

BRYAN CITY COUNCIL

March 17, 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, Planning & Zoning Administrator Andy Waterston, 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 March 3, 2025 Regular Meeting, as written. Roll call vote: all ayes; nays, none. Motion carried.

Bryan resident Steve Cox addressed Council to again suggest that the improving weather ought to allow the Bryan Streets Department to clean up the loose stone on the streets in the Huntington Drive neighborhood.

Mr. Betts moved, Mr. Alspaugh seconded, to approve the Clerk-Treasurer's Report for the month ending February 28, 2025 as submitted by Clerk-Treasurer Lehner. Roll call vote: all ayes; nays, none. Motion carried.

Resolution No. 18, 2025, titled,

A RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT A \$1,530.00 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. Hupe moved, Mr. Alspaugh seconded, to suspend the reading of Resolution No. 18, 2025, on three separate days. Roll call vote: all ayes; nays, none. Motion carried.

Mr. Kozumplik moved, Mr. Betts seconded, to pass Resolution No. 18, 2025. Roll call vote: all ayes; nays, none. Motion carried.

Ordinance No. 8, 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 that an additional \$140,700 would be needed to cover the quoted price for a new pumper/rescue vehicle for

the Bryan Fire Department, which had been funded in the 2025 budget at \$900,000; and that \$60,000 would be needed in the Wastewater Treatment Fund to cover additional sludge hauling costs resulting from the plant's dryer being out of commission. Fire Chief Pool and Wastewater Superintendent Wygant answered numerous follow-up questions from Council, including on the challenge of how to adequately fund future fire vehicle purchases when pricing escalates so dramatically, and what the long-term options are for handling sludge at the Wastewater Treatment Plant. Further discussion was held.

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

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

Ordinance No. 9, 2025, titled,

AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE TRANSFER OF FUNDS FOR THE CITY OF BRYAN, FOR THE MONTH ENDING MARCH 31, 2025

was presented and read by title only.

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

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

Ordinance No. 10, 2025, titled,

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT FOR THE PURCHASE OF A CUSTOM PUMPER FIRE ENGINE FROM SUTPHEN CORPORATION IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED ONE MILLION FORTY THOUSAND SEVEN HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$1,040,700.00)

was presented and read by title only. Fire Chief Pool provided more detail on the fire vehicle specifications and that, while it is "stock" vehicle, it has all of the items/options the Department was seeking. He also noted that the vehicle is included in the State of Ohio Cooperative Purchasing program, alleviating the need for a local bid process. Further discussion was held.

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

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

Ordinance No. 11, 2025, titled,

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH GRIFFIN PAVEMENT STRIPING FOR THE PROJECT KNOWN AS “2025 PAVEMENT MARKING PROGRAM.”

was presented and read by title only. City Engineer Wieland recommended awarding the 2025 Pavement Marking program to Griffin Pavement Striping, LLC in the amount of \$138,780.

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

Mr. Alspaugh moved, Mr. Kozumplik seconded, to pass Ordinance No. 11, 2025. Roll call vote: all ayes; nays, none. Motion carried.

Planning & Zoning Administrator Waterston informed Council that the Planning Commission recommended approval of a preliminary plat for Autumn Chase Phase IV, a planned unit residential development, at its March 3, 2025 meeting. He explained the new sequence of events as specified in the updated Planning & Zoning Code, which requires only notification to Council at this point, with a request for final plat approval to come later. Further discussion was held.

Resolution No. 19, 2025, titled,

A RESOLUTION DECLARING THE NECESSITY TO ASSESS PARCELS FOR ROADWAY AND UTILITY INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE DEVELOPMENT KNOWN AS “AUTUMN CHASE PHASE IV PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENT” TO THE CITY OF BRYAN, OHIO.

was presented and read by title only. City Engineer Wieland explained the request from Welling Construction for public improvements to be funded via special assessment levied for the residential development of Autumn Chase Phase IV. Preliminary cost estimates total \$660,000 to be paid from the 1/2% Income Tax Fund and recovered by the City of Bryan through the assessment over a twenty year period. Further discussion was held.

Mr. Hupe moved, Mr. Alspaugh seconded, to suspend the reading of Resolution No. 19, 2025, on three separate days. Roll call vote: all ayes; nays, none. Motion carried.

Mr. Betts moved, Mr. Kozumplik seconded, to pass Resolution No. 19, 2025. Roll call vote: all ayes; nays, none. Motion carried.

Mayor Schlade requested Council accept the resignation of Richard Reed from the Williams County Port Authority after serving for many years, and appoint Joe Kimbell to fulfill the balance of Mr. Reed's term which runs through December 31, 2025.

Council Member Betts expressed gratitude to Mr. Reed for his time on the Williams County Port Authority, and the many other ways he has served the Bryan community.

Mr. Betts moved, Mr. Kozumplik seconded, to accept the resignation of Richard Reed from the Williams County Port Authority and appoint Joe Kimbell to fulfill the balance of Mr. Reed's term which runs through December 31, 2025. Roll call vote: all ayes; nays, none. Motion carried.

Chief Pool led a discussion on a proposed agreement between the City of Bryan Fire Department (Fire Department) and the Williams County Emergency Medical Service (WCEMS). The proposal, in draft form, is defined as a six-month trial that will house a WCEMS squad at the Bryan Fire Department to be used by Fire Department staff in support of WCEMS. In its current capacity as first responders, the Fire Department responds to many of these calls already but cannot transport patients. The new arrangement would allow Fire Department staff to transport, saving valuable time when WCEMS is delayed.

Mayor Schlade noted that there will be monthly status meetings the Williams County Commissioners to evaluate the arrangement. Further discussion was held on the ability of the Fire Department staff to handle additional calls, with Chief Pool noting it will be closely monitored.

Council Member Alspaugh noted the Bryan High School Marching Band had a great trip to Philadelphia, PA to march in its St. Patrick's Day parade, and the students represented the Bryan community very well.

Planning & Zoning Administrator Andy Waterston briefly addressed Council on an upcoming re-zoning issue.

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

President of Council

Clerk-Treasurer