

## **BRYAN CITY COUNCIL**

**April 15, 2024**

Council President Mary Leatherman opened the meeting with the following members present: Jim Kozumplik, F. John Betts, Richard Hupe, and Stephen Alspaugh. Also attending were: Mayor Carrie Schlade, City Attorney Marc Fishel, 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, Human Resources Director Tricia Lyons, Police Captain Jamie Mendez, and Clerk-Treasurer John Lehner.

Mr. Kozumplik moved, Mr. Alspaugh seconded, to approve the minutes from the April 1, 2024 Regular Meeting as written. Roll call vote: all ayes; nays, none. Motion carried.

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

Ordinance No. 13, 2024, titled,

### **AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR ANNUAL APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE CITY OF BRYAN, FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2024, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

was presented and read by title only. Clerk-Treasurer Lehner explained the requested supplemental appropriations included authorization to spend insurance reimbursement proceeds from a vehicle accident involving a Police Department cruiser, donations made to the Bryan Parks Department for Lincoln Park amenities and Fountain City Amphitheater expenses, and a donation from the Bryan Area Foundation for flowers for the downtown flower pots.

Mr. Hupe moved, Mr. Alspaugh seconded, to suspend the reading of Ordinance No. 13, 2024, on three separate days. Roll call vote: all ayes; nays, none. Motion carried.

Mr. Kozumplik moved, Mr. Betts seconded, to pass Ordinance No. 13, 2024. Roll call vote: all ayes; nays, none. Motion carried.

Ordinance No. 14, 2024, titled,

### **AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND TITLE 5 OF THE CITY OF BRYAN'S CODIFIED ORDINANCES TO ADD CHAPTER 343 CONCERNING THE OPERATION OF GOLF CARTS AND UNDER-SPEED VEHICLES ON CITY STREETS**

was presented and read by title only. Mayor Schlade explained that provisions of the ordinance were drafted with the input of department heads, invited further review, and requested that it only receive a first reading this evening. She summarized that use of golf carts and under-speed vehicles on city streets would be restricted by the following: no use on streets with 35 miles-per-hour (MPH) speed limit or higher, and can only cross those streets at signalized crossings; vehicles must be “street legal” and pass inspection by the Bryan Police Department each year, including a \$50 annual fee; no use on sidewalks, walking paths or grass areas in parks.

Council Member Hupe asked for clarification on speed limit restrictions, and Mayor Schlade explained the primary concern was for not allowing use on Main and High Streets due to the challenges of being four-lane truck routes. Further discussion was held on the 35 MPH road restriction.

Council Member Alspaugh asked about the additional burdens that would be placed on the Bryan Police Department. Police Captain Mendez speculated that the total number of requested inspections would be relatively low, based on the experiences in surrounding communities that have already made similar provisions; he also indicated that inspections would be by appointment only to ensure an officer would be at the station.

There was some discussion on e-bikes and motorized scooters, to which Mayor Schlade indicated they were a separate issue, possibly to be addressed in future language.

Council Member Betts acknowledged the safety concerns and the necessary restrictions that the ordinance imposes, but questioned what the upside was; who was asking for legalization and why. He also asked for citizen feedback on whether those in favor would still want to be able use their low-speed vehicles knowing the restrictions to be put in place and the limited access to various parts of town they would impose.

Mayor Schlade asked the Engineering Department to map out the City’s truck routes and streets with 35 MPH and above speed limits. She clarified that the ordinance is not intended to alter current agricultural use of all-terrain-vehicles and “gators” or the occasional use of golf carts by those staffing special events. Further discussion was held on the challenge of enforcing the numerous restrictions. Bryan resident Paul Langevin spoke against the ordinance, citing safety concerns and little practical need.

Ordinance No. 14, 2024 was let lie after its first reading.

Ordinance No. 15, 2024, titled,

**AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH GRIFFIN PAVEMENT STRIPING, LLC FOR THE PROJECT KNOWN AS “2024 PAVEMENT MARKING PROGRAM.”**

was presented and read by title only. City Engineer Wieland recommended awarding the 2024 Pavement Marking program to Griffin Pavement Striping, LLC in the amount of

\$136,290, which is under the original estimate of \$147,000. The work will include Main Street, which has not been restriped in several years.

Mr. Kozumplik moved, Mr. Alspaugh seconded, to suspend the reading of Ordinance No. 15, 2024, on three separate days. Roll call vote: all ayes; nays, none. Motion carried.

Mr. Alspaugh moved, Mr. Betts seconded, to pass Ordinance No. 15, 2024. Roll call vote: all ayes; nays, none. Motion carried.

Resolution No. 20, 2024, titled,

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PARTICIPATION IN THE ODOT ROAD SALT CONTRACTS AWARDED IN 2024**

was presented and read by title only. Street Commissioner Engstrom requested the Council's approval to purchase road salt from the Ohio Department of Transportation for the upcoming winter season. This is an annual request.

Mr. Kozumplik moved, Mr. Hupe seconded, to suspend the reading of Resolution No. 20, 2024, on three separate days. Roll call vote: all ayes; nays, none. Motion carried.

Mr. Betts moved, Mr. Alspaugh seconded, to pass Resolution No. 20, 2024. Roll call vote: all ayes; nays, none. Motion carried.

Resolution No. 21, 2024, titled,

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

was presented and read by title only. Police Chief Ruskey requested to apply for a number of grants for the City of Bryan Police Department in 2024 including the Walmart Community Grant, National Police Dog Foundation Grant, Ohio Law Enforcement Body Armor Program, and the National Rifle Association Law Enforcement Range Fund Grant.

Mr. Hupe moved, Mr. Alspaugh seconded, to suspend the reading of Resolution No. 21, 2024, on three separate days. Roll call vote: all ayes; nays, none. Motion carried.

Mr. Betts moved, Mr. Kozumplik seconded, to pass Resolution No. 21, 2024. Roll call vote: all ayes; nays, none. Motion carried.

Police Chief Ruskey requested permission to test for the position of Dispatcher, citing that a current full-time Dispatcher is retiring, and the current eligibility list has been exhausted.

Mr. Kozumplik moved, Mr. Alspaugh seconded, to authorize the Police Department to conduct a test for the position of Dispatcher. Roll call vote: all ayes; nays, none. Motion carried.

Human Resources Director Lyons presented Council with a request to reclassify Clerk-Treasurer Lehner from probationary to regular employment status at a salary of \$126,000 effective May 1, 2024. Mr. Lehner has successfully completed all of the requirements of the position. Further discussion was held.

Mr. Kozumplik moved, Mr. Alspaugh seconded, to approve reclassifying Clerk-Treasurer Lehner from probationary to regular employment status at a salary of \$126,000 effective May 1, 2024. Roll call vote: all ayes; nays, none. Motion carried.

Mayor Schlade reminded all that Governor Mike DeWine would be attending the Williams County Bicentennial kickoff at the Arts & Education Building on April 19<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 p.m. She and City Attorney Fishel offered thanks and congratulations to Clerk-Treasurer Lehner his first year of service to the City.

A brief recess was taken.

Mr. Betts moved, Mr. Alspaugh seconded, to go into Executive Session to discuss imminent and pending litigation at 6:09 p.m. Roll call vote: all ayes; nays, none. Motion carried.

Asked to attend: Mayor Schlade, Clerk-Treasurer Lehner, City Attorney Fishel, Police Chief Ruskey, Police Captain Mendez, Fire Chief Pool, Planning & Zoning Administrator Waterston.

Mr. Betts moved, Mr. Alspaugh seconded, to adjourn the Executive Session at 6:59 p.m. Roll call vote: all ayes; nays, none. Motion carried.

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

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President of Council

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Clerk-Treasurer