

Centerville City Council
Work Session Meeting
June 8, 2009

TIME: 7:00 P.M.
PLACE: Centerville Municipal Building
Mayor C. Mark Kingseed
Deputy Mayor Doug Cline
Councilmembers John Beals
Brooks Compton
Paul Gresham
Belinda Kenley
James Singer
Assistant Clerk of Council Julie Weaver
City Manager Gregory Horn
Assistant to the City Manager Jennifer Wilder
Finance Director Steve Hinshaw
Public Works Director Rob James
City Engineer Doug Spitler
City Planner Steve Feverston
Economic Development Administrator Nathan Cahall

Citizens: Ken Hahn, Regis Lekan and Rodney Miller

Deputy-Mayor Cline made a motion to convene into Executive Session regarding Personnel. Mr. Beals seconded the motion. A roll call vote resulted in seven ayes. At such time, after no official business was conducted, Dr. Gresham moved that Council adjourn out of Executive Session. Mr. Cline seconded the motion. A roll call vote resulted in seven ayes in favor of the motion.

Council concurred to place on the agenda for the June 15th meeting the appointment of Sue Butler for a three year term on the Centerville Arts Commission. They concurred that Doris Ventolini will also be on the agenda for reappointment to the City Beautiful Commission.

Mr. Terry Leach of American Municipal Power of Ohio, a non-profit power company whose owners are municipalities, spoke to the Council concerning an option for supplying natural gas to City of Centerville residents and small commercial businesses at a guaranteed lower variable rate than Vectren is able to offer. In spite of the fact that customers will pay sales taxes on this natural gas purchase, the average natural gas customer would save \$45-55 per year with AMP Ohio under its current contract with Interstate Gas Supply. AMP Ohio has been working with MVCC to propose the plan to local communities which have passed issues on election ballots requesting inclusion in aggregate offers. Mr. Leach explained how the price of natural gas is determined, who would be eligible for this lower variable aggregate rate, how the citizens would be notified of the option, and the regulations prohibiting fees for changing suppliers. Billing

for the natural gas would come through Vectren and the monthly amount that Vectren charges for the distribution of natural gas will be the same regardless of which supplier is chosen. Following discussion, Council asked for the related legislation to be prepared for the meeting on June 15, 2009.

Bob Kyvik, 2555 Goodfield Point, Washington Township, expressed distrust of some of the information in the *Washington Township Quarterly*, calling it "propaganda." He stated that he wished to ask the people in the community who were willing to serve on the Merger Study Commission to write letters to the editors of our local newspapers to challenge the information and keep the issues before the voters. He questioned the wisdom of the Washington Township Trustees in purchasing Rec West and noted his opinion that the Trustees purchased land at Social Row Road and Sheehan Road in order to halt Centerville annexation rather than to enhance green space. He does not believe that the Trustees equally represent both the incorporated and the unincorporated residents of Washington Township.

Mayor Kingseed thanked Mr. Kyvik for all his efforts and his interest in the merger issue. He told Mr. Kyvik that the City is not willing to take the lead in challenging Washington Township residents on the merger issue at this point. Mayor Kingseed invited Mr. Kyvik to come to a televised council meeting and encouraged Mr. Kyvik to follow up with the Merger Commission nominees to see if they are interested in writing the letters to the editor as he suggested. The City will provide a list of the names and addresses of the merger study commission members, but will not write letters to point out discrepancies in the information in the *Washington Township Quarterly*.

Because of the length of the agenda, Mr. Horn asked that Mr. James hold the report on the automated refuse truck until another meeting.

Mr. Feverston gave a report on the progress of the update of the Ditch Maintenance Policy. The most recent changes were made in 1996. Staff members from the City Manager's Office, Public Works, and Planning have met four times to consider how to consolidate old documents into one comprehensive policy. Some of the topics to be included are guidelines for maintenance of public and private drainage areas, definitions of responsibilities of the City and of owners, a summary of applicable laws, a timetable for inspections, provisions for emergency maintenance and access, funding of maintenance and improvements, and the repeal of all older policies. Mr. Singer passed a letter from 1985 defining responsibilities related to the South Village Ditch. The letter stated that the City would inspect the South Village Ditch twice annually. Mr. Feverston noted that the draft of the new document should be ready for Council input in about three weeks.

City Engineer Doug Spitler reported on the results of the bid for maintenance of the Millbank Ditch and asked Council's advice. The bid for Section "A" of the ditch, just north of I-675 running upstream to Marshall Drive, was about \$14,000 lower than the engineer's estimate. Mr. Spitler reported that he would like to do additional work this summer because of the favorable unit prices on the bid. He showed pictures and gave

background on the three possible parts of the project. Section "B" is farther upstream and just north of Marshall Road. Section "C" runs north from Laurelhurst to beyond Ironside; it is the most deteriorated and overgrown and has the worst access. Mr. Spitler noted that the scope of the work and the ease of access (or lack of it) varies greatly among the three sections. Some contingency money is available in the budget to add to the contract if Council should wish to approve additional work. After discussion, Council suggested that Mr. Spitler contact the contractor, Flora Excavating, about Section "B" in order to learn whether the company would be willing to upgrade that part at the same unit prices as Section "A."

Mr. Horn and Mr. Cahall gave background on the situation concerning the request from MVRPC for Centerville's approval of a request from Montgomery County to divide the construction on Austin Pike (Social Row) and Yankee Street into two parts. At this time, enough funding is not available for the County's share for upgrading this area to meet the increased demands that the new Austin Road interstate interchange will generate. MVRPC controls the federal money for the work and will not release any of those funds until there is consent from all parties for splitting the project. Reapplication for more money from the State would delay the project and there is no guarantee that Centerville would come out any better with that process. Centerville wishes to cooperate, but dividing the project into two parts could be counter to its best interest. Concerns include inflation of costs over time, availability of matching funding in 2011, and the deleterious effect on economic development for the City. Council concurred to the split with conditions: 1. The entire intersection of Yankee Street and Social Row/Austin Pike with signalization and sufficient lanes needs to be completed with the first part of the project. 2. Mr. Joe Letvin the Montgomery County Engineer must guarantee that Yankee Street will remain next in line for funding and will not be usurped by construction projects farther out Social Row Road or elsewhere.

Because of not wanting to set a precedent for the use of public funding from one public entity to support another, Council gave consent to some of the Washington-Centerville Public Library's requests for donations related to the celebration of the library's 200th anniversary. Although refusing monetary support, the City of Centerville offers the following support:

1. The City's option for hosting the Air Force Band of Flight in 2010 will be transferred to the library. Any fee associated with the show is now to be paid by the library. Not knowing the library's intended site for the concert, Mr. Compton requested that the event not be held on the library grounds for safety reasons. Also, a park, such as Stubbs Park with the amphitheater, would be a much better venue for parking.
2. The City will designate one half page in each issue of the *Town Crier* from November 2009 to November 2010 for use by the library.
3. Maureen Russell Hodgson could interview representatives on *Centerville Reports* to help advertise special events.
4. Representatives are invited to a regularly scheduled, televised Council meeting to receive recognition and talk about the celebration.

5. Room costs at Yankee Trace may be able to be negotiated, but, out of respect for what other groups pay, there will be no food discounts.

In the City Manager's Report, Mr. Horn noted the noise violations with construction at Fairhaven Church, the Ray Wright Golf Tournament, a theft at a wedding at Benham's Grove, the 911 call of six year old who did not know her address, and information on funding for the Clio Road extension in Sugarcreek Township. Mr. Horn asked Mayor Kingseed to call Mr. Rosenwald in California concerning the Kroger MarketPlace.

Mayor Kingseed reported having lunch with Washington Township Trustee Joyce Young. During this meeting, Mrs. Young noted that the township has set aside \$150,000 in its budget for joint projects with the City.


Mrs. Kenley noted a November conference of the National League of Cities in San Antonio that is titled, "Navigating Through the Economic Recovery." Discounts are available for registering before June 19.

Dr. Gresham reported some questions from the Sister City Committee and will communicate Council's replies.

Mrs. Kenley noted articles in the news about Brumbaugh Construction Company.

Mr. Horn asked Council for direction concerning a deal with Oberer Construction Company for property on Social Row Road. Mr. Horn will not offer another extension.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.



Julia M. Weaver
Assistant Clerk of Council

Approved 

C. Mark Kingseed, Mayor