

WEST CARROLLTON CITY COUNCIL REGULAR

APRIL 10,

07

PRESENT: Mayor Gilman, Councilmembers Jim Bowers, Angie Fryman, Jody Jones, Linda Lotspaih, Harold Robinson, Jeff Sanner; City Manager G. Tracy Williams; Law Director Lori Kirkwood; Director of Economic Development Kathy Perkins, Director of City Planning Greg Gaines, Police Chief Rick Barnhart, Deputy Police Chief Doug Woodard, and Assistant Clerk of Council Alicia Waymire.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Gilman. Pastor Doug Van Nest, West Carrollton Church of the Nazarene, gave the Invocation. The Pledge of Allegiance and Roll Call followed.

MINUTES

Mrs. Lotspaih motioned, seconded by Mr. Sanner to approve the Regular meeting minutes of March 27, 2007. A roll call vote was taken: Mr. Bowers – abstain, Mrs. Jones – yes, Mr. Robinson – yes, Mayor Gilman – abstain, Mrs. Lotspaih – yes, Mrs. Fryman – yes, Mr. Sanner – yes.

COMMUNICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

POLICE DEPARTMENT AWARDS

Police Chief Barnhart went over the criteria and the procedures for selecting the officers for Employee of the Year and Exemplary Service Award. Officer David Wessling received the 2006 Police Department Employee of the Year award. Ralph Huff received the Exemplary Service Award.

Mayor Gilman thanked Officer Wessling and Mr. Huff for their dedication and service.

Mr. Sanner congratulated Officer Wessling and indicated that it is always an honor when your peers nominate you. He congratulated Mr. Huff on his award as well.

Mrs. Fryman congratulated Officer Wessling and Mr. Huff, and thanked them for their professionalism.

Mrs. Jones congratulated Officer Wessling and Mr. Huff, and thanked them for going above and beyond in their duty.

Mr. Robinson indicated that it was a distinguished honor to be recognized by their peers and congratulated them on their awards.

Mrs. Jones thanked them both for all their service and dedication and making an impression on their peers.

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Mr. Bowers indicated that it takes more than a few people to make an organization run smoothly and thanked them for all their service and dedication.

Mr. Williams thanked Mr. Huff for all he does and thanked Officer Wessling for his dedication and service. He stated he had known him since he was a Boy Scout, and concluded by stating it's a great honor to be recognized by your peers.

Mayor Gilman thanked everyone for coming to the meeting.

PROCLAMATION
"INTERNET SAFETY WEEK"

Mayor Gilman read the proclamation declaring the week of April 22-28, 2007 as "Internet Safety Week" in the City of West Carrollton.

PROCLAMATION
"ARBOR DAY"

Mayor Gilman read the proclamation declaring Friday, April 27, 2007 as National Arbor Day in the City of West Carrollton.

TOM IRELAND, CHIEF TECHNOLOGY OFFICER
MIAMI VALLEY CABLE COUNCIL

Gave a presentation about Senate Bill 117, and how detrimental to the cities this would be if it was passed. He went over the limitations of the bill, advising the residents that they are only hearing one side and they aren't being advised how this will adversely affect the communities. He stated that if this bill is passed, that city council meetings would no longer be broadcast live, and the amount of times they are re-aired would be significantly reduced. He indicated that this bill would eliminate cooperative regional development opportunities; it would eliminate free cable TV connections, and stated that the West Carrollton schools use this for educational purposes. He stated that a lot of things are done with franchise fees, like code red, joint bidding on pavement marking, joint street light negotiations and tactical crime suppression unit to name a few. He indicated that MVCC also provides local church service broadcasts for shut in, information on local history, information about local city activities and educational programs. This bill would limit these types of services. The bill would impede the ability to continue to constantly improve communication between local governments and the citizens.

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Mr. Robinson stated that they would have a work session in a couple of weeks to lay out a plan to fight this bill. He indicated that this is bad legislation for everyone and takes away the citizens choices. He stated that people could contact Representative John Husted to voice their opinion.

Mr. Ireland stated that people could go to www.mvcc.net and click on the links about the bill and this will give links to people so they can contact someone about this bill.

Mr. Ireland indicated that he would like the City of West Carrollton to pass a resolution voicing their opinion on this matter.

Mr. Robinson thanked Mr. Ireland for all his help to the City.

JULIA MAXTON, PRESIDENT SOUTH METRO REGIONAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Ms. Maxton gave an update on the Chamber, stating their Chamber is a very active one. They are the second largest Chamber in our region. They are 36 years old and represent the economic and educational voice for Centerville, Miamisburg, West Carrollton, Springboro, Miami Township and Washington Township.

They provide a Business Advisory Council for two of our school districts to assist the students, their parents, 800 teachers, and our business universe in addressing the workforce challenges we now face.

Julia Maxton coordinates functions from golf outings to networking meetings every month, as well as sits on the Economic Business Advisory Council, is participating in the Austin Road interchange negotiations, the Mound clean-up, and is working to open up legislative communications. Additionally, they are active on other councils, boards and caucuses to better our six-community region. Of special interest is their involvement in issues impacting economic development for our business base. They also pass on board of director recommendations to public officials whenever appropriate.

In 2004 Julia was awarded the State of Ohio Outstanding Community Leader by the Career Education Association of Ohio for her commitment and Chamber involvement in our participating schools.

Several years ago, they assisted in founding the Southern Ohio Chamber Alliance (SOCA), which represents more than 82 suburban chambers throughout Ohio.

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They produce a newsletter, and they recently featured West Carrollton, and will do another story soon. They also produce an annual calendar, with approximately 40 events which are open to everyone. She indicated that anyone wanting to know about the upcoming events should go to www.smrccoc.org

Mr. Robinson stated that it has been great to go the meetings and talk about West Carrollton and all the changes. He indicated that Tom and Julia are very important to our community and thanked them for all their work.

LINDA ZIMMER WEST CARROLLTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Ms. Zimmer stated that the first two public forums have been very interesting, and the last meeting produced information and pictures they didn't have before. She indicated the next meeting would be on May 14 at 7:00 in the West Carrollton Civic Center, and they would be looking for information about active school staff, retired teachers and support staff (music, sports and academics) and she indicated alumni are invited as well. She indicated that they need information on early local organizations; they have a list and need to know what they did and who the members were. She reminded the residents about the Victorian Tea which will be April 29 at the Masonic Center, cost is \$7 per adult and \$3.50 per child, and anyone interested should contact Peg Rinaldi at 859-5087 for reservations.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

None

COMMENTS BY THE AUDIENCE

MR. KOUSSEF – Asked God to watch over the troops and bring them home safely. He thanked the military personnel overseas for risking their lives for our safety, stating he gave them his heartfelt thanks and asked everyone to support the troops. He reminded everyone that they are fighting for us, he urged everyone to support our children and be united not divided.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

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NEW BUSINESS

RESOLUTION 6-2007

A Resolution accepting the report of the Community Reinvestment Area (CRA) Housing Council concerning the status of properties currently receiving tax exemptions. Mr. Sanner motioned, seconded by Mrs. Fryman to approve Resolution No. 6-2007. A roll call vote was taken: Mr. Bowers – yes, Mrs. Jones – yes, Mr. Robinson – yes, Mayor Gilman – abstain, Mrs. Lotspaih – yes, Mrs. Fryman – yes, Mr. Sanner – yes.

RESOLUTION 7-2007

A Resolution accepting the report of the Tax Incentive Review Council (TIRC) concerning the status of properties currently receiving tax exemptions. Mrs. Fryman motioned, seconded by Mr. Robinson to approve Resolution No. 7-2007. A roll call vote was taken: Mr. Bowers – yes, Mrs. Jones – yes, Mr. Robinson – yes, Mayor Gilman – abstain, Mrs. Lotspaih – yes, Mrs. Fryman – yes, Mr. Sanner – yes.

REPORTS BY OFFICERS

Mr. Gaines spoke about the Housing Fair scheduled for May 4, from 8:00 – 1:30 p.m. in the West Carrollton Middle School. He thanked the school for providing this location. He then went over some of the activities and vendors for the event. He indicated that there would be children's activities and some open houses by County Corp so people can see first hand what can be done. He indicated that that the Historical Society would be there and would help people research the history of their home. He stated that the Police and Fire Departments would be there with safety information, and there will be seminars on how to select a contractor. He thanked Linda Cole for all her work on organizing this event.

Mr. Williams expressed his excitement about the Housing Fair. He stated that the demolition of Woody's would begin tomorrow, and the road will be closed for five days. He asked for everyone to be patient and indicated that this demolition is necessary for our growth.

UNSCHEDULED BUSINESS

None

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COMMENTS BY AUDIENCE

None

COMMENTS BY COUNCIL

Mr. Bowers spoke about the school levy and expressed how important it is to the community, stating that a strong school is a strong community. He indicated that the school won't come back for another levy for 3 years. He stated that the school is an integral part of the community and they do a lot of community service, they participate in Operation Share Christmas, Community Pride Day, 4th of July Festival, just to name a few things.

Mrs. Jones thanked Kathy Perkins and Greg Gaines for all their hard work for the city and their efforts to implement growth in the city.

Mr. Robinson suggested that a Resolution be on the next agenda to support the school levy. He stated that last fall he had asked about the flooding issue on Farmersville-West Carrollton Road and was told that the Conservancy District is doing a report and asked on the status of this report. Mr. Williams responded that the report should be ready by the first meeting of May.

Mr. Robinson indicated that Mrs. Lotspaih and he had attended the Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee meeting and stated that it is coming along nicely, and stated that in the future, the meeting will not be scheduled the same night as the Historical Society meeting.

Mrs. Fryman stated that she hoped everyone would attend the Housing Fair. She stated that the 4th of July Committee is getting geared up for this year's festival. She stated that the school is very important to the community and reminded everyone that the levy failing to pass would result in job losses to the community. She stated that it is important for the businesses and others see the community support the levy.

Mayor Gilman thanked the students for attending the Council meeting. She reminded everyone that the VFW would have having their Homemade Chicken and Noodle Dinner on April 18 from 4:00 – 6:00 p.m. The cost of the dinner is \$6.00

She stated that she had seen information about the road closing on Channel 2 news.

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She stated that she had received a phone call from someone concerned about the RTA bus route being changed. She stated that they had indicated that they don't drive, but they could walk 3 blocks to catch the bus at Central Avenue. She stated that she has talked to many people who are opposed to changing the bus route who are elderly and need the route. She stated that there had been a petition signed by 160 people who did not want this route changed.

Mr. Hutchinson indicated that some of the people who had signed this petition didn't even live here. Mayor Gilman indicated that this might be true, but these were people who relied on the bus to get them to work and back. Mr. Hutchinson inquired where they worked, and Mayor Gilman responded that they work at West Carrollton Parchment.

Mr. Hutchinson indicated that before it gets changed again, he would like to have another meeting about it. Mayor Gilman indicated that if Council wanted to meet on it again, they would.

RECESS

Mayor Gilman motioned, seconded by Mrs. Fryman to recess to an Executive Session as per Ohio Revised Code, 121.22 Section G3, conferences with an attorney for the public body, concerning disputes involving the public body that are the subject of pending or imminent court action, to be followed by a work session to discuss the items on the agenda. A unanimous roll call carried the motion.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

PRESENT: Mayor Maxine Gilman; Councilmembers Jim Bowers, Angie Fryman, Jody Jones, Linda Lotspaih, Harold Robinson, Jeff Sanner; City Manager G. Tracy Williams; Law Director Lori Kirkwood; and Attorney Nick Farquhar.

A motion was made by Councilmember Jones and seconded by Councilmember Fryman to reconvene into regular work session following the executive session. The motion was approved.

MEETING WITH TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES

City Council indicated they would be available to meet with the Miami Township Trustees on May 21st, June 4th, or June 18th.

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2007 CDBG PROJECT

City Manager Williams advised Council that the City received four bids for the 2007 CDBG project to repair curbs in the targeted area. City Manager Williams noted that the bids came in 16% under budget. The low bid was from Durst Brothers in Tipp City at a cost of \$103,534.55. The total budget approved for this project was \$123,245.00. City Manager Williams advised City Council that Montgomery County had authorized the City to expend the full amount of the \$89,155.00 CDBG grant. Accordingly the City Council authorized the City Manager to proceed to make other needed improvements that were not completed in the 2006 CDBG project as well as to expand on this year's project as the funds would allow without exceeding the original budget.

COMMENTS BY COUNCIL

Council discussed the proposed use of the former Ramada Inn site by CarMax. Councilmember Robinson requested that staff obtain costs for attendance at the NLC conference in New Orleans as some of the members of Council were considering attending the NLC conference in November. He also noted that the city would be making a presentation to the Economic Development Committee of the South Metro Chamber of Commerce on May 15th.

Mayor Gilman requested that staff provide Council with contact information for all new businesses in the city so that Councilmembers might pay welcoming visits to these new businesses. Also, the Mayor inquired about the status of the Miami Valley Communications Councils plans to hold a breakfast with our State elected officials. City Manager Williams noted that MVCC Executive Director Steve Husemann is still working on trying to arrange this breakfast between city officials and our state representatives.

City Manager Williams noted that the Miami Valley Communications Council was preparing a draft resolution for the cities to adopt in opposition to Senate Bill 117. Mayor Gilman inquired whether City Council was interested in revisiting the issue regarding RTA Route 18. Following discussion of this matter City Manager Williams noted that he would contact RTA about the possibility of extending the route on Central Avenue to Elm Street and making a loop on Slonaker and Locust to return back to Alex Road. It was thought that this route might provide the needed transportation along the Central Avenue corridor as well as to businesses in this area and avoid the residential areas on South Elm Street.

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ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the motion to adjourn was made by Councilmember Harold Robinson and seconded by Councilmember Jody Jones and the meeting was adjourned at 8:58 p.m.

MAYOR

CLERK OF COUNCIL