

**City of Fairfield
Minutes
Regular Meeting of City Council
February 24, 2020**

Council-Manager Briefing

6:00 PM - Parks & Recreation Update

Mayor Miller called the briefing to order at 6:00 PM. Councilmembers present: Leslie Besl, Dale Paullus, Terry Senger and Bill Woeste. Staff members present: Mark Wendling, Alisha Wilson, Dan Wendt, Tiphonie Howard, Scott Timmer, Jenny Dexter, Adam Sackenheim, Carol Mayhall, Greg Kathman, Dave Butsch and Steve Maynard.

Parks and Recreation Director Tiphonie Howard presented the Parks and Recreation Update and Strategic Plan. See attached slides.

Business Meeting Call to Order

Mayor Miller called the Regular Meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Prayer/Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Miller led in prayer and Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call

Councilmembers present included:

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Chad Oberson	Council Member at Large	Present	
Bill Woeste	Council Member at Large	Present	
Leslie Besl	Council Member, 1st Ward	Present	
Dale Paullus	Councilmember, 2nd Ward	Present	
Terry Senger	Councilmember, 3rd Ward	Present	
Tim Abbott	Council Member, 4th Ward	Excused	
Steve Miller	Mayor	Present	
Councilmember At At-Large	Councilmember at Large	Excused	

Councilmember Oberson, seconded by Councilmember Paullus, moved to excuse Councilmember Abbott. Motion carried 5-0.

Agenda Modifications

None.

Executive Session Requests

Councilmember Oberson, seconded by Councilmember Woeste, moved for Executive Session to review collective bargaining with public employees, pending and imminent litigation and to consider negotiations with other political subdivisions respecting requests for economic development assistance. Motion carried 5-0.

Special Presentations and Citizen Comments

Joseph Von Bargen, 5609 Neptune Way, addressed Council regarding income tax reciprocity. He stated that he works at CVG and pays income tax there and then gets charged another full income tax when he files with the City and he doesn't feel that is fair. He stated that other municipalities recognize the tax paid by airport employees and he feels that Fairfield should, as well. He also stated that there is a fire hydrant in front of his house that has been out of service for at least 8 months. Mayor Miller asked staff to review the reciprocity and schedule the fire hydrant for repair.

Public Hearing(s)

None.

Approval of Minutes

The Regular Meeting Minutes of February 10, 2020 were approved as written and submitted.

OLD BUSINESS AND REPORTS

Community & Public Relations Committee

Dale Paullus, Chair; Leslie Besl, Vice Chair; Terry Senger, Member

Development Services Committee

Bill Woeste, Chair; Tim Abbott, Vice Chair; Ron D'Epifanio, Member

Parks, Recreation and Environment Committee

Leslie Besl, Chair; Dale Paullus, Vice Chair; Tim Abbott, Member

Public Safety Committee

Vacant, Chair; Terry Senger, Vice Chair; Dale Paullus, Member

Public Works Committee

Chad Oberson, Chair; Ron D'Epifanio, Vice Chair; Bill Woeste, Member

Public Utilities Committee

Terry Senger, Chair; Chad Oberson, Vice Chair; Leslie Besl, Member

Finance & Budget Committee

Tim Abbott, Chair; Bill Woeste, Vice Chair; Chad Oberson, Member

NEW BUSINESS

Community & Public Relations Committee

Dale Paullus, Chair; Leslie Besl, Vice Chair; Terry Senger, Member

Simple Motion: Motion to approve the following 2020 Boards/Commissions Appointments effective February 24, 2020: Craig Keller - Parks & Recreation Board (term ending 3/31/21) Melissa O'Brien - Planning Commission (term ending 3/31/23)

Recommendation:

It is recommended that City Council, via simple motion, appoint the following residents to serve on the various boards and commissions **effective February 24, 2020:**

Craig Keller - Parks & Recreation Board (term ending 3/31/21)
Melissa O'Brien - Planning Commission (term ending 3/31/23)

SIMPLE MOTION NO. 4-20. APPROVED 5-0.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Dale Paullus, Councilmember, 2nd Ward
SECONDER:	Bill Woeste, Council Member at Large
AYES:	Oberson, Woeste, Besl, Paullus, Senger
EXCUSED:	Abbott

Public Utilities Committee

Terry Senger, Chair; Chad Oberson, Vice Chair; Leslie Besl, Member

Motion to Read by Title Only

Motion to read one ordinance and one resolution by title only.

RESULT:	CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Terry Senger, Councilmember, 3rd Ward
SECONDER:	Leslie Besl, Council Member, 1st Ward
AYES:	Oberson, Woeste, Besl, Paullus, Senger
EXCUSED:	Abbott

Ordinance to authorize the City Manager to enter into a contract with L&T Painting Company Inc. for the Seward Road 1.5 Million Gallon Water Storage Tower "Cleaning, Repairing, and Painting Project."

Recommendation:

It is recommended that City Council authorize the City Manager to enter into a contract with L&T Painting Company, Inc., and appropriate project funding in the total amount of \$665,000.00 for the Seward Road 1.5 Million Gallon Water Storage Tower Cleaning, Repairing and Painting Project.

ORDINANCE NO. 12-20. APPROVED 5-0.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Terry Senger, Councilmember, 3rd Ward
SECONDER:	Dale Paullus, Councilmember, 2nd Ward
AYES:	Oberson, Woeste, Besl, Paullus, Senger
EXCUSED:	Abbott

Motion to Suspend Second and Third Readings

Councilmember Senger presented the first reading of this ordinance.

RESULT:	CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Terry Senger, Councilmember, 3rd Ward
SECONDER:	Chad Oberson, Council Member at Large
AYES:	Oberson, Woeste, Besl, Paullus, Senger
EXCUSED:	Abbott

Resolution authorizing the City Manager to execute a grant of permanent easements to Duke Energy Ohio, Inc., for the extension of a natural gas line to the City Wastewater Treatment Plant on Groh Lane.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that City Council authorize the City Manager to execute a grant of permanent easements impacting several City-owned parcels to Duke Energy Ohio, Inc. to enable the extension of a natural gas line to serve the City's Wastewater Treatment Plant on Groh Lane.

RESOLUTION NO. 3-20. APPROVED 5-0.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Terry Senger, Councilmember, 3rd Ward
SECONDER:	Chad Oberson, Council Member at Large
AYES:	Oberson, Woeste, Besl, Paullus, Senger
EXCUSED:	Abbott

Motion to Suspend Second and Third Readings

Councilmember Senger presented the first reading of this resolution.

RESULT:	CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Terry Senger, Councilmember, 3rd Ward
SECONDER:	Bill Woeste, Council Member at Large
AYES:	Oberson, Woeste, Besl, Paullus, Senger
EXCUSED:	Abbott

Finance & Budget Committee

Tim Abbott, Chair; Bill Woeste, Vice Chair; Chad Oberson, Member

Motion to Read by Title Only

Motion to read two ordinances by title only.

RESULT:	CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Bill Woeste, Council Member at Large
SECONDER:	Dale Paullus, Councilmember, 2nd Ward
AYES:	Oberson, Woeste, Besl, Paullus, Senger
EXCUSED:	Abbott

Ordinance to amend Ordinance No. 119-19 entitled “An Ordinance to make estimated appropriations for the expenses and other expenditures of the City of Fairfield, Ohio, during a period beginning January 1, 2020, and ending December 31, 2020.”

Recommendation:

It is recommended that City Council suspend the rules requiring a second and third reading of this Ordinance and adopt the appropriations listed above.

ORDINANCE NO. 13-20. APPROVED 5-0.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Bill Woeste, Council Member at Large
SECONDER:	Chad Oberson, Council Member at Large
AYES:	Oberson, Woeste, Besl, Paullus, Senger
EXCUSED:	Abbott

Motion to Suspend Second and Third Readings

Councilmember Woeste presented the first reading of this ordinance.

RESULT:	CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Bill Woeste, Council Member at Large
SECONDER:	Dale Paullus, Councilmember, 2nd Ward
AYES:	Oberson, Woeste, Besl, Paullus, Senger
EXCUSED:	Abbott

Ordinance to amend Ordinance No. 119-19 entitled “An Ordinance to make estimated appropriations for the expenses and other expenditures of the City of Fairfield, Ohio, during a period beginning January 1, 2020, and ending December 31, 2020.”

Recommendation:

It is recommended that City Council suspend the rules requiring a second and third reading of this Ordinance and adopt the appropriations listed above.

ORDINANCE NO. 14-20. APPROVED 5-0.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Bill Woeste, Council Member at Large
SECONDER:	Terry Senger, Councilmember, 3rd Ward
AYES:	Oberson, Woeste, Besl, Paullus, Senger
EXCUSED:	Abbott

Motion to Suspend Second and Third Readings

Councilmember Woeste presented the first reading of this ordinance.

RESULT:	CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Bill Woeste, Council Member at Large
SECONDER:	Terry Senger, Councilmember, 3rd Ward
AYES:	Oberson, Woeste, Besl, Paullus, Senger
EXCUSED:	Abbott

Meeting Schedule

Clerk Wilson read the following meeting schedule:

- A. Monday, March 9 - Council-Manager Briefing, 6:30 PM; Regular Meeting 7:00 PM
- B. Monday, March 23 - Council-Manager Briefing, 5:30 PM; Regular Meeting 7:00 PM
- C. Monday, April 13 - Council-Manager Briefing, 6:00 PM; Regular Meeting 7:00 PM

Executive Session of Council (if needed)

Council moved to Executive Session at 7:20 PM.

14. ADJOURNMENT

The Regular Meeting adjourned at 7:50 PM.

ATTEST:

Clerk of Council

Mayor's Approval

Date Approved_____

Parks & Recreation



Department Update & Strategic Plan

Fairfield Parks & Recreation Department

- ▶ Background
 - ▶ Why an update was necessary
- ▶ Department Overview
 - ▶ What we do and why we do it
- ▶ How the plan was created
 - ▶ Our drivers
- ▶ Where we go from here
 - ▶ Priorities and goals



Background

► Strategic Plan (2012)

- Most of the priorities have been accomplished
 - ❖ Examples of Goals Included: Providing programs and services for all ages, pursuing new software that provides online activity registration, etc.
- Recent retirements and new staffing allowed new “eyes” on our operations
 - ❖ Fresh perspective and opportunity to develop new standards
- Update to the Comprehensive Plan (Fairfield Forward)
 - ❖ Offered the opportunity to roll strategies into Parks & Recreation update



Department Overview

- ▶ Total: 41 parks and recreation facilities totaling 845 acres of manicured landscaping (over 1,000 acres of property in total)
- ▶ Golf: an 18-hole championship course and a 9-hole executive course
- ▶ Recreation: Community Arts Center, Fairfield Aquatics Center, FurField Dog Park and Trailhead as well as 14 miles of bike/hike paths
- ▶ Conservation: Elisha Morgan Mansion, Marsh Lake, 75 acres of nature preserve and two historic cemeteries
- ▶ Programs: Staff conducts hundreds of special programs and events, enhancing the quality of life experiences for thousands of residents.

How the plan was created

► Market Research:

- ❖ IMPLAN & NRPA: As the leading provider of economic impact data and analytical applications. 2018 Economic Impact Study of Local Parks
- ❖ SOPARC: System for Observing Play and Recreation in Communities (SOPARC), a reliable, valid, and easy-to-use tool for quantifying park use and park-based physical activity.
- ❖ The Trust for Public Land: 2009 Study that measures the economic value of a City Park System

- Past community roundtable meetings/input from city staff
- Focus on Mission, Vision & Core Values
- SWOT Analysis findings

Mission, Vision & Core Values

► Mission

- ❖ The mission of Fairfield Parks and Recreation Department is to enrich the quality of life for the citizens of the community, sustain the City's natural resources and environment, and provide broad based leisure activities, cultural opportunities, facilities and services for all ages.

► Vision

- ❖ Build a better future for all through parks and recreation. Create a system of parks and facilities, along with excellent programs and services to enhance the high quality of life that attracts and retains residents, businesses, and visitors to our community.

► Core Values

- Stewardship: responsibly conserving our resources.
- Integrity: acting ethically in our daily interactions.
- Dignity: providing the same standard of care to all individuals.
- Service: committing to quality in our products and facilities.

SWOT Analysis

- ▶ Through the practice of performing a SWOT Analysis, we were able to identify our current position prior to developing this strategic plan.
 - ❖ Strengths: very talented and experienced staff
 - ❖ Challenges (Weaknesses): staffing - epidemic amongst most employers
 - ❖ Opportunities: marketing - another practice that has evolved significantly over the last 10 years
 - ❖ Threats: with recent research on how parks positively impact economic development, so has the challenge to find funding and partnerships to relieve budget impact.



Our Plan

- Our Strategic Plan reflects our chief priorities, confronts new and existing challenges, and sets us on a course to pursue exciting new opportunities.
 - ❖ Organized under a set of high-level priority focus areas.
 - ❖ Within each area, we have developed specific objectives aimed at ensuring that we serve the Fairfield community and the highest level through our parks, and programs within the City.



Priority Focus Areas

- ▶ Provide a variety of community open spaces, parks and recreation opportunities for programming, including active and passive recreation for all ages and abilities.
- ▶ Protect existing natural areas, watersheds, and environmentally sensitive lands.
- ▶ Develop and sustain quality assets and invest into revitalization of current assets.
- ▶ Improve organizational effectiveness.



Action Steps - 1

- ▶ Provide a variety of community open spaces, parks and recreation opportunities for programming, including active and passive recreation for all ages and abilities.
 - ❖ Identify opportunities to continue the development of the city's park and recreation system, including maintenance, expansion and enhancements as needed.
 - ❖ Ensure convenient access to parks, open spaces and recreation opportunities through multiple modes of access (motor vehicle, bicycle path/trail, and sidewalk) and connectivity between parks and neighborhoods.
 - ❖ Coordinate public and private resources to understand and meet the programming, open space and recreational needs of the city, and to avoid duplication of services.

Action Steps - 2

- ▶ Protect existing natural areas, watersheds, and environmentally sensitive lands.
 - ▶ Identify and inventory lands suitable for conservation and protection.
 - ▶ Establish mechanisms to restrict or prevent development on those lands through the purchase of land for conservation easements



Action Steps - 3

- ▶ Develop and sustain quality assets and invest into revitalization of current assets.
 - ❖ Prioritize resources to ensure the long-term viability of the parks and recreation system for the future while addressing maintenance priorities.
 - ❖ Identify opportunities to enhance current facilities and parks to make them first-class establishments.
 - ❖ Improving the consistency and uniformity in regard to attention to detail with the upgrades, improvements and maintenance of current and future amenities within the system.



Action Steps - 4

► Improve organizational effectiveness.

- ❖ Establish high-impact leadership practices that reflect a first-class organization through identifying the “Six Systems of Organizational Effectiveness” practices at every level of service.
- ❖ Develop a marketing and communication plan that effectively and efficiently reflects each division in a unified, yet diverse, component of the department’s identity.
- ❖ Measure the impact of the department’s programs, events and facilities on the community and identify an appropriate level of quality for the products and services provided by focusing on a balance of quality with cost effectiveness.



2020 Goals

- ▶ Ensure the resources are placed in the city CIP for 2020 for the replacement of new playground equipment and trail connection to neighborhoods at Gilbert Farms Park.
- ▶ Develop a facility rental packet to market community spaces and provide consistent fee structure, rules and regulations.
- ▶ Remove invasive brush along #8 fairway and #3 green to improve turf conditions.
- ▶ Construct a new walk/hike path around the perimeter of Harbin Park to give access to nearby neighborhoods.
- ▶ Perform quarterly inspection reports for all parks property with updated standards and expectations.
- ▶ Develop four new partnerships to offer cooperative programming with external organizations to enhance the quality and cost effectiveness of the departments programs and events.
- ▶ Renovate #2 tee to improve course conditions and customer experience.
- ▶ Analyze the impact and quality of the departments programs and events through conducting evaluations through a visitor survey at every Thursday and Friday Night Concert in 2020.

Conclusion

- ▶ This Strategic Plan will serve as a blueprint for the positive transformation of the department in order to reach the next level for our community...providing a first-class parks system.
- ▶ We will align our resources to meet the goals identified in this plan as we become better prepared to meet the opportunities and challenges of tomorrow.



The Power of Parks

