

MINUTES COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
REYNOLDSBURG CITY COUNCIL
May 7, 2012

Members of Community Development Committee present: Leslie Kelly, Scott A. Barrett, Nathan Burd, Cornelius McGrady III.

Other members of Council present: Mel Clemens, Barth R. Cotner, Chris Long, Council President Doug Joseph.

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

The agenda was approved.

Minutes of the Community Development Committee meeting held March 5, 2012 were approved without objection.

Discussion: Tomato Festival Beer Garden- -Mrs. Kelly called on Tomato Festival representative Mary Hudson, and noted that a packet of material had been provided to members of Council.

Mrs. Hudson: Basically I think we gave you all the elementary information in regards to the permitting and how we would work with the Administration and the Reynoldsburg Division of Police and basically where it would be situated, which is an issue, the hours of operation, how it would be - they are not allowed to walk the grounds, it will be a 20x20 tent with an extension of some of the yellow fencing on the outside so that people can actually be outside, it will be close to the fact that they can see the stage; we've got some exciting things going on with entertainment so they would be able to see the stage in the corner that it's in. But, I think the big thing that we really want everyone to know and we have representatives with us tonight, is that this isn't something that we are just coming to you willy-nilly. We have thought about this, we have researched it, we cannot continue to count on our corporate sponsors and our businesses here in Reynoldsburg. We are so blessed to have the sponsorship of people like Heartland Bank, and WOW! that continue to come back every year, but it's getting tougher for businesses and you know, there's so many activities going on in town and everyone has their hand out, so we researched all different types of things because of our 501(c) 3 status, the gaming was absolutely not a possibility for us; and so this was kind of a last resort as to sustainability for our dollars, was to look at this. And it's not unusual, it's done in very, many, many venues in central Ohio, where they have beer gardens, they have, you know, wine festivals and everything else. So we just thought, you know, we need your support, we would love to have your support, so if there's any questions as far as what's been going on. Mr. Hood has worked with us very closely to make sure that, he's writing up, the paperwork is correct, as far as using the park, because that's basically the biggest hurdle and other than that, like I said, we've been researching it, working with the distributing company to find out what we can do, and we don't want to be sky-bust, we're going to start out slow, if in fact we're allowed to do this and do it right the first year, because we want to maintain the integrity of the festival with it being a family-friendly and a community event.

Mr. McGrady: When I first heard about this, and there was some questions that I have, controlled items, matter of fact, when I did my municipal training, this was a very highly-debated topic at my training. But then after that, one of the entities that I'm affiliated with sent me an email, not relative to this, but relative to a symposium that was taking place here in Columbus relative to youth and alcoholism. So where I'm at today is, and I'll just read briefly - alcohol is the leading drug problem on youth and is responsible for at least 46,000 deaths per year among persons under 21, while youth is defined as 12 to 20; and I'll just summarize it real short - I prefer not to see a culture of alcohol consumption in our parks thereby signaling a false acceptable language or symbol, value or belief for our youth to emulate. I believe we need to maintain our City of Respect image and protect our youth. That's all I have.

Mrs. Hudson: Thank you for your opinion.

Mr. Long: We've utilized Columbus Detective Agency in the past for security on the grounds; are they going to be providing the security for the beer garden?

Mrs. Hudson: They will be available to do that, but as I said, we will be working with the Mayor and the Administration, and the Reynoldsburg Division of Police to see if they would prefer they do it. So I mean, we're working very closely, early in the year we met with the Police Department with the Administration and said we would do, if in fact it comes to that, whatever they are comfortable with, but yes, Columbus Detective Agency is willing and have done that type of thing in the past.

Mr. Long: Okay. I notice we have Lt. O'Neill here. Lieutenant, does the Police Department have an opinion on this?

Lt. O'Neill: As of this point, it seems like it's going to be a manageable situation. We don't have a definitive outline of exactly what's going on; it obviously wouldn't be the first time we've had to deal with some type of crowd control, and at this point we don't anticipate it being, you know, rock concert status, or anything like that. If it goes that way, you know, we'd have to rethink it for next year, but as of right now, it is a concern, but it's not one that I think is a deal-breaker.

Mr. Long: Thank you sir. Thanks Mary.

Mr. Cotner: Just two questions for you Mary. Since obviously finances are the main reason that it seems like we're going this route, what range do you expect to make from beer sales? Do you have any estimates of what you are hoping for?

Mrs. Hudson: At this point in time, no. We're even, because, like I said, we want to maintain the integrity of the festival, we are looking at and we're hoping for community input as people start seeing it and talking about it - we don't even know as far as charging, we're looking between 4 and 5 dollars for a cup, so you know, people have to be pretty serious about cooling off if they're going to pay that much, so we really haven't looked at it that way. We've heard estimates; basically the people that we've worked with, very much so with the Violet Festival, they have netted \$24,000 in four days and we think, we'll start out slow; obviously with just being opened on Friday evening and Saturday, and Saturday it would just be noon until 10 p.m. So but, like I say, we're starting

slow, and we'll just see. So this year, it's not even as if we're counting on anything, we're just basically .. we're testing the waters to see if this is something viable for us to help us with the festival.

Mr. Cotner: And then what kind of training are your volunteers going to have, who are actually serving to the people there.

Mrs. Hudson: Well, what we are going to do, and Greta Stake, who is here with us tonight, has done a lot of the research on talking about the permitting and with the Columbus Brewing Company as to what is required, and it's kind of interesting that they do not require, even the State does not require any training. But I have been in many conversations with the Dublin Irish Festival and if any of you have visited there, it is one of the premier, almost in the State, it's absolutely huge, and they have offered us the availability of attending their training sessions. And because the festival is two weeks before ours, the timing is perfect; so in July we have the opportunity to attend their training sessions and also this year for the first time, we had planned anyway on having training for our volunteers. We put together a code of conduct, which I gave you, and that's kind of the rough draft, but we feel it's very important for the volunteers that represent the community to all be on the same page, to be representing us correctly, so we will be having in-house training.

Mr. Cotner: When you say they've invited you to come to their training, are you thinking that you're going to have the volunteers who are going to be involved in this beer garden be required to attend that training?

Mrs. Hudson: No. We will attend in Dublin and then we will have it here.

Mr. Cotner: Doesn't seem like that would give you much time to get them prepared.

Mrs. Hudson: Well we were talking the week before the festival here having our training, because it would just be like two to three hours. We have one group, the Reynoldsburg Community Association, who will be the ones that are doing the serving, so it will be a group that's familiar with people in the community, all adults, so I think we'll have a great handle that way. So like I said, we're still, we're learning as we go, but we're just trying to do everything correctly.

Mr. Cotner: Thank you.

Mr. Long: One thing you might want to look into, Mary, Greta, I don't know if you've looked at it or not, is Grove City utilizes a local establishment, who has people who have been hired and have worked in that serving environment, and so forth for years, you might want to look at partnering - you know - they're experienced in checking I Ds, you know, noticing whether an individual is underage, noticing whether an individual has had too much, you know, that may give you an 'in' to bringing individuals into the event that are experienced at doing that type of thing.

Mrs. Hudson: And as we go along, we can look into that. When I first started the research, I worked through the Conventions - Visitors Bureau, which is my forte, and I mean, there must have been fifty different, just in the central Ohio area, everyone does it different, everyone has a

different way, so we kind of had to go through all the paperwork and look at what was working, who'd been doing it the longest, had the fewest problems, so we will definitely look at everything to make it the best we can.

Mr. Long: Okay.

Mrs. Kelly: You talked a little bit about the trainings, and I just want to kind of clarify - some of you are going to go to the trainings with the Dublin Irish Festival people and then you're going to bring back what you've learned and then present it.

Mrs. Hudson: Correct.

Mrs. Kelly: So are the volunteers going to be required to go to the in-house training?

Mrs. Hudson: Yes.

Mrs. Kelly: Okay.

Mrs. Hudson: As far as, we will open it up to all the volunteers; the ones that are going to be ticket-takers, and work the children's area, we would like them all to come, but I think this first year, if you're going to be working the beer garden, it would be required that you come and get the information that we have.

Mrs. Kelly: Okay. And I also want to support what Mr. Long said. I think it would be a really good idea to see if you can get some volunteers in the community; you could even advertise their establishments to have some people who are trained at looking at that. There are some specifically teenagers that look a whole lot older than what they actually are, so I think that would be a great thing.

Mrs. Hudson: There's a lot of businesses that we've worked with in the past, you're right, it would be wonderful. And it's not just, I mean, anyone could look at the date and know what's right, but how...I don't know what a fake I D looks like.

Mrs. Kelly: Right. And I think also the importance of knowing and having experience telling whose head too much, when is enough, I don't know that I would be able to do that. And then, I know that we have an ordinance, and I don't know it off the top of my head, that prohibits alcohol from being in parks. And I don't see Jed, oh, but Matt's here - how are we getting around that, or how is that working; what do we have to do...

Mrs. Hudson: That's the reason that we're here because that's the one hurdle that we have to get over, and I believe, we have talked to Mr. Hood and he's working on it, but maybe Jason with Parks...if he could...Jason's here tonight and he's on our committee, if he could address that as to what the steps we will have to do.

Parks and Recreation Director Shamblin: I would defer to the City Attorney. It is written in our ordinances that alcohol is restricted in the parks, so yes.

Mrs. Kelly: Matt, do you have anything you'd like to add?

Assistant City Attorney Roth: I haven't been involved with any of the discussions; Jed has been doing that. My understanding though, it would take an ordinance by Council changing the ordinance that exists saying there's no alcohol in the parks; it would have to be like a special event permit, and I know they were looking at who would determine whether it would be okay, I think whether it would be Council or the Parks Director or the Administration, I know that was part of the discussions, but I'm not privy to what the outcome of those discussions were.

Mrs. Kelly: So essentially, we would be changing the ordinance that would allow for special events to be able to come into the parks and do essentially beer garden type things. Okay. I think that's all I have for right now. Does anybody else have any questions? Mel.

Mr. Clemens: I've been to many festivals that have it. If it's properly handled, I've not seen a problem with Pickerington, and I've been to Dublin and different ones, many county fairs have it now, but you know, if it's properly handled, I think it'd be a benefit as far as making additional funds, to be able to operate your festival. As Chris had said, it has to be properly handled though, properly trained really because it can be a problem if you don't have the training on who handles it and I think if it's done correctly, I don't see a problem. I know that Dublin's still respected, and so's Pickerington, and so forth, and they do allow it in there at their festivals, but like I said I think the training and the handling of the alcohol and who serves it and so forth is very, very important.

Mrs. Hudson: We've tried to work closer with Pickerington and the Violet Festival, first of all because they are our neighbors, it's the same type, it's a suburban community; the Dublin Irish Festival is very different where they serve not only beer, but they serve hard alcohol and people are allowed to take it all over the grounds and that's not something that we are looking to do. We are looking to have it confined into the beer garden, so we've worked very closely with Pickerington and the gentleman that has run the beer garden the last couple years told us - they have more trouble with teenage girls in the midway than they do in the beer garden.

Mrs. Kelly: I know, Matt, if you can relay this to Jed, my only concern is I think about changing an ordinance, is are we opening up a floodgate; are we possibly opening up, now that we've done this with this organization, that's our community organization, people that we know and we trust to do a good job, if you change the ordinance to allow that in parks, I think, I would, my question would be how do we keep that from opening up a floodgate; how do we keep that from then having to decide who do we let do that, who do we not do that, and is there a way to do that? So that would be a question that I would have.

Mr. Clemens: I would think it would be controlled by Council; really it'd have to come before Council.

Mrs. Kelly: But even coming before Council, if we deny and we say yes, I think we have to be able to defend and have a criteria, so I would want to know more information about that.

Mr. Clemens: That's what you were elected for, to make your mind up on what you do. I mean, that's .. If you think it's proper, then you would give it; if you didn't think it was proper, then you

wouldn't.

Mrs. Kelly: Yeah, but, I don't know. And I have one more question - the other festivals, just because I don't know, are they held in their parks, are they held more in different places?

Mrs. Hudson: They're both. Some of them are held on city property; some of them are held on private property; some of them are on city streets.

Mrs. Kelly: Do you know which ones are held in city parks?

Mrs. Hudson: The Dublin Irish Festival is held in Kaufman Park.

Mrs. Kelly: I've never been, and with a name like Kelly, you would think I would go.

Mrs. Hudson: First weekend in August.

Mr. Shamblin: The Creekside Festival in Gahanna is in a park; and then Grove City has a very similar instance, when they have their alumni softball tournament, City Council allows alcohol to be sold in the park and it's run by a non-profit separate from the city's events...

Bryan Frederick, 6563 Furth Drive- -To Councilman McGrady's comment - maybe something to look into would be considering the community and alcohol being a problem, offering the community AA and AL-ANON, a place at the table, so people that are drinking, who would know better than those that are affected by it. I've lost a wife from alcohol, I lost a son from heroin, overdose here in this city. Alcohol is a problem, but the creeping problem more is heroin, but I'll digress. As far as people to look also towards, I did five years as a store operator, and dealt with that issue continually, serving alcohol underage; I have a clean record. Some of my employees that I trained, did not; and they were properly dismissed. Training isn't always; you know, if they do have a background, maybe we can look further into - have they ever violated selling underage. And that's my comment, I do agree with you as far as, you know, it's something we haven't done; and changing the ordinance, you could have something to the effect that it would be only internal; she's obviously within the city; any outside coming in and wanting to do that, we don't know, you know, more research, more time, and your time's valuable, but those that we know, you know, and have a track record with, you know, you can put that in your ordinance, shall be, or shall not be, and there's no wiggle room. So that's my two cents to it, but thank you.

Mrs. Kelly: Thank you very much, Mr. Frederick. Okay, I would like to motion to move this to Council for its first reading, and then we'll have some time to explore, get some more information. I need a second.

Mr. McGrady: Do we need to, before this moves on, do we need to find out how, and if, they're going to amend the code first before we push this?

Mrs. Kelly: Well you move that to the first reading, there's three readings before you would vote to adopt it.

President of Council Joseph: Right. This is just, we move it to Council, it will come right back to committee.

Mr. Clemens: It comes right back.

Mr. McGrady: Okay.

Mrs. Kelly: So do I have a second? Second by Mr. Long. You're not on my committee.

Mr. Barrett: I'll second it.

Mrs. Kelly: Second by Mr. Barrett. All in favor, please say "Aye". (All voted "Aye") Opposed. (Mr. McGrady voted "Nay") Three "Ayes"; one "Nay"; so it moved forward for its first read. And, Matt, if you could check with Jed in the mean time and get some of that info, that would be great.

Mr. Roth: I will.

Mrs. Kelly: And I bring Community Development to a close at 7:51 p.m.

Community Development
- - -Nancy C. Frazier, Clerk of Council
May 7, 2012

MINUTES SAFETY COMMITTEE
REYNOLDSBURG CITY COUNCIL
May 7, 2012

Members of Safety Committee present: Mel Clemens, Cornelius McGrady III, Nathan Burd, Scott A. Barrett.

Other members of Council present: Leslie Kelly, Barth R. Cotner, Chris Long, Council President Doug Joseph.

Mr. Clemens called the meeting to order at 7:52 p.m.

Mr. Clemens moved to amend the agenda by adding Item No. 6, Police Cruisers. Mr. Barrett seconded the motion; the amended agenda was approved with all voting "Aye".

Discussion: Liquor Permit Request - Transfer - from Epicures, Inc., to Fresh Market Pizza LLC, 7601 E. Main Street, 2nd Flr Bsmt & Patio, Reynoldsburg, Ohio 43068- -Lt. O'Neill said after they conducted their investigation into the application, they found the owner would be the same; that they are just changing the business from a banquet/reception hall to a higher-end brick oven pizza (business) and the transfer would allow them to sell in-house consumption of alcohol; it would not be for take-out, and not be consumed outside; so there was no reason to appeal the application. Mr. Clemens said the item could go as it is; and that no hearing would be requested.

Discussion: Authorize Mayor to sign M.O.U. - 2012 Franklin County Drug Task Force- -Lt. O'Neill said, "Thank you, Chairman Clemens. This particular M.O.U. that we're asking approval for, is for any of those of you familiar with Tye Downard - he's associated with a Task Force that's run by the Franklin County Sheriff's Department in conjunction with the Ohio HIDTA, the high-density drug trafficking organization. They work with the county, the DEA, the FBI, and several of the local jurisdictions have either one or two officers assigned to that. He's been associated with this organization for a couple of years now; we feel it's a real benefit to us because it allows him to get exposure dealing with some relatively sophisticated drug organizations and it also provides us the ability to bring in additional manpower should we have anybody setting up shop here in Reynoldsburg. We've probably had to deal with them coming into town and helping us out approximately six or seven times a year; unfortunately it's just one of those things that you never can quite get a handle on, and they keep moving in and moving out of town. So like I said, we've been associated with them for the past several years; it's not really going to change anything - they're just requesting a new M.O.U. to cover 2012."

Mr. Clemens thanked Lt. O'Neill and asked if there were any questions. (No response) Mr. Clemens moved to send legislation to Council with recommendation for adoption as an emergency measure. Mr. McGrady seconded the motion; all voted "Aye".

Discussion: Police Cruisers- -Mayor McCloud said the purchase had been included in the budget, and the request was asking for authorization to purchase two cruisers, as well as trade in two cruisers, thereby removing them from the fixed asset list. Mr. McGrady asked the amount of the trade in vehicles. Mayor McCloud said they would bring \$2,000 each. Mr. Joseph asked if there was any equipment in the new cruisers that the trade in vehicles did not have; the Mayor said there was none that he was aware of. Mr. Clemens moved to send an ordinance to Council authorizing the purchase with a recommendation for adoption as an emergency measure. Mr. Burd seconded the motion; all voted "Aye".

Meeting adjourned at 7:58 p.m.

Safety Committee

- -Nancy C. Frazier, Clerk of Council

May 7, 2012

MINUTES SERVICE COMMITTEE
REYNOLDSBURG CITY COUNCIL
May 7, 2012

Members of Service Committee present: Barth R. Cotner, Scott A. Barrett, Leslie Kelly, Cornelius McGrady III.

Other members of Council present: Mel Clemens, Chris Long, Nathan Burd, Council President Doug Joseph.

Mr. Cotner called the meeting to order at 7:59 p.m.

The agenda was approved.

Minutes of the Service Committee meeting held April 16, 2012 were approved without objection.

ORDINANCE ACCEPTING UNRECORDED QUITCLAIM DEED (7336 East Main Street); and APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR DELINQUENT PROPERTY TAXES- -second reading 4-23-12.- -As there were no questions, Mr. Cotner moved to send ordinance to Council for its third reading with a recommendation for adoption. Mr. Barrett seconded the motion; all voted "Aye".

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Service Committee
- - -Nancy C. Frazier, Clerk of Council
May 7, 2012

MINUTES FINANCE COMMITTEE
REYNOLDSBURG CITY COUNCIL
May 7, 2012

Members of Finance Committee present: Chris Long, Nathan Burd, Barth R. Cotner, Mel Clemens, Leslie Kelly.

Other members of Council present: Scott A. Barrett, Cornelius McGrady III, Council President Doug Joseph.

Mr. Long called the meeting to order at 8:00 p.m.

The agenda was approved.

Minutes of the Finance Committee meeting held April 16, 2012 were approved without objection.

Discussion: Ad Hoc Committee Report (2011); addressing structural imbalance; possible adjustments. (Chairman Long had item listed, as suggested by Mr. Barrett during special Finance Committee meeting 3-26-2012)- - -

Mr. Long: Back in 2011 we had an Ad Hoc Committee Report that was submitted to City Council and the Administration which addressed structural imbalances, possible adjustments, and I was asked by Councilman Barrett to go ahead and add it to our agenda this evening for discussion. Councilman Barrett.

Mr. Barrett: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'd like to start by saying that I believe the Ad Hoc Committee did a really wonderful job in researching this situation and presenting potential solutions. They made what I believe are very accurate and specific points for our current situation and cite how by allowing the structural imbalance to continue has caused us to defer some real critical maintenance for our infrastructure. They use the example 'kicking the can' and this is kicking the can down the road financially which has created this immediate need to really play catch-up. In reading the report, I see that many suggestions to address the expense side of the budget have already enacted by the Council here. Frankly, I believe we've done an exceptional job, being fairly new to Council, of keeping the budget fairly lean. And I think really the missing link continues to be the revenue side of budgeting and the Ad Hoc Committee's very clear here of what limited solutions we have to address these concerns. When I brought this up originally, I felt the subject should become a higher focus of the Council as well as the Administration and we should make it a priority as we move forward. Not really knowing protocol on an issue like that, I thought I'd just bring up three ideas or I guess recommendations from my aspect that I think would benefit the people of Reynoldsburg and help us kind of solve this solution. First off, I think we need to discuss how to act or implement the five conditional steps listed in the Ad Hoc Report and that's really toward the end of report; it cites five areas where Council should be kind of active as they move forward and I'm not sure all those have been addressed. Secondly, again these are ideas, but I would suggest that we schedule maybe a series of community meetings, whatever, but one thing I've learned from coming into office is not everyone in the community is as savvy about our finances as we might tend to believe. I do know that having exposure to it, you gain a lot of knowledge quickly, but I think the average guy, he might not really know where we're at and I think that communication is important, so. And the third thing, I think would fall on the Administration; I think that it would be fair to ask, that would be Council ask the Administration to provide a detailed path, a solution path and present it to Council within the next two weeks. The reason I do this, is because these are the full time people running the city; they've got the resources and knowledge of what we need; they're better suited to bring a suggestion to us and allow us to, I guess, consider it. So that is what I have and I appreciate the opportunity.

Mr. Long: No problem. I just wanted to let you know just initially that on Item 2, the Finance Committee will start weekly special Finance Committee meetings, so even on the nights that we have Council meeting, starting June 1st, we then will through the period of two months, June and July, not only be able to review in discussion amongst ourselves the elements of the budget, but also have the people in the public be able to come in and address us, ask questions, and things of that sort. So I think Item 2 will be addressed.

Mr. Barrett: That's great! I think that we should really elevate the communication to the

community though and make sure they know we're doing this; frankly, we're getting kind of late in the game.

Mr. Long: I agree. Any comments from anybody else on the committee? Council?
Councilman McGrady.

Mr. McGrady: One final thing. In 2009, I think, there was a budget training that was put on? Would this be the appropriate time to make that request?

City Auditor Harris: I think what Councilman McGrady is talking about, I had a training for Council, I think it started at 6:30 on a Council night back sometime in 2009 prior to the budget discussions; I would certainly, I still have the notes from that; I mean, if you guys want some kind of training either before or after, if you give me an idea of what kind of things you're looking for, I'll certainly be glad to do whatever you guys want me to do. I mean the initial thing I think we did and Nancy I think can pull out the minutes from that meeting for anybody that wants to read them; it was basically telling how the budget was put together, what some of the account numbers meant, the difference in the funds, and what's in the General Fund, what's in the Enterprise Funds, what's in the Agency Funds, why they're put in those different things because there's obviously different revenue streams that support those; anything like that that you would want, I would certainly be happy to do it, whether it's on a Saturday morning or if you want to do it on a Monday night prior to a Council meeting or before a committee meeting; I will make myself available for whatever you folks want.

Mr. Long: We'd appreciate that, considering we've probably got about three and half, four weeks before we're going to be coming up to review the budget; just after you submit your budget to the county.

Mr. Harris: Well, the Tax Budget will be coming to Council at the next committee meeting.

Mr. Long: Will you get back to us on that, whenever it's convenient for you and you can have everything put together?

Mr. Harris: I will need a list from you guys of what exactly you want me to discuss. I mean, I don't want to spend an hour discussing something that you don't think's important.

Mr. Long: Okay.

Mr. Harris: Yeah, if you give me a list of what Councilman McGrady or other Councilmen, cause I'm sure the newer Council people are maybe looking for something a little more basic than somebody that's been around, like Mr. Cotner or Mr. Joseph, that's been around for a number of years; and Mel - there's no hope for Mel so (laughter) Yeah, if you guys can give me a list of what kind of things you want me to touch on, I'll be more than happy to do it.

Mr. Long: Thank you sir.

Mr. McGrady: Thank you Chairman.

Mrs. Kelly: Dick, could you possibly, I mean, have everybody give you their ideas, but then you also from your experience, give some of the key things that you think Council people do not have enough knowledge about.

Mr. Harris: Need to understand?

Mrs. Kelly: Yes.

Mr. Harris: Sure.

Mr. Long: Councilman Barrett, would you please plan on coming back with any developments and so forth that you have; I'll make sure that this is added again in two weeks to our discussions on committee night.

Mr. Barrett: Excellent.

For Discussion Only: Income Tax Credit (Chairman Long had item listed at request of Councilman Clemens)- -Mr. Clemens said, "I brought this up for discussion and it is something that I worry about and I've discussed before. We're in our fifth month, we've got to start thinking about next year, and then the following years, and it's something that's important, something we're going to have to move on. I think all of us know that. So I thought it's time to at least bring up for a little discussion on my part, and how I feel about it, and I know taxes is a bad word for everybody, but we all go through it. And I just wanted to bring a little bit of something here; we all pay federal income tax, at least I hope we do, most of us do; state tax, income tax; city income tax; and school income tax. We all pay those, which we have to.

Next is our real estate, our property tax; now, a lot of people don't pay that because they're renting, but actually they do because it's built into their rent; a lot of people don't understand that, but you don't rent free. So I just wanted to bring up mine and go over just exactly where everything goes when you get your real estate tax and what happens. First you have the county general fund and that's, I'm talking about mine and mine is about average, maybe a little under, and I know there's a lot of them that's a lot higher, that pay more and some pay a lot lower. But mine - the County General Fund is \$73.44 a year; Childrens Services \$236.64; ADAMH \$109.92; FCBDD \$310.38; Parks \$37.46; the zoo \$33.19; Senior Options \$44.96; Library \$139.87; Vocational School \$99.91; Township, now some of us are not in Truro so you have the same thing in other townships, but Township \$521.42; Schools \$2,287.26; and the holy Reynoldsburg \$34.97. Now, we try to function on that \$34.97 plus the 1-1/2 % that we pay, and the people that work and live here in Reynoldsburg pay the 1-1/2% and the people that live out of Reynoldsburg and work in Reynoldsburg such as teachers and supermarkets and such things as that pay the 1-1/2%; and then we have the other people, the 60-some percent of them paying 2-1/2% to Columbus, and 0 to Reynoldsburg. They're paying, if it's an average of \$40,000...say they're making \$40,000 a year, in Columbus they're paying \$1,000 to Columbus and zero to Reynoldsburg other than they're possibly, like me, they're \$34.97 that we function on. Columbus is a nice city, I don't really care that they're paying that in Columbus, you know, I worry about the City of Reynoldsburg. If Columbus was nice, we would get a percent of that back; maybe one percent of that 2-1/2 which sure as hell would help us, but there's no way that they're going to give it to us, and no reason why

they should because it's state law that says you pay where you work. So for us really to function, and there's so many things that have to be done in the City of Reynoldsburg, property values have went down; it's a cheap city - we don't want it that way; we want to get property values back up. And we're not going to get them back up until we start taking care of our responsibilities and our responsibilities is the infrastructure of the City of Reynoldsburg, our parks, our administration, our police department - that lousy \$34.97 people are paying their property tax takes care of our police department, our administration, parks, such things as that. We need the additional money and I don't know whether, and I've given up on the situation of increasing the 1-1/2% to 2-1/2% ...I think maybe the people were right; they're paying their amount, we're not getting anything from the people that work for Columbus and so I think we have to start thinking about a reduction on our tax credit that we allow Columbus and I know that it puts a burden, an extra cost to the people that work in Columbus or other cities outside of Reynoldsburg that collect the tax, but somehow we've got to come up with the money. Now if, and these are just items, I mean, most of the people that work here in Reynoldsburg that work in our shopping malls and so forth and such things, are part time people, probably making 20,000 a year. It took two million dollars to pay for one of those cruisers; two million dollars of employment tax to pay for one of those cruisers - \$30,000 that's what we get out of two million dollars worth of tax that we receive from people that work for the 1-1/2%. That would take care of one of those cruisers. Two million dollars is quite a bit of part time people; it takes quite a few people at 20,000 dollars for that. If they're making 20,000 a year, then they're paying \$300 in taxes; if they're making 40,000 dollars here in Reynoldsburg, then you're paying \$600, but we don't have the population to carry us, to bring enough, on that 1-1/2% to do what we need to do. I think we should think, and I think that's the only reason I brought it up, I think we should think of a reduction of the credit on Columbus and that would be if we did a hundred percent - Reynoldsburg would get \$5,252,392 - that would do what we need to do. We would be able to put money away; we'd be able to do our infrastructure repairs, our streets, our curbs, our gutters; we'd be able to handle our police department, more equipment, we'd be able to handle our administration, more people that we need, HR Director and such things as that to operate the city, be able to handle our employees the way we should. Fifty percent would bring us \$2,916,818 - - - I don't know whether that would be an amount we would want to consider because in the future we'd probably be having to worry about doing it again. So anyhow, the reason I brought this up, I think it's something - it should be thought about - I don't think I'd be in favor of crying wolf and trying to get people to pass anything again; I don't believe in that, going out and saying we're going to take this away from you, going to take that away from you - we let the schools do that; that's how they get theirs passed. I don't think we were elected to do that. I think we were elected to do what we think is correct for the city, I know it takes a lot of thought to pass a tax yourself, but we can do that; that's the way it can be handled by Council. I just think it's something that we ought to think about and discuss; and I appreciate it, Chris.

Mr. Long: Thank you Councilman Clemens. I agree with you; I've taken a look at my property report on the Auditor's site and I am amazed - you get down to the bottom of it and there is Reynoldsburg and it's \$25, \$30; now granted, we have a number of homes here in the City of Reynoldsburg that when you consider the percentages of the total tax dollars that are paid on property that go to other amenities within the city, whether it be schools or any of the other different things, people don't really realize how very little from the property taxes come to the city administration. Councilman Burd.

Mr. Burd: You kind of alluded to what I was going to say. I just encourage everybody to go to the Auditor's web site and look at where your property taxes go because you can find it down to the penny and beyond just what we're talking about tonight, it's really interesting. And I don't think most people know that it's as easy to find out where your money's being spent as it is. You just go to the Franklin County Auditor's web site, I think it's just franklincountyauditor.gov maybe, something like that, do a Google search, put in your name, you'll find your property and you can find it down to the dollar, where your tax money goes, and it is very interesting, so I would just encourage people to take the time to do that because it's a real eye-opener.

Mr. McGrady: I think it's important that we look at where we are and where we need to go into the future. What we have right now with limited resources, zero dollars, we tried the tax increase, it did not go; infrastructure - it is what it is; in addition to that, like I shared with, I believe everyone's seen my email in terms of an economic development plan for the future as well - we need to be an attraction, in an attempt to reap some of the, or increase the tourism dollar that Columbus is establishing. How do we do that here? I do not know, but under the current lack of resources to develop and maintain our infrastructure, we're not going to reap those benefits, so it'll be interesting to see or hear the pros and the cons on the tax increase when we go here, but we need to put a fixed plan in place for this thing...financial..

Mr. Long: Councilwoman Kelly.

Mrs. Kelly: One of the things that I think about when we think about moving ahead, either the tax credit or do we want to go back and ask for an income tax increase; I do not believe that we were, that we clearly said, the last time we went for a tax increase, that if we don't pass the income tax increase we're going to reduce the tax credit. And I think, if my numbers are correct, and I believe I'm correct, that more people are impacted by reducing the tax credit than are impacted by the income tax increase, and I would prefer to give, to clearly communicate that to people and give them an opportunity to vote on that and have a clear understanding of, if this doesn't pass, this is what's going to happen. And I do not believe we did that clearly the last time.

Mr. Clemens: But do you understand, we're not talking about the people that pay in Columbus cause it ain't going to cost them a nickel. Put it back on the ballot, we're going, it's the one percent that goes on the people here in Reynoldsburg, that work here. That's the problem right there. The people that work in Columbus, are still going to be paying 2-1/2 to Columbus and nothing more to Reynoldsburg. If we're putting the burden back on the people that live in Columbus for that one percent, those are the...

Mrs. Kelly: We're putting the burden on the people that may work in Reynoldsburg, but there are a lot of our people that live in our community work outside of Reynoldsburg. A lot of them work outside of Reynoldsburg.

Mr. Barrett: I think it kind of goes back to what Mel said earlier; unfortunately things have gone so long and we're at such a, kind of a state of critical mass, these have to be addressed and we're elected to make these kind of tough decisions, in my opinion, and that's the kind of thinking I believe we need to move forward with. Thank you.

Mr. Joseph: Mr. Harris, can you tell me what communities have repealed their income tax credit in this part of the state? Or anywhere for that matter, that you know...

Mr. Harris: In the last, oh gosh, ten years, Westerville has repealed their; they had, they were not offering a hundred percent credit; they repealed that when they passed an increase on the tax rate. Bexley has had one for a long period of time; Gahanna does not give a hundred percent credit, they have had that for a number of years, going back probably to the 70s and maybe even before; so most of the cities do give a hundred percent tax credit, but they make up for that starting by about 1993, eight percent or more of the communities in central Ohio had already gone to 2%; now we have a number that have gone to 2-1/2% so they have made the commitment wherever they could to raise the tax rate rather than reduce the percentage of credit they give, but there are a number of communities that still, that have not given a hundred percent credit and to this day still don't give a hundred percent credit. In fact, Bexley, when they passed theirs, did both. They raised the rate to 2-1/2% and lowered the rate that they gave, lowered the amount, the percentage that they gave credit for, so you've got kind of a mixed bag; it's not, the only one that's really made a change was Westerville in '06, I think; they used to only offer 50% credit, but when they raised their tax rate, they went to a hundred percent credit and that's the way they basically got it passed, was those people that lived and worked somewhere else, you know, were willing to vote for it because they got the credit back.

Mrs. Kelly: That goes back to my point.

Mr. Joseph: Okay. And yeah, Mrs. Kelly, you were right, the income tax increase effects about a third of the residents, the credit effects about two-thirds of the residents.

And the only other observation I have is, as we look forward is that, assuming we were to do something like this, we have to look long-term about how that does effect how people view Reynoldsburg in the future. Is this a city they want to live in if they do work in Columbus; do they really want to move here and pay four percent income tax. That could be a real problem if you look at that end of the equation as well, so I think that has to be carefully examined. I mean, if you're only talking about a little bit of reduction, some people might not have a problem with that; if you're talking about a full reduction, that's a substantial increase for 67% of the people in the City of Reynoldsburg. So I think that has to be looked at carefully as well. But does the city need additional dollars? Yes. I think there's a lot of ways we can look at that, and I think Councilman Barrett's idea of going back and looking at the Ad Hoc Report is a good way to go. Obviously we can have additional discussions on new revenues, but I still think that an area we need to seriously look at is shared services with other communities, whether it be Truro, or other communities, we have a new business model now and I think we really have to think outside the box and not always just say 'more money' because there's no guarantee the citizens are going to agree. Three times in the last five years we've asked the citizens to raise taxes; they've said no with substantial numbers and again, this is something this Council could pass, the citizens could turn right around and repeal it and we're right back where we were before. So I think we have to think in terms of what else is there that we can do to, you know, address these budget shortfalls, things that are not going to turn our neighbors against each other because some of them work in Columbus and some don't. So as we do move forward on these discussions, I would encourage us to look at the bigger picture of not just new tax revenue, but how can we work with other entities and think outside the box on, you know, how we operate. Thank you.

Mr. Clemens: One thing we could do, we could start graveling our streets instead of blacktopping them; that would be one little thing to do. I think one thing we have to look at is, when you start talking about Westerville and Worthington and Dublin and all these, Upper Arlington, their taxes are a little bit different than ours; that's the problem. We don't have any real estate tax and we haven't had for years and that's where we're hurting is real estate tax. And I don't want to charge anybody 4-1/2% either and I don't know why people wouldn't move to Reynoldsburg if they had the opportunity, I mean, the point is we've got to upgrade the city. Now, you may enjoy living the way it is; I'm not taking that away from you; you know, if you want to live where property values go down and that means nothing to you, that's fine, Doug; I have no problem with that, you know. But I sure don't want to stick around and watch it, let's put it that way. Because that's what we're going to be into in a few years. And I realize how some people feel about additional tax and additional money - sobeit. That's what we're here to vote on; I'm not here to argue with anybody about it, but I think eventually the time comes when it should come up to a vote on how we're going to function with the city in the next few years; and I think we should have more discussions on it.

Bryan Frederick: I'm sure you guys got the Reynoldsburg News and on the front page, right, a young lady designed a box that fabricated at the Summit High School. And I'm going to ask you guys the same thing I asked Supt. Dackin, 'who owns that'? If we're going in that direction and teaching our kids to fabricate, right? Why don't we build that box here? Why don't we, if we, if these kids are building stuff, the new innovations of the future, right? Why don't we build it? Why don't we build the manufacturing for it? Why don't we take some of the areas here in town that...Eminent Domain. Now some of us might, you know, go 'wow', that's awful big, but is it going to help the overall community? We can raise taxes. That's an option, but let's look outside the box, because we're teaching the kids to a box. Let's say these people have patents; patents generate revenue. We build what they do; and then we bring Reynoldsburg and revive manufacturing not only here, but show the rest of the country what can be done. I've lived in this city probably longer than most of you, other than Mel; I've been here almost the entire thirty-six years of my life, or, pardon me, not thirty-six, forty-three years of my life. I've seen things happen. Why are we dependent on someone else to do our roads? Cause somebody says so? It's our job. And another thing, we have a web site, right? Everybody's ___ technology, right? Everybody's got an iPhone or an Android, an email, right? If you want the people in the city to see what you're doing, put it out there for 'em, not just in the newsprint, but show them; this is what your money's doing. Show them, because when you go in McDonalds, right? And get a hamburger, right? McDoubles, or Big Mac, right? We expect something for that. And when we don't, what do we do? We say hold on a second. I'm not happy. Or if the service isn't there, we're not happy. So it's a reflection upon City Council and what can City Council do to better reflect and show the citizens that they represent that they're serious about creating jobs, serious about bringing up Reynoldsburg and making it the standard to show the rest of the cities around and even Columbus...

Mr. Long: I agree with you, but that isn't the responsibility of the City of Reynoldsburg or this Council in itself. I thank you very much.

Mr. Frederick: Thank you.

Monica DeBrock, 7400 Bryden Road: Talking Mel Clemens, we're going to discuss the tax credit; it's an option, but I think when we were working on the tax increase at the last, for the last ballot issue, is the information was only out to the public for one month. We did not have a strong community understanding of the difficult finances the city has. The Ad Hoc Report is an excellent report stating the city is financially in trouble. And yet, I open the newspaper and read that financially we're okay for another year. That's not okay, because we're not okay; we cannot just budget for one year. But the citizens out in Reynoldsburg do not realize that the city actually has a severe financial trouble, and so I think every week you need to state we're paying the bills, but we're in trouble; we need to be thinking of what else can we do. And Councilman Clemens is correct; we've got to come up with some way to do it, but when we're working on the ballot issue, is there's a lot of people in Reynoldsburg that work in Reynoldsburg, do not live in Reynoldsburg, they're only paying 1-1/2% to Reynoldsburg. Then they go home and they pay another one percent to their city; we lose out on that money, and I can't remember, do you remember the percentage of how many people...it's large.

Mr. Harris: 80% of the people that live here, work somewhere else. And about two-thirds of the money generated by the current tax rate is paid by people who live somewhere else and work here. And I think that's the money you were referring to was on that. Yes, it's a big amount.

Mrs. DeBrock: Right. So I really would like to see, you know, another ballot issue with a tax increase; I don't know if it needs to be 2%, 2-1/2%; if people thought 1-1/2% was the thing that makes you want to buy a house in this community; if that was the case, we would not have over a thousand homes empty. So I really think that we've got to keep the city going; the city and the community and schools; the schools are in trouble - they just lost a lot of revenue from the state and from real estate and they're thinking outside the box; I don't see the city has the same option to do that, so I think in order, the city, or the schools know that they cannot put any more tax burden on our tax for schools - they know that. So the question is though for the city, how are we going to keep the city from turning, I'm not going to say worse, I love this community, but we've got to keep the community from deteriorating and the only way we can do that is getting more revenues. So I think as City Council members, I really think you're, one of your jobs is to make sure that the community understands we have a finance problem. And they need to be aware of it, we need to talk about this until the next ballot issue, and I think Councilman Kelly is correct - that they need to understand the implications if this would go forward, so that's my two cents tonight.

Mr. Long: That is one of the reasons there will be additional committee meetings that will be held starting in June so that the public will be able to come in and they will be able to talk to the Auditor; they will go ahead and be able to ask questions from us on what the budget process is and where we're at. You know, typically the budget process doesn't start until much later; we're going to be starting it June 1st.

Paul Yarger, 605 Rosehill Road: I recently changed my tax base from Columbus to Reynoldsburg and I'd be very happy to take that 2-1/2% that I was giving to Columbus, and give more than a hundred percent to Reynoldsburg, so again, I think it's time for us to raise that issue again, maybe with a little bit better clarity of why we need to have it and put it out there again and say let's get it up to two, two and a half percent; let's be equal out there; let's get that money into Reynoldsburg

instead of going to the other communities. You know, one of the things we might talk about when we're looking at the overall tax burden; there's two different ways we can do this; the school taxes, one is based on earned income, one is total income; you know, our school taxes had decided to do it on total income vs earned income and maybe we could talk to them about switching over to the other model; giving some of the people a little break there and maybe giving them an opportunity to work on their total tax bill being a little bit less, but again, for the city, I think it's time to put it back on the ballot and get it out there and say, hey, let's get it up to two to two and a half percent cause we really need it.

Mr. Long: Thank you Paul. Yes ma'am.

Laquanta Austin: I work in Reynoldsburg, but I live in Columbus, but I just wanted to make mention of the fact that if we want more, we have to be able to put it out there. And like she said, putting it on the ballot and being knowledgeable of the effects of things that are starting to dwindle. Once again, I've worked for Kinder Care for fourteen years right here in Reynoldsburg and I've seen, you know, the decrease because the money's not there. So once again, putting the knowledge out there is very helpful.

Mr. Long: Thank you ma'am. Councilwoman Kelly.

Mrs. Kelly: I do want to reiterate too; I think it's got to be more than just 'this is how desperately that we need the money'; I think if the Council is going to consider reducing the tax credit, then we would need to be really clear to people that we need the money so we're putting it out there on the ballot for an income tax increase; if the income tax increase does not go, then this could be the result of that, so that people are completely understanding everything. I would never want it to come across that we knew we were going to this so we just, because we can, but then make sure that everybody understands and is real clear.

Mr. Long: Thank you ma'am. Hearing no further comments, we will move on to Item No. 6, which is Discussion: Confirmation of Mayor's appointment of James Daley to COTA Board.

Mayor McCloud: James Daley has been serving on the COTA Board; his term is up for renewal; he's done a good job; he has a good relationship with COTA, and I'm requesting that Council confirm my re-appointment of him to the COTA Board.

Mr. Long moved to send a Motion to Council with recommendation for adoption; Mr. Clemens seconded. All voted "Aye".

Discussion: Agreement to use economic growth incentives for new jobs and investment- -Mr. Long said he put the item on the agenda in order to be able to bring it to light; that the City of Columbus had asked Reynoldsburg to enter into an agreement. Mr. Long said, "I believe that as elected individuals within the City of Reynoldsburg we have a responsibility and a duty to utilize all of our tools to do what we can to enhance the economic growth and the business environment within the City of Reynoldsburg. One of those tools is if revenues are available, would be to offer a business an incentive, tax-wise, to move their business, a hundred, two hundred employees, or whatever, into the City of Reynoldsburg. With this agreement that we have been proposed here, is for us to agree for a period of a year not to do that because the City of Columbus doesn't like the

fact that there are outlying areas who have lower taxes, who are able to go ahead and incent businesses to move into their areas.”

Acting Development Director Hansen: Just to update Council members on the latest activity on this agreement; a number of Council people had asked that I keep them updated on what communities are on board and who are not on board. And right now those that are not willing to sign the agreement as written are Whitehall, Dublin, Westerville, Canal Winchester; and those communities that are agreeing to sign onto this would be Gahanna, Groveport, and Columbus. So if you have any other questions, after reviewing the draft language, I'd be ___ to answer them to the best of my ability.

Mr. Burd: We talk about Columbus, and I was a little bit surprised by the article in the paper the other day, and I know that you may not be able to comment on what they're doing, but it sounded like the mayor was kind of iffy on it, in Columbus, is that not, did I read the article wrong? Or ... because he said that at some point he'll probably sign it, which didn't sound like he was leading the charge on this and so I'm just wondering, given Dublin opting out, UA saying they're going to opt out, Hilliard saying they're not doing it unless everybody does it - I mean, is the anchor now starting to say this might not be a, something we want to do right now? I mean, I'm just not sure. It was the Metro Section over the weekend.

Mr. Long: I have the article if you'd like me to read the quote: Mayor Coleman will sign when he feels it is a viable step for regional cooperation. So now the Mayor of Columbus has taken a step back in the aspect of when he feels it is proper and ready that he would.

Mayor McCloud: If I could, Chairman Long. This was initiated by the City of Columbus; a gentleman by the name of Steve Campbell from the mayor's office came to see me, probably a year ago, and said that Mayor Coleman wanted to initiate this dialogue. I didn't think frankly that I would ever see this gentleman again, but they did see this through to some sort of extended dialogue; I went to, as did Mr. Hansen, a number of meetings, all of which Mayor Coleman attended. I think his reticence and I'm always loathe to speak for someone else, but I think his reticence is recent and is coming about as a direct result of some of the other entities not being willing to sign off on it, but it was very much initiated by Mayor Coleman's office.

Mr. Long: Thank you Mayor McCloud. Any other comments from members of Council or the Committee?

Mr. McGrady: The one thing that I shared with Matt; when I was going through it, I was reading it, and it stated if there were any questions or disagreements between the municipalities, paragraph 5, it referred you to 6 for clarity, but when you go to 6, 6 refers you back to 5, so in essence, there's really no tool there to keep any business from relocating, this is just a mutual handshake, like a gentleman's agreement, or smoking the peace pipe between the cowboy and Indian.

Mr. Clemens: I kind of agree with you on it, Chris. I'd thought otherwise, but unless everybody's involved in this, it's a waste of time. If Dublin's not going to be involved in it, and Canal Winchester's not going to be involved in it, Whitehall's not involved in it, and different ones, and Westerville, it's just a waste of time. I would think before we'd do anything, we'd wait and see

what the other communities are going to do.

Mr. Hansen: And I think that was an issue that I brought up during our discussions that our surrounding communities are the ones that we're going to be effected by most, with those that are not going to sign, so until we get regional cooperation ____ I would be reticent to sign anything.

Mr. Long: Any further comments? (No response) Thank you, Matt.

Discussion: Confirmation of Mayor's appointments to various TIRCs- -on 4-16-2012 item held for clarification.- -Mayor McCloud said since the topic was introduced, Mr. Hansen had tendered his resignation for later this month, so he would ask that the legislation go forward solely appointing Jed Hood to the Licking County TIRC and he would come back at some point in time and appoint another representative. Mr. Long moved to send item for the first reading; Mrs. Kelly seconded; all voted "Aye".

Discussion: appointments to Charter Review Commission and **Ward Boundary Commission**- -Charter Review Commission appointed 4-23-2012.

Mr. Long: We've already completed the Charter Review Commission; I don't know - do we have anybody from the press here tonight that we could put another request out there that individuals who would like to go ahead and serve on our Ward Boundary Commission; we will need individuals who are residents of the City of Reynoldsburg, registered voters, and that they must not be more than two individuals from an individual party; we have two Republicans, two Democrats, and an Independent or any other mixture there, but no more than two from the same party.

Mr. Joseph: One additional requirement is no more than two from any given ward.

Mr. Long: We'll continue to discuss that here over the next couple of weeks.

ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF REYNOLDSBURG, OHIO: SECTION 160.09 "Group Insurance" Subsection (b) (1) OF CHAPTER 160 EMPLOYEE COMPENSATION- -first reading 4-23-2012.

Mr. Long moved to send the ordinance to Council for its second reading; Mr. Clemens seconded; all voted "Aye".

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Finance Committee
- -Nancy C. Frazier, Clerk of Council
May 7, 2012