

CITY OF KETTERING
CITY COUNCIL
WORKSHOP MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 28, 2021

The Council of the City of Kettering, Ohio, met in a workshop session on Tuesday, September 28, 2021, in the Deeds Conference Room, Kettering Government Center, 3600 Shroyer Road. The meeting came to order at 6:04 p.m.

Council Members present included Mayor Patterson, Vice Mayor Klepacz, Mr. Lautar, Mr. Duke and Mrs. Fisher.

Staff Members present included City Manager Mark Schwieterman, Assistant City Manager Steve Bergstresser, Law Director Ted Hamer, Finance Director Nancy Gregory, Public Service Director David Duritsch, Economic Development Manager Amy Schrimpf and Community Information Manager Mary Azbill.

Mr. Sterling Abernathy, Ms. Peggy Lehner, Mr. Todd Elzey and Ms. Lisa Duvall were also in attendance.

Mr. Schwieterman opened the meeting by asking Council members if there were questions regarding the agenda for tonight's meeting.

Vice Mayor Klepacz asked why pay grades 810 to 828 in the newly-revised Personnel Ordinance show several salaries less than \$10/hour relative to attracting new people for available positions. Mr. Schwieterman explained that employees are currently being paid less than \$10/hour, and the scale reflects higher rates to accommodate attracting new hires.

Mr. Duke asked how the City plans to spend additional funding for the Shuttered Venue grant. Mr. Schwieterman stated that the additional funding would be allocated toward operating expenditures through June 2022.

Vice Mayor Klepacz asked if the mountain bikes being purchased for the police department are too specialized for local bike shops to provide. Mr. Schwieterman explained that the bikes were sole sourced for purchase.

Upcoming Events – Mr. Schwieterman reminded Council members of several upcoming events.

- Neighborhood Pride drive-through awards will take place Thursday, September 30, at the Government Center from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.
- The annual Shred Day will be held October 2 from 9:00 to noon at the Government Center.
- Kettering Municipal Court Amnesty Weeks will take place October 18 through 29.
- Citizen Fire Awards will be held at the October 12 City Council meeting.
- Fall Leaf Pickup will begin October 18 in District 1 and will continue through November 29.
- Beggar's Night will take place Sunday, October 31 from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.
- Joint School Board Meeting will take place Tuesday, November 30 at 6:00 p.m., at the 500 building on the third floor.
- Ridgeway Bridge block party will take place October 23 from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m.

Stay Put Program – Mr. Schwieterman stated that Planning and Development has been working with Montgomery County to offer the rental assistance program. Thus far, P&D has offered assistance to 31 people totaling \$132,000 while continuing to process 65 additional applications. An average of \$4,000 per resident is being granted depending on the circumstances. The program provides assistance for three months' rent moving forward. Most clients are low entry medical and food service personnel facing setbacks due to the pandemic.

Greater Dayton RTA Update – Mr. Schwieterman announced that RTA Routes 11, 12 and 16 will undergo temporary changes due to a lack of available operators and decreased customer demand for services due to COVID-19. Also, RTA will unveil a themed bus program. In October, Kettering will have a themed bus designed by RTA. The bus will be in operation for approximately one year.

Closed Captioning – Mr. Schwieterman stated that Miami Valley Communications Council will move forward to purchase closed captioning for live broadcasting. It will take two units for channels 5 and 6. MVCC will pay \$50,000 and the remainder will be divided among member cities. Kettering will pay \$20,000 since it accounts for 40% of the population. YouTube is

currently used to provide captioning after a live event. Unsure if this will take place in 2021 or 2022. One of the new Council members will work with MVCC.

Mr. Schwieterman appointed Mr. Bergstresser Acting City Manager from October 1 through 3.

COVID-19 Update – Mr. Schwieterman announced that Public Health - Dayton Montgomery County proposed resolutions encouraging employers to require vaccinations. The resolution would apply to healthcare workers and Department of Health employees. All resolutions passed. City of Dayton instituted a required vaccination or negative COVID text result program. The City of Kettering is considered a stakeholder. The City follows CDC guidance, and masks are recommended outside of workspaces inside the building.

Mayor Patterson asked if Police and Fire are the ones contracting COVID. Mr. Schwieterman replied that there are Police and Fire in the five current positive cases. Numbers include all full-time personnel.

Mayor Patterson asked if there was a breakdown of vaccinated vs. unvaccinated. Mr. Schwieterman stated the City does not have that information.

Mr. Lautar asked what percentage of overtime is due to COVID-19. Mr. Schwieterman explained that if data shows cause for change in policy, it will be revisited.

American Rescue Plan Act – Mr. Schwieterman explained that the City is working through Capital Outlay Improvement and Community Programs when it comes to ARPA funds. This includes assigning dollar values to each bucket and proposing projects within the current regulations. Some things might not work. ARPA may require certain purchase order processes which may make it difficult to do certain things. These proposed items are to show Council where the City is headed and discuss for agreement and approval to proceed with plans.

Mr. Bergstresser presented a summary sheet for projects showing \$7.3M for capital improvement projects that are encapsulated among themselves. Instead of adding money and new projects, the City would offset ARPA funds with what was planned to be spent on capital improvement projects and funds applied for but not awarded last year.

- Concrete removal and replacement on Forrer.
- Curbs and bike lanes near Smithville. Rehabilitation project provide long-term bang for the buck. This would free up more than \$1M for 2023 or 2024.
- Residential resurfacing for longer lifespan of roadways.
- City-maintained bridges are grouped according to condition. Three bridges require repair for which the City is seeking funding: Ansel, West and Danube. Six bridges are on the watch list needing replaced in 5-10 years. Seeking funds around 2028 when Boonshoft money runs out. Looking at 60-75 years. Frees up money for future projects. Mayor Patterson expressed concern that residents will not approve of this use of funds. Mr. Bergstresser explained that these smaller bridges are not easy to get approved funding. Using ARPA funds would free up money for future projects and eliminate red tape.
- Storm Water Projects - North of Kettering hospital. Residents requested the City take a look. There is another project at Rausch Stadium, as well.
- Touchless faucets throughout facilities.
- ADA improvements at Polen Farm.
- Gentile Park in 2022.

Mr. Duritsch explained the following capital equipment purchases proposed using ARPA funds.

- The Fire Department is behind on fire engine and medic - \$155,000 each due to budget, and now would be an opportune time to purchase with ARPA funds.
- Bucket van needs replaced which will be 18-24 months during COVID. Cut PO this year in hopes of receiving next year.
- Utility truck for \$253,000.

Vice Mayor Klepacz asked if equipment life is based on years or mileage. Mr. Bergstresser stated lifespan is measured in hours, and Mr. Duritsch stated there is a point system to determine longevity.

Mr. Schwieterman stated there is no Community Programs presentation this evening.

Open Enrollment – Mr. Schwieterman stated that open enrollment begins in late October. The premium is a 3% increase for employees down from 7% due to prescription rebates.

The City Council Workshop Meeting was adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

ATTEST:

DONALD E. PATTERSON
MAYOR

LASHAUNAH D. KACYNSKI
Clerk of Council