



RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS
Minutes of the Silverton City Council Workshop
Held Thursday, October 2, 2008

The Council of the City of Silverton met for a workshop in Council Chambers at 6860 Plainfield Road at 7:00 pm on Thursday, October 2, 2008. Mayor Smith called the meeting to order.

OPENING REMARKS:

Mayor Smith led a moment of silent prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL:

Elected Officials:

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

Also present:

- Mark Wendling, City Manager
- Bryan Pacheco, City Solicitor
- Meredith George, Clerk of Council

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Brenda Middlebrook – 3921 N. Fordham

Ms. Middlebrook addressed Council to report that she attended a planning meeting for the Kennedy Heights and Pleasant Ridge 2008 Winterfest. The meeting took place on September 24 at the Kennedy Heights Arts Center. The event is scheduled for December 5 this year. As in years past, Pleasant Ridge and Kennedy Heights would like Silverton to participate in the event. Participation would consist of luminaries at the corner of Plainfield and Montgomery intersection, horse drawn carriage rides, a tree lighting at the municipal building,

and involving the Silverton businesses. The cost of each carriage is \$900 plus fuel, which is undetermined at this time. The group would also like Silverton to provide two banners that would hang across Montgomery Road: one at Coleridge and one at Plainfield. Ms. Middlebrook emphasized that if Silverton is going to participate we need to inform the planning committee ASAP. The next meeting is on October 8, 2008 at 7:30 at the Kennedy Heights Arts Center. Council thanked Ms. Middlebrook for attending and for reporting back to Council.

CITY MANAGER'S WORKSHOP DISCUSSION ITEMS:

1. Road Salt

Mr. Wendling reported that the last bid results from the Hamilton County purchasing group were back and yet again all the salt companies gave a "no bid". In summary, initially we bid with Hamilton County, who rejected all the bids because they were too high. Next, we went out to bid ourselves and received a "no bid" from all the salt companies. Finally, we went out to bid with the county again, and as reported, received all "no bids". However, after making some phone calls, Silverton was able to negotiate a deal with the City of Cincinnati to buy 300 tons of salt from them for \$124.00/ton. The cost is far greater than we paid last year, but is cheaper than the prices that some other communities in SW Ohio received. Mr. Wendling is hopeful that the price will come down next year. At this point, we just glad to have salt.

2. Municipal Building Project

Mr. Wendling reported that he and Senior Planner JoAnna Brown met with a developer to discuss different options about the municipal building. They are working on a design build proposal and some other ideas. Another meeting is scheduled in the near future. Mr. Wendling will keep Council apprised of any developments in the project.

3. Housing Council Vacancy

Mr. Wendling reported that there is a Housing Council vacancy, due to JoAnna Brown becoming a city staff member. Mrs. Brown is now overseeing the Housing Council as part of her duties with the City. The vacancy needs to be filled soon, so please inform Mr. Wendling or Mrs. Brown if you know of anyone who would be interested in serving. The meetings will be every third Wednesday at 6:00 p.m.

The Council met last week and discussed expanding the CRA to cover the entire City and marketing Silverton to the Real Estate Association.

4. CDBG Funding

Mr. Wendling reported it is time to apply for CDBG funding. The cycle is every three years and generally the City receives between \$125,000 and \$175,000. We will need to decide what projects we would like to submit

and complete the application, as it is due in November. Hamilton County is also receiving an additional \$8 million dollars and communities with high foreclosure rates will be eligible for the funding.

5. CIC

Mr. Wendling reported that Silverton used to have a Community Improvement Corporation (CIC) but it was deactivated earlier this decade. Mrs. Brown researched the issue and discovered that reinstatement was as simple as filing the paperwork along with a \$25.00 fee. We received the certificate earlier this week and the CIC is now active again. The CIC will be particularly valuable as the City begins to redevelop. It can serve as the agent for receiving grants and can also serve as a development authority. Judy Clark has agreed to head the CIC. Council will need to designate a Silverton elected official to serve on the CIC Board. Meetings, most likely over lunch, will be monthly. The CIC will be very useful in the municipal building renovation. Mrs. Williams expressed an interest in serving on the CIC.

6. Business Association

Mr. Wendling reported that Mrs. Brown recently sent out a survey to all the businesses in Silverton and has received about 40 responses. Almost all the respondents expressed an interest in forming a business association. It may be possible to transform Silverton Development, Inc. (SDI) into the Business Association, as the structure is already in place and SDI has 501(C)3 status. Mrs. Brown is working to schedule meetings with other successful business associations to gain perspective on their success. Ultimately, the business association should operate on its own. An initial meeting is being planned for sometime in November.

7. Montgomery Road Improvement

Mr. Wendling reported ODOT has notified him that they have Montgomery Road scheduled for improvement in 2010. On one hand the road is due for resurfacing. On the other hand the state is responsible for the total cost of the project should we revert to village status in 2011. Our estimated local is \$300,000. Deferring to 2013 would provide us time to set aside the monies, but the roadway may not hold out that long without some major spot repair. Mr. Wendling stated he will have an engineer look at it and render an opinion. Mr. Wendling also stated he will contact Joe Cottril with the Hamilton County Engineer's Office to see if Municipal Road Aid funds can be used to help fund the project. Mr. Wendling reported that he and Mrs. Brown have a meeting with OKI to discuss transportation enhancement funds. These are federal funds that are available to make aesthetic improvements.

MISCELLANEOUS

Mrs. Williams asked about the unkempt appearance of the Post Office property, citing weeds and tall grass. Mr. Wendling reported that Mr. Knight has been in contact with the property owner, as the Post Office is not the owner of the property. Mr. Knight informed Mr. Wendling that the property owner does not feel responsible for the upkeep of the property. Mr. Wendling and Mr. Knight strongly disagree. Mr. Knight will cite the property owner to court if necessary.

Mrs. Glover noted that there is a new school operating in the old St. Theresa building. Mr. Wendling reported that the Cincinnati Academy of Excellence is a charter school that moved here from the Cincinnati neighborhood of Roselawn. There are about 180 students enrolled in the school that educates children from kindergarten through sixth grade. Mrs. Glover stated she will contact the school to get more information about the school and the educational program they offer.

Mr. Wendling reported that the saw cutting of the curbs has commenced on Belkenton.

READING OF PENDING LEGISLATION:

Mrs. George gave the reading of 08-3273 An Ordinance Repealing Ordinance 08-3263 Authorizing the City Manager to Enter into a Real Estate Conveyance Agreement with the Board of Education of the City School District of the City of Cincinnati. Mrs. Glover motioned to table the ordinance. Mrs. Williams seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. All members present voted aye. Motion carried.

MOTION TO RETIRE TO EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Mrs. Glover motioned to retire to executive session to consider the purchase or sale of public property per ORC 121.22(G). Mr. Quarry seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. All members present voted aye. Motion carried.

MOTION TO RECONVENE THE REGULAR MEETING:

Mrs. Hackett motioned to adjourn executive session and reconvene the regular meeting. Mrs. Garner seconded the motion. All members present voted aye. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT:

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

Respectfully submitted,

Meredith L. George
Clerk of Council

John A. Smith
Mayor

Mark T. Wendling
City Manager