

CITY OF CANAL FULTON

June 4, 2002

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING:

Mayor Shawn Kenney called the June 4, 2002 Council Meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. in Council Chambers at City Hall. Sharon Reiter recorded and transcribed the Minutes.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

COUNCIL MEMBERS: Present – Nellie Cihon, Bill Dane, Diane Downing, Linda Zahirsky, Bob Szanto, and Mike Mouse.

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE: Marge Loretto, City Manager; Dale Kincaid, Law Director; Mike McNeely, Police Chief; Bob Hill, Fire Chief; Joan Porter, Repository; Debbie Kerr, Finance Director; Bill Dorman, City Engineer; Ray Martinez, Ohio Edison; Joe Charlton, Rochelle Rossi, Fred Fleming, Dennis Downing, Bret Stephan, Ed Bowes, John Hatfield, and Victor Colaianni, all residents.

CORRECTING / ADOPTING THE RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Mr. Dane made a motion to approve the May 21, 2001 Council Meeting Minutes. Mr. Szanto seconded the motion. Roll: Yes, All.

SPECIAL RECOGNITIONS

None.

CITIZENS COMMENTS ON AGENDA MATTERS

None.

REPORT OF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS:

Senior Citizens - No comments.

Community Service Coordinator

(Written Report.)

Fire Chief's Report - Chief Hill said he had two applications he would like acted on. The first person is Susan Young. She is an emergency room nurse at Dunlap Hospital and lives in Canal Fulton. Chief Hill stated she would be available Monday through Friday. He said he is recommending to the Mayor to appoint Susan Young as probationary firefighter.

The Mayor stated that he recommends the appointment as per Chief Hill's recommendation that Council appoints Susan Young, subject to all physical and drug tests.

A motion was made by Mr. Dane to appoint Susan Young as a probationary firefighter. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Downing. Roll: Yes – ALL.

Chief Hill then stated the second person he wanted to recommend was Douglas Gary who also lives here in town. He said Doug already works for the City. He is a firefighter in the Air Force. He did have an EMT card at one time, but we will have to send him back to EMT school. Chief Hill recommended to the Mayor that Douglas Gary be appointed to the Fire Department as a probationary firefighter.

The Mayor stated he would so recommend. A motion was made by Mrs. Cihon that Council approve the appointment of Douglas Gary as probationary firefighter. The motion was seconded by Mr. Dane. Roll: Yes – ALL.

Police Chief's Report

None.

City Engineer's Report

Mr. Dorman stated that work was continuing on the Canal/Cherry intersection. He said some minor adjustments may have to be made. He then stated the construction on a gas line in Colonial Hills will begin this week. He said that some of his staff members met with several residents regarding their concerns on the Locust/Millfield intersection project.

The Mayor asked what the time frame is on the Locust/Millfield project, assuming the City bids it out in the next month. Mr. Dorman said it would be toward the end of the summer. ODOT is still reviewing the plan. The actual construction phase would be ninety (90) days.

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Director of Finance

Debbie Kerr asked Council to set up a date for the Public Tax Budget Hearing. She went on to say that the individual departments submit their budgets to her and then a form is completed for the County which must be sent to them by July 20. She noted there was a Council meeting on July 16 and the public hearing could be scheduled for that date. Mr. Szanto asked if anything has changed in the information to be given to the County now that we are a city. Mrs. Loretto said no. A short discussion followed.

Mr. Szanto made a motion that the public hearing on the tax budget be held at 8:00p.m. during the July 16 Council meeting. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Cihon. Roll: Yes – ALL.

Report of Mayor

Mayor Kenney said there was a vacancy on the Historic Preservation Commission. Betty Stoffer is resigning. She held the “homeowner’s seat”. That is someone who owns a home in the Historic District. Mayor Kenney recommended that Bret Stefan be appointed to the vacancy. He stated that Mr. Stefan owns a home in the Historic District and has spent a great deal of time and money to be true to the Historic Preservation Commission’s mandates. Mr. Stefan is also an active volunteer in the community. The Mayor recommended Bret Stefan to the “homeowner’s seat” position.

A motion was made by Mrs. Zahirsky to appoint Bret Stefan to the Historic Preservation Commission in the “resident” seat. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Cihon. Roll: Yes – 5. Mr. Mouse abstained.

City Manager (Written Report)

Mrs. Loretto said that the new sidewalk was put in out by First Merit. She also said that, as Mr. Dorman had stated earlier, that she and the engineers met with the three residents who had voiced concerns about the Locust/Millfield project. The meeting worked out well.

Mrs. Loretto then talked about the tax abatement for Avalon. She said it is becoming a problem. They had a couple of things that they wanted changed and they were corrected. She said that when they met with the Commissioners they took exception to a paragraph that was in there for the school. The paragraph is a moot point because it states that we will share income tax with them if they put on One Million Dollars in payroll that would come directly related to this project. The school is intending to add only 3 new people – which will not event come close to the One Million Dollar item. She said the abatement contract was sent back for all the parties to initial the paragraph in question. Avalon and the City initialed it, but when Mrs. Loretto took it to the school board, they insisted that their attorney be called to see what she recommended. Their attorney stated that the school board should not get involved with that paragraph. So, at this point we have two differing views. A short discussion followed.

Mrs. Loretto reminded the council members that a notice was sent to them about articles for the Newsletter. She would like them in as soon as possible.

Parks

Mr. Joe Charlton stated that he would like to bring everyone up to date on the Summer Recreation Program. He said the , as of this date, registration has been very disappointing. He said they had an emergency meeting of the Park Board to determine what could be done to increase registration. He said that some of the steps they have taken is that we had made up flyers to be attached to 400 pizza boxes from Domino’s Pizza. He stated that he had spoken to Brian at the Varsity Athletic Club about the possibility of scaling back the program and saving expenditure on the part of the City. He said he suggested going from a 4-week program to a 2-week program. Brain said he would be willing to work with us on that issue. But, Brian of the Varsity Athletic Club said he was “up against the wall” if we would back out of the 4 weeks and go down to two weeks.

Fred Fleming said, as of this date, we have 17 registrations. Only 7 are registered for the total 4 weeks, 1 for 3 weeks, and the remaining are all for one week only. He stated the City Hall office has turned away calls from at least twelve people in Lawrence Township. Mr. Fleming stated that he would like to get the Council’s blessing to expand the program to all of the Northwest School District children. He said the City will lose the money anyway. A discussion followed.

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The Mayor then called for a motion to allow Lawrence Township residents to be eligible for the program.

Law Director, Dale Kincaid, stated that there would be no problem opening the program up to Clinton, or anyone in the Northwest School District.

Mr. Szanto then made a motion to open the registration of the Summer Recreation Program to any students in the Northwest School system who meet the age requirements. Mrs. Cihon seconded the motion. Roll: Yes – ALL.

Law Director

No Report.

THIRD READINGS

None.

SECOND READINGS

Ordinance 22-02: An Ordinance Establishing New Salary for the Clerk of City Council/Secretary for Canal Fulton, Effective May 19, 2002, repealing any Ordinances in Conflict Therewith, and Declaring an Emergency.

Mr. Mouse commented that he has a problem giving pay raises to new employees.

FIRST READINGS

Ordinance 23-02: An Ordinance to Make Appropriations from the Unappropriated Balance in Various Funds, and Declaring an Emergency. This is for the Locust/Millfield Project.

Mr. Szanto made a Motion to Suspend the Rules on Ordinance 23-02. Motion was seconded by Mr. Dane. Roll: Yes – ALL.

Mrs. Zahirsky made a motion to pass Ordinance 23-02 under suspension. Motion was seconded by Mrs. Cihon. Roll: Yes – ALL.

Ordinance 24-02: An Ordinance to Make Appropriations from the Unappropriate Balances in the St. Helena II Restoration Project Fund (205) and Declaring an Emergency.

Mr. Szanto made a motion to suspend the rules on Ordinance 24-02. Motion was seconded by Mr. Dane. Roll: Yes – ALL.

Mrs. Zahirsky made a motion to pass Ordinance 24-02 under suspension. Mrs. Cihon seconded the motion. Roll: Yes – ALL.

PURCHASE ORDERS AND BILLS

Debbie Kerr stated that there was one purchase order for backhoe repairs for \$3,500.00.

A motion was made by Mr. Szanto to approve purchase order #1579 in the amount of \$3,500.00 to Southeastern Equipment Company for backhoe repair. Motion was seconded by Mr. Dane. Roll: Yes – ALL.

Bills:

In the amount of \$412,988.08. This total is for all of May 2002 bills. A short discussion followed.

There was a question on the Slicker Farms bill for \$992.00. Debbie Kerr stated she thought it was for the purchase of chemicals for weeds. She said she would look up the requisition and make a copy.

Mr. Mouse said he had some questions starting on page 1 of the bill list. He asked what the \$1,050.00 to Bill Floreani was for. Debbie said he did concrete repairs on the side steps. He then asked about Karen Sewing Specialties in the amount of \$91.00. Mrs. Loretto explained that the uniform shirts are purchased there. Mr. Mouse then asked about a bill for \$2,495.47 to Enterprise Group. Debbie stated that was the health insurance claim run. Mr. Mouse asked about Reilly Sweeping in the amount of \$2,762.00. Debbie answered that Council approved a purchase order for street sweeping. Mr. Mouse then asked about the Stark County Parks figure of \$25,000.00. Debbie explained that was an OECA Grant that was a flow through from the city. Stark Parks did some work on the Ohio-Erie project.

Mr. Mouse then asked about the \$5,047.91 payment to Downes, Hurst & Fish. Mrs. Loretto said those were the attorneys doing the negotiations for us with the patrolmen.

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Mr. Mouse also asked about LEK Internet Service, \$600.50. Debbie said that was an April invoice for one year of maintaining the web site. She said she would provide a copy of the invoice. He then asked about the OWDA bill in the amount of \$31,345.57. Debbie explained that was a debt payment for Ohio Water. She said she would provide a copy of the invoice. Mr. Mouse asked about the Schalmo Properties bill in the amount of \$2,504.00. Debbie said that is the site plan review deposits that were refunded to him.

A motion was made to approve the bills in the amount of \$412,988.08 by Mr. Dane. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Cihon. Roll: Yes – ALL.

OTHER BUSINESS – Nothing to Report.

CITIZENS COMMENTS

It was asked by Mr. Ed Bowes what the seniors could do about all this loud music. He said a bunch of kids congregate on Longview with 8-10 cars and play this loud music. He also asked if anything could be done about the skate boarders on the sidewalk.

The Mayor asked Chief McNeely if he was aware of the problem. He said he was aware of it and had stopped three of them Sunday night.

Rochelle Rossi gave an update on Olde Canal Days. She said everything was moving along very nicely. She said they have had outstanding cooperation from surrounding towns. Many new things have been added. She said the town is getting excited about it.

Bret Stefan thanked the Council for their confirmation of him to the Historic Preservation Commission.

John Hatfield said he would like to make a comment on the noise ordinance. He stated that the only person who could enforce that is a policeman if he's within the block or close by.

Mr. Martinez from Ohio Edison said he would answer any questions, but everything is going well. The Mayor then mentioned that Mr. Martinez recently received an award from the Massillon Health Foundation as Outstanding Volunteer of the Year. Everyone congratulated him.

Mr. Coliainni asked if there was any thought on further legislation regarding aggregation. Mrs. Loretto said a contract was recently looked at but we found out that the City has to bid it because of deregulation. A short discussion followed.

Safety Committee Meeting

Mr. Szanto said a Safety Committee meeting needed to be set for sometime within the next month. It was decided the meeting would be held at 6:30p.m. on July 16, 2002, prior to the regular Council meeting.

REPORT OF COUNCIL PRESIDENT

None.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Public Services Committee

Mr. Dane said the Public Services Committee met this evening prior to Council meeting and elected a chairperson. He asked the Clerk of Council to put out a public notice for the next meeting on June 18, 2002, at 6:30p.m.

Economic Development Committee

Mr. Mouse said there would be an Economic Development Committee meeting at 6:30p.m. on June 25, 2002.

The regular meeting was adjourned.

Sharon Reiter, Clerk of Council

Shawn F. Kenney, Mayor