

WEST CARROLLTON CITY COUNCIL REGULAR

MARCH 25,

08

PRESENT: Mayor Sanner, Councilmembers Jim Bowers, Jim Folker, Angie Fryman, Jody Jones, Linda Lotspaih, Harold Robinson, City Manager Brad Townsend, Law Director Lori Kirkwood, Police Chief Rick Barnhart, Deputy Police Chief Doug Woodard, and Finance Director Tom Reilly.

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

MINUTES

Mr. Folker and Mr. Bowers noted corrections to the March 11, 2008 and February 26, 2008 minutes respectively.

Mrs. Jones motioned, seconded by Mrs. Fryman to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of March 11, 2008 with the noted changes and amend the February 26, 2008 regular meeting minutes. The minutes were approved with the following vote: Mr. Folker – abstain, Mr. Bowers –yes, Mrs. Jones –yes, Mr. Robinson –yes, Mayor Sanner –yes, Mrs. Lotspaih – yes, Mrs. Fryman –yes.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

None

COMMUNICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

Occupational Therapy Month Proclamation

Mayor Sanner read a proclamation declaring the month of April 2008, as “Occupational Therapy Month” in the City of West Carrollton.

Mr. Willis Blackshear – Montgomery County Recorder Housing Foreclosures Presentation

Willis Blackshear explained that home foreclosures have become a crisis not only locally but also nationally. One of the main culprits is the adjustable rate mortgages (ARM) adjusting higher generating elevated mortgage payments. Mr. Blackshear gave a few examples of how families have been losing their homes in the region which totaled 162 in West Carrollton last year. Mr. Blackshear wanted to be able to educate and provide options for families. One such avenue for assistance is the program “Home Safe” that the County runs

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in conjunction with County Corp. They have identified high risk mortgages and sent out letters to those families offering help. Unfortunately only about 10% responded. Mr. Blackshear pointed out that this is a real problem for schools as well as state and local governments because it erodes the real estate tax base.

Mr. Robinson asked what a person should do if they receive a letter from a mortgage company. Mr. Blackshear stated that most mortgage companies/lending institutes will work with the borrowers but many wait until it is too late. He explained families will have many more options if they ask for help early.

Mayor Sanner added that unfortunately pride gets in the way of many people asking for help.

Mr. Blackshear recommended looking at sheriff sales in the paper to get a feel for what is occurring in your community. He noted that the county was projecting setting a new record of 6,200 properties going to foreclosure this year. He finished by leaving informational pamphlets and contact numbers for assistance.

COMMENTS BY THE AUDIENCE

Mr. Joseph Koussa asked for everyone to keep our troops in their prayers. He also noted examples of all the foreign products Americans purchase and use in their daily lives. He finished with stating "Bring manufacturing jobs back to the USA."

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

ORDINANCE #3381

An Ordinance to make appropriations for current expenses and other expenditures of the City Of West Carrollton, State Of Ohio, during the fiscal year ending December 31, 2008, amending Section 2 of Ordinance 3378, and repealing any ordinances in conflict herewith, and declaring an emergency.

Mr. Reilly explained that the main change in the budget is the revised projected cost of the civic center roof. Most of the other adjustments involved administrative house keeping.

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Mr. Robinson motioned, seconded by Mrs. Fryman to approve Ordinance #3381. The ordinance passed per the following unanimous vote: Mr. Folker – yes, Mr. Bowers –yes, Mrs. Jones –yes, Mr. Robinson –yes, Mayor Sanner –yes, Mrs. Lotspaih – yes, Mrs. Fryman – yes.

ORDINANCE #3382

The first reading of the 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.”

RESOLUTION 7-2008

A Resolution accepting recommendations of the West Carrollton Tax Incentive Review Council (TIRC) resulting from its 2007 Annual Enterprise Zone Program Agreement Review.

Mr. Townsend noted that this group reviews the enterprise zone agreements. He added both agreements are in good standing and were approved by TIRC. Mr. Townsend named individuals on the board including Linda Gum, Ed Holdren, Steve Naas, Tom Reilly, Jack Keister, Karl Keith, Dr. Rusty Clifford, Dr. Dallas Jackson, Dr. Norris Brown, and Dr. John Boggess. He also explained that the next resolution pertains to the City’s review council.

Mr. Robinson motioned, seconded by Mr. Folker to approve Resolution 7-2008. The resolution passed with a unanimous vote: Mr. Folker – yes, Mr. Bowers –yes, Mrs. Jones – yes, Mr. Robinson –yes, Mayor Sanner –yes, Mrs. Lotspaih – yes, Mrs. Fryman –yes.

RESOLUTION 8-2008

A Resolution Accepting the Report of the Community Reinvestment Area Housing Council (CRAHC) Concerning the Status of Certain Properties Currently Receiving Tax Exemptions.

Mrs. Fryman motioned, seconded by Mrs. Jones to approve Resolution 8-2008. The resolution passed with a unanimous vote: Mr. Folker – yes, Mr. Bowers –yes, Mrs. Jones – yes, Mr. Robinson –yes, Mayor Sanner –yes, Mrs. Lotspaih – yes, Mrs. Fryman –yes.

REPORTS BY OFFICERS

City Manager Brad Townsend stated that Dixie Excavating was the best and lowest bidder for Gibbons Road project. He added that it was under budget and expected construction to start soon. Mr. Townsend reported on NLC conference in Washington D.C. he and Jim Folker attended. He reiterated that the housing foreclosure crisis was the number one topic

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at the conference. He explained that it is estimated that 50% of all foreclosures could be avoided if the borrower would call the lender. Therefore informing the public is critical. Mr. Townsend said that another large mortgage rate adjustment is coming this year. Mr. Townsend briefly mentioned the GM bus trip and introduced the new economic development director Bill Covell. Mr. Townsend noted that the City of West Carrollton will have one of the best economic development programs in the valley with Mr. Covell aboard.

UNSCHEDULED BUSINESS

None

COMMENTS BY AUDIENCE

None

COMMENTS BY COUNCIL

Each member of council welcomed Bill Covell and thanked Willis Blackshear for his presentation.

Mr. Folker added to Mr. Townsend's comments about the National League of Cities conference. He said it was very interesting and informative. Mr. Folker reiterated the importance of the housing crisis on a national level. He also added he and Mr. Townsend met with Senator Voinovich, Senator Brown, and Representative Turner's offices to keep pressure on project funding needs. Mr. Folker finished by stating the Holes Creek project has a high probability of receiving funding.

Mr. Robinson discussed the sewer rate adjustment. He noted that it hadn't increased for fifteen years since 1993. He asked residents to consider all of their other bills (gasoline, DPL, phone, etc.) and how much they have gone up over that time. Mr. Robinson said that even with the adjustment, our rates are still in the bottom third in the County. Mr. Robinson also reported that the MVRPC is holding meetings about the bikeway in the region. He added that we are so lucky to have this resource come right through West Carrollton that offers a wonderful opportunity for exercise, outstanding restroom facilities, and parking. He continued reporting as West Carrollton's MVRPC representative on the MVRPC integrated land use vision study. They will be requesting a resolution from West Carrollton supporting the study. Mr. Robinson stated that for the long term interests of all residents of this region,

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it is an extremely worthwhile project. Mr. Robinson then spoke about the Mad River whitewater project reported in the paper. He called the Miami Valley Conservancy District to see how that affected the funding for our project. They assured him that these are two separate projects and would not negatively impact West Carrollton. He finished by saying the economic development was the number one priority for the City and was so excited to welcome Bill Covell to the team.

Mayor Sanner noted the General Motors bus trip was helpful. The GM executives were impressed with the regions representation and laid the ground work for a new line of vehicles to replace the current vehicle line closing in 2010. He pointed out the bus ride up to Detroit with local representative was interesting and a great opportunity to network.

RECESS

Mayor Sanner motioned, seconded by Mrs. Lotspaih to recess to a Work Session to discuss the items on the agenda followed by an executive session Pursuant to ORC 121.22, Section G (1) and G (2) to consider the appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion or compensation of a public employee or official and to consider the purchase of property for public purposes. A unanimous roll call carried the motion.

Council adjourned.

WORK SESSION

PRESENT: Mayor Sanner, Council members Jim Bowers, Jim Folker, Angie Fryman, Jody Jones, Linda Lotspaih, Harold Robinson, City Manager Brad Townsend, Police Chief Rick Barnhart and Deputy Police Chief Doug Woodard.

Mr. Steve Reeves, President of P & R Communications, presented a overview to the City Council of the new wireless point to point canopy system. This system would provide a secure wireless network for data sharing a telephone communications between all the City's facilities. This project is presented as accost effective alternative to renting fiber optic cable from Time Warner. The general consensus of council was to proceed with the project. The City Manager was directed to review the proposed maintenance agreement and provide a schedule for implementation of

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the project as soon as possible. Following his presentation, Mr. Reeves left the work session.

Mr. Joe Moore of Redflex Traffic Systems presented a proposal to install up to six (6) red light enforcement camera based on traffic and safety need. Redflex has been working with the City since 2005 and has studied several intersections within the City that have high accident rates, The purpose of this program would be to reduce the number of traffic crashes at these intersections, based on a preliminary traffic study.

The general consensus of council was to proceed with the project. The City Manager will issue a letter of intent with Redflex so that they may conduct a preliminary traffic analysis. Then, based on the results of the study, a contract for services will be negotiated and presented for approval by council at a later date. Following the presentation, Mr. Moore left the work session.

With no further business, Mayor Sanner adjourned the work session.

Executive Session

PRESENT: Mayor Sanner, Council members Jim Bowers, Jim Folker, Angie Fryman, Jody Jones, Linda Lotspaih, Harold Robinson, and City Manager Brad Townsend.

Council held an executive session to discuss personnel and property acquisition related matters pursuant to ORC section 121.22, Section G (1) and G (2) to consider the appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion or compensation of a public employee or official and to consider the purchase of property for public purposes.

With no further business, Mayor Sanner adjourned the executive session.

Adjournment

Mayor Sanner motioned, seconded by Mr. Robinson to adjourn the Regular Meeting of March 25, 2008, Voice vote was unanimous, motion carried at 9:45 p.m.

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Mayor

Clerk of Council