

CITY OF CANAL FULTON

July 12, 2005

SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING

Mayor John Grogan called the July 12, 2005 Special City Council meeting to order at 6:30 PM in Council Chambers at City Hall.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

CALLING OF THE ROLL

Present: Mayor Grogan, Mike Mouse, Diane Downing, Victor Colaianni, Nellie Cihon, and Bob Szanto **Absent:** Linda Zahirsky - Mr. Szanto made a motion to excuse Mrs. Zahirsky (out of town on business); seconded by Mrs. Cihon. **ROLL CALL: Yes - ALL**

OTHERS PRESENT

Senator Kirk Schuring; Chief Ray Green, Fire Department; John Hatfield, Historical Society; Joan Porter, Repository

CORRECTING & ADOPTING THE RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS - None

CITIZENS' COMMENTS ON AGENDA MATTERS - None

REPORTS OF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS

Fire Chief

A lengthy discussion ensued about adding to the existing Fire Station, building a new Fire Station, various locations for same, square footages, construction costs, office space/training room size, decontamination areas, restroom/shower facilities, excavation issues, fleet maintenance, operating funds, revenue issues, soft costs, future community/city growth and development, future strain on the Fire Dept., future fire truck requirements, etc. It was noted that if the levy passes, it would only cost \$40.04 per year for a \$100,000 home. Diane Downing commented, "I don't know whose safety isn't worth that." Mr. Mouse brought up whether the Army Reserve property could be attained. Sen. Schuring said he called Congressman Regula's office who has been successful in attaining appropriations for consolidating some of the Army Reserve facilities (all going soon to Lake Township). Sen. Schuring will call and see what the status is on the property. Mr. Szanto suggested talking again to the architects to ensure all the soft costs are in the plans; Mrs. Downing suggested soil conditions be checked out on the land surrounding the Police Station. Mr. Hatfield advised the original plan was to put the Fire Dept. by the Police. The Mayor stated the city has a responsible Fire Chief in place that will watch the bottom line costs. Mrs. Downing said she would help promote the Fire Dept. levy by creating flyers and delivering them person-to-person throughout the entire city. It was noted the Police Station area should be the focal point for a centralized safety force.

Mayor

Referencing the City Manager applications and the city is now going to implement a full-time City Manager, the Mayor requested a search committee be created made up of two Council members and members from other committees (i.e., HPC, T.A.P., Planning), along with a department head. He said Mrs. Loretto said she was willing to be on the search committee. He requested the search committee take the applications, narrow them down and present to Council a list of three applicants from which to choose a new City Manager. He will ask Clayton Hopper, Rebecca Shimer, and George Lukinac to join the committee, joining Mr. Mouse and Mrs. Cihon.

The Mayor thanked the Fire Department for their assistance during Canal Days, stating they did a phenomenal job, especially with the fireworks.

Senator Kirk Schuring

Senator Schuring said was there to see how things are going and offer his services, saying there were obviously some good things going on, not only with Canal Days Festival, but with the potential new fire service building. He said the State has a limited supply of money and a growing demand for new services, which encompasses Canal Fulton's issues as well. The Mayor referenced the Senator's considerable help with Lawrence Township, hoping to lock into the CEDA before year's end and thanked Senator Schuring for his assistance.

FIRST READINGS - None

SECOND READINGS

Ordinance 20-05: An Ordinance Authorizing the City Manager to Enter into an Agreement with American Traditions Basket Company for the Purpose of Tax Abatement in the Enterprise Zone, and Declaring an Emergency. (Requested by City Manager) Mr. Szanto made a motion to suspend the rules on Ordinance 20-05; seconded by Mr. Colaianni. **Discussion:** American

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Traditions previously asked for 75% tax abatement; the vote was not successful. Councilman Colaianni suggested that they come back with a 50% abatement application; Ordinance 20-05 reflects same. Mr. Mouse said he would vote against this, as he is concerned about school funding. Senator Schuring said he has sponsored legislation into law that will hold "businesses' feet to the fire" - when you enter into and contract with them for tax abatement, and if they do not uphold their end of the bargain, a lien can be put on their property. **ROLL CALL: Yes – 4 No – 1 (Mr. Mouse)** Mr. Colaianni made a motion to pass Ordinance 20-05 under suspension; seconded by Mrs. Cihon. **ROLL CALL: Yes – 4 No – 1 (Mr. Mouse)**

THIRD READINGS

Ordinance 17-05: An Ordinance Accepting the Annexation of the Rumble Property. (Requested by City Manager) Mr. Colaianni made a motion Council passes Ordinance 17-05; seconded by Mrs. Cihon. **ROLL CALL: Yes – 4 No – 1 (Mr. Mouse)**

PURCHASE ORDERS & BILLS - None

NEW BUSINESS - None

OLD BUSINESS - None

OTHER BUSINESS - None

CITIZENS COMMENTS (Open Discussion, Five-Minute Rule)

John Hatfield, 639 Locust St.: Mr. Hatfield commented on the Police Station move, saying when the Water Dept. was built, there were no problems or over-runs, and it was built exactly the way it was supposed to be. The Mayor thanked him for the Historical Society's efforts with Canal Days. Mr. Hatfield spoke about the Blank House renovation and the businesses operating in the building.

REPORT OF COUNCIL PRESIDENT – No Report

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEES – No Reports

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Colaianni made a motion to go into a brief Executive Session with regard to personnel hiring and salary; present would be Council members and the Mayor; with no expected legislation; seconded by Mrs. Downing. **ROLL CALL: Yes – ALL**

REGULAR SESSION RECONVENED

Mrs. Cihon made a motion to reconvene the Regular portion of the Council meeting at 8:20 PM; seconded by Mr. Colaianni. **ROLL CALL: Yes - ALL**

ADJOURNMENT

Mrs. Cihon made a motion to adjourn. Mayor Grogan adjourned the July 12, 2005 City Council meeting.

Patricia A. Troccoli, Clerk of Council

Mayor John Grogan