

The Council of the City of Milford met in Regular Session in Council Chambers at 745 Center Street at 7:00 p.m. on August 5, 2008. Mayor Hunter called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance and a Moment of Silence.

Roll Call: Present: Mayor Hunter, Mr. Hawkins, Ms. McBeath and Mr. Vilardo. Absent: Vice-Mayor Hinners, Ms. Brewer and Mr. Pschesang. Mr. Hawkins made the motion to excuse Vice-Mayor Hinners, Ms. Brewer and Mr. Pschesang, seconded by Mr. Vilardo. All voted yes.

Remarks from the Mayor: Mayor Hunter announced that due to the absence of Law Director Minniear and the three council members all legislation will be tabled until the next Council Meeting. He thanked Greg Hinners for his help cleaning up debris from the storm that left damage to the City. He also thanked Mr. Hawkins, Karen Huff and the Jaycees for removing the bird droppings on Main St. Mayor Hunter stated that there has been discussion concerning obstructions on public property. The City Manager is authorized to remove the obstructions on public property. City Council does not have the authorization to authorize someone to put something on a right-of-way without vacating the property. A past City Council authorized the City Manager to take no action. Mayor Hunter made a motion authorizing the City Manager to take appropriate action at her discretion regarding any obstructions, impediments, structures or other improvements placed on City property or right-of-way. The motion was seconded by Ms. McBeath with all voting yes.

Presentation: Dominic Costanzo and Michael Hawk from the Milford Gun Club presented a \$500 check to Sgt. Crider from the Milford Police Department. Several times a year the Gun Club has Shoots that benefit projects in the City. Sgt. Crider thanked the Gun Club for their generous donation to the Department. A \$500 check was also presented to Bryan Hawkins to be used for community development in Milford

Minutes: Ms. McBeath made the motion to waive the reading and adopt the minutes of the July 1, 2008 Council Meeting, seconded by Mr. Vilardo. All voted yes. Ms. McBeath made the motion to waive the reading and adopt the minutes of the July 22, 2008 Special Meeting of Council, seconded by Mr. Hawkins. All voted yes.

Correspondence: None

Financial Statements: None. Council was reminded that the copies of the Financial Statements they received were adopted at the July 1st Council Meeting.

Public Comments: Mary Kipp, Mill St. resident, addressed Council concerning the placement of four large air conditioners and 3 concrete piers at the Telephone Company. Ms. Kipp asked if permits were issued for this construction, as it is an eyesore to the adjacent property. Council asked City Manager Rokey to look into the situation.

Cole Crothers, High St. resident also complained concerning the outside generators and AC units. He questioned the legality of not screening for sight and noise. Mr. Crothers also stated that the new parking lot at the old City Hall Building needs higher shrubs to help screen the lot.

George Kipp, Mill St. resident said that in 2006 the area was featured in the "Cincinnati Magazine." The area should be kept the same.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Public Services: Mr. Vilardo reported that the Committee met on July 8, 2008. Present: Amy Brewer, Ralph Vilardo and Sam Pschesang. Staff Present: City Manager Rokey, Assistant to the City Manager Ellerhorst, Wastewater Supervisor Royer and Fire Chief John Cooper. Also Present: Pam Lee and Jon Peterson.

The Committee discussed the bidding for the CSO Elimination Project. The Project will be re-bid since the low bidder withdrew his bid due to an error. The project will be completed prior to ODOT's spring resurfacing. Since the Garfield Force Main project is not yet ready for bid, we have an additional opportunity to apply for OPWC grant and loans funds. Legislation for this was passed at the July 22nd Council Meeting.

Carol Royer advised the Committee that her staff is replacing the valves of the digester.

Susan Ellerhorst provided additional analysis of the bids for Solid Waste Collection and Recycling. After further discussion the Committee agreed that the unlimited collection program offered the most advantages. A nominal fee of \$1.25 per month was recommended to be billed per unit covered under the contract. The legislation for this issue was adopted at the July 22nd Council Meeting.

Mr. Pschesang referred to a letter sent to businesses lacking zoning certificates. He felt that the letter could have been more business friendly. As a former code inspector, Mr. Vilaro felt that it was accurate and unfortunately necessary. The Manager advised the Committee that staff has discussed the matter and is seeking ways to catch the problem early on. They are also working with the Chamber and Carrie Owings to prepare a business packet that building owners can provide their tenants.

Administrative Services: Mr. Hawkins reported that the Committee met on July 14, 2008. Present: Ms. Hinnners, Mr. Pschesang and Mr. Hawkins. Staff Present: City Manager Rokey and Finance Director Petric. Also Present: Sharon Jetter, resident.

The Manager reported that the FOP agreements are expected by Friday. Legislation for this was adopted at the July 22nd Special Meeting.

The Finance Director discussed the 2009 Tax Budget process and is still working on its preparation. This information will be included in City Council packets. Legislation for this was adopted at the July 22nd Special Council meeting.

Mr. Hawkins commended staff for pursuing FEMA funds associated with the snowstorm last March. The City received a check in the amount of \$19,454 to compensate for these costs.

The Finance Director provided a summary of RITA collection based upon the number of returns and average incomes per category.

The Committee adjourned to Executive Session to discuss personnel matters related to individual pay negotiations. The Committee agreed to request an Executive Session to discuss personnel matter at the next meeting of City Council

Safety Services: Ms. McBeath reported that the Committee met on July 8, 2008. Present: Kim McBeath, Charlene Hinnners and Ralph Vilaro. Staff present: City Manager Rokey, Fire Chief John Cooper and Police Chief Mark Machan. Also present: Steve Boller, Sharon Jetter, Vanessa Hannah, Steve, Carrie and Elsie Anderson, Residents.

Chief Machan briefly reviewed the annual report. Changes in activity were noted related to Mayor's Court revenue and warrants. Traffic revenues have increased and warrants are down, particularly tax warrants that have not been required since RITA is handling our income tax collections.

Chief Machan provided a report of speed data captured using the speed sign on Center St. Additional data will be collected on Forest Ave. as well. New stop signs have been installed at Forest and Miami and Center and Miami. Over 300 responses have been received to the police survey. The summary results will be ready in about two weeks.

Steve Anderson stated that he does not believe the stop signs help. Vanessa Hannah asked when all of the studies would be complete.

The Manager reported that the final cost estimates for speed tables/humps were being prepared by Brandstetter Carroll to include cost of design and installation. This will also provide a map to illustrate the locations proposed. Ms. McBeath explained that there is no budget for the project at this time and efforts have been concentrated on changing behavior. A final decision cannot be made until all of this information is received. She also recommended that the neighborhood be polled again prior to any installation. Mr. Vilaro stated that he is ready to bring the project to a close.

There was some discussion related to the placing of humps and the number that may be necessary. The Manager noted that the Traffic Policy Ordinance also requires further review and recommendations. The Traffic Engineer will be scheduled to address the Committee again on July 23rd at 6:30 p.m.

Chief Machan advised the Committee that he is pursuing a grant for a generator.

Chief Cooper distributed copies of the Fire Department's Annual Report for 2007. He also reported that Assistant Chief Mark Flanigan is doing well. The Department will sponsor a rib-eating contest at Texas Roadhouse on June 26th at 1:00 p.m. as a fundraiser for Mark.

Ms. McBeath reported that the Committee met on July 23, 2008. Present: Kim McBeath, Charlene Hinnners and Ralph Vilaro. Staff present: City Manager Rokey, Fire Chief John Cooper and Police Chief Mark Machan. Also present: Ben and Bruce Brandstetter, Vanessa Hannah and Carrie and Elsie Anderson. Ben Brandstetter provided revisions to the traffic calming study, which includes a proposal for a point system to prioritize needs for traffic calming solutions. A cost estimate for speed humps was also provided for Center St. and Forest Ave. There were several criteria clarified and recommendations to improve the "Point Process for Prioritization." Staff is hoping to test the process using that data obtained from East Milford. There were also minor revisions recommended for the "Summary Process for Traffic Calming Implementation." The Committee agreed to support implementation of the speed table recommendations recommended for East Milford. Staff will work with Brandstetter Carroll to prepare the documents necessary for a request for proposals. Chief Cooper reiterated that the design speed should be 35 MPH to facilitate travel for emergency vehicles. An amendment to appropriations will be necessary prior to

acceptance of a proposal for construction. An informational letter may also be sent to East Milford residents inviting any questions or concerns regarding the project prior to installation. It was agreed that the Traffic Calming ordinance or resolution including all revisions to the "Point Process" and "Summary Process for Traffic Calming Implementation" should be adopted at that time. Staff will work with the engineer to review amendments for final recommendation by the Committee. Chief Machan provided a preview of results from almost half of the respondents to the police survey. Over 200 responses were received and are being compiled by a cadet at the UC Clermont Police Academy. Chief Machan reported that he is still seeking grant funds toward the purchase and installation of an emergency generator.

Community Development: Bryan Hawkins reported that the Committee met on July 17, 2008. Present: Bryan Hawkins, Amy Brewer and Kim McBeath. Staff present: Assistant City Manager Pam Holbrook. Also present: Karen Huff, Chamber of Commerce, Carrie Owings, Economic Development Director, Steve Allen, 109 Main St.; Ken Geis, CUC; Chance Truemper, CUC; Andy Johns and Barb Antell. Mr. Hawkins reported the Committee discussed the request from CUC for tax increment financing for road improvements. Mr. Geis explained that CUC is requesting tax increment financing because current lot prices and sales in the area makes this area uncompetitive; the TIF would allow them to be competitive with other developments. Mr. Geis stated that there are no outlots under contract right now; he noted that potential users are not interested in the lots until the access management plan has been approved. Mr. Hawkins stated that this could be handled either through a new TIF or use of revenue from the existing Beechwood TIF. He stated that he was concerned that a new TIF would take money away from EMS and schools. Mr. Hawkins also stated that Council needed to explore and consider other possibilities for the use of the revenue from the existing TIF, but he was unwilling to recommend that the possible revenue be obligated to a project with no guarantees that the lots would ever be developed. Mr. Geis stated that the outlots will not sell if the improvements are not made. Ms. McBeath stated that Council might be receptive if they were presented a specific idea on improvements. Mr. Geis stated that potential users want to know the improvements are in place before committing to purchase the land. Mr. Hawkins questioned if there was a way to prioritize the elements. Mr. Geis discussed phasing of improvements. Ms. McBeath noted that there had been interest including sidewalks as part of the improvements. Ms. Holbrook noted that Santoro Engineering had provided a letter outlining a phasing plan. Mr. Hawkins recommended that CUC provide more specific information regarding information improvements and phasing of the project. Staff updated members on the status of the grant application. The downtown building inventory and infrastructure survey is almost complete. Linda Fitzgerald, Consultant, will begin writing the narrative for the grant application and will plan having the application completed by the middle of September. The Committee discussed the noise ordinance. The intern prepared a proposed noise ordinance using "unreasonableness" as a threshold. Mr. Hawkins stated that he would rather see an ordinance that addresses the specific issue of noise as it relates to D permit liquor licenses and electronic equipment. He said that this kind of ordinance would help the Planning Commission when reviewing various projects that come before them. Ms. Yokel asked if the Committee could consider varying noise levels based on time of day. Ms. McBeath would like to have a demonstration of different decibel levels. The Committee discussed the Mound St. erosion issue. Mr. Hawkins stated there are two questions: maintenance of the hillside vegetation, and a citizen's concern about his property washing away. Mr. Hawkins noted that he has not seen any specific complaints or requests concerning slippage of the hillside or maintenance as of the vegetation. The Committee agreed that this issue was not an immediate priority. As to the second issue, Mr. Hawkins stated there are two questions: is the City legally obligated to help, or can the City do something to help? Unless there is a legal requirement he stated that he is not in favor of using public funds for this purpose. Ms. Brewer stated that these questions would need to be addressed by the Law Director. The Committee discussed the possibility of sponsoring a permit on behalf of the citizen, with all costs being paid by the citizen. Since he cannot, as an individual, qualify for an erosion permit, the City may be able to acquire a permit so that the citizen can take appropriate steps to prevent further loss of property. Staff was directed investigate the option, speak with the Law Director concerning the legalities, and report back to the next Committee meeting. Ms. Yokel stated the four trees at the corner of Garfield and Main have become a roosting area for birds. She stated that the sidewalks are covered with bird droppings, which are a health hazard. She said her customers complain and she requests that the two trees be cut down by her business and the sidewalk pressure washed. Mr. Allen stated that people complain about the droppings and berries. He requested removal of the trees as well. Ms. Brewer questioned whether there is a way to keep the birds from roosting in the trees. The Committee directed staff to research this issue.

The Committee discussed a complaint received regarding roaming cats. The City has recommended traps and contacting the SPCA.

Staff distributed correspondence from Donna Amann regarding The Art Affaire event to be held on September 27th. A new Special Event form has been redesigned and Staff will have Ms. Amann complete the form and attend the next Committee meeting.

In miscellaneous items, Staff informed the Committee that a building is under construction in the Union Township JEDD. The Milford Gun Club shoots were held and the Club would attend the August 5th Council meeting. Last year they made a contribution to the Police Department and the Economic Development Position.

Mr. Hawkins asked about the status of the Sunflower Revolution bicycle event. Ms. Holbrook said department heads have had several meetings with the organizers and details are being finalized.

Mr. Hawkins stated that the Committee would like to thank the Service Department for the weed removal on Main St. as well as taking care of the graffiti on the mailbox. Also, thank you to the Entrances and Wayfinding Committee for doing a great job with signage and also thank you to Miami Township for installing the two signs.

Mr. Vilardo gave a report from the Hazard Mitigation Committee and announced that he attended the annual JEDD meeting on July 23rd.

City Manager's Report: City Manager Rokey reported that the Street/Service Department reports that the debris from the storm two weeks ago had been cleared. It took about 10 days with crews working 12-hours a day (including Saturday and Sunday) to pick it all up. Many residents cleaned up their yards at different time, so that a street cleared one day had more brush accumulated two days later.

Greenlawn Cemetery is receiving the full attention of the Department at this time. The new pick-up trucks have been delivered and are being prepared for service.

The curb and street repairs should begin next week and continue for the next four weeks.

The Wastewater Department reports two sewage lift stations (Miami Woods and Mound St.) that lost power during the storm are fully functional.

The Water Department had a service leak on August 28th with no interruption in service. A leak at High St. and Locust Ave. was repaired on July 31st. This was an emergency repair without time for notification.

The roof of the Clearwell has been poured. Backfill on the project has begun with one more structural pour and the tank will be complete. The pump house will then be constructed.

In other items, the new trash pick-up/recycling services from Rumpke were on our website last week. A press release to notify our residents of the new program was sent to the Press Community Journal but was not printed. Flyers to be sent to our residents are being finalized and should be sent out this week.

The trees on Main St. should be trimmed this week. The electrical contractor is working on the upgrades to the outlets.

The Farmer's Market at the Milford Greenhouse will be open for business Wednesdays from 2-5 p.m. and on Saturdays from 10 – 2.

Committee Meetings

Public Services	Thursday, August 14, 2008	7:00 p.m.
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Reminders

Parks & Recreation	Monday, August 11, 2008	5:30 p.m.
Planning Commission	Wednesday, August 13, 2008	6:00 p.m.
Citizen's Housing	Monday, August 18, 2008	
Clermont Philharmonic	Tuesday, August 19, 2008 (SEM Villa)	6:30 p.m.
Bd. of Zoning Appeals	Thursday, August 28, 2008	7:00 p.m.
City Offices Closed	September 1, 2008 (Labor Day)	

Police Report: Sgt. Ron Crider reported that the Dodge Charger cruiser received 1st Place at the Clermont County Fair Parade. He said that the Charger has won 4 awards.

Fire/EMS Report: Chief Cooper distributed the Annual Report for 2007 to Council. The Department was involved with many issues during the storm two weeks ago.

The 2002 Pumper Engine received a trophy at the Clermont County Fair Parade.

Chief Cooper gave an update on Corey Nickell and his long illness with cancer. All good news – Corey is doing well and shows no signs of reoccurrence.

The Chief brought attention to our two firefighters serving in Iraq.

The Department had their 1st Annual rib-eating contest at Texas Roadhouse as a fundraiser for Assistant Chief Mark Flanigan. On September 6th there will be another fundraiser for Mark and Lisa Craig at the Firefighters Hall. Mark received a kidney transplant and his donor was his sister-in-law Lisa Craig.

Council Comments: None

New Business: None
Ordinances and Resolutions

Old Business: None
Ordinances and Resolutions

Adjourn:

There being no further business to come before the regular Council meeting, the meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m. with a motion by Ms. McBeath, seconded by Mr. Hawkins. All voted yes.

Joanne Trilety, Clerk

David M. Hunter, Mayor