

MINUTES OF THE WORKSHOP MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL

Held on Monday, August 3, 2009

6:30 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER

The workshop meeting of Sidney City Council was called to order at 6:30 P.M. Monday, August 3, 2009, with Mayor Mike Barhorst presiding. Mayor Barhorst welcomed those in attendance and explained a workshop meeting is simply a working meeting for Council.

ROLL CALL

The following Council members were present and answered roll call: Mike Barhorst, Frank Mariano, Katie McMillan, Tom Miller, Mardie Milligan, and Terry Pellman.

Also attending was: City Manager Steve Stilwell, Law Director Mike Smith, Asst. City Manager-Administrative Services Tom Judy, Police Chief Kevin Gessler, Public Works Director Bill Gosciewski, City Engineer Scott Landon, and Utility Director Chris Clark.

Discussion – Traffic Safety Update

Public Works Director Gosciewski reviewed some proposed changes to traffic conditions around Lowell Elementary School, Whittier School, Emerson Elementary and Parkwood School. He noted since Lowell is being closed and the usage of the Parkwood building is changing, signage in those areas needs to be changed. The proposed change to Whittier and Emerson buildings deals with traffic flow as well as drop-off and pick-up areas. Gosciewski noted no Council action is necessary for some of these changes and appropriate legislation will be returned for Council's consideration on those areas where necessary.

Council member Milligan questioned whether walk signals in the area of Lowell School will be removed and Gosciewski responded additional review will be done before any walk signals would be removed.

Council member McMillan advised she had received a call during the winter concerning snow piled at the corner of Belmont and Broadway, causing children to walk in the street to get around. Gosciewski indicated he would look into this.

Gosciewski indicated the school signs would be replaced at Parkwood, but the no turn on red signs would not be replaced until further checking is done later in the year to see if these are necessary.

Discussion – County Utility Coordination

Utility Director Clark recognized the Stephens Subdivision residents in attendance at tonight's meeting and reviewed the City's 2007-2008 proposed Ohio Job Ready Site Program for this area, which failed to receive funding. Clark noted following much discussion with County Engineer

Bob Geuy, staff is now recommending amending Chapter 920 of the Codified Ordinances to allow the City to provide sewer services to County owned and operated facilities without annexation (would serve the Stephens Subdivision), as requested by the appropriate County authority or the Ohio EPA. He reviewed the following conditions for such service:

- County shall make separate applications to the City for each facility that needs City services
- County shall continue to operate and maintain the sewer facilities
- Sewer shall be master metered
- City shall bill the County for sewer based on master meter readings and shall include the applicable outside City surcharge

Mayor Barhorst questioned whether the County has polled the residents in the Stephens Subdivision concerning this possibility and Clark responded he only knew this was their intent.

Councilman Mariano commended staff for finding a way to make this work as well as work with the County. Mariano added he would hope the residents would choose to annex to the City at some point because of the many services residents of Sidney are already enjoying.

Mayor Barhorst questioned how much I & I is in the Stephens Subdivision and Clark responded he would provide this information. City Manager Stilwell shared Bob Geuy had indicated I & I concerns would be addressed early in this process.

Council member McMillan questioned whether the County is in favor of this proposal and City Manager Stilwell noted they are not interested in annexation; adding he thinks they appreciate the City and County working together and they understand the County is under the EPA “gun” to get something done with the sewer issues.

Councilman Mariano questioned the timeline for this project and City Manager Stilwell indicated it is hoped necessary legislation could be adopted August 24 and then the County could work their own timeline to get this project moving.

Council member McMillan questioned funding for this project and City Manager Stilwell indicated the County has received a couple of grants and loans for their portion of the project.

Council agreed to introduce the necessary legislation for this project at their August 10, 2009 meeting.

August Planning Commission Activity

City Manager Stilwell reviewed the items scheduled for the August 17, 2009 Planning Commission and Zoning Board of Appeals meetings.

Upcoming City Council Agenda Items

Stilwell next reviewed the prospective Council agenda items for the next 30 days.

ADJOURNMENT

At 7:32 PM, with nothing further to come before Council, Councilman Mariano moved and Councilman Miller seconded a motion to adjourn. The roll call vote was unanimous and the meeting was adjourned.

The meeting was held pursuant to Sidney City Council Rules.

Respectfully submitted,

M. Jocene Fahnestock
City Clerk

Mayor