

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

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May 18, 2004

The regular session of Council was called to order at 7:30 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
Safety Service Director	Steven O. Neal
Council 1 <sup>st</sup> Ward	Michael J. Murray
Council 2 <sup>nd</sup> Ward	Dennis T. Dinkelacker
Council 3 <sup>rd</sup> Ward	James F. Sunderhaus
Council 4 <sup>th</sup> Ward	Debra A. Gooch
Council at Large	Kathleen S. Zech
Council at Large	Charles L. Norman
Council at Large	Michael J. Mestemaker

The minutes of April 20 and May 4, 2004 were approved. President Morganroth called for the reports that would be presented.

### **Recognition of the Public**

Jess Fronk of 3732 Francis addressed Council to complain about the use of the restricted handicap parking near the shelters at Harvest Home Park. He has noticed that on several occasions, people who do not have the necessary parking passes are parking in the restricted spaces. He wanted to know why the Cheviot Police are not enforcing this restricted lot. He is also concerned about the speed that guests of the park are driving while they are inside the park. Mayor Keller explained that this issue has been discussed already. He said that he would also talk with the Police Department to see what they can do about enforcing the rules. There was much discussion about this topic. Two members of Boy Scout Troop 107 based at the Westwood United Presbyterian Church, Brandon McWilliams, and Sean Cinskey, were in attendance to observe City Council for merit badge requirements.

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

Mr. Neal mentioned that the City of Cheviot will have a disaster exercise on Saturday, June 5<sup>th</sup>. It will run from 9 A.M. to 12 P.M. and will involve most parts of the City of Cheviot, but especially the Cheviot Police and Fire Departments. Mr. Neal reported that at the June 1<sup>st</sup> City Council meeting, the City Council will judge food items which will be served at the Westside Street Fest. High grass notices were sent earlier and the City has begun to cut grass on properties which did not comply with the notice. Mr. Neal asked if a property owner were to comply with the first letter that was sent and would a second letter need to be sent if it happens again? Law Director Mark Waters said that he would look into the ordinance. The Safety-Service Director explained that the Cheviot Pool would open on June 5<sup>th</sup> and that Friday, May 21<sup>st</sup> was the last day to receive a discount on a season pass. He also reported that there is a slight delay on the road construction bids since there is a delay in the water main proposals. The target date for the bids is now June 9<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Neal reminded the public that there will be a Memorial Day Parade on Harrison Avenue and North Bend Road. It begins at 11 A.M. on May 31<sup>st</sup>. Mr. Neal then updated Council and the public that the upgrades to the Baseball field at the Cheviot Memorial Fieldhouse are progressing and that the new sod had been laid. He reported that all types of baseball and softball will be able to use the field. Thanks were given to the Cheviot Savings Bank as they gave a \$15,000 donation for the project. Mr. Neal did warn the public that the City doesn't have the funds to provide round the clock security and that the City may not have the funds to maintain the field. There was much discussion about the project. It was stressed that the home plate is a movable type so that the field will work for softball and baseball. Mr. Neal left at 7:57 P.M.

### **Mayor's Report**

Mayor Keller received a letter from Cohen Law Group which specializes in Right of Way fee negotiations. Mayor Keller announced that Police Chief Voss is ill and has been gone for the last two weeks and he will be gone for at least another week. Sergeant Craig Holder is acting Police Chief until June 1<sup>st</sup> when Sgt. Ed Taylor will replace him since Sgt. Holder will be on 3<sup>rd</sup> shift. The Mayor reported that he met with parents at Cheviot School to discuss their concerns with the renovation and addition at Cheviot Elementary School. He reported that most of their concerns were addressed. He reported that Cheviot School will be requesting use of the Cheviot Fieldhouse as a temporary gymnasium while construction is going on. The Mayor reported that he would forward their request to the recreation commissioner. The Mayor attended a public forum which was held at Mercy High School. The event was hosted and organized by the students of Mercy High School. The forum covered a wide variety of things which are or will be occurring within the state of Ohio. Mayor Keller notified Council that he is meeting with the Building Department to discuss enforcement of minimum housing standards.

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

Mr. Waters reported that the lawsuit against the Cheviot Police Department is still on going. It is in the discovery phase and the trial is expected late in 2005. Mr. Waters announced that the City's new drug policy was given to him and he is reviewing it. He said that he hasn't heard about the City's objection to the renewal of the liquor license for Stewarts Irish Pub.

### **Committee Reports**

Ward 1 - Mr. Murray explained that he is still doing research for the Meyerfeld problem. Mayor Keller left at 8:07 P.M.

Ward 2 - Mr. Dinkelacker had no formal report.

Ward 3 - Mr. Sunderhaus had no formal report. Mr. Sunderhaus is working with Chief Clark to research ways to add a third person to the Cheviot Fire Department to help cut down on overtime.

Ward 4 - Mrs. Gooch had no formal report. She did receive a question about a missing crosswalk sign on the corner of Glenmore and Meadow Avenues.

Council at Large - Mr. Mestemaker called for a meeting of the Public Utilities Committee on Thursday, May 20<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 P.M. to discuss the proposal of Current Communications. He then called a meeting of the Streets, Sidewalks, and Lights committee on Thursday, May 27<sup>th</sup> to discuss the proposed changes to the Metro bus routes. He asked for the Law Director and the Cable Access Coordinator to attend.

Council at Large - Mrs. Zech called for a meeting of the Laws, Rules and Ordinances Committee on Thursday, May 27<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 P.M. to discuss mandatory house numbering, lottery winnings being added to the tax codes, and a few other things.

Council at Large - Mr. Norman had no report.

**Further Business**

Mr. Murray made a motion to receive and file the April, 2004 Mayor's Court Receipts. Mr. Mestemaker made the second, and the motion passed 7-0 by voice vote.

Mrs. Zech made a motion to receive and file the April, 2004 Treasurer's Report with a second from Mrs. Gooch. The motion passed 7-0 by voice vote.

**Correspondence**

A letter from Cinergy explaining the proposal to raise rates and why it is necessary was read and is on file. A Ohio Municipal League Bulletin was also received.

There was a motion to adjourn the meeting by Mrs. Zech with a second from Mr. Sunderhaus. The motion passed 7-0 by voice vote. The meeting adjourned at 8:49 P.M.

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Ryan T. Zech  
Clerk of Council

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James E. Morganroth  
President of Council