



City of Pataskala

Legislative Report to Council

Legislative Report

August 21, 2023 Council Meeting

Unfinished Business

A. Ordinances



B. Resolutions



New Business

A. Ordinances

➤ **ORDINANCE 2023-4449 – 1ST READING**

The proposed ordinance would enhance the current Planned Manufacturing regulations in Chapter 1253, particularly for setback and screening requirements, and clarify the landscaping requirements for properties within the Planning Manufacturing District as found in Chapter 1283. The City Council recommended the amendment proceed through the amendment process on July 3, 2023. The Planning and Zoning Commission recommended approval on July 18, 2023 with the following conditions:

- Section 1253.01 shall be amended to remove the third sentence.
- Section 1253.06(B) shall be amended to remove the sentence and numbering adjusted accordingly.
- The regulations shall be amended to include the grammatical changes recommended by the Law Director.
- Section 1283.06(A) shall be amended to include gases and vapors.

Staff has made the necessary changes to the Ordinance in Exhibit A pursuant to the Planning and Zoning Commission's recommendation.

➤ **ORDINANCE 2023-4450 – 1ST READING - SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION – Finance Department**

The Utility Director has determined that the design for the 2020 WRF plant

upgrade was inadequate and that additional blowers are required to meet EPA standards. The city has already addressed the acquisition of the additional equipment, however, the costs to install the blowers were not. The installation of the additional blowers is expected to cost the city approximately \$400,000 and funding for this additional expenditure was not included in the 2023 budget. The Administration is anticipating that it may need to take legal action against the engineering firm that designed the upgrade to reimburse the city for this expenditure. **We are respectfully requesting that Council hold the 1st reading of the ordinance at the August 21st Council meeting. We would anticipate that this legislation would go through all three required readings.**

- *Section 1: WRF Plant Blowers* – The Utility Director has identified that the installation of additional WRF blowers will cost approximately \$400,000, although the Administration plans to seek reimbursement from the engineering firm that designed the project. Funding for the project will come from the Sewer Capital Improvements (652) fund.

AND

➤ **ORDINANCE 2023-4450 – 1ST READING - SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION – Utility Department**

The Utility Department entered into an upgrade project at the Wastewater Treatment Plant in 2019. That project did not perform as it was intended due to poor engineering. The Utility Department is in the process of correcting the problem but will need a supplemental to facilitate the correction.

There is already one supplemental for this project in the amount of 250,000 dollars. That supplemental combined with this supplemental of 400,000 dollars will cover the material and labor cost of the additional work. In total the additional work cost is 650,000 which the Utility Department expects to be reimbursed by, Verdantis the original contract engineer.

This concept was discussed at the August 7th Utility Committee meeting.

➤ **ORDINANCE 2023-4451 – 1ST READING - EMPLOYEE HANDBOOK UPDATES**

Included in all three (3) collective bargaining agreements (FOP, OPBA and USW) is an increase in the annual sick leave accrual. Previously the annual maximum was 80 hours, but it is now 120 hours. To treat all employees consistently, the Employee Handbook needs to be updated to reflect the same accrual levels. **We are requesting that Council hold the 1st reading of the ordinance at the August 21st Council meeting. We anticipate that the legislation would go through all three required readings.**

➤ **ORDINANCE 2023-4452 – 1ST READING - AN ORDINANCE CREATING, ESTABLISHING, AND ADOPTING THE CITY OF PATASKALA EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN**

In response to a request from Council and, after the train derailment in East Palestine the Administration began an evaluation of our current Emergency Operations Plan. That plan was dated "2006" and it became apparent that the plan should be re-written from scratch.

The creation of this EOP was a significant undertaking. The Administration utilized examples from the Licking County EMA and several smaller communities across the

country. Pulling from all these sources, we were able to create a format that covers the actions necessary during an emergency situation while still being easy to use. The concept for this plan was not to micro-manage each detail that the different departments will be responsible for, but to provide an overview of when it is appropriate to use this plan, how to set up the City of Pataskala Emergency Operations Center (EOC), who is responsible for the necessary actions, and to provide an extensive list of resource contact information to be used during an emergency situation.

This plan has already been vetted by the City of Pataskala department heads, the City of Pataskala Police Department, the West Licking Joint Fire District, and the Licking County Emergency Management Agency (EMA). Using input and acquiring approval from these many sources ensures that the plan is ready to be used in any given emergency situation. If new information becomes available in the future that would make this EOP better, it can be amended at any time.

The administration is proud to present the City of Pataskala Emergency Operations Plan to Council to be considered for approval. If approved, the plan will be shared with our neighboring communities, emergency responder organizations, the Licking County EMA, and any other entity that could benefit from it.

Approval of Ordinance 2023-4452 is recommended.

Consent Agenda

3. Motions



4. Resolution

➤ **RESOLUTION 2023-067 - NON-UNION PAY MATRIX**

As the city has reached agreement with the three bargaining units, it is appropriate at this time to present the 3-year pay matrix for all non-union employees (excluding the Administrator and Finance Director who are covered by employment contracts) for Council approval. The proposed pay grids for other than Directors reflect an 8.0% increase in 2023, and 3.0% increases in 2024 and 2025. For Director-level positions, the rate of increase will be 3.0% for all three (3) years. The scale (like those in the unions) will be applied retroactively back to January 8, 2023, for all impacted employees (start of the first full payroll in 2023). Resolution 2023-067 has been prepared and is being presented to Council for consideration at the March 3rd meeting. Here are highlights of the proposed pay matrix:

- For non-Director employees, 8.0% wage scale increase in 2023, 3.0% in 2024 and 3.0% in 2025.
- For Director-level positions (including Police Chief and Deputy Chief), 3.0% wage scale increases in 2023, 2024 and 2025.

➤ **RESOLUTION 2023-068 – A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT TO PURCHASE TWO (2) NEW POLICE VEHICLES FROM JIM SHORKEY CHRYSLER IN PENNSYLVANIA AND HAVE THEM EQUIPPED BY PARR PUBLIC SAFETY EQUIPMENT.**

Approval of this resolution will provide for the Police Department to purchase two(2) new Dodge Durango Pursuit Police vehicles from Jim Shorkey Chrysler in Pennsylvania. This resolution will replace resolution 2023-010, passed on 02/06/2023 for the purchase of two(2) new fully equipped Ford Interceptor SUV police vehicles. The Police Department was notified by Ford Motor Company they wouldn't be receiving the vehicles they ordered this year. The Police Department was able to find the Dodge Durango Pursuit Police Vehicles from the dealership in Pennsylvania at a price below that of the State of Ohio Competitive Purchasing Program which was \$42,911 per vehicle. The price is \$41,703 per vehicle plus document fees.

➤ **RESOLUTION 2023-069 - A RESOLUTION INCREASING COUNCIL MEMBER'S SALARIES AND THE MAYOR'S SALARY**

The administration in conjunction with leadership has been discussing this pay increase since Mid-March. This item was discussed at the June 20, 2023, Finance Committee meeting. Neither the Council nor the Mayor has received a pay increase for 10 years. During this period of time, the time commitment needed to perform these duties and the added responsibilities of these positions has increased significantly.

The increase (\$2500.00 per year for all elected officials) makes Pataskala competitive with surrounding communities in the Central Ohio Area, according to the 2022 MORPC salary survey. I have included a chart from that survey, listing the salaries for communities that I consider somewhat like Pataskala in nature or adjacent to us. (See below). Section 3.07 of the Charter of the City of Pataskala states that "the salaries of all elected officials of the City shall be established by Council by ordinance or resolution to be adopted no later than the last date of filing for election in each odd numbered year which precedes a regular municipal election at which members of the Council are to be elected. Passage at this time will allow for the new salaries to apply to each current member only after they are re-elected. (The new salary is neither instant nor retroactive).

➤ Municipality	➤ Council Pay 2022
➤ Pataskala	➤ \$ 5071
➤ Canal Winchester	➤ \$ 6921
➤ Groveport	➤ \$ 6000
➤ Reynoldsburg	➤ \$ 7920
➤ Gahanna	➤ \$ 9600
➤ Whitehall	➤ \$ 6500* Maximum
➤	➤

➤ **RESOLUTION 2023-070- A RESOLUTION CONSENTING TO THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION'S PROJECT TO REPLACE THE MINK STREET BRIDGE (SFM4563743) IN THE CITY OF PATASKALA**

As detailed in Resolution 2023-058, ODOT has awarded the City \$861,541 toward replacing the Mink St. Bridge that is located just north of Havens Corners Road. This award is through the State Municipal Bridge program, and the program is set up such that ODOT manages the design and construction of the project. The City will be

involved in the process and have some financial responsibility, but ODOT will take the lead.

Accordingly, ODOT requires this legislation be approved by the City before they move forward. It spells out basic project requirements and responsibilities, and provides details regarding the governing state and federal laws. The language for Resolution 2023-070 has been provided by ODOT and is required to be approved by the City as written. As the title suggests, this legislation provides ODOT with the City's consent for ODOT to move forward with the project.

Approval of this Resolution is recommended.