

MINUTES OF CITY COUNCIL MEETING, CHEVIOT, OHIO

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July 17, 2007

The regular session of Council was called to order at 7:31 P.M. following a Public Hearing on the Tax Budget. The Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of prayer were held. Roll call was taken and the following were found in attendance:

Mayor	Samuel D. Keller
President of Council Pro-Tem	Kathleen S. Zech
Law Director	Mark G. Waters
Safety Service Director	Steven O. Neal
Council 1 st Ward	Ryan T. Zech
Council 2 nd Ward	Dennis T. Dinkelacker
Council 3 rd Ward	James F. Sunderhaus
Council 4 th Ward	Greg J. Stautberg
Council at Large	Charles L. Norman
Council at Large	Steven L. Braun

The minutes of June 19th, 2007 were approved. President Zech called for the reports that would be presented.

Recognition of the Public

Peggy Sullivan of 3970 North Bend Avenue thanked the City on behalf of the CWCA for its cooperation during the Westside Streetfest. Ms. Sullivan said that though they did not have the final numbers in yet, it was a great success. Ms. Sullivan announced the dates for next year's Streetfest would be June 28th and 29th. President Zech thanked the CWCA for all they do for the City.

Ray Kroner of 3820 North Bend Road expressed his concerns about the Municipal Parking lot directly across from his business. Mr. Kroner said there is a lot of congestion from Postal employees using the lot. Mr. Kroner informed Council that he has added parking behind his business for his employees, and thanked Mr. Neal for installing two 15-minute parking meters in front of his business, which he says has helped the situation. Mr. Kroner said he is particularly concerned about the City leasing three parking spaces to a business owner adjacent to the lot to make a potential day care center playground out of the parking spaces. Mr. Kroner informed Council that the business owner is already putting up a fence around the three parking spaces, adding that he is concerned about not only aesthetics, but safety issues as well. Mr. Kroner stated that when this business was built, they were supposed to provide their own parking and build a wall between their building and the municipal lot, neither of which as happened. Mr. Kroner added that the building has sat vacant for most of its existence, and that he was concerned that none of the nearby businesses were notified or asked to give input before these parking spaces were leased to this business owner. Mr. Neal said this step is being taken to encourage business in the City. There was much discussion. Mr. Neal said the lease has not yet been finalized because the Law Director needs to review it first. Mayor Keller suggested that Council needs to review this issue, and recommended that it goes back into it's original Committee for review. President Zech referred the issue to the Finance Committee.

Safety-Service Director's Report

Mr. Neal thanked the CWCA for a donation of new U.S. flags to the City. Mr. Neal informed everyone that the new playground equipment for the Cheviot Fieldhouse has arrived and that he hops to begin installing it early next week. Mr. Neal informed Council that water main work will be beginning on Applegate Avenue, Alex Avenue, Jane Avenue, and Camellia Court in addition to gas main work on Harding Avenue, St. Martin's Place, Mayfair Avenue, Robb Avenue, and Nolan Avenue. Mr. Neal informed Council that he has met with representatives of Duke Energy to ask for better communication with the City on these projects, adding that they then informed him they will be performing gas main work on Harrison Avenue in 2008, as well as gas main work on many other streets throughout the City. Mr. Neal suggested to Council that, since Duke Energy will repave the side of the street they are working on when

replacing gas mains, the City should consider allowing the contractors who perform the work to bid on repaving the entire street as often as possible to save the City money on future repaving projects. Mr. Neal informed Council that he and Tom Braun will be attending an OKI training exercise for future projects. Mr. Neal then informed Council that the City has switched their phone/internet service to NuVox, which will save the City \$500.00 per month. Mr. Neal informed Council that Public Works employee Kevin Egan has been recalled to Active Duty with the National Guard, and added that his youngest brother Jack has been deployed to Afghanistan with the Air Force reserve.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Keller informed Council that the Tax Budget projects a shortfall for 2008, and asked that all members of Council remain after the meeting to sign all necessary copies of the Ordinance approving the proposed Tax Budget. Mayor Keller then updated Council on the City's new Employee Insurance plan.

Law Director's Report

Mr. Waters had no formal report, but did inform Council that he is working on the resolution adopting the contract with the Hamilton County Board of Health, and that it will be ready for the next regular meeting of Council.

Committee Reports

Ward 1 - Mr. Zech had no formal report. Mr. Zech congratulated CWCA on a successful Westside Streetfest, adding that 216 half-barrels of beer were sold. Mr. Zech informed everyone that the City has completed the acquisition of the Cemetery on Harrison Avenue. Mr. Waters informed Council that he currently has the original deed for the property, and will give it to the Mayor to determine which office of the City it will be filed with.

Ward 2 - Mr. Dinkelacker had no formal report. Mr. Dinkelacker informed everyone that the Project Impact Committee will meet again in mid-September to discuss the next steps in the plan. Mr. Neal asked about the results of the Citizen's Survey taken at the Westside Streetfest. There was much discussion. President Zech informed Council that Mr. Neal needed to leave the meeting early, and that they needed to pass a resolution that Mr. Neal needed to take with him. Mr. Braun made a motion *To Approve The Agreement With The Ohio Department Of Transportation For The Traffic Signal Modernization Project On Harrison Avenue; To Authorize The Safety-Service Director To Enter Into The Agreement On Behalf Of The City; And To Declare An Emergency* with a second from Mr. Sunderhaus. The motion carried 7-0 by voice vote and was assigned as RES 07-11.

Ward 3 - Mr. Sunderhaus had no formal report. Mr. Sunderhaus thanked the Second Street Saloon for sponsoring the City's booth at the Westside Streetfest. Mr. Sunderhaus informed everyone that the City is still collecting applications for the Citizen's On Patrol program, and complimented the Police Department for their quick work apprehending a criminal following an aggravated robbery attempt on July 15th. Mr. Sunderhaus then informed the public that July 18th is "Heroes Day" at the Cheviot Public Library.

Ward 4 - Mr. Stautberg read a report of the Public Utilities Committee into the record. Mr. Stautberg made a motion to receive and file the report with a second from Mr. Sunderhaus. The motion carried 7-0 by voice vote. Mr. Stautberg made a motion *To Supplement The Agreement With Integrys Energy Services, Inc. For The Provision Of Natural Gas To The Residents Of Cheviot; To Authorize The Safety-Service Director To Enter Into The Supplemental Agreement On Behalf Of The City; And To Declare An Emergency* with a second from Mr. Dinkelacker. The motion carried 7-0 by voice vote and was assigned as RES 07-12. Mr. Stautberg updated Council on the progress of the Gas Aggregation Program. Mr. Stautberg thanked Kristin Barlag from Tri-Health for her work on the Men's Health Open House at the Cheviot Fieldhouse, and added that there are plans for similar events in the future.

Council at Large – Mrs. Zech had no formal report. Mrs. Zech updated Council on her progress working with American Legal Publishing to codify the City's Ordinances. Mrs. Zech then updated the public on an expanded property tax reduction for seniors. Mr. Braun added that information on how to apply for this tax reduction is available at the Cheviot Public Library as well as at City Hall.

Council at Large - Mr. Norman had no formal report. Mr. Norman made a motion *To Approve The Projected Year 2008 Tax Budget For The City Of Cheviot, Ohio; And To Declare An Emergency* with a second from Mr. Stautberg. The motion carried 7-0 by voice vote and was assigned as ORD 07-20. Mr. Zech made a motion to suspend the rules with a second from Mr. Dinkelacker. The motion carried 7-0 by roll call vote. Mr. Sunderhaus made a motion to adopt with a second from Mr. Stautberg. The motion carried 7-0 by roll call vote.

Council at Large - Mr. Braun read a report of the Streets and Sidewalks Committee into the record. Mr. Braun made a motion to receive and file the report with a second from Mr. Sunderhaus. The motion carried 7-0 by voice vote. Mr. Braun made a motion *To Authorize The Safety-Service Director To Solicit Bids For The Homelawn Avenue Street Project; And To Declare An Emergency* with a second from Mr. Sunderhaus. The motion carried 7-0 by voice vote and was assigned as RES 07-13. Mr. Braun made a motion *To Appoint A Chief Executive Officer, And A Project Manager; To Submit The Necessary Application For The State Capital Improvement Program; To Execute A Project Agreement For The 2008 Program Year; And To Declare An Emergency* with a second from Mr. Stautberg. The motion carried 7-0 by voice vote and was assigned as RES 07-14.

Further Business

Mr. Sunderhaus made a motion to receive and file the June 2007 Treasurer's Report with a second from Mr. Zech. The motion passed 7-0 by voice vote. Mr. Dinkelacker made a motion to receive and file the June 2007 Mayor's Court Receipts with a second from Mr. Zech. The motion passed 7-0 by voice vote. Mr. Zech wished Mr. McGowan a Happy Birthday.

Correspondence

A Legislative Bulletin and a copy of "Cities and Villages" magazine from the Ohio Municipal League, two property maintenance reports, and a report from the Building Inspector on permits and fees were received. At the request of Mr. Stautberg, Mr. Waters updated Council on an employee issue.

There was a motion to adjourn the meeting by Mr. Zech with a second from Mr. Stautberg. The motion passed 7-0 by voice vote. The meeting adjourned at 8:25 P.M.

Matthew D. McGowan
Clerk of Council

Kathleen S. Zech
President of Council Pro-Tem