

Held March 22, 19 76

CENTERVILLE CITY COUNCIL
SPECIAL MEETING
MARCH 22, 1976

The Council of the City of Centerville, County of Montgomery and State of Ohio met in Special Session on Monday, March 22, 1976 at 8:00 P.M. in the Council Chambers of the Centerville Municipal Building. The Meeting was opened with an Invocation given by Councilman Leonard Stubbs and the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag with Mayor Victor Green presiding. Council Members and City Staff present were as follows:

Deputy Mayor J. V. Stone
Councilwoman Nora Lake
Councilmen Russell Sweetman
Leonard Stubbs
Charles McQueeney
Clerk of Council Marilyn McLaughlin
City Manager Darryl Kenning
City Engineer Karl Schab
Director of Parks and Recreation John Dunathan
Director of Finance William Bettcher
Chief of Police William Randolph
Municipal Attorney Robert Farquhar
Administrative Assistant John Levermann

The Oath of Office was administered to Planning Commission Member Michael Thill by Mayor Green.

ORDINANCE NUMBER 17-76 ANNEXATION

The Public Hearing was held concerning Ordinance Number 17-76. Mr. Farquhar reviewed the proposed Ordinance which authorized the Municipal Attorney to prosecute proceedings necessary to effect annexation and directs the Clerk of Council to certify the Ordinance to the Board of Elections, actions to begin with the effective date of the Ordinance placing the question on the General Election Ballot of November 2, 1976. Only the residents in the unincorporated area of Washington Township will vote on the question.

Mayor Green reviewed effects which unification would have on the total community. After a complete review of all facts, the Township residents must decide their future.

Miss Ethel Winterhalter, 10273 Lebanon Pike, has many financial questions which need answering before annexation is considered. Mayor Green explained how a citizens group will examine all services and costs to both Washington Township and Centerville; a financial comparison has been prepared by the City Staff. Mayor Green pointed out the fact that the matter before Council at this Meeting is whether to place the issue on the ballot, not to discuss pros and cons of annexation.

Councilman Ralph Spencer entered the Meeting at this time.

Mr. Jerry Moyer, 5345 Mad River Road, questioned why there are appearing in the newspapers pro-annexation articles.

Mr. Edward Mitman, 9739 Clys Road, questioned the necessity for this annexation action by Council, the question was not initiated by Township residents. Mr. Stubbs reminded the people in attendance that a petition containing signatures in favor of annexation was received approximately two years ago. The issue was not encouraged at that time because of some internal problems.

Mrs. Janet Neeley, 5600 Viewpoint Drive, questioned benefits which Township residents will receive.

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Mr. Walter Buchanan, Washington Township Trustee, explained his previous proposal: to form a study committee before passing legislation to put the question on the ballot.

Mr. Russ Dustman, 64 Shadybrook Drive, encouraged Centerville to give residents in the Township the opportunity to study advantages and disadvantages of annexation. Mayor Green explained the fact that action now being considered by Council only sets a target date for the people in the unincorporated area to review advantages and disadvantages and arrive at a decision.

Mrs. June Herschede, 432 Meadowview Drive, compared City and Township Administrators.

Mr. Rex Lumpkin, 9240 Yankee Street, questions what the City can offer to him above what he now receives.

Mrs. Susan Simpson, 7340 Kings Run Road, questioned representation for the unincorporated area should annexation take place. Mr. Stone explained how Council seats would become available to Township Trustees or the Trustees could be retained as advisors.

Mr. Duane Snyder, Washington Township Trustee, believes that the study committee should decide when and whether the question of unification should be put to a vote of the people. Upon question of Mr. Snyder, Mayor Green explained that written commitments would be made to the Township residents relative to representation, prior to the vote on the question.

Mrs. June Scott, 5314 Mad River Road, suggested that the booklet published by the League of Women Voters "This is Centerville and Washington Township" be reviewed by Township residents.

Mrs. Charlene DeCamp, 511 Manorside Court, wondered when facts will be presented to the people. Mayor Green explained that facts would be determined by the study committee and then presented to the voters, this study committee would not be a recommending body.

Mr. Buchanan believes that the people should determine whether the question should be placed on the ballot.

Mr. Walter Perry, 294 Towerview Road, believes that the study committee should be appointed by the Washington Township Trustees.

Mr. G. Booth, 1455 Heritage Road, recommended not passing the proposed legislation, Township residents must have voice prior to passage of the Ordinance.

Mr. John Bauer, 8977 Slagle Road, questioned why the issue must be placed on the November ballot.

Mr. George Darner, 206 Social Row Road, is satisfied with the Township form of Government.

Mayor Green reviewed increased revenues which the City anticipates through unification.

Discussion followed concerning passing the legislation at this Meeting vs. waiting a few months until facts are reviewed. Mrs. Lake reviewed her suggestion: that a study committee be formed, composed of residents in the unincorporated area of Washington Township, that the study committee report back to the Governmental jurisdictions by July 7, 1976; their decisions then put in public distribution form. After this has been accomplished, put the question to a vote of the people. Mr. Stone believes it's important to set a target date at this time for Township residents to decide their future, November 2, 1976 gives plenty of time for their decision to be made.

Mr. Russell Miller, Washington Township Trustee, believes that the study committee should have no dictates from the City of Centerville.

Mrs. Lake reviewed reasons why it is necessary for the four Governmental entities to name members to the study committee: School Board, Park District, Trustees and Council.

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Mrs. Lake moved to table Ordinance Number 17-76 at this time. The motion died for want of a second.

Mr. Spencer sponsored Ordinance Number 17-76, An Ordinance To Authorize Annexation Of Certain Territory To The City Of Centerville, Montgomery County, Ohio, and moved that it be passed. Mr. Stone seconded the motion. Mrs. Lake reminded Council that following the reporting date of July 7, 1976 set for the study committee, there would be ample time for passage of this Ordinance. Mrs. Lake moved to table this Ordinance and set July 7, 1976 as the target date for reporting from a study committee, a committee to be formed by the participating Governmental units in the entire Township area, said committee to have a mutual structure of those agreed Governments and memberships appointed by April 1, 1976. Mr. Sweetman seconded the motion. Upon question of Mr. McQueeney, Mr. Farquhar advised that by tabling this legislation, attempts for annexation are open to other Municipalities. Mr. McQueeney believes that November 2, 1976 provides adequate time for the study. A roll call vote resulted in three ayes in favor of the motion: Mr. Stubbs, Mr. McQueeney, Mr. Spencer and Mr. Stone voted no. A roll call vote on passage of the Ordinance resulted in six ayes in favor of the motion: Mrs. Lake voted no.

Following a five minute recess, Council discussed the request of the Bicentennial Commission for financial support for community activities. Mr. Stubbs questioned the need for a fireworks display in consideration of same in nearby communities. Mr. Spencer moved that Council approve the request of the Bicentennial Commission excluding the fireworks display. Mr. Stubbs seconded the motion. A roll call vote resulted in seven ayes in favor of the motion.

The procedure to follow to appoint the committee to study unification facts was discussed. The committee will be formed by April 1, 1976.

There being no further business, the Meeting was adjourned.

Approved: *Victor A. Green*
Mayor

ATTEST:
Marie S. ...
Clerk of the Council