

**Rittman City Council Met in a
PUBLIC HEARING
July 13, 2020
7:00 p.m.**

Agreement with NOPEC

Brenda Fargo from NOPEC attended the meeting to discuss the City contracting with NOPEC for the gas aggregation.

**Rittman City Council Met in a
REGULAR MEETING -VIA ZOOM
April 26, 2021 – 7:14 p.m.**

Members Present: Amanda Nelson, Josh Carey, Dave Williams, Leah Weirick, Melissa Shows and Philip Decker
Members Absent: None
Presiding: Mayor William Robertson

The invocation was given by Philp Decker followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Minutes – April 12, 2021.

Shows moved to approve, all Yeas on roll call and **motion carried.**

Citizens Forum

None.

Old Business

a. **Ord. No. 8223 An Ordinance of the Council of the City of Rittman, Wayne and Medina Counties and State of Ohio, Authorizing and Directing the Municipal Manager to Execute a Contract with a Regional Council of Governments for the Purpose of Administration and Collection of Municipal Income Tax in the City of Rittman, Ohio and Declaring an Emergency. Third Reading.** Ord. No. 8223 was read on third reading. Weirick moved to adopt. Discussion was held regarding the pros and cons of choosing to use the services of RITA. The discussion included what the benefits would be for the residents of the City along with potential limitations. Also discussed was the benefit that RITA would be able to more efficiently collect upon delinquent taxes due to the fact that they have extended resources which is not available to the City. Upon roll call Shows – Yes, Nelson – Yes, Decker – No, Carey – No, Weirick – Yes and **motion carried.**

b. **Ord. No. 8227 An Ordinance of the Council of the City of Rittman, Wayne and Medina Counties and State of Ohio, Authorizing the City to Enter into the Northeast Ohio Public Energy Council (“NOPEC”) and the Execution and Delivery of the Agreement Establishing NOPEC and Approving the Bylaws of NOPEC, and Declaring an Emergency. Second Reading.** Ord. No. 8227 was read on second reading. Nelson moved to suspend the rules, all Yeas on roll call and **motion carried.** Williams moved to adopt. Discussion was held regarding that this needs to be adopted tonight so NOPEC can start getting everything in place. The City is almost at the end of their Gas Aggregate. NOPEC will have rates tomorrow. Rates are set every month. Rates follow the market so rates will not be higher than the market and having residents paying more than they should. If the market starts to go up and things start to accelerate, there is a provision

in the contract to set the price to avoid the highs. When the market is low it is time to stay with the market. All Yeas on roll call and **motion carried.**

c. **Ord. No. 8228 An Ordinance of the Council of the City of Rittman, Wayne and Medina Counties and State of Ohio, Approving the Plan of Operation and Governance for the NOPEC Natural Gas Aggregation Program for the Purpose of Jointly Establishing and Implementing a Gas Aggregation Program as a NOPEC Member, and Declaring an Emergency.** Second Reading. Ord. No. 8228 was read on second reading. Nelson moved to suspend the rules, all Yeas on roll call and **motion carried.** Carey moved to adopt, all Yeas on roll call and **motion carried.**

d. **Ord. No. 8229 An Ordinance of the Council of the City of Rittman, Wayne and Medina Counties and State of Ohio, Authorizing all Actions Necessary to Establish an Opt-in Natural Gas Program Pursuant to Section 4929.24(A)(1), Ohio Revised Code, Jointly Through NOPEC as a NOPEC Member.** Second Reading. Ord. No. 8229 was read on second reading. Nelson moved to suspend the rules, all Yeas on roll call and **motion carried.** Weirick moved to adopt, all Yeas on roll call and **motion carried.**

New Business

a. **Ord. No. 8230 An Ordinance of the Council of the City of Rittman, Wayne and Medina Counties and State of Ohio, Amending the Annual Appropriation Ordinance No. 8200, as Amended According to the Attached Sheet(s) and Declaring an Emergency.** Three Readings. Ord. No. 8230 was read on first reading. Nelson moved to suspend the rules, all Yeas on roll call and **motion carried.** Weirick moved to adopt, all Yeas on roll call and **motion carried.**

City Manager's Remarks

We are officially going out to bid for the Nature Preserve. Advertising will start next week for three weeks. The contractors will have to attend a pre-bid meeting. The bid opening will be May 24, 2021 at 2:00 p.m. Chuck, Matt Bulp and I met with Josh Zellega from GPD regarding grants that we can apply for through AMATS for infrastructure. AMATS grants are 80% for the infrastructure and a 20% match for the City. That is how we are doing Ohio Avenue, S. Main Street and other roads that we are going to apply for. We had talked about Sunset Drive and Eastern Road. Krabill also needs to be done, but it doesn't fall under AMATS. Krabill will be done next year on our own. We have had several good discussions on what we can afford. Fritz Park looks great with all of the work they have done on it. Chuck is getting a quote for chip and seal for the parking lot, asphalt will cost \$147,000.00. Williams inquired if we would be awarded any government funds for infrastructure? Bulp responded that what was available now can only be applied to water, sewer and broadband. At this point nothing is known. Beshara responded that AMATS was given more Federal dollars for next year and the year after. We are going to put two projects in for 2023 and 2024. The 2022-dollar amount is \$800,000.00 per project and the 2023-2024 is \$700,000.00 per project. AMATS does a PCI which is pavement condition index, they will really look at our roads. What we need to continue to do is fix the roads. We are also applying for other AMATS grants. Hopefully, there will be more.

Finance Director's Remarks

Krabill Road doesn't fall under AMATS. The goal is to get OPWC grant funding for it next year. The budget amendment that was passed tonight I just wanted to give credit to Chief Sweigert for securing a donation and a grant. Those budget amendments are the good ones. RITA for the last three meetings has been a lot. I just wanted to from all Council, the interest, the time and considerations that everyone has put into it, I really appreciate.

Council Remarks

Carey – thank you to City Manager Beshara and Finance Director Bubp for the work with RITA. While I don't agree with it I do hope that it works out for the best for both the citizens and the City moving forward. Thank you for all of the work and time that you did on that one. We have warmer weather approaching so please be mindful of the little ones that are outside playing. They move very fast and you don't know it. They can scoot out in the middle of the road on the drop of a dime. Keep that in mind and thank you to the Rec and Service Department for the great job on the playground at Fritz Park.

Shows – I want to echo Josh in thanking the Parks and Department for the work on the park. It was great to see several different families. It will be exciting to see the other projects that will be coming forward in the next few weeks. It shows that we are truly listening and trying to improve. I thank Garrick and Chief Sweigert for the opportunity for our citizens to get that immunization that's coming to the Rec Center. Garrick helped get that secured, Chief Sweigert stepped up and is offering transportation to the citizens that maybe can't make it on their own. Seeing that being offered is a wonderful thing. The Reading Under the Lights is happening next Friday. Many of you are coming to it and the kids are excited, the parents are excited we have opened it to the remote learners to be able to something like that face to face is really exciting. We hope that everyone enjoys it.

Williams – I'd like to echo everything that was said so far about parks and rec and the street department and the parks, they look great. I was glad to see Garrick submitted that plan on what's to come. I am really proud about our immunization clinic. I think it says a lot about our community. I'd like to thank Ms. Fargo from NOPEC for her willingness to talk with us tonight. Thanks for Don and Kyle McDonald for chasing that money down for the fire department and thanks to the Rittman Moose for the AID Units in the cruisers. When timing is everything, you need those, thank you so much to the Moose for their generosity.

Decker – other than echoing the support and appreciation seeing some of the work done in the parks and the continued efforts there, I have nothing else to add.

Nelson – obviously I am going to thank Buck and his crew and Garrick and his crew for getting these parks up to date and putting equipment in since I was so vocal about doing it to begin with. They have been working really hard to get things up to code and that equipment as well. I'm really looking forward to Washington getting up to code as well as the equipment as well as the brand-new equipment getting put into Third Street. I don't know if you guys have seen it but it's really, really great. I just hope that we don't see anymore snags like we did for the Fritz Park equipment once we get this other stuff in. I'm excited to see the new stuff at Fritz and all of the kids playing on it this evening. Thanks to the Service Department and Garrick and his crew.

Weirick – nothing further.

a. **Motion to go into Executive Session to Discuss the Purchase or Sale of Property and to Invite the City Manager, Mayor, Law Director, Finance Director and Service Director, Chuck Lengacher - 8:07 p.m.** Shows so moved, Decker seconded the motion, all Yeas on roll call and **motion carried.**

b. **Motion to come out of Executive Session – 8:37 p.m.** Shows moved to approve, all Yeas on roll call and **motion carried.**

c. **Adjourn: 8:38 p.m.** Williams moved to adjourn, all Yeas upon roll call and **motion carried.**

Mayor

Clerk of Council