
Ashland City Council

MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR SESSION OF COUNCIL February 21, 2006

President Glen Stewart called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Ward 1:	Robert L. Valentine	Present
Ward 2:	Robert M. Valentine	Present
Ward 3:	Ruth Detrow	Present
Ward 4:	Paul Wertz	Present
At-large:	Glen Stewart	Present

Note: Throughout the minutes, Robert L. Valentine and Robert M. Valentine are designated as to their ward representation, W1 and W2.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PRESENTATION OF MINUTES

February 7, 2006 *Regular session*

Moved by Wertz and seconded by Detrow to accept the minutes.

Ayes: Wertz, Stewart, Valentine W1, Valentine W2, Detrow

COMMENTS OR QUESTIONS FROM THE AUDIENCE

(a) *Cub Scout Austin Malchow welcomed:*

Stewart welcomed Den 214 Cub Scout Austin Malchow to the Council meeting. Malchow had no specific questions to ask, though he had earlier complimented the Mayor and Stewart about the cleanliness of the City Building. Malchow was just one Scout out of five from a troop that had just completed a tour of the City building. They also talked with the Mayor, Finance Director and City Engineer. Council President Glen Stewart had been the troop's "tour guide".

(b) *Ashland Transit complaint:*

Steve Poland told Council he wished to make a statement concerning MV Transportation, also known as Ashland Public Transit. On March 26, 2005, an employee of Ashland Public Transit did not perform his job as he was supposed to by contract. As a result, Poland received a serious personal injury, and this situation is now involved in litigation through his attorney from Cleveland, Grant Goodman. He just wanted Council to know this is going on, and he also said that in no way does he blame the City for what happened to him. It was totally the employee's responsibility. When the contract comes up for renewal, he asked that this be kept in mind and reviewed. Poland stated he was down for five months as a result, and it all could have been avoided if the employee had done the right thing.

LEGISLATION

Res. 2-06

Item (a) A RESOLUTION DECLARING COUNCIL'S INTENTION TO VACATE A CERTAIN ALLEY LOCATED IN THE CITY OF ASHLAND, OHIO.

Moved by Wertz and seconded by Detrow to invoke Section 113.01 of the Codified Ordinances as the distribution of this Resolution has satisfied the requirements of said Section and that a further reading be dispensed with at this time.

Ayes: Wertz, Stewart, Valentine W1, Valentine W2, Detrow

Comments:

Stewart noted that this resolution sets the public hearing date for April 4th at 7:10 p.m.

Moved by Wertz and seconded by Valentine W1 that the Resolution be passed on the first reading.

Ayes: Wertz, Stewart, Valentine W1, Valentine W2, Detrow

Moved by Wertz and seconded by Stewart that the rules requiring the reading on three separate days be suspended and that the Resolution be passed on the second and third readings.

Ayes: Wertz, Stewart, Valentine W1, Valentine W2, Detrow

Moved by Detrow and seconded by Valentine W1 that the Resolution be passed.

Ayes: Wertz, Stewart, Valentine W1, Valentine W2, Detrow

Motion carried.

Ord. 11-06

Item (b) AN ORDINANCE TO MAKE APPROPRIATIONS FOR CURRENT EXPENSES AND OTHER EXPENDITURES OF THE CITY OF ASHLAND, STATE OF OHIO, DURING THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2006.

Moved by Wertz and seconded by Detrow to invoke Section 113.01 of the Codified Ordinances as the distribution of this Ordinance has satisfied the requirements of said Section and that a further reading be dispensed with at this time.

Ayes: Wertz, Stewart, Valentine W1, Valentine W2, Detrow

Comments:

Mayor Strine explained that this appropriation has been in process since the City's budget was developed nearly a year ago. Ever since that time, Council members have been reviewing with each department, the division directors, finance director and himself on items in this appropriation. He thanked the division directors for their openness and willingness to work with Council and answer their questions. He also thanked Council members for their individual time spent reviewing the appropriation, as it is a big help to the administration when Council understands everything that's in the appropriations; a lot of time was spent on this.

Mayor Strine also thanked Nancy Boyd and her staff for compiling the volumes of information necessary to make this understandable for everyone.

Valentine W1 commented that a person doesn't have any realization as to what is involved with this until beginning to get into it, looking it over; the whole thing takes time. His questions were answered, and he expressed appreciation and thanks for all the work that went into it.

Stewart echoed Valentine W1's statements; it is a very comprehensive budget, coming off a very difficult year, 2005, and there is still a lot of holding back of expenses in this budget. It's a lot easier to spend money than to make money. The administration has done well in working with the department heads, going through the request process, the justification process, and getting all this into the finance office where ultimately all the information is put into a form ready to be read and understood. He, too, expressed appreciation to all involved.

Moved by Valentine W1 and seconded by Detrow that the Ordinance be passed on the first reading.

Ayes: Wertz, Stewart, Valentine W1, Valentine W2, Detrow

Moved by Wertz and seconded by Stewart that the rules requiring the reading on three separate days be suspended and that the Ordinance be passed on the second and third readings.

Ayes: Wertz, Stewart, Valentine W1, Valentine W2, Detrow

Moved by Detrow and seconded by Wertz that the Ordinance be passed.

Ayes: Wertz, Stewart, Valentine W1, Valentine W2, Detrow

Motion carried.

Ord. 12-06

Item (c) AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 221.05 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF ASHLAND, OHIO, RELATIVE TO THE ALLOCATION OF MUNICIPAL INCOME TAX FUNDS; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Moved by Wertz and seconded by Detrow to invoke Section 113.01 of the Codified Ordinances as the distribution of this Ordinance has satisfied the requirements of said Section and that a further reading be dispensed with at this time.

Ayes: Wertz, Stewart, Valentine W1, Valentine W2, Detrow

Comments:

Valentine W1 noted he was glad to see that a percentage was restored to the park and the street funds; taking away some of their budget last year put them in a precarious situation as to what they could and couldn't do as to finances. Those funds are needed in those departments.

Stewart added that those division heads and employees assisted in getting through a difficult year in a very reasonable manner, and that restoration of percentage is a very appropriate thing to do.

Moved by Detrow and seconded by Valentine W1 that the Ordinance be passed on the first reading.

Ayes: Wertz, Stewart, Valentine W1, Valentine W2, Detrow

Moved by Wertz and seconded by Valentine W1 that the rules requiring the reading on three separate days be suspended and that the Ordinance be passed on the second and third readings.

Ayes: Wertz, Stewart, Valentine W1, Valentine W2, Detrow

Moved by Wertz and seconded by Detrow that the Ordinance be passed.

Ayes: Wertz, Stewart, Valentine W1, Valentine W2, Detrow

Motion carried.

Ord. 13-06

Item (d) AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING CAPITAL PROJECT FUNDS RELATIVE TO WATER TREATMENT PLANT SOFTENER NO. 1 REPLACEMENT PROJECT; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Moved by Wertz and seconded by Detrow to invoke Section 113.01 of the Codified Ordinances as the distribution of this Ordinance has satisfied the requirements of said Section and that a further reading be dispensed with at this time.

Ayes: Wertz, Stewart, Valentine W1, Valentine W2, Detrow

Comments:

Finance Director Nancy Boyd explained that this is the 2006 Issue 2 project, and part of the grant requirement is that a separate fund be established for payment. This establishes that fund and incorporates it as part of the appropriations. The City usually receives about \$400,000 in Issue 2 grant money.

Mayor Strine asked for an explanation of the softener, and Water Treatment Director Bruce Wisner responded that water softening is the main process at the treatment plant.

The raw water is brought in, softened and filtered through chemicals to remove calcium and magnesium to prepare the water for use. The softener is large and handles about a four million gallon capacity; the present tank has been in the ground since about 1965, and needs some major repair at this point.

Cooper added that the cost is about \$560,000 total.

Moved by Valentine W1 and seconded by Stewart that the Ordinance be passed on the first reading.

Ayes: Wertz, Stewart, Valentine W1, Valentine W2, Detrow

Moved by Wertz and seconded by Detrow that the rules requiring the reading on three separate days be suspended and that the Ordinance be passed on the second and third readings.

Ayes: Wertz, Stewart, Valentine W1, Valentine W2, Detrow

Moved by Detrow and seconded by Valentine W1 that the Ordinance be passed.

Ayes: Wertz, Stewart, Valentine W1, Valentine W2, Detrow

Motion carried.

Ord. 14-06

Item (e) AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR TO OFFER FOR SALE BY SEALED BID CERTAIN PERSONAL PROPERTY OF THE CITY OF ASHLAND, OHIO; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Moved by Wertz and seconded by Detrow to invoke Section 113.01 of the Codified Ordinances as the distribution of this Ordinance has satisfied the requirements of said Section and that a further reading be dispensed with at this time.

Ayes: Wertz, Stewart, Valentine W1, Valentine W2, Detrow

Comments:

Park Director Tim Clingan stated that this is the Arborist Department bucket truck purchased as a used vehicle from Nelson's seven years ago and operated since as a City vehicle. It is a requirement that Ohio Edison certify the bucket lift every couple of years. This year they did not want to certify the lift, nor did another local company. Without the certification, the City would be taking on a great liability if the truck was still used, and so the department took the truck out of service last fall.

The department did contract out tree removals last fall to the extent of about \$14,000; that was needed work, and it couldn't be put off any more. There is some interest by a couple of individuals in buying the truck, one for parts and the other a private owner who would not need certification. The value of the truck is roughly \$5,000, and since there are a couple of interested buyers, the vehicle will be advertised for sealed bids at a minimum of \$5,000 "as is" condition.

A new vehicle has been appropriated at \$90,000 from the capital improvement fund.

Moved by Detrow and seconded by Valentine W1 that the Ordinance be passed on the first reading.

Ayes: Wertz, Stewart, Valentine W1, Valentine W2, Detrow

Moved by Wertz and seconded by Stewart that the rules requiring the reading on three separate days be suspended and that the Ordinance be passed on the second and third readings.

Ayes: Wertz, Stewart, Valentine W1, Valentine W2, Detrow

Moved by Detrow and seconded by Valentine W1 that the Ordinance be passed.

Ayes: Wertz, Stewart, Valentine W1, Valentine W2, Detrow

Motion carried.

Ord. 15-06

Item (f) AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO THE AGREEMENT REQUIRED BY THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENT FOR THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM REVOLVING LOAN FUND FOR THE CITY OF ASHLAND, OHIO; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Moved by Wertz and seconded by Detrow to invoke Section 113.01 of the Codified Ordinances as the distribution of this Ordinance has satisfied the requirements of said Section and that a further reading be dispensed with at this time.

Ayes: Wertz, Stewart, Valentine W1, Valentine W2, Detrow

Comments:

Mayor Strine explained that this is an agreement between the City and the Ohio Department of Development for the administration of the City Revolving Loan Fund. It is a required agreement to be signed and submitted to ODOD every three years. The previous agreement was authorized by Ordinance No. 7-03 and expired on December 31, 2005. Boyd added that this is loaned out to various companies, who pay it back with interest; then the City is free to loan again to other businesses.

Mayor Strine stated that the Community Improvement Corporation does the actually loaning, but the ODOD wants the money on the City's books. Stewart added that it has been successful in years past for business development, and should continue.

Moved by Detrow and seconded by Valentine W1 that the Ordinance be passed on the first reading.

Ayes: Wertz, Stewart, Valentine W1, Valentine W2, Detrow

Moved by Wertz and seconded by Valentine W1 that the rules requiring the reading on three separate days be suspended and that the Ordinance be passed on the second and third readings.

Ayes: Wertz, Stewart, Valentine W1, Valentine W2, Detrow

Moved by Valentine W1 and seconded by Detrow that the Ordinance be passed.

Ayes: Wertz, Stewart, Valentine W1, Valentine W2, Detrow

Motion carried.

Ord. 16-06

Item (g) AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING WAGES AND OTHER COMPENSATIONS FOR ADMINISTRATIVE EMPLOYEES, EXEMPTED FROM THE FAIR LABOR STANDARDS ACT, OF THE CITY OF ASHLAND, OHIO; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Moved by Wertz and seconded by Detrow to invoke Section 113.01 of the Codified Ordinances as the distribution of this Ordinance has satisfied the requirements of said Section and that a further reading be dispensed with at this time.

Ayes: Wertz, Stewart, Valentine W1, Valentine W2, Detrow

Comments:

Mayor Strine explained that this ordinance and the next three are for non-union employees. As Council is well aware, last year the non-union employees did not get any wage increase. These four ordinances provide for the possibility of a 4% increase. Basically that is about the extent of what is in the ordinances; they have been reviewed a number of times.

Stewart noted this is an example for those who got nothing last year, 2005, of what would be considered a normal increase. Consequently, this year the increase is up to 4%, though that might sound to some people as a bit high by today's standards. Personally, he feels it is right in line considering this is a raise over two years, not one year. He admires those people for sticking with the City through the bare and lean; it is still bare and lean,

but the City is able to do this. As the Mayor commented, this Council has been through hours of discussion regarding many of these ordinances. He appreciates Council asking the tough questions of the Mayor, finance director and others, in bringing these ordinances to the state they are presented this evening.

Detrow added she is very glad that, though the City isn't out of the woods yet, they can do something to say thanks to these employees for sticking with the City.

Moved by Wertz and seconded by Valentine W1 that the Ordinance be passed on the first reading.

Ayes: Wertz, Stewart, Valentine W1, Valentine W2, Detrow

Moved by Wertz and seconded by Detrow that the rules requiring the reading on three separate days be suspended and that the Ordinance be passed on the second and third readings.

Ayes: Wertz, Stewart, Valentine W1, Valentine W2, Detrow

Moved by Detrow and seconded by Valentine W1 that the Ordinance be passed.

Ayes: Wertz, Stewart, Valentine W1, Valentine W2, Detrow

Motion carried.

Ord. 17-06

Item (h) AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING NEW LIMITS FOR WAGES AND DETERMINING OTHER PROVISIONS RELATIVE TO POSITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT OF SUPERVISORY PERSONNEL FOR AREAS NOT INCLUDED IN ANOTHER WAGE OR SALARY ORDINANCE IN THE CITY OF ASHLAND, OHIO; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Moved by Wertz and seconded by Detrow to invoke Section 113.01 of the Codified Ordinances as the distribution of this Ordinance has satisfied the requirements of said Section and that a further reading be dispensed with at this time.

Ayes: Wertz, Stewart, Valentine W1, Valentine W2, Detrow

Comments:

Stewart stated this is a very similar ordinance only to a different group of people.

Moved by Detrow and seconded by Valentine W1 that the Ordinance be passed on the first reading.

Ayes: Wertz, Stewart, Valentine W1, Valentine W2, Detrow

Moved by Wertz and seconded by Detrow that the rules requiring the reading on three separate days be suspended and that the Ordinance be passed on the second and third readings.

Ayes: Wertz, Stewart, Valentine W1, Valentine W2, Detrow

Moved by Valentine W1 and seconded by Stewart that the Ordinance be passed.

Ayes: Wertz, Stewart, Valentine W1, Valentine W2, Detrow

Motion carried.

Ord. 18-06

Item (i) AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING NEW LIMITS FOR WAGES AND DETERMINING OTHER PROVISIONS RELATIVE TO POSITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT OF FIDUCIARY PERSONNEL TO DIVISION DIRECTORS AND ELECTED OFFICIALS IN THE CITY OF ASHLAND, OHIO; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Moved by Wertz and seconded by Stewart to invoke Section 113.01 of the Codified Ordinances as the distribution of this Ordinance has satisfied the requirements of said Section and that a further reading be dispensed with at this time.

Ayes: Wertz, Stewart, Valentine W1, Valentine W2, Detrow

Comments:

Stewart stated this is the very same thing with another group of non-union individuals.

Moved by Detrow and seconded by Valentine W1 that the Ordinance be passed on the first reading.

Ayes: Wertz, Stewart, Valentine W1, Valentine W2, Detrow

Moved by Wertz and seconded by Valentine W1 that the rules requiring the reading on three separate days be suspended and that the Ordinance be passed on the second and third readings.

Ayes: Wertz, Stewart, Valentine W1, Valentine W2, Detrow

Moved by Detrow and seconded by Stewart that the Ordinance be passed.

Ayes: Wertz, Stewart, Valentine W1, Valentine W2, Detrow

Motion carried.

Ord. 19-06

Item (j) AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING NEW LIMITS FOR WAGES AND DETERMINING OTHER PROVISIONS RELATIVE TO POSITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT OF ALL OTHER PERSONNEL FOR AREAS NOT INCLUDED IN ANOTHER WAGE OR SALARY ORDINANCE IN THE CITY OF ASHLAND, OHIO; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Moved by Wertz and seconded by Detrow to invoke Section 113.01 of the Codified Ordinances as the distribution of this Ordinance has satisfied the requirements of said Section and that a further reading be dispensed with at this time.

Ayes: Wertz, Stewart, Valentine W1, Valentine W2, Detrow

Comments:

Mayor Strine mentioned that the union contracts are in effect until the end of this year, so those will be addressed later.

Valentine W1 asked if this is the auxiliaries; that didn't come back? Mayor Strine responded no to both questions. Valentine W2 noted these are mostly the part-time, intermittent and assistant positions; summer help and everything else. Stewart responded that the listing is in the ordinance.

After the voting, Stewart stated that the time spent voting on these and taking them through the mechanics this evening is not indicative of the time put in on them by many people understanding what was just passed and put into effect for the community. Lots and lots and lots of hours before this even came to the table. If it seems rather routine, it is because all are extremely familiar with what has been talked about this evening, and they understand it from a great degree of depth. He noted he said that for the Cub Scout in attendance, who might be wondering about all the voting; it is the mechanics that have to be followed.

Moved by Valentine W1 and seconded by Stewart that the Ordinance be passed on the first reading.

Ayes: Wertz, Stewart, Valentine W1, Valentine W2, Detrow

Moved by Wertz and seconded by Valentine W1 that the rules requiring the reading on three separate days be suspended and that the Ordinance be passed on the second and third readings.

Ayes: Wertz, Stewart, Valentine W1, Valentine W2, Detrow

Moved by Detrow and seconded by Stewart that the Ordinance be passed.

Ayes: Wertz, Stewart, Valentine W1, Valentine W2, Detrow

Motion carried.

WARD REPORTS

Ward 1: Robert L. Valentine

(a) Sinkhole, Centerlane Drive:

After Detrow's report of a sinkhole on Forestdale Road, Valentine mentioned a sinkhole on Centerlane Drive. It seems that it is the responsibility of Columbia Gas Company, but the situation has continued since last year. Columbia Gas had said they would fix it. Though it is not the City's problem, perhaps the company could be encouraged to get it fixed, since it has been there for so long a time.

It will be checked out.

Ward 3: Ruth Detrow

(a) Sinkhole, 121 Forestdale Road:

Detrow asked about a reported sinkhole on Forestdale Road, and Cooper told her that a property there has a crushed drainage pipe that allows the water to drain at that spot, creating the sinkhole. He has asked Bruce Wiser to look at that to be sure there isn't a shallow sewer down below there, creating another problem. That's the problem; it's crushed right next to the sidewalk and draining out.

(b) Traffic signal, Hillcrest Drive and Center Street:

Detrow reported a question about having a left turn from Center Street onto Hillcrest Drive, and from Center Street onto Morgan Avenue, going at the same time. She asked Cooper about these.

Cooper responded he had talked to Lee Yetzer about this. Yetzer is the long-time traffic signal person for the City. Cooper explained that Center Street both north and south have turn lanes but no turn signals. With the age, the signals and the requirements there, Yetzer reported that this is not appropriate for those turns as things currently are, unless the City builds a whole new intersection with all new signals.

(c) Ashland University banners:

Detrow said she knew Cooper had checked about how long the university was allowed to have certain banners displayed, in response to the question she had received. Cooper told her he had called Mike Bradley at the university, and they would like to keep the banners up for one year, as they did for the One Hundred Twenty-five Anniversary celebration.

Ward 4: Paul Wertz

(a) Parking situation, Arch Street:

Wertz reported a truck/trailer parked in such a way it obstructs the view from another resident's driveway, and twice vehicles have nearly struck that resident when he exits his driveway.

(b) Wrong way parking, West 10th Street:

Wertz received a complaint about traffic parking the wrong way on West 10th Street.

(c) Fence, Street Department property, 12th and 13th Streets:

Wertz reported a call about a fence along the junkyard by the Street Department building. The fence is collapsing on the Cottage Street side.

(d) Junk and trash, 922 and 928 Orange Street:

A report of junk and trash in the back yards at the above addresses was brought to Wertz.

(e) Cars parked on sidewalk, W. 10th Street:

Lastly, Wertz reported a complaint as to cars parked on the sidewalk at an area of West 10th Street.

Wertz requested that the law director check these situations.

OLD BUSINESS

(a) Sidewalk work session:

Valentine W1 asked about having a work session to discuss sidewalks before too long, perhaps along with a discussion of the Council priorities. Mayor Strine responded that there had been some scheduling problems.

Stewart noted that on the second Tuesday of the month there are no conflicts for meetings. However, there is a conflict on the fourth Tuesday. When there is a need for work sessions to be held for the fourth week, it might be well to establish an alternate night rather than Tuesday for that week. Council members established Thursday of the fourth week, and they and the Mayor will begin setting up work sessions using those dates.

(b) Animal regulations ordinance:

Wertz reminded Council about an earlier discussion relating to the keeping of animals and fowl inside the corporation limits. There were questions that had been brought up, and he requested a meeting with the law director for more discussion, to see if it is appropriate to bring this to the floor. He said he would work with Wolfe to find a time.

(c) Sidewalk, Hiner Avenue:

Stewart asked about an earlier discussion concerning a need for sidewalks on Hiner Avenue opposite the Ashland High School football stadium; he questioned if anything had materialized as to the potential of installing sidewalks there? Cooper indicated he had talked with the Mayor as to that, and they came up with a cost estimate of \$13,000 to \$15,000. Beyond that, Cooper did not know of anything else that had been done on that.

Mayor Strine pointed out an issue there: when there is the need for a sidewalk on one side, opposite side from the stadium in this situation, can both side property owners be assessed the cost? It seems to him that should be the case. The law director indicated not.

Stewart said more discussion seems to be in order. Valentine W2 noted that sidewalks along the stadium would not be a good idea for safety from drivers in and out of the stadium, and other members added that the traffic and parking would break up sidewalks if they were put in there. Valentine W2 stated his preference for sidewalks on the apartment side only.

Stewart stated this could be discussed further at a work session to be held on priority issues and sidewalks at a later time.

NEW BUSINESS

(a) Appointment of City Finance Director:

Mayor Strine asked Council for approval of his appointment of Anna Tomasek as Finance Director to fill the term of Nancy Boyd who will be retiring at the end of this month. Tomasek is his recommendation and per the Charter, Council's consent is required.

Moved by Stewart and seconded by Wertz that Council honor the Mayor's appointment of Anna Tomasek to fill the unexpired term of Nancy Boyd, retiring Finance Director.

Ayes: Wertz, Stewart, Valentine W1, Valentine W2, Detrow

(b) Tribute to Nancy Boyd:

Stewart stated that tonight's meeting has been a very special meeting, in that Council has passed a lot of ordinances and passed an appropriation request. But there is another thing that he wanted to acknowledge: a person he has had the honor of working with from the time of his first appointment to City Council in 1981. At that time, she was the Clerk of Council and has since moved into the position of Finance Director of the City of Ashland. The appropriations book held by Council is an example of what she, along with her team, has put together for Council again this year. Tremendous responsibility has been positively discharged during her thirty-year tenure.

This Council wishes Nancy Boyd all the best in her coming years of retirement from the City and wishes to thank her for the services she has provided to Council through her 30 years of continuing service. Thanks, Nancy!

Valentine W1 commented that the Times-Gazette had a fine write-up on Boyd's retirement, and he thinks that acknowledgement is something that needs to be done right then so the recipient truly hears those positive thoughts. Now is the time to do it, and that is a positive, Nancy!

MAYOR'S COMMENTS

(a) *Welcome:*

Mayor Strine congratulated and welcomed Anna Tomasek as the new Finance Director effective March 1, 2006.

Stewart stated he looked forward to working with her, also.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Valentine W1 and seconded by Wertz to adjourn.

Ayes: Wertz, Stewart, Valentine W1, Valentine W2, Detrow

Council adjourned the regular session at 7:48 p.m.

Submitted by
Elaine C. Hootman
Clerk of Council