

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

039

Minutes of

KENTON CITY COUNCIL

Meeting

Lilienthal Southeastern, Inc., 1-800-837-1904, Re-Order 68865K

Held

June 12, 2023

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11th REGULAR SESSION:

Kenton City Council met in their 11th Regular Session on June 12, 2023, at 7:00 PM, in Council Chambers.
Present: President Joel Althaus, Sue Fox Buroker, David Beazley, Antwillia Davis, Pegg Wren, Robin Jones, Anda Tudor, Law Director John Schwemer, Mayor Lynn Webb, Safety Service Director Cindy Murray.
Absent: Ray Lawrence

Prayer given by Mr. Althaus:

Lord, we come before you, offering our thanks for bringing us together safely. Sometimes it is easy to forget that our safe arrival and departure is a grace from you. As we prepare for this meeting, we ask that you would be with us. May our thoughts be led by You, and our conversations be inspired by You. Help us to put our own agendas to the side and seek Your will and outcome for this meeting. Please grant us wisdom in times of uncertainty, and clarity in times of confusion. Lead us to solutions and help us become stronger as a group. In Jesus' Name, AMEN.

Pledge of Allegiance recited.

MINUTES:

Althaus: Welcome everyone, and hopefully we can get through tonight pretty quickly. Agenda looks very light so with that, I'd ask does anyone have any additions or correction for the minutes from the prior meeting, three weeks ago? Hearing none, they'll stand approved as submitted.

CITIZENS REQUESTING TIME TO SPEAK:

None.

COMMUNICATIONS:

None.

PETITIONS:

Althaus: We have a petition that was with, is it safety right now?

Clerk: Street.

Althaus: Streets right now. Did any of you happen to go take a look at that?

Wren: I went down and looked at it. It looked like it should be closed.

Althaus: Okay, and I did also go down as well, I think I was familiar with it. Who else is one streets?

Davis: Ray is the committee.

Althaus: Yeah, who's the third? I can't recall.

Davis: Anda.

Althaus: Anda, did you happen to go down and look at it?

Tudor: I have not, I will.

Althaus: Okay, just based on your opinion though, Pegg, you would have no objections to waiting to present it?

Wren: No, as a matter of fact the house is like pretty much (inaudible).

Althaus: Just a suggestion, in being expedient, I mean John maybe we should go ahead and start with that, and I will make certain to reach, Anda if you get a chance to go look at it or at least look at it on the map, then I'll make an effort, I'll make certain I talk to Ray in the next couple of days to make certain there's no objections, and then we can go ahead and move forward on that. Does that sound okay, at least with you Pegg? Any other council member familiar with the property at all? No objections to it? Okay, alright.

ADMINISTRATION REPORTS:

Althaus: Start with Police, and we are blessed with Sergeant Fenwick tonight.

Sergeant Fenwick: Chief advised me, we have nothing.

Beazley: Nicely done.

Althaus: Thank you. I'm glad you were able to follow those orders. Fire Chief, Chief Donnelly?

Donnelly: I just kind of wanted to kind of give shout out, or a thanks to Justin Dick with the Emergency Response Coordinator for the Kenton-Hardin Health Department. He organized a training this weekend for, basically it was railcar response training through FEMA and so it was done through

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federal funding and stuff, and it was kind of good training in respect of getting a lit more details in terms of some of the intricacies of trains of railcars and everything. So, it kind of tied together with the hazmat training that the department had earlier this spring too. So, just kind of want to give him a thanks for being able to coordinate that for us.

Althaus: Chief Donnelly's report for the month of May is also in your packet. Hopefully if you have any questions, feel free to ask him now, or later on. And all joking aside Sergeant, I do appreciate you being here, and I appreciate that Chief does send someone, I didn't want to sound like...

Sergeant Fenwick: Yup, no problem.

Althaus: Because I really do, and that way if you hear things, you can take it back to the Chief, and you can, especially when we talk about him.

(laughter)

Althaus: Moving on, Parks & Rec, Jacqueline, anything with Parks & Rec, and then you can lead right on into Economic/Community Development.

Fitzgerald: Okay so, splash pad is up and running. All of our equipment is now repaired and the cool thing was, it was all done locally. So, that was really nice. That's been used often. The pool is up and running. It's doing well, just the weather hasn't been very cooperative, but I know we needed the rain. So, you know, good for the rain. Hopefully tomorrow, let's hope we've got more rain coming but we're doing well there. The quarry had their memorial tournament on, yesterday, it was a well receptive tournament. They did well with that. Jason Howe and Tom Purcell kind of put that on. So, that went very well. So, things are going good. Wharton Park, I know our seasonal mowers have kind of cleared out some of that. It was getting pretty, the brush was getting pretty heavy through there so Mike Styer reached out and asked for a little bit of help. So, they took care of that. Tennis camp is, I got you Cindy, tennis camp is, we have 35 participants in tennis camp and it's going very well. It's on Tuesdays and Thursday until the end of the month. The kids are doing great. So, it's a great tool for them. I know Cindy started that last year so thank you for getting that going, and then for kind of economic/community development, we are headed to Columbus tomorrow to Jobs Ohio to meet with them, and Regional Growth Partners, and some people from the Kenton Port Authority. So, we're looking forward to going down there and meeting with them and kind of see what we can kind of kick around and still seeing more leads come through for, you know, this is opportunities that are coming. So, hopefully, at some point, we'll be able to be a part of Zoom Prospector where we can go in and submit some of our properties that are in the City of Kenton and get some luck. So, that's kind of where we're at.

Althaus: Any questions for Jacqueline? Okay, with regards to Income Tax you do have a report in your pack, a three-page report. Any questions? Cindy, yes ma'am.

Murray: So, the first two pages are what you've been receiving. We kind of re-vamped it, and would like to go to just the last page. If there's no objections, and I also want to explain the month of April why it looks like it's down compared to last year is because OBG, when we switched from Middlefield to Huntington the routing numbers did not get switched so none of that has been put through.

Beazley: So, we should see a significant bounce for May?

Murray: Yes.

Beazley: Good.

Murray: So, I just wanted to explain that. So, if there's no objections we'd to just stick with the last page of the report.

Beazley: We concur.

Althaus: I believe there's no objections.

Davis: None.

Althaus: Alright, thank you Cindy. Thank you for clearing that. Auditor, Brian anything you want to talk about?

Hattery: Only that the audit is ongoing, as you know, we'll have somebody on site tomorrow. You all should've received communications. The other thing I'll add to that previous discussion is that when Middlefield switched over from Liberty, they changed their routing numbers too, and us moving to Huntington it was...

Murray: Double whammy.

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Hattery: Yes, so we've, that added to the complication of things. So, but we're working through that. That's it. Thank you.

Althausen: Treasurer is not here. John, anything from your side?

Schwemer: No, still waiting to finalize documents so I can get an ordinance for the Detroit Street purchase. It's just been a long waiting game, but it's still in the process.

Althausen: Cindy, from the Safety Service Director?

Murray: So, Mike has his report, again there was no bypasses in the month of April. The bypass happens when it's like 12 million gallons, over 12 million gallons, and there's a Public Works report for the month of May. I don't know if anybody has any questions on that?

Beazley: Durapatching is still working and proceeding as planned?

Webb: Yes.

Beazley: Thank you.

Althausen: Okay, Mayor?

Webb: I get to be the bearer of good news. Two things that we applied for, for funding, the first thing that came was we're looking in the ability to take city utilities out to Frances Lake, and in the whole grand scheme of things, is there a possibility, that's where you would take water. If we would ever develop out 67 that could be a way we could go. So, it's not just about Frances Lake but it's a tool in. We have, in the past three years, have had issues with the well at the quarry. Which, I mean, each year it's resolved but it's, I mean, it's down to the wire. So, anyway we have looked into sewer and water going that way, and we've worked with Choice One on that. So, we were awarded a little over a quarter of a million dollars on a \$500,000 project for water to the quarry. Now, the whole total with the sewer is like a million dollars. So we have a quarter of a million dollars for water and then that's where we ask for the \$75,000 in design, to move that. So again, it's planning, and kind of future minded to see, you know. So that was a good thing of getting at least 50% awarded, and then the other good news came down Friday from ODOT on our Columbus Street project from Hester Street to Walmart for the sidewalk. That I think is 2026, correct? And then, so we were awarded a million dollars in that on a 1.5-million-dollar project. So, that would take the sidewalk, and I think curb cuts come in on that with the gas station so it's all the way out to Walmart. So again...

Davis: So, we'll be on the North end of that then?

Webb: Mhm.

Murray: On the Kroger side.

Webb: Yessir.

Beazley: You said the sidewalk project was 2026. What was the date proposed on the water/sewer?

Webb: I don't know if that's on the...2024, March 2024.

Beazley: to come up with three-quarters of a million dollars, because you have a quarter of a million for a million-dollar project.

Webb: If we're looking for just water...

Beazley: Pardon?

Webb: If we're looking at water, to start off with, it's 50%.

Davis: So, you're just looking for water right now, is my question.

Webb: And we'll do the sewer later. The water was, I believe, \$536,000 and we were awarded \$268,000 and some change.

Beazley: Does that include the \$75,000 engineering?

Webb: No.

Beazley: So, in addition to the \$268,000 we would need to come up with, we'd be north of \$300,000 in order to endeavor this?

Webb: Correct.

Beazley: And this is water?

Webb: Water.

Murray: We have not applied for sewer.

Beazley: Which is the weaker of our two enterprise funds at the moment?

Murray: Yes.

Beazley: Okay, thank you.

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Webb: That's all I have Joel.

Althaus: Alright, thank you Lynn.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES AND/OR SPECIAL COMMITTEES:

Althaus: Finance has a written report in your packet from April 24th. Is there any questions?

Beazley: First of all, Mr. President if I could I'd like to commend our clerk for really doing a nice job condensing this to a very readable and understandable format. I appreciate that significantly. I would also like to note that because of the proposed negotiations with Buck and Pleasant Township we are going to amend our schedule meeting for two weeks from tonight to 5:30pm, and it will be at 555. We're trying to get between Pleasant and Buck and get all parties in a room at one time. So, that is our intention to be 5:30 at 555. I have gotten a confirmation from Pleasant. I have not yet received one from Buck. I'm awaiting that at this point. So, we will try to put all the factors in from of everyone and move that forward. So, we'll be set for a new contract in 2024. Thank you.

Althaus: Any questions for David? Let's just knock this out, and your next meeting, June? June 26th, 6pm.

Beazley: Yessir, that would be when we will be at...

Althaus: Oh yeah, that is...

Beazley: Yessir.

Althaus: You may all laugh, because he just said that. Okay, MOP?

Wren: MOP has nothing tonight.

Althaus: But you are meeting June....you don't have a scheduled meeting either? Which is fine.

Public Utilities?

Jones: We have a schedule meeting for Wednesday, this Wednesday June 14th at 3:30.

Davis: It says 3:20 is it 3:30?

Jones: 3:30.

Murray: 3:25.

(laughter)

Althaus: Streets, Alleys, Sidewalks, that's Ray's department, but I do see there's a meeting scheduled for June 21st at 3:30.

Davis: It's probably 4:30.

Althaus: It's following...

Davis: The Ledge.

Althaus: Ledge, and you are meeting at 3:30.

Beazley: We have to talk her off the ledge, occasionally.

Althaus: Anything to talk about with Legislation?

Davis: We have a meeting on June 21st at 3:30. That's all I've got for you.

Althaus: Okay, reports from council members, anything from Regional Planning?

Beazley: Regional Planning elected not to meet during the month of June.

Althaus: Parks & Rec, anything you want to add, Robin?

Jones: Not since the last meeting. I think if everybody doesn't know the Lions Club is in the works. They have a five-year plan to take over the playground equipment at Pioneer Park. So, they're excited about that. I think they got their eyes open when they saw how expensive everything was but that's their five-year plan down the road and like Jacqueline said everything looks really good at the pool. Was out there, been out there a couple times and the quarry looks great. So, that looks very nice out there also.

Althaus: Grove Cemetery Board?

Beazley: I did see that there's a new Lions Club member.

Jones: Yes, that'd be me.

Althaus: Oh Robin's now on?

Jones: Yes, I did.

Althaus: Excellent.

Jones: Thank you!

Althaus: Antwill, anything with the board, Grove Cemetery?

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Davis: We pulled Memorial Day off. It looks gorgeous out there. Laid a bunch of mulch, if you haven't seen it please go out there, and if you could keep our superintendent in your thoughts he had surgery earlier last week.

Althaus: And Sue, anything with the Tree Commission?

Buroker: They meet this Thursday at one. Unfortunately, I cannot attend that one. I will be at a funeral in Youngstown.

Althaus: I must admit on BKP I did not attend this past month. I was in a tractor. So, I do not have information. I know there's nothing extremely exciting or I think I would've been contacted.

OLD BUSINESS:

None.

NEW BUSINESS:

Motion by Mr. Beazley and second by Mrs. Davis to go out of Regular Session and enter into Closed Session under Section 121.22(G)(1) Personnel.

Althaus: Any discussion? (Roll call vote, 6 ayes, motion carried. Time 7:20 PM)

Motion by Mr. Beazley and second by Ms. Jones to go out of Closed Session & return to Regular Session.

Althaus: Any discussion? (Roll call vote, 6 ayes, motion carried. Time 7:26 PM)

ORDINANCES/RESOLUTIONS:

1ST READING

- **ORDINANCE NO 23-011, TITLE ONLY; AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS FOR YEAR 2023, FOR THE CITY OF KENTON, OHIO, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

Althaus: And who wants to kind of give an overview here?

Beazley: I can do that Mr. President. I would remind you that you received an updated copy of this later on Friday, clarifying that Street Light Maintenance was in fact Street Traffic Light Maintenance. Street Light Maintenance would deal with our contract with AEP, so we clarify that. This is a list of work that was in your Finance Committee meeting notes, where the streetlight, on-going issues at Walmart are being taken care of under that, under the City Hall Repair and Maintenance, at the same time, the person with the bucket trucks and the ability is going to take care of the flood light outside. The Law Director recodification fees: we did not properly spend, nor carry-over, the purchase order from 2023, and so we're having to put this back into this year and there were some, as always, additional fees associated so we're asking for that money which was, in fact, put back into the General Fund to be re-allocated for recodification fees, and then the Waterworks System Project Engineering was to work in conjunction with the school expansion project, and allow the water line to be in the city right-of-way, and we're going to pick-up the engineering cost on that, giving us full access to that water line, rather than running it across school property exclusively. That's it, Mr. President.

Althaus: Urgency?

Beazley: I am not aware, Cindy, is there anything that says we need this tonight?

Murray: Is this the first read?

Althaus: First read.

Murray: So, we can read it again.

Althaus: We can read it again in two weeks. Thank you, David.

Beazley: Yes, sir.

Althaus: Next item, I will say does, or should have had an asterisk on it. It is the item that is being added. Go ahead, Emma.

- **RESOLUTION NO 23-014, TITLE ONLY; A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CITY OF KENTON TO APPLY FOR, ACCEPT, AND ENTER INTO A WATER SUPPLY REVOLVING LOAN ACCOUNT (WSRLA) AGREEMENT ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF KENTON FOR CONSTRUCTION OF WATER FACILITIES FOR THE DOWNTOWN WATER REPLACEMENT PHASE 2 PROJECT; AND DESIGNATING A DEDICATED REPAYMENT SOURCE FOR THE LOAN, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

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Beazley: This sounds awfully familiar.

Althaus: It is, and a little background; there would be an opportunity to where on some of these we could include all the wording of plan, design, and construct, right? Something like that; in one. The thing is, when you do that the first time, and we pass it, it's all in Cindy's hands.

Murray: I'm off to the races.

(laughter)

Althaus: And what it does, it does speed things up, it doesn't speed things up, it does make things much simpler, but it also though does take away our ability to say oh what a minute, funds don't look like they did, maybe we need to put on the breaks here, I would just say that. So, yes it's very much a repeat, except now we are at the construction.

Murray: So, let me add a few things: what we did the last time was for sewer, this is for water. We applied for principal forgiveness. We asked for principal forgiveness, we did not receive anything for water, well we did receive \$520,000 for the lead portion of it, but the rest of it will be in a loan. So, that's what this is for.

Beazley: What is the timing on this project?

Murray: This is the Phase 2 Downtown Project. This will be kicked off beginning of 2024, and this is for the first phase, which is the Main Street and the Detroit Street phases. The total project cost is \$2,880,000,000.00.

Davis: And we're starting on Main, correct?

Murray: I say, that's what I would like it to start on, is Main.

Althaus: But, it's Main and Detroit.

Davis: Right.

Althaus: One of the two.

Murray: And then the last meeting we had, they're throwing in part of Columbus and so...

Althaus: Any thoughts, concerns, with we have a bit of a deadline here. We would ask that we move forward. Nothing has changed from the prior, the planning and design.

Motion by Mrs. Davis and second by Mrs. Wren that the rules requiring legislation of a permanent or general nature to be read on three separate days, be suspended. Roll call vote, 6 ayes, motion carried. Motion by Mrs. Wren and second by Ms. Jones to adopt Ordinance No. 23-011.

Althaus: Any discussion?

(Roll call vote, 6 ayes, motion carried.)

2nd READING

- **RESOLUTION NO 23-011, TITLE ONLY; A RESOLUTION TO ADOPT THE SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE ALLEN-CHAMPAIGN-HARDIN-MADISON-SHELBY-UNION JOINT SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT.**

Althaus: Again, I would saw to go back to your packet three weeks ago. There's nothing changed on any urgency here. Do some reading if you need to. Unless there is an objection, we will move this onto a third reading in two weeks.

3rd READING

None.

SCHEDULING OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS:

Althaus: We've already handled the committee meetings.

OTHER MATTERS:

None.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:

None.

COMMENTS FROM THE NEWS MEDIA:

None.

COMMENTS FROM COUNCIL MEMBERS AND ADMINISTRATION:

Althaus: Let's kind of go a little bit differently. Brian, anything you want to add?

Hattery: Nothing to add at this time.

Althaus: Okay, Jacqueline?

Fitzgerald: Robin, thank you for all your dedication, and planting the flowers at the pool, and the quarry. It's a lot of work and I know Lynn and Robin have been watering all the flowers downtown so, thank you. They look great!

Althaus: Chief Donnelly? Sergeant? Sue?

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Buroker: I'm enjoying the flowers downtown too and it just absolutely looks beautiful.

Althausen: David?

Beazley: I would add my thanks to the Lions Club for their forward thinking, and what they're biting off for us. Appreciate the civic participation in the things that are going on to further the efforts.

Althausen: You know that's a special park too; not that the others aren't.

Beazley: Understood.

Althausen: Antwillia?

Davis: I would like to remind everyone that this weekend is Finding Nemo Junior, with the Hardin County Players. You should take time to come see it. There are about fifty little kids in it and also they'll be on the radio at 8am on Wednesday, with Chad.

Althausen: Pegg? Anda, anything? Robin?

Jones: Did you guys all see that the Lions Club are also cleaning up all the Welcome to Kenton signs, and I think they have three done and they're working on some more.

Althausen: So that's who's doing it.

Jones: Yeah, the Lions are doing those, and a member of the Lions has donated all of the money for the shrubs and the plantings, and Aaron from Aaron's Mulch is doing all the donating, all the mulch and so they're kind of fun people to be around. So, I enjoyed it.

Althausen: John, anything you want to add? Cindy?

Murray: Yes, so many people saw on Facebook, we are re-doing the parking lots out here tomorrow and Wednesday. So, there will be no parking in either upper or lower lot, and June 19th the offices are closed for Juneteenth. So, that's it.

Althausen: And you could've paved like a third of a block.

(laughter)

Beazley: I was thinking the same thing.

Althausen: A third of a block.

Webb: Not even that, one lane of a third of a block.

Althausen: Your honor?

Webb: I have nothing.

Althausen: Emma? Alright, well our next regular meeting is June 26th at 7pm, and we will see you at the 555 building, for those that would like to be there, and again if David didn't explain, which he did very well, hopefully Buck and Pleasant, and that's kind of to be determined, it still could change, right?

Beazley: We will meet with Pleasant because they have confirmed. We would love to have Buck in the session and get it all knocked out at one time because they abut one another 5:30 and 6:00 meeting there. So, it just makes sense to come between.

Althausen: So, hopefully Buck and Pleasant will both be there to talk about the Fire Contract and actually, it wouldn't be a bad thing to do that once a year with those two townships.

Beazley: It's a three-year contract.

Althausen: No but I mean in general.

Beazley: In general, you are correct.

Althausen: It wouldn't be a bad idea. Maybe that's something we think about.

Beazley: Our Chief does a very good job of spending time with each of the...

Althausen: He does.

Beazley: Townships regularly and he's closer to once a quarter than once a year.

Althausen: Right, with that then, until then we are adjourned.

Joel Althausen, President of Council

Emma Boutwell, Clerk