

MINUTES OF THE WORKSHOP MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL

Held on Tuesday, September 6, 2011

6:30 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER

The workshop meeting of Sidney City Council was called to order at 6:30 P.M. Tuesday, September 6, 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, Terry Pellman and Steve Wagner.

Also attending was: Interim City Manager Tom Judy, Public Works Director Chris Clark, Assistant Parks Director Jim Heuing, Finance Officer Ginger Adams, Police Chief Kevin Gessler, Fire Chief Brad Jones and Community Services Director Barbara Dulworth. Other staff members in attendance included: Water Treatment Plant Superintendent Larry Broughton, City Surveyor Randy Magoto, Cemetery Foreman Luke Voisard and Recreation Specialist Jennie Rogers.

Discussion – Summer Recreation & Pool Report

The Council was given an overview of the 2011 Summer Recreation programs and pool report by Recreation Specialist Jennie Rogers. All programs were open to the public, free of charge. Pool rentals doubled from 2010, possibly due to the poor local economy and families choosing to stay closer to home for family outings. The Summer Food Program, sponsored by a grant from Ohio Department of Agriculture, was held at five locations throughout the city. The pool revenue totaled \$97,811.25, an increase of \$12,211.07 over 2010. Other activities offered during 2011 included Stories in the Park (Amos Memorial Library), Clinics for tennis, hiking, biking, arts and crafts, soccer, basketball, baton, Fishing Derby, Art in the Park (Gateway Arts Council), and Checking out the Creek (Soil and Water Conversation).

Council members complimented Ms. Rogers and staff for a job well done in providing these recreational programs to the public.

Discussion – 5-Year Plan

Interim City Manager Tom Judy began the discussion of the 5-Year Plan, outlining the review process and the budget balancing strategies established by the staff in creating the 5-year Plan. A summary of the effects of the budget reductions in the last several years was highlighted on a department by department basis. The City staff has been able to provide the same services to the residents by “doing more with less” but the general public needs to understand that drastic cuts have been made by the City, some of which may not be sustainable in the long term.

Finance Officer G. Adams then reviewed the Operating Plan (general fund balances, income tax collections through July 2011, and the effect of the State budget changes for 2011 – 2016). Council member McMillan requested a one-sheet summary of the proposed fee increases for a typical household (i.e. what each fee covers, current charge, proposed charge and a total for the year). Staff will also provide a copy of the PowerPoint presentation to Council members in a pdf format.

ICM T. Judy and Public Works Director C. Clark led a discussion regarding the Capital Improvement Fund, including sources of revenue and expenditures for the next five years.

Council members were in agreement that communication is key to getting the message out to the residents and explaining the “what and why” of the municipal fee increases. Discussion on the 5-year plan will continue at the September 26, 2011 regular meeting, with the adoption of a resolution at the October 10, 2011 meeting.

REVIEW OF UPCOMING ZONING BOARD/PLANNING COMMISSION AGENDA FOR SEPTEMBER 19, 2011

CSD B. Dulworth reported that the Zoning Board of Appeals will be reviewing six items at the September meeting. There is a Zoning Code amendment on the agenda for the Planning Commission

UPCOMING CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEMS

ICM Judy briefly reviewed the prospective Council agenda items for the September 12 and September 26 Council meetings.

ADJOURNMENT

At 8:18 PM, with nothing further to come before Council, Councilman Mariano moved and Council member McMillan 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