

CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

January 16, 2007

President Mitten called the regular meeting of Wooster City Council to order at 7:30 p.m. in council chambers and upon roll call, members answered present as follows: Ansel, Breneman, Cavin, Griffin, Silvestri, Topovski, Ulbright.

Mer. Ansel moved, seconded by Mr. Silvestri, to approve the minutes of the January 2, 2007 meeting. Motion carried.

President Mitten stated that we received a memo from Mayor Howey asking for approval of appointments to the Income Tax Board of Review: Greg Long, term expiring 12/31/09; David Briggs, term expiring 12/31/08. Mr. Breneman moved, seconded by Mr. Griffin, to approve these appointments. Motion carried unanimously. The next request was for the reappointment of Jerry Packard (Ward 2) to the Hospital Board of Governors with the term expiring 12/31/10. Mr. Topovski moved, seconded by Mr. Ulbright, to approve. Motion carried.

Mr. Sigg announced that Police Chief Thornton will be retiring in early 2007 and we have started the process, internally only, to find a new chief.

The following people spoke to city council during public input (re: renaming of a portion of Route 30 to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Way): Susan Riedner, 904 Forest Drive; David Bowers, 3429 Batdorf Rd.; Albert DiOrio, 3173 Burbank Rd.; Kay Rowekamp, 795 Pintail Lane; Inell Keller, 300 Kinney Drive. Greg Gehris, 300-B N. Grant (general comments).

Mr. Ansel reported on the various issues discussed at the very lengthy Laws & Ordinances Committee held Monday, January 15 at 5:30 p.m.

Ordinance No. 2006-61 determining to establish the name of a segment of U.S. Route 30 in the City of Wooster as Martin Luther King, Jr. Way, and appropriating funds for the signage thereof was read by title, being on third reading. Mr. Topovski moved, seconded by Mr. Ulbright, to adopt. Mr. Topovski stated that this was an amended ordinance (with the addition of "Dr."). We have all received a number of calls and emails from constituents regarding their feelings on this issue, along with discussions between ourselves. Mr. Topovski further stated that for the public's clarification, we are not renaming a road; this will always be known and shown on maps as State Route 30. What we're doing is naming a small portion of the road in memory and as a tribute to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. A lengthy discussion followed and upon roll call, motion carried by a 5-2 vote as follows: Ansel-yes; Breneman-no; Cavin-yes; Griffin-yes; Silvestri-no; Topovski-yes; Ulbright-yes.

Ordinance No. 2007-1 authorizing the transfer of property to the Wooster Growth Corporation, and declaring an emergency was read by title, being on second reading. Mr. Breneman stated that this was the former Besancon farm that had been purchased by the city a number of years ago with tax dollars from what at the time were called "golden parachutes." This was a large sum of money and at the time, the administration and council decided the best use of those funds would be to purchase the land to develop an industrial park; and in fact, soon thereafter, Tekfor built their company on that land. This land was bisected by the railroad tracks and there was a 16.89 acre piece to the east that was not contiguous to this land because of the railroad tracks. It was lowland and had no easy means of access and didn't benefit the city for industrial or commercial development. Mr. Breneman moved, seconded by Mr. Silvestri, to suspend the rules

and place on third and final reading. Upon roll call, motion carried unanimously. Mr. Breneman moved, seconded by Mr. Silvestri, to adopt. Upon roll call, motion to adopt carried unanimously.

Resolution No. 2007-3 authorizing the Director of Administration to enter into a contract with GPD Associates of Akron, Ohio for professional engineering services related to the development of a traffic study pertaining to traffic patterns in the downtown area, and declaring an emergency was read by title, being on second reading. Mr. Topovski stated that he had been informed by the city administration that the library felt they could work out something for the area without closing South Street; therefore Mr. Topovski moved, seconded by Ms. Cavin, to table the resolution indefinitely. Upon roll call, motion to table carried unanimously.

Ordinance No. 2007-2 amending Chapter 160, Bidding Procedures and Contract Requirements, of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Wooster, Ohio, by permitting the utilization of group purchasing plans sponsored by City or hospital affiliated professional organizations was read by title, being on first reading. Mr. Ansel stated that currently as the ordinance was referenced, the state sponsored co-op was the single point for competitive review and the additional language being proposed will expand that now to the addition of cooperation-affiliated purchasing review. So instead of having one source for competitive bidding, city affiliated co-ops or consortium and/or hospital affiliated consortiums or co-ops will be allowed to be reviewed in the competitive bidding process. Going from one to multiple reviews on financial purchases and assuring that the city or hospital obtains the lowest price on a capital purchase or purchase of any type would be accomplished by this revision. Mr. Ansel moved, seconded by Mr. Silvestri, to suspend the rules and place on third and final reading. Upon roll call, motion carried unanimously. Mr. Ansel moved, seconded by Mr. Topovski, to adopt. Upon roll call, motion to adopt carried unanimously.

Resolution No. 2007-4 authorizing the Director of Administration to purchase vehicles in accordance with the capital plan for 2007, and declaring an emergency was read by title, being on first reading. Mr. Silvestri stated that this calls for the replacement of five police cruisers and includes the police packages and can be used with the equipment on the old cruisers. We try to replace a third of our fleet every year; the vehicles are in constant use so wear and tear is great. We have 13 total cruisers in the fleet and we replaced four last year and will take this opportunity to replace five this year. This was a budgeted item and was a routine piece of business. Mr. Silvestri moved, seconded by Mr. Ansel, to suspend the rules and place on third and final reading. Upon roll call, motion carried unanimously. Mr. Silvestri moved, seconded by Mr. Griffin, to adopt. Upon roll call, motion to adopt carried unanimously.

Resolution No. 2007-5 authorizing the Director of Administration to enter into a technical services contract with MBI Solutions of Dayton, Ohio for billing services related to the city EMS service, and declaring an emergency was read by title, being on first reading. Mr. Breneman moved, seconded by Mr. Griffin, to suspend the rules and place on third and final reading. Upon roll call, motion carried unanimously. Mr. Breneman moved, seconded by Mr. Ulbright, to adopt. Mr. Breneman stated that in 2003, Mr. Sigg recommended that the billing for our emergency medical services be transferred from the hospital to a private firm and beginning in 2004, the billing has been handled by MBI Solutions. It's necessary to renew this service; it was budgeted for 2007 and this would authorize the technical services contract. Ms. Cavin asked Mr. Dordea how much money this has generated by having this service? Mr. Dordea stated that our record year was 2005 where we generated \$540,000 and he thought this year was around \$480,000 range. Upon roll call, motion to adopt carried unanimously.

Resolution No. 2007-6 authorizing the Director of Administration to advertise according to law and enter into a contract with the lowest and best bidder for mowing services for city-owned property, and declaring an emergency was read by title, being on first reading. Mr. Ulbright moved, seconded by Mr. Griffin, to suspend the rules and place this on third and final reading. Upon roll call, motion carried unanimously. Mr. Ulbright moved, seconded by Mr. Ansel, to adopt. Mr. Ulbright stated that this was a contract for mowing all the city-owned property such as the water plant, sewer plant, water towers, etc. This was a competitive bid and in the past, we've spent about \$25,000 on this service; the contract wouldn't exceed the amount appropriated in the funds as proposed and the cost was about the same as last year. Upon roll call, motion to adopt carried unanimously.

Resolution No. 2007-7 authorizing the Director of Administration to advertise according to law and enter into a contract with the lowest and best bidder for providing tree service, and declaring an emergency was read by title, being on first reading. Mr. Ulbright moved, seconded by Mr. Breneman, to suspend the rules and place on third and final reading. Upon roll call, motion carried. Mr. Ulbright moved, seconded by Mr. Silvestri, to adopt. Mr. Ulbright stated that this was a competitive bid for trimming, pruning, planting and grinding of tree stumps, emergency work due to ice storms, wind storms and other tree services. In speaking with Mr. Decker, he provided some figures that council might find interesting. Two years ago, this amounted to about \$60-80,000; this year we're going to be bidding for the rate of service rather than a specific amount, so when we go to bid we'll be looking at things like what a company would charge to dispense of a 12" diameter tree or a 24" diameter tree. Upon roll call, motion to adopt carried unanimously.

Resolution No. 2007-8 authorizing the Director of Administration to enter into a contract for the mowing of state highway rights-of-way within the city, and declaring an emergency was read by title, being on first reading. Mr. Ulbright moved, seconded by Mr. Silvestri, to suspend the rules and place on third and final reading. Upon roll call, motion carried unanimously. Mr. Ulbright moved, seconded by Mr. Breneman, to adopt. Mr. Ulbright stated that this contract for mowing was for the strips along state highway routes and because it exceeds \$15,000, it comes to council's attention but because in the past it hasn't gone over \$25,000 we aren't mandated to go to a state-wide bid. In 2006, we spent about \$19,000 and we're hoping we can keep the bid price the same or less for 2007. Upon roll call, motion to adopt carried unanimously.

Resolution No. 2007-9 authorizing the Director of Finance to issue payment for services rendered under contracts with various vendors and declaring an emergency was read by title, being on first reading. 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. Mr. Breneman stated that these services as shown in Section 1 of the resolution have all been performed and the contractors have fulfilled their obligation, the costs were included in the divisions' budgets. However, any expenditure in excess of \$3,000 must be accompanied by a fiscal officer's certification of the availability of funds or a purchase order and for some reason, these three expenditures slipped through. Upon roll call, motion to adopt carried unanimously.

Resolution No. 2007-10 authorizing the Director of Administration to enter into a technical services contract with Dukes, Inc. of Syracuse, New York for root treatment for the wastewater system, and declaring an emergency was read by title, being on first reading. Mr. Griffin moved, seconded by Mr. Silvestri, 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. Mr. Griffin stated that the \$30,000 allocation will be paid out of the Water Pollution Control Fund and would

authorize our semi-annual root treatment program to keep the conveyance of water to the plant moving properly and to avoid the expense of larger problems that can arise if we don't keep on top of this. This company was being chosen because of the chemicals they use for this procedure and they guarantee their service. Upon roll call, motion to adopt carried unanimously.

Resolution No. 2007-11 authorizing the Director of Administration to enter into a sole source contract with Ohio Drilling Company of Massillon, Ohio, for services related to the maintenance and repair of city water wells, and declaring an emergency was read by title, being on first reading. Mr. Griffin moved, seconded by Mr. Ansel, 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. Mr. Griffin stated that along the lines of the previous legislation, we have a great relationship with Ohio Drilling and they have drilled most of our production and interceptor wells. This would allocate funds for unanticipated repairs and regular maintenance to the wells throughout the year. We've had very good service from this company and they are the nearest provider of service for the deming pumps. Upon roll call, motion to adopt carried unanimously.

Resolution No. 2007-12 authorizing the Director of Administration to enter into a sole source contract with Lipton Industrial Sales of Medina, Ohio for the purchase of COC Media for the stripping tower in the south well field, and declaring an emergency was read by title, being on first reading. 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. Silvestri, to adopt. Mr. Griffin stated that council should remember the last time we contracted with this company at which time Mr. Hunter explained the media for proper use in our stripping towers so they will do the job effectively. This will "stock the shelves" for this year and this was another product Mr. Hunter was happy with and Lipton Industrial supplies the product for this region. Upon roll call, motion to adopt carried unanimously.

Resolution No. 2007-13 authorizing the Director of Administration to enter into a contract with Schmid Mechanical of Wooster, Ohio for the installation of an HVAC system for the server room, and declaring an emergency was read by title, being on first reading. 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. Ansel, to adopt. Mr. Breneman stated that it has become necessary to replace our HVAC system for our computer server room in the basement of this building. The cost was included in the capital plan for 2007. The current system was approximately 20 years old and was still working; however, we have a one-ton air conditioning unit and the minimum that we need to cool our computer systems was a minimum 8-ton unit. The IT manager, Ty Collins, advised him that our computer servers tend to work best when the room temperature was 60 degrees Fahrenheit and the best we can do with the existing system was 70 degrees F. If the system goes down, which it has in the past, the room temperature increases approximately 2 degrees every 15 minutes. Once the machines hit a certain temperature, they shut down and it takes approximately 4 ½ hours to cool the room back to the point the servers can be restarted. In this current age of dependency on computer technology, it seems logical that we upgrade the system so that the servers will run and the city can operate efficiently. A short discussion followed and upon roll call, motion to adopt carried unanimously.

Resolution No. 2007-14 authorizing the Director of Administration to purchase items of specialized technology, to wit: utility billing server for the finance department, and declaring an emergency was read by title, being on first reading. 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. Mr. Breneman stated that in

Section 2, note that instead of the purchase coming out of capital improvements fund, it was being divided between the water, water pollution control and storm water funds. This was a server to run our new U-bill software that we approved at the end of last year. Our utility billing system went down a couple years ago and we had to play catch up which proved to be a real enigma for our finance department to get everyone up to date and running again. This new U-bill software will keep our system running at top efficiency and for this software to run properly, the manufacturer dictates what server was needed to run it. Mr. Breneman stated that the city runs approximately \$10 million dollars a year through our utility billing department so it's a huge operation and one that needs to be done efficiently and accurately. Ms. Cavin stated that it seemed as though we purchase an awful lot of hardware and software and it seems to come up on a pretty regular basis. She would support this as she realized that it was needed to carry on the city's operations, but asked if Mr. Dordea could provide council with a list of all the software and hardware we've purchased in the last six years. Upon roll call, motion to adopt carried unanimously.

Resolution No. 2007-15 authorizing the Director of Administration to purchase items of specialized technology, to wit: hexagram meter transmitting units for the utilities division, and declaring an emergency was read by title, being on first reading. 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. Mr. Griffin stated that he was unable to reach Mr. Hunter for an explanation of this request so he asked that Mr. Hunter be allowed at this time to explain. Mr. Hunter stated that as part of the automated meter reading program that was installed several years ago we used hexagrams to supply the transmitting units. These are the units on the outside of the house basically that measures your water usage and transmits it to the receiver unit at city hall that connects to the billing system. These are specifically specialized technology as a transmitter that speaks to the receiver so we need to purchase this equipment. We do anticipate exceeding the \$15,000 in expenses this year and that's why we are requesting this legislation. Mr. Griffin asked how many we purchased and what was the cost per unit. Mr. Hunter stated that they're about \$110 per unit and we're looking at just under 230 units a year. Mr. Breneman asked if Mr. Hunter has been pleased with this system and the results we are getting and the information they provide to us. Mr. Hunter stated that he personally was satisfied with this technology; it allows us to obtain the readings and we are able to monitor any particular meter at any time of the day so it allows us to get the reading in a time-efficient manner. Upon roll call, motion to adopt carried unanimously.

Miscellaneous

President Mitten stated that we did not properly amend Ordinance 2007-61 and we need a motion to reconsider this ordinance; then a motion to amend by substitution and then a motion to adopt the amended ordinance. Mr. Topovski moved, seconded by Mr. Ulbright, to reconsider Ordinance 2006-61. Upon roll call, motion carried. Mr. Topovski moved, seconded by Mr. Ulbright, to amend the ordinance with the substituted copy. Upon roll call, motion carried unanimously. Mr. Silvestri moved to table the ordinance. The motion died on the floor as there was no second. Mr. Topovski moved, seconded by Mr. Ulbright, to approve Ordinance 2006-61 as amended. Upon roll call, motion to adopt carried by a 7-0 vote.

President Mitten stated that Mr. Dordea reported to City Council, as required, that our city's linked deposit program had no activity during the year 2006. Ms. Mitten asked him if he would explain what the linked deposit program entailed and the funding that was available. Mr. Dordea proceeded with the explanation.

Ms. Cavin stated that she appreciated the hospital presentation earlier tonight; they pointed out that they do contribute to economic development by bringing medical businesses to the community and she appreciated that they pointed that out as there's been some question in the community in the last few months as to whether or not we should be looking at some of their funds for other types of economic development which she was basically against. She had been very concerned to hear about the trend they showed us with the charity cases that were coming into the emergency room; they have more than doubled in the last few years and they are rising very rapidly and she saw that as something we should be concerned about.

Mr. Topovski wished to thank the public, both the citizens who resided in Wooster and those who do not, who expressed concern and alternatives on our resolution to rename a part of Route 30 in memory of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. There were a lot of good comments made on alternative names and people who deserved recognition and he took that to heart, especially the two officers who gave their lives on July 4, 1969 during the flood. If a group wished to make any further recommendations, he urged them to bring those forward. He hoped the Laws & Ordinances committee, on which he was a member, would work on a policy or process for renaming streets so that Council could act on them in a timely manner.

Mr. Ulbright stated that all of council received a copy of a letter directed to Mr. Sigg from Roger Terrill, the county engineer, regarding the request for a street light at the corner of Milltown and Oak Hill Road and Mr. Ulbright planned to contact AEP to get the cost for the installation of the pole and the light and the monthly service fee. He hoped to approach the county in hopes they would share the costs involved. He wasn't giving up on this.

President Mitten stated that at our next meeting, representatives from AEP will be here at 6:30 for a presentation. Ms. Mitten stated that in December 2005 the police chief put together a list of businesses that generated calls in the city of Wooster and she was curious as to what the update was at this time because we found with the liquor permits, that calls were up. When she got the report of the nine businesses, five of them have reduced their calls in 2006 and there were a total of 834 calls in 2005 from these nine businesses and in 2006, there were 652 so the police are doing a good job!

Mr. Ulbright moved, seconded by Mr. Topovski, to adjourn. Motion carried and meeting so adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Judith Mitten
President of Council

Sheila Stanley
Clerk of Council