

## **MINUTES OF CITY COUNCIL MEETING, CHEVIOT, OHIO**

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February 8, 2007

The regular session of Council was called to order at 7:36 P.M. President Mestemaker dispensed with normal proceedings, but asked everyone to keep the McGeorge family on Lovell Avenue who lost their home to a fire last week in their prayers. This was a rescheduled meeting from February 6<sup>th</sup>, 2007, which was postponed due to inclement weather. The meeting took place in the meeting room adjacent to Council Chambers, which was being used for Hamilton County Night Court. Roll call was taken and the following were found in attendance:

|                              |                       |
|------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Mayor                        | Samuel D. Keller      |
| President of Council         | Michael J. Mestemaker |
| Council 1 <sup>st</sup> Ward | Ryan T. Zech          |
| Council 3 <sup>rd</sup> Ward | James F. Sunderhaus   |
| Council 4 <sup>th</sup> Ward | Greg J. Stautberg     |
| Council at Large             | Charles L. Norman     |
| Council at Large             | Steven L. Braun       |

Mr. Zech made a motion to excuse Mrs. Zech and Mr. Dinkelacker with a second from Mr. Sunderhaus. The motion carried 5-0 by voice vote. Mr. Braun pointed out an error in the minutes of January 16<sup>th</sup>, 2007; the corrected minutes were then approved. President Mestemaker called for the reports that would be presented.

### **Recognition of the Public**

No one from the public wished to speak.

### **Safety-Service Director's Report**

Mr. Neal did not forward a report.

### **Mayor's Report**

Mayor Keller expressed to Council some of his concerns regarding the Cemetery Project. The Mayor informed Council that he would be meeting with a representative from the Church that currently owns the Cemetery to discuss these concerns further. There was much discussion. Mayor Keller then informed Council that he has recently spoken with Mr. Dale Rack, who claims he has worked out any remaining issues with the Metropolitan Sewer District regarding development of land he owns in the City of Cheviot. The Mayor informed Council that Mr. Rack still must present his plans to the Cheviot Building Department and follow all City regulations before moving forward. There was much discussion.

### **Law Director's Report**

Mr. Waters did not forward a report.

### **Committee Reports**

Ward 1 - Mr. Zech had no formal report. Mr. Zech informed everyone that the Parks and Playgrounds committee continues to work on a new set of rules for usage of Harvest Home Park and the Cheviot Fieldhouse, and that he will continue to update Council on their progress. Mr. Zech informed Council that as a result of the Western Hills Press story about the new sign in front of the Cheviot Fieldhouse, the CWCA has been inundated with requests for donations from various organizations. As a result, they will form a subcommittee to handle all such future requests. Mr. Zech made a motion *To Authorize The Mayor To Enter Into An Agreement For Membership In The "First Suburbs Consortium Of Southwest Ohio" On Behalf Of The City Of Cheviot* with a second from Mr. Norman. The motion carried 5-0 by voice vote and was assigned as RES 07-01. Mr. Zech then gave the first reading of the new Property Maintenance Code. There was much discussion. Mr. Zech informed Council that he would call a meeting of the Parks and Playgrounds Committee following the Mayor's aforementioned meeting on the Cemetery Project.

Ward 2 - Mr. Dinkelacker did not forward a report. President Mestemaker asked if anyone had any information regarding the next Project Impact meeting. Mr. Stautberg informed everyone that the next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2007 at 6:30 P.M. in the Fire Department meeting room.

Ward 3 - Mr. Sunderhaus had no formal report. Mr. Sunderhaus congratulated Cheviot Resident and Dater High School student Meagan Sonderman and her parents Vickie & Pat for being chosen as "Student of the Week" by the Western Hills Press. Mr. Sunderhaus asked everyone to keep in mind the McGeorge family from Lovell Avenue as they recover from the fire that took their house last week. The Fire Department has estimated the loss at \$120,000. Mr. Sunderhaus informed everyone that there are fundraisers being planned to support the family, and commended the Cheviot Fire Association for collecting donations for the family during the Cheviot Shootout basketball tournament last Friday night. Mr. Sunderhaus then reminded everyone that the Cheviot Eagles will be presenting their Civic Appreciation Award to Mayor Keller at their Hall of Fame & Civic Appreciation Dinner next Wednesday, February 14<sup>th</sup>.

Ward 4 - Mr. Stautberg had no formal report. Mr. Stautberg made a motion *To Approve A Contract With WPS Energy Services Inc., For Consulting Work To Enable The City Of Cheviot To Obtain P.U.C.O. Certification As A Governmental Aggregator; To Approve A Second Contract With WPS Energy Services, Inc., For The Supply Of Natural Gas To The Citizens Of Cheviot Under The Government Gas Aggregation Program; And To Declare An Emergency* with a second from Mr. Sunderhaus. The motion carried 5-0 by voice vote and was assigned as ORD 07-03. Mr. Sunderhaus made a motion to suspend the rules with a second from Mr. Zech. The motion carried 5-0 by roll call vote. Mr. Sunderhaus made a motion to adopt with a second from Mr. Zech. The motion carried 5-0 by roll call vote. Mr. Braun asked Mr. Stautberg a question regarding the P.U.C.O. Certification, which Mr. Stautberg said he would look into. There was much discussion about this and other matters previously discussed. Mr. Stautberg asked if anyone knew the status of the City's Insurance Coverage. Mr. Zech said he would ask the Safety Service Director for details. There was much discussion.

Council at Large - Mrs. Zech did not forward a report.

Council at Large - Mr. Norman had no formal report. Mr. Norman made a motion *To Request That The Hamilton County Auditor Make Advance Payment Of Taxes To The City Of Cheviot Pursuant To Section 321.34 Of The Ohio Revised Code; And To Declare An Emergency* with a second from Mr. Sunderhaus. The motion carried 5-0 by voice vote and was assigned as RES 07-02. Mr. Norman informed everyone that budget hearings would begin next week.

Council at Large - Mr. Braun had no formal report. Mr. Braun updated Council on the most recent OKI meeting.

### **Further Business**

There was no further business to report.

### **Correspondence**

One property maintenance report and the "Open Records Report" from the Ohio Coalition for Open Government were received.

Mr. Mestemaker reminded everyone to sign the updated Council agenda for 2007.

There was a motion to adjourn the meeting by Mr. Zech with a second from Mr. Sunderhaus. The motion passed 5-0 by voice vote. The meeting adjourned at 8:25 P.M.