

MINUTES OF CITY COUNCIL MEETING, CHEVIOT, OHIO

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June 16, 2009

The regular session of Council was called to order at 7:30 P.M. with the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence. Roll call was taken and the following were found in attendance:

Mayor	Samuel D. Keller
President of Council	Deborah M. McKinney
Law Director	Mark Waters
Council 1 st Ward	Ryan A. Zech
Council 2 nd Ward	Matthew D. McGowan
Council 3 rd Ward	James F. Sunderhaus
Council at Large	Kathleen S. Zech
Council at Large	Dennis T. Dinkelacker
Council at Large	Steve L. Braun

President McKinney informed Council Mr. Stautberg was to be absent from the meeting due to personal issues. A motion to excuse Mr. Stautberg was made by Mr. Sunderhaus, seconded by Mr. McGowan. The motion was passed with a 6-0 voice vote. President McKinney stated there is one piece of legislation, a resolution regarding a transfer of funds. A motion to approve and file the minutes for June 2, 2009 was made by Mr. McGowan, seconded by Mr. Dinkelacker. The motion passed with a 6-0 voice vote.

Public Recognition on Agenda Items

No members of the Public were recognized to address any of the agenda items.

Reports of Standing Committees

There were no reports of any standing committees.

Introduction of Ordinances and Resolutions

Mr. McGowan made a motion to introduce by Title a resolution *To Transfer Funds; and to Declare an Emergency*. A motion to introduce was made by Mr. McGowan and seconded by Mr. Sunderhaus.

There was no discussion on the resolution.

The motion passed with a 6-0 voice vote. The resolution was assigned resolution number 09-08. The resolution was adopted.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Keller updated Council and the Public on the progress of wage negotiations. He stated that Walter Edwards is preparing the contract for the Maintenance Union. Mayor Keller informed Council that the contract will then be reviewed by Mr. Waters, the Mayor and Ms. Zech. Mayor Keller hopes to finalize the contract at the next meeting.

Mayor Keller stated that negotiations are continuing with the Fire Department.

Mayor Keller also informed Council that fact finding will begin with the FOP on July 29, 2009 at 12:30pm.

There were no questions for Mayor Keller.

Safety-Service Director's Report

Mr. Neal left a report for Council. President McKinney read it into the record. The report can be reviewed at City Hall. The report included updates on the Harrison Avenue project, the swimming pool, the property on Darwin Avenue, salt bids and extra police patrols.

There were no questions or concerns about Mr. Neal's report.

Law Director's Report

Mr. Waters reiterated that fact finding will begin with the FOP on July 29, 2009. Mr. Waters also stated there is a hearing at 10:00am on July 16, 2009 concerning the unfair labor practice charge that the FOP filed against the City. The charge is related to shift scheduling. Mr. Waters will attend the hearing with Chief Voss and any other city representatives needed for the meeting.

The ordinance to approve the AFSME contract is finished and waiting for the final contract.

A letter was received from an attorney concerning a traffic accident the police department was involved in near North Bend and Westwood Northern Blvd. Mr. Waters stated once he receives a copy of the accident report, he will respond to the letter.

There were no questions for Mr. Waters.

Public Recognition on Other Issues

Mr. Charlie Norman addressed Council concerning the City of Cincinnati's plans to privatize Water Works. The City of Cincinnati plans to create a third party, the Regional Water District, to pay the City \$475 million for all the assets of Water Works. With interest, this amounts to \$17 million for 70 years. There is a question of where the Regional Water District will obtain the funds for the sale. Mr. Norman stated that the majority of the funds will come from rate hikes of existing customers. This will affect all in Cheviot. The City of Cincinnati's financial problems are well documented and the City Manager stated that the sale will fill the budget gap. Mr. Norman asked that Council and Administration review his information in Mr. Dinkelacker's committee and formally oppose this issue. Mr. Norman stated that Cheviot officially doesn't have a vote in the matter but a letter or resolution could make a difference.

President McKinney asked Mr. Dinkelacker to have the External Affairs Committee review the issue.

Marsha Spraul, a resident on Harding, stated that the City did a good job cleaning up the residence on the corner of Francis and Harding. Tom Braun and the Maintenance Department came in and cleaned the area up.

Other Business

President McKinney stated that Mr. Vitor contacted the City regarding the Harrison Avenue property and the purchase of it. Mr. Vitor requested that the city help with its demolition. President McKinney asked Mr. Braun's Building and Annexation Committee to review the issue.

Mr. McGowan called a meeting of the Finance Committee for Monday June 22, 2009 at 6:00p.m. The upcoming tax levy will be discussed.

Mr. Braun called a meeting of the Building and Annexation Committee immediately following the Finance Committee Meeting on June 22, 2009.

Mayor Keller informed Council that the Glenmore Avenue property sale has been finalized. That is the third completed \$1 home for the City of Cheviot. Mayor Keller asked Mr. Braun to look into the progress of the Darwin property as regards to demolition. The City received a tax bill for the property. There was much discussion on the topic.

Mayor Keller also discussed Mr. Vitor's ideas for the Harrison Avenue project. Mr. Vitor hopes to work with the City on this property.

Mr. Dinkelacker called a meeting of the External Affairs Committee for Tuesday June 30, 2009 at 7:00pm.

Ms. Zech stated the City has a booth at Westfest to promote the levy.

Mayor Keller asked Clerk McKinney how recently the website had been updated. Clerk McKinney stated that all Council minutes that have been approved are posted on the website. All ordinances and resolutions are filed. The website does not list each individual piece of legislation. Mayor Keller stated the FOP requested that the website be up to date.

Mayor's Court and Treasurer's Receipts

There were no receipts.

Correspondence

- Safety-Service Director's Report
- Best Practices Update from the State Auditor

Mr. Dinkelacker asked what the status was of the tax bill for the Darwin property and the Cemetery. The Mayor stated that the City is currently holding both bills. The City is in the process of filing the correct paperwork concerning the Cemetery. The Darwin property is still to be addressed. There was much discussion on the issue.

There was a motion to adjourn the meeting by Mr. McGowan, seconded by Ms. Zech. The motion passed 6-0 by voice vote. The meeting adjourned at 7:50 P.M.

Rachel A. McKinney
Clerk of Council

Deborah M. McKinney
President of Council