

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of the Silverton City Council Workshop
Held Thursday, January 4, 2007

The Council of the City of Silverton met for a workshop in Council Chambers at 6860 Plainfield Road at 7:00 pm on Thursday, January 4, 2007. Mayor John Smith called the meeting to order.

OPENING REMARKS:

Mr. Sylvester led in prayer, and Mayor Smith let the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL:

ELECTED OFFICIALS:

ALSO PRESENT:

John Smith	Mayor	Present	Mark Wendling	City Manager
Joyce Glover	Council	Present	Meredith George	Clerk of Council
Shirley Hackett	Council	Present		
Mike Morthorst	Council	Present		
Mark Quarry	Council	Absent		
Frank Sylvester	Council	Present		
Idella Thompson	Council	Present		

Mayor Smith noted that Mr. Quarry was not present and needed a motion to excuse him. Mrs. Glover motioned to excuse Mr. Quarry and was seconded by Mrs. Hackett. All present voted aye. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Mayor Smith introduced Charlie Wallner, Jim Shapiro and Bridgette Raffenberg from Real Estate Investment Association. Mr. Wallner began the presentation by stating they have been meeting with Mayor Smith and Mr. Wendling to discuss a proposal to restore neighborhoods in Silverton. Mr. Shapiro elaborated on the proposal, as the group would like to work with the City in a specific neighborhood to rehab homes.

Mr. Quarry arrived at the meeting at 7:11 pm.

Mayor Smith asked Mr. Shapiro what the next step in the process would be. Mr. Shapiro stated the next step is to work out an agreement with the City and begin identifying houses to target for restoration. Mayor Smith thanked the gentleman for their time and informed them Council would talk at greater length about their proposal.

CITY MANAGER'S WORKSHOP DISCUSSION ITEMS:

1. Woltz Building

Mr. Wendling informed Council that the Woltz Building did sell at auction in November but we do not know who the buyer is. Mr. Quarry stated he would investigate and see if he could find out the buyer.

2. Silverton Avenue Properties

Mr. Wendling reported that the Silverton Avenue properties have been advertised for bids. The bids are due back by 1/12/06 at 4:30 pm.

3. New City Logo
Mr. Wendling presented drafts of a new city logo developed by BT Graphics. The ideas were well received and a discussion followed. Mr. Wendling stated he will e-mail the presentation to Council so that they may look them over in length and we will discuss them further at the next meeting.
4. Business Award Guidelines
Mr. Wendling presented Council with the recent CLG spot survey results regarding guidelines for a business award. Mr. Wendling asked Council to review the results so the topic may be discussed at a future meeting. Mr. Wendling is hopeful that the guidelines will be applicable to the Community Investment Award and to the Spruce Up Silverton program.
5. Andrew Acres Tax Abatement
Mr. Wendling stated the tax abatement issue was researched and we cannot make the abatement retroactive to the resident who has already purchased the new home Hedge Avenue. Mr. Wendling went on to say that tax abatements are generally for existing homes as a way to encourage reinvestment, while new homes generally sell themselves. Mr. Wendling stated Ms. Murdoch asked if the development could be annexed into Cincinnati. Mr. Wendling responded by telling Ms. Murdoch that Silverton would not agree to that, however we would consider swapping the development on Hedge with the existing development on Brandenburg.
6. Property Appraisals / Housing Study
Mr. Wendling reported that the property appraisals and housing study are moving forward and we should have more information in a couple of weeks.
7. Plainfield & Montgomery Road Improvement Project Update
Mr. Wendling reported that representatives of the Carter family have been talking about redevelopment of the Lighthouse property. The City will need to purchase some right of way from the Carters, so that the intersection can be re-aligned. Mr. Wendling remains in contact with the family and will keep Council up to date on any developments.
8. Silverton Paideia School
Mr. Wendling reported that the legislation regarding the charter school issue did not get pushed through like the City had hoped it would. Mayor Smith reported that he received a call from Rep. Schuler and he stated the legislation was not needed. Mr. Wendling stated he was unsure what the situation was and he would follow up with the CPS attorney.
9. Urban Forestry Guidelines
Mr. Wendling stated Council had a copy of the proposed guidelines for the Urban Forestry Board and they mirror the City of Montgomery's plan, which he and Bryan were impressed with. Mr. Wendling asked Council to review them before the next meeting.
10. Mayor's Court Magistrate

Mr. Wendling noted that our regular magistrate, Kevin McDonough, was appointed earlier in the week to a judgeship in Butler County. The appointment is part time, but the appointment may conflict with our Mayor's Court, as both the dockets are held on Wednesdays. Mr. Wendling wanted to make Council aware of the situation, as we may have to make a change in the near future.

11. Benken's Luncheon

Mr. Wendling noted that Benken's Florist is hosting a business luncheon on Wednesday, January 10th at 11:30 and Mr. Wendling will be speaking. Council is invited and encouraged to attend.

12. Miscellaneous

Mrs. Glover mentioned the man standing on Montgomery Road trying to solicit business for the new check cashing business. Mrs. Glover stated it is dangerous as he causes a constant distraction for drivers. Mr. Quarry noted he thought our solicitation ordinance could prevent him from being out there and cited section 113-03 & 04 of our code. Mr. Wendling stated he will have the police department handle the situation tomorrow.

Mrs. Hackett asked if there is any new development with the soon to be vacant Huntington Bank building. Mr. Quarry suggested that the space may be big enough to house the drs/Bonded group who recently left Silverton because they needed more space and additional parking. Mr. Wendling stated they are renting the facility where they are now and he will give them a call.

Mr. Quarry presented Council with a sample resolution commemorating the death of President Gerald Ford and asked Council to consider the resolution for the next business meeting. The actual resolution will go out in the next packet.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mrs. Thompson made a motion for adjournment, which was seconded by Mrs. Glover. All voted aye. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

John A. Smith
Mayor

Mark T. Wendling
City Manager

Meredith L. George
Clerk of Council