

## **MINUTES OF THE WORKSHOP MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL**

Held on Monday, March 2, 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, March 2, 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, and Mardie Milligan.

Also attending was: City Manager Steve Stilwell, Law Director Mike Smith, Asst. City Manager-Administrative Services Tom Judy, Public Works Director Bill Gosciewski, Finance Officer Ginger Adams, Utility Office Supervisor Karen Berning, and City Engineer Scott Landon.

### **Discussion – Solid Waste Contract Bids**

Asst. City Manager-Administrative Services Tom Judy recognized Utility Office Supv. Karen Berning and Sally Wood from Shelby County Recycling in attendance for tonight's meeting; as well as representatives from Allied Waste. He reviewed the bid results for the new contract for solid waste disposal; noting if services are maintained at the current level, there will be a 13.6% increase to customers the first year of a three-year contract and 3% increase each following year. Judy noted the yard waste portion of the contract is responsible for most of this increase.

City Manager Stilwell noted the amount of increase in this new contract is not unexpected as past contracts had no provision for increased fuel costs.

Mayor Barhorst questioned what percentage of customers recycle and Sally Wood reported approximately 30-35% use this service. The question was then raised whether recycling could be collected every two weeks and Judy indicated this would be discussed later during contingency review of the budget.

Councilman Mariano questioned whether the City could offer incentive for customers to recycle and Judy responded there is no incentive built into the present contract.

Judy noted big item pickup would increase 20% the first year and then 3% each of the following years. Yard waste would increase 68%

Mayor Barhorst questioned whether only those customers using yard waste disposal could be billed for this service and Judy responded this would not be feasible.

Judy explained biodegradable bags could be used for yard waste, resulting in a \$30,000 savings per year. This would reduce the increase for yard waste from 68%, down to 31%.

After much discussion Council agreed with the recommended changes to the solid waste contract:

- Contract with Allied Waste
- Continuation of current service levels except:
  - Two recycling bins
  - Reduced CSR hours
  - Prohibit non-biodegradable bags for yard waste
- Continue using Shelby County Recycling
- Consider yard waste program alternatives before 2010 yard waste season

Judy next reviewed proposed changes to the Solid Waste Ordinance to incorporate the above discussions.

Councilman Miller commented he has a little trouble with the proposal to prohibit scavenging of recyclable materials in light of the current economy.

Utility Office Supervisor Berning reported her office receives two or three calls per week complaining of people scavenging through recyclables.

Council member McMillan also voiced her non support of the language concerning prohibiting scavenging; while Councilman Mariano commented he could support this language.

Legislation will be brought to Council for consideration at their March 9, 2009 meeting and the scavenging issue can be further discussed.

### **Discussion – Wapakoneta Reconstruction**

Public Works Director Gosciewski brought Council up to date on the proposed Wapakoneta Avenue Reconstruction Project running from I-75 to the Parkwood intersection, noting ODOT District 7 advised the City we have been selected for funding for this project. Gosciewski advised the funding is expected to be \$2M and will be part of a Small Cities grant for Federal highway funds. He noted since this project will require a modified plan and design due to reduced funding, staff has begun the process of seeking additional funds from various sources. Gosciewski reported the County has agreed to financially support this project up to 25%, with 62% coming from ODOT, 6% from Ohio Public Works Commission; leaving 7% to come from the City. He shared a tentative project schedule showing this project completed in 2011.

Gosciewski reviewed proposed ideas for adjusting funding levels in the department budget and Councilman Mariano voiced concern with the suggestion to move Pinehurst and Edgewood storm improvement projects back in order to free up money for this Wapakoneta project. Gosciewski commented he felt these two storm improvement projects could be moved a couple of years, but other projects could also be moved to accommodate the storm projects if Council chose.

Mayor Barhorst questioned whether sidewalk should be considered for both sides of Wapakoneta and Gosciewski agreed to take another look at this.

Council agreed to move forward with the necessary legislation for this reconstruction project.

## **March Planning Commission Activity**

City Manager Stilwell reviewed the items scheduled for the March 16, 2009 Planning Commission meeting; noting there was no meeting scheduled for the Zoning Board of Appeals for March.

## **Upcoming City Council Agenda Items**

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

## **Council/City Manager Comments**

Council member Milligan moved and Councilman Mariano seconded a motion to excuse Councilmen Hamby and Pellman from tonight's meeting due to family health issues. The roll call vote followed unanimously.

Mayor Barhorst thanked Gosciewski for correcting the traffic concerns he had reported on SR 47 at I-75 as well as Wapakoneta and Russell.

City Manager Stilwell advised Council the annual Hazardous Waste Drive will be April 18 and the City flag has once again been hung on display at City Hall.

Mayor Barhorst recognized the government students in attendance for tonight's meeting (Erb, Bell, and Raterman).

## **ADJOURNMENT**

At 7:53 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