

WEST CARROLLTON CITY COUNCIL REGULAR

JULY 10,

07

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

EXCUSED: Councilmember Angie Fryman

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Gilman. Tracy Williams, City Manager, gave the Invocation. The Pledge of Allegiance and Roll Call followed.

MINUTES

Mrs. Lotspaih motioned, seconded by Mr. Sanner to approve the special meeting minutes of July 3, 2007. A roll call vote was taken: Mr. Sanner – yes, Mr. Bowers – yes, Mrs. Jones – yes, Mr. Robinson – yes, Mayor Gilman – yes, Linda Lotspaih - yes.

COMMUNICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

None

PUBLIC HEARINGS

MONTGOMERY COUNTY

FY 07 Action Plan – To Receive Comments on Housing and Community Development Needs Within Montgomery County Related to Spending CDBG, HOME and ESG Funds. (Presented by the County)

Tawana Jones gave a brief presentation of the CDBG, HOME and ESG programs. She listed some of the projects they've funded in the area and in surrounding cities. She talked about some of the projects that County Corp has participated in and concluded by asking for questions or comments on Housing and Development Needs in West Carrollton and/or Montgomery County.

Ms. Jones stated that Mr. Norton and Maureen Parsons work very hard on their projects and also thanked Mr. Williams for all his hard work and indicated that he had served on one of their boards for the past 10 years.

Kathy Perkins indicated that she was very appreciative of their work and what they've done for the Taste of Elegance. She stated that she couldn't say enough about this program.

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Mayor Gilman indicated that this is a very beneficial program to West Carrollton. She stated that the program benefits the area and encourages homeowners to make improvements to their own homes after they see improvements on a County Corp home. She stated that it is a great partnership for us and very important to our community.

Mr. Williams stated that this is one of the best programs that Congress has provided to the communities. He indicated that this funding assists and strengthens the communities. He thanked Tawana and indicated that she has a very professional team. He stated that he appreciated all Tawana's efforts and work. He concluded by stating that many neighborhoods have benefited from this program.

Linda Lotspaih stated that the Curb and Sidewalk program is a great program and she had recently had a resident comment on how happy they were to have the new curbs.

Tawana Jones indicated that this program is a great partnership with staff, contractors and many other people.

COMMENTS BY THE AUDIENCE

Bill Marsh

Stated that for the past 6 months he has been limited to watching the council meetings at home and stated that the last meeting hit the pits on the sound system. He stated that he couldn't hear the meeting and every time a councilmember turned their head he couldn't hear what they said. He stated that this sound system is very bad.

Mayor Gilman stated that they are aware of the problem and it is being worked on.

Mr. Marsh asked if anyone double checks the information that is put on the website for accuracy. He stated that he had clicked on the link for the agenda for tonight and it pulled up the agenda for the Special Meeting on July 3.

Mr. Williams stated that the person who normally does this was on vacation and he was out on Friday but the agenda was supposed to be posted to the website on Friday. He indicated that he would check with staff about this.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

ORDINANCE #3346

An Ordinance Amending Section 150.05, Plan Review Fee Schedule for Construction Under the Ohio Building Code, Section 150.06, Plan Review Fee Schedule Under the Residential Code of Ohio, Section 150.07, Permit Fee Schedules, and Section 150.61, Permit, Plan, and Inspection, of the Code of Ordinances.

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Mr. Sanner motioned, seconded by Mr. Bowers to approve Ordinance #3346. A roll call vote was taken: Mr. Sanner – yes, Mr. Bowers – yes, Mrs. Jones – yes, Mr. Robinson – yes, Mayor Gilman – yes, Linda Lotspaih - yes.

ORDINANCE #3347

An Ordinance Amending Chapter 157, Fees for Land Usage Applications, of the Code of Ordinances.

Mr. Robinson motioned, seconded by Mrs. Jones to approve Ordinance #3347. A roll call vote was taken: Mr. Sanner –yes, Mr. Bowers –yes, Mrs. Jones –yes, Mr. Robinson –yes, Mayor Gilman –yes, Linda Lotspaih -yes.

NEW BUSINESS

ORDINANCE #3348

An Ordinance Amending the Fee for Handling a Check Not Honored by the Bank.

Mayor Gilman indicated that the bank charges money for checks issued to us that are not honored and this is just to cover those fees.

Mr. Sanner motioned, seconded by Mrs. Jones to dispense with the second reading of Ordinance #3348. A roll call vote was taken: Mr. Sanner – yes, Mr. Bowers – yes, Mrs. Jones – yes, Mr. Robinson – yes, Mayor Gilman – yes, Linda Lotspaih - yes.

Mr. Sanner motioned, seconded by Mr. Bowers to approve Ordinance #3348. A roll call vote was taken: Mr. Sanner – yes, Mr. Bowers – yes, Mrs. Jones – yes, Mr. Robinson – yes, Mayor Gilman – yes, Linda Lotspaih - yes.

REPORTS BY OFFICERS

Mr. Williams thanked everyone who participated in making the 4th of July Festival a big success. He indicated that it had been a very well attended event and that everyone seemed to have a great time. He stated that the fireworks was a beautiful display and thanked staff, the Police Department, the Fire Department, the Parks Department, and the Street Department for their work on the Fireworks and the 4th of July Festival.

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He indicated that he had advised council at the last meeting, during the executive session that he is retiring. He thanked the citizens for the opportunity to serve them and stated that it has been a great experience and a long ride. He indicated that he was appreciative to everyone. He indicated that the people here are wonderful and West Carrollton is a great place. He indicated that he plans on staying here after he retires. He stated that it's been a pleasure and wanted to make sure that council had adequate time to find a replacement and he will do everything he can to assist them in finding a replacement.

UNSCHEDULED BUSINESS

Mr. Bowers motioned, seconded by Mrs. Jones to appoint Colleen Smith to the Planning Commission and Kurt Hoying to the Personnel Appeals Board. A roll call vote was taken: Mr. Sanner – yes, Mr. Bowers – yes, Mrs. Jones – yes, Mr. Robinson – yes, Mayor Gilman – yes, Linda Lotspaih -yes.

COMMENTS BY AUDIENCE

Mr. Kouseff

Asked God to watch over the troops over seas and bring them home safely. He indicated that while he had been enjoying the fireworks on the 4th of July he was thinking about the military who are serving their country and stated that he hoped that next year we could all celebrate the 4th of July together.

He stated that the economy is very bad right now and he was glad to see that the Delphi employees were taking a pay cut to keep the plant open. He indicated that this was the first step in rebuilding the economy and we all need to keep making the changes.

Rebecca Lucas

Addressed the issue of RTA bus route 18 again. She indicated that she was concerned that we were taking away a valuable service to residents in that area and asked council to reconsider holding the public hearing. She indicated that she still sees people at the bus stops and stated that if Route 18 changes she felt that it would be doing a great disservice.

COMMENTS BY COUNCIL

Mr. Sanner thanked everyone involved in the 4th of July Festival and extended a special recognition to Mr. Bowers, Mrs. Jones, Mr. Robinson and Mrs. Fryman for all their work as well. He then asked for an executive session after the work session.

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Mr. Bowers indicated that almost 4,000 people attended the 4th of July Festival and they are starting to gain fame. He thanked the city staff who made everything possible. He stated that the Historical Society would be set up in the lobby at the next meeting and they would have proofs and galleries of the history of West Carrollton for people to look at. He reminded the residents that the West Carrollton Library would be holding a Harry Potter party on July 20th.

Mrs. Jones indicated that the 4th of July had been a beautiful day and the rain had held off. She thought it had been a huge success and the kid's part, sponsored by the West Carrollton Church of the Nazarene, was always packed. She thanked the staff for all their work and the Police Department for parking all the cars. She stated that the fireworks had been beautiful.

Mr. Robinson stated that the 4th of July Festival was awesome and they had originally arranged to have the Wright "B" Flyer fly over but they were told it was too windy. He indicated that they would have it fly over some other time. He stated that he hoped everyone in West Carrollton realized what great restaurants we have and now we have a new one, Margarita Village. He urged residents to visit the restaurant, the décor is fabulous, and the food is great.

Mrs. Lotspaih thanked Sherry Callahan for all her work on the city's team for the Relay for Life. She stated that she'd heard their basket went for the most money at the silent auction. She indicated the City Beautiful Commission had given out the flower awards, they only had 25 signs this year, but the signs are now out in the winner's yards. She congratulated all the winners and thanked everyone who planted flowers this year. She stated that hopefully they would have more signs next year. She stated that the winners of the most patriotic homes were 847 Heincke, 327 Cottage and 223 Wilson Park Drive. She thanked everyone for all their hard work in making the 4th of July Festival a success and thanked Moraine for helping us with the fireworks.

Mayor Gilman stated that she felt the RTA service on Central and Elm Street should be maintained. She indicated that at the last meeting she had made a motion to have a public hearing on this issue and no one seconded. She asked Council if they wanted to explain what their reasons were.

Mr. Robinson indicated that this issue had been discussed, researched, they'd met with RTA officials who indicated that ridership on this route is almost non-existent. He stated that they have residents who complain about having the bus going up Elm Street with no riders and RTA originally wanted to change this route and he is in favor of letting it be changed.

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Mayor Gilman stated that she has had letters and calls from people who rely on this service and she is sympathetic to trying to keep the route as it is.

Mrs. Lotspaih said that she had a comment from someone at the festival and she stated that she thought that it was going to stay on Central and loop around Slonaker.

Mr. Robinson stated that RTA indicated that this would require an additional 6 minutes and that there was no way this could be done.

Mr. Bowers stated that RTA did indicate that they were looking at different options to service this area.

Mayor Gilman stated that she had called RTA asking about Project Mobility and had been told that the rider would have to live within $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile from an existing bus stop. If the route is changed this will eliminate some residents from being able to use Project Mobility.

Mr. Sanner asked if RTA had said they were looking at ways they could service Central Avenue.

Mr. Williams indicated that they had said they were looking at different options, but no final word yet on what options they can offer.

Mayor Gilman stated that the Exit 47 meeting was well attended with about 100 people in attendance. She stated that it had been a good presentation and thanked ODOT for their work and their presentation. She thanked Sherry Callahan for all her work on organizing the city's team for the Relay for Life and thanked everyone who participated.

Mayor Gilman thanked staff and the 4th of July Festival Committee for all their hard work in organizing another successful and fun event. She indicated that the VFW 4438 had recognized 5 veterans and thanked them for their work and participation in the 4th of July Festival. She indicated that July 20th would be National Small Cities and Towns Day and read the proclamation. She indicated that on July 11, 2007, The Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission (MVRPC) will host an *"It All Adds Up to Cleaner Air Phone-A-Thon"* in conjunction with the Regional Air Pollution Control Agency (RAPCA) on Wednesday, July 11, 2007, from 5:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. in the WDTN (Channel 2) studios. Residents can call (937) 293-0200 or toll-free 1-888-236-1334 and ask their air quality-related questions of the experts.

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RECESS

Mayor Gilman motioned, seconded by Mr. Sanner to recess to an a work session to discuss the items on the agenda, to be followed by an executive session, as requested by Mr. Sanner as per Ohio Revised Code 121.22 Section G1. A unanimous roll call carried the motion.

WORK SESSION

Sherry Callahan, Human Resources Manager, reviewed with city council the position announcement to be placed with ICMA and distributed throughout Ohio through OCMA for advertising the opening for a new city manager. After discussing matter council authorized Sherry to proceed with placing this announcement. Following discussion of this matter Sherry Callahan left.

TAX INCREMENT FINANCING

Economic Development Director, Kathy Perkins, introduced Brenda Wehmer and Shaundra Suggs who are attorneys with Peck Shaffer in Cincinnati. Attorney Brenda Wehmer proceeded to brief council on the use of Tax Increment Financing districts to finance infrastructure improvements. It was noted that the use of a TIF could be used in conjunction with the development that is anticipated in the vicinity of I-75/Exit 47 as possibly other areas in the city. City Manager Williams suggested that the city take a hard look at the numbers for the possible creation of a TIF on the former Ramada Inn site which the city anticipates will be developed by CarMax and also on the site formerly occupied by Woody's Market which will be the home of Elé Cake Baking Company. City council concurred that the city should take a hard look at these two locations. Williams noted that staff would prepare the necessary analysis to determine the feasibility of creating TIF's at these two locations.

Following discussion on this matter Kathy Perkins, Brenda Wehmer and Shaundra Suggs left.

QUARTERLY FINANCIAL REPORT

Finance Director Tom Reilly and City Manager Williams reviewed with city council the financial report for the second quarter for 2007. Concern was expressed about the lagging revenues and the anticipated drawdown from the general fund in 2007. Following discussion on this matter Tom Reilly left.

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FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION

City Manager Williams reviewed with city council a proposal from the Football Association to build a new concession stand/restroom building at Harmon Field. After reviewing this matter city council said they had no objections to the proposed building that would be built at the cost of the Football Association with assistance from the city with regards for providing a water and sewer service line to the facility. It was noted that the restroom facilities should be shared by all who use Harmon Field.

WEST CARROLLTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY HOME

City Manager Williams reviewed the recent discussions he had had with the West Carrollton Historical Society concerning their financial status with regards to maintaining the historical home on Central Avenue. It was the consensus of city council that the Historical Society should continue to provide financial support the various costs related to this home or should consider possibly allowing the home to be returned to the city if they cannot afford to maintain the utility costs and other related costs. Williams noted that the Historical Society indicated they would make an effort to raise the funds from private businesses and possibly other sources in order to help subsidize their cost of maintaining the historical house.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mayor Gilman moved and seconded by Councilmember Jody Jones to recess to an executive session. Following the executive session the city council reconvened into regular session and a motion was made for adjournment.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the motion to adjourn was made by Councilmember Jim Bowers and seconded by Councilmember Jody Jones and the meeting was adjourned at 9:53 p.m.

MAYOR

CLERK OF COUNCIL