

CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
October 18, 2010

I. ROLL CALL & ORDERING OF AGENDA

Acting President David Silvestri called the regular meeting of Wooster City Council to order at 7:30 p.m. in council chambers by asking everyone to rise and join in the Pledge of Allegiance. The following members were present: Mike Buytendyk, Mark Cavin, Barbara Knapic, David Silvestri, Jeff Steiner and Jon Ulbright. Jon Ansel was absent.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Steiner moved, seconded by Mr. Cavin, to approve minutes of the October 4, 2010 meeting. Upon voice vote, motion carried unanimously.

III. COMMUNICATIONS FROM MAYOR/ADMINISTRATION

Andrei Dordea, Finance Director, updated council on various activities in the city: 1) He introduced Jim Uhler and Daryl Decker, the new Manager and Assistant Manager of the Public Properties Maintenance Division. Under the city's restructuring plan, the Maintenance, Parks and Utilities Divisions were merged to create the Public Properties Maintenance Division. 2) Mr. Dordea read a press release from the mayor regarding TechniGraphics, Inc. being acquired by CACI International, Inc.

IV. PETITIONS/COMMUNICATIONS FROM PUBLIC

Following member of the audience spoke: Greg Gehris, 347 N. Grant (restructuring of city).

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS; PUBLIC HEARINGS

Mr. Steiner noted there will be a Finance Committee meeting on November 1, 2010 at 6:30 p.m. in council chambers at City Hall.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

1. Second Reading - RESOLUTION NO. 2010-73 AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO PREPARE AND SUBMIT AN APPLICATION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE OHIO PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION STATE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT AND/OR LOCAL TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM(S) AND TO EXECUTE CONTRACTS AS REQUIRED (Ulbright)

Mr. Ulbright said he planned to hold the resolution on second reading as some of the funding and costs had changed. A chart detailing the funding allocation summary and the project estimated cost summary was provided by the city engineer. Mr. Ulbright explained that since the last council meeting, the amount of the Ohio Public Works Commission (OPWC) grant funding was reduced from \$500,000 to \$285,000 due to certain criteria the South and Walnut Street beautification project did not meet. Unchanged was the \$170,000 Cultural Facilities Commission Grant (CFC), which would provide enhancements to South Street, however Mr. Ulbright emphasized that if the CFC grant is not received those enhancements will not happen. A new \$400,000 Downtown Revitalization Grant (DRF) is now available through the Ohio Department of Development, which Mr. Ulbright said would more than make up for the decreased funding from OPWC. Referring to the chart, Mr. Ulbright pointed out the city's share of the project with OPWC funding (\$180,430), without OPWC funding (\$465,430) and without OPWC or CFC funding ((\$465,430). The chart also provided a breakdown of the project costs showing improvements for South Street (\$457,400) and Walnut Street (\$673,450), with the total project cost increasing from \$939,000 to \$1,130,850. Most of the increase was due to a recommendation from the maintenance division that the traffic signal at the intersection of Walnut and Liberty Streets be replaced (\$156,600). Mr. Ulbright said depending on the funding received, some of the project may be scaled down and only the necessary projects done, such as water, sewer and sidewalks. He explained that grants are based on points, so merging projects such as South, Walnut and Liberty Streets can qualify for more funding, ultimately meaning less money coming from city funds. Joel Montgomery, City Engineer, filled in the gaps, explaining eligibility requirements through the OPWC, funding allocation and answering council's questions. He indicated the basic things that need to be fixed along South Street

are pavement, curbs, sidewalk, waterlines, traffic control signs, pavement markings, storm sewer, drainage, crosswalks, etc., which would be done under normal circumstances with city funds. Mr. Montgomery feels confident the city will receive the funding based on past experience applying to OPWC. Both Mr. Buytendyk and Mr. Silvestri expressed the city should apply for the grants, otherwise no funding will be received. After seeing the detailed chart and hearing the rationale, Mr. Ulbright agreed that the city should at least apply for the grant to see if state funding can be received or else certain costs will sooner or later have to be funded by the city.

Mr. Ulbright moved, seconded by Mr. Buytendyk, to suspend the rules and place on third and final reading. Upon roll call, motion carried unanimously (Buytendyk-yes; Cavin-yes; Knapic-yes; Silvestri-yes; Steiner-yes and Ulbright-yes).

Mr. Steiner questioned if the resolution needed to be modified since there are two grants instead of one being applied for. Mr. Montgomery said Resolution No. #2010-73 is to apply for the OPWC grant and a second resolution will come before council to authorize applying for the DRF grant.

Mr. Ulbright moved, seconded by Mr. Buytendyk, to adopt. Upon roll call, motion to adopt carried unanimously (Buytendyk-yes; Cavin-yes; Knapic-yes; Silvestri-yes; Steiner-yes and Ulbright-yes).

VII. NEW BUSINESS

1. First Reading - ORDINANCE NO. 2010-29 AMENDING CHAPTER 905, TREES, TREE LAWNS AND WEEDS, AND SECTION 351.03, PROHIBITED STANDING OR PARKING PLACES, OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF WOOSTER, OHIO, BY ADOPTING STANDARDS FOR THE CREATION OF PARKING AREAS WITHIN TREE LAWNS ON UNIMPROVED STREETS; AND AMENDING CHAPTER 905, TREES, TREE LAWNS AND WEEDS, BY ADOPTING REGULATIONS FOR THE PROHIBITION OR REMOVAL OF UNDESIRABLE SPECIES OF TREES, SHRUBS AND NOXIOUS VEGETATION (Ulbright)

Mr. Ulbright stated his intent was to leave the ordinance on first reading as some minor changes had been since the Public Infrastructure Committee met and he also wanted to give council and the public a chance to study the proposed changes and make comments. Mr. Ulbright reviewed each proposed amendment in detail and indicated the biggest change was in 905.02 Tree Lawn Requirements. Any person living on an unimproved street will be required to apply for a permit to create a parking area upon the tree lawn and the parking area must comply with engineering construction standards. If this amendment were to be adopted, Mr. Ulbright said it would give the city some teeth to enforce these standards which will not only enhance the beautification but also safety issues. Mr. Montgomery said existing parking areas on unimproved streets will be grandfathered in, other than those with safety issues. He said the cost of the permit will run approximately \$120 and he will provide further information on those fees. The ordinance remained on first reading.

2. First Reading - RESOLUTION NO. 2010-75 AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATION TO CONTRACT WITH THE NICK AMSTER SHELTERED WORKSHOP FOR CLEANING SERVICES FOR THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING (Knapic)

Ms. Knapic indicated this resolution would allow payment to be made to the Nick Amster Sheltered Workshop for cleaning of the Municipal Building for fiscal year 2010. The \$30,000 amount exceeds the limits authorized in the codified ordinances and further expenditure requires Council approval.

Ms. Knapic moved, seconded by Mr. Ulbright, to adopt. Upon roll call, motion to adopt carried unanimously (Buytendyk-yes; Cavin-yes; Knapic-yes; Silvestri-yes; Steiner-yes and Ulbright-yes).

VIII. MISCELLANEOUS

Council members congratulated Jim Uhler and Daryl Decker on their promotions.

Ms. Knapic pointed out that October is Breast Cancer Awareness month and also Domestic Violence Awareness month. Every Women’s House will be holding a candlelight vigil in the downtown gazebo on Tuesday, October 26, 2010 at 6:30 p.m. and Ms. Knapic encouraged everyone to attend.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Knapic moved, seconded by Mr. Ulbright, to adjourn. Motion carried and meeting so adjourned at 8:22 p.m.

David J. Silvestri
Acting President of Council

Cheryl K. Collins
Clerk of Council