

Centerville City Council
Work Session Meeting
March 10, 2014

TIME: 6:00 P.M.

PLACE: Centerville Municipal Building

Mayor Mark Kingseed
Deputy Mayor Brooks Compton
Councilmembers: John Beals
Paul Gresham
Belinda Kenley
John Palcher
JoAnne Rau

Clerk of Council Debra James
City Manager Gregory Horn
Police Chief Bruce Robertson
Finance Director Steven Hinshaw
City Planner Andrew Rodney
Public Works Director Robert James
City Engineer Douglas Spitler
Assistant to the City Manager Jennifer Wilder
Economic Development Administrator Nathan Cahall
Human Resources Manager Ginger Yonak
Municipal Attorney Scott Liberman

Council took the opportunity to discuss some of the agenda items not covered at the Council Retreat of February 15, 2014.

Ms. Yonak reviewed the City's wellness initiatives, including active Safety Committees, health fairs, free smoking cessation classes, a talk by a nutritionist, etc. The City tries to promote healthy lifestyle choices for employees; wellness practices may ultimately reduce diseases and lower long-term health insurance costs. Ms. Yonak discussed the City's tobacco policy and further steps that could be taken toward a tobacco-free environment. She described a program of not hiring new employees who are tobacco users for benefit-eligible positions. The Affordable Care Act (ACA) and HIPPA have rapidly changing legal requirements to which the City must adhere. Council was in agreement to support tobacco-related wellness measures for current employees and to no longer consider applicants for benefit-eligible positions if they use nicotine or tobacco products.

Ms. Yonak talked about the ways to promote a *Healthier Centerville*. Ms. Gopman had submitted a written report concerning possible Get Active Campaigns for the City and noted programs that had been done in the past. NLC currently is promoting Let's Move Cities and Towns and also the Safe Routes to Schools Program. Following discussion, Mr. Horn stated that he would brainstorm with staff for additional ideas for a local effort in the interest of the health of our citizens. Dr. Gresham stated his willingness to circulate a memo to his contacts, following a decision on a plan of action.


Council discussed how to protect City revenue from the continuing efforts of state legislators to decrease local government funding. Mr. Horn noted that it is important to stay in touch with our legislators. Mrs. Kenley expressed an interest in serving on the Ohio Municipal League Board. Council concurred to have Council Members meet with our legislators once or twice a year in Columbus, possibly in January and July.

Dr. Hinshaw reviewed the findings of a staff study on the potential benefits of establishing a Mayor's Court. Discussion was held on the pros and cons of forming a Mayor's Court. Having the court here would benefit our taxpayers by keeping the court costs in Centerville and being more convenient for our residents. Council authorized Mr. Horn to move forward with the planning for the implementation of a Mayor's Court.

In response to a retreat agenda item about public assistance to help senior citizens or impaired adults maintain their properties, Mr. Horn advised that the main resources were the Ombudsman Program, faith-based aid and the network built by Sande Heck, our code enforcement officer. Following discussion, it was the consensus of Council that the City has a suitable program at this time.

Mrs. Wilder presented a report on Code Enforcement Trends for Residential Property Maintenance. The presentation showed violations for different residential neighborhoods and types of violations—vehicles, vegetation, property/structures, maintenance and other miscellaneous items. The software program implemented in 2010 called "Zone Pro" helps track these items. Council expressed interest in establishing an inspection program for the interior and exterior of properties prior to the closing of a sale of residential properties in the City. Since the City is interested in keeping property values sound, suggestions were made concerning an article for the Town Crier and a report during a Council Meeting promoting property maintenance and education. Mrs. Wilder will report to Council in late fall on the 2014 grass mowing season.

Mrs. Kenley moved that Council convene into Executive Session to discuss Economic Development with regard to the Cornerstone North Development, Litigation and Personnel. Mr. Beals seconded the motion. A roll call vote resulted in seven ayes in favor of the motion. After no official business was conducted, Dr. Gresham moved that Council adjourn out of Executive Session. Mrs. Kenley seconded the motion. A Roll call vote resulted in seven ayes in favor of the motion.


Debra A. James
Clerk of Council

Approved 
C. Mark Kingseed, Mayor