



City Council Agenda

Monday, January 9, 2023 at 7:00 pm

6550 N. High Street, Worthington, Ohio 43085

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Pledge of Allegiance

Reports of City Officials

4. Policy Item(s)

a. Parks & Recreation Foundation Board Member Appointment Update

Executive Summary: Staff are prepared to present the detailed process for appointing Parks and Recreation Foundation Board Members. Our goal is to leave Monday's meeting with everything we need to begin Community Outreach and kick-off the application process.

b. Affordable Housing Ballot Issue

Executive Summary: Council President Robinson provided the attached notes for the Affordable Housing conversation.

Reports of Council Members

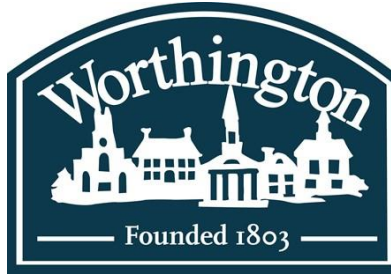
Other Business

Executive Session

Adjournment

5. Motion to Adjourn

Contact: D. Kay Thress, Clerk of Council (Kay.Thress@worthington.org (614) 436-3100) | Agenda published on 01/05/2023 at 3:22 PM



STAFF MEMORANDUM
City Council Meeting – January 9, 2023

Date: January 4, 2023

To: Robyn Stewart, Acting City Manager

From: Darren Hurley, Parks & Recreation Director

Subject: Parks & Recreation Foundation Board Member Appointment Update

Since our last City Council presentation, staff have been working on refining the process outlined by Council Member Bonnie Michael in her shared memo for appointing Parks and Recreation Foundation Board Members. Staff are prepared to present the detailed process to City Council at the January 9, 2023, meeting. The process being proposed is as follows:

- I. Create Profile/Job Description for Distribution
- II. Create an Application
- III. Community Outreach
 - a. Share generally with the community
 - b. Reach out directly to candidates identified by Council/Parks and Rec Commission/Staff
- IV. Form Review Panel
 - a. Council Members (2-3)
 - b. Parks and Recreation Commission Members (2-3)
 - c. Staff (2)
- V. Review Panel Reviews Applications – Selects 15-18
- VI. Council Reviews Recommended Applicants – Selects Board with Target of Nine Initial Members

Staff will seek feedback from City Council and finalize this process. We will also share the drafted profile/job description and application to obtain feedback as well. Our goal is to leave Monday's meeting with everything we need to begin Community Outreach and kick-off the application process.

From: [Robinson, David](#)
To: [Stewart, Robyn](#)
Subject: DR notes re housing, for agenda packet 09.Jan.23
Date: Thursday, January 5, 2023 9:13:13 AM

Affordable Housing Bond Initiative—

The notes below are provided to support the discussion we will have at the 09.Jan.23 Council meeting. These notes, originally shared in similar form with you last July, are what I would call a basic outline of concept for a proposed affordable housing bond initiative. My expectation for our conversation is that if there is sufficient support for the proposal, for action in 2023, that we have a more detailed discussion at a February meeting, after which we would instruct staff to prepare a memorandum outlining options for implementation, to be further discussed and decided upon by Council, guided by a November, 2023 timeline.

Similar to Columbus' 2019 affordable housing bond package, I propose that Worthington put on the ballot, as soon as practicable (November, '23), a proportionally sized (~ \$1.1 million) program. These funds, if approved by the voters, would enable us to meaningfully incentivize the redevelopment, and/or new development, of affordable housing in our city. I'll have a basic fact-sheet, related to these statements, ready for our Monday discussion.

By "affordable housing" I mean projects that are based upon a 30 year term, guaranteed rent levels in relationship to prescribed percentage(s) of AMI. I recommend that the ballot issue include provisions about timing for the use of the funds, a stipulation that they be used on parcels zoned multi-family at the time of the public vote, and any other qualifying descriptions and/or constraints for the use of the funds that heighten likely public support. A central issue that will need to be decided, if we pursue this course of action, is whether the bond funding would be supported by a) the General Fund, or b) property tax increase.

In sum, I view this proposed program as a significant initiative—a first for a central Ohio inner-ring suburb—and, if approved by the voters, and successful in its implementation, as a landmark first step. I believe the public vote is an essential part of this proposal, since the support of residents is and will be integral to the long-term success of any progressive vision for housing in Worthington.

Finally, a note about staff: I met a few months ago with Matt, Robyn, Lee, Scott, and Tom to discuss this proposal in broad concept. It was a fruitful conversation. It was made clear to me that since we have never done anything like this that there would be a learning curve, and there would be a requirement of staff time to proceed. We discussed how outside information resources (City of Columbus, etc.) would be available, as well as outside fee-based services (probably legal), if needed. I have not asked staff to do any specific preparation for this meeting, and would not expect any effort on their part in this direction until the sentiment of Council Members is known.

David Robinson
City Council President
Worthington, Ohio