

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

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March 4, 2003

The regular session of Council was called to order at 7:35 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 <sup>st</sup> Ward	Michael J. Murray
Council 3 <sup>rd</sup> Ward	James E. Morganroth
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

Mr. Mestemaker made a motion to excuse Mr. Dinkelacker with a second from Mr. Murray. The motion passed 6-0 by voice vote. The minutes of February 18, 2002 were approved. President Keller called for the reports that would be presented.

### **Recognition of the Public**

Peter Leeds of 3223 Wardall Avenue addressed Council to complain about the parking habits of the employees of the Cheviot-Westwood Branch of the U.S. Post Office. He wonders what the City can do to keep the employees from parking their cars on Wardall during the day. He stated that the parking lot for the post office is empty during the whole day. Due to the location of his driveway being on a slight crest of a hill, it makes it hard for him to see out of his driveway when leaving. The added hassle of looking around vans and SUV's has caused Mr. Leeds to be nearly involved in three accidents in the last month. He also doesn't like that there is no where to park on the street for his guests. There were several questions for Mr. Leeds from various Council Members. Mr. Neal stated that he would personally call and talk to the Post Office about the issue and that he would contact Mr. Leeds about possible solutions.

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

Mr. Neal reported that bids were opened at 11 A.M. on Monday, March 3<sup>rd</sup> for bituminous materials. The City accepted the bid of Valley Asphalt which is \$2.00 per ton more than the previous year. Mr. Neal recommends that we accept the bid. Mr. Neal said he spoke with the Law Director and the Ordinance will be ready for Council at the next meeting. Mr. Neal also reported that Northside Bank will take care of the demolition of the old Stormy's building at 3805 Harrison Avenue and that the demolition work should begin within the next week. Finally, Mr. Neal mentioned to Council that the Cheviot-Westwood Business Association will be donating new banners to the City of Cheviot to be put on telephone poles. He explains that they are just waiting for them to come in, and that this is why the Christmas Holiday Banners are still up. He thanked Time Warner Cable for their assistance with hanging the banners up. Mr. Mestemaker requested that Mr. Neal set up reserved parking for Council Members at City Hall.

### **Mayor's Report**

Mayor Laumann left no report.

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

Mr. Waters reported that the brief is due this Friday for the City's appeal of the storage costs of the impounded DUI vehicle. He reported that the negotiations with the Police and Fire Departments were still underway. Finally, he placed a copy of a letter that he sent to Monfort Supply in the mailbox of each Council member. The letter was in response to a letter sent to the Building Department.

### **Committee Reports**

Ward 1 - Mr. Murray had no formal report.

Ward 2 - Mr. Dinkelacker was not in attendance, but left word that he was doing some research pertaining to the Bruestle Avenue Property for Mr. Mestemaker's Committee.

Ward 3 - Mr. Morganroth had no formal report.

Ward 4 - Mrs. Gooch wanted to clarify that in the February 18, 2003 minutes Mr. Neal reported that he would need an appropriation change for the SCMR fund. Mrs. Gooch wanted to clarify that there would not be a need for a change; she suggested that the change will just be made in the annual appropriation ordinance. Mrs. Gooch made a motion *To Transfer Funds; And To Declare An Emergency*. Mr. Mestemaker made the second. The motion passed 6-0 by voice vote and was assigned RES03-04. Mrs. Gooch called a meeting of the Finance Committee on Wednesday, March 5<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 P.M. with the hopes of finishing up the annual appropriations.

Council at Large - Mr. Mestemaker read a report of the Public Utilities and Works Committee into record. Mr. Mestemaker made a motion to receive and file the report with a second from Mrs. Zech. The motion passed 6-0 by voice vote. Mr. Mestemaker mentioned that the Streets, Sidewalks, and Lights Committee meeting that was scheduled on the same night did not occur due to an error. Mr. Mestemaker asked to reschedule that meeting to Tuesday, March 11<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 P.M. at Cheviot City Hall. Mr. Mestemaker wanted to commend Officer Patton for doing a good job enforcing traffic laws in front of Mr. Mestemaker's home on Washington Avenue. He also requested that the Police Department place the speed radar sign on his street to slow traffic down.

Council at Large - Mrs. Zech proceeded with the second and third reading of ORD03-04. Mr. Murray made a motion to suspend the rules with a second from Mr. Mestemaker. The motion carried 6-0 by roll call vote. Mr. Morganroth made a motion to adopt with a second from Mr. Norman. The motion carried 6-0 by voice vote. Mrs. Zech mentioned that there was not much to report about Wage Negotiations. She asked Council to consider following the request of the Ohio Municipal League to write a letter to the State Legislature to oppose cuts to local government assistance. There was much discussion with different ideas brought up. No action was taken on the suggestion.

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

### **Further Business**

Mr. Murray added that the Cheviot Civic Association has a meeting on March 5<sup>th</sup> where they will present a \$500 donation to the Cheviot Police Department.

Mr. Murray made a motion to receive and file the February 2003 Mayor's Court Receipts. Mrs. Zech made the second. The motion passed 6-0 by voice vote.

**Correspondence**

The Ohio Municipal League and Hamilton County Environmental Services both sent newsletters. Mr. Zech wished Jarod Schmitz a happy birthday. He also informed Council that he spent some time over the weekend reorganizing the Clerk Files for easier searching, and by re-labeling the Ordinance, Resolution, and minutes books so that they are easier to search as well.

There was a motion to adjourn the meeting by Mr. Morganroth with a second from Mr. Norman. The motion passed 6-0 by voice vote. The meeting adjourned at 8:03 P.M.

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Ryan T. Zech  
Clerk of Council

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Samuel D. Keller  
President of Council