

MINUTES OF THE WORKSHOP MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL

Held on Monday, May 2, 2011

6:30 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER

The workshop meeting of Sidney City Council was called to order at 6:30 P.M. Monday, May 2, 2011, with Mayor Barhorst presiding.

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, Public Works Director Chris Clark, Finance Officer Ginger Adams and Community Services Director Dulworth. Other staff members in attendance were: City Engineer Scott Landon, Assistant City Engineer Nick Miller, Street Superintendent Marty Keifer, Utility/Street Admin. Secretary Joyce Reier, WTP Superintendent Larry Broughton, WTP Assistant Superintendent Sean Withrow and WWTP Superintendent Brian Schultz. Jerry Kauffman from the Tree Board was also present.

DISCUSSION – Consumer Confidence Reports

Water Treatment Plant Assistant Superintendent Sean Withrow presented an overview of the City's 2010 Consumer Confidence Report. Under the Safe Drinking Water Act, each municipality is required to provide a Consumer Confidence Report by July 1st of each year. The City has performed all of the required analytical tests on the drinking water and all of the contaminants that the City is required to monitor resulted in "No Violations" of the Safe Drinking Water Act Standards. Following the distribution of the report, there will be a Public Meeting on July 20, 2011 at the Water Treatment Plant beginning at 3:00 p.m.

During the presentation, S. Withrow noted the volume of testing required around the clock by the WTP personnel. Councilman Miller inquired as to the impact a new water source would have on the amounting of tests needed. The amount of tests is expected to be reduced since the new water source would be more consistent, less susceptible to contaminants, compared to the Miami River source.

WTP staff are fully certified, Class IV operators and frequently assist surrounding communities as a professional courtesy. Operational assistance is provided at no charge; the City is reimbursed for any emergency testing conducted.

Council members expressed their appreciation to Superintendent L. Broughton and his staff for doing a good job.

DISCUSSION – Phase I Wapak Reconstruction Update/Phase II Funding

Assistant City Engineer Nick Miller gave Council an update on the reconstruction of Wapak Avenue. He reminded Council that weekly updates will be posted on the City website. A Public Meeting with the contractor (VTF Contractors – Celina) and the neighbors is tentatively scheduled for May 27, 2011 at Council Chambers. Details will be posted on the website and in the local newspaper.

DISCUSSION – Census Results and Ward Re-districting

CSD B. Dulworth reported on the results of the 2010 census. The 2010 census shows the population for the City of Sidney is 21,229, an increase of 1,018 persons from the 2000 census count of 20, 211.

Section 105.01 of the City’s Codified Ordinances states that the City is “subdivided into four wards...which boundaries are so fixed so that each ward shall contain as nearly as practicable an equal number of inhabitants.” Staff will research options in adjusting the ward boundaries to accomplish the equal balancing of the four wards. In the event the ward boundaries are adjusted, staff will work with the Board of Elections to notify the affected residents.

DISCUSSION – Urban Forestry Update

Street Superintendent M. Keifer presented an update on the City’s activities in urban forestry including: forestry brochure to be published soon, working on link to website, 2011 street tree pruning program and EAB grant received from the Western Lake Erie Basin Tree Program.

Sidney is currently one of the few towns without a confirmed EAB issue. The grant funds (\$5,794.61) will be used to reimburse the City for cost to remove and replant trees as permitted in the grant program.

Councilman Pellman commended the City staff and the Tree Board volunteers for their hard efforts and many hours invested in the community. Mayor Barhorst added his appreciation and noted that the Board members work well together and seem to have a good time doing it.

DISCUSSION – Ohio EPA Industrial Pretreatment Streamlining Rules

Wastewater Treatment Plant Superintendent B. Schultz led a discussion regarding the new Ohio EPA Industrial Pretreatment Streamlining rules, how the changes will impact the industrial customers, and the timing for the proposed Ordinance amendments. B. Schultz explained that while the City is required to adopt the changes in the Ordinance to comply with the EPA rules, we are not required to change our processes. The City does not have the manpower to police all of the industrial users. The staff will be acting in an advisory capacity to the industrial users; looking into the cause of a problem and researching solutions. All industrial users will be duly notified when the changes are put into place. Recommended Ordinance changes are expected to be provided to Council later this fall.

REVIEW OF UPCOMING ZONING BOARD/PLANNING COMMISSION AGENDA FOR MONDAY, MAY 16, 2011

CSD B. Dulworth reported that there are two items on the agenda for the Zoning Board of Appeals: a fence height variance for DP&L and a rear yard set back variance for a new Advanced Auto store on Michigan Ave. The Planning Commission will review a request from AutoTech, Fair Road, regarding the buffer and transition plan.

UPCOMING CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEMS

CM Stilwell briefly reviewed the prospective Council agenda items for the May 9th and 23rd Council meetings.

COUNCIL/CITY MANAGER COMMENTS

Council member Milligan inquired about the cost assessment for the Taylor Building demolition, whether the City will be asking for reimbursement of the demolition cost only or for all the services leading up to and including the demolition. CM Stilwell replied that the staff is in the process of pulling those figures together.

Councilman Mariano asked for clarification about the future of the Taylor Building site, once it has been cleared. The property will remain privately owned; the City has no rights or authority on the future development or usage of the site.

Mayor Barhorst announced that Thursday, May 5th is National Day of Prayer. Vice Mayor M. Milligan will be attending the event at the First Baptist Church in the Mayor's absence.

Mayor Barhorst provided Council members with a copy of a proposed letter to the Compensation Commission. If there are no changes to the draft, he will be mailing it in the near future.

ADJOURNMENT

At 7:52 PM, with nothing further to come before Council, Councilman Miller moved and Councilman Mariano 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,

Joyce L. Goubeaux
City Clerk

Mayor