

**KETTERING CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
February 23, 2021**

The Council of the City of Kettering, Ohio, met in regular session on Tuesday, February 23, 2021, at 7:30 p.m. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the February 23, 2021 meeting of the Kettering City Council was conducted by teleconference with video. Mayor Patterson presided and the Clerk of Council, LaShaunah D. Kaczynski, recorded. This meeting was telecast live on the cable access channel and streamed live at mvcc.net.

Council Members Present: Patterson, Klepacz, Lautar, Fisher, Duke and Wanamaker

Council Members Absent: None

Total Members Present: Six (6)

Mayor Patterson requested a moment of silence to honor the 500,000 American lives that have been lost due to the COVID-19 pandemic. He also mentioned that flags will be flown at half-staff.

Mr. Duke recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Patterson gave the invocation.

Mrs. Kaczynski conducted an attendance roll call of council members:

Mr. Klepacz- Present  
Mr. Lautar- Present  
Mrs. Fisher- Present  
Mr. Duke- Present  
Mr. Wanamaker- Present  
Mayor Patterson- Present

Mayor Patterson introduced the cable TV operator Carl Suchomel. He thanked him for his assistance.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

February 9, 2021- Council Meeting & Workshop Minutes

Mr. Lautar reported that he reviewed the above minutes and moved the minutes be approved. Mr. Duke seconded the motion of the above minutes and there being five (5) yea votes, one (1) abstain vote (Mr. Wanamaker) and no (0) nay votes for the February 9, 2021 Council Meeting & Workshop Minutes, the motion was declared carried followed by a roll call vote.

**PROCLAMATIONS, SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS, AWARDS, SPECIAL RESOLUTIONS, APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS**

**Presentation- Greater Dayton RTA Update**

Mark Donaghy, Chief Executive Officer made the presentation this evening. With the help of CARES Act funding and state support, RTA has maintained a level of service for customers throughout the region. RTA remains committed in operating a full level of service and have remained with a full level of staffing throughout the pandemic. Services added due to the pandemic including offering unmarked transportation services to people who have tested positive for COVID-19 so they are able to access medical appointments. This particular service has lasted for several months. Also, RTA buses have been used as rolling billboards for public service announcements to heighten the messaging about slowing the spread of COVID-19. RTA has remained well above the national average in terms of ridership and has doubled the national average in retention of customers. The focus of RTA will remain to carry essential workers to essential jobs, which has allowed RTA to outperform the nation in that task. Being able to maintain full service has allowed RTA to implement levels of social distancing.

Bob Ruzinsky, Deputy Chief Executive Officer discussed capital investments RTA made over the past year. The biggest capital investment customers will recognize is the bus fleet. Five years ago, RTA made an ambitious decision to replace the entire bus fleet due to aging. Since then, over 100 of the large buses have been replaced and 75 of the smaller connect buses have been replaced, and RTA was able to replace the entire fleet of the yellow trolley buses. The previous trolley buses were over 22 years old (which is 10 years older than a typical trolley bus). Over the past five years, RTA has purchased a total of 220 buses and now has one of the youngest fleets in Ohio and in the country. This advantage will help with customer comfort and reliability. In addition to the buses, RTA has done some facility renovations including the overhead distribution network which powers the trolley buses. Parts of this system were over 100 years old and this project will take 10-15 years to re-energize the system.

Brandon Policicchio, Chief Customer and Business Development Officer discussed updates to bus routes. In 2017, RTA expanded their paratransit service which services customers who are unable to utilize bus routes due to disabilities. This expansion moved the federally required paratransit service area from three-quarters of a mile around a bus route to county-wide; ensuring all county residents who are eligible will have access to this service. In 2018, RTA further expanded the quality of paratransit services by offering same day reservation for customers. In order to better serve under-served communities, RTA launched Connect On-Demand in 2017. This offers 24/7 same day service to customers traveling throughout five designated zones. Customers will have the choice of provider from RTA, Lyft, Uber and Anton's Taxi. Services are currently free to customers and prior to On-Demand customers had very limited or no bus route services. Today, over 500 daily customers utilize On-Demand to get to critical jobs, medical appointments and to school. As a mobility leader of the region, RTA is working to deliver universal access to shared mobility modes. RTA's goal is to deliver mobility as a service platform that will be made available to Kettering residents while using an app or calling the RTA Call Center. This platform will allow customers to plan, book and pay for various mobility modes while connecting between their final destinations. In order to support this future platform, RTA needed to upgrade its payment system. Tapp Pay is the new face of safe contact-less payment which is currently available to customers through mobile devices on the transit app and later this year RTA will introduce smart cards. To date, over 7,000 customers have signed-up. The best feature offered with TAPP Pay is fare capping. This will ensure no customer pays more than the daily and monthly rate for services. Currently, it is the ones who can least afford often end up paying the most for transit services and travel less at the end of the month because they cannot afford the up-front cost of a monthly pass. Customers will now be able to save dollars on a monthly basis. Tapp Pay will also allow RTA to remove all cash payments from vehicles and will create greater access for all customers through an expansive retail outlet network of over 150 locations close to bus routes. At locations such as Walgreens, Speedway and the RTA Transit Center, customers can convert cash to load their mobile smart card accounts. Beginning in 2018, RTA embarked on a multi-year transit redesign study with a goal of developing a next generation transit system that will increase quality of service. Many jurisdictions including Kettering helped implement this plan as well as RTA listened to over 2,000 customers in what they wanted to see in the future of their transit system. Based on feedback, customers wanted frequent service, 30 minutes or less wait times and more direct trips. With this information, RTA created service plans to meet their current and future needs in mobility. Currently, some road map changes are on hold due to the pandemic.

Mr. Donaghy mentioned RTA has a plan of what the future should look like for the region thanks to the input of the community. The Flyer service in the corridor is much needed and the alternative service can form a bigger network in larger areas such as some on-demand services in rural areas. RTA is trying to have a network of services available to customers in the entire county based on what their true needs are. Fare capping is one of the greatest accomplishments the board has authorized within a decade. People who are least able to afford services will have the same discount as people who can buy a monthly pass upfront. He really appreciates the support of the City of Kettering including, elected leadership, the city manager, public works and the first responders. He will be happy to answer any questions council may have.

Mayor Patterson mentioned he is very proud that the City of Kettering has a representative on the RTA Board. Franz Hoge has served on the board for a number of years and he took that responsibility very seriously. Mr. Hoge came prepared to every meeting and asked a lot of questions. Mr. Hoge has retired from that board and that position has been reappointed. Al Fullenkamp now serves as the city's representative to the RTA Board. Mr. Fullenkamp looks forward to working with the RTA and representing the residents of Kettering and all ridership of RTA. Mayor Patterson invited Mr. Donaghy to attend the March 23 city council meeting so the city can recognize his retirement from RTA, and for his contributions to the Kettering community and the region as a whole for the past 45 years.

Mr. Duke reminisced that Mr. Donaghy had mentioned many years ago that before he retired he was going to drive a bus in the communities RTA serves. He is looking forward to Mr. Donaghy driving a bus to the council meeting on March 23. Mr. Duke had the privilege of serving on the Project Mobility Appeals Board for 10 years and Mr. Donaghy has always been a champion for paratransit services. Residents in the Miami Valley area that need paratransit are truly served with a great system. Mr. Donaghy has done a great job with that project and on behalf of the residents who use that service thank you.

Mr. Donaghy mentioned he was driving bus route 14 through Kettering a few weeks ago for about three hours. Mr. Hoge was the most prepared board member that he has ever encountered in his 45 years. Mr. Hoge would study everything and he would ask the tough questions. Mr. Hoge was a great board member, and he truly appreciated all of Mr. Hoge's work. Mr. Donaghy mentioned he would be honored to attend the council meeting on March 23 and if Mr. Duke will save him a parking space he will bring a bus.

Mayor Patterson thanked Mr. Donaghy, Mr. Ruzinsky and Mr. Policicchio for their presentation this evening and he looks forward to continuing the city's relationship with RTA.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON LEGISLATION

ORDINANCES IN SECOND READING

RESOLUTIONS

A RESOLUTION  
NO: 10530-21  
BY: MR.KLEPACZ AND MRS.FISHER

AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH FIRE APPARATUS SERVICE AND REPAIR

Mr. Klepacz read the above resolution and moved for approval. Mrs. Fisher seconded the motion.

Mr. Schwieterman, City Manager gave a brief description of the resolution.

The following votes were recorded: Mr. Klepacz, Yea; Mr. Lautar, Yea; Mrs. Fisher, Yea; Mr. Duke, Yea; Mr. Wanamaker, Yea; Mayor Patterson, Yea. There being six (6) Yea votes and no (0) Nay votes, the motion was declared carried and the resolution duly adopted.

A RESOLUTION  
NO: 10531-21  
BY: MRS.FISHER AND MR.LAUTAR

AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO PURCHASE BUNKER GEAR FOR THE FIRE DEPARTMENT

Mrs. Fisher read the above resolution and moved for approval. Mr. Lautar seconded the motion.

Mr. Schwieterman, City Manager gave a brief description of the resolution.

The following votes were recorded: Mr. Klepacz, Yea; Mr. Lautar, Yea; Mrs. Fisher, Yea; Mr. Duke, Yea; Mr. Wanamaker, Yea; Mayor Patterson, Yea. There being six (6) Yea votes and no (0) Nay votes, the motion was declared carried and the resolution duly adopted.

A RESOLUTION  
NO: 10532-21  
BY: MR.LAUTAR AND MR.DUKE

AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO APPLY FOR A PRIORITY ONE GRANT FROM THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY, DIVISION OF EMS

Mr. Lautar read the above resolution and moved for approval. Mr. Duke seconded the motion.

Mr. Schwieterman, City Manager gave a brief description of the resolution.

The following votes were recorded: Mr. Klepacz, Yea; Mr. Lautar, Yea; Mrs. Fisher, Yea; Mr. Duke, Yea; Mr. Wanamaker, Yea; Mayor Patterson, Yea. There being six (6) Yea votes and no (0) Nay votes, the motion was declared carried and the resolution duly adopted.

A RESOLUTION  
NO: 10533-21  
BY: MR.DUKE AND MR.KLEPACZ

AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ACCEPT GRANT FUNDS FROM THE FEMA HAZARD MITIGATION GRANT PROGRAM THROUGH THE OHIO EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

Mr. Duke read the above resolution and moved for approval. Mr. Klepacz seconded the motion.

Mr. Schwieterman, City Manager gave a brief description of the resolution.

The following votes were recorded: Mr. Klepacz, Yea; Mr. Lautar, Yea; Mrs. Fisher, Yea; Mr. Duke, Yea; Mr. Wanamaker, Yea; Mayor Patterson, Yea. There being six (6) Yea votes and no (0) Nay votes, the motion was declared carried and the resolution duly adopted.

A RESOLUTION  
NO: 10534-21  
BY: MR.KLEPACZ AND MRS.FISHER

DIRECTING THE CITY ENGINEER TO PREPARE AND FILE RENEWED, RECALCULATED, AMENDED, AND/OR CONSOLIDATED ASSESSMENTS FOR STREET LIGHTING

Mr. Klepacz read the above resolution and moved for approval. Mrs. Fisher seconded the motion.

Mr. Bergstresser, Assistant City Manager gave a brief description of the resolution.

The following votes were recorded: Mr. Klepacz, Yea; Mr. Lautar, Yea; Mrs. Fisher, Yea; Mr. Duke, Yea; Mr. Wanamaker, Yea; Mayor Patterson, Yea. There being six (6) Yea votes and no (0) Nay votes, the motion was declared carried and the resolution duly adopted.

A RESOLUTION  
NO: 10535-21  
BY: MRS.FISHER AND MR.LAUTAR

AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO AN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INCENTIVE GRANT AGREEMENT WITH KETTERING FOUNDERS LLC

Mrs. Fisher read the above resolution and moved for approval. Mr. Lautar seconded the motion.

Mr. Gorsuch, Economic Development Manager gave a brief description of the resolution.

The following votes were recorded: Mr. Klepacz, Yea; Mr. Lautar, Yea; Mrs. Fisher, Yea; Mr. Duke, Yea; Mr. Wanamaker, Yea; Mayor Patterson, Yea. There being six (6) Yea votes and no (0) Nay votes, the motion was declared carried and the resolution duly adopted.

A RESOLUTION  
NO: 10536-21  
BY: MR.LAUTAR AND MR.DUKE

AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO AN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INCENTIVE GRANT AGREEMENT WITH LAURENCE A. LASKY

Mr. Lautar read the above resolution and moved for approval. Mr. Duke seconded the motion.

Mr. Gorsuch, Economic Development Manager gave a brief description of the resolution.

The following votes were recorded: Mr. Klepacz, Yea; Mr. Lautar, Yea; Mrs. Fisher, Yea; Mr. Duke, Yea; Mr. Wanamaker, Yea; Mayor Patterson, Yea. There being six (6) Yea votes and no (0) Nay votes, the motion was declared carried and the resolution duly adopted.

A RESOLUTION  
NO: 10537-21  
BY: MR.DUKE AND MR.KLEPACZ

TO MAKE SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS FOR CURRENT EXPENSES AND OTHER EXPENDITURES OF THE CITY OF KETTERING, STATE OF OHIO, DURING THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2021

Mr. Duke read the above resolution and moved for approval. Mr. Klepacz seconded the motion.

Mr. Schwieterman, City Manager gave a brief description of the resolution.

The following votes were recorded: Mr. Klepacz, Yea; Mr. Lautar, Yea; Mrs. Fisher, Yea; Mr. Duke, Yea; Mr. Wanamaker, Yea; Mayor Patterson, Yea. There being six (6) Yea votes and no (0) Nay votes, the motion was declared carried and the resolution duly adopted.

ORDINANCES IN FIRST READING

CERTIFICATIONS AND PETITIONS

Petition- A petition for a change of street name was received on February 18, 2021 from the property owners of 1160 Waving Willow Drive, Kettering, Ohio 45409. The petition is to rename a portion of Waving Willow Drive to Marquesa Way, Kettering, Ohio 45409. A public hearing regarding this request will be held at a future city council meeting.

MANAGER'S REPORT/COMMUNITY UPDATE

Mr. Schwieterman, City Manager updated Council on upcoming and community events.

- The Yard Debris Center will reopen on Monday, March 1. Residents can call the Yard Debris Hotline at 937-296-3255 for more information.
- AARP Tax appointment scheduling will begin on Tuesday, March 2 at 8:00 a.m. To make an appointment, residents should call 937-296-2480.
- Parks, Recreation and Cultural Arts Department is looking for volunteers to serve on the Tree Committee. To apply visit [www.playkettering.org](http://www.playkettering.org) or call 937-296-2454.
- Nominations for the 2021 Mayor's Award for Volunteer Service are being accepted until March 12. For more information residents should call the Volunteer Office at 937-296-2433.
- Daylight Savings Time begins Sunday morning, March 14.

OTHER BUSINESS NOT ON WRITTEN AGENDA

Audience Participation (5 Minute Limit per Speaker)

COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mr. Lautar reported:

- Nothing to report.

Mr. Duke reported:

- Nothing to report.

Mr. Wanamaker reported:

- It is good to be back.

Mr. Klepacz reported:

- Support local Kettering businesses.

Mrs. Fisher reported:

- There is still time for residents to complete the racial equity survey, visit the city's website for more information.

Mayor Patterson reported:

- Welcome back Mr. Wanamaker.
- On February 22 he attended the Frontline Worker Appreciation Event at the Kroger on East Dorothy Lane.
- He has received his first COVID-19 vaccination; residents should highly consider getting the vaccine.
- Thank you to all city employees who worked to keep the streets clear of snow during the major snow storm last week.

They're being no further business to come before this meeting of the Kettering City Council; Mayor Patterson adjourned the City Council Meeting at 8:10 p.m.

ATTEST:

LaShaunah D. Kaczynski  
Clerk of Council

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DONALD E. PATTERSON, MAYOR