

MINUTES OF CITY COUNCIL MEETING, CHEVIOT, OHIO

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March 15, 2005

The regular session of Council was called to order at 7:36 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 st Ward	Michael J. Murray
Council 3 rd Ward	James F. Sunderhaus
Council 4 th Ward	Debra A. Gooch
Council at Large	Kathleen S. Zech
Council at Large	Charles L. Norman

Mr. Dinkelacker was not in attendance. Mr. Murray made a motion to excuse Mr. Dinkelacker. Mr. Mestemaker made the second. The motion passed 6-0 by voice vote. The minutes of March 1, 2005 were approved.

Ray Kroner, Diane Dimica, and Tony Michael of the Cheviot-Westwood Kiwanis presented Mayor Keller with a check for \$25,000 to the City of Cheviot to be used for the new picnic shelter to be built at the Cheviot Fieldhouse. Mr. Neal explained that there are countless numbers of things that the Cheviot-Westwood Kiwanis have done for the City over the years and that a lot of these things came out during the City's many tax levy information meetings. He thanked the Kiwanis for their generous support of the City of Cheviot. Mayor Keller echoed Mr. Neal's comments, and repeated that the City cannot give enough thanks to the Kiwanis.

Jay Borgading of the Cheviot-Western Hills Masonic Lodge presented Mayor Keller with a check for \$1,000 toward the early warning siren.

Mr. Neal explained that he was going to address the siren during his report, but that he would give the update at this point in the meeting. He took a moment to thank Cheviot City Council for passing a resolution supporting his stance with Hamilton County. He explained that the he was approached by the Cheviot Eagles, the Cheviot Fireman's Association, the Cheviot Police Association, the Cheviot Elks Lodge, the Knights of Columbus, the Cheviot-Westwood Kiwanis, the Cheviot-Western Hills Masonic Lodge and Cheviot Savings Bank. These organizations and businesses all wished to contribute toward the purchase of the new early warning siren to be installed at Cheviot City Hall. He explained that the siren is scheduled to be up and running by noon on March 16, 2005. Mr. Neal pointed out that the Cheviot Savings Bank donated \$3,000 toward the cost of the siren. A member of the Cheviot Eagles donated \$100 toward the siren, of which \$20 of that amount was from his 13 year old son. He explained how heart-warming it was to see how generous everyone has been. Mayor Keller took a few minutes to echo Mr. Neal's comments and to thank all the individuals and organizations and businesses that did what they could to help the residents of Cheviot, Green Township and Cincinnati.

President Morganroth called for the reports that would be presented.

Recognition of the Public

Richard Stepaniak of 3918 Washington Avenue asked for a copy of ORD05-06. Mr. Waters gave it to him.

Safety-Service Director's Report

Mr. Neal quickly explained that the Carrie Avenue re-construction is still on going. He explained that crews from Cinergy were replacing the Gas Main on one end, while the Cincinnati Water Works were replacing the water main at the other end, all while the street repairs were being done in the center section of the road. He reported that the road should be completed in mid-May. Mr. Neal reported that the Cheviot Building Department has changed their hours to Monday through Friday 8 A.M. until 4 P.M.

This is the result of Mr. Braun, the foreman of the Cheviot Maintenance Department, taking over the operations of the Cheviot Building Department to free up time for the inspectors to do the inspection work. There was much discussion about this topic.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Keller made a request that some members of the City Council and City Administration work with the Cheviot-Westwood Community Association to address the number of empty businesses in Cheviot. He requests that Mr. Neal, Mr. Braun, and the Mayor attend their meetings. Mayor Keller explained that Mr. Braun is adding on several new responsibilities including overseeing the Cheviot Building Department. He explained that Mr. Braun would still have his old responsibilities as well. As a result he asks that residents please be patient with Mr. Braun as he is beyond multi-tasking. Mayor Keller suggests that Mr. Braun is good at making things happen and that he is a good fit to help build the Cheviot Business District. Mayor Keller reported that he too is working behind the scenes and that the former Anthony's restaurant has been sold. He reported that he still has 4 other major properties to tackle. There was much discussion.

Law Director's Report

Mr. Waters had no formal report. Mr. Stepaniak requested legal advice from the Law Director, he responded that he could not provide that to him, as he is the City's legal Counsel. Mr. Stepaniak asked to see him after Council.

Committee Reports

Ward 1 - Mr. Murray made a motion to suspend the rules on ORD05-09, *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. Mestemaker. The motion carried 6-0 by roll call vote. Mrs. Zech made a motion to adopt with a second from Mr. Murray. The motion passed 6-0 by roll call vote. This concluded the second and final reading of ORD05-09. Mr. Sunderhaus originally abstained on this vote as his daughter works at the Harvest Home Pool, but he agreed to vote after Mr. Waters advised him that this is not a conflict of interest. Mr. Murray then made a motion *To Set The Compensation Rate For Personnel Working At The City Swimming Pool For The 2005 Season*. Mrs. Gooch made the second. The motion carried 6-0 by voice vote and was assigned as ORD05-10. This concluded the first reading of ORD05-10.

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

Ward 3 - Mr. Sunderhaus had no formal report. He wished everyone a Happy Saint Patrick's Day.

Ward 4 - Mrs. Gooch presented ORD05-06, *To Establish A Trash Collection Fee For Property Owners In The City Of Cheviot; To Set The Rates For Such Fee; And To Set The Time Period For Such Fee* for its third and final reading. The motion passed 6-0 by roll call vote. This concluded the third and final reading of ORD05-06. There was much discussion about the rates and the charges per unit/house. Mrs. Zech complimented Mrs. Gooch for her hard work on this. Mrs. Gooch commented that there was much input from many individuals including residents, business owners, Council members and that she feels they have put together a fair fee structure. Mrs. Gooch then presented ORD05-07 for the third but not final reading. She explained that more time was needed for a response from the State and that this ordinance should be passed before the end of the month. Mrs. Gooch called a meeting of the Finance Committee on Monday, March 21 at 6:30 P.M. at Cheviot City Hall. She then requested a special session of City Council on Monday, March 21 at 7:30 P.M. at Cheviot City Hall to pass the 2005 Appropriations. Mr. Mestemaker asked a question about why 2 and 3 unit apartment building paid more. Mrs. Gooch explained why the fee structure was set up this way.

Council at Large – Mr. Mestemaker had no formal report.

Council at Large - Mrs. Zech had no formal report. She informed Council that she was still waiting for Building Commissioner Charlie Meyer to get his requests together. She wished her husband Charlie a happy 43rd Wedding Anniversary which will be on St. Patrick's Day. She also wished everyone a very Happy St. Patrick's Day.

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

Further Business

Mayor Keller took a moment to thank the entire Cheviot City Council and the City of Cheviot Administration for their hard work on the Trash Fee and the Special Election. He explained that this Council can overcome any obstacle.

Mr. Sunderhaus made a motion to receive and file the February, 2005 Treasurers Report with a second from Mrs. Gooch. The motion passed 6-0 by voice vote. Mr. Murray made a motion to receive and file the February, 2005 Mayor's Court Receipts with a second from Mrs. Gooch. The motion carried 6-0 by voice vote.

Correspondence

There were two Ohio Municipal League bulletins, a letter from the Army Corp. of Engineers which explained the recent status of the Mill Creek Renovation Project, and a notice from the Ohio Liquor Control Board reminding us that all liquor licenses are due to be renewed by June 1st. Mayor Keller requested that Mrs. Zech hold a meeting of the Laws, Rules and Ordinances Committee to discuss how Council renews liquor licenses.

There was a motion to adjourn the meeting by Mrs. Zech with a second from Mr. Sunderhaus. The motion passed 6-0 by voice vote. The meeting adjourned at 8:25 P.M.

Ryan T. Zech
Clerk of Council

James E. Morganroth
President of Council