

CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

May 18, 2009

7:30 p.m.

All meetings are held in Council Chambers, 1st Floor, 538 N. Market Street

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, Bob Henery, Ed Schuch, David Silvestri, Jeff Steiner and Jon Ulbright.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Steiner moved, seconded by Mr. Silvestri, to approve minutes of the May 4, 2009 meeting. Upon voice vote, motion carried unanimously.

III. COMMUNICATIONS FROM MAYOR/ADMINISTRATION

Mayor Breneman updated council on various activities in the city: Ongoing road construction projects throughout Wooster; All-America City Awards team continuing to work on presentation.

IV. PETITIONS/COMMUNICATIONS FROM PUBLIC

None

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS; PUBLIC HEARINGS

A Finance Committee meeting was held prior to council meeting at 6:30 p.m. in council chambers to review the city's first quarter financials. Mr. Ansel summarized the financial report distributed by Mr. Dordea. Compared to the first quarter of 2008, the 2009 figures showed net total income tax receipts down 2.41% and total expenditures down 4.65%. Total General Fund revenues (\$3,305,575) and expenditures (\$3,312,420), plus or minus \$6,000, illustrate a balanced budget for the first quarter. Mr. Ansel indicated the city will proceed with cautious optimism and an intense focus on expense control.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

1. Second Reading - ORDINANCE NO. 2009-12 ESTABLISHING AN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FUND; AND PROVIDING FOR THE FUNDING THEREOF; AND AUTHORIZING AN AGREEMENT WITH THE WOOSTER GROWTH CORPORATION FOR THE MANAGEMENT THEREOF (Ansel)

Mr. Ansel stated the Economic Development Fund is a creative tool, reinforcing the city's commitment to continued economic growth by accommodating expanding and emerging new businesses. He does not feel the city can exist without these types of investments into our future. Wooster Growth Corporation will oversee and administer the fund. The revised application had been distributed to members to review and Mr. Ansel welcomed any comments or questions. Mr. Dordea clarified the \$100,000 non tax funds being used as seed money is encumbered interest on city investments. Mr. Ansel indicated this ordinance would supersede Ordinance #2006-28 where the funds were encumbered. Mr. Dordea also said there is the possibility of the state providing matching funds as part of its Third Frontier Project, where 67 cents for every dollar would be provided for technology-based products, which would dovetail with our local industries and colleges. Mr. Silvestri expressed his approval of the fund indicating it could be the start of something much larger and more significant for the city.

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

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

VII. NEW BUSINESS

1. First Reading - ORDINANCE NO. 2009-14 AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE A NON-

DEVELOPMENT LEASE AGREEMENT WITH R.D. WILES, INC. OF WOOSTER, OHIO, PROVIDING FOR CITY-OWNED PROPERTY (ROAD RIGHT-OF-WAY) TO BE INCLUDED IN A UNIT FOR PURPOSES OF DRILLING A GAS WELL (Schuch)

Mr. Ansel recused himself from discussion. Mr. Schuch explained R.D. Wiles, Inc. owns real estate on both sides of the city-owned public right-of-way on Venture Boulevard and Old Mansfield Road. They would like to combine their real estate into a single unit for purposes of drilling a gas well which requires a minimum of 40 acres. Therefore the owner needs a lease for the public right-of-way and would pay the city for the easement. Mr. Schuch said he intended to leave the ordinance on first reading.

2. First Reading - RESOLUTION NO. 2009-53 AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ISSUE PAYMENT TO THE WAYNE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SERVICES (Ansel)

Mr. Ansel stated this is an opportunity to support the Wayne Economic Development Council and continue to generate economic growth and continuity within Wayne County and Wooster. Mr. Ansel praised the work of WEDC and stated their track record stands alone. A 2008 Performance Summary was provided to council members and Mr. Ansel highlighted the most significant milestone as 16 business expansions, representing \$78 million in capital investments and the creation and retainage of 482 jobs paying an average of \$46,960. Though the statistics included all of Wayne County, 2/3 of the capital investment growth was in Wooster. Rod Crider, Director of WEDC, thanked the City of Wooster for their support and outlined objectives and future plans for the coming year.

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; Henery-yes; Schuch-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; Henery-yes; Schuch-yes; Silvestri-yes; Steiner-yes and Ulbright-yes).

VIII. MISCELLANEOUS

Mr. Ulbright scheduled a Public Infrastructure Committee meeting for Monday June 15, 2009 at 6:00 p.m. in council chambers of City Hall to discuss parking on unimproved streets.

Mr. Schuch stated he received several calls from residents on the east end of town regarding a fowl odor from Environmental Cleaning. He is not only concerned with the odor but also the possible health hazard it may cause for residents. The city has had multiple dealings with the owner of Environmental Cleaning on these same odor issues and Mr. Schuch feels its time for the city to initiate proceedings to close the business down. City administration informed Mr. Schuch the city is currently monitoring the affluent being discharged from the business.

Mr. Silvestri recalled past issues with Environmental Cleaning and the owner making upgrades to remedy the odor situation. Not knowing what process has changed to once again cause the odor, Mr. Silvestri indicated he would be in favor of giving the company another opportunity. He requested city administration contact the company and get back to council by the first meeting in June if possible.

Mr. Henery pointed out that the many on-going road construction projects in Wooster are not only improving our streets but are also providing employment to men and women in this economic environment.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Steiner moved, seconded by Mr. Schuch, 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