

The Council of the City of Milford met in a Special Meeting as a Committee of the Whole in Council Chambers at 745 Center St. on February 27, 2009 at 1:00pm.

Mayor Hunter called the meeting to order.

**Roll Call:** Present: Mayor Hunter, Vice-Mayor Hinnners, Ms. Brewer, Ms. McBeath, Mr. Pschesang, Mr. Vilardo, Jr. and Mr. Hawkins.

Also present: City Manager Rokey, Assistant City Manager Holbrook, Director of Finance Tim Petric, and Police Chief Mark Machan.

The purpose of the meeting was to review the 2009 budget for the City of Milford and discuss other items appropriate for the Committee of the Whole.

Chief Machan distributed a report concerning the Department's two-year Strategic Initiative. Discussion was held with Council about the Department's plans and changes for the future.

The Department is requesting permission to move forward with procuring a new records management system in fiscal year 2009. Staff is recommending the purchase of a software solution for a price not to exceed \$52,000 from Alert Tracking Systems.

Chief Machan stated the new software would be able to do multiple tasks that would take less time for the officers to be at the station.

Discussion was held and questions were asked by Council members. Chief Machan stated that the bid for the new software was in effect for 120 days. Council agreed that more time would be needed and a motion was made by Mayor Hunter and seconded by Ms. McBeath that the Records Keeping Package be brought to the next Safety Service Committee. All voted yes.

A discussion was held concerning the purchase of a generator that would power the 5-Point building in case of an emergency or a disaster. The cost for a natural gas generator is considerably higher than a diesel generator. Possibility of serving only the first floor was also discussed. It was recommended that since there are no grants or Stimulus money available that Staff would do more research for available funds.

Chief Machan reported that during Frontier Days the Chamber would be extending the hours of the evening events. Frontier Days requires overtime for the officers. He said that the Clermont County Sheriffs Department would not be able to help our Department because of cutbacks. Our Department utilizes all of our officers at different times during the parade and festival. Karen Huff, Chamber Director noted the responsibilities of the Chamber during Frontier Days.

Ms. Brewer made a motion that the City waive all fees for Frontier Days, seconded by Mr. Pschesang. All voted yes.

A discussion was held concerning the personal time for sergeants. The Collective Bargaining Agreement between the City of Milford and Patrol Officers and Police Clerks shall be entitled and be granted or earned and may be accrued to a maximum of sixty hours.

Police Sergeants are non-union but by City Ordinance shall be entitled to three days of personal leave with pay. "In Section 4.03 C of the City Personnel Manual deals with the amount of personal time sergeants may accrue, it states, Maximum amount of personal leave an employee may accumulate is 40 hours". After further discussion Mr. Hawkins made a motion that effective June 1, 2009 that an Ordinance be drafted so Police Sergeants can accumulate 60 hours of personal leave time, seconded by Ms. Brewer. All voted yes.

A lengthy discussion was held concerning the Landscaping contracts and the bidding process. It was suggested that the Street/Service Department do the turf work and maybe volunteer organizations do the flowers and gardening. This would not seem to be feasible in some circumstances. A new mower would have to be purchased and gasoline and maintenance would not be cost effective.

Mr. Pschesang suggested that the bidding process could be placed on a website where bidding would be posted. Anyone interested could have access to any bidding the City would have. This will be taken to the Community Development Committee for discussion.

Ms. McBeath apologized to Ms. Holbrook concerning the bidding for the Landscape Turf and Flower bids.

Ms. Holbrook was not authorized to call prospective bidders for notification. The bids were published in the newspaper for those interested. After further discussion Ms. Brewer made a motion that the Landscaping bid for Turf and Flowers be awarded to Evans Landscaping for a one year contract, seconded by Mr. Vilardo, Jr. Voting yes: Ms. Hinnners, Mr. Vilardo, Mr. Hunter and Ms. Brewer. Voting no: Ms. McBeath, Mr. Pschesang and Mr. Hawkins. Motion carried.

City Manager Rokey discussed the OPWC legislation related to the loan for the Garfield Force Main Project. A Resolution will be needed from the City to complete this action. Mr. Brewer made the motion to draft a Resolution Declaring the official intent and reasonable expectation of the City of Milford on behalf of the State of Ohio (the borrower) to reimburse its Garfield Force Main Capital Project Fund for the Garfield Force Main OPWC Project Number CJ04M with the proceeds of Tax Exempt debt of the State of Ohio, seconded by Mr. Vilardo, Jr. All voted yes.

City Manager Rokey also discussed the Settlement Agreement for the water plant Clearwell Project between the City Milford, Perkins/Carmack Construction, LLC., and HDR/Quest Engineering. Mr. Vilaro, Jr. made a motion that an Ordinance be drafted to approve a \$42,000 settlement for the Clearwell Project, seconded by Ms. McBeath. All voted yes.

Council continued their discussion of the 2009 Milford City Budget and the need to cut the proposed deficit. By going through the budget many items were eliminated such as spending for charities, Chamber fees (partial), and cut backs on the Newsletter. Mr. Hawkins stated that economic times being such as they are he would not vote for the budget unless at least \$200,000 was cut. He suggested looking at the City finances in July or August to see what the projected revenues say. Further cuts may be needed at this time. It was recommended that the position of City Engineer be three days per week instead of five. Mr. Hunter made the motion to recommend a two-day per week reduction for the City Engineer, seconded by Mr. Hawkins. All voted yes.

Discussion continued among Council concerning reductions in the budget.

Rachelle Rapp-Dickerson asked if she could speak concerning the proposed Ordinance regulating parking of Commercial Vehicles. Ms. Rapp-Dickerson, Milford resident stated that complaints have occurred for the past four years and something must be done today.

Ms. McBeath suggested a Public Hearing or a meeting of the Committee of the Whole. Mr. Rapp-Dickerson wants a meeting that is convenient where the residents can attend. Many work and an evening meeting would be best.

Mike Walter, resident stated that the Committee should analyze the concept and look at the issue not the personality. The parking of commercial vehicles is a citywide issue and not a Mound St. issue.

Tom Snider, resident stated that seemed be a community persecution.

Mr. Hawkins stated he did want a meeting of the Committee of a Whole. Ms. McBeath feels a Public Hearing for all residents will give the people the opportunity to speak on the issue.

City Manager Rokey said that the Police and the City Financial Budget would be gone over again for any final changes before the March 31<sup>st</sup>.deadline.

There being no further business to come before the meeting a motion was made by Mr. Vilaro, Jr. to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Pschesang. All voted yes. The meeting was adjourned at 6:15pm

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Joanne Trilety, Clerk

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David M. Hunter, Mayor