

CITY OF WASHINGTON COURT HOUSE
ECONOMIC STRATEGIES AND COOPERATION
Wednesday, April 24, 2024

The Economic, Strategies and Cooperation Committee met in the City Council Chambers of 105 North Main Street on Wednesday, April 24, 2024, at 5:00 PM. Mr. Steve Shiltz presided and those in attendance were Mr. Jim Blair, Council Member, Mr. Ted Hawk, Council Member, Mr. Jim Chrisman, Council Member, Mr. Dale Lynch, Council Chairperson, Mrs. Chelsie Baker, Economic Development Director, Jody Langley, Assistant Fire Chief, Mr. Mark Pitstick, City Attorney, and Mr. Joseph Denen, City Manager.

1. The Committee reviewed progress with industrial development. The Administration advised the Committee of fifty-eight open projects.
2. The Committee noted the status of various development projects within the downtown area. The Administration noted that new business plaques had been distributed to Optique Family Vision Care and Union Savings Bank. Mrs. Baker continued and stated that a new business plaque would be distributed to Ultimate Shine Car Wash, Friday, May 3rd.
3. The Committee benefited from a review regarding downtown businesses.
4. The Committee reviewed progress with commercial development. Mrs. Baker noted potential interest at Washington Center.
5. Mrs. Baker noted that she had attended a Jeffersonville Council Meeting.
6. Mrs. Baker noted discussions continued with the organization called Small Nation. Mrs. Baker stated that Small Nations had agreed to sign a joint agreement between Washington Court House and building owners in Jeffersonville as a combined county wide project.
7. Mrs. Baker noted that approximately twelve Business Retention and Expansion meetings were planned in 2024.
8. Mrs. Baker noted that Kettering was still exploring options on a local building of interest. Mrs. Baker noted that discussions would continue.
9. The Committee benefited from a review of the joint Economic Development website. Mrs. Baker noted that the website would be presented once the website was completed.

10. The Committee noted the grand opening of an additional Ohio Means Job office located at the outlet mall.
11. Mrs. Baker expressed her appreciation of Mr. Penwell's business class presentation that she and other members of Council had attended.
12. The Committee benefited from an update between a residential development and local property owner. Mr. Denen noted a great amount of progress that had been made.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mr. Steve Shiltz, Vice-Chairperson, Economic Strategies and Cooperation Committee

Mrs. Kelley Ford, Recording Secretary

**CITY OF WASHINGTON
COURT HOUSE
Finance and Personnel Meeting
April 24, 2024**

The Finance and Personnel Committee met in the City Council Chambers of 105 North Main Street on Wednesday, April 24, 2024 at 6:00 pm. Mr. Jim Chrisman, presided and those in attendance were: Mr. Steve Shiltz, Council Member, Mr. Ted Hawk, Council Member, Mr. Jim Blair, Council Member, Mr. Dale Lynch, Council Chairperson, Mr. Ron Sockman, Finance Director, Mr. Jody Langley, Assistant Fire Chief, Mr. Mark Pitstick, City Attorney and Mr. Joseph Denen, City Manager.

1. The Committee benefited from a report of the statement of cash for the month ending March 30, 2024. Mr. Sockman noted that accounts were in good standing but noted that the Administration would be prioritizing essential spending.
2. The Committee benefited from a report on the investments of the City of Washington Court House. A cash flow chart was presented to the Committee. Mr. Sockman expressed his appreciation of the long-range projection that was shown on the cash flow chart.
3. The Administration noted that a supplement appropriation would need to be completed for approximately \$303,000.00. The Committee noted that the supplemental was related to the cleanup from the lightning strike at the Wastewater Treatment Plant. The Committee recommended that legislation be brought to Council for a supplemental appropriation. The Administration noted supplemental appropriations would begin to be completed on a quarterly basis.
4. The Committee noted that the Administration received an invoice for the Wastewater Treatment plant project in the amount of \$1,280,000.00. The Committee noted that discussions would continue regarding the payment process start date being changed to January of 2025.
5. The Committee noted bond payments in the amount of \$950,000.00 were due in July and December of 2024.
6. The Administration presented the Central Ohio Health Care Consortium (COHCC) Cost Summary for the 2024 year.
7. The Administration presented the COHCC Plan Activity and Checkpoint Evaluation Report (PACE Report) for the City of Washington Court House.
8. The Committee noted that applications were being received for an open dispatch position at the Police Department.

9. The Administration noted that the Fire Department hiring process for an open firefighter position had begun.
10. The Committee noted that the Administration would be conducting disciplinary training with supervisors.
11. The Administration noted that the Bureau of Labor Statistics report had been filed.
12. The Administration advised the Committee that employee annual health screenings have been completed.
13. The Committee noted a personnel update within the Street and Collections Departments.

Respectfully Submitted,
Mr. Jim Chrisman, Chairperson, Finance & Personnel
Mrs. Kelley Ford, Recording Secretary

**COUNCIL MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING OF
WASHINGTON COURT HOUSE CITY COUNCIL
04/24/2024**

Council met in regular session at 7:30 pm in the second floor Council Chambers located at 105 N. Main Street, Washington Court House, with Council Chairperson Dale Lynch presiding. Mrs. Call led the invocation and Mr. Blair led the pledge of allegiance.

Present at said meeting were Mr. Joe Denen, City Manager, Mr. Mark Pitstick, City Attorney, and Mrs. Kelley Ford, Council Clerk. At roll call, the following Council Members were present, Mrs. Sylvia Call, Mr. Jim Chrisman, Mr. Ted Hawk, Mr. Steve Shiltz, Mr. Jim Blair, and Mr. Dale Lynch. Mr. Caleb Johnson was absent.

Mr. Blair moved and Mr. Shiltz seconded the following motion:

Motion: That Mr. Caleb Johnson be excused from the meeting.

At roll call the vote resulted as follows: Mrs. Call, "Aye", Mr. Chrisman, "Aye", Mr. Hawk, "Aye"; Mr. Shiltz, "Aye", Mr. Blair, "Aye"; and Mr. Lynch "Aye".

Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Blair moved and Mr. Shiltz seconded the following motion:

Motion: That the minutes of the Regular Council meeting held April 10, 2024, be approved as corrected.

In discussion Mr. Ted Hawk noted that the minutes needed to be corrected to read Ordinance No. 5-2024 and Ordinance No.6-2024 had passed and omit the additional third reading motion.

At roll call the vote resulted as follows: Mrs. Call, "Aye", Mr. Chrisman, "Aye", Mr. Hawk, "Aye"; Mr. Shiltz, "Aye", Mr. Blair, "Aye"; and Mr. Lynch "Aye".

Motion carried.

COMMUNICATION

There was none.

COUNCIL COMMITTEES

Mr. Hawk presented the minutes of the Service, Safety and Recreation Committee meeting held April 24, 2024.

Mr. Shiltz moved, and Mr. Blair seconded the following motion:

Motion: That the minutes of the Service, Safety and Recreation Committee meeting held April 24, 2024 be approved as presented.

Mr. Blair noted that Mrs. Call inquired about poison hemlock and the closed gate at the splash pad.

Mr. Denen noted that occasionally it is hard to decipher miscellaneous comments and considered direction of the Committee.

Mr. Denen stated that a message was placed with Brigitte Hisey of the Soil and Water Conservation District for direction regarding poison hemlock. Further, an investigation revealed that mowing and herbicide were the two options.

Mr. Denen stated that unfortunately we may have to suffer through a hemlock season.

Mr. Denen noted that there are concerns from citizens that the splash pad is closed for private parties when the gate is closed.

Mr. Denen stated that the gate issue at the splash pad would be fixed.

Mr. Blair noted poison hemlock in the area behind the cemetery near the disc golf course. Mr. Blair noted his concern with the toxicity of hemlock.

Mr. Lynch noted the new right turn on red sign had been placed at the post office.

At roll call the vote resulted as follows: Mrs. Call, "Aye", Mr. Chrisman, "Aye", Mr. Hawk, "Aye"; Mr. Shiltz, "Aye", Mr. Blair, "Aye"; and Mr. Lynch "Aye".

Motion passed.

CITY MANAGER REPORT (in writing)

Mr. Denen respectfully addressed Council and expressed his condolences to Chief Funari for the recent loss of his father.

Mr. Denen expressed condolences to former Chief Hottinger regarding the recent loss of his father.

Mr. Denen expressed condolences to the family of Jo Langdon.

Mr. Denen expressed his appreciation of the Income Tax Department personnel.

Mr. Denen noted that Arbor Day would be celebrated on Friday April 26, 2024 at noon at the old cemetery behind the Dairy Queen. Mr. Denen invited Council members to attend.

Mr. Denen reviewed new legislation.

DIRECTOR OF FINANCE

Director of Finance, Mr. Ron Sockman, reviewed the Statement of Cash for the month ending March 30, 2024.

Mr. Sockman expressed his appreciation of the Income Tax Department personnel.

Mr. Sockman noted that the Inclusive Playground Fund would be created on April 25, 2024.

CITY ATTORNEY

City Attorney, Mr. Mark Pitstick noted that the mowing season continued.

LOCAL RESIDENTS

Ms. Jessica Gossman, a resident of 2176 Jenni Lane addressed Council and noted her concerns regarding the open gate at the splash pad.

Mr. Denen noted that the Service Department would resolve the gate and lock issue.

Ms. Sheena Hugsby, a resident of 762 Yeoman Street, and Mr. Dan Bishop a resident of 132 Eastview Road, addressed Council on behalf of the Scouts of Fayette County. Ms. Hugsby asked for permission to close Main Street from Court Street to Market Street on August 24, 2024 for a Scout event. Mr. Bishop distributed information regarding the event.

Mr. Denen noted that barricades would be placed on Main Street the night before the event and that the Scout coordinators would remove the barricade at the conclusion of the event.

Mrs. Tori Rhoads a resident of 2089 Dill Road, Bloomingburg, addressed Council and noted her concern with the gate at the splash pad. Mrs. Rhoads noted her son was autistic and the importance of a closed gate for added security against roaming.

Mr. Shawn Groves, a resident of 113 South Main Street, addressed Council and noted his concerns regarding the gate at the splash pad.

1. LEGISLATION PREVIOUSLY INTRODUCED (in writing)

A. ORDINANCE NO.20-2024 (third reading)

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CODIFIED ORDINANCE §33.16 AGE REQUIREMENT FOR ORIGINAL APPOINTMENTS.

Mrs. Call moved and Mr. Shiltz seconded the following motion:

Motion: That Ordinance No.20-2024 be placed on third reading.

At roll call the vote resulted as follows: Mrs. Call, “Aye”, Mr. Chrisman, “Aye”, Mr. Hawk, “Aye”; Mr. Shiltz, “Aye”, Mr. Blair, “Aye”, and Mr. Lynch “Aye”.

Motion passed.

Mr. Chrisman moved and Mr. Shiltz seconded the following motion:

Motion: That Ordinance No.20-2024 be passed.

At roll call the vote resulted as follows: Mrs. Call, “Aye”, Mr. Chrisman, “Aye”, Mr. Hawk, “Aye”; Mr. Shiltz, “Aye”, Mr. Blair, “Aye”, and Mr. Lynch “Aye”.

Motion passed.

2. NEW LEGISLATION (in writing)

A. ORDINANCE NO.21-2024 (first reading)

AN ORDINANCE PROHIBITING THE DISPOSAL OF GRASS AND WEED CLIPPINGS IN THE STREET, ROADWAY, AND ALLEYS OF THE CITY OF WASHINGTON COURT HOUSE.

Mr. Shiltz moved and Mr. Blair seconded the following motion:

Motion: That Ordinance No.21-2024 be placed on first reading.

At roll call the vote resulted as follows: Mrs. Call, “Aye”, Mr. Chrisman, “Aye”, Mr. Hawk, “Aye”; Mr. Shiltz, “Aye”, Mr. Blair, “Aye”, and Mr. Lynch “Aye”.

Motion passed.

B. ORDINANCE NO. 22-2024 (first reading)

AN ORDINANCE PROHIBITING THE STORAGE, COLLECTION, PARKING, LEAVING, DEPOSITING, MAINTAINING, RESERVING, PUTTING ASIDE FOR FURTHER USE, PERMITTING, OR ALLOWING TO REMAIN ON ANY PORCH, BALCONY, ROOF, PATIO OR YARD, OTHER THAN IN A COMPLETELY ENCLOSED BUILDING OR STRUCTURE, CERTAIN MATERIALS INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO JUNK, RUBBISH, CLUTTER, LITTER, DEBRIS, LUMBER, AND BUILDING MATERIALS, AND UPHOLSTERED FURNITURE, MATTRESSES, MATERIAL AND OTHER SIMILAR PRODUCTS NOT NORMALLY INTENDED, DESIGNED, BUILT OR MANUFACTURED FOR OUTSIDE USE OR UPON ANY PROPERTY SITUATED WITHIN THE CITY OF WASHINGTON COURT HOUSE, OHIO.

Mr. Shiltz moved and Mr. Blair seconded the following motion:

Motion: That Ordinance No.22-2024 be placed on first reading.

In discussion, Mr. Chrisman inquired about charging a minimal fee for the city to remove the items referenced in the proposed ordinance. Mr. Pitstick noted that options are at Council’s discretion. Mr. Pitstick noted that the proposed ordinance is consistent with the guidelines of the trash ordinance but noted any option could be explored.

Mr. Shiltz inquired how long the city waits before the placard is placed at the residence.

Mr. Pitstick noted that the city waits approximately forty-eight hours to placard a residence. Mr. Pitstick continued and noted that the property owner receives the invoice for the violation.

At roll call the vote resulted as follows: Mrs. Call, “Aye”, Mr. Chrisman, “Aye”, Mr. Hawk, “Aye”; Mr. Shiltz, “Aye”, Mr. Blair, “Aye”, and Mr. Lynch “Aye”.

Motion passed.

C. ORDINANCE NO.23-2024 (first reading)

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING JOSEPH J. DENEN CITY MANAGER OF THE CITY OF WASHINGTON COURT HOUSE OR HIS DESIGNEE TO ABATE PUBLIC NUISANCE AT 1126 E. TEMPLE STREET; AUTHORIZING A PRIVATE CONTRACT FOR PAYMENT OF THE ABATEMENT OF NUISANCE; AND DIRECTING THE COLLECTING OF THE COST OF THE ABATEMENT OF NUISANCE FROM THE OWNER OF THE PROPERTY.

Mr. Shiltz moved and Mrs. Call seconded the following motion:

Motion: That Ordinance No.23-2024 be placed on first reading.

At roll call the vote resulted as follows: Mrs. Call, “Aye”, Mr. Chrisman, “Aye”, Mr. Hawk, “Aye”; Mr. Shiltz, “Aye”, Mr. Blair, “Aye”, and Mr. Lynch “Aye”.

Motion passed.

D. ORDINANCE NO.24-2024 (first reading)

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING JOSEPH J. DENEN CITY MANAGER OF THE CITY OF WASHINGTON COURT HOUSE OR HIS DESIGNEE TO ABATE PUBLIC NUISANCE AT 1226 E. PAINT STREET; AUTHORIZING A PRIVATE CONTRACT FOR PAYMENT OF THE ABATEMENT OF NUISANCE; AND DIRECTING THE COLLECTING OF THE COST OF THE ABATEMENT OF NUISANCE FROM THE OWNER OF THE PROPERTY.

Mrs. Call moved and Mr. Shiltz seconded the following motion:

Motion: That Ordinance No.24-2024 be placed on first reading.

At roll call the vote resulted as follows: Mrs. Call, “Aye”, Mr. Chrisman, “Aye”, Mr. Hawk, “Aye”; Mr. Shiltz, “Aye”, Mr. Blair, “Aye”, and Mr. Lynch “Aye”.

Motion passed.

E. ORDINANCE NO. 25-2024 (first reading)

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING JOSEPH J. DENEN CITY MANAGER OF THE CITY OF WASHINGTON COURT HOUSE OR HIS DESIGNEE TO ABATE PUBLIC NUISANCE AT 708 CAMPBELL STREET; AUTHORIZING A PRIVATE CONTRACT FOR PAYMENT OF THE ABATEMENT OF NUISANCE; AND DIRECTING THE COLLECTING OF THE COST OF THE ABATEMENT OF NUISANCE FROM THE OWNER OF THE PROPERTY.

Mr. Shiltz moved and Mr. Blair seconded the following motion:

Motion: That Ordinance No.25-2024 be placed on first reading.

At roll call the vote resulted as follows: Mrs. Call, “Aye”, Mr. Chrisman, “Aye”, Mr. Hawk, “Aye”; Mr. Shiltz, “Aye”, Mr. Blair, “Aye”, and Mr. Lynch “Aye”.

Motion passed.

F. ORDINANCE NO. 26-2024 (first reading)

AN ORDINANCE IN THE MATTER OF THE APPROVAL OF THE SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE ROSS-PICKAWAY-HIGHLAND-FAYETTE JOINT SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT.

Mr. Hawk moved and Mrs. Call seconded the following motion:

Motion: That Ordinance No.26-2024 be placed on first reading.

At roll call the vote resulted as follows: Mrs. Call, “Aye”, Mr. Chrisman, “Aye”, Mr. Hawk, “Aye”; Mr. Shiltz, “Aye”, Mr. Blair, “Aye”, and Mr. Lynch “Aye”.

Motion passed.

G. ORDINANCE NO. 27-2024 (first reading)

AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING BY REFERENCE A MUNICIPAL SEPARATE STORMWATER SEWER SYSTEM ILLICIT DISCHARGE DETECTION AND ELIMINATION PLAN.

Mr. Shiltz moved and Mr. Hawk seconded the following motion:

Motion: That Ordinance No.27-2024 be placed on first reading.

Mr. Hawk expressed his appreciation of the storm water systems. Mr. Hawk especially noted how useful the storm water system at State Route 38 and Dennis Street had been for that area.

At roll call the vote resulted as follows: Mrs. Call, “Aye”, Mr. Chrisman, “Aye”, Mr. Hawk, “Aye”; Mr. Shiltz, “Aye”, Mr. Blair, “Aye”, and Mr. Lynch “Aye”.

Motion passed.

Mr. Lynch noted the difference between an Ordinance and a Resolution for the citizens who were attending for the first time.

2. NEW LEGISLATION

A. RESOLUTION NO. R20-2024 (first reading)

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING JOSEPH J. DENEN, CITY MANAGER OF THE CITY OF WASHINGTON COURT HOUSE TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR THE PURCHASE OF BULK HIGHWAY ROCK SALT.

Mr. Shiltz moved and Mrs. Call seconded the following motion:

Motion: That Resolution No. R20-2024 be placed on first reading.

In discussion, Mr. Hawk inquired about the cost of rock salt.

Mr. Denen advised that the cost was less through state purchasing.

At roll call the vote resulted as follows: Mrs. Call, “Aye”, Mr. Chrisman, “Aye”, Mr. Hawk, “Aye”; Mr. Shiltz, “Aye”, Mr. Blair, “Aye”, and Mr. Lynch “Aye”.

Motion passed.

D. MISCELLANEOUS

Mr. Blair expressed his appreciation of the disc golf course. Mr. Blair recommended that the disc golf course be advertised on the local website as an amenity offered in our community.

Mr. Blair expressed his appreciation of Cemetery personnel.

Mr. Blair thanked citizens for coming and expressing their concerns.

Mr. Shiltz stated that Council would research the splash pad gate issue.

Mr. Shiltz wished the best of luck of the upcoming Scout event.

Mr. Shiltz noted items that he would like to see completed in 2024. Mr. Shiltz referenced a program to paint private buildings downtown, continue landscaping of rock around the ponds located at Washington Park, and complete the work on the trails within the city. Mr. Shiltz noted his goal to see the City of Washington Court House advertised in the media as a destination to visit.

Mr. Shiltz thanked the citizens for attending.

Mrs. Call expressed her appreciation for a successful autism acceptance month, especially noting the local ADEP Program.

Mrs. Call expressed her excitement for the steps being taken for the inclusive playground equipment.

Mrs. Call expressed her enthusiasm for the conversations between citizens and Council regarding the splashpad issues.

Mr. Hawk complimented Laurie Bishop. Mrs. Bishop is employed at the City Income Tax Department.

Mr. Chrisman expressed his appreciation for those in attendance and their concerns. Mr. Chrisman noted that Council does there best to help resolve those concerns.

Mr. Lynch expressed his appreciation for those in attendance.

Mr. Lynch expressed his appreciation for the progression of the trail project.

Adjournment:

Mr. Chrisman moved and Mrs. Call seconded the following motion:

Motion: That the Regular Meeting be adjourned.

At roll call the vote resulted as follows: Mrs. Call, "Aye", Mr. Chrisman, "Aye", Mr. Hawk, "Aye"; Mr. Shiltz, "Aye", Mr. Blair, "Aye", and Mr. Lynch "Aye".

Motion carried. Regular Meeting adjourned at 8:05 pm.

CLERK OF COUNCIL

CHAIRPERSON OF COUNCIL