

TIPP CITY STUDY SESSION

TIPP CITY, MIAMI COUNTY, OHIO

AUGUST 16, 2010

Study Session

The Study Session began at 6:34 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, Finance Director John Green, Assistant City Manager Brad Vath, Director of Utilities Mo Eichman, Law Director Joe Moore, Fire Chief Steve Kessler, and Clerk of Council Cathy Ross. Also attending were Matt Owen, Reed Spencer and reporter Nancy Bowman.

Downtown Holiday Lights

Mr. Crusey reminded Council that the current proposal from Christmas Décor is for \$28,000 per year and includes a three-year contract to light the old municipal building, street trees, pole mounts and Veteran's Memorial Park. Veteran's Memorial Park is still under contract for one more year, so it will be decorated during this holiday season even if Council decides not to approve other lighting. Mr. Crusey explained that Council could make changes to the contract to eliminate decorating the poles, municipal building, and Veteran's Memorial Park which would save the City approximately \$8,000.

Mr. Crusey informed Council he received 5 positive responses on the question he posed about lighting on Facebook. Council members discussed feedback they received, most of which was to continue decorating the downtown area.

Mr. Kessler stated that he does not believe the City should spend the money for downtown lighting, as Council has been challenged by the community to cut costs and this gives the appearance that we are not. Mr. Kessler further explained that while he understands the funds for this lighting would come from the electric fund which is flush, most residents don't understand the difference between the general fund and the electric fund. Mr. Budding agreed stating that this costs each household \$7, and he does not feel comfortable spending citizen's money.

Mr. Lovett stated that the City is in desperate need of a new building for the Electric Department, has a 35 year old ladder truck that needs to be replaced, street repairs that need to be done, and because of this he doesn't believe that the City should subsidize holiday lighting. Mr. Lovett asked if the downtown business owners would be willing to chip in on the cost of the lighting. Mr. Owen stated that he discussed lighting with the downtown merchants and all would like to see the lights continue, but state that they are not able to help with the cost. Mr. Lovett stated that Council has been charged to make cuts without affecting the health and safety of residents and that holiday lighting is not a matter of public safety.

Reed Spencer questioned whether other companies had been contacted for bids. Mr. Owen stated he located four additional lighting companies in this part of Ohio but had not contacted them. Mr. Crusey replied that timing is an issue as Council's next meeting is September 20th and since this would be an ordinance, it would require two readings and a 30 day waiting

period. He added that If this item is not introduced at tonight’s meeting it will have to be placed on the agenda as an emergency ordinance in order to meet the deadline.

Other suggestions included: having businesses or families adopt a tree and be responsible for decorating; close businesses and streets and have a decorating party; residents being responsible for decorating to show their community pride; educate residents on the difference between the two funds to explain why the City is able to spend money on lights but not capital improvement items; reduce the cost by eliminating some of the decorations; place a bucket for donations from the public for holiday lighting and fireworks in local businesses; ask the VFW and the American Legion if they would be willing to decorate the Veteran’s Memorial Park in the future.

A majority of Council favored placing an ordinance on this evening’s agenda for the lighting of the downtown trees only for a three-year period.

10-Year CIP

Council next discussed the 10-year CIP Plan and requested that they be provided with a copy of the Park Master Plan for review and comparison to the items in the 10-year CIP. After a brief discussion, Council decided to continue the Study Session after the Council meeting.

Adjournment

The Study Session adjourned at 7:44 p.m.

Patrick Hale, President

Attest: _____
Cathy Ross, Clerk of Council

TIPP CITY COUNCIL MEETING

TIPP CITY, MIAMI COUNTY, OHIO

AUGUST 16, 2010

Council Meeting

President Patrick Hale called to order the regular meeting of the Tipp City Council at 7:42 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 City Manager Brad Vath, Director of Utilities Mo Eichman, and Clerk of Council Cathy Ross.

Guests signing the register included: Steven Chaney, Mike McFarland, John Berbach, Pete Berbach, Mike and Debbie Dungan, Rev. R. Marc Sherlock, and Reporters Marilyn McConahay and Nancy Bowman.

Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

Rev. Marc Sherlock delivered the invocation and President Hale led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Agenda Amendment

President Hale made a motion to amend the agenda to include an ordinance regarding holiday lighting. Motion was seconded by Mr. Gibson and unanimously approved.

Approval of Amended Agenda

Ms. Black made a motion to approve the amended agenda. Motion was seconded by Mr. Lovett and unanimously approved.

Adoption of Minutes Study Session 6-21-10

Minutes of the June 21, 2010 Pre-Meeting Study Session were unanimously approved on a motion by Mr. Budding, seconded by Mr. Lovett.

Pre-Meeting Study Session 8-2-10

Mr. Budding moved to approve the minutes of the August 2, 2010 Pre-Meeting Study Session. Motion was seconded by Mr. Kessler and unanimously approved.

Council Meeting 8-2-10

Mr. Budding made a motion to approve the minutes of the August 2, 2010 Council meeting, seconded by Mayor Gillis and unanimously approved.

Presentations, Proclamations, & Awards

There were none.

Ordinances (Second Reading) Ordinance 13-10 Contract with WMI

An ordinance to authorize the granting of a franchise, approval of a permit and the execution of a contract with Waste Management of Ohio, Inc. for the collection & disposal of solid waste, recyclables, and yard waste from residential properties pursuant to Section 55.12 of the Codified Ordinances of Tipp City, Ohio for a four year period commencing on October 1, 2010.

Clerk of Council Summary: The ordinance authorizes a 4-year contract with Waste Management for the collection & disposal of residential refuse, co-mingled recycling collection and yard waste removal.

City Manager Comments: This ordinance authorizes the City Manager to enter into a four-year contract, with alley pick-up, with Waste Management for the collection and disposal of residential refuse, co-mingled recycling collection and yard waste collection effective October 1, 2010. City Council reviewed the refuse and recycling bids at its July 19th study session. The 4-year rates for refuse collection are set forth in the ordinance. This ordinance also approves a permit and authorizes a franchise with Waste Management to haul rubbish, garbage, and/or recyclables within the corporate limits and grants them the exclusive rights to collect and dispose of garbage and refuse from residential properties.

Mr. Kessler noted that he would be voting against this agreement because the elimination of alley pick-up would save each resident 50-60 cents and he believes that those residents receiving alley pick-up are being subsidized by the rest of the citizens.

Mr. Lovett stated that he agrees with Mr. Kessler's comments, but noted that he will be voting for this ordinance because he would like for citizen's affected by the elimination of alley pick-up to receive more notice of the change. Mr. Lovett stated that he would like to see alley pick-up eliminated in the future.

Mr. Gibson stated that he believes alley pick-up is necessary and has received citizen input stating it is valued because of the assistance it offers older residents. He added that he does not believe a 50 cent savings is enough to eliminate alley pick-up.

Mr. Lovett stated he would be interested in seeing the cost of road repair and maintenance required due to damages caused by alley pick-up.

There being no further discussion, Mayor Gillis sponsored this ordinance and moved for its adoption. Motion was seconded by Ms. Black and passed with a 6-1 vote; Mr. Kessler voted no. Ordinance 13-10 was declared passed and President Hale affixed his signature in witness thereto.

Ordinance 14-10
Rezoning

An ordinance to amend the zoning Code and the map attached thereto by changing the zoning of +/- 130.319 acres (Inlots 4099, 4100 & 4101) located south of East Main Street (SR 571), F-1 (Miami County Flood Plain) to CD/FA/WP (Tipp City Conservation/Flood Plain/Well Field Protection Zoning Classifications).

Clerk of Council Summary: The Planning Board recommended approval of this zoning change.

City Manager Comments: The adoption of this ordinance would rezone Inlots 4099, 4101, & 4101 located on East Main Street from F-1 (Flood Plain to CD/FA/WP (Conservation/Flood Plain/Well Field Protection). The City of Tipp City owns 117.70 acres of the land involved in this rezoning with the remaining 12.619 acres being owned by Allen Senseman and Karen Shell. The Planning Board reviewed this matter at their June 8, 2010 meeting and recommended approval.

There being no further discussion, Mr. Lovett sponsored this ordinance

and moved for its adoption. Motion was seconded by Mr. Budding and passed with a 7-0 vote. Ordinance 14-10 was declared passed and President Hale affixed his signature in witness thereto.

Resolutions
(one reading required)

A resolution providing for cooperation in the development of the Miami Valley Regional Plan for Sustainable Development.

Resolution 35-10
Miami Valley Regional
Plan for Sustainable
Development

Clerk of Council Summary: This resolution authorizes the City Manager to enter into a Miami Valley Regional Plan for Sustainable Development Consortium Partnership Agreement.

City Manager Comments: This resolution authorizes the City Manager to enter into a Miami Valley Regional Plan for Sustainable Development Consortium Partnership Agreement with the Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission. Furthermore, this resolution commits the City to: support the development of the Miami Valley Regional Plan for Sustainable Development; to appoint a representative to the Consortium Committee governing the development of the Plan; to contribute in-kind resources for the development of the Plan; and to authorize MVRPC to act as lead agency for the application and administration of the grant on behalf of the Consortium.

The Miami Valley Regional Plan for Sustainable Development, if funded, involves metropolitan and multi-jurisdictional planning that integrates housing, land use, workforce development, transportation, and infrastructure investment for the Miami Valley. The program is administered by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development in partnership with the U.S. Department of Transportation and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. The goals of the grant program are to: foster the development of sustainable communities, support metropolitan areas and multijurisdictional partnerships, facilitate strong alliances, build greater transparency and accountability, align local and state capital improvement programs, and assist all regions to move towards sustainability and livability.

There being no further discussion, Mr. Kessler sponsored this resolution and moved for its adoption. Motion was seconded by Mayor Gillis. Resolution 35-10 passed with a 5-2 vote; Mr. Gibson and Ms. Black voted no. President Hale affixed his signature in witness thereto.

Ordinances
(First Reading)
Property Tax Levy

Mr. Lovett sponsored an ordinance accepting amounts and tax rates as determined by the Miami County Budget Commission, authorizing the regular statutory tax levies authorized and allowed by law thereby for the municipality of Tipp City, Ohio, for such fiscal year beginning January 1, 2011 and certifying such levies to the County Auditor.

Clerk of Council Summary: This ordinance sets the rate for the Property Tax Levy to be collected in 2011.

City Manager Comments: The Miami County Budget Commission is scheduled to meet the last week of August to approve the City's authorized "inside" millage property tax rate for 2011. Our current levy millage is 1.4 mills. Inside millage refers to the 10 mill property tax limitation that can be established without voter approval. Various taxing units may seek to levy taxes on the same property, but the total amount of unvoted taxes actually levied

may not exceed ten mills. The county budget commission is responsible for considering tax budgets submitted by the various taxing units and determining the amounts of taxes each taxing unit may levy. Inside millage is not rolled back like voter approved millage to account for increased in property valuation. This revenue source will generate an estimated \$344,585 in FY 2010 revenues. The City receives approximately \$0.03 of every property tax dollar collected.

Holiday Lighting

Mayor Gillis sponsored an ordinance authorizing the City Manager to enter into a multi-year agreement with Christmas Décor of Troy, Ohio for the lease and installation of certain holiday lights at an annual cost not to exceed an amount of \$20,277.60.

Clerk of Council Summary: This ordinance authorizes the City Manager to enter into a contract with Christmas Décor for downtown holiday lighting.

City Manager Comments: This ordinance authorizes the City Manager to enter into a 3 year contract with Christmas Décor for the lighting of the street trees downtown at an annual cost of \$20,277.60.

Motion
License for
Encroachment

Mr. Lovett made a motion authorizing a License for Encroachment at 115 East Down Street. The motion was seconded by Mayor Gillis.

Mr. Kessler asked if the building and 80 feet encroaches on the right of way of 3rd Street and if the right of way changed to cause this. Mr. Vath stated the original building is outside the right of way and a brick façade was added that encroached on the right of way. He added that this information was provided to the city by a professional surveyor hired by the potential buyers of the property.

Motion was unanimously approved.

Citizen Comments

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

**Councilmember
Comments**

Mr. Kessler stated that on June 29, 2010, Congress passed a bill banning the mailing of tobacco products using the US Mail which means we are no longer able to mail tobacco products to our troops overseas. Mr. Kessler urged citizens to contact their Senators and Congressman and let them know this has greatly affected our military morale.

Mr. Gibson offered his thanks to the Tipp City Police Department who assisted in the retrieval of a stolen cell phone while he was on vacation. Mr. Gibson then reminded residents that these proceedings are being recorded by KIT-TV on Channel 5 and noted that the schedule is available on Tipp News Daily, the Tippecanoe Gazette, and Tippcityohio.gov. He added that Cable Access meets the 4th Monday of every month at the Township Building and reminded residents that the Mum Festival is in September and encouraged residents to get involved in the various fundraising activities including the Mum Run.

Ms. Black welcomed Mrs. Ross back from leave and offered her thanks to Mrs. Fennell for filling in.

Mr. Lovett also welcomed Mrs. Ross back. Mr. Lovett then reported that the Tipp City Electric Department participated in mutual aid offered to the city of St. Clairesville who experienced a power outage that affected the entire City. He noted that the Tipp City Electric crew and cities from all over the state that are part of mutual aid were able to bring power back to the entire city. Mr. Lovett offered his appreciation to the Electric Department.

Mr. Lovett congratulated Utility Director Mo Eichman and Assistant Director Christy Butera for taking time out of their busy schedules to tour the construction of the Illinois Prairie State Energy campus. He noted that Tipp City will be counting on this facility to supply power for many years to come and that it is important for Tipp City to have secure sources of baseline power and that privately owned utilities are able to supply rates at 20% lower than those of investor owned utilities.

Mayor Gillis reminded citizens that the Miami County Fair will continue through this week. She encouraged residents to attend the Tipp City Players performance of "Smell of the Kill" and noted that the Trans Am car show will be held on August 27th.

Adjourn to Executive Session

President Hale made a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss Collective Bargaining and Personnel to include Council, City Manager Crusey, Assistant City Manager Brad Vath, Law Director Joe Moore, and Police Chief Tom Davidson. Mr. Kessler seconded the motion and it passed unanimously at 8:15pm. President Hale noted that Council would continue the Study Session after the Executive Session.

Executive Session Adjourned

Executive Session was adjourned on a motion by Mayor Gillis, seconded by Ms. Black and unanimously approved at 8:48 p.m.

Study Session

Council reconvened into the Study Session at 8:50 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, Finance Director John Green, Assistant City Manager Brad Vath, City Engineer Scott Vagedes, Fire Chief Steve Kessler, Law Director Joe Moore, and Clerk of Council Cathy Ross. Also attending was Reporter Nancy Bowman.

Study Session
10 Year CIP

Council discussed the development of a citizen's committee to help prioritize items in the CIP Plan. Mr. Crusey will put a notice on Facebook and requested that Ms. Bowman include this item in the Gazette. Those residents who attended the September 21, 2009 meeting who showed an interest in assisting the City with financial decisions will also be contacted to see if they are interested in serving.

Council also requested that this item be scheduled for discussion at a future meeting to allow more time for review.

Study Session Adjourned

The Study Session adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

Council Meeting Adjourned

City Council meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m. on a motion by President Hale, seconded by Ms. Black, and unanimously approved.

Patrick Hale, President

Attest: _____
Cathy Ross, Clerk of Council

