

CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

March 3, 2008

7:30 p.m.

I. ROLL CALL & ORDERING OF AGENDA

President Jeff Griffin 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: Jon Ansel, Mike Buytendyk, Jeff Griffin, Ed Schuch, David Silvestri, Jeff Steiner, Keith Topovski and Jon Ulbright.

INFORMAL RESOLUTION - IN HONOR OF THE COLLEGE OF WOOSTER'S MOOT COURT TEAM

Mr. Buytendyk recognized Professor Mark Weaver and the College of Wooster's Moot Court Team who won the American Collegiate Moot Court Association National Tournament held at Drake University Law School in Des Moines, Iowa in January 2008. Members of the team stood and introduced themselves. Mr. Buytendyk asked council to approve the resolution honoring the College of Wooster's Moot Court Team's accomplishments. Mr. Topovski moved, seconded by Mr. Steiner, to adopt the Informal Resolution and it was unanimously approved.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Ulbright moved, seconded by Mr. Schuch to approve the minutes of the February 19, 2008 meeting.

III. COMMUNICATIONS FROM MAYOR/ADMINISTRATION

Mayor Breneman expressed his support for TechniGraphicS, Inc.'s tax abatement request and updated council on various activities in the city.

Mr. Dordea explained there is a new standard in the audit procedure to foster communication between the auditor and the governing body. If council wishes, Rea & Associates will attend the next council meeting to discuss the scope and timing of the city's audit. Mr. Griffin suggested council members discuss this during miscellaneous and let Mr. Dordea know how they wish to proceed.

IV. PETITIONS/COMMUNICATIONS FROM PUBLIC

There were no petitions. No communications from public.

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS; PUBLIC HEARINGS

Mr. Ulbright reminded everyone of the Infrastructure Committee meeting scheduled for March 17, 2008, 6:30 p.m. to discuss upcoming water system projects in order to meet requirements of the EPA funding.

A Finance Committee meeting was held prior to council meeting at 6:30 p.m. Mr. Ansel reported that Andrei Dordea, Finance Director, gave a very informative overview on municipal debt financing. Also, Justin Starlin gave a brief presentation regarding the TechniGraphicS enterprise zone request.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

1. Tabled - AMENDED ORDINANCE NO. 2007-18-B ADOPTING A PAY RANGE FOR THE NEW POSITION OF CLERK OF CITY COUNCIL (Ansel)

Mr. Ansel stated last year there was discussion and deliberation regarding how to staff the vacant position of clerk of city council. Hiring an outside candidate was considered but it was decided that the interim clerk, Cheryl Collins, would serve in that capacity and a compensation range needed to be established. Mr. Ansel moved, seconded by Mr. Steiner to bring Ordinance 2007-18-B off the table. Upon roll call, motion carried unanimously. Mr. Ansel read the amendment in Section 1 of the Ordinance and indicated the job description, pay range and clerk had been established. Mr. Ansel moved, seconded by Mr. Topovski, to adopt. Upon roll call, motion to adopt carried unanimously.

2. Second Reading - ORDINANCE NO. 2008-07 PROVIDING FOR THE ISSUANCE AND SALE OF NOTES IN THE MAXIMUM PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF \$4,000,000, IN ANTICIPATION OF THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS, FOR THE PURPOSE OF PAYING THE PROPERTY OWNERS' PORTION, IN ANTICIPATION OF THE LEVY AND COLLECTION OF SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS, AND THE CITY'S PORTION OF THE COST OF IMPROVING BEALL AVENUE FROM LIBERTY STREET TO BLOOMINGTON AVENUE BY GRADING, DRAINING, WIDENING, PAVING, CONSTRUCTING AND REHABILITATING SIDEWALKS, DRIVEWAY APPROACHES, CURBS AND RAMPS, INCLUDING PROVISION OF DECORATIVE STREET AND SIDEWALK DESIGNS AND MATERIALS AND APPURTENANT STREET AND SIDEWALK FURNISHINGS, INSTALLING WALKWAY STYLE LIGHTING FACILITIES AND NECESSARY APPURTENANCES THERETO, INCLUDING THE INSTALLATION OF UNDERGROUND WIRING, RELOCATING OVERHEAD CABLES, WIRES, AND APPURTENANT EQUIPMENT UNDERGROUND, CONSTRUCTING STORM SEWERS, SANITARY SEWERS, WATER MAINS, SERVICE CONNECTIONS AND UTILITY MODIFICATIONS AND INSTALLING AND RELOCATING CATCH BASINS, MANHOLES AND HYDRANTS, AS REQUIRED, CONSTRUCTING RETAINING WALLS, PLANTING SHADE TREES AND PROVIDING RELATED LANDSCAPING, AND INSTALLING STREET AND TRAFFIC CONTROL SIGNS, SIGNALS AND DEVICES, ALL IN CERTAIN DESIGNATED LOCATIONS, AND ACQUIRING ANY REAL ESTATE AND INTERESTS THEREIN REQUIRED THEREBY, ALL TOGETHER WITH THE NECESSARY APPURTENANCES THERETO, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY (Ansel)

Mr. Ansel stated this ordinance was the topic of discussion at the finance committee meeting held earlier, regarding financing options available to municipalities. Last year council approved to secure a \$1 million financing option in terms of bonds to finance the architectural design and surveying of Phase I for the Beall Avenue Streetscape project. This is the corresponding ordinance that will roll \$1 million of the debt incurred on the project and secure an additional \$3 million to begin the undertaking of a major upgrade for the city. Mr. Ansel noted the College of Wooster is participating significantly in the funding of this project as well as state monies. Of the \$4 million of debt financing to cover the city's portion of the project, approximately 50% will be gained back through property assessments. Mr. Ansel felt it important to understand the mechanics behind it as the \$2 million outstanding will secure longer term bond funding over a period of 10-15 years that will be well within the limits of the city's financing maximums and that this is a very standard protocol for financing these types of municipal projects. Mr.

Ansel moved, seconded by Mr. Steiner, to suspend the rules and place on third and final reading. There were no objections. Mr. Ansel moved, seconded by Mr. Buytendyk, to adopt. Upon roll call, motion to adopt carried unanimously (7-0).

3. Second Reading - RESOLUTION NO. 2008-37 AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATION TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE WAYNE COUNTY HUMANE SOCIETY FOR CAT CONTROL SERVICES WITHIN THE CITY OF WOOSTER, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY (Topovski)

Mr. Topovski stated Wooster is not the only city putting a burden on the cat population in Wayne County and the Humane Society has been asked how they plan to have other municipalities share in this cost. The agreement with the Humane Society will not exceed \$30,000, the amount appropriated for this purpose in the General Fund, although the proposed agreement drafted by the Humane Society, was for \$45,000. Representatives from the Humane Society, Kathie Gray, President of the Board of Trustees and Suzy Stocksdale, Treasurer, gave a brief presentation and answered several questions. Based on their calculations, Wooster's responsibility is \$45,000, 40% of the total cost, but they are not requesting an increase until all municipalities are in compliance. Mr. Topovski stated he would be leaving the resolution on second reading in order to gather further information and public input.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

1. First Reading - ORDINANCE NO. 2008-08 AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH TECHNI GRAPHIC SYSTEMS, INC., FOR TAX ABATEMENT, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY (Ansel)

Mr. Silvestri recused himself from the discussion. Mr. Ansel stated this topic was discussed at the finance committee meeting held prior to the council meeting. He indicated Wooster is very fortunate to have this world class company which is focused on high-tech initiatives located in our city and wanting to expand here. Mr. Ansel noted that guidelines were established over a year ago for streamlining the enterprise zone process and making sure the city is rewarding companies that are making those commitments, not only in facility expansion but providing jobs that pay competitively and offer a competitive benefit package. This EZ request is the first agreement using the new expedited EZ criteria and TechniGraphicS not only meets, but exceeds all of the requirements. Several council members expressed their support and approval. Mr. Ansel moved, seconded by Mr. Ulbright, to suspend the rules and place on third and final reading. There were no objections. Mr. Ansel moved, seconded by Mr. Topovski, to adopt. Upon roll call, motion to adopt carried (6-0) with Mr. Silvestri abstaining.

2. First Reading - RESOLUTION NO. 2008-38 AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATION TO PURCHASE VEHICLES, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY (Ulbright)

Mr. Ulbright stated the maintenance division requested purchasing a 2008 Chevrolet Colorado pick-up truck to replace a 1999 Ford Taurus, costs not exceed \$20,000. The current vehicle is being replaced due to its age and also the fact a pickup truck will be more usable for the maintenance division. Mr. Ulbright moved, seconded by Mr. Buytendyk, to suspend the rules and place on third and final reading. There were no objections. Mr. Ulbright moved, seconded by Mr. Steiner, to adopt. Upon roll call, motion to adopt carried unanimously.

3. First Reading - RESOLUTION NO. 2008-39 AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATION TO PURCHASE WATER, SEWER AND STORM SEWER REPAIR PART FOR THE UTILITIES DIVISION, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY (Silvestri)

Mr. Silvestri stated this resolution is to authorize the purchase of water, sewer and storm sewer repair parts from HD Supply Waterworks of Ashland, Ohio. This is above the \$15,000 but will not exceed the amount budgeted. Mr. Silvestri moved, seconded by Mr. Steiner, to suspend the rules and place on third and final reading. There were no objections. Mr. Silvestri moved, seconded by Mr. Buytendyk, to adopt. Upon roll call, motion to adopt carried unanimously.

VIII. MISCELLANEOUS

Mr. Ulbright announced he will vote to bring Resolution #2007-86 off the table at the next council meeting, March 17, 2008. This resolution is to declare the necessity of constructing sidewalks and curb ramps on portions of Northwestern and Westridge Avenues. When the resolution was tabled on November 19, 2007, the date of March 17, 2008 was set to bring it off the table. He requested tapes and DVD's of council and committee meetings discussing this issue be made available for review. Mr. Ulbright noted this topic would be discussed during the infrastructure committee meeting scheduled for March 17, 2008 at 6:30 p.m.

Mr. Griffin asked Mr. Dordea to send an email to council members explaining the request for Rea and Associates to discuss the scope and timing of the city's audit.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Ulbright moved, seconded by Mr. Schuch, to adjourn. Motion carried and meeting so adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Jeffrey M. Griffin
President of Council

Cheryl K. Collins
Clerk of Council