

CITY COUNCIL MINUTES  
October 2, 2006

President Judi Mitten called the regular meeting of Wooster City Council to order and upon roll call, members answered present as follows: Ansel, Breneman, Griffin, Silvestri, Topovski, Ulbright.

Mr. Silvestri moved, seconded by Mr. Topovski, to approve the minutes of the September 18, 2006 meeting as received. Motion carried.

President Mitten suggested that from this time on, that committee meetings be held prior to city council meetings or on the alternative Mondays between meetings. If you wish to have a committee meeting at another time, please rearrange it with your committee members so we don't spend 15-20 minutes deciding on everyone's schedules.

Mr. Breneman reported that a finance committee meeting had been held on Friday morning, September 29 at 8:30 a.m. and discussed the economic development fund aka the local revolving loan fund as well as discussing developments from the hospital board meeting. We are still considering which direction to head and what to recommend to council from the group; however, we're very close to bringing this forward.

Mr. Ulbright stated that the ad hoc transportation committee hosted a meeting this past Friday and it was well attended by representatives from all three cities in Wayne County as well as a representative from Mr. Regula's office as well as total residents totaling about 40 people. Mr. Odemjwe and his staff spoke in specific detail as to how he envisioned SARTA expanding into Wayne County and the costs we might expect. We left with the idea that what we need to do now was the three cities need to have town meetings to get public input and find out what the various service organizations and chambers would like us to do next and whether they would support a feasibility study. None of the county commissioners could attend but they did send a three-page letter copying Congressman Regula, Senators Dewine and Voinovich giving their general support of the study. It was a positive meeting and he looked forward to this body and the ad hoc committee spearheading at least one or two town meetings across our community for citizen input.

Ordinance No. 2006-46 authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement with Gold Star Holdings, LLC for Community Reinvestment Area tax incentives, and declaring an emergency was read by title, being on first reading. Mr. Breneman stated that he was excited to bring this forward; it was the fourth application for the CRA incentives within the last month to come before this body. This involved the building where the South Market Bistro and Moorefield Pottery were located. Gold Star Holdings planned a capital investment of over half a million dollars for renovation of all three floors of the building including expansion of the first floor retail area and the existing second floor residential space and creation of a new residential unit on the upper floor. Wooster Growth and school board have both reviewed and given their approval to this request. This project will complete the development of the entire building and will create two full-time and six part-time positions and all requirements have been exceeded for the CRA

guidelines. A short discussion followed. Mr. Silvestri moved, seconded by Mr. Ulbright, to amend this ordinance in the first WHEREAS, to read “. . . Gold Star Holdings, LLC is a for-profit enterprise which desires to “*renovate*” a property. . .” Upon roll call, motion to amend carried unanimously. Mr. Breneman moved, seconded by Mr. Silvestri, to suspend the rules and place on third and final reading. Upon roll call, motion carried. Mr. Breneman moved, seconded by Mr. Silvestri, to adopt. Upon roll call, motion to adopt carried unanimously.

Ordinance No. 2006-47 amending the Annual Appropriation Ordinance was read by title, being on first reading. Mr. Breneman stated that he had not received this legislation or the revised agenda and, thus, had no knowledge of the legislation. Mr. Dordea explained that the city each year contracts and pays a share of the cost for health department services to Wayne County. They estimate a cost for services at the beginning of each year and this year, they exceeded that cost and that’s the reason we’re asking for this amendment. We did not budget the amount necessary to cover the cost for services. Mr. Silvestri asked what services the health department provided. Mr. Sigg stated that every city is required to have a health department or to contract with one for services such as immunization, vital statistics (birth and death certificates), WIC program for children, etc. Mr. Breneman stated that he wasn’t really comfortable with moving this forward and wished to leave it on first reading until he had time to review the legislation.

Resolution No. 2006-67 authorizing the Director of Administration to increase the amount of a contract with Premier Staffing Group for seasonal temporary services, and declaring an emergency was read by title, being on first reading. Mr. Breneman stated that we have contracted with Premier in the past for help with our leaf collection and this was included in the 2006 budget. We had budgeted up to \$18,000 for these services and chances are that they will come in under \$15,000 but we didn’t want to take the chance of getting halfway through leaf collection and not having the money to cover the contract. Mr. Breneman moved, seconded by Mr. Ansel, to suspend the rules and place on third and final reading. Upon roll call, motion carried. Mr. Breneman moved, seconded by Mr. Silvestri, to adopt. Upon roll call, motion to adopt carried unanimously.

Resolution No. 2006-68 authorizing the Director of Administration to enter into a contract with Engineering Associates, Inc. of Wooster for professional engineering services related to the replacement of the Larwill Street bridge, and declaring an emergency was read by title, being on first reading. Mr. Topovski stated that this would fund the cost to hire EA to estimate what it would take for the city to replace the Larwill Street bridge which was in dire need of replacement. We will be getting funding for the construction costs in our fiscal year 2008 but in order for that to happen, we need an estimated construction cost prepared. When the estimated cost of a project such as this is under \$500,000, Mr. Montgomery has the option of choosing the engineering firm to design the bridge. He informed me that of the available firms on his list, Engineering Associates ranks in the top three that do this kind of work and they rank high in bridge work design and have receive recommendations from ODOT. EA had also done the design work for a similar bridge replacement, that being the North Street bridge. A short discussion followed and Mr. Topovski moved, seconded by Mr. Ulbright, to suspend the rules and place on third and final reading. Upon roll call, motion carried. Mr. Topovski moved, seconded by Mr. Griffin, to adopt. Upon roll call, motion to adopt carried unanimously.

Resolution No. 2006-69 authorizing the Director of Administration to advertise according to law and enter into a contract with the lowest and best bidder for the replacement of a water line serving the Campbell/Minerva Street area, and declaring an emergency was read by title, being on first reading. Mr. Griffin stated that this project was included in the capital plan for 2006 and highlights are detailed more specifically on the back of the resolution as reviewed by Mr. Griffin. Mr. Ulbright moved, seconded by Mr. Silvestri, to amend the resolution in Section 1, the second line, to add the word "line" after water. Upon roll call, motion to amend called unanimously. Mr. Griffin moved, seconded by Mr. Topovski, to suspend the rules and place on third and final reading. Upon roll call, motion carried. Mr. Griffin moved, seconded by Mr. Ansel, to adopt. Upon roll call, motion to adopt the resolution carried unanimously.

Resolution No. 2006-70 authorizing the Director of Administration to advertise according to law and enter into a contract with the lowest and best bidder for the replacement of the Cleveland Road south lift station and improvements to the Cleveland Road north lift station, and declaring an emergency was read by title, being on first reading. Mr. Griffin stated that this project was also planned and included in the 2006 capital plan at a cost of \$250,000 for replacement of one lift station and improvements to another station that will get us through another year or so. Mr. Griffin stated that there had been lots of problems in the area as a result of power outages and flooding in basements, so this was a necessary improvement. Mr. Griffin moved, seconded by Mr. Ulbright, to suspend the rules and place on third and final reading. Upon roll call, motion carried. Mr. Griffin moved, seconded by Mr. Silvestri, to adopt. Upon roll call, motion to adopt the resolution carried unanimously.

Resolution No. 2006-71 authorizing the Director of Finance to enter into a professional services contract with Rea & Associates, Inc. for auditing services, and declaring an emergency was read by title, being on first reading. Mr. Breneman stated that this was for the annual audit that we need to perform for the municipal government which included the hospital. Mr. Dordea recommends Rea & Associates of Wooster who was both qualified and approved by the auditor of state for the purposes of auditing municipal facilities and hospitals. The cost would be included in the annual appropriation ordinance for 2007 with a percentage of the cost coming out of the hospital's budget (44%). This audit would take place next year for the 2006 fiscal year that we are finishing up. Mr. Breneman moved, seconded by Mr. Silvestri, to suspend the rules and place on third and final reading. Upon roll call, motion carried. Mr. Breneman moved, seconded by Mr. Silvestri, to adopt. Upon roll call, motion to adopt the resolution carried unanimously.

Resolution No. 2006-72 authorizing the Director of Finance to enter into a technical service contract with Sungard Bi-Tech, Inc. for technical support services for finance department and human resources division software, and declaring an emergency was read by title, being on first reading. Mr. Breneman stated that Mr. Dordea had recommended that the city enter into a technical support contract with this firm that has provided the city with software programs used in the finance and human resources divisions. The cost was included in the 2006 budget and the cost would not exceed \$36,446.60. Essentially, we are running the software and we need people who are expert and who were knowledgeable in that field who can come and debug it when necessary. A short discussion followed. Mr. Breneman moved, seconded by Mr. Silvestri, to suspend the rules and place on third and final reading. Upon roll call, motion carried. Mr.

Breneman moved, seconded by Mr. Silvestri, to adopt. Upon roll call, motion to adopt the resolution carried unanimously.

### Miscellaneous

Greg Gares, 347 N. Grant Street, asked about the procedure for people in the audience speaking to an issue on council's agenda. He was concerned that input couldn't be given on a piece of legislation at the time it was being discussed and people couldn't address the issue until after the legislation was already adopted; he didn't think that was fair. President Mitten advised him that citizens had an opportunity during public input at the beginning of the meeting and at the end. Mr. Gares stated that at the beginning of the meeting, people might not know what the issues are about and he felt there was a better way of for the audience to participate? Ms. Mitten stated that if a citizen spoke to her about a specific concern on the agenda in advance, it would be her prerogative to allow them to speak during the regular portion of the agenda. Ms. Mitten stated that she would be happy to discuss this when him after the meeting was adjourned.

Mr. Ansel scheduled a Laws & Ordinances Committee meeting for Monday, October 16 at 5:30 p.m. in council chambers. We will review the revised EZ guidelines, the outdoor wood burning furnaces and the city of peace referendum, etc.

Mr. Breneman scheduled a Finance Committee meeting for Monday, October 9 at 7 p.m. to review the CAFR.

Mr. Topovski commended Ms. Mitten and the administration for putting together the economic development meeting held here Saturday morning. He had participated in three other economic development conferences but this was the first one that we as council members were provided in detail by the finance director and administration with information on various local programs we have and how they operated. He felt this information would make it easier to make decisions on tax abatement requests and the economic development legislation. Mr. Topovski stated that over the past 30 days he had received emails from the public through our website at www-data. Many of them were asking why council members weren't replying to their emails; he could not reply through that site either. We all take the residents' concerns seriously, but we cannot respond to people using that email if they do not provide us with their own personal email address.

Mr. Topovski moved, seconded by Mr. Silvestri, to adjourn. Motion carried and meeting so adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

  
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Judith Mitten  
President of Council

  
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Sheila Stanley  
Clerk of Council