

On Saturday, April 22, 1995, the Council of the City of Centerville and the Board of Trustees of Washington Township met in Retreat at the Bergamo Center, 4400 Shakertown Road at 8:30 A.M. In attendance at this meeting were the following:

Centerville

Mayor	Shirley Heintz
Deputy Mayor	J. V. Stone
Councilmembers	Sally Beals
	James Singer
	C. Mark Kingseed
	Brooks Compton

Washington Township

Trustee President	Terry Blair
Trustee Vice President	Roger Krass
Trustee	Joyce Young

On Thursday, May 4, 1995, the Council of the City of Centerville and the Board of Trustees of Washington Township met at the Centerville Library, at 8:15 P.M., to review the Summary of the Retreat held April 22, prepared by Mary Ellen Mazey, Center for Urban and Public Affairs, Wright State University. In attendance at this meeting were the following:

Centerville

Mayor	Shirley Heintz
Deputy-Mayor	J. V. Stone
Councilmembers	Brooks Compton
	James Singer

Washington Township

Trustee Vice President	Roger Krass
Trustee	Joyce Young

Incorporated as minutes for the Centerville/Washington Township Retreat, held April 22, is the following Summary, as revised, prepared by Mary Ellen Mazey.

## REPORT

### SUMMARY OF CITY OF CENTERVILLE/WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP RETREAT

On April 22, 1995, the City of Centerville Council and the Washington Township Trustees held a retreat at Bergamo Center to discuss future working relationships. The retreat focused on seven major items. They were areas for future cooperation, communications, long range plans, Seniors Inc., .7 mill general fund, annexation, and lawsuits. Each of these were discussed separately in order to set future direction.

In the area of future cooperation, the elected officials of both governments reached consensus that they want to protect the city and township "as one community". Currently the two units of government share the park district, the schools, the library, and fire protection. All future cooperative relationships should take place on a basis of taking one step at a time. It was agreed informally to examine two issues: the possibility of creating a joint police/fire district and the possibility of creating a joint park/recreation district, each of which would be controlled strictly by the representatives of the two governments. Three additional areas for future working relationships between the two governments include: joint economic development efforts, joint partnership for the community's common heritage through the Historical Society, and finally decisions for future funding of Senior Inc.

In the area of future communications, the elected officials decided they would meet on a regular quarterly basis. In the future, staff of both units of government should be encouraged to cooperate and discouraged from making remarks about each other's units of government. The staff should also be encouraged to be positive about cooperation between the two units of government particularly in discussions with the media. In the future the staff for the two newsletters should be encouraged to work together and provide a broad base of information in these forms of communication. These newsletters should be sensitive to the type of information that is stated about each government, and such material should be stated positively. Finally, the elected officials decided that the summary report from the retreat should be shared with the administration and staff of both governments.

In the area of long range plans, as already stated, the city and township will examine the possibility of creating a joint fire/police district and a joint parks/recreation district. In terms of future thoroughfare planning, there was consensus that there is a need to examine the roads connecting the city and the township, and more cooperation on the roads, and the process of their development. The planning and funding that was used on the Spring Valley Road should be reviewed to determine if a similar process would be beneficial in other thoroughfare developments.

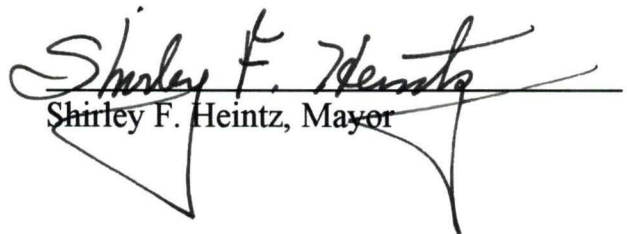
In terms of Senior Inc. the elected officials agreed that in the future there would be a joint review of Senior Inc.'s budget. In so doing the two governments should examine Senior Inc.'s long range plan including the fee structure for those members who reside outside of Centerville/Washington Township. It was agreed that Seniors Inc. needs to become more self sufficient. The building in which the group currently resides should be open to all senior groups not just to Seniors Inc. The other senior groups need to be made aware of the facility. Finally, the elected officials of both units of government believe that the public entities' meeting on the fifth Mondays of the month should be restricted to public entities only.

The issue of the .7 mill general fund, derived from the residents of the incorporated area, was discussed in terms of the need for the township to demonstrate how the money is spent. Although at the current time the township does not track these dollars separately in the budget, the trustees stated the majority of these funds have gone toward the fire department, cemetery and the town hall. However, in the future all elected officials agreed that these dollars should be designated a separate fund and should be spent on joint city/township projects such as the parking lot behind the town hall.

In the area of annexations and lawsuits, the officials of the city and township agreed that each case of annexation will be discussed on an individual basis and the rationale for each case needs to be discussed prior to potential litigation between the two governmental bodies. In the future, the group hopes that it can examine the cost/benefit of land annexed from the township and that a compromise solution with the city can be obtained.

There are three annexations currently pending. They include the Heritage Properties of eight acres that has been approved by the county commission and has been set for hearing before Common Pleas Court, the Paragon property of 24 acres that is before of the Court of Appeals upon a city appeal, and the Hoertt property of 33 acres which is being appealed by the township. In all three cases the owners of the respective properties have come to the city and asked to be annexed.

The two governments would like to jointly meet with the school board once a year to discuss areas of mutual concern. The two governments hope to foster better working relationships through continuing dialogue and joint projects.

  
Shirley F. Heintz, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
Clerk of Council

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