

CITY COUNCIL

September 3, 2024

The September 3, 2024 City Council meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers by Kate Niederkohr, President. A moment of silence was observed followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America. City Council members present were Kate Niederkohr, John Walker, Kenneth Wessler, Tom Karcher, and Aaron Korte. Julia Lemire and Scott Moore were absent.

Others present included: Kyle McColly, Mayor; Ben Buckland, Law Director; Dan Barth; Claire Karcher; Jim Stauffer; Brian Hemminger, Daily Chief Union; and Sarah Bennett, Clerk.

The minutes of the August 19, 2024 City Council meeting, having been mailed to each City Council member, were approved as received.

The minutes of the August 19, 2024 Service Committee meeting, having been mailed to each City Council member, were reviewed.

The minutes of the August 26, 2024 Tree Commission meeting, having been mailed to each City Council member, were reviewed.

Mr. Dan Barth again addressed City Council noting that he forwarded additional information to Mayor McColly via email regarding his request made at the August 19, 2024 City Council meeting for an ordinance banning any cannabis businesses within the City. Mr. Buckland also indicated that he sent emails of sample legislation to address this request to the members of City Council.

Discussion was held regarding the second reading of Ordinance No. 243-13, addressing increases in sanitation rates. It was recommended by Mr. Buckland and agreed upon by City Council members present to table the second reading of Ordinance No. 243-13 until the September 16, 2024 City Council meeting when the full body of City Council is present.

At this time City Council members reviewed a recommendation made by the Downtown Committee at their August 12, 2024 meeting to the Safety Committee, Service Committee, and City Council to close the east/west alley in the 100 block of North Sandusky Avenue located along the west side, from North Sandusky Avenue west to the adjoining north/south alley. This area would be utilized to provide a communal seating area with tables and chairs and Edison lights could be hung in the alley either by anchors on the buildings or from posts. Mr. Mike Hill, who owns the adjacent building to the north at 120 North Sandusky Avenue has agreed to work with the Downtown Committee to provide electricity for the Edison lights. The possibility of additional parking spaces on North Sandusky Avenue at the current alley entrance was suggested by the Safety Committee as a possibility. Mr. Korte indicated his preference that the Edison lights be attached to the buildings, and he inquired as to who will be taking care of this area? Mr. Karcher indicated that the Downtown Committee is seeking initial approval of the alley closure and will be working on the details of the space pending the approval of the closure.

Information received from Mrs. Vicki Orians was shared for The Civility Project as part of Citizenship Day to be observed on Tuesday, September 17, 2024.

Mayor McColly reported that next Wednesday, September 11, 2024 the City's new landline telephone service will be implemented.

Mayor McColly also reported that security measures for the 1st floor of the Municipal Building went into effect last week.

Mayor McColly further reported that Ms. Angela Polachek will begin work next week as the Administrative Assistant.

There being no further business, the President declared the meeting adjourned.

Sarah J. Bennett, Clerk

Kate Niederkohr, President