

CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
May 17, 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: Jon Ansel, Mike Buytendyk, Mark Cavin, Barbara Knapic, David Silvestri, Jeff Steiner and Jon Ulbright.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Steiner moved, seconded by Ms. Knapic, to approve minutes of the May 3, 2010 meeting. Upon voice vote, motion carried unanimously.

III. COMMUNICATIONS FROM MAYOR/ADMINISTRATION

Mike Sigg, Director of Administration, updated council on various activities in the city: 1) The Downtown Flower Fund has received \$2,100 in donations and 2) City administration and Waste Management are working on revamping the city's recycling program.

IV. PETITIONS/COMMUNICATIONS FROM PUBLIC

The clerk read a notice from the Ohio Division of Liquor Control indicating Lindy LLC, DBA The Shack, 437 E. Pine Street, applied for a new C1 and C2 liquor permit. Ms. Knapic moved, seconded by Mr. Ansel, not to request a hearing. Motion carried unanimously.

Following members of the audience spoke: Greg Gehris, 347 N. Grant (Wooster City Schools); Verna Boss, 153 Billiar Alley (EnviroClean).

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS; PUBLIC HEARINGS

The Finance Committee's second bi-monthly meeting was held at 6:30 p.m. prior to the council meeting. Mr. Ansel briefly highlighted points from the meeting and reviewed the city's financial results through April 30, 2010. Revenues (\$5,547,798) were slightly higher than projected but lower than 2009 by 3.2% and significantly lower than years 2008 and 2007. Expenditures of 30% were below the projected spending budget and the current deficit (\$171,582) represents approximately 3½ days of the rainy day fund. Mr. Ansel feels the first four months of the year are showing positive performance indicators and with continued revenue and expenditure control, 2010 could finish better than anticipated, with rainy day fund reserves beyond 60 days. Mr. Ansel indicated there will be additional committee meetings to review longer term options and continued bi-monthly review sessions. He stated there will be no surprises, but rather complete visibility and public awareness of the city's financial performance as the year progresses.

VI. OLD BUSINESS (none)

VII. NEW BUSINESS

1. First Reading - ORDINANCE NO. 2010-14 REVISING THE AUTHORIZED RANGE OF PAY SCALES AND BENEFITS FOR HOURLY RATED AND SALARIED EMPLOYEES AT WOOSTER COMMUNITY HOSPITAL, AND REPEALING FORMER ORDINANCES, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY (Ansel)

Mr. Ansel stated every year city council has the responsibility by charter to review Wooster Community Hospital's Board of Governors recommendations on salary increases and compensation ranges for all managerial, salary and hourly employees at the hospital. They proposed a 1% general increase for 2010 which is in their budget and will allow them to remain competitive within the industry and community. Past increases have been in the 2%-4% range. Mr. Ansel indicated he would be willing to leave the ordinance on first reading if council members wished to further review the information. Ms. Knapic felt it was a modest increase and she didn't have any problem going forward with third reading. Mr. Ulbright felt the 1% increase was very modest and necessary to keep the wages competitive with other hospital facilities in the area. Mr. Ansel commended the hospital administration for keeping the increase reasonable and conservative during these tough economic times.

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

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

2. First Reading - RESOLUTION NO. 2010-47 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 (Steiner)

Mr. Steiner stated this is an annual contract with the Wayne County Humane Society for control of cats throughout the city of Wooster and feels this is an important service that they provide. He recalled last year when the contract was up for renewal, council had concerns whether the surrounding communities were paying their fair share for cat control. Lisa Todaro of the Humane Society provided the total number of incoming cats in 2009 were 2,139 and of those 1,175 came from within the city of Wooster. She said those numbers are significantly greater than four years ago. Council members wanted to know if the Humane Society had contacted other communities in Wayne County and if they were participating in the cat control program. Pat Neyhart, President of the Humane Society, said letters were sent out to every community asking for support and there were a few communities that responded, but he stressed that the bulk of the cats do come from within the city of Wooster. The rural area is second in number of cats taken in, but by law the county is only responsible for dogs, not cats. Mr. Neyhart explained the Humane Society receives income other than from just the city and county. They are highly dependant on donations from people in the community who help sustain the organization. Council members overall agreed that the Humane Society provides a valuable service and the city couldn't afford to do it for less, but they would like to see other communities and the county held responsible for paying their share. Mr. Ansel pointed out that the cost of this contract has remained \$30,000 for the last several years and Ms. Knapic added the reason counties are legally obligated to take care of dogs is the safety issue of rabies.

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

3. First Reading - RESOLUTION NO. 2010-48 AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ISSUE PAYMENT TO THE WAYNE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SERVICES (Ansel)

Mr. Ansel gave a detailed summary of Wayne Economic Development Council's goals, accomplishments and awards. In 2007 WEDC took the initiative to create industrial job expansion within the city of Wooster with very aggressive goals for job growth, average wages and capital investment. They set out to retain 1,600 jobs with an average wage of \$13.30 per hour and a capital investment of at least \$100 million. To date the organization has created or retained 2,776 jobs with an average wage of \$17.41 and more than \$324 million in capital investment. WEDC was named in the top ten micropolitan areas of our region in the country for four consecutive years. Additionally it was named in Ohio's top micropolitan areas for four years and in the midwest the top micropolitan in three of the last four years. Mr. Ansel stated these accomplishments reinforce the sustainability and hard work of WEDC to the city of Wooster, for the fee of \$40,000, which amount has not increased over the last several years. He added that if the city would try to internalize this function the cost would be well beyond \$100,000. WEDC has raised the bar high and Mr. Ansel stated the city expects continued big things in return for this investment. Mr. Ansel further acknowledged WEDC's accomplishments listing the various boards and committees their employees serve on, the many businesses they have successfully assisted with and the multiple services they provide alongside the city in a joint community effort. They provide over \$80,000 annually in marketing support to generate prospects and promote the city of Wooster and Wayne County. Mr. Rod Crider, President of WEDC, explained the cities of Wooster, Rittman, Orrville and the Wayne County Commissioners make up approximately 30% of their overall budget and the remaining 70% comes from individuals and businesses in the county. Wooster's contribution would account for about 8% of their budget.

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

4. First Reading - RESOLUTION NO. 2010-49 AMENDING RESOLUTION NO. 2009-62 BY AMENDING THE AMOUNT OF THE CONTRACT (Silvestri)

Mr. Silvestri explained this request is to amend Section 2 of Resolution #2009-62, which authorized the city to bid and award a contract for the replacement of several control valves located on the transmission main connected to the north end of the new secondary transmission main. These valves are located on W. Old Lincoln Way, between Liberty and Old Mansfield Road. The entire project was originally \$945,000 but there was over \$500,000 left in the budget after the first phase due to Ohio Public Works Commission funding and actual project cost savings. Approximately \$200,000 of the budget was carried over to be used this year for the second phase of the project. The total amount of this contract will not exceed \$65,000 and 53% of the project will be paid directly by an OPWC and the maximum to be paid from the Water Fund is \$51,700.

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

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

VIII. MISCELLANEOUS

Ms. Knapic congratulated Wooster Police Chief Steve Glick for completing the fourteen month Certified Law Enforcement Executive Program.

Mr. Ansel acknowledged a public hearing has been set for Monday, June 21, 2010 at 7:30 p.m. to review the 2011 tax budget.

Mr. Buytendyk thanked Rod Crider and the Wayne Economic Development Council for the fine job they've done and the Humane Society for the service they provide. Mr. Buytendyk asked Dick Benson, the Law Director, to keep a full court press on the EnviroClean lawsuit. Lastly, he recognized Bryan Schaaf, reporter for the Daily Record. Mr. Schaaf recently accepted a new job elsewhere and Mr. Buytendyk thanked him for his great reporting of city council activities.

Mr. Ulbright reiterated what the other council members mentioned thanking WEDC, the Humane Society for their services, congratulating Chief Glick and wishing Mr. Schaaf good luck in his future endeavors. Mr. Ulbright expressed his appreciation for all the work Mr. Benson has put forth in the EnviroClean issue.

Mr. Cavin asked when the telephone phone line (#330-263-5288) established to report EnviroClean problems would be up and running and Mr. Benson indicated it would be working by the end of the week.

Mr. Silvestri praised WEDC's work stating one thing that can't be measured with statistics are the ancillary effects those job numbers have on the community as there is no way to put figures to the cascading effects this has. He also thanked Mr. Benson for the thorough work he has done on the EnviroClean issue.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Knapic moved, seconded by Mr. Cavin, to adjourn. Motion carried and meeting so adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

David J. Silvestri
Acting President of Council

Cheryl K. Collins
Clerk of Council