

**MINUTES OF THE WORK SESSION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE
CITY OF AVON, OHIO HELD TUESDAY, JANUARY 2, 2024
IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS OF THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING
AT 7:30 P.M.**

PRESENT: Council Members: Council-at-Large – Mary Berges; 1st Ward – Jennifer Demaline; 2nd Ward - Dennis McBride; 3rd Ward -Tony Moore; Council-at-Large – Michelle Patton; 4th Ward - Scott Radcliffe; Council-at-Large and Council President – Brian Fischer; Mayor – Bryan Jensen; City Engineer – Ryan Cummins; Planning/Economic Development Coordinator – Pam Fechter; Law Director – John Gasior; Safety/Public Service Director – Duane Streater; Clerk of Council – Barbara Brooks

ABSENT: Finance Director– Steve Presley

President Fischer welcomed the newest Council Members At-Large: Ms. Berges and Ms. Patton. He said they are all looking forward to working together going forward.

1. **ORDINANCE NO. 1-24 – GRANTING A SPECIAL USE PERMIT TO COMPTON ADDY TO AUTHORIZE THEIR TENANT, CARIBOU COFFEE, TO CONSTRUCT A 778 SQ. FT. RESTAURANT WITH NO INDOOR SEATING, A DRIVE-THRU AND AN OUTDOOR SEATING AREA, TO BE LOCATED AT 35091 CHESTER ROAD** Planning Referral

Ms. Fechter advised Caribou Coffee presented to the Planning Commission and it is a proposed restaurant with no indoor seating with a drive-thru and there will be outdoor seating and the Special Use Permit requires that the business have a restroom accessible to the public even though there is no inside ordering or dining. She said the Planning Commission voted 4 in favor and 1 against for a referral to City Council conditional upon Compton Addy adding that outdoor restroom and she confirmed that has been added to their proposed plan. Ms. Fechter stated it is one restroom for use by both men and women and it meets the Code for the Special Use Permit. She noted that the Building Department does not require a restroom for this scenario, but because it is being proposed to allow a restaurant with no indoor seating that has outdoor seating the applicant has agreed to the addition of the outdoor restroom.

Mark Wilhoite representing Compton Addy located at 2805 Edwards Road, Cincinnati, advised there was a revised drawing submitted and he placed a copy of it on the overhead camera for all of Council to see. He said it is a restroom attached to the building that is accessible from the outside, it is not an exterior restroom.

Ms. Fechter asked for confirmation that there would be roughly 20 outdoor seats on the outdoor patio area, which was 5 tables with 4 seats at each table to which Mr. Wilhoite answered yes.

Mr. Wilhoite advised the walkup window was right next to the outdoor patio area.

Ms. Fechter explained that this company learned during the pandemic that their business model has shown that more and more people are utilizing the drive-thru for picking up their coffee and leaving. She said the outdoor patio area was added for those who might wish to sit and socialize, but they are finding that most of their business does not come inside any longer.

Mr. Wilhoite added that is similar to most coffee operators such as Starbucks and Biggby's that are moving to a drive-thru only model and some do not have walkup windows as it was all drive-thru.

Ms. Fechter advised to make Council aware, the City only allows these types of restaurants to be located north of I-90 so it is fairly limited and most are looking at Chester Road or S.R. 83. She said the only other restaurant the City has like this one is Swenson's.

Mr. Wilhoite showed a rendering of the elevations pointing out the location of the restroom, the patio and the walkup window.

Mr. Fischer asked if the employees would use this same restroom.

Mr. Wilhoite said no, the employee restroom will be inside the building, accessible to the employees only. He stated the Cabela Group, who is operating this business, did not want their employees to exit the building to use the restroom and they also did not want patrons to come inside the building. Mr. Wilhoite advised the way it is currently planned, there will be the extra restroom on the end of the building that is only accessible from the outside so the employees will have their own restroom accessible from the inside and the public will have a restroom accessible from the outside. He said this is a new concept for them and the drive-thru only models are relatively new and this is the first instance they have run into an issue with a City asking for a restroom for the patrons, but they now have an option and a model that can be used for Caribou moving forward if this issue comes up again.

Mayor Jensen advised they appreciate their working with Avon to come up with a solution. He said in the Planning Commission meeting there was some back and forth. He stated they may look back and say it was not necessary but because there is the patio seating the City wanted those patrons to feel comfortable knowing there is a restroom available.

Mr. Wilhoite stated that is understandable and if this is what the City would like then they will do it.

Mr. Gasior advised the names of the owner of the property and the tenant are in flux right now. He said he received up to date information this morning that CCT Avon II, LLC will be the owner, but that has not been absolutely confirmed.

Mr. Wilhoite said he received an email, and he believes that the change Mr. Gasior mentioned is correct.

Mr. Gasior said he was told the tenant is Carico, LLC dba Caribou Coffee to which Mr. Wilhoite agreed. Mr. Gasior stated he will update those changes and Council will see them before the vote next Monday night.

2. [ORDINANCE NO. 2-24 – TO AMEND SECTION 1040.01\(a\) OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF AVON TO INCREASE THE RATES CHARGED FOR WATER SERVICE IN THE CITY OF AVON FOR THE YEARS 2024 & 2025](#) Mayor Jensen

Mayor Jensen advised they looked at the current rates charged to Avon from Avon Lake and the rates are increasing slightly more than what the City is passing on to the water users, but with the amount of money in the fund account he felt comfortable that this increase would be sufficient. He said in two years they will review the rates again, but the City is still in very good shape proposing this small increase and Mr. Bruce, the Utilities Superintendent, Mr. Streater and himself all feel comfortable with this small rate increase.

Mrs. Demaline inquired as to when the new rates would be effective.

Mayor Jensen advised it will be effective with the first bill after passage of the Ordinance.

Mrs. Demaline asked how they are billed. She asked if it is a February billing was that for usage in January.

Mayor Jensen and Mr. Streater confirmed that to be the case.

Mrs. Demaline said the residents are consuming water and using the sewer right now under what they believe to be the current rate. She asked if they could enforce this rate increase prospectively. Mrs. Demaline stated it seemed like if they are increasing the rates now effective February that it is affecting residents in January.

Mayor Jensen advised they can delay it a month if Council would rather not make the increase effective right away.

Mrs. Demaline said she would like to see it prospectively because residents and businesses are using water believing it is at the current rate and she felt it was fair to give the residents notice. She stated if Council is talking about increasing the rates today she felt it would be appropriate to do it prospectively.

Mayor Jensen advised they can do that. He said Avon Lake increased the rate charged to Avon and that is the reason they brought it to Council in this way. Mayor Jensen indicated that in talking with the Utilities Superintendent he was in agreement that should Council wish to wait to implement the increase that he was fine with waiting.

Mrs. Demaline advised she felt it would be great to put it on two readings with the effective date of consumption starting February 1, 2024.

Mr. McBride advised he was not in favor of waiting and did not know why they should not pass it next week. He said rates go up all the time.

Mayor Jensen advised whether they pass it or not they could still set the Ordinance to be effective by waiting a month.

Mr. McBride said they are not charging the full rate now and were already giving the residents a break because they are not passing along the full increase from Avon Lake.

Mayor Jensen said he did not feel it would make much difference if they wait and pass it on second reading as long as the rate gets set. He stated they would have two readings and set it to be effective the following month so it would be in the bill going out in March for February's usage.

Mrs. Demaline asked how the residents are notified of the rate increase. She asked if it would be on the bill such as a line item stating that the rate will be "xyz" effective February 1st on the bill that will come out next.

Mayor Jensen advised they will show the new rate on the bill, but they will also put a headline at the top that the rate increased.

3. [ORDINANCE NO. 3-24 – TO AMEND SECTION 1042.02\(i\) OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF AVON TO INCREASE SANITARY SEWER RATES FOR THE YEARS 2024 AND 2025](#)

Mayor Jensen

Mayor Jensen advised this rate increase was a pass through from what the City is being charged by North Ridgeville and Avon Lake for sewer with the same stipulation of the effective date for the bill due in March for February usage.

Mr. McBride asked if this is the blended rate between Avon Lake and North Ridgeville to which Mayor Jensen answered yes.

4. [ORDINANCE NO. 4-24 – TO AMEND ORDINANCE NO. 413-68, PASSED JANUARY 15, 1969 COMMONLY KNOWN AS THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF AVON, OHIO, AS AMENDED, REZONING TWO PARCELS OF LAND CONSISTING OF APPROXIMATELY 16.93 ACRES OF LAND LOCATED AT 34925 CHESTER ROAD, PERMANENT PARCEL NOS. 04-00-021-000-255 & 04-00-021-000-266 FROM C-4/O-2 GENERAL BUSINESS/PLANNED OFFICE RESEARCH OFFICE PARK TO C-4/O-2/M-1 GENERAL BUSINESS/PLANNED OFFICE RESEARCH OFFICE PARK/GENERAL INDUSTRIAL OVERLAY](#)

Planning Referral

The First of Three Readings of Ordinance No. 4-24 will be held on Monday, January 8, 2024

A Public Hearing will be held on Monday, February 12, 2024 at 7:25 p.m.

Ms. Fechter advised the Planning Commission was presented with a plan from Rico Pietro with RAP Green Realty and RAP Commercial. She said Mr. Pietro has an end user who is interested in the southeast parcel of Jaycox Road and Chester Road who is looking to bring in a light industrial user with a commercial as well. Ms. Fechter stated they are not being given the name of the end user at this time but is asking for the M-1 overlay on that parcel. She said there already is the same overlay on the northeast parcel as well as the northwest parcel. She advised this parcel is already zoned C-4 and O-2 and they are asking for the M-1 overlay to be added.

Mr. Fischer asked if this rezoning needed to be placed on the ballot for voter approval.

Ms. Fechter answered no, this is just a vote by City Council.

5. ORDINANCE NO. 5-24 – TO AMEND ORDINANCE NO. 413-68, PASSED JANUARY 15, 1969 COMMONLY KNOWN AS THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF AVON, OHIO, AS AMENDED, REZONING LAND CONSISTING OF AN 0.02300 ACRE PORTION OF PERMANENT PARCEL NO. 04-00-015-108-043 FROM C-2 FRENCH CREEK/CENTRAL BUSINESS DISTRICT TO R-1 SINGLE-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT

Planning Referral

The First of Three Readings of Ordinance No. 5-24 will be held on Monday, January 8, 2024

A Public Hearing will be held on Monday, February 12, 2024 at 7:20 p.m.

Ms. Fechter advised this is a bit of an unusual request. She said it was discovered about a year ago that the parcel in question is zoned half C-2 and half R-1. Ms. Fechter stated the residential home on Holly Lane located behind Misencik Funeral Home on Detroit Road is owned by Joseph and Christine Misencik. She advised it was discovered that this parcel is zoned half residential and half commercial. Ms. Fechter said the house was built back in 1998 and there was a lot of rezoning that took place during that time. She stated everything they are finding shows the intention of that parcel was to be zoned residential. Ms. Fechter advised Mr. Joseph Misencik is present tonight asking for the parcel to be correctly rezoned as fully residential. She said it appears when the zoning was extended for the funeral home parking lot that the rezoning and lot split incorrectly labeled Mr. Joseph Misencik's parcel on Holly Lane as half commercial, but that was never the intent.

Mr. Fischer asked if this rezoning needed to be placed on the ballot for voter approval.

Ms. Fechter answered it does not.

Ms. Berges asked what ramifications or impact this has on the funeral home since they are zoned commercial. She inquired if the funeral home will be affected in any way.

Ms. Fechter advised it will affect the funeral home as far as setbacks are concerned that are required for their building if they were ever to expand. She said currently the funeral home is set to be on the next Planning Commission agenda asking for an amendment to their Special Use Permit for the addition of a fence. Ms. Fechter stated Mr. Greaney, who owns and operates Misencik Funeral Home, would like to install a fence along the property line. She advised everything in the City records show that Mr. Joseph Misencik's parcel on Holly Lane should be zoned residential. Ms. Fechter said Mr. Joseph Misencik is faced with the issue of not being able to rebuild should his house be lost due to a catastrophic event such as a fire.

Mrs. Demaline asked if this request would have any impact on the vacant lot that is commercial property on the corner of Detroit Road and Garden Drive that abuts the funeral home to the west.

Ms. Fechter advised she does not believe it would. She pointed out there is a corner section that was just purchased by the funeral home for overflow parking that has frontage on Holly Lane and is adjacent to Mr. Joseph Misencik's parcel. Ms. Fechter said they would have to look at the whole development and see what would be proposed but there could possibly be a setback requirement.

Mrs. Demaline asked if that would negatively impact the owners of the commercial property at the corner of Detroit and Garden Drive.

Ms. Fechter said it would require a bigger setback because it would be commercially zoned next to a residential zone.

Mayor Jensen stated a variance could be requested for relief from the requirement from the Board of Zoning and Building Appeals. He said but because they know there is a house there the Planning Commission would probably not recommend to Council that a building be allowed to be built right up against the property line. He advised with the discretion of the Planning Commission or the Board of Zoning and Building Appeals some allowances can be made, but for the most part to put a building right on the line with a residential house being there would probably not be a recommendation that would come from the Planning Commission. Mayor Jensen said anything that would come before the Planning Commission or before the Board of Zoning and Building Appeals if they can show a hardship or if there is a way to make both parties happy that is what they try to do. He indicated the reason the Planning Commission is recommending the rezoning is because that was the intended zoning even though there was some opposition from Mr. Greaney. Mayor Jensen stated they are trying to help both parties and allow Mr. Greaney to install a fence on the funeral home property and the parcel with the house be rezoned to all residential and he felt that takes away the argument that the City is harming either property owner.

It was clarified that the owner of the residential home on Holly Lane and the owner/operator of the funeral home are separate property owners.

Ms. Fechter added they looked at the GIS map and the commercial parcel (funeral home) will not be affected. She said there is a sliver of funeral home property that runs down that back driveway to Holly Lane that separates the residential from that commercial corner piece so the commercial would not be impacted.

6. ORDINANCE NO. 6-24 – EXTENDING THE TEMPORARY MORATORIUM ON THE FUTURE DEVELOPMENT OR CONSTRUCTION OF ANY HOTEL, MOTEL, EXTENDED STAYS, BOARDING HOUSES OR THE LIKE WITHIN THE CITY OF AVON Planning Referral

Ms. Fechter advised it was brought to the December Planning Commission meeting the need to extend the moratorium for the extended stays hotels. She said she and Mr. Gasior need to do a little bit more research on what other communities are doing to help control extended stays in their cities and the taxes that need to be appropriately applied. Ms. Fechter stated they are requesting that City Council extend the moratorium for another six months to allow them more time to work on establishing regulations.

7. ORDINANCE NO. 7-24 – TO AMEND SECTION 210.01(e)(7)(A)(1) & (2) OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF AVON TO ESTABLISH RATES FOR THE USE OF THE CITY'S AQUATIC CENTER IN THE YEAR 2024 Mayor Jensen

Mayor Jensen advised they are requesting for the rates to change slightly. He said there were some increases for non-residents wishing to use the pool and the other categories increased slightly. Mayor Jensen indicated that next week Mr. Presley would go over the pool rates that include a summary of last year's pool season as it looks like the pool basically broke even last year. Mayor Jensen said it has been discussed in the past that the pool typically runs at a loss, and they want to be careful not to raise the rates too much so that it does not cause participation to go down. He said the Pool Superintendent, Tom Fattlar, agrees with the Finance Department that they feel this slight rate increase will offset any operational cost increases such as the increase in minimum wage, but they expect to run at about the same as they did last year.

Mrs. Demaline asked if it was possible to provide a report on the Aquatic Center for the 2023 season and have it in the packets to review before next week's meeting.

Mayor Jensen answered absolutely.

Mrs. Demaline asked if the historic rates could also be included for the pool. She said she has only been on Council for two years and she would like to look at the totality of where they started with admission and how often those rates are adjusted and by what dollar amount so that she could really get a better understanding.

Mayor Jensen said he could do that.

Mrs. Demaline stated if that information could be in their packet that would be great.

8. RESOLUTION NO. R-1-24 – TO APPROVE WITH MODIFICATION THE RENEWAL APPLICATION MADE BY KILDEER LANE PROPERTIES, LLC (THOMAS DEMALINE), TO HAVE CERTAIN LAND OWNED BY IT LOCATED AT 4676 CENTER ROAD, PERMANENT PARCEL NO. 10-04-00-013-000-037, DESIGNATED AS BEING LOCATED WITHIN AN AGRICULTURAL DISTRICT Mr. Gasior

A Public Hearing will be held on Monday, January 8, 2024 at 7:25 p.m.

Mr. Gasior advised these requests come up for renewal every five years for various property owners in the City. He said it is required by the Ohio Revised Code for the property owner to obtain Council's permission first and then go to the County to get their Agricultural District designation and they save some money on their real estate taxes. Mr. Gasior stated he recommends that Council read the legislation and he was happy to answer any questions, but almost everything in this Resolution comes out of the Ohio Revised Code Chapter 929.

9. RESOLUTION NO. R-2-24 – TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS FOR THE LONG ROAD PAVEMENT RESURFACING PROJECT Mr. Cummins

Mr. Cummins advised this proposed project would resurface Long Road, between Detroit Road and Stoney Ridge Road. He said the project is estimated to cost \$1.1 million. Mr. Cummins stated this Resolution authorizes them to seek bids and once the public bidding process is completed, they will come back to Council with the results and ask Council to award or reject the contracts/bids received.

Mayor Jensen said because the Avon Middle School is located on Long Road, the School Board is going to allow busses to go to Halsted Lane temporarily during the time of the resurfacing. He stated the City can get the best rates possible from the bids if they do the work early in the season, but if they have to wait until August that will change what kind of bid prices are received. Mayor Jensen advised in speaking with the School Superintendent he understood that the City may need to close Long Road to school busses only, not to regular vehicular traffic, because they would not want busses to navigate a narrower lane when the repaving is taking place. He reminded them when Jaycox Road was paved early in the season, it sped up the completion process. Mayor Jensen said there will be a slight widening of Long Road, which will also help with the bus traffic once the project is complete. He stated the intention is to get the work done as early as possible at the beginning of spring. If the City can be the first project of the season the crews are eager to complete the work and move onto their next project. Mayor Jensen advised later in the season, the City would be more of a fill-in and they would rather not wait and would rather not pay more money to get that re-pavement work complete.

Mrs. Demaline asked if there was an expected duration for this project.

Mr. Cummins advised he would estimate approximately 2 months. He reminded them the work happens in phases saying that the contractors will come and grind the surface course down and then they will be doing some of the widening work and some of the apron work before the final surface is added. Mr. Cummins said it is not a total closure as the road will be open at all times during the process, but the work generally takes about 2 months to complete.

Mrs. Demaline asked how much of a cost savings were they talking about when they mention bidding earlier in the season as opposed to mid-June to mid-August when school is not in session.

Mr. Cummins advised he would estimate that bidding a project at the beginning of the year versus bidding a project where the work would be done in the middle of the year would probably be a 5-10% cost savings.

Mayor Jensen said it was probably close to \$100,000 less since the project is over \$1 million.

Mr. Cummins agreed and said the project is estimated at \$1.1 million and there was no doubt no matter what type of project that the best bids are those that bid before April 15th before the work gets underway. He stated the contractors will spend more time on the bids and will make more competitive bids as the contractors want to get a book of work ready for the year.

Mrs. Demaline commented that is going to be quite a snarl of traffic in that area, but said she understands the cost benefit analysis. She asked while they are talking about resurfacing, if there is any plan to resurface Mills Road.

Mr. Cummins advised there has not been any finalized plans or a plan for a plan at this point. He said he has had discussions with Mayor Jensen, and he believes the Mayor has had some discussions with North Ridgeville about possibly doing a joint project, but there has been nothing official and no work has gotten underway to prepare a set of plans.

Mayor Jensen advised he had a conversation with Mayor Corcoran, because North Ridgeville is constructing the "peanut" roundabout, and they hope that once that roundabout project was completed that they would work together to do all of Mills Road. Mayor Jensen stated North Ridgeville is responsible from Jaycox Road to Stoney Ridge Road on Mills Road and Avon is responsible from Jaycox Road to the Westlake line on Mills Road. He advised their hope is to work together to do the whole stretch. Mayor Jensen said the worst part of Mills Road is between SR83 and Stoney Ridge Road although there are some challenges on the other side that they hope will get corrected. He stated doing it altogether and bidding it altogether is the best alternative and Mayor Corcoran agrees. Mayor Jensen advised they thought the "peanut" roundabout would have been completed at the beginning of this year, but the work has not even started and does not look as if it has gone out to bid yet so it most likely will not be completed until the following year. He said he felt it is important to try to get Mills Road resurfaced, but they may be able to secure some OPWC to do Mills Road all in one stretch if they can. Mayor Jensen stated he believes that most people realize that when they were done as separate projects that one was fixed and one was failing. He advised he would continue to work with Mayor Corcoran to try to do it all at the same time.

Mrs. Demaline said she was pleased to hear that it is being discussed with North Ridgeville and she thanked Mayor Jensen.

Mr. Radcliffe asked if this is basically the same process that was done on Jaycox Road for Long Road to which Mr. Cummins confirmed that to be correct. Mr. Radcliffe said on the inside corner of Jaycox Road and Schwartz Road, the pavement has collapsed, and the stones have brushed out of that area. He stated Long Road has a couple of corners where he could see the same thing happening. Mr. Radcliffe asked if there was a way to do the asphalt farther in rather than adding the stones in those tight corners where there are potholes currently. He asked if there was a way to improve that area by taking the asphalt farther over so that when motorists drive off the road, they are not left with the dirt and the rocks and the pothole that are there again, which is what was fixed the first time. Mr. Radcliffe said he does not know if that is a possible process.

Mr. Cummins advised it is certainly a good idea and something to look into, but it is very difficult on Long Road. He said the current plans include widening each side by one foot width and that is really all they can get without getting into a major type project and have to start moving utility poles and sidewalks and drainage systems and all kinds of things. Mr. Cummins stated they certainly can look at that and see if there is something that they can do. He advised corners are always a maintenance issue, but he would take that note.

Mr. Radcliffe said those were just his comments. He stated he drives past that area every day and that was a huge area of concern for the residents that live around there because there was a pothole for years off that side of the road and people would drive off the road and get a flat tire.

Mr. Cummins added the next agenda item for resurfacing Schwartz Road also has some corners toward the Westlake line.

Mayor Jensen advised they would look at it again. He said there was the same issues on Moon Road, and they put blacktop down, but maybe they could look at installing the strip ahead of time because they would not be removing the curve. Mayor Jensen stated they can possibly do it sooner when the paving is taking place and cut the corner a little bit.

Mr. Radcliffe thanked them for looking into it.

10. RESOLUTION NO. R-3-24 – TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS FOR THE SCHWARTZ ROAD PAVEMENT RESURFACING PROJECT Mr. Cummins

Mr. Cummins advised this is just like the Long Road project as they are similar in length, about 5500 feet in length. He said this one that stretches from Nagel Road over to the Westlake border will be a resurfacing and a slight widening on each side, fixing up some drainage and things of that nature. Mr. Cummins stated again, they would take this out for a public bidding process and then bring the results back to Council and hopefully ask for them to award a construction contract.

Mr. Moore advised this is a much-needed road to be improved, but there are couple of housing developments nearby still under construction and he asked if they pave this road if it is going to hurt those contractors' ability to complete their work because of the road improvement.

Mr. Cummins said he does not believe so. He stated a lot of the construction work has been completed with Mass Subdivision and a good chunk of Fieldstone Subdivision has been done, although they do have some houses coming in. He stated it is a public roadway and they will complete the work to ODOT standards and felt that most of the construction has happened. Mr. Cummins advised it is always tough because there is other undeveloped land along that stretch so "when do they actually pull the trigger?" can be a tricky question sometimes.

Mr. Moore said fair enough, thank you.

Mayor Jensen advised they looked at delaying it another year, but it is in such bad shape that they did not feel they could risk it. He said by widening it that it will help some. Mayor Jensen clarified that when they say widening, some residents may call and ask if they are adding another driving lane, which most residents do not want to see a third driving lane. He stated the widening is making each lane slightly wider and the residents who have already called and asked were satisfied with that explanation.

Mr. McBride asked what the average right-of-way in that section of Schwartz Road is.

Mr. Cummins advised he believes it is 60 feet in general along that section. He said in this project he believes they are widening 2 feet on each side. He said on Long Road they could only get 1 foot on each side without getting into substantial additional costs.

Mr. McBride said 2 feet would make a big difference. He added that some people when running in the street need to use common sense when traffic is coming from both directions.

Mr. Fischer advised he heard from several of the residents on Schwartz Road and Mayor Jensen and he spoke about it last year and the Mayor let him know this improvement would be on for 2024. He said those residents were going to be happy to hear that improvement is coming.

11. REPORTS AND COMMENTS

MAYOR JENSEN advised he wanted to let Council know that they do still have a couple more projects coming through. He said the Northgate project is still going to be a project that will be going out for bids soon.

Mayor Jensen welcomed the 2 new Council Members. He said he looks forward to working with them and he feels it will be a smooth transition. Mayor Jensen added that it was great to see all their families here and sometimes he takes it for granted that they all take their positions professionally and personally, but it confirms that they all feel that same way since they all brought their families here tonight. Congratulations and he looks forward to working with everyone.

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

MS. BERGES, AT LARGE advised it is good to be back. She said she is excited, and she is looking forward to working with everyone and representing the residents of Avon.

MRS. DEMALINE, WARD 1 advised she is pleased to be working with the new Council Members. She said it is going to be great and she believes they are a real asset to Council in 2024 and she looks forward to working with all of Council.

MR. MCBRIDE, WARD 2 welcomed the new Council Members. He said it will be great to work with both of them.

Mr. McBride mentioned he has a number of issues, but he would like to discuss them directly with the Mayor before he brings them up in a meeting.

MR. MOORE, WARD 3 welcomed the new Council Members; there were familiar faces and new faces.

MS. PATTON, AT LARGE said it is an honor to be here amongst all of them. Everyone has been so welcoming and kind. Thank you.

MR. RADCLIFFE, WARD 4 congratulated and welcomed the new Council Members. He said he looks forward to everyone working together.

MR. FISCHER, AT LARGE wished everyone a Happy New Year. He said he looks forward to working with everyone in this new term. Mr. Fischer welcomed the new Council Members.

DIRECTORS/ADMINISTRATION:

MR. CUMMINS, CITY ENGINEER congratulated everyone and said he is looking forward to working with the new Council. He said if they have any questions on engineering matters to please feel free to give him a call.

MS. FECHTER, PLANNING/ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COORDINATOR welcomed everyone and said they are looking forward to a great 2024. She said to please let her know if she could be any assistance and she believes there will be a lot of fun things coming this year.

MR. GASIOR, LAW DIRECTOR congratulated the new Council. He wished everyone a Happy New Year.

Mr. Gasior said he hoped that Council saw the email exchange he had with Mr. Phillips as he has been asking about the Certificate of Approval that was talked about on December 18, 2023. He stated he would like to schedule an Executive Session to discuss those legal issues at the next meeting on Monday, January 8, 2024 so that he could give Council some analysis of where the City stands with that issue of the Certificate of Approval.

MR. PRESLEY, FINANCE DIRECTOR was absent.

MR. STREATOR, SAFETY DIRECTOR/PUBLIC SERVICE DIRECTOR congratulated the new Council and said he looks forward to working with everyone as they continue and hopefully to get a lot accomplished in 2024 as in past years.

Mr. Streator advised they survived the Christmas season with the extra traffic flow and there were not many issues with the Police and Fire Departments during that time.

AUDIENCE:

There were no comments made from the audience members.

12. ADJOURN: 8:18 p.m.
There being no further business, the Work Session of Council was adjourned.

PASSED: _____

SIGNED BY: _____
Brian Fischer, Council President

ATTEST: _____
Barbara Brooks, Clerk of Council