

MINUTES OF CITY COUNCIL MEETING, CHEVIOT, OHIO

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February 4, 2003

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:

President of Council	Samuel D. Keller
Law Director	Mark G. Waters
Safety Service Director	Steven O. Neal
Council 1 st Ward	Michael J. Murray
Council 2 nd Ward	Dennis T. Dinkelacker
Council 3 rd Ward	James E. Morganroth
Council 4 th 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 January 21, 2002 were approved. President Keller called for the reports that would be presented.

Recognition of the Public

No one was in attendance.

Safety Service Director's Report

On January 30th, the Cheviot Fire Department reported to a fire at 3805 Harrison Ave., the old Stormy's Bar. The building contains 6 apartments and the bar. The building was vacant at the time of the fire. The fire is being investigated as a suspected arson. SCAT (Special County Arson Team) along with the Cheviot Police and Fire Departments are investigating. The Building had been sold at a Sheriffs sale recently, but the new owner had not closed on the purchase. Currently the building department along with the Law Director is working to determine the actual owner of the building since there is a risk that parts of the building could collapse. The owner is responsible for the costs of tearing down or securing those parts. The City may have to take over and demolish the building, and then place a lean on the property. The cost to demolish could exceed \$14,000. Mr. Neal reported that the Christmas trees at the park have been mulched and people are welcome to take as much of the mulch as they would like. Council should have a resolution establishing a regional storm water council. There is some question as to how this will affect the City of Cheviot. Mr. Neal will report more information to Council later. Mr. Neal also requested a resolution to purchase bituminous materials. Finally, Mr. Neal reported that the Mayor had begun wage negotiations with the Police Department. They have another meeting scheduled for this coming Thursday. They have also scheduled a meeting with the Fire Department. Mr. Mestemaker wanted to know how long the Stormy's building had been vacant. Mr. Murray reported that it had been vacant since before WestFest.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Laumann did not leave a report for Council.

Law Director's Report

Mr. Waters reported that the requested extension from the Hamilton County Court of Appeals had been granted to the end of February. He also wrote an opinion for the Building Department pertaining to the safety of the Stormy's building.

Mr. Murray made a motion *To Petition The Board Of County Commissioners To Establish The Hamilton County Regional Storm Water District; And To Declare An Emergency*. Mr. Dinkelacker made the second. The motion passed 7-0 by voice vote. The motion was assigned as RES03-02.

Committee Reports

Ward 1 - Mr. Murray had no formal report. He did want to remind the public that the Cheviot Eagles would be honoring former Councilmember Marilyn Holt on February 19th at 6 P.M.

Ward 2 - Mr. Dinkelacker had no formal report.

Ward 3 - Mr. Morganroth had no formal report. He did mention that the Cheviot Fire Department had sent out the end of year report to members of Council.

Ward 4 - Mrs. Gooch had no formal report. She did request a meeting of the Finance Committee on Feb. 11 at 6:30 P.M. at Cheviot City Hall to discuss the certificate of resources and to begin working on the budget.

Council at Large - Mr. Mestemaker had no formal report. Mr. Mestemaker made a motion *To Authorize And Direct The Safety-Service Director To Adviertise For Bids For The City's Purchase Of Bituminous Materials; And To Declare An Emergency.* Mr. Murray made the second. The motion passed 7-0 by voice vote. The motion was assigned as RES03-03.

Council at Large - Mrs. Zech had no formal report. Mrs. Zech wanted to commend everyone that's helped with the Cheviot Cable Access production of the Cheviot Shootout.

Council at Large - Mr. Norman had no formal report.

Further Business

Mrs. Zech made a motion to receive and file the January, 2003 Mayor's Court Receipts. Mr. Mestemaker made the second and the motion passed 7-0.

Correspondence

There were several Ohio Municipal League newsletters. There was a request for a liquor license for the Cheviot Fire Association. Mr. Neal and Mr. Morganroth suggested that the request be held off since they believe that the Cheviot Fire Association will repeal its request. The clerk reminded Council to get the Ohio Ethics Commission information in by April 15th. Mr. Zech also reminded Council to turn in the contact information sheet to him as soon as possible. The clerk informed viewers that the CFA Cheviot Shootout was broadcasted live on Fridays, and was replayed the following Sunday and Thursdays at 9 A.M. and that the entire tournament will be replayed on Fridays and Sundays after the Finals. Finally, Mr. Zech offered his thoughts and prayers to the friends, family and crew of the Space Shuttle Columbia which disintegrated on Feb. 1st upon re-entry.

There was a motion to adjourn the meeting by Mr. Morganroth with a second from Mr. Norman. The motion passed 7-0 by voice vote. The meeting adjourned at 7:50 P.M.

Ryan T. Zech
Clerk of Council

Samuel D. Keller
President of Council