

MINUTES REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
REYNOLDSBURG CITY COUNCIL
JULY 24, 2006

President Pro Tempore Ron Stake called the meeting to order at 7:32 p.m.

Members of Council present: Ron Stake, Preston Stearns, Brett Baxter, Doug Joseph, Mel Clemens, Antoinette Newman, Donna Shirey. Council President William L. Hills was present as Acting Mayor.

The Invocation was given by Mr. Stearns. Mr. Stake led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes of regular Council meeting held July 10, 2006 were approved without objection.

Mr. Baxter moved to amend the agenda by adding liquor permit requests. Mr. Stearns seconded. All voted "Aye". Motion passed; agenda amended.

Community Comments and Requests- - -

Mr. Miele: Good evening members and my fellow citizens. Basically, this is in regards to the Matterhorn Waste Water and Sewer repairs. Mark Kipp was kind enough to stop by my house this evening and talk in detail about some of what's going to be going on there. I was going to be asking basically, if he was going to be able to speak tonight. If he could talk a little bit more in detail as far as the time frame as to when these repairs would start, and how long it would last. He did indicate he was waiting for some written authorization to commence on some of those activities in the properties neighboring 1071 Matterhorn. We have some vacation that's pending, and we're actually going to maybe kill two birds with one stone if there was going to be a case where we had to vacate the house for a couple of days. It was close enough to vacation. We just might take care of both at the same time and not have to worry about it. So that's basically what I wanted to talk about tonight, is just see if we can get some more answers, not only for myself obviously, but also for my neighbors. Mark had indicated last week, he said about 340 feet of the sewer is going to be disconnected. He spoke tonight about how the sewer that's in my back yard, the manhole, would be the cut off point. So I just want to get an idea of exactly what houses specifically were going to be affected by the shut off. Anything for me?

Mr. Stake: Any questions for Mr. Miele by members of Council? Any comments? (No response). No. Mr. Kipp, are you going to address that later on? Or are you going to address that privately with this gentleman?

Mr. Kipp: Whatever you want.

Mr. Stake: Could you just work it out with Mr. Kipp? Would that be alright?

Mr. Miele: Yes, sir. _____ my neighbors might have been here tonight. So I just wanted to make sure it was made to all that were here.

Mr. Stake: Okay. Thank you, sir. Next we have a speaker slip from Brandon Wright. Mr.

Wright.

Mr. Wright: Hello. Good evening, Council. If you could just go ahead and strike out the first topic that I had on there. I've got some questions.

Mr. Stake: Brandon, just give us your address.

Mr. Wright: 1740 Brice Road is where I reside in Reynoldsburg. There's a couple of things that I wanted to bring up to Council to see if there would be I guess, interest in this. And more specifically, which committees I guess it would properly need to go to. The first would be, I heard something in NPR, when the cities are developing hot spots to where it's not just in a certain particular like, restaurant, but it's citywide. And I know on NPR, they talked about Philadelphia, and there were some other smaller cities that were looking into getting to where a company would come in and actually provide the service of making the whole city like a hot spot. So kind of my question would be, which committee would be best to address this issue if I wanted to seriously work with a committee to see if this is something that might be beneficial to Reynoldsburg? Because not only will it be a good marketing tool when we're building more housing, to say that we're the first smaller suburb city within Columbus to have an all hot spot ____kind of area. So that was my first question on that.

Mr. Stake: Have you spoken to anybody in the administration in regards to this?

Mr. Wright: No. Actually, what I wanted to do, because I notice a lot of things whenever people bring them up to Council, gets pushed off to the Mayor. And I think that it's really important as a city that we have this in committee and to start the, kind of brainstorm. And if that's something that, I guess we see as a valuable tool, that it can work in committee, and then from there have the Mayor work side by side with this, but I definitely wanted to know if this would be something that a committee could address.

Mrs. Newman: Now Mr. Wright, could you tell me what a hot spot is?

Mr. Wright: It's definitely not a beach or anything like that. But a hot spot, from what I gather on the news, and from what they were saying, it's where you can go into a place like, for example, like Panera Bread has like a hot spot where anybody can walk in there, if you have a lap top, or the capability to access internet. And so this, instead of just being in specific areas like building per building, it would be citywide to where anyone I guess, who has a connection could connect. And from what they were saying in NPR, that's exactly what it serves. It's like city wide instead of just going to a certain building and having the capabilities to access internet. So I thought hey, that might be a good thing. In looking, it doesn't look like there's any other suburbs around in our area that have actually tackled this or come up with the idea of making the whole city kind of. So I just thought that if this was something that we could kind of have one of the committees, or even...

Mr. Stake: Again, I think that really, you should start with the administration. I'm sure that if there's a chair of a committee or anybody on a committee that would like to take this up, they could do that. But I would start with the administration. Acting Mayor Hills, do you have anything to

add?

Mr. Hills: You bring up a point. I'm not sure how you make your city hot. I don't know that. But I'd say between, probably Mrs. Reichard, Safety/Service, and to bring also our computer person, Bart, involved - may have some more ideas. He may have more technology knowledge. But before it gets up here in this talking, I'm not saying that you all aren't familiar, but I'm not sure how many are really familiar with the matter. The way I look _____ administration. And when your comment is, you don't want administration to do it because it just gets shoved off to the Mayor, that's kind of the way government works. It's an administrative decision. It is up to them. Now if you sit down with them and they say, this is a good idea, we ought to do this, then I suspect to see a piece of legislation which would be openly discussed. I don't think that, I'm going to speak as Acting Administration, I don't mind having things pushed off to me if our people are the ones that need to address the citizens' concerns first.

Mr. Wright. Which is fair. And I don't think that that's something that we can't explore. But my thing was, this is definitely an issue to where, it's just in it's infant stage. So I just didn't say that that was all. But I just want to make sure that this is something that I guess, we're at the forefront of that if it's really important that we want to market Reynoldsburg as a good growing city, these are the themes and the issues that are becoming more important to the citizens who live inside of the city. And if Reynoldsburg can say, we're the first hot spot, or the first you know, internet city, then I think that would be something good. Not only for house values, but also for the city as a whole. So I'll definitely be interested in taking this I guess, up with the Mayor and we can take it from there.

Mr. Hills: The Mayor, Mrs. Reichard, and she'll arrange also to have a computer specialist involved.

Mrs. Reichard: If I could just say, I think the reason why we start with the administration is because we're the ones that put together, sort of the white paper of a subject. We're the ones that look into it and provide Council with the information that they need in order to make an informed decision. So if you just want to give me a call, we can sit down and talk about it.

Mr. Wright: Okay. I think that's fair enough. And I just wanted to try to bring it up to Council. And the last part of what I would like to address is, I think, I don't know, just me as myself as a resident of Reynoldsburg, I think it's very important to be aware of what's going on in the city. And civic participation I thought, well, you know, it doesn't seem like there's a lot of young, youth, or people here that are of the younger age who seem genuinely interested in what's going on in the city. So I thought as another idea, if we could possibly work with like, the high school to do some type of program to market like, civic participation day to where we can get more people in here concerned about the city, concerned about what's going on. Because there's a lot. Even just what I've heard with residents who live around my area about the tax issue. Now they're just a little misinformed because they're not at the meetings, where they would not be I guess, an avid reader of the newspaper. So I thought that maybe if we could market this or work in conjunction with the schools to get more youth in here to do, what goes on in Council. That might spark an interest I guess, citywide.

Mr. Stake: Mr. Wright, you may have seen that there are students that come here from time to time from the high school that have government classes I believe. So there is some interaction between the schools and the city.

Mr. Wright: Okay. But what I'm saying in that too, I have seen the students come in here. But to make it a bigger project to where we're really trying to drive you know, this is what's going on in our city. Be active. Be concerned about that. So I didn't know if that was something I guess, at committee.

Mr. Stake: Councilwoman Newman, did you have something?

Mrs. Newman: Don't we still participate in the Youth in Government program?

Mr. Hills: Yes, we do. It is still involved to the extent of, the amount of the involvement, I'm not sure. But there are one or two events every year I believe with the Youth in Government. And there are a number of times that speakers from Council and/or administration do work with the school system.

Mr. Stake: Are there any other comments or questions for Mr. Wright? Councilman Baxter.

Mr. Baxter: Thank you, Councilman Stake. I think, first off, I congratulate you for thinking about what you have. Both of those ideas are Community Development ideas. So I would definitely want to make sure you brought in our Community Development Director and reach out to them as well. Bringing the children in and having them get involved, I think that's a great idea. Education is the way to solve the problems of any city. We bring in our youth, we have a whole world ahead of us. The children who then will grow up to be young adults managing our cities, and I certainly would not be against working with you on trying to bring together a youth group and become more involved. I think it should be an administrative function that the administration brings in and have a Development Department work with the children and have a place for them so they can become part of our city and become part of our government, and learn early. So thank you.

Reports- -Chief of Police David Suciou introduced three new Police Officers: Officer Craig Brafford, Officer Rob Cooper, and Officer Robin Robbins.

Jim Nolan, Project Manager for Main Street Revitalization Program, presented an update on the project. (Document on file in Clerk of Council's office)

Clerk read motion: That while Council is in Recess for the month of August 2006, the Clerk of Council be and is hereby authorized and directed to return any Liquor Permit Requests received, marking them 'without a request for a hearing', as long as the Reynoldsburg Police Department finds no reason for a hearing. If a hearing is required, a special meeting of Council will be called. Mr. Baxter moved adoption. Mr. Clemens seconded. All voted "Aye". Motion passed.

**ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR
MATTERHORN DRIVE STORM WATER STUDY; APPROPRIATING FUNDS**

THEREFORE; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY- - Clerk read ordinance by title for the one required reading. Mr. Clemens moved adoption. Mr. Joseph seconded. With the roll called, members voted: Mr. Stake "Yea"; Mr. Stearns "Yea"; Mr. Baxter "Yea"; Mr. Joseph "Yea"; Mr. Clemens "Yea"; Mrs. Newman "Yea"; Mrs. Shirey "Yea". Motion passed; Ordinance No. 58-06 adopted.

ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING CONTRACT FOR SANITARY SEWER MAIN REPAIR AT 1071 MATTERHORN DRIVE; APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFORE; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY- - Clerk read ordinance by title for the one required reading. Mr. Clemens moved to amend the ordinance as redrafted 7-21-06. Mrs. Newman seconded. With the roll called, members voted: Mr. Stake "Yea"; Mr. Stearns "Yea"; Mr. Baxter "Yea"; Mr. Joseph "Yea"; Mr. Clemens "Yea"; Mrs. Newman "Yea"; Mrs. Shirey "Yea". Motion passed; ordinance amended.

Mr. Clemens moved adoption. Mr. Stearns seconded. With the roll called, members voted: Mr. Stake "Yea"; Mr. Stearns "Yea"; Mr. Baxter "Yea"; Mr. Joseph "Yea"; Mr. Clemens "Yea"; Mrs. Newman "Yea"; Mrs. Shirey "Yea". Motion passed; Ordinance No. 59-06 adopted.

ORDINANCE MAKING SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION FOR MISCELLANEOUS ENGINEERING ACCOUNT FOR SERVICE DEPARTMENT AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY- - Clerk read ordinance by title for the one required reading. Mr. Stake moved adoption. Mr. Joseph seconded. With the roll called, members voted: Mr. Stake "Yea"; Mr. Stearns "Yea"; Mr. Baxter "Yea"; Mr. Joseph "Yea"; Mr. Clemens "Yea"; Mrs. Newman "Yea"; Mrs. Shirey "Yea". Motion passed; Ordinance No. 60-06 adopted.

ORDINANCE TO ACCEPT AN APPLICATION FOR ANNEXATION OF .52+/- ACRES IN TRURO TOWNSHIP, COUNTY OF FRANKLIN, STATE OF OHIO, TO THE CITY OF REYNOLDSBURG, OHIO (Marvin D. VanFossen and Janet Marlene VanFossen)- - Clerk read ordinance by title for the second reading. Item referred to Service Committee.

ORDINANCE TO ACCEPT AN APPLICATION FOR ANNEXATION OF .60+/- ACRES IN TRURO TOWNSHIP, COUNTY OF FRANKLIN, STATE OF OHIO, TO THE CITY OF REYNOLDSBURG, OHIO (Wesley S. Mendenhall)- - Clerk read ordinance by title for the third reading. Mr. Clemens moved adoption. Mrs. Shirey seconded. With the roll called, members voted: Mr. Stake "Yea"; Mr. Stearns "Yea"; Mr. Baxter "Yea"; Mr. Joseph "Yea"; Mr. Clemens "Yea"; Mrs. Newman "Yea"; Mrs. Shirey "Yea". Motion passed; Ordinance No. 61-06 adopted.

Motion to recess for the month of August. Mr. Stearns moved for Council to recess for the month of August. Mrs. Newman seconded. With the roll called, members voted: Mr. Stake "Yea"; Mr. Stearns "Yea"; Mr. Baxter "Yea"; Mr. Joseph "Yea"; Mr. Clemens "Yea"; Mrs. Newman "Yea"; Mrs. Shirey "Yea". Motion passed. Council will recess for the month of August. Meeting adjourned at 8:06 p.m.

Ron Stake, President Pro Tempore of Council

Nancy C. Frazier, Clerk of Council
(Minutes compiled/S. Smith, Ass't. Clerk of Council)