

**XENIA CITY COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
JULY 23, 2020**

1. CALL TO ORDER: President Smith called the Regular Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers, City Administration Building. The meeting was open to the public. Due to COVID-19 and group gathering restrictions, audience members were asked to practice social distancing.

2. INVOCATION: Vice President Edgar Wallace provided the Invocation.

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Councilwoman Dean led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. ROLL CALL: Vice President Edgar Wallace, Councilwoman Rebekah Dean, Councilman Cody Brannum, Councilman Levi Dean, Mayor Sarah Mays, and President Wesley Smith were present. Councilman Thomas Scrivens was absent.

Motion by Vice President Wallace, seconded by Mayor Mays, to excuse Councilman Scrivens from the meeting due to illness. No discussion followed. The Roll on this was the following:

Ayes: Wallace, R. Dean, Brannum, L. Dean, Mays, Smith

Nays: None motion carried.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion by Mayor Mays, seconded by Councilwoman Dean, to approve the July 9, 2020, minutes as written. No discussion followed. The Roll on this was the following:

Ayes: R. Dean, Brannum, L. Dean, Mays, Smith

Abstain: Wallace

Nays: None motion carried.

6. SPECIAL PRESENTATION(S): President Smith said he asked Dr. Jack Thomas, President of Central State University, to attend the meeting so everyone could meet him and he could be introduced to the public. He asked Dr. Thomas for comments.

Dr. Thomas thanked Mayor Mays and President Smith for the invitation. He shared a brief overview of his background, noting he was from a small town in Alabama where the civil rights march came through. His mother wanted her children to do something different from what she and his father did, which was work in the fields. His sister became the first African American mayor of the town that served as the county seat. He attended college, and during that time, he met a professor who influenced him to get his Master's Degree. Later, another professor encouraged him to get his PhD. Most of the colleges he attended and worked at are Land Grant institutions, similar to CSU. Land grant is in his DNA, and he is honored that the Board of Trustees chose him to serve as the 9th president of Central State University. He spent the last eight years as President at Western Illinois University. Prior to that, he spent years at Middle Tennessee State University and the University of Maryland Eastern Shore. Based on his background, he was interested in CSU due to its 1890 Land Grant status and the fact that it is a historical black institution. He has lofty goals for CSU and wishes to attract the best and brightest students with targeted recruitment for an

honors college to get students with high ACT scores and high GPAs. They also want to recruit mid-range students, like himself, and others who meet the standards and see all of them through to graduation with the help of various academic programs and support services for their success. He wants CSU to do a good job educating them and providing them with a well-rounded education and see them move on to graduate and doctorate programs, hopefully at CSU as well. He also wants to continue fundraising, noting he recently donated \$50,000 of his own salary for scholarships for CSU students, many of whom come from lower socio-economic backgrounds and poor financial situations who are first generation college students. He recognized that due to COVID-19, some parents cannot go back to work, which will be a challenge. There is a transition team at CSU comprised of faculty, alumni, and students. He also created a blue ribbon task force comprised of a broad range of individuals who have elaborate backgrounds in higher education to provide input on things that should be done to create a new strategic plan. He wants to carve a niche for CSU and focus on their mission. He wants to create cutting edge programs to give CSU a competitive edge. CSU will be open this fall with both face-to-face and online instruction. The Institutional Response Team has been at work since the pandemic hit. Since he was named the new president in February, he has made some leadership changes and is currently advertising for several positions. He wants to continue to do partnerships with Xenia as well as surrounding communities, but he needs help. He donated \$50,000 of his salary, and he was looking for matches to raise \$1 million. With his \$50,000 donation, he wanted everyone to know that he was committed to his work at CSU. He believes in the vision and mission of Central State, which is already a *good* university ... but he wants to make it GREAT! He has a lot of lofty goals, and they **will** achieve those goals. He then entertained questions.

Vice President Wallace asked if Dr. Thomas had met Councilman Scrivens who is also a CSU alumni. Dr. Thomas said he had not. Vice President Wallace asked Dr. Thomas how he felt about the annexation. Dr. Thomas said the annexation will save CSU at least \$400,000 per year and help in terms of business and development opportunities. CSU is a student-centered university, and decisions must be based on their best interest. President Smith thanked Dr. Thomas for attending the meeting. (Applause followed.)

7. AUDIENCE COMMENTS: President Smith invited those present to come forward to speak. No one came forward to speak. He noted a total of four citizen emails were received from the following: Donald Brannum, 2355 Tennessee Drive; Joe Combs, 2292 Tennessee Drive; Michele Heath (unknown address); and Courtney Sparks, 2350 Tennessee Drive, all of whom expressed their concerns about speeding on Tennessee Drive. He read an excerpt of each email and asked City Manager Brent Merriman for his comments. Mr. Merriman said he has also received complaints about speeding on Tennessee Drive, and targeted enforcement has been stepped up and a speed trailer has been placed in the area. If the issue continues, other things can be considered including speed limit signs on Tennessee Drive even though they typically do not place speed limit signs on residential streets because they are always 25 mph. There is also a possibility to place more permanent digital signs denoting speed, but those are several thousand dollars each. A question was raised about installing speed bumps, but it has never been the City's policy to install speed bumps to control traffic for several reasons including damage to City snow plows and public safety vehicles. Unfortunately, he cannot park an officer out there all day, every day.

8. OLD BUSINESS:

A. President Smith presented **RESOLUTION 2020-S AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE A USE AGREEMENT WITH JV CEDAR PROPERTIES, LLC, FOR THE USE OF CITY-OWNED BIKE TRAIL PROPERTY LOCATED ADJACENT TO 607 N. DETROIT STREET**, originally introduced by Councilman Dean, and it was read for a second time.

Motion by Councilman Dean, seconded by Mayor Mays, to approve Resolution 2020-S as presented. No discussion followed. The Roll on this was the following:

Ayes: Wallace, R. Dean, Brannum, L. Dean, Mays, Smith
Nays: None motion carried.

9. PUBLIC HEARING(S):

A. **ORDINANCE 2020-17 AMENDING SECTIONS 1220.02(A), 1220.03(C), 1222.04 TABLE 1222-3, 1222.05(D)(19), 1224.01(E)(9)C., 1228.03(A), 1228.04(C)(3), (C)(7), AND (C)(8), AND 1244.02, AND REPEALING SECTION 1226.01(B)(3) OF THE CITY OF XENIA LAND DEVELOPMENT CODE**, originally introduced by Councilman Brannum, and it was read for a second time. President Smith opened the public hearing at 6:24 p.m. and asked Mr. Merriman for his report. Mr. Merriman said there have already been several discussions on this legislation. He reiterated the purpose of the amendments intends to maintain contemporary standards within the Code to designate building requirements for businesses, provide expedience for the application process, etc. He encouraged passage of the changes.

President Smith asked those who wished to speak in favor of the Land Development Code amendments to come forward to speak. No one came forward to speak.

President Smith asked those who wished to speak against the Land Development Code amendments to come forward to speak. No one came forward to speak.

President Smith entertained comments from Council. Councilman Brannum thanked the Planning and Zoning Commission and City Planner Brian Forschner for all their hard work on these proposed amendments. President Smith closed the public hearing at 6:27 p.m. and entertained a motion on Ordinance 2020-17.

Motion by Councilman Brannum, seconded by Vice President Wallace, to approve Ordinance 2020-17 as written. No discussion followed. The Roll on this was the following:

Ayes: Wallace, R. Dean, Brannum, L. Dean, Mays, Smith
Nays: None motion carried.

10. NEW BUSINESS:

A. **ORDINANCE 2020-18 AMENDING ORDINANCE 2020-12 TO PROVIDE APPROPRIATIONS FOR CURRENT EXPENSES AND OTHER EXPENDITURES FOR THE CITY OF XENIA, OHIO, FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2020, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY**. Finance Director Ryan Duke said there are three reasons for these requested appropriations:

- 1) The award of a second 911 subgrant in the amount of \$129,500.09 allows for additional upgrades to be purchased in 2020 beyond what was originally budgeted for; therefore, the funds must be appropriated to allow for the expenses related to the new grant. This amount will mostly be offset by the grant revenue of \$77,700.05 at project completion.
- 2) The award of the CARES Act funding in the amount of \$947,527.88 must be appropriated into a new fund from which other funds will be reimbursed for qualifying expenditures. The appropriation will be offset by the receipt of the grant revenue.
- 3) Staff had planned to use CDBG grant dollars, totaling \$15,000, for Fair Housing expenditures in 2019. Only \$11,883.33 was expensed in 2019, but the remaining \$3,116.67 had not been encumbered by 12/31/2019. These funds must be expensed by the end of August 2020 to be compliant with the CDBG grant requirements. Thus, the remaining \$3,116.67 will need to be appropriated so it may be expensed and then reimbursed by the grant.

President Smith entertained passage of Ordinance 2020-18 as presented.

Motion by Vice President Wallace, seconded by Mayor Mays, to adopt Ordinance 2020-18 as presented. No discussion followed. The Roll on this was the following:

Ayes: Wallace, R. Dean, Brannum, L. Dean, Mays, Smith

Nays: None motion carried.

B. Introduction of Ordinance 2020-19 Enacting Section 238.08, Title “Use of Division Emblems,” of the City’s Administration Code as contained in Part Two of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Xenia, Ohio. Mr. Merriman said the Fire Division and the Police Division of the City’s Department of Public Safety both have official emblems that they use on their badges, vehicles, correspondence and other official duties. It is important to protect these emblems and prohibit their use except in the Divisions’ official capacities. The proposed new section to the Department of Public Safety Chapter protects these emblems and prohibits the use of them with the approval of the Director of Public Safety. The goal is to prevent someone from misusing these emblems and holding themselves out to speak for these Divisions, on social media for example, when in fact the person involved is not affiliated with the City. This can lead to citizens being misinformed about official matters within the Fire Division or the Police Division, and this section should help limit such occurrences.

Fire Division Logo



Police Division Logo



President Smith noted that Xenia Community Schools has implemented a similar policy. He then entertained introduction of Ordinance 2020-19 as presented.

Councilman Dean presented ORDINANCE 2020-19 ENACTING SECTION 238.08, TITLE “USE OF DIVISION EMBLEMS,” OF THE CITY’S ADMINISTRATION CODE AS

CONTAINED IN PART TWO OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF XENIA, OHIO, and it was read for the first time.

C. Introduction of Resolution 2020-T Authorizing a Three-Year Lease of Space in the City Administration Building to the Regional Income Tax Agency. Mr. Duke said City Council authorized legislation earlier this year to transition to the Regional Income Tax Agency (RITA) as the collection agent of Xenia City municipal income taxes, and he believes this is the last piece of that process. This resolution deals with the lease of space as RITA plans to operate out of the City's Administration Building in the same space the City's Income Tax Department operates in today. To facilitate this, a lease must be executed by the parties. Staff recommends that City Council authorize the City Manager to execute this lease for a three-year term at a rate of \$13,000 annually. The lease can be renewed for five additional one-year terms at an escalating rate.

President Smith entertained introduction of Resolution 2020-T as presented.

Vice President Wallace presented **RESOLUTION 2020-T AUTHORIZING A THREE-YEAR LEASE OF SPACE IN THE CITY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING TO THE REGIONAL INCOME TAX AGENCY**, and it was read for the first time.

D. Introduction of Resolution 2020-U Authorizing a Fifteen-Year Lease of the Upper Floor of Xenia Station to the Xenia Area Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Merriman said it has been a standing policy of Council that staff pursue ideas and actions to reduce costs, increase operating efficiency, and promote public and private partnerships. With this in mind, the City has been in discussion over the past few months with the Xenia Area Chamber of Commerce about potentially leasing the upper floor of Xenia Station for use as the Chamber's offices. Currently, the space is used for the DARE officer, with the conference room available for public rent, though it is rarely utilized for this purpose. As Council is aware, vandalism at Xenia Station has been an on-going issue. He anticipates that having a full-time presence at the building will help reduce the incidences of vandalism, though it may not entirely eliminate them. For the Chamber, an office at Xenia Station would give the organization greater visibility and more opportunities to provide information to visitors about the many outstanding Xenia businesses that can serve them. Under the terms of the proposed lease, the City would continue to maintain the building and grounds, and the Chamber would be responsible for routine maintenance of their offices. The Chamber would pay rent and be responsible for property taxes that would have to be paid on the leased portion of the building. The public would continue to have access to the restrooms and visitor center.

Vice President Wallace asked about the proposed rent amount. Mr. Merriman said the amount is disclosed in the agreement that was included in the agenda packet, which is \$475 per month in addition to paying property taxes on the leased portion of the property. President Smith asked if the Chamber had plans for their existing facility. Mr. Merriman said he was uncertain but believed there had been some discussion on selling the property to provide seed money for longer-term recruitment projects.

President Smith entertained introduction of Resolution 2020-U as presented.

Vice President Wallace presented **RESOLUTION 2020-U AUTHORIZING A FIFTEEN-YEAR LEASE OF THE UPPER FLOOR OF XENIA STATION TO THE XENIA AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**, and it was read for the first time.

E. Administrative Motion Authorizing the City Manager to Execute an Addendum to the Central State University Fire/EMS Contract for a One-Year Extension. Mr. Merriman said the City of Xenia has provided emergency medical services and firefighting services to Central State University since 2012. The City and University have subsequently executed extensions of the contract for the continuation of services. As the agreement has been beneficial to both CSU and the City – and as its current term expired at the end of June 2020 – he respectfully recommended City Council authorize another one-year extension.

President Smith entertained a motion.

Motion by Mayor Mays, seconded by Vice President Wallace, to authorize the execution of an addendum to the CSU Fire/EMS contract for a one-year extension of services from July 1, 2020, to June 30, 2021. Brief discussion followed. Councilman Brannum asked if inflation was factored into the annual amount. Mr. Merriman said no because the overall service demand has been lower than expected, and as a measure of goodwill, an escalator was not included. Vice President Wallace asked if this agreement would become null and void if Central State is annexed into the City of Xenia. Mr. Merriman said if the annexation of the campus is approved, yes, the agreement would be null and void because the services would be automatic. The Roll on this was the following:

Ayes: Wallace, R. Dean, Brannum, L. Dean, Mays, Smith
 Nays: None motion carried.

F. Administrative Motion Ratifying Collective Bargaining Agreement Extensions with the Greene Central Communications Operators Association, the Xenia Police Officers Association, the Fraternal Order of Police, Ohio Labor Council, Inc. – Sergeants, and the Fraternal Order of Police, Ohio Labor Council, Inc. – Captains. Mr. Merriman said the above-mentioned collective bargaining agreements expire on the following dates:

Communication (9-1-1) Operators	August 8, 2020
Police Officers	August 22, 2020
Police Sergeants	September 8, 2020
Police Captains	September 19, 2020

This summer should mark the initiation of a new round of negotiations with the City’s seven (7) bargaining units, a process that would extend into next year based on current contract expiration timelines. Beginning in the summer and extending into the fall, the Police Division units are the first groups set for contract renegotiations. It goes without saying that this timing, in the middle of the COVID-19 economic fallout, is precarious at best. Staff is in agreement that understanding the intermediate-term fiscal status of the City is quite impossible until mid-to-late summer based on the extended income tax filing deadlines and the unknown timeline of the return-to-work process established by the State. All things considered, they believe a September timeframe is likely the earliest they will have sufficient (and reliable) data to establish revenue estimates moving into 2020. This lack of supporting data makes negotiating in good faith with the FOP units simply not practical and impacts both the bargaining units as well as the City in an adverse way. As previously discussed, they would like to be more aggressive with healthcare benefits and wages, but only so far as it is affordable. Recall also that they can renew contracts for terms up to three years, which both parties typically prefer given the workload involved in the process. Yet given the current circumstances, they are hard pressed to recommend committing to any renewal over a year based

on current data, and at that they can see little prudence in committing to compensation increases until they better know the depth of the COVID-19 economic impact. With all of this being said, staff has engaged in conversation with the police union leadership teams regarding shorter-term contract extensions – perhaps either six-month or twelve-month terms – largely with current conditions applying. In exchange for the extensions signed with current wages, the City offered a one-time benefit of an additional 24 hours of personal time, which is in line with the additional holiday time off that Council recently approved for non-union staff. Council’s approval of these extensions will move negotiations forward six-months to hopefully provide time to better assess the City’s financial position. He was very thankful these union groups froze wages and agreed to these six-month extensions.

President Smith also thanked the Communications Operators, Police Officers, Police Sergeants, and Police Captains for working with them during these unprecedented times with so many unknown economic factors. He then entertained a motion.

Motion by Mayor Mays, seconded by Vice President Wallace, to approve the terms and conditions of the proposed collective bargaining agreement extensions and to authorize the City Manager to execute the agreement extensions with the Greene Central Communications Operators Association, the Xenia Police Officers Association, the Fraternal Order of Police, Ohio Labor Council, Inc. – Sergeants, and the Fraternal Order of Police, Ohio Labor Council, Inc. – Captains. Brief comments followed. Vice President Wallace praised the Appointed Officials for foregoing their increases this year, which he believes incentivized staff and set a good example for them to follow. The Roll on this was the following:

Ayes: Wallace, R. Dean, Brannum, L. Dean, Mays, Smith

Nays: None motion carried.

G. Administrative Motion Authorizing the City Manager to Execute a Two-Year Memorandum of Understanding with the Xenia Community Schools for the Services of a School Resource Officer. Mr. Merriman said in August 2018, the Ohio Legislature passed HB318, which standardized the definition and training requirement for a School Resource officer and required that all school systems enter into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the law enforcement agency providing that officer on or before November 1, 2019. The City entered into a one-year MOU with the Xenia Community School District Board of Education last year, covering the period from August 1, 2019, to July 31, 2020. The parties are interested in entering into another MOU on the same terms and conditions, but for a two-year term this time, from August 1, 2020, to July 31, 2022. The City and School will continue to share the costs of the salary and benefits of the School Resource Officer (SRO). The MOU provides for the goals, roles, expectations, and responsibilities of the School Resource Officer, the Xenia Community Schools, and the City of Xenia Police Division. This MOU, like its predecessor, calls for an equal sharing of the cost of a School Resource Officer between the City and the School of the Officer’s base salary, fringes and benefits, including a few hours of overtime, all based on the top salary of a police officer. This amount will be determined by an addendum agreed upon between the parties for both years of the two-year MOU term. If the School desires to retain an SRO for the 2022-2023 school year and thereafter, a new MOU will have to be executed.

President Smith entertained a motion.

Motion by Vice President Wallace, seconded by Councilman Brannum, to authorize the City Manager to execute a two-year Memorandum of Understanding with Xenia Community Schools for School Resource Officer Services from August 1, 2020, to July 31, 2022. Brief discussion followed. Vice President Wallace asked if this agreement was similar to the SRO agreement in place with the Greene County Career Center. Mr. Merriman said yes; the salary and benefits costs for the SROs will be split 50/50. The Roll on this was the following:

Ayes: Wallace, R. Dean, Brannum, L. Dean, Mays, Smith
Nays: None motion carried.

H. Administrative Motion Authorizing the City Manager to Execute an Interagency Agreement to Continue the City's Affiliation with the Greene County Public Safety Information Sharing Network (PSISN). Mr. Merriman said in 2008, the City of Xenia entered into an agreement to become part of the Greene County Public Safety Information Sharing Network (PSISN). The goal of this group was to purchase and maintain a Public Safety Records Management and Dispatch System with a countywide license that could be used by all participating agencies in Greene County including Greene County government. The original agreement with Tyler Technologies (formerly New World Systems) was for five years and was extended for a sixth year. In 2015, Greene County entered into another five-year agreement with Tyler Technologies and an updated Interagency Agreement was also executed for the same five-year period. Greene County is ready again to enter into another five-year maintenance agreement with Tyler Technologies and an updated Interagency Agreement is required for the same period. The new Tyler Technologies maintenance agreement calls for maintenance fees to remain the same as in the past eleven years for the next three years, at \$180,000 per year, with Xenia's share being \$36,000. The amount of the City's share for maintenance costs will increase in years four and five by an amount not to exceed 4% of the previous year's maintenance. As a reminder, just the annual maintenance on the old system 11 years ago was approaching \$90,000. In addition to the \$36,000 software maintenance fees, Xenia will incur charges of \$12,000 annually for system maintenance, which includes hardware maintenance and hardware upgrades, and another \$5,000 annually into a contingency fund to cover additional expenses incurred by PSISN during the contract period. He commended all parties on their negotiation efforts, noting there was not an increase in maintenance fees in over a decade, and even now, it is only a 4% increase in years four and five.

President Smith entertained a motion.

Motion by Mayor Mays, seconded by Councilman Brannum, to authorize the City Manager to execute the Greene County Public Safety Information Sharing Network (PSISN) Interagency Agreement. No discussion followed. The Roll on this was the following:

Ayes: Wallace, R. Dean, Brannum, L. Dean, Mays, Smith
Nays: None motion carried.

I. Administrative Motion Approving the Schedule of Bills in the amount of \$1,072,168.98. Mr. Duke respectfully requested the payment of bills in the amount of \$1,072,168.98. He noted the large amount was due to several sizable expenses including a payment for the Innovation Drive Extension (\$394,850.94) and a payment for water meter installations (\$141,940).

President Smith entertained a motion.

Motion by Councilwoman Dean, seconded by Vice President Wallace, to approve the schedule of bills in the amount of \$1,072,168.98. No discussion followed. The Roll on this was the following:

Ayes: Wallace, R. Dean, Brannum, L. Dean, Mays, Smith

Nays: None motion carried.

11. APPOINTED OFFICIALS REPORTS AND COUNCIL COMMENTS:

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

Mr. Merriman said effective tomorrow, masks are required for all visitors to City facilities. He and staff are still evaluating fall activities including neighborhood night events. Unfortunately, they have made the decision to discontinue shelter reservations at Shawnee Park for the remainder of the year. He extended kudos to Xenia Public Service Staff for their efforts following a recent storm. Several neighborhoods were hit hard, and he appreciates their efforts to clean up debris. Those still needing assistance should contact the Public Service Department. Mayor Mays asked if there was any assistance available for elderly residents. Mr. Merriman said he did not know, and City staff are prohibited by the City's insurance to go on private property to provide assistance. Vice President Wallace heard that staff did an awesome and timely job removing a large tree that fell across E. Market Street.

Mr. Duke said he and his staff just wrapped up a busy tax season. He thanked all the Finance Department employees, especially the income tax staff, who did a fantastic job. Even though they were not sure what to expect with COVID-19 restrictions, they kept the lines moving and the public cooperated. He noted many taxpayers chose to file electronically this year. However, the total number of returns are down based on past years' numbers. Regarding revenues, they made some gains with July income tax filings but are still down year to date by about \$400,000. President Smith thanked him for always being available and taking the time to talk with him about several subjects.

Ms. Fisher said the Ohio Municipal Attorney's Association has received numerous letters and emails about the Purdue Pharma bankruptcy, which was one of the biggest manufactures of opioids. Rather than face lawsuits, they filed for bankruptcy. She has been in discussions for several days with other Ohio municipal law directors, and she will be filing on behalf of the City as part of that consolidated claim. She did not know how much Xenia could receive, but some money is better than nothing at all, which can be used to offset costs in responding to the opioid crisis. President Smith asked if there was anything that Council needed to do. Ms. Fisher said no. Vice President Wallace said he appreciated that she stays on top of everything. Ms. Fisher noted this action is separate from Ohio Attorney General's case, which means there are two separate claims.

B. Mayor and City Council:

Councilwoman Dean had nothing further to share.

Councilman Brannum thanked the Public Service Department staff for getting out there right away after the storm and taking care of the debris. Regarding the remaining annual events, he hoped this year's Youth Fishing Derby would not be cancelled because the kids really enjoy it. Regarding Tennessee Drive, he said that was "his" side of town. On the way to the meeting, he drove the entire length of Tennessee Drive, and there are no speed limit signs on the street – at all. He grew up on Tennessee Drive, and he appreciates that citizens are coming together to voice their concerns on the speeding issue. He encouraged residents to drive the speed limit and noted the Public Service Department staff can create the speed limit signs. He understands that police cannot stay out there all day, every day.

Councilman Dean had nothing further to share.

Vice President Wallace thanked his colleagues for excusing him from last week's meeting due to being ill. He again expressed his appreciation for the City's Public Service staff and their efforts following the storm last week. They were out picking up debris and the fallen tree within the hour. He inquired about getting feedback on the water meter installation noting he received his latest bill, which was higher than expected. Mr. Duke said that situation was not unique. He explained a scenario where the meter was read in late June and then replaced in early July, which created a timing issue. In the system, there was a 45-day billing cycle (the current bill) followed by a 15-day billing cycle.

Mayor Mays said she received several emails about speeding on King Street, and she lives on East Market where there is also a lot of speeding. Recently, a child walked out in front of her and thankfully she was able to stop on time. However, if she had been speeding, the result would have been tragic. She encouraged residents to *slow down*. She also encouraged everyone to be compassionate and respectful, especially when it comes to wearing masks. Everyone has a lot going on behind the scenes and family members who may suffer from anxiety and other issues, and they have reasons for making their own decisions.

President Smith thanked Dr. Jack Thomas for his attendance this evening. He extended get well wishes to Councilman Scrivens and hopes he is feeling better. He set a good example tonight—he stayed home because he did not feel well. People will do what they feel is right regarding the mandates for masks, etc. He noted the schools have a lot of decisions to make and cannot appease everyone. He thanked all in attendance and those watching from home.

12. ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Vice President Wallace, seconded by Councilman Dean, to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 7:10 p.m. No discussion followed. The Roll on this was the following:

Ayes: Wallace, R. Dean, Brannum, L. Dean, Mays, Smith
Nays: None motion carried.

Michelle D. Johnson
City Clerk

Wesley E. Smith
President, Xenia City Council