

MINUTES COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING
REYNOLDSBURG CITY COUNCIL
October 20, 2014

Members of Community Development Committee present: Cornelius McGrady, Mel Clemens, Barth Cotner, Chris Long, Scott Barrett and Daniel Skinner

President of Council Doug Joseph was present.

Chairman McGrady called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

Approval of Agenda

Approval of minutes of the Community Development Committee meeting held 10/06/2014.

Discussion: Community Center.

Mr. McGrady: Put that out there to council. Mr. Clemens?

Mr. Clemens: Yes I would like to make a motion that we hold that until the next community development committee meeting.

Mr. Cotner: I second it.

Mr. McGrady: Any further discussion? Can we call roll? Ok. We can just hold that until the next committee meeting. I close the committee meeting at 7:32pm.

Mr. Skinner: Quick question Mac. Should we take a quick yay or nay?

Mr. Long: Yes. You need to do a voice vote on that.

Mr. McGrady: All in favor-Let me go back. Item #4 hold it until next committee meeting-all in favor? All opposed same?

All: aye Motion carries

Mr. McGrady: And I will close the community development at 7:32pm.

Community Development
- - -Melissa Hare, Assistant Clerk of Council
October 20, 2014

MINUTES SERVICE COMMITTEE MEETING
REYNOLDSBURG CITY COUNCIL
October 20, 2014

Members of Service Committee present: Mel Clemens, Scott A. Barrett, Barth R. Cotner, Chris Long, Cornelius McGrady and Daniel Skinner.

President of Council Doug Joseph was also present

Chairman Clemens called the meeting to order at 7:33p.m.

Approval of Agenda

Approval of the minutes of the Service Committee Meeting held 09/15/14

Liquor Permit #14374150990 Chipotle, 7611 Farmsbury Drive

Mr. Clemens: Lt. Wright do we have . . . This has to do with-Am I not mistaken a new permit?

Lt. Wright: No this is actually a continuation. This application is for a new D1 permit at Chipotle. Liquor Control said since they already have a D1 permit for the location they told us that the company is moving the old permit to a new location somewhere in Ohio and getting a new D1 permit so there is no need to try and appeal this at all. They already have a D1 permit and they are just moving that particular permit and trying to get a new one for this location.

Mr. Clemens: So there is no action that needs to be taken? Ok. Onto the next item.

Liquor Permit #87704180090 TGI Fridays Inc., 2928 Taylor Road SW

Mr. Clemens: I know that they have a liquor permit.

Lt. Wright: Yes you are absolutely correct. That one also cannot be appealed because all they are doing is it is a change of ownership within the company. It is going from Carlos Carlson's Restaurant Worldwide Inc. to TGIF Parent Inc. There is no change of ownership of the company they are just different parts of the same company. It is an unappealable action for that as well.

Mr. Clemens: Are there any questions for the Lt. that pertains to this? It will stand as it is and we will take no action.

Discussion: Authorization to Advertise and Prepare Construction Documents for the 2015 Furth Drive Waterline Replacement Project.

Mr. Clemens: This is not my approval deal so you go ahead.

Mike Root: Chairman Clemens and members of council good evening. This is the start of our 2015 waterline project. This will allow us to do engineering survey and to bid it out. We are hoping to bid this out in January and then have a timeframe to open it in February. Award the bid by March so it

will be done early summer to mid-summer. This is about a \$500K waterline project. This is paid for out of the water CIP account.

Mr. Clemens: Are there any questions that pertain to this? Do you cut peoples yards while you are doing this?

Mr. Root: We can tear it up pretty good so that you don't have to cut it.

Mr. Clemens: I will send this to council for its 1st reading. Seconded by Councilman Long. All in favor say aye.

All: Aye Motion carries

Discussion: Authorization to Advertise and prepare Construction Documents for 2015 East Broad Street Tank Improvements.

Mr. Root: This is another project to be paid out of the water CIP account. What we are going to do to the towers is. . . When Columbus built there 2 million gallon tank and we have a 1 million gallon tank. We have not altitude valve on there and the altitude valves purpose is to be able to stop that water level. Without that they can't fill their 2 million gallon tank and our 1 million gallon tank to get 3 million gallons in the air so this will allow it to get to max capacity. Last summer we ran into issues with this and also to be able to adjust the levels for water quality. You want to turn over the tank so often. Along with this project we will be redoing the driveway. We have quite a bit of grass coming up through the blacktop. We are also going to adjust the splash pad. Right now it just kind of drains and fills round the area. We can hook that up to a storm center to get it off site. We are looking at roughly \$200K for this project.

Mr. Clemens: Any questions?

Mr. McGrady: And that is coming in from?

Mr. Root: The water CIP account.

Mr. Clemens: Do you want this as an emergency?

Mr. Root: All 3 of these we are asking for the pass on a 2nd reading just so we can start engineering before the snow starts flying. They will have to get survey crews out there and get that scheduled just to move this along.

Mr. Clemens: I will make a motion that we send this to council for its 1st reading and its 2nd reading is passed as an emergency. Do I have a second? Seconded by Councilman Skinner. All in favor say aye.

All: Aye Motion carries

Discussion: Authorization to Advertise and prepare Construction Documents for the 2015 Brice/Rider & Crest/Nimes Area Sanitary Sewer Project

Mr. Root: This one is on our sewer side and will be paid for from the sewer CIP account. This project is roughly \$300K and what this will be is we will be doing relining of the old sewer lines manhole rehabilitation and some spot repairs throughout the system in the Crest/Nimes area. This is for engineering and going out and getting the bid like the other 2.

Mr. Clemens: Any questions for Mike from members of council? If not I would like to make a motion to send this to council for its 1st reading and passed as an emergency at its 2d reading. Seconded by Councilman Skinner. All in favor say aye

All: Aye Motion carries

Mr. Clemens: Thank you Mike. I will close the meeting at 7:39pm.

Service

- - -Melissa Hare, Assistant Clerk of Council
October 20, 2014

MINUTES FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING
REYNOLDSBURG CITY COUNCIL
October 20, 2014

Members of Finance Committee present: Barth R. Cotner, Chris Long, Mel Clemens, Scott A. Barrett, Cornelius McGrady and Dan Skinner.

President of Council Doug Joseph was also present.

Councilman Cotner called the meeting to order at 7:40 p.m.

Approval of Agenda.

Approval of minutes of the Finance Committee meeting held 10/06/14.

Discussion: Ad Hoc Committee Report (2011); addressing structural imbalance; possible adjustments. Also Discussion: Income Tax Rate Increase

Mr. Cotner: I don't think we really have anything new this evening to discuss on that really . . . yes Sir Councilman Barrett?

Mr. Barrett: Well you know we went last committee meeting and we discussed an adjustment to the tax credit and we had a proposal that was close but no cigar. We are really kind of back to square 1 as far as really addressing the structural imbalance and where we are at.

Mr. McGrady: Where are we at? Are we on number 4 or 5?

Mr. Barrett: We are on number 4. I'd like to keep that tax credit option open because it is really so needed at this point. Mr. Harris would you like to speak on anything regarding this? I know you missed the well actually we missed you more importantly.

Mr. Cotner: Speak for yourself Mr. Barrett. (Laughing)

Richard Harris: Thank you for your continued support. (Laughter) One of these things I think that council has not really discussed much and this is the heart of the problem with where we are at with the city finances. If you look at the Ad Hoc committee report there are a couple paragraphs in here that I think are very germane to what you are talking about.

The city has been balancing its general fund budget for a number of years by working off accumulated reserves and reducing funding for capital improvements. Auditor Harris reported to the committee that the city has historically devoted as much as 15% of its income tax revenue to its CIP fund. In order to balance its operating fund the city has gradually reduced the allocation of income tax revenue devoted to the CIP funds to its current level of 2%.

That 2% puts in about \$250K a year for CIPs. This is the 5 year CIP budget that council passed less than 2 years ago. The next 5 years there are \$40million worth of projects in here and you are funding it with \$250k. At that rate it will take 200 years to get them done.

This practice has enabled the city to kick the can down the road but options no longer viable. Not only is the option of reducing the income tax allocation to CIP no longer viable but the city must ultimately address its CIP needs and deferred maintenance that has accumulated over the past several years. The city must find a balance between funding the general fund operations at an acceptable level and maintaining and expanding its vital infrastructure improvements.

Then over here: The city has been able to get by the last several years two significant developments on the revenue side of the equation have recently transpired that make getting by not plausible without dramatically changing the services delivered by the city government long term. First is part of the state of Ohio budgetary deliberations a source of revenue commonly referred to as local government fund was cut by 25% in 2012 and 25% in 2013. That was \$650K a year that we lost in local government funds. Along with that they came back after that and cut the state fund-the state tax which we got as high as \$350K but most years it was \$250K. That is another \$900K. Folks this is your problem. The operating budget is not the problem. This is the problem. There are streets in this town that are terrible. There are curbs. There are improvements needed in the parks. We've got bridges down in parks that make them unusable. At some point in time this particular problem has got to be reduced. It has got to be taken care of. Every year we are getting further and further behind. This was the reason that 3 years ago Moody's dropped our bond rating down 1 notch because this is not getting taken care of and they know what the option is going to be down the road. You are going to have to come in and borrow \$10-\$15 million dollars to get caught up. That is going to cost you a couple million dollars a year. Just take 3 streets-Livingston Ave from 256 to Brice Road the cost of resurfacing is about \$4 million. Taylor Road, which is our 2nd biggest income tax revenue generator. From 256 to Old Taylor Road-that's 5 lanes most of the way-that is about \$2-\$2.5 million dollars. Taylor Road from Main to Broad runs by The Limited which is our largest tax producer in the city-that is going to be about \$2-\$2.5 million dollars. You are looking at \$8-\$9 million dollars on 3 streets and we don't have the money. I think when you start talking you have got to quit looking at just the operating budget. The operating budget is not the big problem. The problem is we have got to start funding some of this stuff. We have let it go for a long time. At some point in time we have got to start funding this. That's all I have. I will answer any questions if you have them.

Mr. Clemens: Am I correct? We had no street program this year?

Mr. Harris: No. They were going to do the parking lot on that piece of property we acquired on Main Street and take out the things but I don't know if that ever or if they had anybody to bid on it.

Mayor McCloud: Nobody bid on it.

Mr. Harris: Ok. Nobody bid on it because it was late in the year and it was awful.

Mr. Clemens: We had zero for the streets.

Mr. Harris: Other than Brice Road which was done with OPWC money.

Mr. Clemens: I didn't see Nathan back there.

Nathan Burd: Yes I am sorry-not to interrupt but we didn't have any bidders for this fall on the crosswalks. That was going to be about \$420K. We are going to do that in the spring. Keith and I met with MH&T earlier-last week to talk about a 2015 Street Program. I'm not sure how much funding we will have for it but. . . Brice was all we did for street work this year.

Mr. Clemens: Thank you Nathan.

Mr. Cotner: Yes sir, President Joseph.

President Joseph: Yes thank you Chairman. Dick a number of months back when council was talking about putting a tax issue on this most recent November ballot this year it was talked about doing ½% and earmark it for infrastructure. Now if council were to do that again next May how would that affect CIP in the short run and the long run in your opinion?

Mr. Harris: Well \$3 million dollars which is what that is going to produce would do the streets but that is it. Things in parks, buildings, building repairs and those kinds of things there would not be enough money to do that. This building was built in what Mel '87? It has the original boiler in it. It is going to need a chiller. You are talking about \$100K there and the police building is now 15 years old. It's going to need major upgrades and probably the roof will need fixed again. It is not going to give you. . . Have you ever been out to the street barn building? It needs all kinds of work. So does the building where Parks and Rec is over at the old water plant and water department. At some point in time there is going to be a building built out there to house all those because I mean the roofs and stuff are leaking. They use a lot of heat and that kind of stuff. The \$3 million would take care of the streets and that is about it.

Mr. Joseph: So if it was a full percent which would be double that amount and then you'd have enough . . . ?

Mr. Harris: It's actually a little more than that. I think I sent you out a thing a few weeks ago. It is right around \$6 million dollars. \$6 million and some change.

Mr. Joseph: Then you would have those additional dollars?

Mr. Harris: I think in there depending on last time I saw anything from the committee that was formed to look at the rec center. They were looking at \$12-\$15 million dollars. You can go think 30 years on that so you are looking at about a million dollars a year so that would still give you enough at that point to do things that need to be done. If you look on the back page of this that is why they initially went for that in 2011. It was enough money to take care of the city for a long period of time.

Mr. Joseph: How is our bonding doing right now and over the next 5 years? Do we have any big projects that are being paid off?

Mr. Harris: We have one coming out of the general fund that is going to be about \$100k a year. It comes off in either the end of 2015 or 2016. I'd have to look. The problem you have is. . . Well

the 3 biggest ones we have are street scape 1 and 2 and the police building. They are not coming off until 2023-2025.

Mr. Clemens: Ok say if you had the 3 million with a ½% increase and then if you did the 50% reduction of taxes so that would be about another \$3 million. That would bring in about \$6 million. The reason I brought that up is because it is a 2 way deal. If you are talking about a rec center which some of you talked about and you do it through a 1 % increase for the city and the people who work in the city and outside the city that come here-which would be the teachers, the state and The Limited are about the only places you would get the money from. The 65%-70% of them that don't pay a thing to the city of Reynoldsburg will have a rec center and they have paid nothing for it. It doesn't come out of the property tax. If you take the ½% increase and passed that with the 50% reduction on the credit that would make another \$3 million. That would make them both be putting in something for the re center. So that would even up as far as people saying well we are paying for everything for that or that is not paying anything for this. To me that would be the fair way to do it. I'm not going to post it tonight because I don't think tonight is the time to be passing anything. It is something to think about because if we go with a rec center or the 1%-that is the first thing I am going to bring up anyway. I'm in opposition to it so people do know that 65%-75% of the people won't be paying a damn thing for it because it doesn't come out of property tax it comes out of income revenue. The people that live in Reynoldsburg and the teachers and people at the state and people that work at The Limited will be paying for them to have a rec center to go to but anyhow that is just something to think about I'm not asking anybody to vote on something like that tonight but it is something that I did want to bring up.

Mr. Harris: If I can make one more statement on that Mr. Cotner. From talking to people around the state who have passed these in the past-If you are going to put a rec center in the ballot you have to start the campaign in January to put it on for 2016. It is going to take you a year to get the community support and to have a group come in here to do focus groups and that kind of stuff. I have a couple of names from when I was at the GFOA conference of people who were doing this but they are awfully busy now because they are finishing stuff around the state but you need to get somebody on board to start pushing this think fairly quickly. The other thing that you are going to have to come up with fairly quickly in order to do that is some kind of idea what the facility you want to build costs. I know last time I saw it was somewhere between \$12-\$15 million dollars. You need to get some kind of number that is reasonable in order to start working with it.

Mr. Clemens: But . . . that is not what I said. I don't expect the rec center to be on the ballot but I expect the rec center to be part of the ballot. You know what I mean?

Mr. Harris: Yea. It is part of the whole thing. In order to not to just pass the whole income tax if you are going to say that they is going to be a rec center or addition on the senior center or whatever else you are going to say it is going to take you a year really to get people to the point where they are ready to see it on the ballot. If you do it now and start saying stuff in 6 months they think you are just trying to get stuff passed and you are lying to them. They don't have a lot of trust when you are on the ballot. They think you will say anything to get it passed. It is going to take a concentrated effort. Everybody is going to have to be behind it and you are going to

have to get somebody in there who has a plan on how to get it passed and I don't think you are anywhere close to that yet.

Mr. Joseph: Yea Dick just an add on to what you are saying I think you kind of were leading into what I was going to say next which was I don't think that the community . . . that we have any idea whether the community even wants a rec center at this point. We know people in this room want one but do we really know what the citizens want? I think you are right that we need to spend some time and really find out what they want and if it is what they want to make sure that they get it in the way that they want it. I don't think we have nearly the information right now to even know if just throwing something on the ballot and just hoping it sticks is going to get it through.

Mr. Harris: I agree. You are 100% right.

Mr. Joseph: I think it is going to take longer than just a couple months.

Mr. Harris: That is why I said you should start because I mean you should start putting stuff in the water bills about it and that kind of stuff. The Parks and Rec department sends stuff out 3-4 times a year there should be stuff in there about this. All factual and that kind of stuff. Not telling you to vote for it-just what it is. There is a whole plan that needs put together and you are going to have to bring someone in do is and come up with a plan and get the whole thing passed.

Mr. Clemens: Yea I have one more question. You know I am not giving up on the idea that we need more policemen. We need higher pay for employees and we need more employees. It's just not a one thing deal I mean. . .

Mr. Harris: It's comprehensive.

Mr. Clemens: Yea it's got to be together because the people might as well know it.

Mr. Harris: Bottom line is Mel we have to get the story out. Whatever you guys decide what the story is.

Mr. Clemens: Safety is a big issue. Our employees are a big issue. And our staff is a big issue. And what we pay them is a big issue. Whether the people like it or don't like it or don't believe it-it doesn't make a difference to me. We have got to get that in there with the rest of them. In there with the rec center so we can discuss it.

Mr. Barrett: Taking this to the voters for an income tax increase is part 2 of an overall plan. You know first and foremost in my opinion we have to address the structural imbalance that has been around for. . .

Mr. Harris: 14 years.

Mr. Barrett: Thank you. I usually get lost between 12 and 20 depending on what you read. The

income tax adjustment at the polls has proved time and time again ineffective. Just to put it in context on why this community center is even a discussion point is because frankly we are trying to . . . It was my intent to put a little bit more lipstick on it to try and get more community involvement for that means. This council I believe really needs to take some serious consideration in to changing the credit because no matter what happens at the polls-if they vote in or vote out-up or down-if the administration manages any better than they already are-which is clearly doing fantastic. The condition still exists that we don't have enough money to operate. We have a bridge in Quarry Park. . .

Mr. McGrady: Two.

Mr. Barrett: two bridges. That alone plus what Dick has already talked about plus please open your minds to the fact that look at our city in the greater scheme of things. In this central Ohio area and how we owe it to our tax . . . to our residents and our constituents here. We owe them an opportunity to protect their property values and for them to have a shot at anything about having that property you know go up in value over the term of their home. I think the vote last committee meeting was a bit quick. I think there should have been more discussion. And frankly you know after 3 years of sitting up here right now we have got the administration. We've got the money guy for the city and we've got people all supporting this and I'm really interested to hear what's stopping this from going forward.

Mr. Joseph: Councilman Barrett if I could just interject here? With all due respect this has been discussed for a long time. It did pass last year but the Mayor vetoed it. It came back this year and there was a discussion on it. My assessment on it is until you can determine that there is 4 people willing to vote for it having additional discussion is probably pointless because you could bring it back and we could vote it again and you would still see it go down 4-3 so with the current configuration of the council it's not going to pass unless you can individually change the minds of 1 or more council members and that probably should be your focus rather than have additional discussion here you may want to put more focus on talking to individual members. Once you determine that there are 4 people that are willing to reduce that credit then bring the legislation back because at this point I don't think that there are 4 votes and until we do have 4 votes I think we are just spinning our wheels on this issue. If you can get a 4th vote then it has merit to bring it back for additional discussion and moving it forward.

Mr. Barrett: Isn't the idea of the committee meetings the perfect forum to have those discussions or should I have those individually?

Mr. Joseph: Well we have done that so you might want to try a new approach. You may want to talk individually with council members and see if you can appeal to them individually because as a collective it seems like there are 4 individuals that at least at this point in time do not want to go that direction.

Mr. Barrett: I like the idea if nothing else to keep it in front of the community for the fact that if the people are stopping Reynoldsburg from progressing like it is that at least we know who is on what side of the fence.

Mr. Joseph: Well if that is something you really want to pursue and have it on the agenda that would be up to the chairman and the majority of the committee if that is going to be included which again it comes back to that 4 votes again if you want to have that as a formal discussion and obviously you can interject at any point when we are dealing with the structural imbalance issue or even the income tax it could be brought up but as far as a formal topic that is going to need included as a topic item and again without support of the majority of the committee which everyone is on the finance committee so you would have to find that additional individual that wants to have that additional discussion.

Mr. Cotner: Councilman Barrett I have no problem with committee meetings being used to discuss openly. I am 100% in agreement with you on that piece so never will I prohibit something from being added to the agenda. I think it would be great if we had more people here listening and paying attention to it however to say that there are 4 people stopping this community from going forward I take a little bit of resentment on. There is a lot more to what is happening in Reynoldsburg than what 4 people are doing and I have had a lot more conversations then you and I one on one of people adamantly opposed to seeing a tax credit reduction put on to them as well. That is another burden that would be put onto Reynoldsburg that could also hinder its growth and development too of people wanting to come here with a higher tax rate. Things that do help with property tax values are Parks and Rec Programs, community centers. It is not just. . .

Mr. Barrett: I mean come on. Would it be reasonable?

Mr. Cotner: I'm sorry. I didn't mean to interrupt you.

Mr. Barrett: Would it be reasonable to get 3 reasons as to why so we can talk about those in future meetings?

Mr. Cotner: 3 reasons of what?

Mr. Barrett: 3 reasons on why you wouldn't support the tax credit?

Mr. Cotner: Yea. We can talk about it like I said.

Mr. Long: We only need one.

Mr. Barrett: Excuse me?

Mr. Long: We only need one.

Mr. Barrett: I am kind of shooting in the dark right now exactly what is missing or whatever and short of you know spending time outside of council chambers why don't we just talk about it now? That's why we are here right?

Mr. Cotner: Mmmhmmm.

Mr. Barrett: I told you why I support it and I think Mel has done a great job telling you. Dick has done a good job. The Mayor I think has done a good job. Mack has done a good job. Let's get this out. What is stopping it? Chris do you want to start?

Mr. Long: The same comment I made 3 years ago. I believe that the credit is something that needs held in reserve until we are in a position of financial emergency in the city. In my opinion we are not in a financial emergency at this time.

Mr. Barrett: Cool. What would constitute an emergency?

Mr. Long: Police layoffs. Not being able to qualify for state grants and things of that sort. We currently have an OPWC grant that we have applied for. It will come in on Livingston Ave. When do you expect to hear something on that Mr. Burd?

Mr. Burd: Usually it's the week after Thanksgiving-first week of December somewhere around there. They will narrow the list down and it will be finalized mid December.

Mr. Long: I am all for putting it back out on the ballot. I believe that there were a number of individuals up here who spoke adamantly about going to the people on the ballot and didn't do squat when it came down to the campaign.

Mr. Clemens: That's right.

Mr. Long: So if you are going to go ahead and put it back on the ballot and talk here week after week after week at least get out in the neighborhoods and knock on a door or two.

Mr. Barrett: I am guessing you are saying I didn't do that?

Mr. Long: I said others.

Mr. Barrett: Oh ok because it sure didn't sound like that but that's cool. Anybody else? While we are having a constructive discussion right now. Barth?

Mr. Cotner: What is the question Scott?

Mr. Barrett: What's the gap that you see in passing a credit adjustment?

Mr. Cotner: Raising the taxes to a lot of people that are already paying 2 ½ % working in Columbus and living in this community. It is not their fault the way the system is set up. They pay 2 ½%. They are paying their taxes for us to unilaterally choose to raise their taxes. I just don't agree with that. I don't agree that spending just you know with fixing some roads. That is not why our property values are struggling. We have issues in this city that aren't about a road that you know needs some repair work. I agree-we have a lot of them that do. I don't believe that driving down a newly paved Brice Road just raised the property value of someone that has a business there or works there. I don't think that that is the answer to solving the woes of where we are. I think that there are other things that we would like to see put into place that would help

more than raising someone's taxes that has no say in it. I think when we continually heard from people saying they don't want to invest into this community right now for whatever reason so again putting something out there in a different form is what I have supported for a while and I still support. I think there is definite benefits to trying to utilize the recreation center is a way to improving the community image and the community feel. I think than that can obviously increase property values which lead to being able to fix some of those roads and repair projects. It doesn't happen overnight but it's also a sustainable issue. I don't believe that reducing the tax credit is something that we are going to see as an ongoing viable way to fund the city.

Mr. Skinner: I'm next Scott. And I am kind of with these guys on that and I talked about that during my election process and then when we talked about it previously I was one of the guys that said well why don't we consider it a ½% put it on the ballot and why don't we stipulate-what I would like to see us do is I'd like to see us spend a little time prioritizing-just make a list. Is the rec center at #1 on that list? Or are the roads there? Or police? I would like to think about it like your home budget. Let's just pull out a piece of paper and start prioritizing. Priority 1, 2, 3, etc. We will talk about it and open it up for feedback if we feel that that is helpful. I am with these guys in that I don't think the way to fix our problem is to do it without the people. I would rather come up with a vision that lists some priorities and go back to them and I think we should consider the lesser rate not 2.5 but 2. Something new.

Mr. Barrett: Fair enough. Thank you.

Mr. McGrady: It is all inclusive. Roads. Property value. But the thing here is that it didn't start overnight. You have a socialization change that has affected Reynoldsburg that we need to address. The socialization change is a result of the gentrification that is going on in Columbus. So it is a whole big piece of the pie-our infrastructure, our community, the socialization change that is impacting our youth. We need to look at that also-It is another can of vegetables that I am putting in the pot that we also need to look at so while we are looking at the infrastructure we need to look at how our youth socialization process has changed since 89-90. I just want to put that out there. More to follow.

Mr. Cotner: Sure. I think there are many reasons Reynoldsburg is where it is and I agree it did not come overnight and if people look deeper you see it is not just a road not paved there are a lot of reasons Reynoldsburg is where it is. Again I don't think the change was overnight and I agree 100% with you. Yes of course. Mr. Mayor.

Mayor McCloud: Obviously I am not on your committee Mr. Cotner.

Mr. Cotner: You are always welcome to comment.

Mayor McCloud: Mr. Barrett I share your frustration. I deal with our limitations daily. I was there when on the 4th of July our Parks truck broke down and had to be pushed to the side of the road. I think one of things that we should all keep in mind is that I think and this is purely my opinion-I think that if the tax credit is reduced I don't think we will ever get a levy passed. That is purely my opinion. I have no scientific data to back that up but that is what I think.

Mr. Cotner: Thank you. Other comments on this tonight?

Mr. McGrady: What is our contingency if?

Mr. Clemens: What did he say?

Mr. McGrady: Are there any other comments?

Mr. Clemens: I guess I am the last one. I don't really have anything to say because I know that anything I say is going to be the same thing. This council is not going to do anything. Maybe after the next election or the following election to make some changes. This council is going to sit just like it is and there won't be anything done. We will discuss it and people are going to read about it and they are going to keep reading about it because nothing is going to be done. Maybe put it back on the ballot and that that will go down the chute. So that is all I have to say about it. I've argued about this for 3-4 years and I'm not going to argue about it anymore. Do what you want to do and if you think it is right then do it. That's the way I look at it. If I have anything to say I am going to say it to the people and public. No more (Inaudible) I think that is ridiculous anyways.

Mr. McGrady: My question is what is our contingent plan if they deny the vote and the ballot?

Mr. Clemens: Talk about it again.

Mr. Joseph: Just to weigh in my view is that something of this magnitude should have community support by approving it. I mean that is how I know it is a different system but when the schools needed to have additional funds they didn't have the ability to impose tax increases but they still had to figure out a way to get them passed. One of the things that they did and I know that it is not popular but they took away something that was very much in demand and that was the school bussing. I think sometimes until people realize by feeling pain and I know it is not a popular position but until they actually feel something they are losing-not being told that they are going to lose it but to actually lose it and feel it. They took away the bussing and they got their levy passed. I think it failed 3 times and then it passed once they took away their bussing. We don't have the ability to take away bussing but the city could do things to truly let the citizens know there is a money crunch and it is not here today but as it has been mentioned by the auditor and others down the road we are going to have bigger and bigger problems. If we can make that case by letting people feel a little bit of what is too come I think that they would pass ½% earmarked for roads and other infrastructure. But until they actually feel some type of loss it is going to be like when the schools kept on putting their issue up and it kept being defeated. People have to weigh this pain versus this pain. Once they realize one is worse than the other there voting patterns tend to shift. I think that is the process if we want to make a case a tax issue needs to pass perhaps that might be the route to take. As far as Mr. McGrady's idea well you take it one step at a time. You revisit. You can always revisit this issue if it doesn't pass next time. Maybe there will be different people on council. Maybe somebody will change their mind. Take it one step at a time and I would also suggest don't try and go for everything at once. The bigger the request the bigger the demand the less likely it will pass. Little bites are the better way to go. One step at a time. If you ask for too much people are just going to recoil and say "it's too

much for me to handle” and then you are back to square one. That’s my assessment on it. Other comments?

Mr. Harris: It’s interesting because there are a lot of varied opinions here and we don’t know if any of them are right or wrong. This is another reason that you probably need to seek somebody from the outside that does this kind of stuff and who can put together focus groups and stuff that can give you information on what people are and are not willing to support. I think that is better ways at least for you to start but you guys do want you want to do but it’s pretty obvious that you don’t have 4 votes to do anything at this point. You are nowhere close to being ready to go to the ballot.

Mr. Barrett: What would . . .? Explain that a little bit more.

Mr. Harris: There are a lot of places when they design these campaigns they will do polling and they will send focus groups in and talk about what you want and what you don’t want. The important things with that was kind of mentioned tonight was if you can get the senior citizens who don’t have to pay it and the people that work in Columbus that don’t have to pay it to understand it they probably pass it.

Mr. Joseph: That means micro targeting-not just a blanket message to everybody.

Mr. Harris: Yea. You’ve got to go get the people and somehow get them to understand because I know the Mayor and I were out doing some of these last time and people don’t understand how city income taxes work. That is why this is going to be such a long process to get it done. They don’t understand how it works. They think when they are paying money to Columbus that we get half of it. We don’t get any of it. The other way to look at this is 66% of the people who are going to pay this tax don’t even live here. In a 2.5% city it won’t cost them anymore. Now we will get 2.5% and Columbus will lose their ½% but that is the way it is. That is where the educational process that Mr. Joseph mentioned although he said you know the thing with the . . . you get there attention by stopping the buses and making them pay to play. We haven’t found out what that is. If you don’t get people to understand how this tax thing works then you are never going to get them to pass anything. And that you are probably going to need help with.

Mr. Barrett: I absolutely agree on that because I mean the latest teacher strike is a great example of how little our community knows about what pot feeds what fund.

Mr. Harris: Ask the Mayor how many calls he got asking why he hadn’t stopped the strike. I got calls.

Mr. Skinner: Mr. Mayor would it be possible to maybe track down an option or two to look into that? What Dick was talking about? You’ve got people? Ok. Could you bring that to the next . . . ?

Mr. Harris: I will get it to everybody.

Mr. Skinner: Cool.

Mr. Harris: I'll send it out in a memo. Probably sometime in December (inaudible) get someone down here to talk to you.

Mr. Joseph: Back to what you were saying Dick before about something more long term. You think that 2016 is really the better way to go rather than something at some point next year?

Mr. Harris: I don't think you are going to be ready, President Joseph. I really don't.

Mr. Joseph: Even in November?

Mr. Harris: No. I think if you start. . . I mean you guys are a long way away from coming up with a plan and this is the end of October. You think you are going to be ready in January to start this thing to get it in November? I don't see it. I don't think you are anywhere close. It is going to take you close to a year to get everything done that you need to get done.

Mr. Joseph: It will be a March election that year. It is presidential.

Mr. Harris: It is a presidential so it's going to be the 1st or 2nd Tuesday in March. In fact there is still some debate on which date it is going to be because of the national thing but yea I don't think you are ready. I don't see any unanimity here at this point. I think there are a lot of people with a good ideas but I don't think anybody is really going around a situation that you can all come together. You are a ways away from that. I think if you can get closer to getting in that place I think then you will have a chance but unless you go in united I don't see any way that you will get it passed.

Mr. Cotner: I don't see any way we are always 100% united any way but I don't know if that's the end of the world.

Mr. Joseph: What are your thoughts on the 1% and the ½% if we were to do this in 2016 along with the full blown marketing plan and focus groups and micro targeting and all that?

Mr. Harris: I think that is your best shot because you know the. . . It is easier to identify those people long term and if you can get them to understand that they are not going to have to pay it. They will pass a 1% just as easy as they will pass a ½ %. The other way to look at the ½ % is once they give you money you are not going to get anything from them for how long Mel?

Mr. Clemens: A long time.

Mr. Harris: 10 years. A long time before you get another bite at the apple.

Mr. Cotner: And I think we are back to where it depends on what we are asking for. If we are just saying straight out we want more money they are not going to give us the 1% anyway.

Mr. Harris: They certainly haven't up until this point.

Mr. Cotner: If we go to them with the package of community center, senior center improvements, park improvements, fixing Pine Quarry-if we go with some of those items to the table then I think that it has a possibility. Going to them-I don't care how much marketing you have-if you say to Reynoldsburg we are going to fix your roads and that's going to increase your home values they are not going to even pass a ¼ % or even a tenth percent.

Mr. Harris: If you look around the state last in May and in the previous November park levies passed more often than any other type of tax increase.

Mr. Cotner: 80% or something like that?

Mr. Harris: It was 75-80%. Something like that. It was a big number.

Mr. Joseph: But they are usually pretty small millage wise.

Mr. Harris: Eh. Some of them were pretty big. There was stuff on there for rec centers that passed.

Mr. Joseph: I think fire levies have passed the easiest.

Mr. Harris: Fire levies. . . Renewals pass better than anything because they don't see it as an increase. Fire levies do very. . .

Mr. Joseph: I think West Licking had. . . .

Mr. Harris: Specified park levies do better than general operating funds.

Mr. Joseph: I think West Licking had 1 defeat in 10 years and it was a new one. Everything else was renewals and they all passed by a healthy margin.

Mr. Harris: Yea they all passed pretty good.

Mr. Skinner: Can we for the next time we come back here and talk-Can we each kind of commit to come up with 5 or 6 priorities that we think whether you stack them or not in order of priority it doesn't matter but to at least voice them out so that when we talk to somebody in December or whatever that we could share "hey this is what we have come up with-how can you incorporate that" and what you are proposing.

Mr. Cotner: Does everyone have a copy of the CIP that he has? Has anyone seen that recently?

Mr. Long: That's the old one.

Mr. Harris: This is the last one you passed. There hasn't been anything updated.

Mr. Joseph: Might be a good idea if the clerk can get a fresh copy to everyone just in case. . .

Mr. Cotner: That is where councils priority has been so and we have talked about these things again plenty of times of what everybody's little wish list is.

Mr. Long: Mr. Mayor, what is the time table on the CIP typically polled? I mean are we going to be starting info that process again so we will have a fresh listing of projects and priorities?

Mr. Harris: This was done in 2013. January or February of 2013.

Mayor McCloud: Yes we are due to start another process.

Mr. Harris: This hasn't changed much.

Mayor McCloud: Yea it hasn't changed much nor has our financial position but we should go through it again in the Spring and adopt a new one.

Mr. Long: Ok. That would give us specific projects to be able to go to the people with say "hey this is what your dollars are going to specifically" whether it is roads-I know sewer and water are already taken care of with the CIP so with the other infrastructure needs that we have here in the city.

Mr. Cotner: It is going to be hard to convince anybody that we need a new roof or a new furnace or a new boiler I mean again it is hard to sell the people on what these needs are. I mean there is no question that we know they are there but we have to find a way to communicate. . .

Mr. Harris: The carrot is easier than the stick.

Mr. Cotner: Yep exactly.

Mr. Joseph: Thank you Chairman. Since it was brought up about the sewer and water being taken care of we did a lot of that through some new assessments and fees. What kind of push back did you get once that was implemented because that is pretty much the only real new cost that we saw (inaudible) on the residents?

Mr. Harris: Mike and Nathan-I don't take care of. . . .

Mr. Joseph: Okay Nathan can you address that? That might give us a little insight on what we might see on other money fronts.

Mr. Burd: Now Mike correct me if I am wrong you dealt with more of it than I did but we just spoke about this a few days ago actually when we were talking about the items that were on the service agenda. We probably had maybe a month or so where we got not a huge amount of calls but some calls. The thing that was so encouraging to me was that it was explained by Mike and others in our office and most people said "Ok. Fair enough. I understand what it is for." We really have heard nothing on it. There was probably a month long learning period when people saw it on their bill the first time and we took some calls. It was much easier than I expected it was going to be. We just talked about that the other day. I don't know if you have anything to

add to that Mike but that was our impression of it. It did not go nearly as painfully as we thought it might.

Mr. Cotner: Anything else? All right. Well I guess we will just hold this. I will make a motion to hold this for 2 more weeks. Seconded by Councilman Long. All in favor say aye.

All: Aye Motion passes

Discussion: Income Tax Rate Increase.

Mr. Cotner: I don't really know that we need to talk about that.

Mr. Joseph: I think that was wrapped into that so. . . I think we covered that.

Mr. Cotner: We will make a motion to hold that for 2 more weeks. Seconded by Councilman Barrett. All in favor say aye.

All: Aye motion carries

Mr. Cotner: Discussion: Proposed 2015 Budget-Mr. Mayor did you want to comment about that for a moment?

Mayor McCloud: I sat down with the City Auditor and Joni Crawford his CPA last Thursday and we spent a handful of hours going through the budget line by line by every department but not all and made reductions. I will have that. . . I got it today from the auditor's office and I will have those reductions to you before the end of the week so you will have them in your packet and I think at the next committee meeting Mr. Cotner we can have some pretty good definition on the numbers we are looking at.

Mr. Harris: What we decided to do rather than every time we do one of those to print up a new set so you got 50 different sets and you don't know which is which. We are going to just send you the sheets that changed so that you can take the old ones out and put the new ones in. I think it will keep the confusion level down a little bit. And we will save some trees.

Mr. Cotner: Ok any questions for either of them tonight? I will make a motion that we hold this for 2 weeks. Second by Councilman Skinner. All in favor say aye.

All: Aye Motion carries

Discussion: Water Rate Schedule Increase.

Mike Root: Chairman Cotner and members of council good evening again. This is 2015 water rates. We are looking at a 5% increase for 2013. 3% is kind of a pass through from Columbus. Any questions?

Mr. Cotner: Okay. Does anyone have questions for him tonight?

Mr. Joseph: A lot of times we do exactly what the pass through are-why are we going above that by 2% this time?

Mr. Root: If you look all the way back to 2010 this is actually one of lowest rates. We always go 1%-2% above them. Last year we did 0%. We implemented the CIP fee so we said we were not going to raise any rates but we have to maintain our supplies. We have bands, equipment, and equipment maintenance. We have to pay for that so if we do just 3% all we are going to be doing is playing Columbus and then eating out of our fund. If you look at the fund balance it is the lowest it's been since I think ever. Partially it is due to the capacity fees in the late 90s and early 2000s. Everything was coming in so we were getting anywhere from 5K to almost a million dollars in capacities. Now we are down to 20K.

Mr. Harris: If I could interrupt I think I can probably explain that a little better for Mike. Back in the days when we were building 300 houses a year here the capacity fees were coming in to the capacity fund were funding the capital improvements in the water department. Well this year we had a big year. Like 20 or 30 houses rather than 300 and the capacity fee is going down now we have to make up the money in there. The reason hasn't gone up much. We are now paying all the debt service out of the water fund rather than out of the capacity fund. Just like if you look at the sewer capacity fund on the fund report there is nothing in it anymore and it is being paid for service fund. We've got to have the money to pay the debts.

Mr. Cotner: Anyone else? Questions or comments? I will make a motion that we send this forward to council for its 1st reading. Do I have a second? Seconded by Councilman Barrett. All in favor say aye.

All: Aye Motion carries

Discussion: Sewer Rate Schedule Increase.

Mr. Root: Sewer rates we are doing a 5% increase in rates as well. Columbus is raising it 3% which is the pass through. We are 2% above Columbus.

Mr. Joseph: When we do the additional 2% is that consistent with the other suburbs and what they charge? Or do we have no idea on what their rate is.

Mr. Root: We are close. Our rates are very similar to Gahanna. The rate sheet in the back that I attached but the only one we really compare to is Bexely. I know Whitehall is next to us. Hilliard and Grove City have completely different contracts with Columbus. Columbus fixes their water main breaks and they do their billing. Pretty much all these cities run are their sewers. Columbus runs everything else. So master meter like us is Gahanna, Bexley and us. We are the only three so our rates seem a little higher than if you live in Columbus. It is a totally different animal our here. The good thing is though if we want to go build something out on Main Street or Taylor Road we can build it and not need Columbus and their approval. Whereas Hilliard, Dublin, Grove City-any type of development it's got to go through Columbus. Columbus runs the water

lines. Columbus owns the water lines. You have got to run it through Columbus.

Mr. Cotner: Columbus doesn't have any interest in changing things up to help us out anymore either.

Mr. Root: No I think Mark even approached them about that and to see if they would make us kind of like Grove City and they really have no interest and I think they-what I have heard is that they would like to see Hilliard and all of them become like us so that they don't have to deal with it and it is one meter and they pay it and that is it. These contracts are 30-40 years long so it is going to take a long time for that to actually happen.

Mr. Cotner: Anyone else have questions? Seeing none will make a motion that we send this forward to council for its first reading. Do I have a second? Seconded by Councilman Long. All in favor say aye.

All: Aye Motion carries

Discussion: Removal of Fixed Assets~ Parks & Recreation.

Mr. Cotner: I thought we would have our acting director come in and share but that is ok.

Mr. Long: Nah.

Brian McGuire: Thank you Chairman Cotner and members of council. Good evening. We would to ask permission to remove an asset from the asset list. It is a 2005 0 turn mower um to the amount of \$2750 to general fund.

Mr. Cotner: Ok. Anyone have questions on this item tonight? And we wanted to do 3 readings with an emergency on the last reading? We can get that moving along. No questions then? I will make a motion to send this forward to council for its first reading. Do I have a second? Seconded by Councilman Skinner. All in favor say aye.

All: Aye motion carries

ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING CITY AUDITOR TO REMOVE EQUIPMENT FROM THE CITY'S FIXED ASSET LIST ~Water Department. (First reading 10/13/2014~ requests emergency passage at second reading).

Mr. Cotner: Any questions or comments on this tonight? I will make a motion to send this forward to council for its 2nd reading with a recommendation for adoption as an emergency. Do I have a second? Seconded by Councilman Barrett. All in favor say aye.

All: Aye motion carries

ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING MAYOR TO ENTER INTO CONTRACT WITH THE DISTRICT ADVISORY COUNCIL OF THE FRANKLIN COUNTY GENERAL HEALTH DISTRICT, and FRANKLIN COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH for HEALTH SERVICES. (First reading 10/13/2014).

Mr. Cotner: Questions or comments on this? I will make a motion that we send this on for its 2nd reading. Seconded by Councilman Long. All in favor say aye.

All: Aye motion carries

RESOLUTION ACCEPTING, APPROVING AND RATIFYING THE SUBMITTED RECOMMENDATIONS OF SEVERAL CITY OF REYNOLDSBURG TAX INCENTIVE REVIEW COUNCILS. (First reading 10/13/2014~ requests passage at second reading).

Mr. Cotner: Questions or comments? I'll make a motion that we send this forward with the recommendation for adoption as an emergency. Seconded by Councilman Skinner. All in favor say aye.

All: aye Motion carries

ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF REYNOLDSBURG, OHIO: SECTION 160.02 "AUTHORIZED POSITIONS, PERSONNEL, CLASSIFICATION AND PAY GRADE" Subsection (a) "Administrative"; of CHAPTER 160 EMPLOYEE COMPENSATION. (Second reading 10/13/2014).

Mr. Cotner: Questions or comments? I will make a motion to send that to council for its 3rd reading with recommendation for adoption. Seconded by Councilman Barrett. All in favor say aye.

All: Aye Motion carries.

Mr. Cotner: Thank you. We will close the finance committee meeting at 8:33pm

Finance

- - -Melissa Hare, Assistant Clerk of Council
October 20, 2014