

COMMON COUNCIL MEETING
JANUARY 5, 2004
TIME: 6:00 P.M.

Present: Mayor Frank Manus, Helen Gardner, Gary Herbert, Glenn Tebbe, Larry Bower and Ken Dornich.

Mike Walker explained the Economic Development Corporation and the need for this. He stated the Chamber of Commerce directors felt that this corporation should be established. The board is made up of Darryl Tressler, Don Schilling, Jim Saler and Steve Beatty make up the board. The County Commissioners are putting Jerome Buening on the board and have designated \$50,000 for the year 2004.

Mike stated that we have lost approximately 1100 jobs and some industries are having hard times. Mike stated they are asking for the Mayor and a Council Member to be on the board as well as designate \$35,000 for the year 2004 since the City gave \$15,000 in 2003.

Larry Bower would in addition of having a council member on the board, to also have a monthly or quarterly report issued to the council, showing how monies are being spent.

Helen Gardner stated that we are behind in this. Other communities are ahead in this area.

Mayor Manus stated he is in favor of this, but will not do this without the Councils approval.

Council members all stated that they feel this is needed.

Motion by Glenn Tebbe to approve \$35,000 being paid to the Economic Development Corporation in two installments from Edit funds of \$17,500 in February and June of 2004 and Glenn also made the nomination of Ken Dornich to the commission board, all seconded by Larry Bower. So passed.

Election of Council President and President of Finance were elected.

Gary Herbert made the motion of nominating Larry Bower Council President, seconded by Ken Dornich. Larry Bower Abstained and Gary, Glenn, Ken and Helen ayes. So passed.

Motion by Larry Bower to nominate Glenn Tebbe as Finance President, seconded by Gary Herbert. So passed.

Motion by Larry Bower and seconded by Ken Dornich to designate Greensburg Daily News and Times as the newspapers for advertising. So passed.

Mayor Manus recommended Gary Herbert, Glenn Tebbe and Larry Bower to the Plan Commission.

Motion by Glenn Tebbe and seconded by Ken Dornich. So passed.

Mayor Manus recommended Ken Dornich to the Area Plan Commission.

Motion by Gary Herbert and seconded by Glenn Tebbe. So passed.

Mayor Manus appointed Helen Gardner to the Solid Waste. The Mayor also is on the Solid Waste Board.

Mayor Manus had the Clerk-Treasurer to address the cell phone issue. Clerk-Treasurer explained that the City had been written up in the Audit. There is to be

a log kept and any personal calls are to be prorated and paid back to the City. A policy is needed. This is for all departments that have cellular phones paid for by the city. Tabled until City Attorney can look into.

Steve Taylor, City Attorney, stated for all department heads give him a report of the number of phones, service contract and how they are being handled and any other information for Steve to take a look at everything.

Mayor Manus had the Clerk-Treasurer to address the take home vehicle issue. Clerk-Treasurer stated the City had been written up on this in the Audit. The employees taking vehicles home are not being charged on their w-2 as a benefit. The thumb rule is \$3.00 a day or drive own vehicle to work and pick-up truck and drive own vehicle home at no charge as a benefit on w-2. The Mayor would be charged differently. This is a Federal IRS law and cannot be overridden by the City. A policy is needed also.

Clerk-Treasurer will give the department heads a copy of the IRS 15-B publication referring to the vehicle benefit as well.

Steve Taylor, City Attorney, will look into this as well.

Ordinance 2003-23 prohibits employees of the City from also serving as elected officials for the City. These positions being: Mayor, Clerk-Treasurer and Common Council. **Tabled.**

Trash tipping was brought up. These are fees for landfill only to turn dirt over. No salaries are paid out of these fees. The landfill has raised their fees to \$12.75 per yard for the year 2004. The City has been in the red on these fees for about three years and the Clerk-Treasurer has to pay from other funds in the general account to keep from being in the red at the end of the year.

Larry Bower done up a spread sheet and recommended a dollar more, from \$2.50 to \$3.50 a month from residents.

Norma Bainbridge the Solid Waste District had two of Ralph Land's guys to count stops of recycling. If people would recycle, then the trash pick-up would go down and that would help the trash tipping fee to go down. Norma also suggested cutting the number of bags from five to four.

Glenn Tebbe would like for this to say Landfill Fee instead of Tipping Fee. Part of this is all due to the landfill increase in price and part due to people not recycling.

Norma and Helen Gardner ask if Donna Lecher of the Water Office could do a special mailing. Donna stated she would.

Motion by Larry Bower and seconded by Ken Dornich to increase the fee to \$3.50. Steve Taylor, City Attorney is to prepare the Ordinance. Helen Gardner nay and Glenn Tebbe, Larry Bower, Ken Dornich and Gary Herbert ayes. So passed.

Mayor Manus appointed Helen Gardner and Gary Herbert to the Tax Abatement Committee along with himself.

Board of Works meeting will be Friday, January 9 at 8:00 A.M. at Courthouse and after that they will meet on the Friday before Council meeting at 8:00 A.M.

Mark Haston came before Council and told that none of the landowners are willing to give up their land to expand the airport. Mark stated he is trying to find out whom to see and try to get this stopped.

Meeting adjourned at 7:55 P.M.

Presiding Officer: _____

Council Member

Council Member

Council Member

Council Member

Council Member

Attest:

Clerk-Treasurer

