

DOWNTOWN COMMITTEE

May 12, 2025

The May 12, 2025 Downtown Committee meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. in Council Chambers by Tom Karcher, Chairperson. Downtown Committee members present were Tom Karcher, Marc Mays, Scott Moore, Zach Morral, Nicole Morris, and Graham Treadway. Kate Niederkohr was absent.

Others present included: Sarah Bennett, Clerk.

The minutes of the April 14, 2025 Downtown Committee meeting, having been mailed to each Downtown Committee member, were approved as received.

Mr. Mays reported that the orange and black flags, representing the Upper Sandusky Schools colors, were delivered and have been hung in the downtown area. The total cost of the flags was \$504.00 with \$500.00 donated by the Younger Young Professionals for this purchase.

Mr. Mays also reported on a quote received from Vaughn Industries for speakers in the downtown with the cost of both wired and wireless options being between \$160,000.00 and \$200,000.00. Mr. Mays did again note that the Wyandot Classics and Cruisers have expressed interest in helping with the expense of speakers with the amount of that donation unknown. Mrs. Brittney Walton, Wyandot Chamber of Commerce Director, will again contact Sound Communications from Tiffin, Ohio and they will continue to work on this project.

Mr. Morral indicated that brick work continues on Mr. Mike Hill's building located at 120 North Sandusky Avenue. Mr. Morral indicated that Mr. Hill and Mr. Wentling are both okay with anchors being installed on the alley sides of their buildings located at 116 and 120 North Sandusky Avenue to hang Edison lights. Mr. Karcher stated that Mr. Brad Taylor, Street and Sanitation Supervisor, attempted to install the collapsible barricades for this alley and it was discovered that the area for the barricades will have to be dug out and concrete will need to be poured prior to the installation of the barricades.

It was noted that a determination has been made to have the City's annual fireworks display held again at the high school this year. Mr. Karcher noted that the representative from Pyrotechnico determined that if the fireworks were to take place in Harrison Smith Park either East Wyandot Avenue would have to be closed in front of the park or smaller fireworks would have to be used.

Mr. Morral noted that Mrs. Kate Niederkohr discussed the purchase stencils for placement on the sidewalks in the downtown area with Mrs. Brittney Walton and the cost of these stencils would be between \$50.00 and \$150.00 per decal. An inquiry with A-1 Printing will be made to determine if they are able to provide the stencils and obtain possible costs.

Mr. Moore reported that the Rotary Club recently had a guest speaker who represents a nine county area regarding microgrants, and Mr. Moore spoke with her regarding the possibility of microgrant funding for painting a mural on the north side of Richardson's Flowers building, 116 North Sandusky Avenue, in the alley to be closed between 116 and 120 North Sandusky Avenue.

Mr. Morral stated that the furniture to be placed in the alley to be closed between 116 and 120 North Sandusky Avenue is ready to be ordered from Amazon. It was noted that the Elks will be asked about possible funding for the furniture purchase.

Downtown Committee members reviewed suggested regulations drafted by Mr. Ben Buckland, Law Director, for the use of public sidewalks in the downtown area including seating following the request presented at the April 14, 2025 Downtown Committee meeting from Mr. Kyle Treadway, Traum Brewing, 126 South Sandusky Avenue, for a temporary patio area. Downtown Committee members indicated that they prefer an application fee of \$50.00 instead of \$100.00, and non-profit and fundraising individuals or organizations be exempt from the application fee but they should obtain permission from the business they intend to locate in front of. A question was raised about the possibility of establishing setback requirements from the curb. Hours, dates, and days of the week were discussed and the Downtown Committee agreed that the hours should be from 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m., April 1 thru November 1, Sunday thru Saturday. This input will be provided to Mr. Buckland.

It was noted that a concern was received from a member of the Gottfried family regarding overnight parking in the downtown area following the completion and opening of their new businesses and rooms being prepared for visitors' overnight stays. It was noted that signs are posted in the downtown area regarding overnight parking.

There being no further business, the Chairperson declared the meeting adjourned.

Sarah J. Bennett, Clerk

Tom Karcher, Chairperson