

January 25, 2024

MINUTES OF JANUARY 25th MEETING

Commissioners were all present. Staff and Commissioner Candidate Joe Sherman recited the pledge at 9:00. Purchase orders and bills were reviewed and signed. Pending issues were discussed with the following resolutions approved and signed:

V111-86 Minutes of January 23, 2024:
1st-Rush 2nd-Striker Roll call: Crowe-yes, Striker-yes, Rush-yes
V111-87 Credit Card Liability 2024
1st-Striker 2nd-Rush Roll call; Rush-yes, Striker-yes, Crowe-yes
V111-88 Reimbursement to Pike Repair
1st-Rush 2nd-Striker Roll call: Crowe-yes, Rush-yes, Striker-yes
V111-89 Reimbursement to Ditch Maintenance
1st-Striker 2nd-Rush Roll call; Rush-yes, Striker-yes, Crowe-yes
V111-90 Bills
1st-Rush 2nd-Striker Roll call: Striker-yes, Crowe-yes, Rush-yes
V111-91 Release of Funds: JFS to Reimburse Public Assistance for Expenses
1st-Striker 2nd-Rush Roll call: Rush-yes, Striker-yes, Crowe-yes
Signed: Netpoint Consulting Website Redesign \$10,190.00 **America Rescue Funds**
M064-M03, as presented and recommended by the Auditor Michael Bacon
1st-Striker 2nd-Rush Roll call: Rush-yes, Striker-yes, Crowe-yes
Pre-Award Conditions Forms Grants: 2023-JG-A02-6346 and 2023-JG-A01-6345.
Commissioner Crowe to sign. Crime Task Force Grants
1st-Rush 2nd-Striker Roll call: Striker-yes, Crowe-yes, Rush-yes

Kathy Kelley, **Deputy Executive Director Veterans Services Office/Commissioner Candidate**, asked questions regarding the Dog and Kennel Office. Why was a decision made to partner with the Sheriff? Commissioner Crowe-an option to explore as in other counties. Hope to do a MOU for the Sheriff to operate this year. Dog Warden and Budget would remain under us. Supervisor would be Sheriff. Provision in the law the Sheriff can be the Dog Warden effective at the beginning of his term. We could make that decision at the end of the year. Kathy-if it works out, is there a contract between the Sheriff and county? Yes. Kathy-can Sheriff say take back? Yes-per the contract. Haven't explored in depth. Waiting on Prosecutor to review. Kathy-just asking for my information. Also, Executive Session concern when a candidate was invited into an Executive Session. I know you can invite anyone in you can. Is it by coincidence that a candidate was invited into what was possible threaten litigation by an office that another candidate is employed by? Commissioner Crowe-we are able to invite anyone in. Prosecutor was here, was ok with him being in. The candidate portion never entered my mind. Kathy-logic since the candidate individual is not sitting in any other Executive Session. Clarification. Did you just pick one, as a learning tool, just asking? Commissioner Crowe-As I recall he was getting up to leave and Prosecutor said he could stay. All commissioners agreed in the motion he could stay. From the outside looking in it has a different appearance. I have people asking about Dog & Kennel, if it works here may be a good fix. Appreciate your time.

Cindy Murray, **Safety Service Director**, the walk thru with the EPA, Department of Development and Rep Jon Cross on Monday went very well. She acknowledged an email notifying the City of the courthouse having a crane at the south entrance Feb. 8. End of February Main St. will be shut down to start the sewer project. Each street (Main/Detroit) will be down about ten months. Intersections will not be closed until actual work is being done. Applying for the DOT grant for truck traffic for the round-about. Brightening Ohio Community Grant allows for \$500,000 to upgrade lights to LED. ODNR grant for \$500,000 for trees in downtown was also applied. Commissioners signed up for the America 250 celebration-eligibility for grants to put on celebrations. Kenton should be able to apply. Commissioner Crowe-we plan on replacing the sidewalks that go around the courthouse and hope to do all at one time. Let us know when to schedule or if they are being added to your project let us

know. The sewer line into the courthouse will be replaced and she will let the commissioners know for scheduling purposes. The old system should continue working until the new is in-no disruption of services. The flowering pear trees will all be removed. 16 trees around the square and up one block. With Soil & Water going into the North Annex at Kohler St the intersection is tight-can we work with the City to get the fire hydrant moved and AEP to move a pole? Would help the buses, it is a bad intersection. While it is torn up a good idea to work together. ODOT is out four years for another grant (2029) Too much going on now. Commissioner Striker mentions articles of a trolley track under the road. He knows it could be there somewhere and will keep sharing information.

Luke Underwood, **Engineer** and Ryan Taylor, Tax Map. **New Flood Plain regulations.** FEMA sent an email for the floodplain maps effective July 3, 2024. A process to update regulations needs completed. We have copies of what we need to follow. Not a lot has changed but is detailed out in the forms for clarification. Done and adopted by July 3. Update the resolution, send to ODNR, get approved and then hold public hearings. We adopted minimum standards. The maps were presented at the Safety Center meeting. Some areas: south of McGuffey land was taken in. It may pull additional homes that were not in before. A mortgage may require them to purchase flood insurance. Our maps were previously outdated. The fee schedule for permits is now \$200 with appeals at \$300. Will need to be reapproved-may be separate. Webinar today.

Root Addition WWTP user rate needs increased to keep up with inflation. Was not done with the past two WWTP. Choice One did a study and narrowed down to a couple areas: areas we lined the mains, not infiltration. Homes with direction connection: sump pumps and roof water. It then floods our plant after a heavy rain. EPA is assisting with a letter for residents to inform them they cannot connect to the lines. Twenty years ago we had the same issue. I'll put together something. Meyers Addition is on the EPA radar, that may also be a time to look at Root Addition to annex. Eldridge WWTP permit is ready to go to EPA. Supplies ready to go. Waiting on this to start the Reed Rd WWTP project. Will be done this year. The materials storage building should have plans to him this week with plans to the state. Should be done this spring. Engineers are doing all the site grading. Road projects need to be submitted by March 1 with the meeting April 24.

Ron Dysert and Jim Newland, **Fire Fighters Association** asking about the MARCS pagers with America Rescue Funds. Working towards a goal to go total MARCS. July 1, 2025 is the date the new MARCS goes on-line. Right now about 80% of the departments are using MARCS. MARCS pagers are a big ticket item. \$693 per pager. This quote would give us MARCS up to 95%. Departments are looking to upgrade radios. Will not be serviceable after July 1, 2025. We have all used the grants we can find. When the tower moved from Carrol St to CR 105 we had to put Store and Forward in. Quote is almost at \$201,000. Commissioner Rush noted the original quote which included a warranty which was pulled out. They are not sure how the grants being received will affect the quote. Commissioner Crowe-anything this amount will require a bid. Sheriff quote include them on possible levy changes, which would be down the road. With American Rescue Funds would be sooner to benefit everybody-all departments. Does include EMS, fire, everything-95%. The VHF is failing. All have MARCS but not sure if they are using or are up to date. No user fees with pagers. Life expectancy could be ten years old. Depends on how you wear. The promotion ended December 22, 2023. They will reach out and ask about any current promotions. Commissioner Crowe will take under advisement. Will need a formal bidding process. They will reach back out to fire and EMS for a hard number. They were informed of the fit testers to be housed at Kenton Fire. Commissioners general discussion: The volunteers need pagers and are out and about. Good use of funds, county-wide. Two years for the levy to pass-could be on this year, collect next year but not enough to spend. If this starts then the levy could continue. Need to see the number needed.

Jason Fleming, **Garmann Miller Architects**, and Austin Horne, Waibel update meeting on the HVAC project. Since last meeting no work has taken place. Feb. 8 the south entrance will be blocked off to set the VRF units on the roof. The area will be monitored for safety/security issues. Paint colors have been selected. March 6-8 will be the next time they will be in the courtroom. April 3-5 is set for rigging and install. April 4 existing demo prep. Coordinate with Richard on construction waste for using the dumpster. Also coordinate south side parking. Feb. 23 the DOAS should arrive. No new addendums or RFI's. Austin will continue to work with the electrical vendor to get dates. No change orders. Next meeting Feb. 8.

Commissioner Rush and Clerks viewed a webinar for the updated Flood Plain Regulations. Commissioner Striker attended a Council on Aging meeting.

Roll call resulted as follows:

_____, YES/NO
 President of the Board-Roger E. Crowe

_____, YES/NO
 Fred M. Rush

_____, YES/NO
 Timothy L. Striker

Attest _____
 Clerk of the Board

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 92