

FINANCE AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

MAY 23, 2016

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Chairman Jim Matuszak. Committee members present were John Kevern, Jim Matuszak and Tim McCarthy. Also present were Dave Creps, Finance Director, Tim Fisher, Deputy Finance Director, and Steve Bronder, Income Tax Commissioner.

QUARTERLY BANKING REPORT

Mr. Fisher distributed the quarterly banking report. He said that there is nothing to report, the city's money is safe, and interest rates are still low.

DISCUSSION REGARDING FOOD TRUCKS

Rick Ruffner said that last month he requested that council propose legislation to limit food truck activity to Woodland Park on Mondays from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. He reminded the committee of the various duties and responsibilities he and other downtown Perrysburg merchants would like to see the food truck operators adhere to. Mr. Ruffner further reminded the committee that he and other merchants have made investments in the community by, among other things, withholding income taxes, paying net profits and real estate taxes. He would like to see the food truck operators subjected to the same or similar regulatory requirements. As an example, he suggested a registration fee in lieu of real estate taxes.

Phil Barone of Rosie's Rolling Chef spoke on behalf of food trucks in general. He explained that the operators have a constitutional right to do business and that to be put somewhere is not fair (e.g., Woodland Park). He talked about the success that they have had in Maumee. He said that he spoke with a few downtown Perrysburg business owners and they are excited about the food trucks. Mr. Matuszak said that he spoke with Bill Anderson and Ty Szumigala and was told that the Maumee Uptown Business Association helps to coordinate and to some extent finances the food truck events as a way to attract people to Maumee's uptown business district. Mr. Matuszak claimed that Perrysburg doesn't seem to have a problem attracting people to its downtown business district. He admitted that the food trucks would in fact benefit the community's general interests by giving consumers more choices, but would also have the potential to adversely affect the downtown Perrysburg merchants' self interests by tapping into the customer base the merchants currently cater to.

Mr. McCarthy said that the food trucks take up parking spots in an area where parking is already a concern. He also expressed his concern that he didn't think the city could prevent the food truck operators from operating in Perrysburg. He did say, however, that he thinks we should be able to require them to register with the city.

Mr. Matuszak said that the committee members have Mr. Ruffner's list of requirements that he would like to see regarding the food trucks and that he will be discussing the matter with the Law Director for her review.

FINANCE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Creps called attention to the list of expenditures greater than \$5,000 for April for the committee's review. There were no items of concern to the committee.

Mr. Creps reported that the balance in the health insurance fund at April 30 was \$488,819.77 which is up slightly from the previous month.

TAX COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

Mr. Bronder reported that the tax division collected \$3.6 million in April which was down 2% from the same period last year. He said that the decrease could be due to timing issues with changes to the due dates mandated by the state for remitting withholdings since the bulk of the decrease is in the withholding accounts. Year to date collections are \$8.4 million which is up 6.5% from last year.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:51 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Matuszak, Chairman
Finance and Economic Development Committee

Next meeting: Monday, June 27, 2016 at 5:00 p.m.