

**City of Fairfield
Minutes
Regular Meeting of City Council
January 22, 2024**

Council-Manager Briefing

None.

Business Meeting Call to Order

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

Prayer/Pledge of Allegiance

Councilmember Debbie Pennington led in prayer and Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call

Councilmembers present included:

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Tim Meyers	Councilmember, At-Large	Present	
Matt Davidson	Councilmember, At-Large	Present	
Gwen Brill	Councilmember, At-Large	Present	
Leslie Besl	Councilmember, 1st Ward	Excused	
Dale Paullus	Councilmember, 2nd Ward	Present	
Debbie Pennington	Councilmember, 3rd Ward	Present	
Adam Kraft	Councilmember, 4th Ward	Present	
Mitch Rhodus	Mayor	Present	

Councilmember Davidson, seconded by Councilmember Meyers, moved to excuse Councilmember Besl. Motion carried 6-0.

Agenda Modifications

None.

Executive Session Requests

Councilmember Meyers, seconded by Councilmember Kraft, moved for Executive Session to discuss the employment, appointment or compensation of a public employee or official. Roll call vote. Motion carried 6-0.

Special Presentations

None.

Citizen Comments

None.

Council Reports

Councilmember Kraft commended the Public Works Department for their great work regarding the hazardous weather over the last week.

Councilmember Meyers reminded Council of the Boards and Commissions interviews on February 3 at 10 AM.

Mayor Rhodus encouraged Council and residents to drop off food and treats to Public Works during bad weather situations because they are in and out of the facility quickly to maintain safe road conditions.

Public Hearing(s)

None.

Approval of Minutes

The Regular Meeting Minutes of January 8, 2024 were approved as written and submitted.

OLD BUSINESS

Public Works

Councilmember Adam Kraft

Resolution declaring necessity of repairing sidewalks (including aprons).

Recommendation:

It is recommended that City Council authorizes and directs the preparation of a Resolution of Necessity for the sidewalk/driveway apron repairs.

Councilmember Kraft presented the second reading of this resolution.

RESULT:

SECOND READING

Next: 2/12/2024 7:00 PM

NEW BUSINESS

Councilmember Meyers, seconded by Councilmember Davidson, moved to read all New Business by title only. Motion carried 6-0.

Community & Public Relations

City Manager Scott Timmer - Report

Councilmember Tim Meyers

Simple Motion: Motion to appoint the Clerk of Council as designee for mandatory training required by House Bill 9, Ohio's Public Records Act.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that City Council, via simple motion, formally appoint the Clerk of Council as the Mayor and Council designee for the mandatory three hours of training required by House Bill 9.

SIMPLE MOTION NO. 2-24. APPROVED 6-0.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Tim Meyers, Councilmember, At-Large
SECONDER:	Debbie Pennington, Councilmember, 3rd Ward
AYES:	Meyers, Davidson, Brill, Paullus, Pennington, Kraft
EXCUSED:	Besl

Simple Motion: Motion to approve the following Boards/Commissions Appointments: David Petersen - Environmental Commission (term expires 1/31/27) Dan Vitale - Cultural Arts Advisory Commission (term expires 3/31/26)

Recommendation:

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

Effective April 1, 2023:

Dan Vitale - Cultural Arts Advisory Commission (term expires 3/31/26)

Effective January 22, 2024

David Petersen - Environmental Commission (term expires 3/31/27)

SIMPLE MOTION NO. 3-24. APPROVED 6-0.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Tim Meyers, Councilmember, At-Large
SECONDER:	Debbie Pennington, Councilmember, 3rd Ward
AYES:	Meyers, Davidson, Brill, Paullus, Pennington, Kraft
EXCUSED:	Besl

Development Services

City Manager Scott Timmer - Report

Councilmember Matt Davidson

Motion to Suspend Second and Third Readings

Councilmember Davidson presented the first reading of this resolution.

RESULT:	CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Matt Davidson, Councilmember, At-Large
SECONDER:	Gwen Brill, Councilmember, At-Large
AYES:	Meyers, Davidson, Brill, Paullus, Pennington, Kraft
EXCUSED:	Besl

Resolution appointing Economic Development Manager Nathaniel Kaelin to the Fairfield Township Joint Economic Development District Board of Directors.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that City Council appoint Economic Development Manager Nathaniel Kaelin to the Board of Directors of the Fairfield Township JEDD-1.

RESOLUTION NO. 1-24. APPROVED 6-0.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Matt Davidson, Councilmember, At-Large
SECONDER:	Tim Meyers, Councilmember, At-Large
AYES:	Meyers, Davidson, Brill, Paullus, Pennington, Kraft
EXCUSED:	Besl

Motion to Suspend Second and Third Readings

Councilmember Davidson presented the first reading of this resolution.

RESULT:	CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Matt Davidson, Councilmember, At-Large
SECONDER:	Tim Meyers, Councilmember, At-Large
AYES:	Meyers, Davidson, Brill, Paullus, Pennington, Kraft
EXCUSED:	Besl

Resolution appointing Economic Development Manager Nathaniel Kaelin to the West Chester Joint Economic Development District Board of Directors.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that City Council appoint Economic Development Manager Nathaniel Kaelin to the Board of Directors of the West Chester Township JEDD-1.

RESOLUTION NO. 2-24. APPROVED 6-0.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Matt Davidson, Councilmember, At-Large
SECONDER:	Debbie Pennington, Councilmember, 3rd Ward
AYES:	Meyers, Davidson, Brill, Paullus, Pennington, Kraft
EXCUSED:	Besl

Motion to Suspend Second and Third Readings

Chamber President Peggy Emerson gave a brief update of the previous year and upcoming events and goals for the Chamber. In 2023, the Chamber updated their billing and customer relations management software to allow for online registrations, credit card payments and online applications for new members. Kristin Bramblett and David Petersen also joined the team and a bylaw review was completed. The Chamber's 2024 goals are to increase membership by at least 100 and conduct a membership survey. Upcoming events include the quarterly Business Roundtable, with the first one on January 25 featuring Chad Clemmons and Mike Coburn of MFS Investment Management, Careerfest on April 18 and there are already 16 companies signed up, the annual Golf Outing on May 15, registration opening this week, Women Mean Business Awards Luncheon on June 11, Young Professionals reboot under the name BRAVE and continuing small business surveys.

Councilmember Davidson presented the first reading of this ordinance.

RESULT:	CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Matt Davidson, Councilmember, At-Large
SECONDER:	Gwen Brill, Councilmember, At-Large
AYES:	Meyers, Davidson, Brill, Paullus, Pennington, Kraft
EXCUSED:	Besl

Ordinance to authorize the City Manager to enter into a two (2) year professional services contract with the Fairfield Chamber of Commerce.

Recommendation:

This ordinance authorizes the City Manager to execute a Professional Services Contract with the Fairfield Chamber of Commerce. The contract is evaluated every two years and pertains to the City's sponsorship of the Chamber, including business retention services.

ORDINANCE NO. 5-24. APPROVE 6-0.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Matt Davidson, Councilmember, At-Large
SECONDER:	Tim Meyers, Councilmember, At-Large
AYES:	Meyers, Davidson, Brill, Paullus, Pennington, Kraft
EXCUSED:	Besl

Public Safety

City Manager Scott Timmer - Report

Councilmember Dale Paullus

Simple Motion: Motion to not request a hearing regarding a liquor permit application in the name of Carusoscincy LLC, 6765 Dixie Highway, Fairfield, OH 45014 (Permit Class D5 & D6).

Recommendation:

It is recommended that City Council request, by simple motion, that **no hearing be held** on the liquor permit application in the name of Carusoscincy LLC, 6765 Dixie Highway, Fairfield, OH 45014 (Permit Class D5 & D6).

SIMPLE MOTION NO. 4-24. APPROVED 6-0.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Dale Paullus, Councilmember, 2nd Ward
SECONDER:	Debbie Pennington, Councilmember, 3rd Ward
AYES:	Meyers, Davidson, Brill, Paullus, Pennington, Kraft
EXCUSED:	Besl

Public Works

City Manager Scott Timmer - Report

Councilmember Adam Kraft

Motion to Suspend Second and Third Readings

Councilmember Kraft presented the first reading of this ordinance.

RESULT:	CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Adam Kraft, Councilmember, 4th Ward
SECONDER:	Tim Meyers, Councilmember, At-Large
AYES:	Meyers, Davidson, Brill, Paullus, Pennington, Kraft
EXCUSED:	Besl

Ordinance to authorize the City Manager to execute the Hazard Mitigation Grant Application and Agreement for Outdoor Warning Siren System and declaring an emergency.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that City Council authorize the preparation of legislation, with rules suspension and emergency provision, authorizing the City Manager to execute and file the application for financial assistance, and enter into an agreement for a grant to fund a portion of the Outdoor Warning Siren Replacement project.

ORDINANCE NO. 5-24. APPROVED 6-0.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Adam Kraft, Councilmember, 4th Ward
SECONDER:	Debbie Pennington, Councilmember, 3rd Ward
AYES:	Meyers, Davidson, Brill, Paullus, Pennington, Kraft
EXCUSED:	Besl

Motion to Suspend Second and Third Readings

Councilmember Kraft presented the first reading of this ordinance.

RESULT:	CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Adam Kraft, Councilmember, 4th Ward
SECONDER:	Gwen Brill, Councilmember, At-Large
AYES:	Meyers, Davidson, Brill, Paullus, Pennington, Kraft
EXCUSED:	Besl

Ordinance to authorize the City Manager to execute the Electric Vehicle Charging Station Grant Application through the Ohio Kentucky Indiana Regional Council of Governments (OKI) for multiple public locations and declaring an emergency.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that City Council authorize the preparation of legislation, with rules suspension and emergency provision, authorizing the City Manager to execute and file the application for financial assistance, and enter into an agreement for a grant to fund the majority portion of the Electric Vehicle Charging Station Grant Application through OKI's Carbon Reduction Program funding.

Staff believes the grant has merit and that the installation will help keep the City in touch with developing technologies. The addition of EV charging stations have the potential to provide support to our local economy.

ORDINANCE NO. 6-24. APPROVED 6-0.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Adam Kraft, Councilmember, 4th Ward
SECONDER:	Tim Meyers, Councilmember, At-Large
AYES:	Meyers, Davidson, Brill, Paullus, Pennington, Kraft
EXCUSED:	Besl

Finance & Budget

City Manager Scott Timmer - Report

Councilmember Gwen Brill

Motion to Suspend Second and Third Readings

Councilmember Brill presented the first reading of this ordinance.

RESULT:	CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Gwen Brill, Councilmember, At-Large
SECONDER:	Tim Meyers, Councilmember, At-Large
AYES:	Meyers, Davidson, Brill, Paullus, Pennington, Kraft
EXCUSED:	Besl

Ordinance to amend Ordinance No. 166-23 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, 2024, and ending December 31, 2024.”

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. 7-24. APPROVED 6-0.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Gwen Brill, Councilmember, At-Large
SECONDER:	Tim Meyers, Councilmember, At-Large
AYES:	Meyers, Davidson, Brill, Paullus, Pennington, Kraft
EXCUSED:	Besl

Motion to Suspend Second and Third Readings

Councilmember Brill presented the first reading of this ordinance.

RESULT:	CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Gwen Brill, Councilmember, At-Large
SECONDER:	Tim Meyers, Councilmember, At-Large
AYES:	Meyers, Davidson, Brill, Paullus, Pennington, Kraft
EXCUSED:	Besl

Ordinance to amend Ordinance No. 166-23 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, 2024, and ending December 31, 2024.”

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. 8-24. APPROVED 6-0.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Gwen Brill, Councilmember, At-Large
SECONDER:	Tim Meyers, Councilmember, At-Large
AYES:	Meyers, Davidson, Brill, Paullus, Pennington, Kraft
EXCUSED:	Besl

Meeting Schedule

Clerk Wilson read the following meeting schedule:

- A. Monday, February 12 - Council-Manager Briefing, 6:00 PM; Regular Meeting 7:00 PM
- B. Monday, February 26 - Council-Manager Briefing, 6:00 PM; Regular Meeting 7:00 PM
- C. Monday, March 11 - Council-Manager Briefing, 6:00 PM; Regular Meeting 7:00 PM

Executive Session of Council (if needed)

Council recessed to Executive Session at 7:20 PM.

16. ADJOURNMENT

The Regular Meeting adjourned at 8:24 PM.

ATTEST:

Clerk of Council

Mayor's Approval

Date Approved_____