

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

Page 1 of 2

March 1, 2005

The regular session of Council was called to order at 7:35 P.M. with the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of prayer. Roll call was taken and the following were found in attendance:

Mayor	Samuel D. Keller
President of Council	James E. Morganroth
Law Director	Mark G. Waters
Council 1 <sup>st</sup> Ward	Michael J. Murray
Council 3 <sup>rd</sup> Ward	James F. Sunderhaus
Council at Large	Kathleen S. Zech
Council at Large	Charles L. Norman
Council at Large	Michael J. Mestemaker

Mrs. Gooch and Mr. Dinkelacker were not in attendance. Mr. Mestemaker made a motion to excuse Mrs. Gooch and Mr. Dinkelacker. Mr. Sunderhaus made the second. The motion passed 5-0 by voice vote. The minutes of February 15, 2005 were approved. President Morganroth called for the reports that would be presented.

### **Recognition of the Public**

Richard Stepaniak of 3918 Washington Avenue addressed Council to demand an answer from the Law Director. Mr. Waters said that he can not respond as he is employed by the City of Cheviot and can not give advice to a resident. Mr. Stepaniak had several questions which Council attempted to answer to the best of their knowledge. There was much discussion over a variety of topics from the past. Dave Kirchever of 3491 Centurion Drive in Green Township approached Council to state that he did not like the proposed rates for trash collection for apartment and multiple residential houses. He asked Council to evaluate the math. Mr. Norman explained that these are just proposed rates, not the official rates. There was much discussion over this topic. Mr. Kirchever was invited to attend the upcoming Finance Committee meetings.

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

Mr. Neal forwarded a report. A copy of his report is on file.

### **Mayor's Report**

Mayor Keller reported that the City had received a report from the State of Ohio which categorized the Cheviot Public Works Department as a Refuse & Waste hauler. They reported that in 2004, the City of Cheviot had around 5,919 tons of regular garbage. After yard waste and other non-regular types are included the City hauls approx. 7,500 tons of mixed garbage a year. This is a significant amount for a 5 man operation. Mayor Keller also reported about the emergency siren. He stated that he is working to push Hamilton County to pay for this and that he wished that the Western Hills Press editor would have done more research before he wrote the article. Mayor Keller said that at this time the City has placed \$10,000 into this years budget to install the new siren at Cheviot City Hall.

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

Mr. Waters reported that the Roswell's liquor license transfer was approved by the Ohio Liquor Control Board against Cheviot's recommendation not to.

### **Committee Reports**

Ward 1 - Mr. Murray read a report of the Parks and Playgrounds Committee into the record. Mr. Mestemaker made a motion to receive and file with a second from Mrs. Zech. The motion passed 5-0 by voice vote. Mr. Murray then made a motion *To Fix The Rates For Usage Of The*

*Cheviot Pool At Harvest Home Park For The 2005 Season; And To Declare An Emergency* with a second from Mr. Norman. The motion passed 5-0 by voice vote and was assigned as ORD05-09. This concluded the first reading of ORD05-09. Mr. Murray also wanted to thank the Cheviot Civic Association for their donation of \$250 to the Cheviot Fire Department.

Ward 2 - Mr. Dinkelacker did not forward a report.

Ward 3 - Mr. Sunderhaus had no formal report. He did summarize the annual Fire Department report. The Cheviot Fire Department made a total of 134 Fire Runs and a total of 828 Squad Runs.

Ward 4 - Mrs. Gooch called a meeting of the Finance Committee on Tuesday, March 8 at 6:30 P.M. at Cheviot City Hall to discuss several items. Mrs. Gooch presented ORD05-06, *The Garbage Fee Ordinance* for the second reading. Mrs. Gooch presented ORD05-07, *To Establish A New Fund In The City's 2005 Annual Budget; And To Declare An Emergency*, for the second reading. Mrs. Gooch made a motion *To Request Advanced Payment Of First Half, 2004 Real Property Taxes And To Declare An Emergency* with a second from Mr. Murray. The motion carried 5-0 by voice vote and was assigned RES05-04.

Council at Large – Mr. Mestemaker read a report of the Public Utilities and Works Committee into the record. Mr. Mestemaker made a motion to receive and file the report with a second from Mr. Murray. The motion passed 5-0 by voice vote. Mr. Mestemaker made a motion *To Petition The Board Of County Commissioners To Strongly Reconsider Their Decision Not To Financially Assist The City Of Cheviot With The Reconnection And Upkeep Of The Emergency Warning Siren That Currently Stands Non-Operational Atop Cheviot School; And To Declare An Emergency*. Mr. Sunderhaus made the second and the motion passed 5-0 by voice vote. The motion was assigned as RES05-05.

Council at Large - Mrs. Zech had no formal report.

Council at Large - Mr. Norman had no formal report. He wished to comment about the Western Hills Press Article and he stated that the issue was never about if the siren would be fixed, but that it is about small cities getting pushed around by Hamilton County. Mayor Keller reminded everyone that the City stood up against MSD last year and won. Mr. Mestemaker added that issues like these show that Cheviot Council is representing the best interests of the City of Cheviot.

### **Further Business**

There was no further business.

### **Correspondence**

There were four Ohio Municipal League bulletins, a copy of a letter Steve Neal sent to Green Township to request Cable Access Equipment, a notice from the Ohio Division of Liquor Control, and the Hamilton County Board of Elections sent the Certification of Election Results for the February special elections.

There was a motion to adjourn the meeting by Mrs. Zech with a second from Mr. Sunderhaus. The motion passed 5-0 by voice vote. The meeting adjourned at 8:01 P.M.

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Ryan T. Zech  
Clerk of Council

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James E. Morganroth  
President of Council