

CITY OF KETTERING  
CITY COUNCIL  
WORKSHOP MINUTES  
JULY 26, 2022

The Council of the City of Kettering, Ohio, met in a workshop session on Tuesday, July 26, 2022, in the Deeds Conference Room, Kettering Government Center, 3600 Shroyer Road. The meeting came to order at 6:00 p.m.

Council Members present included Mayor Lehner, Vice Mayor Fisher, Mr. Klepacz, Ms. Duvall, Ms. Hall and Mr. Scott. Mr. Duke had an excused absence.

Staff Members present included City Manager Mark Schwieterman, Assistant City Manager Steve Bergstresser, Law Director Ted Hamer, Human Resource Director Jenny Smith, Economic Development Manager Amy Schrimpf and Community Information Manager Mary Azbill.

Mr. Sterling Abernathy was also in attendance.

Mr. Schwieterman reviewed the following items for tonight's Council meeting agenda.

- Mayor and Council are able to vote to approve minutes for meetings they were unable to attend. Mr. Klepacz will move for approval for minutes from the past two Council nights as he was in attendance. Members not in attendance may still vote to approve.
- A proclamation will be given to representatives from the U.S. Navy in Kettering for Navy Week.
- Two citizenship awards will be given by the Police Department.
- A resolution for an EMS grant is on the agenda to be used for related supplies. The funding source comes from seatbelt tickets and is reduced due to the impact of COVID on traffic stops.
- A supplemental appropriation is on the agenda relative to American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) entries. The City will apply ARPA funds to public safety personnel costs.
- A supplemental appropriation is on the agenda for design landscaping at Rosewood Arts Center funded by the Parks Foundation.
- A supplemental appropriation is on the agenda to appropriate additional funds for pickle ball court projects.
- An ordinance in first reading is on the agenda modifying the City ordinance to abide by state law for park rules.

Mr. Schwieterman provided the following updates.

- COVID Update – There have been no changes made to the current City policy despite changes being made in other agencies/jurisdictions. City numbers remain low.
- The Community Block Party is August 30 from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.
- National Night Out is August 2 from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.
- The City received \$29,000 from the opioid settlement as the first payment with up to a total of 18 annual payments. The City will set up funds to track receipts.
  - Mr. Scott asked for clarification. Mr. Schwieterman stated the City will receive direct payments along with others from Montgomery County through the opioid fund. There are 19 districts in Ohio. Montgomery County is in District 8. The City is receiving settlements based upon individual company drug settlements. A Kettering-specific plan will be developed, as well as one for the county.
- Strategic Plan – The City received two responses of which only one was valid. More information will be provided as it is received.
- County Line Road Project – The project is expected to be finished before the Italian Fest.
- Gentile Park - Internal processes are in place for the project. A letter will be sent to neighbors inviting them to an informational meeting August 11. The City anticipates a fall bid. Volunteer trees are being removed, and the City wants to explain the process to residents. A website will be established for communication. Construction drawings will be completed and sent out for bid.
  - Mr. Klepacz asked what defines a community meeting. Mr. Schwieterman explained that residents within a half-mile radius around the park will be invited to attend making it a community meeting rather than a public meeting. The City owns the park and will control the process.
- Road salt was not exempt from inflationary prices. Road salt will cost \$83.180--a 40% increase for a two-year bid. The cost rose from \$56.80 currently to \$91.43. The City purchases 5500 tons of salt, annually.
- The Kettering Recreation Complex has experienced air-conditioning problems, and chillers will be discussed at a future workshop. Public Service is working with consultants to initiate replacement two years sooner than planned in the budget. Shred Day is October 1 and the City will partner with Day Air Credit Union. Working to find a larger location such as Fairmont High School.
- The annual action plan for CDBG funds through HUD will be included on the August 9 agenda. It is a thick resolution outlining the plan. Mr. Robillard wrote a one-page executive summary for Mayor and Council.
- Aggregation to combat increased electricity rates has been discussed among MVCC cities. The group met with SOPEC and Palmer Energy, and members will reconvene August 3 to determine which vendor to choose. SOPEC is private and a preferred vendor through OML for aggregation. Both vendors stated the market is not right for aggregation now. March or April 2023 will be the right time to go to market. In the interim, the City will continue to direct residents to check the Apples to Apples website. Dayton is saving residents \$300/house annually. SOPEC and Palmer advised to expect \$20 to \$50 savings per year. This is not inconsistent with aggregation 10 years ago. Combining with multiple jurisdictions is the recommendation. Kettering has already passed the ballot issue. Other cities will pass their ballots in November, and bids will be sought in 2023. People

already in other programs are not eligible for Dayton's program unless they opt out of their current contract. A number of Kettering residents in ZIP code 45440 enrolled in Greene County's aggregation. The company made a mistake and tried to retract the offer in a letter to 900 residents. Palmer Energy, the parent company, overrode that plan and allowed residents in the plan. Impacted residents must have the acceptance and rejection letters to get back in.

- After August 3, the recommendation will be to move forward after the ballot in November.
- Ms. Hall asked if the \$13 million in ARPA funds earmarked for public safety is not additional funds. Mr. Schwieterman responded that allocating ARPA funds to public safety personnel extinguishes the funds, and the City will complete all of the projects using City funds. A journal entry will be made to spend down the funds. Public safety has already spent \$13 million in payroll.
- Vice Mayor Fisher asked about the unsightly trees on Woodman Drive. Mr. Schwieterman stated that Mr. Schussler confirmed the trees are alive and will begin to look healthy as the weather cools.

At 6:29 p.m., Mr. Klepacz made a motion to enter Executive Session under Section 121.06 (k) of the Codified Ordinances for purposes of Personnel Matters; Economic Development and Conference With Attorney, seconded by Mr. Scott. The motion passed unanimously upon roll call.

At 7:22 p.m., the Council exited Executive Session and went back on public record.

The City Council Workshop Meeting was adjourned at 7:22 p.m.

ATTEST:

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PEGGY LEHNER  
MAYOR

LASHAUNAH D. KACYNSKI  
Clerk of Council