntington Drive neighborhood) were in attendance. City Engineer Wieland opened a discussion on street repaving options by summarizing the points provided in a recent letter to neighborhood residents, explaining the challenges of simply grinding and paving over an established chip seal road. The existing base does not have the strength to support an asphalt surface for what is typically a 15–20-year life. He would expect a much shorter life, maybe five years, which cannot justify the additional cost. He noted several construction options, which are cost prohibitive at this time, and suggested re-doing the ill-timed chip seal treatment done last fall. The repair work, under warranty, is to be done this summer and will address many of the concerns raised in recent months over loose stone and cracks.

Further discussion was held, including a discussion with resident Steve Cox on whether the street had ever been ground and resurfaced with asphalt. According to Mr. Cox, this treatment took place sometime around 2016, but city records and photographic evidence provided in City Engineer Wieland's slide presentation indicate otherwise. City Engineer Wieland and other city officials maintain that the road has always been chip seal.

Further discussion was held, with some residents noting that the biggest problems were the loose stone and the lack of communication, including proper construction signage, between the City and residents when the chip seal work was performed in the fall. City Engineer Wieland and Street Commissioner Engstrom committed to rectifying those issues when the chip seal work is re-done this summer. Council Member Betts concluded the discussion by reemphasizing that the chip seal work to be re-done in the summer will be consistent with what has been done in the past, and that the concerns raised tonight will be addressed at that time.

Mr. Kozumplik moved, Mr. Alspaugh seconded, to approve the Clerk-Treasurer's Report for the month ending December 31, 2024 as submitted by Clerk-Treasurer Lehner. Roll call vote: all ayes; nays, none. Motion carried.

Resolution No. 2, 2025, titled,

**A RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT A \$37,300.00 DONATION FROM
VARIOUS SPONSORS TO THE PARKS AND RECREATION
DEPARTMENT FOR THE FOUNTAIN CITY AMPHITHEATER.**

was presented and read by title only. Parks and Recreation Director Dominique asked the Council to accept donations made from multiple donors for use toward the 2025 Fountain City Amphitheater summer schedule.

Mr. Alspaugh moved, Mr. Betts seconded, to suspend the reading of Resolution No. 2, 2025, on three separate days. Roll call vote: all ayes; nays, none. Motion carried.

Mr. Kozumplik moved, Mr. Alspaugh seconded, to pass Resolution No. 2, 2025. Roll call vote: all ayes; nays, none. Motion carried.

Ordinance No. 3, 2025, titled,

**AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR ANNUAL APPROPRIATIONS FOR
THE CITY OF BRYAN, FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER
31, 2025, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY**

was presented and read by title only. Clerk-Treasurer Lehner explained the need for the several items contained in the request for additional appropriations.

Mr. Kozumplik moved, Mr. Betts seconded, to suspend the reading of Ordinance No. 3, 2025, on three separate days. Roll call vote: all ayes; nays, none. Motion carried.

Mr. Hupe moved, Mr. Alspaugh seconded, to pass Ordinance No. 3, 2025. Roll call vote: all ayes; nays, none. Motion carried.

Ordinance No. 4, 2025, titled,

**AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING THE WILLIAMS COUNTY COST
RECOVERY STANDARD.**

was presented and read by title only. Fire Chief Pool explained these are modest adjustments to the cost reimbursement rates for HAZMAT services provided, and that in order to recover funds in the future, the new rates have to be adopted by all participating entities.

Mr. Betts moved, Mr. Kozumplik seconded, to suspend the reading of Ordinance No. 4, 2025, on three separate days. Roll call vote: all ayes; nays, none. Motion carried.

Mr. Alspaugh moved, Mr. Hupe seconded, to pass Ordinance No. 4, 2025. Roll call vote: all ayes; nays, none. Motion carried.

Resolution No. 3, 2025, titled,

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SALE OF CITY-OWNED
PERSONAL PROPERTY BY INTERNET AUCTION THROUGH
GOVDEALS**

was presented and read by title only. Mayor Schlade explained the City has had great success using GovDeals for auctioning off unused/unneeded city property, and requests authorization to continue using the service in 2025.

Mr. Hupe moved, Mr. Alspaugh seconded, to suspend the reading of Resolution No. 3, 2025, on three separate days. Roll call vote: all ayes; nays, none. Motion carried.

Mr. Betts moved, Mr. Kozumplik seconded, to pass Resolution No. 3, 2025. Roll call vote: all ayes; nays, none. Motion carried.

Resolution No. 4, 2025, titled,

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE FIRE CHIEF OF THE CITY OF
BRYAN TO APPLY FOR GRANTS FOR THE CITY OF BRYAN FIRE
DEPARTMENT**

was presented and read by title only. Fire Chief Pool explained that the grants identified are generally sought each year.

Mr. Alspaugh moved, Mr. Kozumplik seconded, to suspend the reading of Resolution No. 4, 2025, on three separate days. Roll call vote: all ayes; nays, none. Motion carried.

Mr. Hupe moved, Mr. Betts seconded, to pass Resolution No. 4, 2025. Roll call vote: all ayes; nays, none. Motion carried.

Resolution No. 5, 2025, titled,

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF PARKS AND
RECREATION FOR THE CITY OF BRYAN, TO APPLY FOR A
NATURE WORKS GRANT ISSUED THROUGH THE OHIO
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES**

was presented and read by title only. Parks and Recreation Director Dominique explained that it has been a number of years since the City of Bryan applied for a Nature Works grant, but if awarded, it will be used to support continuing improvement projects at Lincoln Park.

Mr. Kozumplik moved, Mr. Alspaugh seconded, to suspend the reading of Resolution No. 5, 2025, on three separate days. Roll call vote: all ayes; nays, none. Motion carried.

Mr. Betts moved, Mr. Hupe seconded, to pass Resolution No. 5, 2025. Roll call vote: all ayes; nays, none. Motion carried.

Resolution No. 6, 2025, titled,

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CARRIE SCHLADE AS DELEGATE AND RICHARD LONG AS ALTERNATE TO REPRESENT THE CITY OF BRYAN AS A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE OHIO MUNICIPAL ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION IN 2025.

was presented and read by title only. Mayor Schlade explained these appointments are made annually and the resolution follows discussion held at the January 7, 2025 Bryan Board of Public Affairs meeting.

Mr. Kozumplik moved, Mr. Alspaugh seconded, to suspend the reading of Resolution No. 6, 2025, on three separate days. Roll call vote: all ayes; nays, none. Motion carried.

Mr. Hupe moved, Mr. Betts seconded, to pass Resolution No. 6, 2025. Roll call vote: all ayes; nays, none. Motion carried.

Resolution No. 7, 2025, titled,

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY ENGINEER OF THE CITY OF BRYAN, WILLIAMS COUNTY, OHIO TO APPLY FOR THE FOLLOWING GRANTS: OHIO PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION (OPWC), COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) AND SMALL CITIES THROUGH THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, AND OTHERS FOR THE CITY OF BRYAN, WILLIAMS COUNTY, OHIO AS NECESSARY.

was presented and read by title only. City Engineer Wieland explained these are grants the City applies for most years and has typically had good success in getting awarded.

Mr. Alspaugh moved, Mr. Betts seconded, to suspend the reading of Resolution No. 7, 2025, on three separate days. Roll call vote: all ayes; nays, none. Motion carried.

Mr. Hupe moved, Mr. Kozumplik seconded, to pass Resolution No. 7, 2025. Roll call vote: all ayes; nays, none. Motion carried.

Resolution No. 8, 2025, titled,

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CLERK-TREASURER TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS FOR THE PROJECT KNOWN AS “2025 ASPHALT PROGRAM.”

was presented and read by title only. City Engineer Wieland explained the current estimate for the 2025 paving program is \$650,000, including \$150,000 from Permissive Tax funds, and will target portions of Center, South Lynn, and West South Streets, among others, but is subject to change based on conditions.

Mr. Betts moved, Mr. Hupe seconded, to suspend the reading of Resolution No. 8, 2025, on three separate days. Roll call vote: all ayes; nays, none. Motion carried.

Mr. Kozumplik moved, Mr. Alspaugh seconded, to pass Resolution No. 8, 2025. Roll call vote: all ayes; nays, none. Motion carried.

Resolution No. 9, 2025, titled,

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CLERK-TREASURER TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS FOR THE PROJECT KNOWN AS “2025 PAVEMENT MARKING PROGRAM.”

was presented and read by title only. City Engineer Wieland explained this is part of the annual streets maintenance program.

Mr. Alspaugh moved, Mr. Kozumplik seconded, to suspend the reading of Resolution No. 9, 2025, on three separate days. Roll call vote: all ayes; nays, none. Motion carried.

Mr. Hupe moved, Mr. Betts seconded, to pass Resolution No. 9, 2025. Roll call vote: all ayes; nays, none. Motion carried.

Resolution No. 10, 2025, titled,

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CLERK-TREASURER TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS FOR THE PROJECT KNOWN AS “2025 STREET IMPROVEMENT OF BLAKESLEE AVENUE.”

was presented and read by title only. City Engineer Wieland explained the current estimate is just over \$500,000 and will include storm and sanitary sewers, curbs/gutters, and pavement. The project comes on the heels of a waterline replacement project on Blakeslee in 2024.

Mr. Kozumplik moved, Mr. Alspaugh seconded, to suspend the reading of Resolution No. 10, 2025, on three separate days. Roll call vote: all ayes; nays, none. Motion carried.

Mr. Hupe moved, Mr. Betts seconded, to pass Resolution No. 10, 2025. Roll call vote: all ayes; nays, none. Motion carried.

Resolution No. 11, 2025, titled,

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CLERK-TREASURER TO
ADVERTISE FOR BIDS FOR THE PROJECT KNOWN AS “2025 SOUTH
WALNUT AREA SANITARY SEWER IMPROVEMENTS.”**

was presented and read by title only. City Engineer Wieland explained the current estimate is \$425,000, with a \$175,000 OPWC grant that will cover up to 44% of the project cost.

Mr. Kozumplik moved, Mr. Alspaugh seconded, to suspend the reading of Resolution No. 11, 2025, on three separate days. Roll call vote: all ayes; nays, none. Motion carried.

Mr. Betts moved, Mr. Hupe seconded, to pass Resolution No. 11, 2025. Roll call vote: all ayes; nays, none. Motion carried.

Police Chief Ruskey requested Council approve and appoint the following list of people to the Volunteer Peace Officers Dependents Fund Board for 2025:

Council Member Jim Kozumplik
Council Member Richard Hupe
Police Chief Gregory Ruskey
Police Sergeant Jeremy Viers
Bryan City Resident Jeff Arnold

Mr. Betts moved, Mr. Alspaugh seconded, to approve and appoint members of the Volunteer Peace Officers Dependents Fund Board for 2025, as requested. Roll call vote: all ayes; nays, none. Motion carried.

City Engineer Wieland requested Council approve building permits for a \$250,000 building renovation at 1400 South Main Street, which is the site of Arby’s restaurant, and a \$74,000 interior renovation at 1010 East Wilson Street, owned by the City of Bryan and to be used by the Williams County Health Department.

Brief discussion was held.

Mr. Alspaugh moved, Mr. Betts seconded, to approve building permits for a \$250,000 building renovation at 1400 South Main Street and a \$74,000 interior renovation at 1010 East Wilson Street. Roll call vote: all ayes; nays, none. Motion carried.

Council President Leatherman excused herself from the meeting at 6:55 p.m. to attend to an urgent matter at home. Vice President Hupe assumed control of the meeting.

Wastewater Superintendent Wygant presented the 2024 Wastewater Treatment Plant Annual Report which highlighted operational statistics, significant plant maintenance projects, and other capital investments.

Police Chief Ruskey presented the 2024 Police Department Annual Report which highlighted operational statistics, staffing, training activities, dispatch operations, K-9 use, and fleet status, among others.

City Engineer Wieland reemphasized that in his time, the Eastland Estates neighborhood has always had a chip and seal road surface, and he used his photographs comparing 2013 to 2023 pavement to document the point.

Council Member Betts thanked City Engineer Wieland and the residents of Eastland Estates for their participation in the discussion on road resurfacing. He also commended City of Bryan department leadership for pursuing the various sources of grant funding available to the City.

Mr. Betts moved, Mr. Alspaugh seconded, to adjourn the meeting. Roll call vote: all ayes; nays, none. Motion carried.

President of Council

Clerk-Treasurer