

COMMON COUNCIL MEETING
MARCH 1, 2010
TIME: 7:00 P.M.

Present: Mayor Gary Herbert, Darrell Poling, Jamie Cain, Helen Gardner, Herb Hunter and Bill Wenning.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Roll call was taken with all present.

Minutes were approved, motion by Jamie Cain and seconded by Herb Hunter.
All ayes. So passed.

Due to the Board of Works meeting running over on time the Council meeting did not get started until approximately 7:15 P.M.

Motion by Darrell Poling and seconded by Helen Gardner to approve a change in the agenda order. All ayes. So passed.

Lisa Westenberger from ARA was present for the Board of Works public hearing and the Council meeting concerning the CFF Grant to OCRA for \$500,000. This is for the Downtown Project. The cost of the phase I is \$657,000. The County has committed \$40,000, the Alma Taylor Foundation \$13,500 which leaves the City \$104,200 for the \$157,700 local match. She stated she had gone to the Board of Works for the second held public hearing and has Resolution 2010-2 that the Council would need to pass.

Phase II would be for Engineering Study and that would cost \$48,000. Then another grant could be applied for that would not have a local match.

County Commissioner Rick Nobbe stated that the County is in support of this project and if there should be additional projects in the future the County would look at additional funding.

A couple council members were concerned with any spending and the economy. Is this just for beautification or is there a safety issue. What is the cost after phase I and if the City waits then the chance could go away for good of recouping some of this grant money.

Mayor Herbert stated that the bricks would be taken out and re-established in the War Memorial area. Cross walks would be made not as long and more updated and the lighting would be changed. He agreed with what the Council members were saying but feels the City should be able to get some of the tax money they have paid out back to the City for projects.

A concerned citizen stated that you can make the outside of the buildings beautiful but if the building isn't structurally safe then you still lose the building and is against any spending of money.

David Miers and Bryan Robbins were present and stated that everyone pays federal and state taxes and this is a way to get some of our tax money back. This project is dealing with practical issues and safety, the beautification is being added in with it. They are addressing what the people had voiced as originally wanting.

The cost would be over \$2 million to get all four sides of the square done.

EDC Executive Vicki Kellerman told Council it is always good to see the improvements of the downtown, but also sees the concerns with the economic times.

Motion by Helen Gardner and seconded by Bill Wenning to approve Resolution 2010-2 for the CFF Grant. Ayes Darrell Poling, Jamie Cain, Bill Wenning and Helen Gardner. Herb Hunter abstained. So passed.

Motion by Herb Hunter and seconded by Bill Wenning to approve Edit funds for the 2nd phase for engineering study. Ayes Jamie Cain, Darrell Poling, Herb Hunter, Bill Wenning and Helen Gardner. Nays none. So passed.

Motion by Darrell Poling and seconded by Herb Hunter to pass on 1st reading Ordinance 2010-4 making a one-way street of North Monfort from North Michigan Avenue to West Walnut. Ayes Jamie Cain, Bill Wenning, Herb Hunter, Darrell Poling and Helen Gardner. Nays none. So passed.

Gary Malone from H.J. Umbaugh and Associates was present to answer any questions that Council or the public might have concerning the Ordinances for the water and sewer rate increases. By keeping the revenues secure coming into the sewer and water helps to set the City in a better chance if the City should have to go back to the SRF for any additional borrowed funding.

Several Council members still had concerns. One had received 2-3 phone calls and yes those callers didn't want to see their rates go up but they understood why this needed to be done.

Another was no one wants to be without their utilities nor do they want and increase in rates but feels the rate needs to be increased. Council does have options.

Another would like to see the Ordinance be changed to state the ordinance be looked at by Council before the rate increase is implemented each year.

The Utility Office Manager had contacted the Electric Utilities to see if they could give any kind of discount to the Water and Sewer and was able to get a better discount for both.

The Mayor read an e-mail letter he had received. He feels that each year before the 5% rate is implemented the revenues for water and sewer should be looked at before just giving an increase. If Council passes and Ordinance rate increase for just 5% for one year then you would have to wait another 3-4 months and that could cause you to raise the rate more than 5%.

City Attorney Tim Coriden stated this is a 3-year Ordinance benefit packaging to the SRF Bonds. Language could be put into the Ordinance that ninety days before the next year rate increase takes effect, Council has to review the revenues for water and sewer.

Motion by Jamie Cain and seconded by Herb Hunter to pass on 2nd reading Ordinance 2010-1 Sewer Rates, Ordinance 2010-2 Water Rates and Ordinance 2010-3 Water Availability. Ayes Darrell Poling, Jamie Cain, Bill Wenning, Herb Hunter and Helen Gardner. Nays none. So passed.

Motion by Darrell Poling and seconded by Jamie Cain to approve the contribution request for Catch-A-Ride \$5,000 Riverboat, EDC \$60,000 EDIT, HottCity \$30,000 EDIT, Greensburg Learning Center \$10,000 Riverboat, New Directions \$15,000 Riverboat and School Resource Officer \$5,000 Riverboat. Ayes Bill Wenning, Herb Hunter, Jamie Cain, Darrell Poling and Helen Gardner. Nays none. So passed.

Motion by Bill Wenning and seconded by Helen Gardner to pass Resolution 2010-3 refunding first mortgage bonds for the refinancing of the Police Station Lease. Ayes Jamie Cain, Darrell Poling, Herb Hunter, Bill Wenning and Helen Gardner. Nays none. So passed.

Mark Klosterkemper Street Superintendent brought a preliminary draft of a proposal for street cuts. The Board of Works signed the proposed drawings for winter and Standard Street Cut drawings. An ordinance will be prepared and brought to Council for passage.

Police Chief Heaton invited everyone to a leadership seminar April 7th at the Greensburg Learning Center. There are two sessions offered 7-10 A.M. or 1-3 P.M. Seating is limited to 100 persons. Reservations are needed and the cost is \$25. The speaker is Mr. Stephen Gower and the presentation is what do they see when they see you coming.

Police Chief Heaton explained that an officer left that had a rank of sergeant and the position will not be filled and he is going to move those monies to patrol officer.

The Clerk-Treasurer had handed out the Annual Report for 2009 and a list of old outstanding checks that will be receipted back into their appropriate fund.

Meeting adjourned at 9:12 P.M.

PRESIDING OFFICER:

ATTEST:

Clerk-Treasurer

