

Centerville City Council
Work Session Meeting
November 10, 2008

TIME: 6:00 P.M.
PLACE: Centerville Municipal Building
Mayor C. Mark Kingseed
Deputy-Mayor Douglas Cline
Councilmembers: Brooks Compton
Paul Gresham
James Singer
Clerk of Council Debra James
City Manager Gregory Horn
Finance Director Mark Schlagheck
Assistant Finance Director Elizabeth Ward
Public Works Director Robert James
City Engineer Douglas Spitler
Assistant to the City Manager Jennifer Wilder
Assistant to the City Manager Kristen Gopman
Economic Development Administrator Nathan Cahall
Human Resource Manager Ginger Yonak

Resident: Rodney Miller

Mrs. Yonak passed out a handout and reviewed a survey of area cities regarding the proposed 2009 pay adjustments. Council concurred that City employees be granted an across the board increase of 3.1%. She also went through the recommended changes in the Pay Ordinances for the City and Yankee Trace. There are only minor adjustments of a housekeeping nature that are proposed.

Brooks Compton entered the Meeting at this time.

Mrs. Yonak also reviewed recommended changes in the Personnel Manuals for both the regular employees and employees of Yankee Trace. Again only minor changes have been proposed.

Mrs. Gopman presented the proposed updates for Benham's Grove for 2009. The requested adjustments include changing non-peak rental dates to November 15th through April 15th and changing peak rental dates to April 16th through November 14th. She also recommended a 4-5% increase for the entire complex across the board. The weekday business rate would increase by 4-6%. Mr. Horn is authorized to adjust fees up to 10% annually. Council is in agreement with these recommended changes.

Mrs. Wilder presented the proposed 2009 changes to the rules and fees at Yankee Trace. Traditionally, these changes are presented as an emergency ordinance so that the rates are set for the holiday gift-giving season. The requested changes are relatively minor with few updates to the Rules and Regulations.

Council is in concurrence to move forward with the new fees, rules and regulations for The Golf Club at Yankee Trace.

Mr. Cahall gave an update on the Connor Group for the Property Investment Reimbursement (PIR) funds to help offset expansion costs. He reported that there is a reduction in the number of new jobs to 18 instead of 26 within the next three years. The expansion of their business appears to be moving forward and Council is in agreement to continue moving ahead at this time.

Mayor Kingseed is in receipt of a letter and signatures from real estate brokers asking City Council to reconsider relief from the City's Sign Ordinance to allow Open House Signs for a brief period of time on Sunday afternoons. The letter and signed petition will be put in Council's packet this coming Friday.

Mrs. Wilder reviewed two Ordinances amending the Property Maintenance Code Section of the Centerville Municipal Code to allow the posting of a violation on the property. The first Ordinance would affect notices to cut shrubbery or other vegetation; the second Ordinance would affect regulations concerning notices for littering and for the deposit of garbage, rubbish and junk. The City now intends to allow the notification requirement to be satisfied by posting a notice in a prominent place on the property. Both of these Ordinances are text amendments and will be set for Public Hearing at the November Council Meeting, and the Public Hearing will be held at the Council Meeting on January 26, 2009.

The Annual Budget for 2009 was addressed with Council Finance Committee Chairman, Jim Singer, presiding during the Budget review. Mr. Beals and Mrs. Kenley were not present as they are in Orlando, Florida attending the National League of Cities Conference.

Mr. Cline made a motion to convene into Executive Session regarding Personnel. Mr. Singer seconded the motion. A roll call vote resulted in five ayes. At such time, after no official business was conducted, Mr. Compton moved that Council adjourn out of Executive Session. Mr. Cline seconded the motion. A roll call vote resulted in five ayes in favor of the motion.

It was discussed to invite Mark Yandrick in for a future Council Work Session to meet with him and have an educational session regarding the capabilities and options of GIS technology.

Mr. Horn reported that there continue to be strong opinions among members of the Arts Commission. Mrs. Francine Riley has submitted her resignation as of this week.

Mr. Horn gave a brief update regarding a Cincinnati newspaper article dated November 7, 2008, that discussed how Bear Creek Capital Development Company is remaining aggressive in spite of the market. At the end of the week, Mayor Kingseed is to meet with Mr. Mike Pittman, Sugarcreek Township Trustee.

Mayor Kingseed stated that, before Thanksgiving, he is also to meet with Mrs. Joyce Young, Washington Township Trustee. Since the study merger commission did not pass at the November 4 election, it was suggested that he ask her how she would suggest that the two governments work together. Discussion followed concerning the topic of seceding from Washington Township. Council is in agreement to consider gathering facts, and they still firmly believe that it is their responsibility to protect the City's long-term interests.


Debra A. James
Clerk of Council

Approved 
C. Mark Kingseed, Mayor