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City of Montgomery
City Council Work Session Minutes
February 18, 2009

Present

Cheryl Hilvert, City Manager
Terry Donnellon, Law Director
Susan Hamm, Clerk of Council
Frank Davis, Community Development Director
Wayne Davis, Assistant City Manager
Bob Nikula, Public Works Director
Amber Morris, Recreation and Communications Director
Don Simpson, Police Chief
Matthew Vanderhorst, Customer Service Director

City Council Members Present

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

City Council Members Absent

Vicki Hirsch
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: Combs, Harbison, Steinbrink, Suer, Roesch
ABSENT: Hirsch, Joffe

Mayor Harbison noted that Mrs. Hirsch and Mr. Joffe were out of town. She asked for a motion to excuse Mrs. Hirsch and Mr. Joffe.

Mr. Steinbrink moved to excuse Mrs. Hirsch and Mr. Joffe. Mr. Suer seconded. City Council unanimously excused Mrs. Hirsch and Mr. Joffe.

GUESTS AND RESIDENTS

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

ESTABLISHING AN AGENDA FOR MARCH 4, 2009

Pending Legislation

An Ordinance Amending Portions of Sections 151.32 and 151.34 of the Code of Ordinances Providing Parking and Landscape/Screening Regulations (3rd Reading, Mr. Steinbrink)

Mayor Harbison explained that this ordinance has been discussed at previous City Council meetings and that the ordinance proposes the adoption of amendments to the City's parking and landscaping regulations.

New Legislation

A Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Enter into a Contract with Capital Recovery Systems, Inc. for Professional Services Related to Providing Assistance in Recovering Delinquent Debts Due through the Mayor's Court

55 Mr. Donnellon explained that this resolution that will authorize the City Manager to enter into a contract with
56 Capital Recovery Systems, Inc. to assist in the collection of delinquent debts due through the Mayor's Court.
57 He further explained that the Ohio law now allows court systems to retain third party collection agencies to
58 assist in recovering delinquencies from the court. He also explained that the City of Montgomery does not have
59 a serious problem with delinquencies; however, with the City being very low on the priority list for jail space,
60 which is the alternative for non-payment of delinquent debts, and with most offenders knowing this, they ignore
61 the punishment from the court. Therefore, using a collection agency may add another tool to collect these
62 delinquencies. He noted that staff is recommending that the City enter into a one year contract with Capital
63 Recovery Systems, Inc.

64
65 **ADMINISTRATION REPORT**
66

67 Ms. Hilvert reported on the following items:
68

- 69 • Special thanks are extended to our presentation team of Wayne Davis, Paul Wright, Brian Riblet and
70 Terry Willenbrink who did such a great job in presenting at the ICMA Leading Practices conference.
71 The program was called "Leading from the Sandbox to the Orchestra Pit" and focused on our work
72 culture and its application to Daniel Pink's high touch aptitudes of play and symphony. The team did a
73 great job and was truly the hit of the conference. In fact, the team has been asked to reprise the
74 performance at additional ICMA programs in the future, all of which continue to contribute to the
75 development of our staff and the recognition of our community as one of the best across the nation.
76
- 77 • Two sessions of the MCLA were held this past week. The session on Homeland Security and Disaster
78 Preparedness was held on Saturday, February 14, 2009 at Radcliffe – the location of the emergency
79 operation center for the 12 county area in Southwest Ohio, Southeast Indian and Northern Kentucky.
80 Special thanks to the Fire Department and Police Department for their hard work in preparing for and
81 executing this excellent program. On Tuesday, February 17, 2009, the Finance and Community
82 Development Departments were the "stars" in a session held at Ohio National Financial Services,
83 focusing on the City's finances and the importance of our business community in contributing to the
84 City's financial security and quality of life in our community. Special thanks are extended to Ohio
85 National for their partnership in this activity and to the Finance and Community Development
86 Departments.
87
- 88 • Bob Nikula has submitted a number of stimulus package projects, which include "shovel ready",
89 projects as well as a couple of others that will be ready in the near future.
90
- 91 • She will be hosting a colleague and friend from New Zealand beginning Thursday, February 19, 2009.
92 His name is Tony Marryatt and he is the City Manager of Christchurch, New Zealand. Tony serves on
93 the ICMA Executive Board and is stopping here before going to Jacksonville for the board meeting at
94 the end of next week.
95

96 Ms. Hilvert requested an executive session to discuss matters related to the purchase of real estate.
97

98 **LAW DIRECTOR REPORT**
99

100 Terry Donnellon reported on the following items:
101

- 102 • All paperwork was executed this week relative to the easements that are necessary for the consolidated
103 access point to service the property for the future Twin Lakes and other developments on the eastern
104 side of Montgomery Road.
105 • The City closed on its purchase of the Business Club.
106

107 **CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS REPORTS**
108

109 Mr. Combs noted that the Financial Planning Committee met and discussed the following:

- 110 • Bethesda North Hospital has donated two monitor/defibrillators valued at \$15,000 each to the Fire
111 Department. Since this donation comes with no conditions or restrictions, the Financial Planning
112 Committee recommended formal acceptance of the donation.
113 • Jim Hanson provided the committee with an update of the City's actual revenues and expenditures
114 for last year and explained the estimated-to-actual revenue and expenditure variances.
115 • Staff explained the major transactions reflected in the Community Improvement Corporation's
116 financial statements.
117 • Staff presented the major points to be covered at their MCLA session.
118

119 Mr. Suer explained that the Governmental Affairs Committee met and discussed the following:

- 120
121 • The City and its Board and Commissions are occasionally asked to "sponsor" or participate in private
122 events. Often these requests are made to "link" these private events to the City's activities or in some
123 cases, come from organizations that are looking for the use of City facilities and/or City promotion or
124 participation in the activity. Recently, the City has been approached by the Sons of the American
125 Revolution for City sponsorship of an event on April 19th. Mr. Gerry Houchell of the SAR group
126 attended the meeting and discussed the event and his desire for the City to sponsor it. The committee
127 agreed there was a need to better identify a process by which such requests are made, evaluated and
128 approved/rejected by the City in the future. Therefore, Committee will be starting to have discussions
129 on such a process with possible development of several policies and procedures that can be used would
130 provide some connection between the volunteer group and the City Council/Administration.
131 • Staff updated the committee on the planning for the ten-year tornado commemoration event that is
132 scheduled for Sunday, April 5th at 2:00 p.m. at St. Barnabas Church.
133

134 Mr. Suer noted that the committee moved to recommend the appointment of Ms. Nancy Nolan to the Arts
135 Commission for a term expiring February 28, 2012. City Council unanimously agreed with the appointment
136

137 Mr. Suer noted that the committee moved to recommend the appointment of Kathy Lonneman to the Sister
138 Cities Commission for a term expiring February 28, 2012. City Council unanimously agreed with the
139 appointment.
140

141 Ms. Roesch noted that the Blue Ash Montgomery Symphony Orchestra will be holding it's Valentine Concert
142 on Sunday, February 22, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. at St. Barnabas Church. She further noted that the City would be
143 participating in the Fine Arts Sampler event on Sunday, February 22, 2009 at City Hall. She also noted that the
144 Beautification and Tree and Environmental Advisory Commissions will be holding the Green Garden and
145 Landscaping workshops in March with the first workshop beginning on Thursday, March 5, 2009.
146

147 Mr. Steinbrink explained that the Planning, Zoning and Landmarks Committee met and discussed the following:
148

- 149 • The Community Development Department completed an Annual report on housing activities in the City
150 of Montgomery for the year 2008 and tabulated results from a customer service survey of residents and

151 businesses that obtained building permits during 2008. Staff reviewed the results of these reports with
152 the Committee.
153 • Staff has begun the planning study for the Ferris Williams subdivision and discussed the initial findings
154 with the Committee.
155
156 Mayor Harbison explained that she attended and participated in the following meetings:
157 The ten-year tornado commemoration committee meeting
158 The Bastille Day committee meeting
159 The MCLA session on Homeland Security and Disaster Preparedness
160

161 **OTHER BUSINESS**

162
163 Mayor Harbison asked if there was any further business to discuss in public session. There being none, she
164 asked for a motion to adjourn into executive session to discuss matters related to the purchase of real estate.
165
166 Mr. Suer moved to adjourn into executive session to discuss matters related to the purchase of real estate. Mr.
167 Combs seconded.
168

169 The roll was called and showed the following vote:

170
171 AYE: Combs, Harbison, Roesch, Steinbrink, Suer (5)
172 NAY: (0)
173 ABSENT: Hirsch, Joffe (2)
174

175 City Council adjourned into executive session at 7:37 p.m.

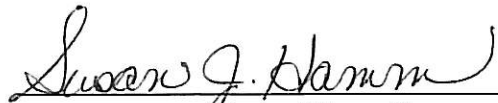
176
177 City Council reconvened into public session at 7:42 p.m.

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

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182 Ms. Roesch moved to adjourn. Mr. Combs seconded.

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184 City Council unanimously agreed.

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186 City Council adjourned at 7:43 p.m.
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Clerk of Council