

TIPP CITY STUDY SESSION

TIPP CITY, MIAMI COUNTY, OHIO

OCTOBER 18, 2010

Study Session

The Study Session began at 6:30 p.m. The following Councilmembers were present: President Patrick Hale, Katie Black, Bryan Budding, Joseph Gibson, Mayor Dolores Gillis, George Lovett and John Kessler.

Also attending was: City Manager Jon Crusey, Assistant City Manager Brad Vath, Director of Utilities Mo Eichman, Assistant Director of Utilities Christy Butera, Law Director Joe Moore, and Clerk of Council Cathy Ross. Also attending was reporter Nancy Bowman.

CMC Program & Minutes

Mrs. Ross distributed to Council notes regarding the Certified Municipal Clerks program and information from the State Auditor on the correct preparation of minutes. (attached)

**Wind Tower Results
AMP-GS-Solar**

Mr. Eichman reviewed with Council the attached Powerpoint Presentation regarding the results of the Wind Tower study, with Mrs. Butera reviewing the section regarding AMPGS & Solar. Mr. Eichman noted that there is not sufficient wind to support a commercial scale wind turbine. Mrs. Butera stated that the City is under no obligation to have Solar Renewable Energy Credits (REC) at this time; however, the City does have a deadline in place to make a decision on whether to purchase or not to purchase Solar energy through AMP. A decision needs to be made by the November 1st meeting. Council requested that a resolution regarding the purchase of solar be presented at the November 1, 2010 meeting. Mrs. Butera also reviewed the City's financial obligations in regards to the cancelled AMPGS Coal Plant.

**Surface Transportation
Program Grant – CR 25A**

Mr. Vath reviewed the attached updated Powerpoint presentation with Council noting the increase in the local match dollar amount the parties would have to pay if we receive the Surface Transportation Program Grant for County Road 25A. This increase was due to the changes in scoring needed to elevate the application into the "fundable" range. He reminded Council that the City is only applying for the grant now, and that there would be no cost until 2011-2012 should we receive the grant. Mr. Vath also noted that construction of this project would probably not begin until July 2015. Mr. Crusey stated that if Tipp City is awarded this grant, it will be brought back to Council to accept or reject.

Adjournment

The Study Session adjourned at 7:22 p.m.

Patrick Hale, President

Attest: _____
Cathy Ross, Clerk of Council

TIPP CITY COUNCIL MEETING

TIPP CITY, MIAMI COUNTY, OHIO

OCTOBER 18, 2010

Council Meeting

President Patrick Hale called to order the regular meeting of the Tipp City Council at 7:30 p.m. The following Councilmembers were present: President Patrick Hale, Katie Black, Bryan Budding, Joseph Gibson, Mayor Dolores Gillis, John E. Kessler, and George Lovett.

Others in attendance: City Manager Jon Crusey, Finance Director John Green, City Law Director Joseph P. Moore, Fire Chief Steve Kessler, Assistant Director of Utilities Christy Butera, City Engineer Scott Vagedes, EMS Chief Mark Senseman, and Clerk of Council Cathy Ross.

Guests signing the register included: Steven Chaney, Phyllis Hale, Georgia Bayman, David Werts, Stacie Brown, Pastor Daniel Fullen, Linda Dorsey, Donna Warner, Jensen Family, Trent Neel, J. Robert Watkins, Mark Zanook, Kathy Taylor, Carol Wernicke, Sonya Lyons, and reporters Nancy Bowman and Joyell Nevins.

Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

Pastor Daniel Fullen from the Good Shepherd Church of the Brethren delivered the invocation and President Hale led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Agenda

President Hale moved to approve the agenda. Motion was seconded by Mr. Budding and unanimously approved.

Adoption of Minutes Study Session 10-4-10

Mr. Lovett moved to approve the minutes of the October 4, 2010 Pre-Meeting Study Session. Motion was seconded by Mr. Budding and unanimously approved.

Council Meeting 10-4-10

Mr. Lovett made a motion to approve the minutes of the October 4, 2010 Council meeting. Motion was seconded by Mayor Gillis and unanimously approved.

Presentations, Proclamations, & Awards

Mayor Gillis presented the America in Bloom Committee with a proclamation thanking them for their volunteer work and enabling the City of Tipp City to receive first place for cities with a population of 10,001-15,000. Ms. Georgia Bayman from the AIB Committee then presented the Mayor and City Manager with a plaque from the America in Bloom noting that Tipp City received a 4 bloom rating and a trophy for the first place win. The America In Bloom Committee expressed their thanks to Georgia Bayman and Dave Werts for heading up the program.

Mayor Gillis read a proclamation proclaiming November as Family Month in Tipp City, Ohio. The Mayor accepted a plaque from representatives from The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints thanking Tipp City for proclaiming November 2010 as Family Month.

Ordinances (Second Reading)

There were none.

Resolutions
(one reading required)

There were none.

Ordinances
(First Reading)
Increasing
Appropriations

Mr. Kessler sponsored an ordinance increasing appropriations in the General Fund (\$46,680), Street Fund (\$30,000), Capital Improvement Fund (\$63,000), Parks Capital Improvement Fund (\$4,000), and Clean Ohio Grant Fund (\$21,671) and modifying the annual operating budget as result of this action.

Clerk of Council Summary: This ordinance authorizes supplemental appropriations due to increased costs for income tax refunds, unanticipated retirement expenses, equipment purchased through a donation from a local civic group, and increased costs for grant and construction projects.

City Manager Comments: This ordinance would increase 2010 appropriations by \$165,351 in the following funds:

- + \$46,680 General Fund – These funds are necessary to cover larger than expected income tax refunds to corporations; a donation from the Tipp City Rotary for the acquisition of defibrillators for the Police Department; and unanticipated retirement expenses.
- + 30,000 Street Fund – Unanticipated expenses related to the retirement of the Street Superintendent.
- + \$63,000 Capital Improvement Reserve Fund – Additional appropriations necessary due to the cost of the Hartman Avenue Reconstruction Project exceeding budgeted amounts; and larger than expected income tax refunds.
- + \$4,000 Parks Capital Improvement Fund – Larger than anticipated income tax refunds.
- + 21,671 Clean Ohio Grant Fund – Related to additional funding received from the State of Ohio for the acquisition of the Senseman property in late 2009. This appropriation is necessary to reimburse the Water Fund for costs related to this project.

Ordinance __-10
Approving Inlot 3933
Of Rosewood Creek PRD

Mr. Lovett sponsored an ordinance approving the replat of Inlot 3933 of the Rosewood Creek Planned Residential Development Subdivision.

Clerk of Council Summary: The Planning Board recommended approval at their October 12th, 2010 meeting, and recommends to Council the approval of the proposed Rosewood Creek replat of Inlot 3933 including the removal of the 45' sight line easement, located in Phase 1.

City Manager Comments: This replat removes a sight-line easement (see attached plat) from Inlot 3933 in Phase I of Rosewood Creek Subdivision.

The sight-line easement dates back to early renditions of the subdivision whereby the developer proposed lots and/or an access drive along Peters Road. However, the final development plan established only one 12+ acre lot. Choice Once Engineering, on behalf of the developer, has completed a intersection sight-line and stopping distance analysis for this section of Peters Road and determined that the sight-line easement necessary.

Motions

Vacant Utility Billing
Clerk Position

Mr. Lovett moved to fill the position of Utility Billing Clerk. President Hale seconded the motion. The motion failed 4-3; Mr. Gibson, Mr. Kessler, Mr. Budding and Ms. Black voted no; Mr. Lovett, President Hale and Mayor Gillis voted yes.

Vacant Electric Lineman
Position

President Hale moved to fill the position of Electric Lineman. Mr. Lovett seconded the motion. Mr. Lovett stated that he believes it would be a mistake not to replace this person and noted that while he knows it's also important to keep the cash registers ringing, he feels more strongly about this position because it's crucial that the system maintain reliability. He added that when a provider the size of Tipp City that does not have a very deep bench of people with the necessary capabilities to run the system, you run into danger if you do not replace employees as needed and maintain a reserve in manpower. If multiple things happen, you need to have enough capability in place to keep the system operating consistently. Business as well as residents expect and assume that electricity will be there when needed. Mr. Lovett stated that if the system is not maintained, it will not maintain itself and added that it is vital to keep employees in line. He added that when the experts, i.e. the Utility Director and the City Manager, recommend that we replace vacant positions, unless a compelling reasons to vote against the replacement would have to be provided for him to not follow the recommendations of management. Mr. Lovett urged his colleagues to please vote to fill this vacancy.

President Hale stated that he has heard comments that we have a hiring freeze on and we have to cut as much as we possibly can. He stated that past Councils have done a very good job cutting and controlling the budget and even though we do have a hiring freeze, this is not adding a position, simply replacing one which was vacated due to a promotion.

Mr. Budding stated that he is not opposed to filling the position, he is opposed to filling it right now. He noted that he has been in the trade for 15 years and knows there are times you would pay three times the person's rate of pay to have the person available, but there are other times that you don't need half of the employees you have.

Roll call vote was taken and the motion failed 4-3; Mr. Gibson, Mr. Kessler, Mr. Budding and Ms. Black voted no; Mr. Lovett, President Hale and Mayor Gillis voted yes.

Mr. Crusey then asked Council to consider a 32 hour, part time position in the Utility Billing Department since the replacement of the full-time Utility Billing Clerk position was not approved. He stated that Utility Billing does not have the staff to cover the hours and provide the necessary customer service. He further explained that there would still be a cost savings in that there would be no benefits provided to a part-time employee and the position would receive a lower pay rate than that of a full-time employee.

President Hale made a motion to authorize filling a part-time 32 hour Clerk position in the Utility Billing Department. Motion was seconded by Mayor Gillis. Mr. Budding asked if a temporary service could be used. Mrs. Brown stated that a temporary service had been used in the past but that Utility Billing would need someone dedicated to Tipp City for at least 32 hours per week. Mr. Crusey added that when using a temporary agency, you get who they send you versus being able to interview and select the employee best suited for the position. Mr. Budding noted that the City would be running two billing systems soon and wanted to know if this was the reason for the need of an additional person. Mrs. Brown explained that funding had been set aside in the Electric fund to assist when two billing systems would be running at the same time. Mr. Crusey explained that this position is replacing a position made available because of a promotion; this is not an additional position. Motion was approved 4-3; President Hale, Mayor Gillis, Mr. Lovett, and Ms. Black voted yes. Mr. Gibson, Mr. Kessler and Mr. Budding voted no.

Citizen Comments

There were no comments by citizens on matters not on the agenda.

Councilmember Comments

President Hale congratulated the America in Bloom committee for winning this year and noted that the City had eliminated their entire budget. He stated that he appreciated their continued community support and involvement. President Hale announced that the Capital Improvement Budget Workshop will be held on October 25th at 3 p.m. and is open to the public. He reminded citizens to get out and vote on November 2nd.

Mayor Gillis reminded everyone that Beggar's Night is October 28th from 6-8 p.m. and congratulated the America in Bloom Committee on their win.

Mr. Kessler reminded everyone to be careful driving on Beggar's Night.

Ms. Black reminded everyone that tomorrow morning at 9 a.m. is the Downtown Tipp City Partnership meeting. She noted that Harvestfest was a success and that there were some really great costumes. She also offered her congratulations to the America in Bloom Committee for winning the award.

Mr. Gibson congratulated the America in Bloom Committee and requested to receive a copy of the report. Mr. Gibson noted that Harvestfest was this weekend and was successful and thanked the Police Department, and all who participated including the residents and business owners. He reminded everyone that there are a lot of holiday activities going on in the future with Beggar's Night, Holiday activities downtown, and the Chamber's Holiday Gala. Mr. Gibson reminded residents that these proceedings rebroadcast on KIT-TV on Channel 5.

Mr. Crusey announced that the Citizens Capital Improvement Review Committee will meet tomorrow at 6 p.m. and is open to the public. Mr. Crusey reported that a closing took place this morning for the former Town and Country Market and the City received a check reimbursing us for the past-due utility bill of the former owner. Mr. Crusey thanked the new owners for including this in the purchase contract. He stated that the owner of Broadway Hair Studios purchased the building and will be developing it into three units.

President Hale made a motion to adjourn to an Executive Session to discuss personnel issues to include Council Members, the City Manager, and the Law Director. Motion was seconded by Mr. Budding and unanimously approved. The meeting adjourned at 8:01 p.m.

Adjournment

Motion was made by President Hale, seconded by Mayor Gillis to adjourn the Executive Session at 8:32 p.m.

Patrick Hale, President

Attest: _____
Cathy Ross, Clerk of Council



