

MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL

FEBRUARY 22, 2010

Call to Order

Mayor Ronald A. D'Epifanio called the Regular Meeting to order at 7:00 PM at the Fairfield Municipal Building, 5350 Pleasant Avenue.

Prayer/Pledge of Allegiance

Councilmember Senger led in prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call

Clerk Johns called the roll of Council. Present members were Councilmember Snyder, Councilmember Oler, Councilmember Senger, Councilmember Abbott, Councilmember Rhodus, and Councilmember Meyers.

Councilmember Snyder, seconded by Councilmember Oler moved to excuse Councilmember Judd. Motion Carried 6-0.

Executive Session Requests

Councilmember Snyder, seconded by Councilmember Rhodus moved to Approve an Executive Session to discuss employment and compensation of personnel and pending and imminent litigation. Motion Carried 6-0.

Agenda Modifications

No modifications were made to the agenda.

Public Hearing(s)

Special Presentations and Citizen Comments

Environmental Chair Karen Fields presented the Fairfield's Forest Citizen Award to Kris Roselle for her many years of volunteering for the City, her efforts with the Emerald Ash Borer Program and many other contributions. Ms. Roselle briefly discussed the accomplishments and changes of the Environmental Commission. Ms. Roselle gave special thanks to Dave Crouch, Ben Strickler, Bob Breen, Councilmember Tim Meyers and members of the Environmental Commission. Ms. Fields awarded Rumpke as the Business Award winner for 2009 for their support of the City's community outreach booth, Home Expo, recycling efforts, and their participation in the Great Miami River Sweep. Jeff Rumpke commented on the recycling improvements they have made. Tom Turchiano, Rumpke Municipal Representative stated it is great to have partnerships with Fairfield. He discussed growth in recycling tonnage for Fairfield.

Mr. Keith Darby, 9 Peachtree Court, read from the Codified Ordinances regarding the clearing of sidewalks of snow and ice. He discussed his concern with snow and ice not being removed from residential sidewalks. Law Director John Clemmons commented that the purpose of the ordinance is to make it clear that the maintenance of the sidewalk belongs to the home owner, not the city. He further commented to his knowledge the City has never enforced it due to the number of elderly and disabled residents that do not have the means to get this done. Mr. Darby commented that the ordinance also covers maintenance of the sidewalks for replacement and asked why only half of the ordinance is being enforced. Mr. Clemmons agreed that a notice can be placed in the newsletter and the website letting residents know of their responsibility. Mr. Clemmons further commented he thinks there are too many people who cannot comply with that to begin a mass enforcement. Mayor D'Epifanio commented his insurance company advises against clearing his sidewalk because he is then responsible if someone falls.

Mayor/Council Reports

Councilmember Snyder recognized Mercy Hospital Fairfield for their new Acute Rehab facility.

Councilmember Rhodus announced the SAAB dealership on Route 4 has been rented. Also, Planning Commission approved the modified conditional use of the Aveda building on Muhlhauser that will be occupied by a church with 300 members. Councilmember Rhodus stated he would like the Council-Manager Briefings to be held in this room and televised.

Councilmember Senger displayed and discussed a certificate recognizing the City of Fairfield as the Groundwater Guardian Community by the Groundwater Foundation for the 13th consecutive year. He thanked Dave Crouch and those at Public Utilities for their efforts.

Councilmember Oler briefly discussed the upcoming retirement of Butler Tech CEO Bob Summers and the fact that Butler Tech is number one in Ohio under his short tenure. He stated Butler Tech's impact isn't just on local school districts it also is on the community and communities around us. He further discussed the vocational school impact on the community. He stated he hopes the Board will use good judgment in selecting a replacement, so Butler Tech can move forward.

Mayor D'Epifanio announced the district wrestling tournament will be on Friday and finish on Saturday. He discussed a call he received from Superintendent Cathy Milligan's expressing her appreciation for the city's snow removal efforts.

Approval of Minutes

- Regular Meeting of February 8, 2010.

The minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 8, 2010 were approved as written.

OLD BUSINESS

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

Mike Oler, Chairman; Marty Judd, Vice Chairman; Mitch Rhodus, Member

Ordinance to authorize the City Manager to enter into a contract with Rozzi's Famous Fireworks Inc. for the annual Red, White and Kaboom Event.

Councilmember Oler presented the third reading of this ordinance. Councilmember Oler, seconded by Councilmember Abbott moved to Adopt. Motion Carried 6-0. ORDINANCE NO. 18-10 ADOPTED 6-0.

COMMUNITY & PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Mike Snyder, Chairman; Tim Abbott, Vice Chairman; Terry Senger, Member

Ordinance to authorize the City Manger to enter into a consulting agreement with Management Partners, Inc. for training of City staff on performance measurement and declaring an emergency.

Councilmember Snyder presented the third reading of this ordinance. Councilmember Oler commented on whether we feel the need for our people to have it. He stated the recommendations should come from administration and department heads and he is concerned about their feelings on this training. City Manager Pizzano commented it was brought to Council based upon the suggestion at their retreat. He further commented he feels this is the right group to do this and will assist us in work with ICMA effort and our routine metrics. Councilmember Abbott commented this is a great program with a lot of opportunities to allow us to benchmark for the future. Councilmember Meyers commented our department heads do a great job, but any time a piece of equipment is wanted in the City, Council always reviews it and if it is a betterment of the City it is approved. He further commented this training is something positive that will enhance our department heads performance. Further, he commented members of City Council every year go to the National League of Cities training in different parts of the nation and money is spent on that. Councilmember Snyder commented we are moving down the road of becoming more focused on benchmarks and metrics and this is an opportunity to involve our people with a professional organization that will hopefully assist us in continuing to move down that path and to provide additional training to work even better with the metrics we are requiring our folks to use. Mayor D'Epifanio stated he stands by his comments from last meeting.

Councilmember Snyder, seconded by Councilmember Abbott moved to Adopt. Motion Carried 6-0. ORDINANCE NO. 19-10 ADOPTED 6-0.

NEW BUSINESS

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMITTEE

Terry Senger, Chairman; Tim Meyers, Vice Chairman; Marty Judd, Member

Ordinance to authorize the City Manager to enter into a one (1) year contract with Carmeuse Lime & Stone, Inc. for the purchase of lime for use in the Water Division.

Councilmember Senger, seconded by Councilmember Rhodus moved to Read the following ordinance by title only. Motion Carried 6-0. Background: City Manager Pizzano recommended an ordinance to enter into a one year contract with Carmeuse Lime & Stone to purchase lime for use in the water division. He explained the lime is a water softening agent and Carmeuse was the lowest responsible bidder. Legislative Action: Councilmember Senger presented the first reading of this ordinance. Councilmember Senger, seconded by Councilmember Rhodus moved to Suspend the rules requiring three readings of the ordinance. Motion Carried 6-0. Councilmember Senger, seconded by Councilmember Rhodus moved to Adopt. Motion Carried 6-0. ORDINANCE NO. 20-10 ADOPTED 6-0.

FINANCE & BUDGET COMMITTEE

Tim Abbott, Chairman; Terry Senger, Vice Chairman; Michael Oler, Member

Appropriation Ordinance (Non-Contractual Items) - \$95,000 for 2010 Annual Drainage Program; \$62,000 for 2010 Grounds, Entry-ways & Landscaping Program; \$15,700 for Patterson Drive Streetscape Plan Design Services.

Background: City Manager Pizzano recommended the following non-contractual items: \$95,000 for 2010 Annual Drainage Program; \$62,000 for 2010 Grounds, Entry-ways & Landscaping Program and \$15,700 for Patterson Drive Streetscape Plan Design Services. Legislative Action: Councilmember Abbott presented the first reading of the ordinance. Councilmember Abbott, seconded by Councilmember Rhodus moved to Read the following ordinance by title only. Motion Carried 6-0. Councilmember Abbott, seconded by Councilmember Rhodus moved to Suspend the rules requiring three readings of the ordinance. Motion Carried 6-0. Councilmember Abbott, seconded by Councilmember Rhodus moved to Adopt. Motion Carried 6-0. ORDINANCE NO. 21-10 ADOPTED 6-0.

Meeting Schedule

Clerk Johns read the following meeting notices:

- Saturday, February 27 Special Meeting (Executive Session) - Board/Commission Interviews; 8 a.m.
- Monday, March 8 Council- Manager Briefing, 6 p.m.; Regular Meeting, 7 p.m.
- Monday, March 22 Council- Manager Briefing, 6 p.m.; Regular Meeting, 7 p.m.

Executive Session of Council (if needed)

Council adjourned to Executive Session at 7:34 PM.

Adjournment

No announcements were made as a result of the Executive Session of council. The Regular Meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM.

ATTEST:

Clerk of Council

Mayor's Approval

Date Approved _____