

CITY OF CANAL FULTON

March 4, 2003

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING:

Mayor Shawn Kenney called the March 4, 2003 Council Meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. in City Hall Council Chambers.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

CALLING OF THE ROLL: Present: Bill Dane, Nellie Cihon (arrived late), Diane Downing, Linda Zahirsky, Robert Szanto, Mike Mouse, Mayor Shawn Kenney.

OTHERS PRESENT: Marge Loretto, City Manager; Debbie Kerr, Finance Director; Dale Kincaid, Law Director; Mike McNeely, Police Chief; Robert Hill, Fire Chief, Dennis Mayberry, Superintendent Street Department; Joan Porter, The Repository; Julie Scheurer, The Independent; Victor Colaianni, Bret Stephan, Fred Etheridge, Dennis Downing, Rochelle Rossi, Ray Coffman, all residents.

ADOPTING/CORRECTING OF MINUTES: Mrs. Zahirsky made a motion to adopt the Minutes of the February 18, 2003 City Council meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Dane. Roll: Yes – ALL.

SPECIAL RECOGNITIONS:

The Mayor said that two elementary schools, Canal Fulton Elementary, First Grade; and Sts. Philip and James, Third Grade, submitted recommendations on how to make Canal Fulton better. Canal Fulton Elementary did drawings and Sts. Philip and James wrote individual letters to City Council members.

The Mayor also said a letter came from the United States Department of the Interior that indicates the Federal government has approved our status as a CLG.

CITIZENS COMMENTS ON AGENDA MATTERS:

REPORTS OF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS:

Senior Citizens. No Report.

Community Service Coordinator. No Report.

Fire Chief.

Chief Hill said he asked for \$20,000.00 from the State Fire Marshall's office for a fire grant this year. He said he needs approval from Council regarding the FEMA grant, since it is a 90/10 split. He said he is asking for \$30,000.00, which means he needs approval for \$3,000.00 from the City. He said it would be used for fire equipment. Mr. Mouse said he would like to know exactly what they are going to spend the money on. Chief Hill said fire equipment only.

Mr. Szanto made a motion that Council approves the expenditure of up to \$3,000.00 as the 10% matching funds for the FEMA grant. Mr. Dane seconded the motion. (Voice Vote) Yes – ALL.

Police Chief.

Chief McNeely said they've closed the burglary at Splat. They also closed down an embezzlement business downtown. They are currently investigating another embezzlement on Locust St. They arrested an individual in Toledo who was responsible for an assault down on Canal St. He said there was a burglary on Tamwood. The persons broke into a house while the owners were asleep. He said there also was a hit and run on Tamwood.

Engineer/Streets/Public Utilities. No Report.

Director of Finance.

Mrs. Kerr passed out the February end-of-month reports. Mr. Szanto moved to acknowledge receipt of those reports. Mr. Dan seconded the motion. Roll: Yes – ALL.

Mrs. Kerr said she also had the information on the rock salt figure. So the total spent so far is \$24,740.00.

Report of Mayor

The Mayor said he received a request from Council President Szanto to detail what each 0.01% increase would be used for. He said the tax for the Police Department would be used for increase costs relating to the Police contract. He said he didn't think it was asking much

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just to meet operating costs for our Police Department. The Mayor said in order to have two police officers 24 hours a day, excluding sick time and vacations, we need eight officers. He said right now we have six officers and the Chief. He said the 0.01% for the Fire Department is for the building of a fire station. He said he has asked the Chief to get estimates of other fire stations that have recently been built. He said the 0.01% for the parks would be used for programs and capital improvements and operating costs.

City Manager's Report.

Mrs. Loretto stated that they have received a Teamster's strike notice. She said Sunday, March 9, the strike would begin. She said they are trying to get together with them at a meeting this Friday to iron out some of the differences.

She said they were informed that the City received two Community Block Grants. One is for Centennial Village street lights and one for repair of the Cherry Street sidewalks. She said Scott Svab applied for a grant for a youth program, but that was denied.

She also said Channel 3 called to let us know that twice a day on two separate days between March 17 and September 17, they will be highlighting different cities in Ohio. Canal Fulton will be highlighted twice. She said one will be on the Olde Canal Days Festival and she said they were thinking about doing the other one about the Canal and the St Helena III. She asked if Council had other suggestions.

Parks.

No Report.

Law Director.

No Report

READING OF ORDINANCES

FIRST READINGS:

Ordinance 9-03. An Ordinance Amending the Historic District Code of the Canal Fulton Historic District Codified Ordinances, Chapter 1175 to include District Definitions.

Ordinance 10-03. An Ordinance Amending the Historic District Code of the Canal Fulton Historic District Codified Ordinances, Chapter 1175 to Include Criteria for Designation.

Ordinance 11-03. An Ordinance Amending the Historic District Code of the Canal Fulton Historic District Codified Ordinances, Chapter 1175, Section 1775.04 (d), to Include the Power and Duty of the Historic Preservation Commission to Review Resources Nominated for Designation as Either a Historic Landmark or Structure and Actions to be Taken after the Proposed Designation.

Ordinance 12-03. An Ordinance Amending the Zoning Code of the Canal Fulton Codified Zoning Ordinances, and Adding Chapter 1150 Entitled "Designation of Historic Landmarks and Historic Districts."

Ordinance 15-03. An Ordinance Vacating a Portion of Geneva Place.

Mr. Kincaid stated that the procedure is that, once this ordinance is passed, there will have to be a plat prepared and recorded with the County.

The Mayor asked that Council consider this under suspension. He said the Library would like to get everything done in a timely fashion. He stated that the Library's presentation in front of the Planning Commission and HPC was probably the best he has ever seen.

Mr. Mouse made a motion to suspend the rules on Ordinance 15-03. Mrs. Downing seconded the motion. Roll: Yes – ALL.

Mrs. Zahirsky then made a motion to pass Ordinance 15-03 under suspension. Mr. Mouse seconded the motion. Roll: Yes – ALL.

Mr. Mouse asked Mr. Kincaid if the ordinances regarding the Historic District extend or enlarge the Historic District. Mr. Kincaid said these ordinances merely tighten up the HPC's procedures and criteria.

PURCHASE ORDERS AND BILLS:

Mrs. Kerr stated there were no Purchase Orders.

Bills: \$103,020.07.

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Mr. Dane made a motion to approve the bills in the amount of \$103,020.07. Mrs. Zahirsky seconded the motion. Roll: Yes – ALL.

NEW BUSINESS:

OLD BUSINESS:

The Mayor said they had been informed by the Board of Elections that the issue numbers for the income tax increases that will be on the ballot in may are Issue #11 (police), Issue #12 (parks), and Issue #13 (fire).

OTHER BUSINESS:None.

CITIZENS COMMENTS:

Mr. Etheridge said he would like to ask if Attorney Kincaid has turned up anything in his research with regard to adult book stores, entertainment activities, etc. Mr. Kincaid stated that the leading case on the subject heard by the Supreme Court left the Court divided equally. He said he would encourage everyone to read the City's Chapter on this subject. He said it is very thorough.

Mr. Colaianni asked if the income tax increase for the police department was to supplement their general fund line item. He asked if that includes supplementing it if it increases each year.

The Mayor answered yes, it would supplement their budget. The money will be used to help fund the police department and keep our General Fund level where it is now.

Mr. Colaianni said he read the Finance Committee meeting minutes and that Mr. Mouse's statement regarding the fact that the public didn't know the police received a 39% increase in pay was not accurate. He said the "Our Town Canal Fulton" newsletter reported it in their last news letter, which goes to over 4,000 households.

He also asked about the Barrett study which was brought up at that meeting. What is the Barrett study? Mrs. Zahirsky said it is more than a salary study, but also included job descriptions. It is also a chart that goes by education, experience necessary to be in a certain classification. Mr. Colaianni said Mr. Mouse stated at the meeting that this Barrett study was flawed. Is there another study out there that is not flawed? Mr. Mouse said if you look at the Barrett study you will find a couple of communities that have Fortune 500 companies; therefore, he feels that makes the study flawed.

Mr. Downing congratulated the Street Department for maintaining the streets. He said, however, he had a problem with the City's parking snow emergency ban. He said he talked to people on Redwing who said they were unaware of the snow ban. He asked how our citizens know when there is a snow ban. Mrs. Loretto said it is announced over three radio stations and the ordinance says if more than two inches fall in a 24 hour period the ban is automatic. A short discussion followed.

REPORT OF COUNCIL PRESIDENT:

Mr. Szanto reminded everyone that there are two committee meeting this Thursday; Public Service Committee and Economic Development Committee.

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Mr. Szanto stated that the Finance Committee met for the first time this year and various matters concerning budget items.

The regular meeting was adjourned.

Sharon Reiter, Clerk of Council

Shawn Kenney, Mayor