**CITY COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
JUNE 6, 2023**

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Mayor Daniel Swartwout called the City Council Meeting of June 6, 2023 to order at 7:30 p.m. City Councilmembers present included Ferzan Ahmed, Jon Bennehoof, Tom Counts, Christina Drummond, Heather Karr and Daniel Swartwout. City Staff in attendance included Andrew White, City Manager; Jeffrey Tyler, Assistant City Manager/Community Development Director; Rosa Ocheltree, Finance Director; Jason Nahvi, HR Manager; Claudia Husak, Planning Director; Elise Schellin, Development Planner; Grant Crawford, Director of Public Service; Mallory Sribanditmongkol, Strategic Communication Officer; and Thaddeus M. Boggs, Legal Counsel.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Councilmember Jon Bennehoof.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

Mayor Swartwout opened the floor for Citizen Participation regarding matters not on the agenda.

Brittney Zoecklein, representative with Delaware County Health District, provided updates.

Seeing no further citizens wishing to address City Council, Mayor Swartwout closed Citizen Participation.

PRESENTATION

Liz Owens, CEO of the Alpha Group and its sister agency, TAG Community Living, Inc. gave a presentation on the work the organizations do in Delaware County.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approval of City Council Meeting Minutes of May 16, 2023
City Council Minutes 05162023.pdf

MOTION: Jon Bennehoof moved to approve the City Council Minutes of May 16, 2023 as written. Heather Karr seconded the motion.

VOTE: Y – 5   N – 0   AB – 1

City Council Meeting Minutes of May 16, 2023 approved with vote of 5-0-1.

CONSENT AGENDA

ORDINANCES: FIRST READING(S)

ORDINANCE 2023-15
1. Ord. 2023_15_Memo.pdf
2. Ord. 2023-15 _Ordinance.pdf
3. Ord. 2023-15_EDA.pdf
4. Ord. 2023-15_Depot Street Cost Estimate.pdf

Andrew White, City Manager, gave an overview of Ordinance 2023-15.

Mayor Swartwout opened the floor for public comment on Ordinance 2023-15.

James Sisto, 69 Morris Court, spoke in support of the project, but addressed City Council regarding concerns from his neighbors in the Morris Station neighborhood.

Hillary Laffin, Grand Communities, 3940 Olympic Blvd., Erlanger, KY 41018, representing the applicant, introduced herself and said she was available to answer any questions.

Mayor Swartwout closed public comment and declared Ordinance 2023-15 will go to a second reading at the next City Council Meeting on June 20, 2023.

ORDINANCE 2023-14
1. Ord. 2023_14_Memo.pdf
2. Ord. 2023-14_Ordinance.pdf
3. Ord. 2023-14_Exhibit A.pdf
4. Ord. 2023-14_Exhibit B.pdf
5. Ord. 2023-14_History.pdf

Claudia Husak, Planning Director, reviewed the project and discussed the process from preliminary meetings Development Staff had with the applicant, to the Sketch Plan phase, Preliminary Development Plan, and then the Final Development Plan with the Planning & Zoning Commission, as well as presentations to the Historical Downtown Advisory Commission.

Mayor Swartwout invited Hillary Laffin, representing the applicant, Grand Communities, to give a presentation.

Ms. Laffin said Grand Communities is the affiliated development company for Fischer Homes. She talked about the context of the site, their vision for the project and the plan revisions they have made over the past year. Further, she answered questions from City Council.

Mayor Swartwout opened the floor for public comment on Ordinance 2023-14.

Garry Swackhamer, 76 Scioto Street, said he supports the project, but does have concerns about the construction traffic. He suggested removing the pork-chop at Olentangy and Depot Streets during the construction of the development.

John Gibson, 119 Morris Court, complimented the builder on the landscaping and talked about the noise from train whistles as they approach Olentangy Street, especially at 3:45 a.m. He is requesting no construction traffic come through Morris Station.

Les Wibberley, 5005 Bayhill Drive, works with the OPAL Trails Committee and is recommending the trail included in the development be 10-feet wide for safety reasons.

James Sisto, 69 Morris Court, reiterated earlier comments that Morris Station residents have two primary concerns. One is the agreement regarding the retention pond and the other concern is the construction traffic. He thanked Grand Communities for working with his neighborhood and making the needed changes to the original plan.

Mayor Swartwout closed public comment and declared Ordinance 2023-14 will go to a second reading at the next City Council Meeting on June 20, 2023.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Development Committee: Next meeting is Tuesday, August 1, 2023 at 6:30 p.m.
Finance Committee: Next meeting is Tuesday, July 11, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.
Operations Committee: Next meeting is Tuesday, June 20, 2023 at 6:30 p.m.
Community Diversity Advisory Committee: Next meeting is Wednesday, July 19, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. in the **Police Conference Room**.
Planning & Zoning Commission: Next meeting is Wednesday, June 14, 2023 at 6:30 p.m.
Powell Development Corporation: Next meeting is Tuesday, June 27, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. in the **Police Conference Room**.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT/CITY CALENDAR

Andrew White, City Manager, updated Council on the items staff is working on and reviewed the upcoming calendar.

OTHER COUNCIL MATTERS

Mayor Swartwout discussed the Powell Festival 2023 coming up Friday, June 23rd and Saturday, June 24th, 2023. Mallory Sribanditmongkol, Strategic Communication Officer, gave an update on where residents can find information regarding the event with regards to the City of Powell website and other social media outlets.

Councilmember Drummond talked about her disappointment with regards to the cancellation of the Pride event and said she would like to see these types of cancellations better communicated to the constituents.

Councilmember Bennehoof talked about CPR training and said the general public can go to the Liberty Township Fire Department and sign up for public classes, which they hold monthly. He also made a suggestion regarding adding "Historic District" to the downtown street signs, which many other communities use.

Councilmember Ahmed asked if the City should create a circulation plan for construction traffic in regards to the larger asphalt trucks, concrete trucks, etc.

Aaron Stanford, City Engineer, agreed and said the City will look at the opportunity to establish an enforceable construction route.

Councilmember Karr thanked Grant Crawford, Director of Public Service, and his team for all the great work they do, that many residents are unaware of. She appreciates their dedication.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Ohio Revised Code Section 121.22 (G)(1) – To consider the appointment of a public employee or official, and the investigation of charges or complaints against a public employee.

Ohio Revised Code Section 121.22 (G)(8) – To consider confidential information related to the marketing plans, specific business strategy, production techniques, trade secrets, or personal financial statements of an applicant for economic development assistance.

MOTION: Tom Counts moved to enter into Executive Session. Jon Bennehoof seconded the motion.

Mayor Swartwout requested a roll call for passage: Daniel Swartwout, yes; Ferzan Ahmed, yes; Jon Bennehoof, yes; Tom Counts, yes; Christina Drummond, yes; and Heather Karr, yes.

VOTE: Y – 6   N – 0   AB – 0

Entered Executive Session at 9:23 p.m.

MOTION: Jon Bennehoof moved to adjourn Executive Session and re-enter Regular Session. Heather Karr seconded the motion.

VOTE: Y – 6   N – 0   AB – 0

Motion to adjourn Executive Session and re-enter Regular Session approved with vote of 6-0-0.

Re-entered Regular Session at 10:20 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Jon Bennehoof moved to adjourn. Ferzan Ahmed seconded the motion.

VOTE: Y – 6   N – 0   AB – 0

Motion to adjourn approved with a vote of 6-0-0.

Meeting adjourned at 10:21 p.m.

MINUTES APPROVED: June 20, 2023

Daniel Swartwout, Mayor	6-20-23 Date	Jason Nahvi, HR Manager	(/20/23) Date