

MINUTES OF CITY COUNCIL MEETING, CHEVIOT, OHIO

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July 15, 2003

Mr. Keller called to order a public hearing on the proposed 2004 Tax Budget at 7:33 p.m. and opened up the floor for discussion. There was no discussion. The public hearing was closed at 7:40 p.m.

The regular session of Council was called to order at 7:41 P.M. with the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of prayer. Roll call was taken and the following were found in attendance:

Mayor	J. Michael Laumann
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	Michael J. Mestemaker

Mr. Mestemaker made a motion to excuse Mr. Norman with a second from Mrs. Zech. The motion passed 6-0 by voice vote. The minutes of June 17, 2003 were approved. President Keller called for the reports that would be presented.

Recognition of the Public

Mr. Jerome Hicks of 3827 Kenker addressed Council about a problem that he has with sewage backup into his basement every time it rains. He contacted the Metropolitan Sewer District and they haven't helped any. There is a 30 inch combination main which runs diagonally underneath his basement. Mr. Hicks is looking for the City to assist him with dealing with the County. The Mayor acknowledged that the problem that Mr. Hicks has is an on going issue that the City has with M.S.D. and that the City is just as frustrated with the problem as the home owners are. There was much discussion involving most of Council. Mr. Neal gave Mr. Hicks some phone numbers of people to contact. Mr. Neal agreed to make some calls on behalf of Mr. Hicks.

Donna Besse of 3726 Robb Avenue questioned how many dogs are permitted within the City of Cheviot. Mrs. Besse approached Council about a neighbor whose 10 dogs have become a menace with several even being vicious. Mrs. Zech informed Mrs. Besse of a pending Ordinance which will limit the number of animals that a person can have. Mrs. Zech made arrangement to contact Mrs. Besse with information about when the meetings for this proposed Ordinance will occur. There was much discussion over this issue involving most of Council. Mayor Laumann suggest that Mrs. Besse and her neighbors use the existing noise ordinance and call the police to take care of the barking at night issue.

Safety Service Director's Report

Mr. Neal reported that following the recent string of storms that he had received numerous complaints about sewage back-ups. He said that he was going to talk to the Metropolitan Sewer District about the long list of streets that were affected. Mr. Neal stressed to the public that they should call M.S.D. every time that they have a back-up so that M.S.D. can become aware of the problems areas. Mr. Neal reported that the road work on Glenmore and Meyerfeld should begin on August 4 and will be completed before the Harvest Home Fair. The Cheviot Municipal Pool experienced a failure of the motor which ran the filter. The motor and pump were replaced in order to keep the pool operational, and this tied with the high number of rainy days and decreased memberships will result in the pool operating in the red this year. Mr. Neal mentioned that Amy Dabble, a kindergarten teacher at St. Al's, is organizing a Clean Up Cheviot Day on Saturday, July 19th at 8:45 A.M. at Harvest Home Park. The City donated garbage bags and gloves to be used. The Westside Street Fest was a success with an estimated 85,000 people attending. There were 11 arrests total during the course of the event. Mr. Neal complimented the City of Cheviot Maintenance crew for the fast clean up that they did and the Cheviot Police and Fire no

Departments. There were complaints related to the Westside Street Fest. Mr. Mestemaker inquired about the police staffing policy during festivals. Mr. Neal responded that the Police Chief makes this decision. There was much discussion on personnel management with in the Police Department during a festival. Mr. Murray thanked Mr. Neal for the addition of a speed limit sign on Harrison Avenue.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Laumann congratulated the organizers of the Westside Street Fest and the Cheviot Maintenance Department for a job well done. Mayor Laumann thought the event was well received and he mentioned that the Cheviot-Westwood Business Association has already begun planning for next year's Street Fest. Mayor Laumann mentioned the 2004 tax budget, and that it looks like things are heading in the right direction with some areas moving from the red to the black. The biggest purchase for the next year will be a police cruiser; all other items look to be about the same as this year. Mr. Murray made a motion *To Approve The Projected Year 2004 Tax Budget For The City Of Cheviot, Ohio; And To Declare An Emergency* with a second from Mr. Dinkelacker. The motion passed 6-0 by voice vote and was assigned as ORD03-18. Mr. Murray made a motion to suspend the rules. Mr. Mestemaker made the second. The motion carried 6-0 by roll call vote. Mr. Morganroth made a motion to Adopt with a second from Mrs. Gooch. The motion passed 6-0 by roll call vote.

Law Director's Report

Mr. Waters announced that there is one additional case that needs to be filed against a delinquent tax payer in which a resolution will be needed. Mr. Murray made a motion *To Authorize And Direct The Law Director To Take The Legal Action Necessary To Collect A Delinquent Tax Account; And To Declare An Emergency* with a second from Mrs. Gooch. The motion passed 6-0 by voice vote and was assigned as RES03-11.

Committee Reports

Ward 1 - Mr. Murray had no formal report. He announced that the CAP movie in the park would be on July 25 at dusk in the barn at Harvest Home Park.

Ward 2 - Mr. Dinkelacker had no formal report. He called a meeting of the Sewers Committee on Tuesday, July 29 at 6:30 P.M. at Cheviot City Hall to discuss the CDM sewer modeling and the storm water issues.

Ward 3 - Mr. Morganroth had no formal report.

Ward 4 - Mrs. Gooch had no formal report. Mrs. Gooch made a motion *To Transfer Funds; And To Declare An Emergency*. Mr. Morganroth made the second. The motion passed 6-0 by voice vote and was assigned as RES03-12. Mrs. Gooch called for a meeting of the Finance Committee on July 29 at 7:00 P.M. at Cheviot City Hall.

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

Council at Large - Mrs. Zech read a report of the Laws, Rules and Ordinances Committee into the official record. Mrs. Zech made a motion to receive and file the report with a second from Mr. Mestemaker. The motion carried 6-0 by voice vote. Mrs. Zech presented *The Tall Grass Ordinance* for its first reading. Mr. Murray made the second. The motion passed 6-0 by voice vote and was assigned as ORD03-19. Mr. Keller thanked the Laws, Rules and Ordinances Committee and the Law Director for their work on this issue.

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

Correspondence

The Mayor's Court Dates for August will be Monday, August 11 and 25 at 6 P.M. One Ohio Municipal League bulletin was received. O.K.I. sent notice that they have moved their headquarters.

Further Business

Mr. Mestemaker made a motion to receive and file the June 2003 Mayor's Court Report with a second from Mrs. Zech. The motion passed 6-0 by voice vote.

There was a motion to adjourn the meeting by Mr. Morganroth with a second from Mr. Dinkelacker. The motion passed 6-0 by voice vote. The meeting adjourned at 8:59 P.M.

Ryan T. Zech
Clerk of Council

Samuel D. Keller
President of Council