

MINUTES COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING
REYNOLDSBURG CITY COUNCIL
October 6, 2014

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

President of Council Doug Joseph was present.

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

Approval of Agenda

Mrs. Kelly: I would like to add an item to the agenda for this evening. An item to discuss the impact of the work stoppage in our schools on the quality of life here in Reynoldsburg. Do I have a second? Seconded by Mr. McGrady. Roll call please?

Mr. Skinner: Hold tight for just a second. Can you . . . what is it that we are taking a motion on?

Mrs. Kelly: An item . . . I am adding something to the agenda. An item to discuss the impact of the work stoppage in our schools on the quality of life here in Reynoldsburg.

Mr. Skinner: Ok gotcha.

Mrs. Beggerow does the roll call.

Mrs. Kelly: Aye, Mr. McGrady: Aye, Mr. Clemens: Nay, Mr. Cotner: Aye, Mr. Long: Aye, Mr. Skinner: Aye, Mr. Barrett: Aye.

Motion carries

Mrs. Kelly: Thank you. I would like to first begin by saying that I think that the past couple of weeks have shown us that the city and the schools are tied. Something negative happens in one it affects the other one. Something positive happens in one it affects the other one. Tomorrow both sides return to the negotiating table and I hope both teams return to the table with an open mind and remember that the last best offer is the one that results in our teachers returning to the classroom and our children returning to the high level and quality of education that was in our schools prior to the strike. With that being said does anybody else have any comments that they would like to share and what you have seen as far as the quality of life impact? Anybody from the community? Please come forward and state your name and address.

Chris Leightfeld, 7000 Prior Place, Today we took our daughter down to Cincinnati to see the geneticist (Inaudible) because last year she spent the entire year in a wheelchair from a genetic disease. Through all of her hard work and these teachers she was able to come back to school full time walking this fall. She has been robbed. When I heard the thing on the police department going to not let the teachers properly picket I felt like she was getting robbed again by the town. I

come from a very small community that everybody is interrelated. The school is a source of pride for the community. I come from Coldwater, Ohio but I want to say I come from Reynoldsburg, Ohio. The first thing is pride in the school and to get pride in the school you have got to have quality teachers. Quality teachers make a quality school.

Mrs. Kelly: Thank you.

Michelle Fleming, 6533 Olde Mill Run, Good evening Mr. Mayor, President Joseph and members of the council. I will be very brief. I would like to inquire as to what stance you the city council take in regard to this present strike that is disrupting our city and has our schools in a state of disarray? For example I find it appalling that students are being herded into classrooms like packed animals sent back for example with broken bones. Made to wait outside in urine soaked pants in 50 degree weather. Not to mention being left in classrooms with no adult supervision. With sleeping substitutes. If your real teachers did any of these things there job would in jeopardy yet somehow this has become the acceptable standard for Reynoldsburg education. It is unsafe on the most basic levels. I'd like to express my concern as a resident and a taxpayer for over 30 years with regard to the amount of students that are leaving Reynoldsburg City Schools at such an alarming rate. I would encourage you. I implore you to check into how many students have withdrawn from the district and how this has impacted the city financially. What will happen to the tax base and how will this affect our property values. How can we even begin to think about building a community center when there is no community with these issues hanging over our heads? Thank you. Good evening.

Jim Rodenmeyer, 1020 Ruskin Drive, I have been a resident there for 35 years. I've been a resident of Reynoldsburg for 45 years. Let me say this-I believe sincerely because I have been to all the BOE meetings until they cut them off, I have been to the BOA office until she cut it off and I don't believe that this comes down to money. I don't believe that it comes down to anything else but trust. Before we ran a levy and I supported it the district was in financial chaos and hit rock bottom. We passed the levy and when we passed that levy the BOE and the Superintendent at that time stated that they promised us that education and the things that were eliminated such as teachers, busing, and many different classes that they would be reinstated. A little bit of it has. The bussing is still not back to where it was. We have basically no art, music or physical education to speak of. Have you looked at the size of our band lately? That will tell you right there that music is being taught now afterschool rather than during school. The quality program that my 3 kids went through they got all 3 and they became very well rounded individuals and very good citizens. They all have a master's degree. They got a very good education. I think that is going to be lacking now. It all comes down as I said to trust. When you have a board that right now is basically being ran by Cadillac attorney and Rolls Royce Superintendent who runs from the parents. Literally runs from the parents and the media and hides behind a website. It is embarrassing. I am embarrassed for the city of Reynoldsburg as should you. What I am suggesting is that you do something because to stand idly by accomplishes nothing. If I were you-a leader of this city- I would be on the phone to BOE and to the REA everyday encouraging them to get this thing settled. When a problem like this exists people who are leaders get in and help solve that problem. When you don't you are parts of the problem. I would hope that each one of you would go home tonight and get a hold of the REA- the phone numbers are all on the website. The superintendent. The board members. I know one

of you can talk directly to one of the board members and urge them with all your might to get this thing solved. Come off of square center and get it solved. It is doing this city no good. Thank you.

Mr. Barrett: I would like to make a quick comment. Thanks very much for your opinions. I am not sure if it has been real clear and we have done our best to voice this in previous meetings but this council as well as the administration we are just spectators like the rest of the residents in the city. Well unfortunately across the street we do not have any jurisdiction that they can recognize and short of doing exactly what you guys have done as far as expressing our opinions which I think we have done. Mr. Cotner did a wonderful job submitting an article to the paper. We have done some other things. Unfortunately they don't recognize that but it is in fact the case. I will tell you from my standpoint: lifelong resident and I have a senior this year and she is going through hell. I can tell you that I am as embarrassed as each one of you. I am feeling as helpless as each one of you. If there is anything that we could do as a group I can guarantee you that I have explored every bit of it and it all comes down to not a lot. You are right and I think this is a time for leadership and a great opportunity for us to stand up when we can and I feel like I am doing what I can do. A lot of the people up here are doing what they can do. I hope you can respect that.

Mr. Clemens: I agree with Scott on one situation. I have been here over 60 years and this is one of the most embarrassing situations that I have ever seen not only by the BOA but by the union and the people that take part in some of the situations that have gone on. It needs to be corrected. I see it every day and I think it is terrible for the students to see it and to see the way the teachers have been acting on the lines as they walk. Let me finish. See that shows you right there what kind of respect you have for anybody to speak that you don't agree with. That is what we have to correct. That is between the union and the BOE. They should work on it until it is corrected. To point all in one direction would be impossibility. It has been created by both sides and it needs to be corrected by both sides. I hope they do get on it tomorrow and stay on it tomorrow but I think that it is the way it has been handled on both sides. Being an elected official for 60 years this is the lowest part that I have ever seen happen and I hope that it gets corrected for the city. That's how I feel about it.

Mr. McGrady: I am just as devastated as everyone sitting in here. Scott made reference to the collaborative behind the scene effort and some of you know that I have been dialoguing with the REA. Here are some suggestions to take back to them. I can see the impact. It has impacted me as a volunteer with the students in there. I am getting push back from the school. Just walking through the community. In the community. Out the community. Yes it is blight. It is an eyesore. I pray and I hope that we can come to some resolvment for a quick resolution on this so that the city can begin its healing process because this is impacting the city as a whole. Yes it is. I agree with it. Some may say yes and some may so no. It is impacting the city as a whole. I will continue to hold my head up high as I walk through the city but I pray for a quick and early resolution on this. Other than doing what I am doing now by saying "hey try this or try that" I don't know what else to do. I am not going to sit here and try and make any recommendations to the REA but we do need to come to some resolution. I am not saying that you are not but. . .

Mrs. Kelly: Any other comments?

Mr. McGrady: Even. . . Let me just say this. Let me just say this. No it will be a personal opinion in terms of negation but. . .

Mrs. Kelly: Ok. Any other comments? Ok I would like to add that I think that we all can agree that there have been negative behaviors on both sides that we wished may not have happened but I don't think we can deny the sacrifice that our teachers are making every day. They are not getting paychecks. They do not have health insurance. We have a lot of 2 educator families in Reynoldsburg. We have a lot of educator single parents in Reynoldsburg. So while we can agree or disagree with sides the one thing we cannot deny is the sacrifice that they are making. They would not be out there if they did not believe in what they were doing. So truly with all of my heart I hope tomorrow brings a resolution that gets you back into the classrooms because I know my daughter would really like to see her teachers. I certainly would like to know that my high school son is going to actually get a credit that is going to count. I truly truly want you to know that we do recognize and do see the sacrifice that you are making. I hope that the union leadership as well as the board leadership comes together and think outside of the box and get to a resolution that gets everybody back. Thank you very much for your time. Thank you for coming. We really appreciate what you do.

Mrs. Kelly: Next item of business is the approval of the minutes of the Community Development Committee Meeting held 09/15/14. Are there any changes or deletions?

Discussion: Community Center

Mrs. Kelly: Our next item of business is a kind of fun item. Community Center. Does anybody have anything they would like to discuss? Any ideas?

Mr. Barrett: I will go ahead and get this started. This came out of our discussions from the finance committee on potential solutions to address the structural imbalance financially that our city faces. The thinking was when this came up was a couple fold. There are some opportunities right now with some land. The swimming pool area across the street. Too clearly there is a need in our community right now more than ever for some type of a center point or center-not just for youths but for different groups in the community could have access too. The thinking was that potentially beginning to explore this again. We had a committee in place at one time. By putting something like that together and getting some information might be the means that we could seek an income tax rate adjustment in the sometime near future. That is what we talked about potentially doing in the spring. I think I've laid the foundation enough to jar some memory cells. I wasn't here when the former committee disbanded so if anybody could fill us in it would be nice.

Mrs. Kelly: Barth and I were a part of that. I think we co-chaired that at the time or at least you chaired it. Barth chaired it.

Mr. Cotner: Myself and Dr. Greenway from the Methodist church.

Mrs. Kelly: I was just a part of it. I like that better. I think you should co-chair it again. We looked at the YMCA if I remember correctly. They were a big part of that so that may be a place to explore that again and start there.

Mr. Cotner: I know a while ago when we vaguely started talking and we talked about the mayor possibly trying to reach out to the YMCA to see if that was a viable option again. It was all preliminary in the last year or so that we started talking vaguely about that so I think we would need to decide whether the YMCA is the option or whether a community run center that our parks and rec would run. I think that those would be the 2 main avenues to figure out and start the process.

Mrs. Kelly: So maybe once we get our new parks and rec person in because I really they should part of that conversation. Do we agree that once we get that person in then we will bring them into the conversation. Are you guys good on that or what are your thoughts?

Mr. Cotner: I know that at the time when we were doing it they were very instrumental in that committee. They actually combined with the development director at that time Lucas Haire and really showed possibilities of where the land could be and what the footprint would look like so I think obviously I think the staff has to have a huge role in presenting what the alternatives would be for us.

Mrs. Kelly: Ok then I will put this on hold. Hold it for 2 weeks? I'll hold it for 2 weeks. Do I have to have a motion for that April? I would like to hold it for 2 weeks. All in favor say aye.

All: Aye Motion carries to hold for 2 weeks

Mrs. Kelly: I will bring the Community Development committee to a close at 7:49.

Community Development

- - -Melissa Hare, Assistant Clerk of Council

October 15, 2014

MINUTES SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING
REYNOLDSBURG CITY COUNCIL
October 6, 2014

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

President of Council Doug Joseph was also present.

Chairman Long called the meeting to order at 7:50pm

Approval of Agenda.

Approval of the minutes of the Safety Committee Meeting held 09/15/14.

Discussion: Salt Purchase

Nathan Burd: Thank you Chairman Long and members of council. Near the end of last week we received notification from our salt purchasing consortium that 475 tons of salt were available for us to purchase now. That is a little bit of good news because we were initially told that we were only going to get 200 tons so we are thankful to have a little bit higher of amount. It is still nowhere near what we normally buy. We would like to jump on this purchase as soon as we can. The bid price was \$115 per ton so this total purchase will be \$54K - \$54672.50. We are not asking for any new appropriations. Funds exist in a 2014 street department budget to cover this we just need your authority to go ahead and make this purchase. The cost of the salt also includes delivery to our facility which is always a good thing to get in these conversations. This will bring our salt supply up to just under 1900 tons. Like we talked about a few weeks ago 1900 is an average winters worth of salt so we are hoping for an average winter but we are going to continue to look for additional opportunities to buy salt. Unfortunately right now this is the only opportunity available to us. If you are agreeable we would like to have this passed next week as an emergency so that we can work out the logistics to get it in as quickly as possible. I'll be happy to answer any questions that you may have.

Mr. Long: Any questions from members of the committee or council for Mr. Burd? Hearing none I will make a motion that this item be sent to next week's council with a recommendation for adoption as an emergency. Is there a 2nd? Seconded by Mr. Skinner. All in favor say aye.

All: Aye Motion carries

Mr. Long: Thank you Nathan. And I will close the Safety committee meeting at 7:52pm.

Safety

- - -Melissa Hare, Assistant Clerk of Council
October 15, 2014

MINUTES FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING
REYNOLDSBURG CITY COUNCIL
October 6, 2014

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

President of Council Doug Joseph was also present.

Councilman Cotner called the meeting to order at 7:53 p.m.

Approval of Agenda.

Approval of minutes of the Finance Committee meeting held 9/15/14.

Discussion: Ad Hoc Committee Report (2011); addressing structural imbalance; possible adjustments.

Mr. Cotner: This always seems to fall to Mr. Barrett so I don't know that we have any new discussion or dialogue on it tonight but I want to give him the first shot at it.

Mr. Barrett: I think you are right. We are really you know down to 4 kind of buckets if you will. One was the income tax rate adjustment that we proceeded to look at through the spring and the community center would maybe part of that potentially. I think that is a work in progress. The 2nd item is the credit adjustment which is the next on the agenda so I think we got that moving. The other 2 items really would go back to the discussion of the charter review committee. I think there is some avenues there that we can explore and that I would like to look into a little bit more before talking about that. I did have a chance to check with Jed when I got here a little bit early and this that so the other thing would be you know talking about any significant cuts we could make as far as programs go which works into our budget discussion. Really unless anyone has anything new to add I can let it sit for a week or two.

Mr. Cotner: Ok. It seems that you have the most to say on that. Does anybody. . . Ok Mr. McGrady? You got a comment on this tonight.

Mr. McGrady: I will hold for 5 unless 5 is being included in 4.

Mr. Barrett: Yea. 5 is next.

Mr. Cotner: Ok we will hold it for a second and you can do it there. Sounds like you want to keep this on? Or do you want to move this?

Mr. Barrett: I would very much like too.

Mr. Cotner: Ok then we will hold this for 2 more weeks. All in favor of holding this until then say aye.

All: Aye Motion carries

Discussion: Reduction of the Income Tax Credit/Tax Rate Increase.

Mr. Cotner: Mr. McGrady?

Mr. McGrady: Now on the tax credit I raised that issue so I will address that issue. I am going to hold it for 2 weeks so we can get the numbers from Harris. Mr. Harris. So we can provide it to council because Councilman Skinner I don't believe has seen those numbers because I think that was prior to his. . .

Mr. Skinner: There was a memo.

Mr. Long: There was a memo given to us this week in your packet. Yes in your packet.

Mr. Skinner: Is this something different?

Mr. Long: No it is the same thing.

Mrs. Beggerow: You didn't get it? Didn't I get it?

Mr. McGrady: Either way I would like to open that discussion with the possibility as I said before to bring those funds into the city so we can move forward in comparison to the tax levy that was brought up. I believe that it would be beneficial if we went on and made the motion to reduce the tax credit.

Mr. Cotner: He was asking if you were making a motion to send to reduce the tax credit. Is that what you are doing now?

Mr. McGrady: Yes.

Mr. Cotner: He was making a motion to reduce the tax credit, Mel. Yes.

Mr. Clemens: I think you have to go by how much you are going to reduce it.

Mr. McGrady: Yes 50%.

Mr. Clemens: If I am not mistaken and I don't have it in front of me but we got it in the mail. It was 3 million?

Mr. Cotner: Yes. It was 3.2

Mr. Clemens: That is what I thought. 3.2 million. And that is a start really. I would rather see the income tax pass because we need the additional funds really to be comparative to the other cities plus if we are thinking about a community center and a pool and so forth that would be part of it.

We could take some out of the tax reduction. Not as much. It wouldn't help as much but it would bring funds to us in the immediate future. I would go with the tax reduction to start with and if we decide to go with the income tax approval then it could be adjusted. The tax credit could be adjusted later on if we felt that we didn't need the funds but possibly we need both funds. At least if we start with the tax reduction we would be getting some funds in that we can start using next year. If we go with the income tax approval- I don't think that should be anything we hurry into. It is going to take a lot of thought and I would want to work the community center in with it. That would be a long haul over the years. The tax reduction is very simple. All we do is pass it. The mayor would approve it. I believe the mayor has made the statement so if I am not correct that you would approve a tax reduction. The city definitely needs it. There is no withholding and saying we couldn't use it. We have spoken about what is good for the city, about how the school board handles their situation and now I think it is time to handle our situation. This is a very important issue. Our parks need redone and our recreation needs improved for the children. Streets need improved and the addition on a community center. I think it is time we get some of these funds in and while we are working on an income tax approval. I would also be in favor and I would 2nd a motion that Council McGrady made.

Mr. Cotner: Ok, do we have any other discussion right now? So Mr. McGrady has made a motion to reduce the income tax by 50%?

Mr. McGrady: Yes sir.

Mr. Cotner: Seconded by Councilman Clemens. Other questions or comments on that? Yes Sir Mr. Barrett?

Mr. Barrett: If we are going to go to the market on this tonight I just want to reiterate where we are at and how we have got to this point. This didn't happen overnight. This is 20 years and you might be thinking there has been talk tonight about a credit adjustment. There has been talk about an income tax rate adjustment. There has been talk about cutting city services but ladies and gentleman I am glad that you are here. That's about the state that we are in right now. It didn't happen overnight and unfortunately we haven't been able to get it on the right track yet. This is where we have been short of about a year ago. I would just. . . Everyone knows how passionate I am on this. I don't think I have to reiterate that but this is a chance for this council to correct a lot of years of neglect by prior councils and frankly by administration. It's not a popular subject. We have talked until we were blue in the face but making a stand here shows the community the leadership that they are desperately looking for. I think we owe it to them and their property values to do something and tonight could be the first step. Thank you.

Mr. Cotner: We have talked a lot about it and I understand exactly what you are saying. You and I shared that conversation recently but I still don't know if I agree that it is the best way to handle things and move forward. Again I am not saying that it is something I like to do either way. I don't like it but I would like to see another effort put forth as Mrs. Kelly has talked. I think the effort to try to find a way to build and improve the community is what we have to work toward. I know taxes are never popular obviously. It is not a popularity issue. It is just still what I think is the right way to do things and I think we have to be receptive to what we are and what we can do. I'd like to still see the effort of the income tax rate with the incentive of a community center

and park improvements and other things that can be tied in with that. I think that's more valuable to our long term benefit as a community. We can hopefully begin our healing process as a community and I hope that is where we can go with it. Yes Mrs. Kelly?

Mrs. Kelly: I agree with Barth wholeheartedly. This community is going to have a lot of healing to do and giving us an opportunity to create a community center where that can be a big part of that healing. I think that it gives us a lot of benefits and provides us with an opportunity for us to put forward and build a sense of trust with the community as what we are going to do with the money. As we put forward a levy I would not be in support of reducing the tax credit.

Mr. Cotner: Yes sir, Councilman Long.

Mr. Long: Thank you Mr. Cotner. I voiced my opinion in the past. Our city is not broke. We are not closing departments. We are not laying police officers off. We carried forward in 2014 \$3.7 million in our budget. The estimate from the city auditor now is showing us at revenues roughly as 10% increase or \$1.4 million. I believe that the tax credit is something that should be reserved and the individuals sitting up here should only touch that in the time of an emergency. I would not be for a reduction in the tax credit. I believe that anytime you take money from a citizen that citizen should have some say it and that being a yes or no vote.

Mr. Cotner: Thank you. Yes Sir Mr. Clemens.

Mr. Clemens: I only brought it up for a reason because I saw our tax values drop 15% this last year. I've listened to this council from the rest of you council and watch the city go down. This city has turned it down 4 times. Terribly turned it down 4 times because they have listened to the same thing that you guys have talked about for years on what you are going to do and how you are going to improve it and nothing has ever been improved. Now I think the city and the voters have showed us 4 straight times how bad they can beat us on asking for that income tax approval. I would hope that we could get it passed but all this sweet talk doesn't do it. I've listened to it. I've listened to Councilwoman Kelly on hers. I've listened to Mr. Cotner. I've listened to Chris. It is the same thing every time. Now I heard this before we voted on it the first time, second time, third time and fourth time. What do we always come up with? We get beat 65-35. It is one of two things-either the people don't trust us on how we spend it or we don't belong up here. It's one of the two. Maybe it is both of them. I don't know. To keep sitting back and saying "We have money coming in. The auditor told us we have money coming in and we can do this. We have money we can do that." We don't have really. We have a little bit of money. Everything we do we have to get grants on. We have big things coming up we have to take care of. That is the only reason I bring up the tax . . . tax reduction should be done is because we need the money to work. I personally do not think we will ever get anything passed. I will go for it and vote on it. We talk about how great it is going to be and how much we are going to work on it and that never happens so it goes down the chute. I think the mayor is correct. He knows. He runs the administration. He knows what we need and what we are going through financial wise. That is all I can say. I don't you know. . . I will go either direction. I think that we need something to start with.

Mr. Cotner: I would still prefer to see us go with asking for that income tax rate when we are tying it to a community center. I understand what you are saying is that it has lost different times but it has never been tied in this same way and I also don't believe that it is us against them. I don't like the mentality of they have "beaten us" because we are trying to represent them and I think that is part of our problem. We are seeing that on the other side and we have got to find. . . I know it is not all sugar coated whatever. I get that but I think an opportunity that needs assessed that people do want to see recreation improvements. We have seen things from other communities that have passed those. We have never tried that. We may not pass it but we don't know until we try something. I personally prefer to try and give our community an opportunity to succeed first. That is what I would prefer. That's all I am going toward and obviously Mr. Clemens I have tremendous respect for you.

Mr. Clemens: I have respect for you too. All of you really. If you think and that is fine. . .

Mr. Cotner: I could be wrong.

Mr. Clemens: If the people in the city want recreation then they are going to pass this. I will leave it in your hands.

Mr. Cotner: I think it can then build into other areas. I'm not saying that a community center fixes everything but it does then allow-We talk about property values a lot. We can give our community something that I another asset to our community. That is all I am saying. And again I don't know that I have the answers to it-I'm not saying that that is necessarily right. That is just how I feel and I would like to try.

Mr. Clemens: This is not a free ride. As long as the people understand that they will have to pay the taxes. And they will have to pay to belong to it. It is not a free ride.

Mr. Cotner: Yes sir, Mr. McGrady?

Mr. McGrady: We all have our different philosophical differences here. Tax credit. We have a carryover but is the carry over sufficient enough for us to move forward? That is the question. You know we have talked about the roads and now we have Quarry Park. We have to invest in Quarry Park. The bridge has been closed since July. We need something there so while we continue to kick that can we are still incurring debt with ongoing projects. I understand yea taking without the vote but we are in a position now that either we are going to move forward or we are not. What's the line? Proverb?

Mrs. Kelly: Are you asking me?

Mr. McGrady: No.

Mr. Skinner: Community without a vision. And I agree with Mr. Cotner.

Mr. McGrady: We will perish. We either need to decide either we are or we are not going to move forward. Like I said the other day- If you continue to cast the sail against the wind you will never move forward. We need to shift our sail. That is all I have.

Mr. Cotner: Mr. Barrett you had another comment?

Mr. Barrett: I do. I can't help it. Councilman Long is dead on. Frankly he is really intuitive of the city and the finance and I learn a lot from him. I have over my term. When you talk about a surplus that's the very excellent management that has been happening from the administration. They have been managing their income very well. You can't complain about that. They do a great job. Really those numbers are treading water numbers. What that doesn't take into effect is the 20 years of decaying infrastructure. How many people are from Hannah Ashton? Don't raise your hand but I mean what do you think of that road? It is like a Beirut highway. Come on. Our city is degrading around us. Our property values degrade with that. We are to the point now where we can't tax you enough. We need to tax you more and the fill the bank account to fill the 20 years that Mr. McGrady talked about and that can being kicked. You are watching that happen tonight. It is ridiculous. It would take for us to get respectable income to even become near that a whole other Limited complex. Everybody familiar with that? Where are we going to put that at? Oh I don't know-We are land locked. We need jobs to bring in that income. You can't put that many jobs in the city. We can't be like Whitehall and have a DCSC. I respect everyone's opinion on this and I know we have climbed this rope up and down but the bottom line is here is what we got. The city-I am 3 years into a 4 year term and its decayed 3 more years. You guys have heard the ad hoc committees and everyone else around you telling you it needs to be fixed. You have heard the administration say it needs to be fixed. They live this dream every day and now in a perfect storm of events the administration is supporting it right here in front of God and everybody. I think we are doing a disservice not supporting the administration right now. That would just be me. I really. . . if you think we need to sit on this for 2 more weeks before we vote on it, if you need to speak to your constituents in your wards. This affects the future of our city you guys. And Barth I understand where you are at and Dan I do but scraping, cutting this department out, and rubbing nickels together aint going to get us where we need to go.

Mr. Long: But we are not doing that Mr. Barrett.

Mr. Barrett: I understand.

Mr. Clemens: One more thing then I will shut up. I think you have to look at our revenue. It is \$14 million. Look at Whitehall-\$19 million. Look at Gahanna, Grove City, Westerville and those other cities-Way over \$20 million. Certainly we are not going under but we are treading water like you said and that is all. That's all. I want to just bring up where the money is at. What we are trying to operate on and we are doing a good job of that. \$14 million.

Mr. Cotner: I would love to see more in our city and I absolutely agree and believe in investing in our community. 100%.

Mr. Clemens: We can really make the city look good.

Mr. Cotner: I understand and like I said I have them. . . I'm not so sure it is the us against them mentality where we have to tell people that we know better than they do when we haven't tried some different avenues. That is my only concern. I knew you would be patiently waiting Ms. Acosta.

Carrie Acosta, 6550 Old Mill Run, I will at least say this and in this meeting we have a direction that we are going to spend the money and use the money. That hasn't been the case over the last year as I have been saying all this time. I got an uncle who never seems to have any money in his pocket but he sure has big ideas about how he is going to spend everyone else's money and that sounds pretty familiar from what I am hearing tonight frankly. We don't have street money and we are cutting departments but we are going to put in a community center now? Is that the plan now? Because frankly I think that that is something that this community needs to vote on. I think that putting-cutting the income tax credit is one of the most underhanded things that I have heard put forward from this group. You know you are not going to pass that levy. You have said that yourself so the answer is you are just going to take the money anyway and spend it the way you want to.

Mr. Clemens: You got it.

Ms. Acosta: Then it is going to be a community center is that what everybody is going to agree on? I don't know that everybody here wants a community center. And frankly that is my money too Mel. No offense.

Mr. Clemens: I didn't say anything about a community center. I said. . .

Ms. Acosta: That is what I am hearing. Now it's. . . It was up on the board. Am I wrong?

Mr. Clemens: That is something if they put the tax before the people it would be involved in a community center. I said if we take the tax reduction. . .

Ms. Acosta: So we are going to take \$3 million and put it towards a community center and not be able. . .

Mr. Clemens: Now don't get involved in no community center.

Mrs. Kelly: No. Carrie let Barth explain.

Mr. Cotner: I think you are talking about 2 different things. The community center would be a tax levy request. That would go to the ballot. That would be a completely separate issue than the credit we are talking about.

Ms. Acosta: But you can't tax us enough to pay for the streets and the degrading city around us but we are going to put the money . . . That's where we are going to put the money?

Mr. Clemens: Not me.

Mr. Cotner: What we are saying is if we voted that and the community voted for a community center it can be structured that it's for example a 1% increase doesn't mean that 1% total that goes toward the community center. Those are numbers then that the auditor works on what the tax request would be and would like. It doesn't mean that every penny goes to just a community center. It may be allocated as community center as well as road repairs or park improvements so some of those things. Again this is just a very preliminary starting point but when you get into then the actual process of are we going to the ballot then it becomes the committee gets a lot more work and the numbers become a lot more solid and concrete. The tax credit reduction were to happen it would only be used again in the general fund toward streets, roads and whatever. Not in any way shape of form for the community center.

Ms. Acosta: Do you agree though that if we are going to cut the tax credit that we should be accountable for where that money is spent? And to have a good reason for doing that without voter approval? Regardless of what they are going to spend on a community center or not.

Mrs. Kelly: Absolutely.

Ms. Acosta: If the reasons are compelling enough then you should be able to do that with voter approval is my point and has been all along. This is very underhanded.

Mr. Clemens: No.

Ms. Acosta: So I will tell you what I would go ahead and agree. Let's do a vote tonight. Let's see because I have been hearing you all talk about this for a year now and I am sure we could all save a lot of time. Do the vote tonight.

Mr. Cotner: It has been voted on before and vetoed. We have been down that road. Like I said we will see where the process goes tonight. That's what the dialogue and the discussion is and I don't know that again we are answering the tax credit issue definitively and the community center or tax rate adjustment is only a preliminary discussion tonight. Again we can disagree about the morality or the under handed that you say is being done with the tax credit. I don't know if that is. . I understand. . .

Ms. Acosta: It is repeatedly said up here that you cannot get the funds by passing a levy so what needs to be done is that money needs to be taken because everybody up here knows better than the citizens here on how that money should be spent.

Mr. Cotner: And that is the conversation that some of us have been having where we kind of agree and disagree. That is the point. . .

Ms. Acosta: I want to thank you because your point of view is exactly what I want to hear. It is not "us against them" at all. So thank you very much.

Mrs. Kelly: Carrie I just want to make sure I clarify-We are not all in agreement about the tax credit issue. I want to be really clear on that.

Mr. Cotner: So at this point where we are is we have a motion and a second. We have a motion by Mr. McGrady to reduce the tax credit by 50% and then a second by Councilman Clemens on that motion to reduce the tax credit 50%. Am I clear on the motion? So we will have our clerk call the roll on that please.

Mrs. Beggerow: This is a motion to send this to council correct?

Mr. Cotner: Yes this would still go to council.

Mr. Joseph: Yes this is a vote to send to council.

Mrs. Beggerow called the roll

Mrs. Kelly: Nay, Mr. McGrady: Yay, Mr. Clemens: Yay, Mr. Cotner: Nay, Mr. Long: Nay, Mr. Skinner: Nay, Mr. Barrett: Yay

Mr. Cotner: That being rejected does not mean that we cannot revisit. That did not pass tonight and it will not be going to council right now. The discussion-that's the purpose of what we try to do. It doesn't mean we won't talk about it again, sorry. We will now move on from. . . Did we tie that into item 4 or item 5? I lost track.

Mr. Joseph: That was 5.

Mrs. Kelly: That was 5 now we are on item 6.

Discussion: Removal of Fixed Assets~ Water Department

Mr. Cotner: Item 6. Should be a little bit easier to go through here. We will give everybody a moment here.

Mr. McGrady: The tax credit was number 4.

Mr. Joseph: It was defeated just now.

Mr. McGrady: The tax rate?

Mr. Joseph: No. That has not been addressed. That is still being. . . It is held for 2 weeks.

Mr. McGrady: Ok. Ok.

Mr. Cotner: Ok Mr. Root? Oh I didn't read it sorry. Discussion: Removal of Fixed Assets~ Water Department

Mike Root: Chairman Cotner and members of council good evening. We are looking at trading in our old mower and replacing it with a new one. We need to remove it from the asset list and then request that the proceeds be put towards the new mower. I am asking for an emergency on this after the 2nd reading just to be able to live up to the quote.

Mr. Cotner: Ok, seems easy enough. Questions or comments? I will make a motion that we send this to council for its 1st reading. Do I have a second? Seconded by Councilwoman Kelly. All in favor say aye.

All: Aye Motion carries

Discussion: Authorization of 2015 Franklin County Public Health Services Contract

Mr. Cotner: Mr. Mayor are you speaking about this or are you looking to someone else?

Mayor McCloud: I can do that. This is our annual almost a housekeeping item where we enter in a contract with the Franklin County Public Health department on some routine issues. We do this every year and this simply authorizes me to continue enter into that contract.

Mr. Cotner: This one was not marked emergency or anything so the 3 readings?

Mayor McCloud: That is correct.

Mr. Cotner: Questions for the Mayor on this? I will make a motion that we send this for its 1st reading. Second by Councilman Long. All in favor say aye.

All: Aye Motion carries

Discussion: Continuation of TIF's

Mr. Cotner: Since Mrs. Morse isn't here I figured you were speaking to it. When her name was on here I thought we might see her tonight.

Dan Havener: I am here to answer any questions council may have. All 6 TIFs-1 for Franklin County, 1 for Fairfield County and 4 for Licking County were approved for a continuation in the meeting which was held last Thursday. I can answer any questions that the council may have regarding those TIFs. If I cannot we may need to refer to Mr. Harris when he gets back.

Mr. Long: Did you get your annual reports filed on these?

Mr. Havener: Yes we did.

Mr. Long: Cool. Thank you. It keeps me from having people come around to my office. Did they file them yet?

Mr. Cotner: Any questions from anyone else on council? Pretty clear and straight forward. Do we need emergency on this 1st reading? Does it need to get done right away?

Mr. Havener: We had it as an emergency. Council just needs to act on it before 60 days. I believe that is the continuation so . . .

Mr. Joseph: Can we go 1 more reading on that? Do a second reading.

Mr. Cotner: Does that sound alright? So we will plan to make this an emergency on the 2nd. I will make a motion that we send this to council for its 1st reading. Do I have a second? Seconded by Councilman Long. All in favor say aye.

All: Aye Motion carries

Discussion: Proposed 2015 Budget.

Mr. Cotner: This will be the mayor I imagine talking-the discussion on the 2015 budget.

Mayor McCloud: Thank you Chairman Cotner. You have before some preliminary budget information. I say preliminary because the numbers I sent down are exactly as they were submitted to me by my directors. I have not reduced or combed through this in any manner at all. I soon will be. I also waiting to get together with the city auditor to get our revenue numbers and as soon as he is back in town we will have a better handle on our revenue numbers. And finally I will once again offer myself and my staff to be available to meet with anyone on your time schedule in terms of going over the budget.

Mr. Cotner: Any questions for the Mayor tonight?

Mr. Joseph: Mayor, are you planning on doing this again as an interim?

Mayor McCloud: No

Mr. Joseph: Regular budget?

Mayor McCloud: yes.

Mr. Joseph: Ok thank you.

Mr. Cotner: So tonight are we moving this forward at all? What are you wanting to do with it tonight Mr. Mayor?

Mayor McCloud: It doesn't need to go for a reading yet.

Mr. Cotner: Just hold it for a couple weeks?

Mayor McCloud: Yes

Mr. Cotner: If there are no more questions for the Mayor then I will make a motion to hold this for 2 weeks. All in favor say aye.

All: Aye

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. (First reading 9/22/2014).

Mr. Cotner: Any questions on this tonight? I will make a motion that we send this forward for its second reading. Seconded by Councilman Long. All in favor say aye.

All: Aye Motion carries

ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING MAYOR TO ENTER INTO CONTRACT WITH AMERICAN LEGAL PUBLISHING TO PROVIDE A SEVEN YEAR SUPPLEMENT TO REYNOLDSBURG CITY CODE. (Second reading 9/22/2014).

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

All: aye Motion carries

ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH IQM2 FOR SOFTWARE SERVICES FOR THE CITY OF REYNOLDSBURG. (Second reading 9/22/2014).

Mr. Cotner: Questions? I will make a motion to send this forward with a recommendation for adoption. Seconded by Councilman Skinner. All in favor say aye.

All: Aye Motion carries

Mr. Cotner: I will then close the finance committee at 8:25.

Finance

- - -Melissa Hare, Assistant Clerk of Council

October 15, 2014