

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

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July 20, 2004

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:

Mayor	Samuel D. Keller
President of Council	James E. Morganroth
Safety Service Director	Steven O. Neal
Council 1 <sup>st</sup> Ward	Michael J. Murray
Council 2 <sup>nd</sup> Ward	Dennis T. Dinkelacker
Council 3 <sup>rd</sup> Ward	James F. Sunderhaus
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

The minutes of June 15, 2004 were approved. President Morganroth called for the reports that would be presented. There was much discussion about an ordinance for workman's compensation. Mr. Neal joined a new workman's compensation group on July 2, but the bill must be paid soon. Mr. Waters was not in attendance so it will be handled at the next Council meeting.

### **Recognition of the Public**

No one from the public wished to speak.

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

Mr. Neal reported that the City will renew Health Insurance through the Center of Local Government. The bargaining units for the City's Police, Fire, and Maintenance departments had to approve this change. All three units agreed to the change. The City will enroll in the emerald plan which should save the City \$31,000 a year. Plus at the next renewal the City will be apart of a larger pool of workers, which allows for better pricing. There will be two changes which are the result of the plan change. The first is that on the old plan covered 100% of in-patient hospital stays. The new plan has a \$250 co-pay. The City is offering to reimburse for every other co-pay for in-patient stays. The second change has to do with the out-patient co-pay. The City will reimburse for every other co-pay of a \$100 for out-patient co-pays. Mr. Neal said that the Ordinance for the health coverage change needs to be passed at this meeting. Mr. Mestemaker asked if the \$31,000 would be locked in for every year. The reply was no that it could go up or down and much discussion followed. Mr. Neal also reported that the City of Cheviot would work with the City of Cincinnati to repair all sections of Everett and Cheviot Avenues. An ordinance will be needed to authorize the agreement. Mr. Murray made a motion *To Approve A Contract With The Center For Local Government For The Provision Of Health Insurance Benefit Purchasing And Administration; To Authorize The Safety-Service Director To Enter Into The Said Contract On Behalf Of The City; And To Declare An Emergency.* Mr. Mestemaker made the second. The motion passed 7-0 by voice vote. The motion was assigned as ORD04-16. Mrs. Zech made a motion to suspend the rules. Mrs. Gooch made the second. The motion passed 7-0 by roll call vote. Mr. Mestemaker made a motion to adopt with a second from Mr. Norman. The motion carried 7-0 by roll call vote. Mr. Sunderhaus made a motion *To Approve A Contract With The City Of Cincinnati For The Sharing Of Costs In The Resurfacing Of Portions Of Cheviot Avenue And Everett Avenue; To Authorize The Safety-Service Director To Enter Into The Said Contract On Behalf Of The City; And To Declare An Emergency.* Mr. Dinkelacker made the second. The motion passed 7-0 by voice vote and was assigned as ORD04-17. Mr. Mestemaker made a motion to suspend the rules with a second from Mr. Murray. The motion passed 7-0 by roll call vote. Mr. Dinkelacker made a motion to adopt with a second from Mrs. Zech. The motion carried 7-0 by roll call vote. Mrs. Gooch reminded Mr. Neal about a missing street sign. Mr. Neal left Council early to close the Swimming Pool.

**Mayor's Report**

Mayor Keller reported that the City Auditor is in attendance to answer any questions about the proposed budget. Mayor Keller explained that he had worked with the Auditor to create the budget. Mayor Keller shows that projections showing the City down at the end of the 2004 fiscal year. The budget projections for 2005 indicate that the City of Cheviot will have a deficit. Mr. Mestemaker asked how the police cruisers, trucks, etc. are financed. Mayor Keller replied that 4 year notes are usually issued. There was much discussion. Mayor Keller pointed out that even if the major items were removed from the budget, the City would still be in a large deficit. Mr. Dinkelacker asked what the improvements to the Field House were. Mayor Keller explained that a small repair to the roof, tuck pointing repair to some exterior walls, and some other minor repairs. Mr. Murray made a motion *To Approve The Projected Year 2005 Tax Budget For The City Of Cheviot, Ohio; And To Declare An Emergency* with a second from Mrs. Gooch. The motion passed 7-0 by voice vote and was assigned as ORD04-18. Mr. Sunderhaus made a motion to suspend the rules with a second from Mr. Mestemaker. The motion passed 7-0 by roll call vote. Mr. Dinkelacker made a motion to adopt with a second from Mr. Murray. The motion passed 7-0 by roll call vote. Mayor Keller requested an executive session following Council. Mr. Murray made a motion to adjourn into executive session at the end of the regular Council meeting with a second from Mr. Sunderhaus and a third from Mrs. Gooch.

**Law Director's Report**

Mr. Waters did not forward a report to Council. Mayor Keller excused himself from the meeting and stated that he would return for the executive session.

**Committee Reports**

Ward 1 - Mr. Murray reminded the public that there was a movie in the park on Friday, July 23 in Harvest Home Park at dusk.

Ward 2 - Mr. Dinkelacker had no formal report.

Ward 3 - Mr. Sunderhaus had no formal report.

Ward 4 - Mrs. Gooch had no formal report. Mrs. Gooch reported that she will be unable to attend the next meeting. Tax Office has requested an increase in the fines for failure to file taxes. That should be ready at the next meeting.

Council at Large - Mr. Mestemaker read a report of the Streets, Sidewalks, and Lights committee into the record. Mr. Mestemaker made a motion to receive and file with a second from Mr. Murray. The motion passed 7-0 by voice vote.

Council at Large - Mrs. Zech had no formal report. Mrs. Zech reported that the Laws, Rules and Ordinances Committee are working on the House Number Ordinance and that it should be ready at the next meeting. The committee will look at a request from the Safety Service Director to amend the tall grass ordinance to allow hand delivery instead of mailing the notice. The L.R.O. Committee is still looking into lottery winnings and if they are taxable, along with housing codes and the disaster plan.

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

**Further Business**

Mr. Murray made a motion to receive and file the Mayor's Courts receipts for June, 2004 and the Treasurer's Report for June, 2004. Mr. Sunderhaus made the second. The motion carried 7-0 by voice vote.

**Correspondence**

Several building department reports were received. A letter was received from a Jim O'Reilly a representative of the storm water management district wanting a no vote on the storm water management district budget. A copy of this letter was placed in everyone's box. A letter from the Ohio Municipal League was received which showed how the local government and Library funds have decreased over the years. A notice was placed in most everyone's mailbox pertaining to Cinergy providing high speed internet over electric lines.

Council Adjourned to executive session at 8:08 P.M.

There was a motion to adjourn the meeting by Mrs. Zech with a second from Mr. Sunderhaus. The motion passed 7-0 by voice vote. The meeting adjourned at 9:22 P.M.

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Ryan T. Zech  
Clerk of Council

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James E. Morganroth  
President of Council