MINUTES OF PERRYSBURG CITY COUNCIL

MEETING HELD APRIL 20, 2010

Present were Council members John Kevern, Maria Ermie, Joe Lawless, Joe Rutherford, Mike Olmstead and Tim McCarthy (7). Also present were Mayor Nelson Evans; John Alexander, City Administrator; Dave Creps, Clerk of Council and Mathew Beredo, Law Director. Council member Tom Mackin arrived at 7:10 p.m.

Mayor Evans called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Mr. Lawless made a motion to approve the minutes from the April 6, 2010 meeting without reading. The motion was seconded by Mr. McCarthy. Ayes: (6) Nays: (0). Mr. Mackin was not present for this vote.

SPECIAL REPORTS

None

LETTERS, COMMUNICATIONS AND CITIZENS CONCERNS

None

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Mayor's Report

Mayor Evans informed the Council that the Health, Sanitation and Public Utilities Committee information on the Regional Water Study was in their mailboxes for their review.

Mayor Evans informed Council that the City had received a letter from the City of Maumee which shared their interest in splitting the cost of the annual fireworks display 50/50 instead of the usual 45/55 split. This would save the City of Maumee a couple thousand dollars.

The Mayor also stated there would be a discussion about the TARTA Sales Tax issue at the Health, Sanitation and Public Utilities Committee meeting on April 27, 2010 at 4:00 p.m. and there would also be a Committee of the Whole meeting on May 5, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. to discuss this issue.

City Administrator's Report

Mr. Alexander reported that he had spoken with Jon Eckel, Public Service Director, who informed him that the Annual Spring Brush pick up was going very well and should be completed in three weeks instead of the usual six weeks.

Mr. Alexander reported that the CSX had closed the three roadways as stated and they would not need the steel guardrails as previously thought, as curbing and landscaping will be sufficient. The three crossings that were being worked on are now improved and operational.

Mr. Alexander also reported that the City was unsuccessful in receiving the Station Support Grant for a new station and the Assistance to Firefighter Grant.

Finance Director's Report

None

Director of Law

None

President of Council Report

None

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance Committee:

Mr. Mackin read the minutes of the April 13, 2010 Finance meeting and these are attached and made a part of the minutes.

Mr. Mackin introduced **ORDINANCE 68-2010 AUTHORIZING AN AGREEMENT WITH GOODREMONT'S INC. IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED TWENTY-TWO THOUSAND SIX HUNDRED SEVENTY-THREE DOLLARS ($22,673.00) FOR THE PURCHASE OF FOUR (4) COPIERS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY** and moved that the rules be suspended to allow for its reading by number and title only and to dispense with the second and third readings. Seconded by Mr. Kevern. Ayes: (7) Nays: (0). The clerk read Ordinance No. 68-2010 by number and title only. Mr. Mackin moved that Ordinance No. 68-2010 be passed as an emergency. Seconded by Ms. Ermie. Ayes: (7) Nays: (0).

Mr. Lawless asked why the copiers needed to be purchased all at once? Gary Kleinfelter, Information Technology, stated that all of the copiers are seven years or older and that each one has its on set of problems. It is also better pricing to secure all four at the same time.

Ms. Ermie wanted it added to the minutes that the land being sold by the Cemetery Board needs to be sold at auction.

The next Finance Committee meeting is scheduled for May 11, 2010 at 5:00 p.m.

Economic Development:

The next Economic Development meeting is schedule for May 17, 2010 at 6:30 p.m.

Service-Safety:

Mr. Kevern read the minutes of the April 5, 2010 Service-Safety meeting and these are attached and made a part of the minutes.

Mr. Kevern introduced **ORDINANCE 69-2010 AUTHORIZING AN AGREEMENT WITH PERRYSBURG TOWNSHIP REGARDING REIMBURSEMENT OF EXPENSES FOR RESURFACING LAKE VUE DRIVE AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY** and moved that the rules be suspended to allow for its reading by number and title only and to dispense with the second and third readings. Seconded by Mr. Mackin. Ayes: (7) Nays: (0).

The clerk read Ordinance No. 69-2010 by number and title only. Mr. Kevern moved that Ordinance No. 69-2010 be passed as an emergency. Seconded by Mr. Mackin. Ayes: (7) Nays: (0).

Mr. Kevern introduced **ORDINANCE 70-2010 AUTHORIZING A TWO YEAR AGREEMENT WITH THE WOOD COUNTY COMMISSIONERS TO PROVIDE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT SERVICES AT A NET COST NOT TO EXCEED SIXTEEN THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED FORTY-FIVE DOLLARS ($16,945.00) AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY** and moved that the rules be suspended to allow for its reading by number and title only and to dispense with the second and third readings. Seconded by Mr. Mackin. Ayes: (7) Nays: (0). The clerk read Ordinance No. 70-2010 by number and title only. Mr. Kevern moved that Ordinance No. 70-2010 be passed as an emergency. Seconded by Mr. Mackin. Ayes: (7) Nays: (0).

Mr. Kevern introduced **ORDINANCE 48-2010 AUTHORIZING AN AGREEMENT WITH PIERCE MANUFACTURING IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO ECEED THREE HUNDRED NINETY-NINE THOUSAND ONE HUNDRED THIRTY-SEVEN DOLLARS AND FORTY TWO CENTS ($399,137.42) FOR A FIRE ENGINE AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY** and moved that the rules be suspended to allow for its reading by number and title only. Seconded by Mr. Mackin. Ayes: (7) Nays: (0). The clerk read Ordinance No. 48-2010 by number and title only and to dispense with the third reading. Mr. Kevern moved that Ordinance No. 48-2010 be passed as an emergency. Seconded by Mr. Mackin.

Mr. Lawless stated he had received and reviewed all of the reports pertaining to the purchase of a new fire engine and he asked that if the report was correct in stating the fire department had only responded to 17 structural fires in 2009. Chief Klein responded that the report was correct. Mr. Lawless also asked if the fire department needed more engines then there were storage places. Chief Klein responded that there were various places to store the new engine such as the water tower, the new water division building and also the township station. Mr. Lawless asked if the City had agreements with other areas about back up during fires that the department was down an engine and Chief Klein responded that an engine can b rented, but it is not a simple task. Equipment must be installed and training must be done. Mr. Lawless stated that there were one and a half structural fires per month in 2009, why couldn't the present number of engines service this amount. He also stated that he could not support this purchase because he did not see any compelling evidence in the reports to support the purchase. Chief Klein reported that the fire department had been down an engine for maintenance and Township had been down one at the same time. This could create a potential problem with response time to fires. Fire trucks are designed to put millions of miles on them and that using them as a chase vehicle does not shorten their life span. Chief Klein stated he was not comfortable with having only two engines as far as safety for the City's residents is concerned. Mr. Kevern commented that just because the reports give evidence of only 17 structural fires for 2009 that is not a good predictor for 2010. There could be more or less. Ms. Ermie stated that the number of calls has not risen with the growth seen in Perrysburg over the last couple of years. Chief Klein commented that the department has lost pumping capacity with the growth that is still occuring within the City. Mr. Kevern commented that historically the fire department has had three engines. Mr. Mackin asked that if the new engine is purchased when will the fire department receive it and Chief Klein responded in November.

Mr. McCarthy asked if the basis for the purchase of the new engine is for preparation of the new station. Mr. Olmstead responded that the issue to him was the timing of the purchase, relative to monies available and need. Mr. Olmstead did ask how critical the purchase really was. He determined that it is a preferred purchase, but the City is not in any eminent danger if the purchase does not take place at this time. Even though revenue collections are up due to a one time event, the city is still unsure of collections for the remainder of the year. He feels it is prudent to allow the City to ride out the economic times and is leaning towards holding off on the purchase at this time, even if it means the price might go up. Chief Klein responded that he guaranteed that the price would go up $20,000 if Council votes to hold of on the purchase until a later time. The City wants to keep cost down and the fire department needs an engine before a critical problem occurs. They need backup and to rely on surrounding communities for that back up is not a good thing. If the purchase is delayed, once the issue is deemed critical, it could take up to nine months to receive a new vehicle. Mr. Kevern stated that the finances were planned for ahead of time and he does not like the idea of relying on mutual aid agreements with area communities.

Ms. Ermie stated that she relies on data to make her decisions and that she has certainly received more data from Chief Klein then any of his predecessors. The data she has received, though, still lacks the necessary detail to determine the type and number of equipment that is needed. The data does not support the need for a third engine, in her opinion. Why can't the fire department send a less costly vehicle on EMS runs? Chief Klein responded that the problem with sending a small vehicle is the possible delay of people on medic calls In the event of a fire call. He also reinforced his opinion that three people need to be sent on calls. The medics never know what they will walk into and how long it will take.

Mr. Mackin stated that if the Ordinance does not pass it will cost the City an additional $20,000 added to the cost of the engine. During the Service-Safety meeting Mr. Mackin asked Chief Klein if he felt comfortable with the vehicle in question and the response was yes. He would hate to see a chance of risking loss of service to citizens. Our job is to trust, but verify opinions of those who are in charge of recommending the purchases. Mr. Mackin stated he felt it was appropriate to purchase the engine at this time. Just because a new engine would be purchased is not a predictor of getting a new fire station.

Mr. Rutherford asked what the normal time frame was for replacing engines and he was told approximately 15 years and that the Fire Department is getting there with the two present engines. Engine 1 is 13 years old and Engine 2 is 20 years old.

Mr. Lawless stated that if the safety of citizens was being put at risk it would be a different story for his decision, but he wants to make sure his decision is a prudent one. Mr. McCarthy stated that the dilemma for him is what the correct number of engines should be for Perrysburg. The general population for Perrysburg is no longer located in the center of town. A majority of the population is no longer in the center of town and cntinues to move farther out in subdivisions. No one plans to have a fire and now is not the time to step back in buying an apparatus. A new engine will have to be purchased at one time or another. Mr. Olmstead questioned whether or not it was a critical need or a preferred purchase. Just because the fire department has come forward and stated this engine is needed, does Council need to go along with the purchase, and if so, where does it end? Mr. McCarthy responded that it was clearly appropriate and he doesn't want to respond when it is too late. Mr. Mackin stated that in the sense of need the cost is well spent. This is a good business decision that will provide quality service for citizens. Ms. Ermie responded that a smart business decision is keeping safety a priority, but the data does not support the expenditures. Is delaying the decision a bad thing? She suggested that data, if available, might point us toward purchasing a smaller vehicle. Chief Klein stated that if the fire department goes smaller on the size of the engine they will not get ISO credit.

Mr. Kevern stated that the City has provided the police with a new firing range and equipment necessary for them to be ready for anything, even though they have not had to discharge a firearm in many years. Why not trust the Chief's and Safety Director's decisions and the research they have completed in the type of engine to purchase. Mayor Evans stated that he believes that this is a critical purchase. He came to office with three trucks and now the department is down to two which is going backwards. If the decision would be to rely on mutual support from surrounding communities causing even a minute delay could create more fire damage and possible loss of life. Delaying the purchase is doing a disservice to the citizens. He would hate to depend on other communities to service our citizens. He trusts Chief Klein's judgement in this matter. Ms. Ermie asked where on the priority list is getting software to create better statistical data for items such as this. A lot of money has been spent on computers and the City can't get statistics that are needed. With such limited data it is tough to make an appropriate decision. Ms. Ermie also requested that the software for better information data be added to the Finance agenda. Mr. Mackin concluded the discussion by saying that Chief Klein and his group worked hard at coming up with money-saving items for the new engine. It will not have all of the bells and whistles. The truck itself is $400,000 and the necessary equipment is $50,000. He also told Ms. Ermie that her request was something that could be looked into.

The vore was as follows: Ayes: (5) Nays: (2-Lawless and Olmstead).

The next Safety-Service meeting is scheduled for May 5, 2010 at 5:00 p.m.

Recreation Committee:

Mr. Lawless read the minutes from the April 19, 2010 Recreation meeting and these are attached and made a part of these minutes.

The next Recreation meeting is scheduled for May 17, 2010 at 5:30 p.m.

Planning And Zoning Committee:

The next Planning and Zoning meeting is scheduled for May 19, 2010 at 5:00 p.m.

Personnel Committee:

The next Personnel meeting is scheduled for April 27, 2010 at 5:00 p.m.

Health, Sanitation and Public Utilities Committee:

Mr. Rutherford reviewed the minutes of the Special HSPU meeting on April 20, 2010 and these are attached and made a part of these minutes.

Mr. Rutherford introduced **ORDINANCE NO. 71-2010 AUTHORIZING AN AGREEMENT WITH OHIO ECAVATING IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED THIRTEEN THOUSAND DOLLARS ($13,000.00) TO REPAIR A BROKEN SEWER LINE AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY** and moved that the rules be suspended to allow for its reading by number and title only and to dispense with the second and third readings. Seconded by Mr. McCarthy. Ayes: (7) Nays: (0). The clerk read Ordinance No. 71-2010 by number and title only. Mr. Rutherford moved that Ordinance No. 71-2010 be passed as an emergency. Seconded by Mr. Kevern. Ayes: (7) Nays: (0).

The next Health, Sanitation, and Public Utilities meeting is April 27, 2010 at 4:00 p.m.

Other Business

Peter Ermie, , stated that the Council had a good discussion about the purchase of a new fire engine and that it was a tough call. He felt that taking advantage of the mutual aid system would not be enough to stop a fire. He added that train delays would be a more significant hindrance for the fire department in reaching a fire in time considering the amount of tracks and train crossings that are located within City limits.

Mayor Evans made a motion to adjourn at 8:20 p.m. Seconded by Mr. Lawless.

David D. Creps, Clerk of Council | Nelson D. Evans, Mayor