

**CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Williams called the Riverside, Ohio, City Council Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. at the Riverside Administrative Offices, 5200 Springfield Street, Suite 100, Riverside, Ohio, 45431.

**ROLL CALL:** Council attendance was as follows: Mr. Brown, present; Mr. Denning, present; Ms. Fry, present; Mr. Joseph, present; Ms. Lommatzsch, present; Mr. Maxfield, present; and Mayor Williams, present.

Staff present were as follows: Josh Rauch, City Manager; Kim Baker, Finance Director; Dalma Grandjean, Law Director; Jim Miller, Legal Counsel; and Katie Lewallen, Communications Manager/Clerk of Council.

**EXCUSE ABSENT MEMBERS:** No members were absent.

**ADDITIONS OR CORRECTIONS TO THE AGENDA:** No additions or corrections were made.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** Ms. Lommatzsch moved, seconded by Mr. Joseph, to approve the agenda. All were in favor. **Motion carried.**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Mayor Williams led the pledge of allegiance.

**MINUTES:** Mr. Denning moved, seconded by Mr. Joseph, to approve the March 14, 2024, council work session minutes and the March 21, 2024, business meeting minutes. Six were in favor; Ms. Lommatzsch abstained. **Motion carried.**

**WRITTEN CITIZEN PETITIONS:** Mayor Williams stated that anyone wishing to speak should fill out a form located in the back of the room and hand it to the clerk.

**PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS:** No one wished to speak on an agenda item.

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

### **A. ORDINANCES**

- 1) **Ordinance No. 24-O-849 – An ordinance to make supplemental appropriations for the current expenses and other expenditures of the City of Riverside, State of Ohio, for the period January 1 through December 31, 2024. (2<sup>nd</sup> reading, public hearing, adoption)**

Mr. Rauch stated this is the first supplemental ordinance of the year. They have received an updated exhibit that itemizes the items in the way the auditor would expect to see them. No numbers have changed.

Mr. Denning moved, seconded by Ms. Lommatzsch, to approve the second reading by title only of Ordinance No. 24-O-849. The clerk read the ordinance by title only.

Mayor Williams opened the public hearing at 6:03 p.m. No one came forward to comment. Mayor Williams closed the public hearing at 6:03 p.m.

No further discussion was held. Roll call went as follows: Mr. Denning, yes; Ms. Lommatzsch, yes; Mr. Brown, yes; Ms. Fry, yes; Mr. Joseph, yes; Mr. Maxfield, yes; and Mayor Williams, yes. Motion carried.

- II) Ordinance No. 24-O-850 – An ordinance declaring improvements to certain real property located in the City of Riverside, Montgomery County, Ohio, to be a public purpose; declaring such property to be exempt from real property taxation; designating specific public infrastructure improvements that directly benefit the parcels for which improvements are declared to be a public purpose; establishing a Municipal Public Improvement Tax Increment Equivalent Fund; and providing related authorizations pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Sections 5709.40(B), 5709.42, 5709.43, 5709.832, and 5709.85**

Mr. Rauch stated this an ordinance for a 10-year, 75 percent TIF District for the Springfield Street corridor.

Mr. Denning moved, seconded by Mr. Joseph, to approve the second reading by title only of Ordinance No. 24-O-850. The clerk read the ordinance by title only.

Mayor Williams opened the public hearing at 6:05 p.m. No one came forward to comment. Mayor Williams closed the public hearing at 6:05 p.m.

No further discussion was held. Roll call went as follows: Mr. Denning, yes; Mr. Joseph, yes; Mr. Brown, yes; Ms. Fry, yes; Ms. Lommatzsch, yes; Mr. Maxfield, yes; and Mayor Williams, yes. Motion carried.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **A. RESOLUTIONS**

- I) Resolution No. 24-R-2928 – A resolution authorizing payment of invoices with “Then-and-Now” certificates for the first quarter of calendar year 2024.**

Mr. Rauch stated this resolution is a practice to keep their payment processes clean and clear with the intent to do these quarterly. It makes good on payments that they incurred or will incur that they need legislative approval for.

Mr. Denning moved, seconded by Mr. Joseph, to approve Resolution No. 24-R-2928.

All were in favor. **Motion carried.**

- II) Resolution No. 24-R-2929 – A resolution authorizing the city manager to declare a temporary state of emergency during the total eclipse event from Friday, April 5, 2024, at 12:00 a.m. through Friday, April 12, 2024, at 12:00 a.m. and to exercise all duties related to emergency preparedness and management pursuant to the City Charter, ordinances, and general laws of the State of Ohio, in order to minimize the effects upon the civilian population caused or that could be caused by any hazard associated with the total eclipse event and that are necessary to address mitigation, emergency preparedness, response, and recovery within the corporate boundaries of the City of Riverside, Ohio.**

Mr. Rauch stated that the resolution is council's support for the steps the city is taking to manage the eclipse event in the area. Riverside is split in half by Eastwood Metro Park and wellfields to the north and the base. The reasoning behind this resolution is that the base is having an event that will draw a large number of visitors in the area of 20,000 – 30,000 people. Eastwood Metro Park is also hosting a number of visitors. The major artery in Riverside is Harshman Road and there are no other roadways in close proximity that could get to either location. This could be a choke point. They want to be sure people are able to come to the events and be safe as possible. They will take control of traffic patterns and change as needed throughout the day to get people in and out of the base and to the major highways. The emergency resolution allows them to get ahead of traffic control and block some open fields to reduce the likelihood of people parking there and adding to the congestion. This will help minimize disturbances and littering. There has been a lot of communication on this and more will follow this evening and through the weekend. They expect a slow ramp up as people arrive over the weekend. After the eclipse, they may see a lot of people leaving and crunch time on the roads. He asked people to be patient and give one another grace so everyone can enjoy this once-in-a-lifetime event together.

Mr. Joseph stated they are creating anything new or giving him an ability he did not previously have under the Ohio Revised Code. Mr. Rauch is the chief executive of the city and can declare a state of emergency. This resolution is council stating they will support his actions. Mr. Denning stated that both the ORC and the charter state that the city manager has this ability. It is listed in the charter as the city manager being the public safety director. Mr. Rauch stated they want to be in front of this and are using this as a communication measure. They are trying to be proactive as there are two major venues drawing tens of thousands of people.

Ms. Lommatzsch moved, seconded by Mr. Joseph, to approve Resolution No. 24-R-2929.

All were in favor. **Motion carried.**

- III) Resolution No. 24-R-2930 – A resolution authorizing the city manager of the City of Riverside, OH, to enter into final legislation with the Ohio Department of Transportation for the rehabilitation of Spinning Road Phase 2 (Eastman to Burkhardt) PID No. 116871.**

Mr. Rauch stated this is a required resolution by ODOT they have to have before the resurfacing project on Spinning Road, Phase 2. It is expected to go to bid on May 9, 2024.

Mr. Denning moved, seconded by Mr. Joseph, to approve Resolution No. 24-R-2930.

All were in favor. **Motion carried.**

**PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS:** No one wished to speak.

**CITY MANAGER REPORT:** Mr. Rauch shared information on lane closures and traffic patterns for the roadways surrounding the National Museum. He added that it will look and feel like the marathon at the base. He presented four maps that will be released on social media for the various gates and roads impacted. Electronic signs will also be near each of these gates providing information. He stated the surrounding communities have been speaking to one another to prepare for giving and receiving mutual aid. He gave a shout out to Kevin Miller and the service department for their work that has been instrumental with putting up snow fences and traffic cones where needed. It has already been a huge undertaking, but he is optimistic about thinking ahead and doing the best they can. He asked for everyone to maintain awareness.

Mayor Williams stated they share the thanks of staff, especially public safety and public service, as they have a lot of deep care for the community. He knows many people in the city share that sentiment. Hearing they are more than ready is no surprise to council, but they are incredibly grateful for it.

**COUNCILMEMBER COMMENTS:** Ms. Lommatzsch thanked the city manager for all the work he had done to be prepared for the upcoming eclipse. She hopes residents will be patient and get their gas and groceries ahead of time. Mr. Joseph thanked Mr. Rauch for everything he has been doing for the eclipse and that he has a good staff, the right people are in place. Mayor Williams thanked the schools as Mad River Local Schools, St. Helens and Carroll have all extended spring break by one day. He thinks East Dayton Christian will also be closed for Monday. He stated the relationships between the city and the schools are valuable especially when events pop up, and they lean on one another for the best advice. He thanked all the partners in the community. Mr. Denning thanked the service department with taking down the honeysuckle on Harshman and Springfield. He stated that it looks like the lights on Beatrice are getting wired up as well. Positive things are happening in the community in addition to the eclipse. Everyone is working together. He added that the parks are not closed to children, just to vehicular traffic.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** Mr. Maxfield moved, seconded by Mr. Brown, to enter into executive session for the following: 103.01 (1) - Unless the City employee or official requests a public hearing; to consider the appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion or compensation of a city employee or official or the investigation of charges or complaints against a City employee or official. Roll call went as follows: Mr. Maxfield, yes; Mr.

Brown, yes; Mr. Denning, yes; Ms. Fry, yes; Mr. Joseph, yes; Ms. Lommatzsch, yes; and Mayor Williams, yes. **Motion carried.** Council entered into executive session at 6:29 p.m.

**RECONVENE:** Council reconvened at 8:39 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Being no further business, Mayor Williams adjourned the meeting at 8:39 p.m.

  
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Pete Williams, Mayor

  
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Katie Lewallen, Clerk of Council

