**RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS**

Minutes of the Silverton City Council Meeting

Held Thursday, April 16, 2009

The Council of the City of Silverton met for a business meeting in Council Chambers at 6860 Plainfield Road at 7:00 pm on Thursday, April 16, 2009. Mayor John Smith called the meeting to order.

**OPENING REMARKS:**

Mayor Smith led a moment of silent prayer and Silverton Paideia March Student of the Month William Daugherty led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL:**

**Elected Officials:**

* John Smith, Mayor Present
* Willa Garner, Council Absent
* Joyce Glover, Council Present
* Shirley Hackett, Council Present
* Mark Quarry, Council Present
* Frank Sylvester, Council Present
* Dottie Williams, Council Absent

Mayor Smith reported that Mrs. Garner was out of town and Mrs. Williams was ill, so they would not be present at tonight’s meeting. Mrs. Hackett motioned to excuse Mrs. Garner and Mrs. Williams from the meeting. Mr. Sylvester seconded the motion. All members present voted aye.

**Also present:**

* Mark Wendling, City Manager
* Bryan Pacheco, City Solicitor
* Meredith George, Clerk of Council
* Tom Peterson, Finance Director

**REVIEW MEETING AGENDA:**

No changes needed.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PRIOR MEETINGS:**

Mayor Smith presented the minutes from the March 19, 2009 Council Meeting and the April 2, 2009 Workshop for approval. Mrs. Glover motioned for approval of the minutes with any necessary corrections and was seconded by Mr. Sylvester. All present voted aye. Motion carried.

**MAYOR’S COMMENTS AND GUESTS:**

1. Mr. Quarry introduced Mr. William Daugherty, the April 2009 Silverton Paideia Academy Student of the Month. Mayor Smith presented Mr. Daugherty with a proclamation and congratulated him for his excellent school work.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

*Idella Thompson – 6528 Elwynne Drive*

Mrs. Thompson asked if the Census Bureau is currently working in Silverton for the 2010 Census. Mayor Smith stated he believed that they are in town counting addresses. Mrs. Thompson said she has talked to members in the community who have reported that the Census Bureau employees are going door-to-door and speaking with residents. Mayor Smith stated he will get more information and get in touch with Mrs. Thompson.

**OLD BUSINESS AND GENERAL COMMENTS:**

None.

**NEW BUSINESS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

1. City Manager’s Report
	1. *McGrath Consulting Group*

Mr. Wendling introduced Dr. Tim McGrath, Dr. Victoria McGrath and Chief Gary Wieczorek of the McGrath Consulting Group. The McGrath Consulting Group was hired to perform a Leadership and Management Review and Future Communication Center Study for the Silverton Police Department.

Chief Wieczorek began the presentation highlighting the positives of the police department, such as the length of service of the employees, community involvement, and the Block Watch organization. The areas in need of improvement are training, staffing, and leadership. It is recommended that the Chief participate and be more visible in the community, develop an officer in charge program, monitor officer’s activity levels and develop partnerships with neighboring communities.

Dr. Tim McGrath addressed the communications center in his portion of the presentation. Dr. McGrath evaluated the current communications center and outlined four options for Silverton. The options for dispatch are: outsource to Hamilton County, outsource to Deer Park, outsource to Amberley Village, or move the dispatch to a new facility and keep it in-house. Factors considered in the recommendation include: speed in receiving a call, service improvements, staffing, interoperability, depth of service, security, emergency power, cost, walk up traffic, and the temporary holding facility.

Dr. Victoria McGrath evaluated the human resource portion of the police department and made the following recommendations: the civil service regulations should be updated, job descriptions should be revised, a performance evaluation system should be established, and the promotional process should be outlined. Dr. McGrath recommended that the Chief should be removed from civil service and the next Chief should be familiar with modern policing methods and be active in the community. Dr. McGrath also recommended that the City change the way it is calculating overtime, as it is not in line with the Fair Labor Standards Act and is costing the City money.

Dr. Tim McGrath closed the presentation and asked for questions. Mr. Wendling asked how Silverton would establish direct communications with the City of Cincinnati. Dr. McGrath stated that a talk channel could be established and it would allow the two departments to communicate. Mr. Quarry thanked the McGrath Group for their time and asked if there were any communities, similar to Silverton, that have gone through a consolidation. Chief Wieczorek stated there is in area in Milwaukee where 6 communities are working together to consolidate and improve services. Mrs. Hackett thanked the McGrath Group for a very thorough report. Mr. Quarry added the report was not commissioned as part of a witch hunt for any member or branch or the department. Mr. Wendling added that the City had concerns about the leadership of the department, but overall the City has a high quality police department and wants to provide the resources so the officers can do their job to the best of their availability. Mr. Wendling added the report is available in his office for review. Mrs. Glover thanked McGrath for their report and objective recommendations. Mr. Sylvester also thanked McGrath and felt enlightened after reading the report. Lt. Plummer thanked Mr. Wendling for the opportunity to serve as interim Chief. Mr. Sylvester acknowledged Lt. Plummer for being faithful to Silverton and for0 having a genuine concern for all Silverton residents.

Mrs. Glover motioned to accept the McGrath report and take it under advisement. Mr. Sylvester seconded the motion. All members present voted aye. Motion carried.

*1.2 Plainfield/Montgomery Intersection Project*

Mr. Wendling updated Council on the status of the project. The project is very close to complete. The streetscape is finished and the milling, grinding and re-paving should take place in the next week or two. The vacant lot at the corner will be spruced up on April 25th as part of Keep Silverton Beautiful Day. Benken’s Florist will be landscaping the lot and the Silverton Business Association will be painting the two walls that are adjacent to the lot.

1. Clerk of Court Report

Mrs. George gave the March 2009 Clerk of Court Report. Mrs. Hackett motioned for approval and was seconded by Mrs. Glover. All voted aye. Motion carried.

1. Budget Report

Mr. Peterson presented March 2009 Budget Report. Mrs. Hackett motioned for approval and was seconded by Mr. Sylvester. All voted aye. Motion carried.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

1. Councilman Quarry

Mr. Quarry reported that OKI is moving forward with the Brent Spence Bridge project. Mr. Quarry gave Council an illustration showing where the new bridge will be built, which is west of the existing bridge.

Mr. Quarry had no report for HCSWD.

Mr. Quarry reported the Easter Egg took place on April 4 and was a success. The weather was even nice. Mr. Quarry thanked everyone for helping and making the event such a good event. Mr. Quarry thanked Block Watch and the DPSJFD for sponsoring the event.

1. Councilman Sylvester

Mr. Sylvester had no report for the Planning Commission.

1. Councilwoman Glover

Mrs. Glover had no report for the LSDMC, but wanted to announce that there will be a public information meeting on Tuesday, April 21 at 7:00 p.m. The meeting will be at the Mt. Sinai Baptist Church located next door to the Municipal Building. The meeting is for the residents of Silverton and the adjoining communities. Mr. Quarry asked if all the residents adjoining the park would be notified. Mr. Wendling stated that was the impression he was under, but he will follow up.

1. Councilwoman Hackett

Mrs. Hackett reported the Urban Forestry Board will be having its annual Arbor Day Celebration on Saturday, April 25 in conjunction with the Clean-Up Day at the Train Station. There will be a tree planting and proclamation. Benken’s Florist is donating flowers to be planted at the Train Station and the CIC and SBA will be sponsoring a grill out for the volunteers. Mrs. Hackett also reported that the City will be receiving its Tree City USA award and Growth award on Friday, April 17 in Hamilton, Ohio.

**NEW BUSINESS/OPEN DISCUSSION BY ELECTED OFFICIALS:**

None.

**INTRODUCTION OF NEW LEGISLATION:**

Mrs. George gave the first reading of Ordinance 09-3289 An Ordinance Amending Chapters 30 and 31 of the Municipal Code of Ordinances to Eliminate All References to the Defunct Clerk-Treasurer and Senior Assistant Positions.

Mrs. George gave the first reading of Ordinance 09-3290 An Ordinance Amending Chapter 72 of the Municipal Code of Ordinances to Prohibit Pedestrians from Walking in the Roadway Where a Sidewalk is Provided.

Mrs. George gave the first reading of Ordinance 09-3291 An Ordinance Amending Chapter 76 of the Municipal Code of Ordinances to Establish and Inclement Weather Policy.

**AGENDA ITEMS FOR THE NEXT COUNCIL MEETING:**

None.

**MOTION TO ADJOURN MEETING:**

Motion to adjourn was made by Mrs. Hackett and seconded by Mrs. Glover. All present voted in favor. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 8:46 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Meredith L. George

Clerk of Council

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John A. Smith

Mayor

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Mark T. Wendling

City Manager