

City of Montgomery
City Council Work Session Minutes
January 24, 2007

Present

Cheryl Hilvert, City Manager
Terry Donnellon, Law Director
Susan Hamm, Clerk of Council
Frank Davis, Community Development Director
Wayne Davis, Assistant City Manager
Peter Hames, Finance Director
Bob Nikula, Public Works Director
Don Simpson, Police Chief
Matthew Vanderhorst, Customer Service Director
Paul Wright, Fire Chief

City Council Members Present

Gerri Harbison, Mayor
Mark Combs
William Niehaus
Lynda Roesch
Todd Steinbrink
Ken Suer

City Council Member Absent

Barry Joffe

City Council convened in Council Chambers for the work session at 7:00 p.m. with Mayor Harbison presiding.

ROLL CALL

Mayor Harbison asked that the roll be called.

The roll was called and showed the following Council Members present:

PRESENT: Harbison, Combs, Niehaus, Roesch, Steinbrink, Suer
ABSENT: Joffe

Mayor Harbison noted that Mr. Joffe was absent due to illness in his family. She asked for a motion to excuse Mr. Joffe.

Mr. Steinbrink moved to excuse Mr. Joffe. Ms. Roesch seconded. City Council unanimously excused Mr. Joffe.

GUESTS AND RESIDENTS

There were no guests or residents to address City Council tonight.

ESTABLISHING AN AGENDA FOR FEBRUARY 7, 2007

Pending Legislation

New Legislation

A Resolution Authorizing the City Manger to Enter into a Contract with Konica Business Technologies, Inc. to Lease Photocopiers

This Resolution will authorize the City Manager to execute a sixty (60) month master lease and related documents with Konica Business Technologies, Inc. for the lease of four (4) copiers. Funding for this purchase, will total \$50,001, and is included in the City's 2007 Operating Budget.

The current copier lease through Toshiba is expiring necessitating the need to enter into a new lease. A team of City employees reviewed copiers from three vendors listed in the Ohio Cooperative Purchasing Program for a period of three weeks. Items such as installation, reliability, features, service and support were all evaluated during this period. Based on the feedback, the team chose Konica. The Konica copier showed to be more reliable than the other models and the vendor, ProSource, proved to be more proactive in their approach to service and support. References were checked with positive results.

The lease period is 60 months for a total cost of \$50,001, which includes toner.

ADMINISTRATION REPORT

Ms. Hilvert reported on the following items:

- As a reminder, the Community Leadership Forum will be held on Saturday, February 10, 2007 from 8:30 - 11:00 a.m. at City Hall. Those items to be discussed include the City's Strategic Plan, Communications Program, Park Master Plan and Development Project update.
- Mr. Frank Davis has shown the Yost Tavern to two (2) perspective businesses. Both entities have a strong interest and are proposing interesting business ideas.
- Congratulations to Police Officers Tom Wagner and Paul Payne who received an award from the Hamilton County Police Association for their educational program, "Caught in the Web." As a result of these officers work on this program, more than 5,000 parents in our region have been educated on web activities/websites that are popular with teens. Congratulations to Tom and Paul on this accomplishment, as well as their fine representation of our City.
- Congratulations to the City's Health Benefits Committee on the receipt of an "Innovation in Local Government" award from the Ohio City/County Management Association. This award will be present at the OCMA meeting in Columbus on Thursday, January 25, 2007.
- The Hamilton County Municipal League membership meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, January 31, 2007 at Wyoming Civic Center. The guest speaker will be the City of Cincinnati Mayor Mark Mallory, who will be presenting the State of the City address.

Ms. Hilvert noted that the Forestglen Subdivision Neighborhood has requested information on the old Montgomery Road Task Committee, which worked on the development of the Montgomery Road Improvements that included the medians, curbcuts on Montgomery Road. Staff is in the process of locating the records. She further noted that Ms. Connie Pillich, at a Planning Commission meeting referenced a plan created by the City that provided restricted access for properties located along Montgomery Road and also provided for access for the undeveloped properties between Schoolhouse Lane and the Safety Center at Hopewell Road or via the traffic signal at Schoolhouse Lane. To date, our staff has been unable to locate such a plan in any of the City's records. Therefore, she has asked Ms. Pillich if she could either provide the City with a copy of the plan or an indication as to when it may have been produced and adopted by the City so that the City may be able to locate it. She also noted that she believes that, if such a plan was adopted by the City at some point in the past, could be very helpful to the City in the continuing review of this proposed project.

Ms. Hilvert requested an executive session to discuss matters related to imminent litigation.

LAW DIRECTORS REPORT

Mr. Donnellon reported that he has scheduled a follow-up meeting with Mr. Hohn, 7889 Shelldale Way, to discuss how the City of Montgomery can handle illegal aliens and any information that Mr. Hohn might have pertaining to this matter. He noted that Mr. Hohn has asked that each City Council member receive a copy of the article that appeared in the Cincinnati Enquirer on Tuesday, January 23, 2007, which basically summarized how the City of Mason is dealing with the illegal alien issue.

CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS REPORTS

Mr. Combs reminded everyone that the Financial Planning Committee of City Council is scheduled to meet on Monday, February 5, 2007 at 5:30 p.m. at City Hall.

Mr. Suer reported that the Governmental Affairs Committee of City Council met on January 16, 2007 and discussed the following topics:

- Amendment of Rules of City Council - Staff recommended that the Government Affairs Committee undertake a review of the City Council Rules of Procedure at this time. This is normally a housekeeping function to review the rules, however, staff wanted to discuss the following items: 1) when the City's minutes become public records; 2) the process for taking public comment during an open meeting when a particular development project is not on the agenda; 3) a new procedure to utilize a council motion to adopt ordinances with emergency language; and, 4) establishing the rules of procedure for all boards and commissions.
- Schedule Community Leadership Forum for 2007— The Community Leadership Forum was scheduled for February 10, 2007 from 8:30 – 11:00 a.m. The committee agreed that the following topics would be discussed: 1) Overview of the City's Strategic Plan; 2) Review and Input on the Parks and Recreation 10 Year Comprehensive Plan; 3) Review and Input on the Communication Program and 4) Update of Development Projects.
- Board and Commission Chair Update to City Council – The Government Affairs Committee agreed that the 2007 board and commission chair updates should be scheduled for the months of April and May.
- Open House Idea – One of the projects in the strategic plan is to develop an open house format to allow the public to interact with City Council and staff members in an informal setting. Staff discussed the idea to “piggy back” the idea with the extended hours program for the tax office. The Committee discussed the idea and expressed an interest in pursuing this option for an open house on Saturday, April 14, 2007 from 9:00 a.m. to noon.

Mr. Suer noted that the Government Affairs Committee reviewed and are recommending the following appointments or re-appointments.

Mr. Suer moved to re-appoint Mr. Mark Mallette to the Arts Commission for a term expiring 2/28/2010.

Mr. Suer moved to appoint Mr. Chuck King to the Arts Commission for a term expiring 2/28/2008.

Mr. Suer moved to appoint Mr. Ray Miller to the Arts Commission for a term expiring 2/28/2010.

Mr. Suer moved to re-appoint Ms. Marcia Scherocman to the Sister Cities Commission for a term expiring 2/28/2010.

Mr. Suer moved to re-appoint Ms. Marcallene Shockey to the Sister Cities Commission for a term expiring 2/28/2010.

Mr. Suer moved to re-appoint Mr. Bernie Franks to the Environmental Advisory Commission for a term expiring 1/31/2010.

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Mr. Suer moved to re-appoint Mrs. Kathy Teitelman to the Environmental Advisory Commission for a term expiring 1/31/2010.

Mr. Suer moved to re-appoint Ms. Elizabeth Zuend to the Environmental Advisory Commission for a term expiring 1/31/2010.

City Council unanimously agreed with the appointments.

Mr. Niehaus reported that the Public Works Committee of City Council met on Tuesday, January 16, 2007 and discussed the following topics:

- Ross Avenue sidewalk request - Staff summarized research that had been completed regarding the request by petitioner Christine Dauenhauer regarding the installation of a public sidewalk along Ross Avenue. Staff reviewed the data collected in a traffic count and speed study completed between January 3 - 8, 2007. Staff also reviewed a preliminary estimate of the cost to install a 5' wide public sidewalk along Ross Ave. The Committee agreed not to recommend the installation of a public sidewalk along Ross Avenue, however, it did request that staff research of the possibilities: 1) requiring parking on one side of Ross Avenue; 2) the speed limit could be reduced to the same as a "school zone" and 3) signage installed to caution drivers.

Ms. Roesch reported that the Parks and Recreation Committee of City Council met on Tuesday, January 16, 2007 and discussed the following topics:

- Update on Parks and Recreation 10-Year Comprehensive Plan - Staff updated the committee on the status of the 10-Year Comprehensive Plan to be undertaken by the Parks and Recreation Commission.
- Sensory Sundays - Staff updated the committee on the schedule and lineup for the Sensory Sundays special event.
- BAMSO Contract - Staff provided an update on the BAMSO contract for 2007.

Ms. Roesch noted that the Parks and Recreation Committee reviewed and are recommending the following re-appointments:

Ms. Roesch moved to re-appoint Ms. Laura Devore to the Parks and Recreation Commission for a term expiring 1/31/2010.

Ms. Roesch moved to re-appoint Mr. Dick Chisholm to the Parks and Recreation Commission for a term expiring 1/31/2010.

Ms. Roesch moved to re-appoint Ms. Jackie Lang to the Parks and Recreation Commission for a term expiring 1/31/2010.

City Council unanimously agreed with the appointments.

Mr. Steinbrink reported that the Planning, Zoning and Landmarks Committee has cancelled its regularly scheduled meeting for February 5, 2007 at 4:30 p.m. at City Hall. He further noted that the Comprehensive Community Plan Review Ad-Hoc Committee will meet on Monday, February 19, 2007 at 5:00 p.m. at City Hall.

Mr. Steinbrink noted that the Planning, Zoning and Landmark Committee of City Council held interviews for the vacant positions on the Board of Zoning Appeals, Landmarks Commission and Planning Commission. The Committee agreed to make the following recommendations:

Mr. Steinbrink moved to re-appoint Ms. Mary Jo Byrnes to the Board of Zoning Appeals for a term expiring 1/31/2011.

Mr. Steinbrink moved to re-appoint Ms. Peg Lewin to the Board of Zoning Appeals for a term expiring 1/31/2011.

Mr. Steinbrink moved to re-appoint Mr. Bob Schuck to the Board of Zoning Appeals for a term expiring 1/31/2011.

Mr. Steinbrink moved to re-appoint Mr. Vijay Goveia to the Board of Zoning Appeals for a term expiring 1/31/2009.

Mr. Steinbrink moved to re-appoint Mr. Chris Dobrozsi to the Landmarks Commission for a term expiring 1/31/2010.

Mr. Steinbrink moved to re-appoint Ms. Jen Gallo to the Landmarks Commission for a term expiring 1/31/2010.

Mr. Steinbrink move to appoint Ms. Luci Putnam to the Landmarks Commission for a term expiring 1/31/2010.

Mr. Steinbrink moved to re-appoint Mr. Craig Margolis to the Planning Commission for a term expiring 1/31/2011.

Mr. Steinbrink moved to appoint Mr. James Matre to the Planning Commission for a term expiring 1/31/2011.

Mayor Harbison indicated that she would be attending the First Suburbs meeting on Thursday, January 25, 2007.

OTHER BUSINESS

Mayor Harbison asked if there was any further business to discuss in public session. There being none, she asked for a motion to adjourn into executive session to discuss matters related to labor negotiations.

Mr. Steinbrink moved to adjourn into executive session to discuss matters related to imminent litigation. Ms. Roesch seconded.

The roll was called and showed the following vote:

AYE: Harbison, Combs, Niehaus, Roesch, Steinbrink, Suer	(6)
NAY:	(0)
ABSENT: Joffe	(1)

City Council adjourned into executive session at 7:54 p.m.

City Council reconvened into public session at 8:35 p.m.

Mayor Harbison asked if there was any further business to discuss in public session. There being none, she asked for a motion to adjourn.

Mr. Niehaus moved to adjourn. Mr. Suer seconded.

City Council unanimously agreed.

City Council adjourned at 8:36 p.m.