

On Wednesday, July 19, 2023, at 6:00 p.m., the Dayton City Commission met in regular session in the Commission Chambers of City Hall.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Mims called the meeting to order.

INVOCATION

Commissioner Fairchild gave the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Mims led the public in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Roll call was taken, and Mayor Mims, Commissioners Joseph, Fairchild, and Turner-Sloss were present. The Clerk of Commission, Ms. Regina Blackshear, and the City Manager, Ms. Shelley Dickstein were also present.

Commissioner Joseph made a motion to excuse Commissioner Shaw from this week's meeting. Commissioner Turner-Sloss seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Fairchild made a motion to approve the minutes from the July 12, 2023, meeting. Commissioner Joseph seconded the motion. The previous meeting minutes were unanimously approved.

COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS

There were no communications or petitions.

SPECIAL AWARDS/PRESENTATIONS

Dayton Public Schools:

Mayor Mims called forward Dr. David Lawrence from Dayton Public Schools to speak on his recent appointment as Interim Superintendent for Dayton Public Schools. Dr. Lawrence thanked the Commission for allowing him to speak. He spoke about working on culture, communication, and collaboration at Dayton Public School as well as being a unified unit that's working together with the City and those who want to support Dayton Public Schools.

Mayor Mims spoke about Dr. Lawrence's background and career thus far as a teacher, coach, principal, and assistant principal in the Dayton Public Schools System.

Commissioner Turner-Sloss thanked Dr. Lawrence for attending and speaking at the commission meeting and congratulated him on his appointment. She asked if Dr. Lawrence could speak to the upcoming school year. She asked for the start date for Dayton Public Schools, the date of any orientations, and if he has a plan to have a welcoming meeting or meet and greet as the new Interim Superintendent. Dr. Lawrence stated Dayton Public Schools start date is Monday, August 14th and the convocation is on Wednesday, August 9th. Dr. Lawrence stated they are working on making sure it all goes smoothly from a transportation perspective and making sure all certified teachers are in classrooms. He is aware that Dayton Public Schools has major challenges socially, emotionally, and culturally, but he is committed to being actively engaged with students and staff at their locations and not just managing from central office. He explained that he feels he is Dayton Public Schools: Dr. Lawrence attended McNary, Westwood, Stivers High School, and then graduated from

Dunbar High School. He served as Assistant Principal at Stivers High School, a teacher and basketball coach at Meadowdale High School as well as the Principal of Thurgood Marshall High School. He believes he can serve as a beacon of what kids can be.

Commissioner Fairchild congratulated Dr. Lawrence for his appointment. He values Dr. Lawrence's commitment to Dayton Public Schools and asked if he knew of any other DPS graduate who had become Superintendent of Dayton Public Schools. Dr. Lawrence stated that there has not been a Dayton Public Schools graduate who has become Superintendent nor an African American male. Commissioner Fairchild congratulated Dr. Lawrence again, he spoke on being the father of a Dayton Public Schools student and being thankful for the quality education received but understands the pathway for other students is thin and he looks forward to working with Dr. Lawrence to ensure all Dayton Public School students receive quality education.

Commissioner Joseph congratulated Dr. Lawrence on his appointment. He said it was a new start and he looks forward to having someone like Dr. Lawrence, who represents Dayton. Commissioner Joseph said the City cannot succeed without the success of Dayton Public Schools. He looks forward to working with Dr. Lawrence and Dayton Public Schools can count on the Commission's support.

Mayor Mims had the other Dayton Public Schools Board Members stand and thanked them for being there. Mayor Mims echoed his colleague's comments and spoke on the aspect of Dayton Public Schools, and the City being attached and working towards making Dayton the best place it can be.

Welcome Dayton- Welcoming City Re-Certification

Mayor Mims called forward Jeannette Horwitz, Coordinator for the Welcome Dayton program in the Community Engagement Division for the City of Dayton's Department of Planning, Neighborhoods, and Development.

Ms. Horwitz shared some background on the Welcome Dayton program, which was formed in 2011 to support the integration of immigrants into the Dayton community. The program employs three full-time City of Dayton staff who are also immigrants themselves. Welcome Dayton is not just a City government program, it is truly a community initiative with community involvement. The Welcome Dayton Committee currently has 26 appointed members and close to 100 serving on one of six subcommittees. Welcome Dayton helps immigrants connect with resources in the community, involvement, and support with community partners and ensures the City creates policies and programs that reflect its commitment to immigrant inclusion. Ms. Horwitz invites anyone who is interested in getting involved to connect via the Welcome Dayton website or Facebook page.

Ms. Horwitz stated that in 2017, Dayton became "Certified Welcoming" by the national non-profit organization Welcoming America and was the first city to do so. She introduced Ms. Melissa Bertolo who is the certified welcoming senior director for Welcoming America. She was also the first Welcome Dayton coordinator from 2012 to 2017. Ms. Bertolo announced the City of Dayton has been re-designated as a "Certified Welcoming" city. On behalf of Welcoming America, Ms. Bertolo congratulated the City for their achievement. The City of Dayton was the first to achieve certification and is now the 4th City to achieve recertification. She stated that the City of Dayton has understood before most, that to be welcoming is more than just being friendly, it's putting values into action and ensuring that everyone, no matter where they are from, can truly call it home. Ms. Bertolo applauded City staff and spoke on the certification process, including a self-assessment and in-person audit. Ms. Bertolo recognized

the work of community partners and all those on the Welcome Dayton Committee for their role in this process. She spoke on the work that's being done here in Dayton to ensure immigrant families have what they need to be at home and congratulated the City again on their achievement.

Mayor Mims asked if members of the Welcome Dayton Committee would like to come up to the podium for a picture.

ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS TO THE CALENDAR

There were no additions or deletions to the calendar.

DISCUSSION OF CALENDAR ITEMS

Calendar Item No. 6 Emergency Resolution No. 6738-23

The City Manager, Ms. Shelley Dickstein, highlighted the resolution to accept \$1.4 million dollars of grant funds from the Ohio Office of Criminal Justice Services for the creation of a Crisis Response Unit (CRU) that will respond only to mental health related 9-11 calls. The CRU will be structured similarly to the Mediation Response Unit (MRU) except with a licensed clinician. Hours will run the same at MRU, which are Monday thru Saturday from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. The intent is to have the CRU team hired, trained, and taking calls by fall or early winter.

Calendar Item No. 3. Bladecutter's Lawn Service, Inc. – Service Agreement

The City Manager, Ms. Shelley Dickstein, highlighted this item as part of the Dayton recovery plan as the start of the City's demolition in targeted neighborhoods.

Calendar Item No. 4. Charles F. Jergens Construction, Inc. – Service Agreement

The City Manager, Ms. Shelley Dickstein, highlighted this item as part of the Dayton recovery plan as the start of the City's demolition in targeted neighborhoods.

Calendar Item No. 2. Alpha Demolition, Inc. – Service Agreement

The City Manager, Ms. Shelley Dickstein, highlighted this item as part of the Dayton recovery plan as the start of the City's demolition in targeted neighborhoods. She noted there was a minor change in this contract regarding the MBE goal reached. The former contract called out a 100% MBE goal reached, when in fact, it was a 100% WBE goal reached, and they are meeting the 25% MBE goal as well. Ms. Dickstein called forth Mr. Donerik Black from HRC's Business and Technical Assistance Department to explain the error. Mr. Black explained the error was a human error made by a colleague while Mr. Black was out on medical leave and that MBE participation standards read very similar to AAA certification. Measures have been taken to correct and address the oversight so that it does not happen again. Commissioner Turner-Sloss asked Mr. Black if the change in the MBE goal affected the weighted points given to the contractor. Mr. Black clarified that even without the points for the MBE goal, Alpha still scored ahead of other contractors who bid on this contract. Commissioner Turner-Sloss also asked what checks and balances are in place to ensure this does not occur again. Mr. Black stated that he has returned from medical leave and work is dispersed amongst the new team to ensure it does not rest solely on one person.

REPORTS

1. Purchase Orders, Agreements and Contracts:

(All contracts are valid until delivery is complete or through December 31st of the current year).

AVIATION

A1. Global ARFF Services LLC (inspection, testing, and repair services as needed through 12/31/23) **\$50,000.00**

PLANNING, NEIGHBORHOODS AND DEVELOPMENT

B1. Wiss Janney Elstner Associates, Inc. (emergency structural engineering assessment) **\$28,454.74**

PUBLIC WORKS

- C1. JCL Equipment Company, Inc.** (roadway painting equipment maintenance and repair services as needed through 12/31/23) **25,863.00**
- C2. Southeastern Equipment company** (Case and Bomag parts and repair services as needed through 12/31/23) **15,000.00**
- C3. Double Jay Construction, Inc.** (driveway apron and concrete sidewalk removal and replacements services) **49,948.00**
- C4. Garland/DBS, Inc.** (roofing replacement) **74,934.00**

WATER

- D1. Eyelick, Inc.** (marketing goods and services) **121,000.00**
 - D2. PdMA Corporation** (one MCEmax motor tester) **55,000.00**
- Depts of Aviation, Planning, Neighborhoods and Development, Public Works, and Water. **Total: \$443,936.74**

- 2. **Alpha Demolition, Inc. – Service Agreement - Dayton Recovery Plan –** for demolition services for structures identified in target neighborhoods to include Wolf Creek, Edgemont, Fairview, Miami Chapel, and Carillon (25% MBE Participation Goal/100% MBE Participation Achieved – Department of Planning, Neighborhoods and Development/Director’s Office. **\$626,420.40**
(Thru 06/30/25)
- 3. **Bladecutter’s Lawn Service, Inc. – Service Agreement - Dayton Recovery Plan –** for demolition services for structures identified in focus neighborhoods to include Old North Dayton, McCook, MacFarlane, and Twin Towers (25% MBE Participation Goal/25% MBE Participation Achieved – Department of Planning, Neighborhoods and Development/ Director’s Office. **\$739,440.00**
(Thru 06/30/25)
- 4. **Charles F. Jergens Construction, Inc. – Service Agreement - Dayton Recovery Plan –** for demolition services for structures identified in target neighborhoods to include Five Oaks, Hillcrest, Riverdale, Santa Clara, and Southern Dayton View. 25% MBE Participation Goal/100% MBE Participation Achieved – Department of Planning, Neighborhoods and Development/Director’s Office. **\$746,588.40**
(Thru 06/30/25)

B. Construction Contract:

5. **Moody's of Dayton, Inc. – Award of Contract** – for Well reconstruction at Miami and Mad River Well Fields Rebid (Open Market) – Department of Water/Water Supply and Treatment. **\$1,249,920.00**
(Thru 12/31/26)

CITIZENS' COMMENTS ON CALENDAR ITEMS:

1. **Ms. Beth Schaeffer, 134 Patterson Rd** – spoke on behalf of the League of Women Voters in opposition to Issue 1 and urged residents to vote no in the August 8th election.

Commissioner Turner-Sloss thanked Ms. Dickstein for highlighting calendar items 2, 3, and 4. She asked for Ms. Dickstein to confirm the following information: during this round of demolition there is a total of 112 structures up for demolition, and a total of 700 structures will be demolished with ARPA funds; however, the City has a total goal of 1100 structures.

Ms. Dickstein stated that was correct. Commissioner Turner-Sloss thanked Ms. Dickstein for clarifying and for highlighting the contracts and the participation percentages met.

Commissioner Fairchild acknowledged his support to the League of Women Voters to stand in opposition to Issue 1. He believes Issue 1 is a twisted distortion of democracy and views it as a law to try and prevent any sort of citizens' referendum to address the distortion of democracy regarding gerrymandering. He appreciates the event the League of Women Voters held to demonstrate the bipartisan opposition to Issue 1.

Commissioner Joseph agreed with Commissioner Fairchild and added that the law is also hypocritical because the same people who are pushing Issue 1 now are also the same people who outlawed having an August election last year. Now that it suits them, they are having a special election and wasting \$20 million taxpayer dollars in doing so.

Commissioner Joseph also thanked the City Manager and staff for bringing forward the demolition contracts. He said it is something people bring up a lot in neighborhoods and stated that in some neighborhoods if just one or two houses in the neighborhood came down it would make a huge difference. Finally, Commissioner Joseph thanked Welcome Dayton Committee members who were there and thanked staff, in particular Ms. Jeannette Horwitz for putting in the work for recertification. He also thanked the City of Dayton's Community Engagement team, and volunteers for their efforts. He acknowledged all the efforts over the last decade that have made the City of Dayton truly welcoming to immigrants. He appreciates the work going into making the City more welcoming and is proud of the Welcome Dayton program and their groundbreaking work. Commissioner Joseph also thanked Welcoming America and former employee Melissa Bertolo for her work with the City and with Welcoming America.

Mayor Mims spoke about his time as a student in school discussing the Statue of Liberty and the aspect of a melting pot of immigrants coming to this country to make it a better place. Additionally, he spoke on learning in government and social studies class about underdeveloped countries, and in those countries, they would do everything they could to prevent citizens from voting. Mayor Mims said it was sad to look at a nation that is very well developed such as the United States doing to same sorts of things that were done in

underdeveloped countries in terms of limiting voter rights. He said they are honored to be in a position today to be able to have a voice and make a recommendation regarding Issue 1 to citizens to protect their rights. He said those communities that vote the most, get the most. He said that it's an honor for this commission to vote in opposition to Issue 1.

APPROVAL OF CITY MANAGER'S REPORTS

Commissioner Turner-Sloss made the motion to approve the City Manager's Reports. Commissioner Fairchild seconded the motion. The City Manager's Reports were approved with a 5-0 vote. Voting in the affirmative were Mayor Mims, Commissioners Joseph, Shaw, Fairchild, and Turner-Sloss.

LEGISLATION

EMERGENCY RESOLUTION-FIRST READING

Ordinance No. 32042-23 - Authorizing the City Manager to Accept a Community Violence Intervention – First Responder Program Subgrant Award from the Ohio Office of Criminal Justice Services (“OCJS”) for a Total Amount of One Million Four Hundred Seventy-Eight Thousand Nine Hundred Twelve Dollars and Eighty-Six Cents (\$1,478,912.86) on Behalf of the City of Dayton, and Declaring an Emergency.

INFORMAL RESOLUTION

Informal Resolution No. 1006-23- Expressing Strong Opposition to Issue 1 which, if Passed at the August 8, 2023 Special Election, Would Embed a “Minority Rule” in Ohio’s Constitution by Requiring a 60% Supermajority of Ohio Voters to Amend the State Constitution and Urge Dayton Voters to Vote NO.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS

Citizen comments were received from the following:

1. **Ms. Barbara Lewis, 420 Redwood Ave.**– spoke about an illegal auto repair shop on her street.
2. **Ms. Tasha Rountree, 4609 St. James Ave.**- spoke about a nuclear waste site building in Wolf Creek neighborhood and in opposition to a low-income housing development in Wolf Creek neighborhood.

COMMENTS BY THE CLERK OF COMMISSION

The Clerk of Commission, Ms. Regina Blackshear, had no closing comments.

COMMENTS BY THE ACTING CITY MANAGER

The City Manager, Ms. Shelley Dickstein, had no closing comments.

COMMENTS BY THE CITY COMMISSION

Commissioner Turner-Sloss

Commissioner Turner-Sloss acknowledged and congratulated Dr. David Lawrence on his appointment as Interim Superintendent of Dayton Public Schools and acknowledged the Dayton Public Schools Board member in attendance.

Commissioner Turner-Sloss thanked the Mayor for leading the commission in a moment of silence for former Dayton employee Barbara Jean Montgomery.

Commissioner Turner-Sloss thanked Ms. Jeannette Horwitz for serving as the Coordinator for Welcome Dayton and thanked all committee members and subcommittee members for being

there and for their work. She congratulated the committee on their accomplishment and mentioned she would like to have a conversation about where housing comes into play amongst the various subcommittees.

Commissioner Turner-Sloss thanked Ms. Shaeffer and the League of Women Voters for their leadership and for attending the Commission meeting and speaking on Issue 1. She stated that Ms. Shaeffer has the support of the Commission members and stands against Issue 1.

Commissioner Turner-Sloss thanked all the residents who came out to speak at the Commission meeting. She addressed Ms. Lewis and stated that a staff member would get connected with her after the meeting to help address the concerns. She thanked Ms. Rountree for being at the Commission and raising her concerns. She also stated she would like to get more information and receive the environmental reports provided to Ms. Rountree so that next steps can be discussed. Commissioner Turner-Sloss also thanked Ms. Rountree for standing in opposition to Issue 1. Additionally, she stated there is always an opportunity for residents to address the Commission regarding decisions they disagree with. Commissioner Turner-Sloss thanked Mr. Fritz for raising his concerns as well.

Commissioner Turner-Sloss also acknowledged the Western Stars drill team and all Dayton drill teams for their parade last weekend; it was very well attended.

Commissioner Fairchild

Commissioner Fairchild congratulated the Welcome Dayton team and thanked them for their hard work in the recertification process.

Commissioner Fairchild thanked the City Manager, Ms. Dickstein and her staff for their work on the Demolition funds.

Commissioner Fairchild thanked the City of Dayton Water Department for the various tours he's received at the Water Reclamation and Water Supply facilities. He's grateful for the opportunity to learn more about how the City's water supply works and is treated.

Commissioner Fairchild highlighted a few events happening around the City, including the Dayton Air Show on Saturday and Sunday, July 22nd and July 23rd at the Dayton Airport as well as The Dayton Blues Festival on Sunday, July 23rd in Downtown.

Finally, Commissioner Fairchild thanked his colleagues for agreeing to support the Tour to Gem and to find a non-profit to champion. He thanked the City Manager for allowing the Tour to Gem representatives to be here and talk with Department Directors in order to better understand how the City can be involved and support the event. He thanked the Mayor for his willingness to provide a pancake breakfast to incentivize City Departments to participate. He spoke about the Tour to Gem, which is a charity ride to support non-profits in Dayton. He committed to riding the 40-mile loop if the City gets 7 new non-profits to participate, if the City gets 8 to 14 new non-profits to participate then he committed to riding the 65-mile loop, and finally, if the City gets 15 to 21 new non-profits to participate then he committed to riding the 105-mile loop in the Tour to Gem.

Commissioner Joseph

Commissioner Joseph thanked the League of Women Voters for attending the Commission meeting and their opposition to Issue 1.

Mayor Mims

Mayor Mims thanked the Marriott staff for the grand opening of the new AC Hotel Downtown on Monday. He said it is a tremendous place to visit and have dinner.

Mayor Mims congratulated Reverend Sam Winston at Mount Calvary Church, who is president of the Ohio Generally Assembly Baptist Convention, and kicked off their event this Sunday. Mayor Mims was honored to present a proclamation there on Sunday.

Mayor Mims thanked everyone involved in his conversation tour in the Edgemont neighborhood. He thanked his staff members who helped ensure the event went well and thanked residents for raising their concerns during the meeting. He also stated his next conversation tour will be in Old North Dayton in a few weeks.

Mayor Mims mentioned participating in the Recreation Center activities with youth in the Dayton Community and making guacamole. He thanked Mr. Marcellus and the Recreation staff for their work with the youth.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:02 p.m.

Jeffrey J. Mims, Jr.
Mayor

Attest: _____
Clerk of Commission