

MINUTES OF CITY COUNCIL MEETING, CHEVIOT, OHIO

Page 1 of 3

April 4, 2006

The regular session of Council was called to order at 7:32 P.M. with the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of prayer. Roll call was taken and the following were found in attendance:

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| Mayor | Samuel D. Keller |
| President of Council | Michael J. Mestemaker |
| 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 | Kathleen S. Zech |
| Council at Large | Charles L. Norman |
| Council at Large | Steven L. Braun |

The minutes of March 21st, 2006 were 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 informed Council that bids were opened for Property, Casualty, Automotive, and Blanket Liability Insurance Coverage on Monday April 3rd, and he is awaiting input from the Law Director on which bid the City should accept. Bids will open on the Darwin, Dina and Lovell Avenue Projects on April 13th at 11am. Mr. Neal also informed Council of a letter from entertainer Andy Williams supporting the recognition of the Cheviot Fieldhouse on the National Registry of Historic Buildings, and that work on the renovation of the building has already begun. He then informed Council that he is working on various grants for the City with Councilman Norman and Councilman Braun, which they will discuss during their reports.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Keller informed Council that Dewey "Bud" Reed, former maintenance supervisor for the City of Cheviot, has passed away and gave his condolences to Mr. Reed's family. Mayor Keller then informed Council and the public that he has instructed the Safety-Service Director to have Sidewalk Inspector Al Mack start marking sidewalks for repair. Mr. Mack has started with sidewalks on the streets which will be repaired this year, then will proceed through each Ward starting with Ward One. Mayor Keller also informed Council that a librarian from the Cheviot Library would like to meet with them, as well as the Business Association, to further discuss the State's proposed TEL (Tax Expenditure Limitation) Amendment, and that he will report back to Council once the meeting is set up. Mayor Keller reminded Council that wage negotiations with the City's Police, Fire, and Public Works departments are still ongoing.

Law Director's Report

Mr. Waters did not forward a report.

Committee Reports

Ward 1 - Mr. Zech had no formal report, but informed Council that he did receive a notice from Mr. Neal regarding the Cheviot Municipal Pool. The pool will open on June 3rd through August 20th from 12pm to 8pm, and that all rates will stay the same as last year, per Mr. Neal's recommendation.

Ward 2 - Mr. Dinkelacker had no formal report, but did inform Council that the City is moving forward with the Hamilton County Regional Planning Commission. Representatives of the City have already

met with representatives of the HCRPC to discuss issues pertaining to the City, and will be having another meeting on Tuesday, April 11th at 3pm with Hamilton County Commissioner Phil Heimlich.

Ward 3 - Mr. Sunderhaus had no formal report. He did extend thanks to Mrs. Jennifer Holthaus and her 3rd Grade class at St. Martin's School for inviting him to speak to them about City Government. Mr. Sunderhaus then reminded residents of the Community Easter Egg Hunt on April 9th starting at 2pm at Harvest Home Park. The event is sponsored by the Cheviot Police Association, the Cheviot Fireman's Association, and the Cheviot Action Partnership. Mr. Sunderhaus informed Council that he has received a report from Police Chief Voss regarding some activities of the Cheviot Police Department during the 1st Quarter. The report was read and is on file at City Hall. Mr. Sunderhaus then informed the Streets and Sidewalks Committee and Mr. Neal about an email he received from residents of Florence Avenue wondering if their street would be repaired at the same time as the Darwin Avenue repairs are being done. Mr. Sunderhaus then wished all residents of the City a Happy Easter. Mr. Neal informed Council that in addition to the report read by Mr. Sunderhaus regarding the Police Department, the Fire Department is providing a service to residents on how to properly install Child Safety Seats in automobiles, and that one of the citizens who was instructed by the Fire Department was recently involved in an auto accident on Washington Avenue where her SUV was flipped on it's side with a six week old child inside. Due to the instruction provided by the Fire Department, the child escaped unharmed.

Ward 4 - Mr. Stautberg had no formal report.

Council at Large - Mrs. Zech had no formal report. She did remind Council that in addition to the HCRP meeting mentioned by Mr. Dinkelacker, the HCRP is also holding a seminar on April 28th from 8am - 4pm on economic development at the Drake Conference Center. The cost is \$20, includes breakfast and lunch, and the speaker will be State Representative Steve Driehaus.

Council at Large - Mr. Norman had no formal report, but did want to wish his father a Happy Birthday. Mr. Neal then mentioned a letter he had sent to Mr. Norman about a potential \$30,000 grant from the Solid Waste District to help purchase a garbage truck. In order to find out what one would cost and move forward on receiving the grant, Mr. Neal stated that he needs authorization from Council to advertise for bids on a load-packing unit. Mr. Norman made a motion *To Authorize The Safety-Service Director To Advertise For Bids For A Load-Packing Unit; And To Declare An Emergency* with a second from Mr. Sunderhaus. The motion then carried 7-0 by voice vote and was assigned as ORD 06-07. Mrs. Zech made a motion to suspend the rules with a second from Mr. Sunderhaus. The motion carried 7-0 by roll call vote. Mr. Dinkelacker 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 asked Mr. Neal about the letter he was sent regarding a potential grant from ODOT for the replacement of traffic signals. Mr. Neal informed Council that the traffic signals along Harrison Avenue were 30 years old and needed to be replaced. Mr. Neal explained that Council needed to decide if they wanted to receive an 80/20 grant (ODOT would cover 80% of the costs and the City would pay the remaining 20%) or a 70/30 grant. Mr. Neal recommended Council accept the 80/20 grant, as the total cost of this project would be \$497,818 which would make the City's share at 20% \$99,000. Mr. Neal then informed Council that the grant would not take effect until 2009. He then requested Council's input on what type of light poles the city should look to replace the current ones with. Mr. Neal recommended mast-arm poles, as they look nicer and will help beautify the business district. There was much discussion, and President Mestemaker assigned the issue to the Streets and Sidewalks Committee for further review. Mr. Braun called a meeting of the Streets and Sidewalks Committee for Wednesday April 12th at 6:30 to discuss the issue. Mr. Braun then read a report of the Streets and Sidewalks Committee into the record. During his report, Mr. Braun called a Public Hearing to discuss access issues on Marydell Avenue for April 18th at 7pm. Mr. Norman made a motion to receive and file the report with a second from Mrs. Zech. The motion carried 7-0 by voice vote. Mr. Braun then expressed his condolences to the Reed family on the passing of Dewey "Bud" Reed.

Further Business

Mr. Dinkelacker asked Mr. Neal about the engineering fees relating to the proposed replacement of the traffic lights on Harrison Avenue, and what percentage of the total cost of the project these fees made up. There was much discussion, and Mr. Neal said he would look into the issue further.

There were a few questions surrounding the February 2006 Treasurer's Report, and President Mestemaker decided Council would hold off on receiving and filing the report until further clarification was received from the Treasurer. Mr. Zech made a motion to receive and file the March 2006 Mayor's Court Receipts with a second from Mr. Sunderhaus. The motion passed 7-0 by voice vote.

Information was received from Hamilton County Environmental Services requesting Council pass an ordinance approving their plan for the Solid Waste District. President Mestemaker assigned the issue to the Public Works Committee for further review, and Mr. Stautberg called a meeting of the Public Works Committee for Tuesday April 11th at 7pm to discuss the issue. Mr. Neal informed Council that most communities in the area are supporting the plan.

Mayor Keller asked Mr. Zech where the City stood on the Property Maintenance Inspector. Mr. Zech informed Mayor Keller that he is still waiting on information from the Law Director before the City can move forward.

Correspondence

Information from the Health Foundation of Greater Cincinnati on an upcoming seminar, information from Citizens for Tax Reform regarding the TEL Amendment, a letter from entertainer Andy Williams supporting the recognition of the Cheviot Fieldhouse on the National Registry of Historic Buildings, a newsletter from the Mill Creek Watershed Council of Communities, information from Governmental Systems regarding financial management products tailored towards cities and villages, as well as an email from a citizen who lives on Mozart Avenue regarding a dumpster located on that street were received.

President Mestemaker reminded Council of letters they have received from the Building Department regarding problems with properties and what process to take to get them cleaned up. Mr. Neal informed Council about a recent Variance Hearing where a proposal to add a new sign on the corner of North Bend Avenue and Harrison Avenue was rejected. President Mestemaker then reminded Council that their Financial Disclosure forms were due to the State by April 15th.

There was a motion to adjourn the meeting by Mrs. Zech with a second from Mr. Zech. The motion passed 7-0 by voice vote. The meeting adjourned at 8:10 P.M.

Matthew D. McGowan
Clerk of Council

Michael J. Mestemaker
President of Council