

**XENIA CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR SESSION MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 14, 2019
7:00 P.M.**

1. CALL TO ORDER: President Michael Engle called the March 14, 2019, Regular Session to order at 7:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers, City Administration Building.

2. INVOCATION: Pastor Andy Spencer, First Church of Christ, provided the Invocation.

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Vice President Edgar Wallace led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. ROLL CALL: Vice President Wallace, Councilman Will Urschel, Councilman Dale Louderback, Councilman Wesley Smith, Councilman Levi Dean, Mayor Sarah Mays, and President Michael Engle were all present.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion by Councilman Louderback, seconded by Vice President Wallace, to approve the February 28, 2019, Regular Session meeting minutes as written. Brief discussion followed. Vice President Wallace said he had a question about the weed mowing notices, but he would ask about it during discussion on that item. The Roll on this was the following:

Ayes: Wallace, Urschel, Louderback, Smith, Dean, Mays, Engle

Nays: None motion carried.

6. SPECIAL PRESENTATION(S):

Proclamation Presentation ~ American Legion's 100th Anniversary. Mayor Mays invited representatives from the Xenia American Legion Post 95 to come forward to receive the proclamation celebrating the American Legion's 100th anniversary and their volunteer work on behalf of veterans, defense, youth, and Americanism. Commander Craig Marshall and others joined her. She then read the proclamation in its entirety. (Applause followed.)

Commander Marshall said it was his honor to accept the proclamation on behalf of the thousands of members of the American Legion Post 95 in Xenia who support veterans and their families and instilling patriotism in our local youth.

7. AUDIENCE COMMENTS: President Engle explained the procedures for audience comments and invited anyone who wished to speak to come forward. No one came forward to speak.

8. OLD BUSINESS:

A. President Engle presented ORDINANCE 2019-05 AMENDING SECTION 1490.03(b)(4), TITLED "VEGETATION," OF THE CITY OF XENIA'S PROPERTY MAINTENANCE CODE, originally introduced by Councilman Louderback, and it was read for a second time.

Motion by Councilman Louderback, seconded by Mayor Mays, to approve Ordinance 2019-05 as read. Discussion followed.

Vice President Wallace commented about only one notice being provided to property owners because he felt a notice should always be provided to property owners, especially if the fine is being increased and an administrative fee is applied. Law Director Donnette Fisher explained that one notice will be mailed regarding the need to cut the grass. Residents know they must cut their grass if it is over 10" tall. Currently, the property is posted and residents are given five days to mow the grass. The next time it gets above 10", the property is posted again and they get another five days. With this change, a notice will be published in the newspaper for the entire community, it will be posted on the City's website, and property owners will be mailed one letter for the first violation, which will ask them to cut the grass and keep it below 10" tall. The letter will also tell them that no further notices would be mailed. Mowing charges and fines would not be assessed without proper notification. Property owners would receive a bill with an opportunity to pay the bill before the charges are assessed on the property taxes. Vice President Wallace said his church owns 56 acres. Sometimes the grass does not get mowed in a timely fashion, and the postings are not easily visible on the site. He noted everybody does not get the newspaper. He said property owners need to be notified every time.

Motion by Vice President Wallace, seconded by Councilman Dean, to amend Ordinance 2019-05 to provide notification on every circumstance where mowing would be done to give property owners an opportunity to remedy the situation. Discussion followed.

Councilman Louderback said he understands Vice President Wallace's position, but it is important that property owners take care of their properties and one notice should suffice.

Councilman Urschel said his church owns property also, and they have also succumbed to weed mowing charges. He said this process is not new, and they should be incentivizing property owners to be proactive and not reactive. Residents should not wait around for notices to arrive that tell them to mow their grass. There are some absentee property owners but mowing is ultimately the property owner's responsibility. It is not the City's responsibility to continually remind people to mow their grass.

Ms. Fisher said currently the City Planner has to hire seasonal help at \$10,000 per year at the taxpayers' expense. Also, while they wait for violators to mow the lawn, their neighbors have to continue to watch the grass grow for at least another week. This process happens repeatedly throughout the growing season. Therefore, with this Ordinance, violators will get one notice upon the first violation, which will explain the assessment process and instruct them to keep their grass below 10". With every subsequent violation thereafter, the City will just go mow and send an invoice. Mr. Merriman said it was unfortunate that they are recommending a change based on abusers of the system but this will affect those who may only have one or two violations ever.

Councilman Dean asked if there was any way to consider first time offenders. City Planner Brian Forschner said there are over 1,000 violations per year. They do not mail notices currently; the properties are posted. He said mailing notices will take a lot of staff time. If they mail a notice for every single violation, it may take two or three days for mailing plus five days for them to respond. If staff was required to do that, they would have to hire a full-time person and not just temporary seasonal help. Further, the grass could be 20" tall by the time it actually gets mowed. Councilman Dean asked if there was a way to keep track of the violations because as Mr. Merriman stated, the process is based on repeat offenders. Mr. Forschner said yes; staff creates a database. However, he reiterated that the mailing process takes a lot of staff time and a lot of time to remedy the situation.

President Engle asked if grass violations are a result of calls made to the City or from the Code Enforcement Officer driving around. Mr. Forschner said it is the latter because they are proactive. They receive calls also.

Councilman Louderback said if there are over 1,000 violations, he thought that would cost more than \$10,000. Ms. Fisher said it costs \$10,000 for a part-time, seasonal Code Enforcement Officer. The mowing is a separate cost. Mr. Duke said the mowing is done by a private contractor.

President Engle called for the vote on the amendment. The Roll on this was the following:

Ayes: Wallace

Nays: Urschel, Louderback, Smith, Dean, Mays, Engle motion failed.

The Roll on the original Ordinance as written was the following:

Ayes: Urschel, Louderback, Smith, Dean, Mays, Engle

Nays: Wallace motion carried.

B. President Engle said the second reading of Resolution 2019-C was tabled on February 28, 2019. He entertained a motion to remove the resolution from the table.

Motion by Councilman Louderback, seconded by Councilman Smith, to remove Resolution 2019-C from the table. No discussion followed. The Roll on this was the following:

Ayes: Wallace, Urschel, Louderback, Smith, Dean, Mays, Engle

Nays: None motion carried.

President Engle presented RESOLUTION 2019-C AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE A LEASE AGREEMENT WITH J.P. FRITZ BUSINESS CENTER FOR THE CITY-OWNED PROPERTY AT 130 E. CHURCH STREET FOR THE PURPOSE OF OPERATING A SMALL BUSINESS INCUBATOR, originally introduced by Mayor Mays on February 14, 2019, and it was read for a second time.

Motion by Mayor Mays, seconded by Vice President Wallace, to approve Resolution 2019-C as read. Brief discussion followed. Councilman Louderback said he was very excited for the business incubator, which will be great for the City of Xenia, and he thanked Josh Cernetic from Manifold for his effort in helping some business owners. However, he would like more Central State representation. Ms. Fisher noted the J.P. Fritz Business Center has been certified by the Ohio Secretary of State. Councilman Urschel said the lease is for three years. He asked what protections the City has in place and if the City has the right to terminate the lease based on lack of performance. Ms. Fisher said the draft lease agreement was attached to agenda report, and item #4 of the lease says the premises can only be used as a business incubator. The City can terminate the lease due to violation of a condition of the lease. The Roll on this was the following:

Ayes: Wallace, Urschel, Louderback, Smith, Dean, Mays, Engle

Nays: None motion carried.

9. PUBLIC HEARING(S): None.

10. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Emergency Ordinance 2019-06 Amending Ordinance 2019-03 to provide appropriations for current expenses and other expenditures for the City of Xenia, Ohio, for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2019. Finance Director Ryan Duke said the purpose of this Ordinance is to request additional appropriations to cover potential design contingency costs associated with the engineering design of the S. Columbus Street Bridge Project and to reallocate CDBG 2018 allocation grant funds. He explained that the appropriation for the CDBG grant was not additional dollars; rather, it was a transfer from one account into the correct accounts for chargeback purposes.

President Engle entertained a motion to pass Ordinance 2019-06 as presented.

Motion by Councilman Louderback, seconded by Councilman Smith, to pass Ordinance 2019-06 as presented. Brief discussion followed. Mr. Merriman reiterated the CDBG request was to move the dollars for their intended purpose, which was an oversight in the budgeting process. The Roll on this was the following:

Ayes: Wallace, Urschel, Louderback, Smith, Dean, Mays, Engle

Nays: None motion carried.

B. Introduction of Resolution 2019-E establishing Street Lighting District #3 within the Sterling Green Crossing Subdivision and declaring the necessity of improving city streets and public ways within Street Lighting District #3 by the lighting thereof for the years 2020 - 2022. City Manager Brent Merriman said as Council will recall from prior actions similar to this, the Zoning Code requires the developer of a subdivision who is interested in including street lights within the subdivision to agree to a street light assessment for the benefitting lots within the plat. In line with this, M One Development, LLC, the developer for the Sterling Green Crossing Subdivision, Section 3, wishes to include the lighting in this new subdivision section and received a cost to install nine (9) street lights, along with the monthly electricity fee per the City's contract with Miami Valley Lighting. The developer is responsible for the initial cost to install the lights, but the City of Xenia is responsible for paying the monthly electricity costs as is done for all other street lights. He respectfully requested introduction of a Resolution of Necessity to establish Street Lighting District #3, adoption of which will result in a streetlight assessment being included on the individual lot owners' property tax duplicate from the Greene County Auditor. A two-year period on the assessments is recommended as the assessments for Street Lighting District #1 and Street Lighting District #2 will also expire in 2022. Establishing the 2022 expiration date for District No. 3 will allow them to renew the Street Lighting assessments in all three Districts at the same time. Based upon on staff's analysis, the owner of each of the forty-six (46) lots within Section 3 of the Sterling Green Crossing Subdivision would pay an annual fee of \$23.41.

President Engle entertained introduction of Resolution 2019-E as presented.

Vice President Wallace presented RESOLUTION 2019-E ESTABLISHING STREET LIGHTING DISTRICT #3 WITHIN THE STERLING GREEN CROSSING SUBDIVISION AND DECLARING THE NECESSITY OF IMPROVING CITY STREETS AND PUBLIC WAYS WITHIN STREET LIGHTING DISTRICT #3 BY THE LIGHTING THEREOF FOR THE YEARS 2020 - 2022, and it was read for the first time.

proposals were based upon an estimated assumption of an annual disposal of 4,000 wet tons of biosolids material. Two responses to the RFP were received as follows:

<u>Firm</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2021</u>
Hines Farming, LLC.	\$14.85/ton	\$14.85/ton	\$14.85/ton
Synagro	\$21.00/ton	\$21.50/ton	\$22.00/ton

Hines Farming was clearly the lowest bid, and based on recent experience with the firm, they are satisfied with their services. Their price point of \$14.85/ton with no escalators was within budget and was well received. As a result, he respectfully recommended an administrative motion authorizing execution of the contract with Hines Farming, LLC for Biosolids handling for the three-year period of 2019-2021 at the price points submitted.

President Engle entertained a motion.

Motion by Vice President Wallace, seconded by Councilman Louderback, to authorize the City Manager to execute an agreement with Hines Farming, LLC, for Biosolids Handling for \$14.85 per ton for Calendar Years 2019-2021. Brief discussion followed. Councilman Urschel said he understood that biosolids were useful products and the City was paying a company to remove them. Mr. Merriman agreed. He explained that OEPA heavily regulates the use of biosolids, which can be used in a fertilizer application. The City cannot just apply it somewhere because that has to be done under license. The alternative to paying a company for removal would be to take it all to a landfill, which would require them to pay tipping fees as well. Councilman Urschel asked if all municipalities that are producing biosolids are paying for removal of this product. Mr. Merriman said this is the typical procedure because the material cannot just be dumped. He felt awarding the contract to Hines Farming for removal was the most cost effective way to get rid of this material. The Roll on this was the following:

Ayes: Wallace, Urschel, Louderback, Smith, Dean, Mays, Engle
 Nays: None motion carried.

G. Administrative Motion authorizing the City Manager to execute contracts for Water Distribution and Sewer Collection Supplies for 2019. Mr. Merriman said this request is another annual housekeeping item. On February 26, proposals were received from five vendors for the provision of both water and sewer supplies for the Public Service Department. The vendors proposed competitive pricing for a broad list of water and sewer supplies, as shown in the bid tabulation attached to the agenda report. The prices proposed are valid for a one-year period. The responding vendors included Ferguson Waterworks, EJ Prescott, Core & Main, ProSource, and Neenah Foundry. Due to the large quantity and availability of various items, staff recommends that all five proposals be accepted and contracts entered into with each vendor to allow staff to get the lowest possible price for each item listed. The term of the contracts would be for one year with the stipulation that the City will purchase each individual item on an as-needed basis at the lowest cost proposed among the five vendors for that item, provided that it meets all specifications.

President Engle entertained a motion.

Motion by Councilman Smith, seconded by Councilman Louderback, to authorize the City Manager to execute contracts with Ferguson Waterworks, EJ Prescott, Core & Main, ProSource, and Neenah Foundry to supply Water Distribution and Sewer Collection Supplies for 2019 at the

lowest cost proposal on the individual items as requested provided that City specifications are met. No discussion followed. The Roll on this was the following:

Ayes: Wallace, Urschel, Louderback, Smith, Dean, Mays, Engle

Nays: None motion carried.

H. Administrative Motion awarding the bid and authorizing the City Manager to execute a contract with John R. Jurgensen, Co., for the W. Second Street Resurfacing Project. Mr. Merriman said as previously discussed with Council, over the past two years Engineering staff has applied for grant funding through MVRPC and OPWC to address the rapidly deteriorating condition of W. Second Street, from E. Church Street to S. Progress Drive. They were successful and the grants were awarded on a favorable timeline so that one large W. Second Street Resurfacing Project could be bid and awarded at the same time to allow for better unit pricing. On March 5, 2019, two qualifying, competitive bids were received from contractors to complete the resurfacing project from John R. Jurgensen Co. with a two-project total of \$1,051,957 and Barrett Paving Materials with a two-project total of \$1,206,046.45. John R. Jurgensen Co. was the clear low bidder and has successfully completed many similar projects for the City of Xenia. Based on these factors, staff has no objections with moving forward with this contractor and respectfully recommends award of the bid for the W. Second Street Resurfacing projects and authorize the execution of a contract with John R. Jurgensen Co., at a total cost not-to-exceed \$1,051,957.

President Engle entertained a motion.

Motion by Vice President Wallace, seconded by Councilman Louderback, to award the bid and authorize the City Manager to execute a contract with John R. Jurgensen, Co., for the W. Second Street Resurfacing Project at a not-to-exceed cost of \$1,051,957.00. Brief discussion followed.

Councilman Louderback commended Mr. Berger and Mr. Miller for their collaboration with MVRPC in getting grant dollars for this much-needed project. Councilman Smith inquired about the project timeline. Mr. Berger said assuming the projects are awarded this evening, a preconstruction meeting would be held next Friday. He said the contractor wants to get started as soon as possible because they were also awarded the Greene County paving contract, which includes the City of Xenia's annual street program. He expects the work to begin early to mid-April. Councilman Smith asked about marathon set to take place during that time and in that area. Mr. Berger said they are aware of the marathon and have already talked about how to make provisions for the event. Mr. Merriman noted staff has had ongoing planning meetings with the event representatives. Councilman Urschel asked if this project involved removing both the surface and the intermediate course and if the base would remain. Mr. Berger said the project involves base repairs on the drive lanes as needed after the surface and intermediate layers are removed and assessed, similar to what was done on Galloway Street. Councilman Urschel asked if the stormwater infrastructure would also be addressed. Mr. Berger said some catch basins will be addressed also as a part of this project, and some were already repaired last year by City staff. The Roll on this was the following:

Ayes: Wallace, Urschel, Louderback, Smith, Dean, Mays, Engle

Nays: None motion carried.

I. Administrative Motion awarding the bid and authorizing the City Manager to execute a contract with L.J. DeWeese Co. for the W. Second Street Concrete Improvements Project. Mr. Merriman said this RFP and award of bid is directly paired with the previous agenda item. He said in order to receive the necessary grant funds to resurface a portion of W. Second Street, in particular the section between Massie Drive and S. Progress Drive, it is necessary to complete concrete improvements that meet federal ADA standards. More specifically, because federal funds granted through MVRPC are being used to resurface this specific section of W. Second Street, all accessory ADA ramps must meet the most current design standards. In addition, this particular section of roadway contains areas of deteriorated curbing and driveway aprons that have settled to the point where they hold water after rain events. Because the work planned is located within an eligible area, staff's strategy was to utilize this year's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) allocation to fund these concrete improvements in advance of the resurfacing project. This strategy allows them to stack grant funding, meet eligibility requirements for the funding sources, and stretch local dollars as far as possible. On March 5, the City received seven bids for this project; however, five of those bids had to be rejected as non-responsive because bid forms required under CDBG federal grant guidelines were not included with the bids as required. The remaining two compliant, competitive bids were from L.J. DeWeese Co. in the amount of \$99,047 and Fillmore Construction, LLC, in the amount of \$115,816. Based on staff's review, L.J. DeWeese has successfully completed similar projects for local jurisdictions over many years. Staff has no objections moving forward with this contractor and recommends City Council award the bid and authorize execution of a contract with the L.J. DeWeese Co. for the W. Second Street Concrete Improvements Project at a cost not-to-exceed \$99,047.

President Engle entertained a motion.

Motion by Vice President Wallace, seconded by Councilman Smith, to award the bid and authorize the City Manager to execute a contract with L.J. DeWeese Co. for the W. Second Street Concrete Improvements Project at a not-to-exceed cost of \$99,047. Brief discussion followed. Councilman Louderback asked if Massie Drive was near the Nazarene Church. Mr. Merriman said yes, and the project would proceed west to Progress Drive. President Engle said this is another example of outstanding staff work to stretch tax dollars while maximizing the return on investment. The Roll on this was the following:

Ayes: Wallace, Urschel, Louderback, Smith, Dean, Mays, Engle

Nays: None motion carried.

J. Administrative Motion authorizing the City Manager to execute Work Order No. 2019-04 with Wood Environment & Infrastructure Solutions, Inc., for Landfill Post-Closure Groundwater Monitoring for 2019 under the existing Master Services Agreement. Mr. Merriman said the City is required by statute and under the auspices of the Ohio EPA to monitor various conditions at the closed municipal landfill adjacent to our Towler Road facility. To assist the City in these monitoring activities, staff is recommending that the City continue its long-term relationship with Wood Environment & Infrastructure Solutions, Inc. (formerly AMEC Foster Wheeler) to complete the necessary landfill post-closure groundwater monitoring in 2019. Wood Environment & Infrastructure Solutions has performed groundwater monitoring at the closed landfill since 1996 and has obtained a unique body of information about our landfill site and its conditions. The price quote provided by Wood Environment & Infrastructure Solutions for groundwater monitoring in 2019 is \$37,081, and services will be provided under the existing 2012

Master Services Contract. Staff respectfully recommends approval of an administrative motion to authorize execution of Work Order No. 2019-04 with Wood Environment & Infrastructure Solutions, Inc., for landfill post-closure groundwater monitoring for 2019.

President Engle entertained a motion.

Motion by Councilman Louderback, seconded by Vice President Wallace, to authorize the City Manager to execute Work Order No. 2019-04 with Wood Environment & Infrastructure Solutions, Inc., for Landfill Post-Closure Groundwater Monitoring for 2019 under the existing Master Services Agreement in the amount of \$37,081. No discussion followed. The Roll on this was the following:

Ayes: Wallace, Urschel, Louderback, Smith, Dean, Mays, Engle

Nays: None motion carried.

K. Administrative Motion Approving the Schedule of Bills in the amount of \$518,435.94. Mr. Duke requested the payment of bills in the amount of \$518,435.94.

President Engle entertained a motion.

Motion by Vice President Wallace, seconded by Mayor Mays, to approve the schedule of bills in the amount of \$518,435.94. No discussion followed. The Roll on this was the following:

Ayes: Wallace, Urschel, Louderback, Smith, Dean, Mays, Engle

Nays: None motion carried.

President Engle thanked the Appointed Officials and staff for their work in bringing forward all these agenda items.

11. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES:

A. Board for Recreation, Arts, and Cultural Activities: President Engle said BRACA met on March 5 and talked about several subjects as follows:

- Youth Recreation Basketball League is wrapping up its season. Tournament games are this Saturday with championship games next week.
- The annual Easter Egg Hunt at Shawnee Park will be on Saturday, April 20. They are seeking Easter Basket donations for door prizes for this very popular community event that is supported by Mayor Mays, Councilman Urschel, City staff, and many volunteers including the XHS National Honor Society.
- Bloom with Xenia packets are now available (on the website and at the City Administration Building). He noted some islands and very few pots are still available for adoption.
- Community Garden Plots are \$20 for the season from April through October.
- The Annual Youth Fishing Derby at Shawnee Park will be on Saturday, June 1. He said approximately 80 to 120 area youth per year attend this event. He noted Farmers Insurance was the primary sponsor, but they are always seeking door prizes and additional sponsorships for other items.
- Planning for Hometown Christmas continues, and changes are expected with regard to the venue and scope for this year's event.

B. Traffic Commission: Councilman Dean said the March meeting was cancelled due to lack of agenda items.

C. Planning and Zoning Commission: Councilman Smith said the regularly scheduled meeting on March 7 was cancelled due to lack of agenda items, which was immediately followed up with a request for a special session on March 21 at 6 p.m.

D. Board of Zoning Appeals: Mayor Mays said BZA met on February 25 on the following two variance requests:

- Case #BZA2019-01: Variance to allow a privacy fence built without a permit to remain at 1191 Reid Avenue, filed by Joe Fugate, which was denied.
- Case #BZA2019-02: Variance to construct a detached garage at 672 Emerson Avenue, filed by Michael Pickkola, which was approved.

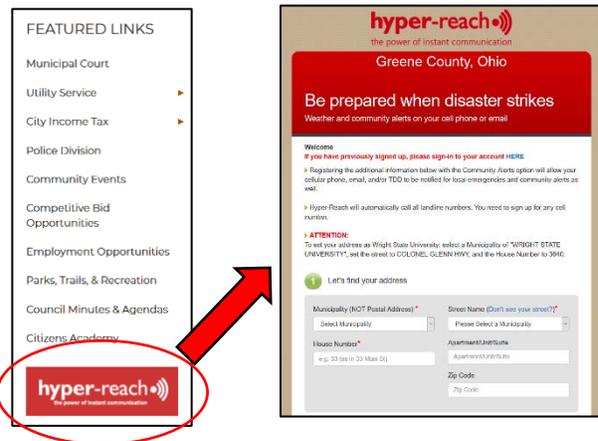
Mayor Mays said the next regularly scheduled BZA meeting is March 25 at 6 p.m.

12. APPOINTED OFFICIALS REPORTS AND COUNCIL COMMENTS:

A. City Manager, Finance Director, and Law Director:

Mr. Merriman commented on this evening's proclamation presentation for the American Legion, noting that he is a Buckeye Boys State alumni from 1994. He said that type of program sponsored by the American Legion inspires youth to serve and give back to their communities. He wished to acknowledge their service to promote patriotism in this community and the understanding of citizenship. He said the City of Xenia hosted the annual Job Fair yesterday, and he was disappointed in the Dayton Daily News' coverage of the event. They had a very good turnout. The reality is there are more jobs available than people to fill them. He thanked the Xenia Community Schools for hosting the event noting that high school seniors had an opportunity to meet with employers, armed forces recruiters, and educational partners. Councilman Louderback said not all high school graduates wish to attend college, and there is a growing need for employees with technical skills, such as welding, electricians, etc. Mr. Merriman agreed. He said the event covered a broad range of employment opportunities including fire and police careers. Further, he spoke with WPAFB leadership yesterday, and they will be seeking many employees in the coming years. Students need to think about all opportunities after high school.

Councilman Louderback said severe weather season was quickly approaching and asked how residents can sign up for Hyper-Reach. Mr. Merriman said residents can access the sign in link from the City's homepage of the website, which was demonstrated for those present and watching the televised meeting. He noted the City does not use Hyper-Reach for every watch and warning, but it is used for other critical notifications. Councilman Louderback asked if cell phone as well as landline phone numbers could be registered in the system. Mr. Merriman said yes.



Councilman Smith asked the status of branding the water tower. Mr. Merriman said some preliminary research has been done, and he would bring forward information and seek Council's input at a later date.

President Engle supports the use of Hyper-Reach, and he also suggested residents consider purchasing a small weather radio with battery backup, which are not expensive and very helpful especially when the power goes out. Mr. Merriman said there are also many good free weather apps for smart phones. He noted that the City's tornado sirens are not designed to notify those indoors.

President Engle said he was not born in Ohio, and he was a Hoosier Boys State alumni. He agreed with the proclamation—it is a week that will shape a lifetime and one that certainly made an impression on him.

Mr. Duke had nothing further to share.

Ms. Fisher had nothing further to share.

B. Mayor and City Council:

Mayor Mays shared the following:

- March 9: She attended the 445th Airlift Wing Annual Awards Banquet. At the event, she was approached by a woman who serves in the 445th and lives in Xenia who was very gracious and excited for Xenia's support. She said her son attended the event with her, and Colonel Willis and Colonel Sherman made him feel very welcome.
- March 10: She apologized for not being able to sing at a promoted church event. She was under the weather and could barely speak.
- March 12: She attended the annual Greene County Engineer's Dinner and congratulated Bob Geyer who is retiring after being the County Engineer for 22½ years of service to this community. The speaker was the Director of ODOT, Dr. Jack Marchbanks.
- March 13: She attended the Job Fair and thanked City Xenia staff, Xenia Area Chamber of Commerce, Xenia Community Schools, Ohio Means Jobs Greene County, Clark State Community College, and others.
- March 14: Earlier in the evening, she stopped by the Shawnee Elementary Art Show. She congratulated the kids on their BEAUTIFUL artwork. The PTO did a great job putting the event together. She thanked Montgomery Insurance for providing the funds for the art supplies.
- March 13: She participated in an event in Xenia and welcomed WPAFB's Commander of the 88th Airbase Wing Colonel Sherman, his wife Lori, and members of his team. She thanked Central State University, Clark State College, Greene County Career Center's Dave Deskins, Xenia Community Schools' Superintendent Dr. Gabe Lofton, Greene County Sheriff Gene Fischer, Xenia Police Chief Randy Person, Xenia Fire Chief Ken Riggsby, Councilman Urschel, and many other City staff for attending and making it such a great meeting. They talked about Xenia being a choice community to live in, about recruiting from Xenia for internships, apprenticeships, etc. City staff including Mr. Brodsky, Mr. Merriman, Mr. Holloway, and Ms. French did an OUTSTANDING job in preparing for the meeting. She could not have been more proud; it was an exceptional day. Mr. Merriman and staff put together a phenomenal presentation. She asked Mr. Merriman and Councilman Urschel if they had any additional comments.

Councilman Urschel said there are 30,000 employees at WPAFB and 5,000 of them are employed in Airlift Wing, with most being skilled trades. Colonel Sherman said there will be a huge

opportunity for skilled trade civilian employees. Most current employees will be retiring within the next 3 to 5 years, and they are looking at restarting an apprenticeship program reaching all the way down to the high school level. Past successful apprenticeship programs have almost guaranteed that participants will be offered jobs.

Mr. Merriman said he appreciated Mayor Mays' and Councilman Urschel's participation in the event. One point that stood out to him was more than half of WPAFB's complement of 30,000 employees was aged 45-60, and those employees are retiring and those jobs will need to be filled. This region cannot provide that workforce, so they are recruiting nationwide. Those new employees from all over the country need to be convinced to make Xenia their home. Yesterday's event gathered all educational partners together to talk with WPAFB staff and City leaders about what they are doing to address these issues, which was the first meeting of its kind. The City of Xenia is continuing to work hand in hand with the area's educational partners to provide the workforce development and education to grow the local economy and workforce. He saw Colonel Sherman again last night at Mayors and Managers, who reiterated what a great event it was.

Councilman Louderback said he and Assistant City Manager Jared Holloway attended a Hamvention meeting yesterday, which will be May 17-19, 2019. He realizes it is not a "City" event because it is located in the County and Township, but it affects the local economy. He was looking forward to the event, and noted an exciting announcement will be coming soon.

Councilman Smith had nothing further to share.

Councilman Urschel said he also had an opportunity to attend the job fair. He was impressed by an opportunity provided at no cost by Ohio Means Jobs for young men and women who did not receive their high school diploma to enter a program to receive a food preparation certificate through an eight-week course. He thanked One Bistro for hosting this amazing opportunity. Upon successful completion of the program, participants also receive their GEDs. He said there are six other certificate programs at other locations, but participants have trouble getting to and from those sites. Regarding weed mowing, he said it is a shame that there are over 1,000 mowing violations per year, which is a burden on City employees and taxpayers. He encourage residents to help their neighbors who may be having trouble getting their yards mowed instead of just complaining about the situation and waiting for the City to take care of it. This is the City of Hospitality, and they need to help their neighbors. Councilman Louderback said there are 80 churches in Xenia and if 10 people from each of the churches helped someone in need, it would make a huge impact. Councilman Urschel said sometimes people are dealing with things that others do not know about. He shared that about 20 churches are signed up to get out into the community the week after Easter to bless people with prayer and look for ways to bless this community. It was not always "the City's job" ... it was all of their responsibility to look for opportunities to help others.

Councilman Dean had nothing further to share.

Vice President Wallace said Wilberforce also had their job fair yesterday, and they need to make sure these events are not scheduled on the same days. He agreed with Councilman Urschel with regard to helping our neighbors and fellow church members. He shared information about Revive Ohio in Greene County, which was an exciting evangelism program and a tremendous boon for Christians in Xenia and Greene County. He said last Tuesday a Revive event was held at Emmanuel, and this Tuesday's event will be at United AME from noon to 1 p.m.

President Engle encouraged Mr. Merriman to continue working with WPAFB to promote those jobs in this community and work with the schools and the Greene County Career Center to connect students with those opportunities.

13. ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Vice President Wallace, seconded by Councilman Louderback, to adjourn the Regular Session at 8:36 p.m. No discussion followed. The Roll on this was the following:

Ayes: Wallace, Urschel, Louderback, Smith, Dean, Mays, Engle

Nays: None motion carried.

Michelle D. Johnson
City Clerk

Michael Engle
President, Xenia City Council