Ohio County Commission
May 21, 2024

The Ohio County Commission met in regular session on Tuesday, May 21, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. The meeting was called to order by President Donald A. Nickerson. The Pledge of Alliance was recited.

The minutes from the May 7, 2024, meeting were reviewed. Motion to approve the minutes made by Mr. Abraham, seconded by Mr. Wharton. Motion carried.

Community Grants:

- Orchard Park Hospital – On a motion made by Mr. Abraham, seconded by Mr. Wharton, the Commission agreed to donate $500.00 to the Orchard Park Hospital fundraiser. Motion carried.

Old Business:

- ARPA Update – An ARPA Community Grant update was provided. To date, five organizations have been paid in full, while three have failed to provide the proper information needed to receive their second installment. The Commissioners were asked to approve payment of the second installment for Orchard Park Hospital, CASA, Appalachian Outreach, Wheeling Health Right, Ohio County Victim Assistance Program, Catholic Charities, House of the Carpenter, and St. John's Home for Children. On a motion made by Mr. Abraham, and seconded by Mr. Wharton, the second installment was approved for the eight organizations listed above.

New Business:

- Addressing – Marissa and Michael Duplaga are experiencing issues with their address of 1A Clinton Drive becoming confused with 1 Clinton Drive. They are requesting to have their long driveway become its own road. There is room for future development along the drive. They are requesting the road be called Kingsberry Lane. Mr. Abraham made a motion to accept the proposal, with a second by Mr. Wharton. Motion carried.
- 911 New Hire – The 911 Department is requesting the advice and consent of the Commissioners to hire Jadyn Schrack to fill the remaining vacancy. Mr. Abraham made a motion to approve the hire, seconded by Mr. Wharton. Motion carried.
- Wheeling Ohio County Airport Environmental Tank Liability Renewal – The premium is 2.5% higher this year which is in line with industry standards. Motion to approve the renewal made by Mr. Abraham, seconded by Mr. Wharton. Motion carried.
- Northern Panhandle Workforce Development Board, Inc. Board Appointment – Mr. Kevin Coulter's term is expiring on June 30 but would like to be reappointed to the Board. Mr. Abraham made a motion to reappoint Mr. Coulter, with a second by Mr. Wharton. Motion carried.

Elections:

- Election Update – A call will be held at 3:00 p.m. today to certify The City of Wheeling and Bethlehem.

- Election Worker Pay Approval – On election day, there were 213 poll workers. Of these 86 were returning and 137 were new to the process. Ms. Klinger asked to pay the election day workers, runners, crews, building rental, etc. at a cost of $63,235.00. Mr. Abraham commented on the exceptional job Ms. Klinger did putting the process together and running a smooth election. Motion to approve the payment made by Mr. Abraham, seconded by Mr. Wharton. Motion carried.

Staff / Elected Official Reports:

- Administrator Report - Mr. Russell did not have anything further to report.
- Facilities Update – Ms. Marco stated the windows for the project will be completed by the end of the week. We have 122 windows and to date 118 have been replaced. The structural steel for the second floor has been delivered and will be installed within the next couple of weeks. The double doors in the penthouse have been completed. The switchgear for the project has been delayed due to supply chain issues and will delay the move into the swing spaces. Ms. Marco also spent time at the Marshall County Animal Shelter to understand their processes and procedures. Ms. Marco and Mrs. Stephanie Hockenberry are assisting Mr. Kevin Price with the Airshow to be held on August 24, 2024.
- EMA – Mr. Vargo – Mr. Vargo reported FEMA will be on site tomorrow to evaluate the April 11, 2024 flood. A meteorologist from Pittsburgh will meet with residents from Wheeling Island to answer questions and address concerns. This is also EMS Week.
- Sheriff's Department – A representative from the Sheriff's Department was not in attendance at the meeting.

Finance:

- Mr. Archey reported the bills are up to date. Motion to approve the bills made by Mr. Abraham, seconded by Mr. Wharton. Motion carried.
- Unpaid invoices – Some of the invoices were awaiting grant funding. No further action is required.
- Exonerations – Mr. Abraham made a motion to approve the exonerations, seconded by Mr. Wharton. Motion carried.

On a motion made by Mr. Abraham, seconded by Mr. Wharton, the Commissioners entered Executive Session at 6:40 p.m. based on West Virginia State Code §6-9A-4 to discuss the Tax Increment Financing Update provided by Frost Brown Todd and Piper Sandler.

On a motion made by Mr. Abraham, seconded by Mr. Wharton, the Commissioners entered back onto the record at 7:20 p.m.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

Donald A. Nickerson, President

Randel A. Russell, Administrator