

## WEST CARROLLTON CITY COUNCIL REGULAR

April 8,

08

PRESENT: Mayor Sanner, Councilmembers Jim Bowers, Angie Fryman, Jim Folker, Linda Lotspaih, Harold Robinson; City Manager Brad Townsend; Law Director Lori Kirkwood; Service Director Rich Norton, Finance Director Tom Reilly, Director of City Planning Greg Gaines, Public Relations Coordinator Erika Mattingly, Deputy Chief Woodard, and Assistant Clerk of Council Alicia Norton.

EXCUSED: Councilmember Jody Jones

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Sanner. The Pledge of Allegiance and Roll Call followed.

### MINUTES

Mrs. Lotspaih motioned, seconded by Mrs. Fryman to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of March 25, 2008. A roll call vote was taken: Mr. Bowers –yes, Mr. Robinson –yes, Mayor Sanner –yes, Mrs. Lotspaih –yes, Mrs. Fryman –yes, Mr. Folker –yes.

### PUBLIC HEARINGS

None

### COMMUNICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

None

### COMMENTS BY THE AUDIENCE

#### Mr. Kouseff

Asked God to watch over the troops and bring them home safely. He stated that everyone was worried about the economy, and encouraged everyone to purchase American made products and support their country.

#### Mr. Marsh

Stated that the sound system is very much improved for the residents watching at home. He indicated that he and many other people were against the sewer rate increase. He asked if the Police Department and the Fire Department have looked into buying city vehicles other than Crown Victoria's for better fuel consumption. He also asked if the city had ever looked into picking up their own recyclables and saving money there. He addressed the issue of traffic light cameras and stated that he felt this was a source of lost revenue and we should implement traffic light cameras. He stated that there was a new business that wanted to

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come into town, Sonic, and asked why council can't just vote on it and be done with it. He stated the residents elect the council members, not the Planning Commission members.

Mr. Robinson stated that all the questions were good questions, and city staff would be sure to get back with him on them. He stated that they were getting ready to address the sewer rates, and that they were going to be installing traffic light cameras in the near future. He indicated that there would be a press release issued to the public concerning this issue.

Mr. Townsend addressed the issue of Sonic moving into the city, and stated that there is a zoning requirement and it is a matter of law that zoning issues have to go through these procedures. He indicated that council would be considering the matter at the next council meeting.

### UNFINISHED BUSINESS

#### ORDINANCE #3382

An Ordinance repealing Section 50.03 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of West Carrollton and adopting a new Section 50.03, said section being entitled "Sewer Rates Within the City."

Mr. Townsend gave a brief update on the necessity of the sewer rate increase, stating that the rates hadn't been increased in 15 years. He stated that city staff had done a great job being stewards of resident's money, but the cost of everything had gone up and without a rate increase the funds would be completely gone by the year 2010. He went over some of the maintenance and upgrades that the rates would pay for. He stated that the rate increase would mean an \$8/month increase for the minimum user and \$12/month for the average user, but our rates would still be in the bottom 1/3 of other area communities. He stated the rate increase would go into affect the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter, but residents probably won't feel the full increase until the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter. He indicated that staff recommends moving forward with the rate increase.

Mrs. Fryman asked if the alternative was to go to the County sewer, and Mr. Townsend replied it was. Mrs. Fryman stated that she and Mr. Bowers are currently on that system, and it's much higher rates.

Mr. Robinson stated that no one wants to pay higher rates, but all costs have gone up since 1993. He stated that city staff had done an excellent job managing city funds. He stated that he was going to vote in favor of the rate increase.

Mrs. Fryman motioned, seconded by Mr. Folker to approve Ordinance #3382. A roll call vote was taken: Mr. Bowers –yes, Mr. Robinson –yes, Mayor Sanner –yes, Mrs. Lotspaih –yes, Mrs. Fryman –yes, Mr. Folker –yes.

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**NEW BUSINESS**

None

**REPORTS BY OFFICERS**

Mr. Townsend indicated that it was time to renew the Block Grant Funding through the county and unless council advised him otherwise, he was going to go ahead and renew.

**UNSCHEDULED BUSINESS**

None

**COMMENTS BY AUDIENCE**

None

**COMMENTS BY COUNCIL**

Mr. Robinson stated that he had addressed the issue of multiple users with one meter, receiving multiple bills before, and asked for an update.

Mr. Norton responded that they had done a computer study, and they still had 3 cases to resolve and they are currently working on these cases. He indicated that there are 3 or 4 other cases that are similar that he would like to talk about in a work session and get council's directions on how to handle.

Mr. Robinson asked for an update on the West Carrollton Farmersville Road issue.

Mr. Norton responded that we are in the third month of a 4-6 month process, but it's moving along and they hope to have some sort of response by the end of the month. He indicated that they may need more data, but they should hear something soon.

Mr. Robinson asked for an update on the dumpster enclosure inconsistencies.

Mr. Gaines responded that property maintenance staff is currently working on this issue. They have looked at dumpsters that need repairs, and have issued correction orders and these are in the process of being corrected.

He stated that they are currently looking at the remaining dumpsters with no enclosures and they took a more cautious approach, since they were unsure if these might be grandfathered in. He stated that 13 out of the remaining 46 had specific requirements, and they would be

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receiving a correction order. He stated that they would look into the grandfather issue and determine if the rest were grandfathered in. He stated that if council wanted they could take a more aggressive approach, and just require that everyone have an enclosure.

Mr. Townsend indicated that Ms. Kirkwood would need to look at this issue as well to make sure they are on firm ground before we make anyone comply.

Mr. Robinson indicated that he would be in favor of a more aggressive approach and would look for a report on this in a couple of months.

Mr. Robinson indicated that the Gibbons Road closure had caught everyone off guard, and stated that perhaps staff had not communicated this to the public efficiently. He asked about the walking bridge and asked for an update at the next meeting.

Mr. Sanner asked why the minimum usage on the water bill is 10,000 gallons. He had been told there was an Ordinance enacted in 1973 making the minimum 10,000 gallons. He asked staff to look into why the minimum is 10,000 gallons, and if it could be lowered.

He asked about the dumpster enclosure issue, stating that there was a condo association that would like to remove the doors to the enclosure and asked if they would be able to do this.

### RECESS

Mayor Sanner motioned, seconded by Mrs. Lotspaih to recess to an Executive Session as Per Ohio Revised Code 121.22 Section G3 to be followed by a Work Session to discuss the items on the agenda. A unanimous roll call carried the motion.

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**WORK SESSION**

PRESENT: Mayor Sanner, Councilmembers Jim Bowers, Angie Fryman, Linda Lotspaith, Harold Robinson; Jim Folker, City Manager Brad Townsend, Law Director and Finance Director Tom Reilly.

Mr. Paul Stubbins from RBC Capital markets was on hand to make a presentation on the services provided by his company and the current status of the debt financing market. Following his presentation, Mr. Stubbins left the work session.

Mayor Sanner presented a second draft of proposed rules of council. Mr. Robinson offered several amendments for consideration. The City Manager will have the Assistant Clerk of Council make the appropriate suggested changes and provide a third draft for council consideration at a future work session.

**ADJOURNMENT**

At the conclusion of the session, Councilmember Robinson moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Councilmember Jim Bowers. The motion was approved and the meeting was adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

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MAYOR

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CLERK OF COUNCIL