

MINUTES
AUGUST 8, 2016
COMMITTEE-OF-THE-WHOLE
7:00 p.m.

Council Members in Attendance: Chris Fahl
Peter Kotses
Patrick McGee
Michele Papai
Jeff Risner

Administrators and/or
Other Elected Officials: President Pro Tem Butler
Mayor Patterson
Service-Safety Director Horan Moseley
Auditor Hecht

Items Discussed:

- Veterans Banner Project
 - Judge McCarthy – see attached “draft” brochure – would like these banners honoring local veterans to be placed on Court Street or in other areas the City may find appropriate – target date for banners to be displayed is Veterans Day, with a print deadline by the end of September – suggested that the banners be placed for the entire month of November – if the project is successful he would like the Council to consider displaying the banners for Memorial Day and possibly the Fourth of July – depending upon the number of banners, he suggested rotating the banners to accommodate placement of all – American Legion Post 21 will co-sponsor the project – the Athens Foundation will also be providing assistance, and Ohio University as shown interest in sponsorship through their on-campus veterans group
 - Risner – asked about projected cost for City in hanging the banners
 - Mayor – no cost – it is a City in-kind contribution – he supports moving forward with the project
 - Risner – suggested placing banners at the Community Center
 - Mayor – proposed the Richland Avenue bridge area
 - Auditor – drawing attention to our Veterans is important, and will be a nice project for the City – she will serve as the fiscal officer, and the Auditor’s office will be accepting project donations
 - Papai – emphasized that donations are in place to cover the cost for those who cannot afford the \$125 fee

-S-S Director – requested City Council consider a resolution of support

- Park Place (study)

-Shawna Bolin, University Planner – reported that the University recently completed its Comprehensive Master Plan – approved at the March meeting of the Board of Trustees – one of the recommendations was to create a student commons corridor through the Park Place area – the planning process dialogue will begin with the Board of Trustees later this month – how it might be feasible to utilize the space for the highest and best use for students and student programs – would like the City to be engaged in this process

-Fahl – asked about the sort of collaboration the University would like to see from the City

-Bolin – would like to set up a working group, and have the City of Athens be a part of that group – will also review the completed findings from this study with City Council

-Fahl – asked about a timeline

-Bolin – anticipating a 6-month timeline that would begin with understanding issues and planning opportunities

-Fahl – questioned what will be presented to the Board of Trustees later this month

-Bolin – just the idea for the study – to meet pedestrian-vehicular safety concerns as well as to accommodate some student program needs – would like to expand that concept, and to undertake a planning study to understand how to best meet that mission and goals

-Papai – asked Bolin to share what exactly the Comprehensive Master Plan outlined for this area

-Bolin – upon moving Baker University Center, the center of gravity changed the pedestrian corridor and, again, certainly to help mitigate pedestrian-vehicular issues

-Fahl – pointed out that this is a City street we are talking about – the City will need to look at its own issues when considering the University's vision for this area

-Bolin – this was pointed out in the Master Plan – this concept is more than just the street – it would provide program space for students and how best to meet the University's needs with its facilities facing that corridor

-Risner – doesn't the whole plan hinge on the fact that the City would cede the street to the University?

-Bolin – it does not – it's about understanding the opportunities along that corridor – it's more than just the corridor; it is the facilities along the way – the University has a high volume of student program needs that currently

are not being met in many of its facilities – need study to consider concept to relocate and centralize

-Risner – his concern is only with the territory the City controls – he is very, very reluctant to cede any authority that the City has over that which we now control to another entity

-Bolin – she respects that – she shared that the University simply plans to undertake a study to understand what its opportunities are, and at this time has no preconceived notion about what it can or cannot do, but would like to expand that thought further through this planning process

-Butler – behooves City to have a dialogue and be a part of the study because we are talking about the safety of our citizens

-Papai – knows that on many campuses today the vehicular traffic is pushed to the edges – agrees with Butler, the City needs to be very cognizant of the safety and security of our citizens – fire and emergency vehicles is an important piece

-Mayor – shared that our City Engineer has reached out to universities in other cities, particularly the University of Cincinnati, to see how they have addressed this issue – he is happy to share what he has received with City Council

-Papai – information would be helpful as part of this collaborative effort

-President Pro Tem Butler – appreciates the University's openness and dialogue regarding this planning process

-Mayor – noted there is currently a City resident living on Park Place – this plan presents a lot of challenges

-Bolin – clarified this is simply to study a Plan to plan, no specifics as to the future of Park Place

ITEMS NEEDED ON THE NEXT CITY COUNCIL AGENDA:

1. Resolution of Support

MINUTES
AUGUST 8, 2016
CITY & SAFETY SERVICES COMMITTEE

Members in Attendance: Kent Butler, Chair
Peter Kotses, Member

Other Council Members: Chris Fahl
Patrick McGee
Michele Papai
Jeff Risner

Administrators and/or

Other Elected Officials: Mayor Patterson
Service-Safety Director Horan Moseley

ITEMS DISCUSSED:

- ARTS/West (disposal)
 - Butler – an appraisal of the glass and its historical merit has been completed – Athens County Historical Society & Museum has agreed to have all of the green glass panes professionally removed from their housing and cleaned, and is also willing to take into storage any panes to be retained by the City – the green glass is currently being stored in the Armory, and storing the panes at (ACHS&M) will protect the glass from further unintentional damage

 - Mayor – appraised value is estimated at approximately (\$1400) – the Historical Society has the same type of green glass and would like to use it for restoration for their new facility – the City will also retain up to (15) 12/16 green glass panes for repair of any windows at ARTS/West

- Dr. Pepper/Snapple Group (Kaboom Grant)
 - Mayor – noted that the City received (\$15,000) toward new playground equipment at Highland Park

 - Butler – asked if the rubberized surface will be installed
 - Mayor – that will likely take place in 2017

- Pool (update)
 - Papai – asked when the consultants will be presenting to Council
 - S-S Director – anticipates by the end of the month or early September

 - Papai – asked if the consultant has been discussing the idea of partnering with the University on an indoor pool – she has been hearing this conversation in the community
 - Mayor – that idea is not coming from MSA Sports – he is aware that part of the University's Master Plan is to relocate Bird Arena as well as their Aquatic Center, and to build a new indoor facility – he clarified that the

levy dollars cannot be used on such a project, however, collaboration with the University could be a future option

-Butler – encouraged partnering with the University if an indoor community pool space is being considered

ITEMS NEEDED ON THE NEXT CITY COUNCIL AGENDA:

1. Disposal

MINUTES
AUGUST 8, 2016
7:00 P.M.

FINANCE & PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Members in Attendance: Jeff Risner, Chair
Chris Fahl, Vice-Chair

Administrators and/or
Other Elected Officials: President Pro Tem Butler
Mayor Patterson
Service-Safety Director Horan Moseley
Auditor Hecht

Items Discussed:

- Parking Garage
 - Risner – there are increased construction costs

 - S-S Director – additional construction engineering costs due to delays and change orders (\$51,800) – Auditor indicated (\$86,000) unused for elevator upgrades that can be rolled into this cost overrun – end total could be as high as (\$100,000) – is hopeful that this project will be closed out by September 30th – will hold any legislation for final close-out

 - Risner – (\$100,000) is a bit of a shock in cost overrun – in hindsight is there anything that would have been handled differently
 - S-S Director – yes, be careful of delays due to modifications, and reliance on the weather – there was also an additional (\$80,000) to this project due to undiscovered tension problems that could not be seen until the concrete was broken – this was unanticipated and led to delay

 - Mayor – City is putting together a schedule for annual inspections and preventive maintenance

- ADA Lift
 - S-S Director – need to increase the authorized expenditure by (\$1,300) – additional cost was an outcome of the permitting process

- Electrical Vehicle Charging
 - Mayor – would like to purchase (3-4) level II programmable wall mount (not free standing) charging stations (only one charging port) – will charge vehicle battery 25% within an hour and a half – (2) for the Parking Garage,

and increase the parking meter rate to offset the cost of electric usage to possibly (\$1.00) per hour; (1) at the Community Center; retain (1) for EPW or APD, exploring adding EV to fleet

-Risner – asked how the City would charge for the electricity at the Community Center

-Mayor – could create a new zone for use by Park Mobile to capture that cost

-Fahl – questioned the average utility cost

-Papai – about \$2.00 per day

- Solid Waste Litter Control Truck

-Mayor – would like to purchase a used truck for the new Solid Waste Litter Control position

-S-S Director – seeking a (\$10,000) appropriation

- Appropriations

-Auditor – (\$3,300) to Unclaimed Funds, 903; (\$21,000) to Athens County Convention & Visitors Bureau (35% of Transient Guest Tax); transfer and appropriation of (\$75,000) from Judge's Computer Fund, 230, to Clerk's Computer Fund, 231, T.C. 300

ITEMS NEEDED ON THE NEXT CITY COUNCIL AGENDA:

1. Parking Garage
2. (0-52-16) Amend
3. Appropriations

MINUTES
AUGUST 8, 2016

PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Members in Attendance: Chris Fahl, Chair
Jeff Risner, Member
Patrick McGee, Member

Other Council Members: Peter Kotses
Michele Papai

Administrators and/or
Other Elected Officials: President Pro Tem Butler
Mayor Patterson
Service-Safety Director Horan Moseley

Items Discussed:

- Property Acquisition (0 West Washington Street)
 - Fahl – explained that due to a delinquent tax foreclosure action, this property has been offered for sale and not sold for want of a bidder – the Court of Common Pleas is now offering to forfeit the property to the City of Athens – if the City does not petition the Court to acquire legal rights to the property, it will be forfeited to the State of Ohio

 - Mayor – noted that this property is near Washington and Smith Streets, and it is essentially landlocked – there is an abandoned alley that runs along the back of the property – City Engineer feels receivership will at least aid with any utilities that may be running through that area

 - Risner – asked about the approximate square footage
 - Mayor – the parcel is 41'x93', and due to topography (steep), not developable

 - S-S Director – Law Director has received an extension for filing documentation with the Court of Common Pleas until August 16th

 - Papai – asked about the access to this alley
 - Mayor – there is none, other than through the abandoned alley, or possibly from Smith Street

- Camp Rotan
 - Fahl – The Athens Rotary would like to deed this property to the City

-Mayor – this is 13.65 acres off Longview Hts. – seeking approval from City Council to accept this land donation – the following are existing deed restrictions: 1) shall remain named Camp Rotan; 2) Rotary shall be consulted on any new development to the property; 3) property shall be used as a park and camping space, and will not be developed for any alternative use; and 4) City shall fully maintain the camp, including the buildings, trails, and forest management – there is a cabin on the West side of the park near Warren Road (no road frontage off Warren); a structure off Longview Hts.; and a couple of utility structures on the site

-Fahl – noted that the cabin has been restored within the last few years – it does have some historical features

-Papai – seems like a great opportunity for more public space, but she is concerned that the City seems to have problems maintaining our current property with staffing and costs – would like to hear a maintenance plan from the Administration

-Auditor – concurred that neither budget, Recreation/Community Center has much wiggle room, however, the new bond issue does allow for maintenance and operations

-Papai – hopes there is a maintenance plan in place, and that all park lands will be treated equally in terms of improvements

-Fahl – pointed out that the parks do have different management concerns whether it is a ball park, a playground park, or a nature park

-Papai – upkeep of Camp Rotan will need to be managed for safety and services – she would really like to see some type of plan and budget for all our park areas – when City Council is asked to accept new property, it also needs to hear how that is going to be maintained

-Mayor – he has tasked the Arts, Parks & Recreation Director to provide a projected maintenance plan and associated costs – Camp Rotan is largely primitive, and the Director views it as being a low maintenance facility – the City will need to maintain the trails and a couple of bridges – Director is already tracking the Camp Rotan programs, and has been for a while

-Risner and Butler – would like to see the City move forward with receiving this property

-Kotses – asked if there is any kind of a Master Plan for the recently donated properties

-Mayor – the City would like to connect the parcels – the Dowler and Gawande properties on the west side do not border with Camp Rotan to the East – exploring possibilities to make connectivity for an intercity nature hiking trailhead through these parcels – there is also a flat area that

could become the City's first ADA accessible nature trail loop through the Dowler property

-Fahl – before moving forward, City Council would like to have more detailed information on maintenance costs and a long-term management plan

ITEMS NEEDED ON THE NEXT CITY COUNCIL AGENDA:

1. Property Acquisition

MINUTES

TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

AUGUST 8, 2016

Members in Attendance: Michele Papai, Chair
Peter Kotses, Member

Other Council Members: Chris Fahl
Patrick McGee
Jeff Risner

Administrators and/or

Other Elected Officials: President Pro Tem Butler
Mayor Patterson
Service-Safety Director Horan Moseley

ITEMS DISCUSSED:

- Franklin Avenue Project #301
 - Papai – need to amend (0-81-16) to increase the authorized expenditure by (\$15,000) to cover the Fair Housing Administration and General Administration portion of the CDBG Grant – no additional appropriation is required
- GoBus
 - Mayor – City would like to dispose of the (3) original GoBus's – their useful life has been met
 - Papai – added that they have already been replaced with new buses
- GoBus and Athens Public Transit
 - Papai – need to re-designate Hocking.Athens.Perry Community Action Programs (HAPCAP) to administer
- Ohio Public Works Commission
 - Mayor – City will submit an application for funding (up to \$400,000) for State Capital Improvement and/or Local Transportation Improvement Programs – if awarded, will be used toward the East State Street project, off-setting local share – City is very competitive
 - S-S Director – deadline is September 2nd

-Kotses – asked if this is the 50/33 Interchange
-S-S Director – this is the East State Street component from Home Street to Lowes

-Mayor – ODOT decided the corrective action to keep traffic flowing would be dual left ramps onto East State Street from The Plains and dual left ramps onto Rt. 33 from East State Street – it is an effective solution

-Kotses – asked if a report has been released on the traffic study
-S-S Director – the engineering firm gathering data on modification of intersections, sidewalks, existing utilities, etc. will present back within the month

-Papai – traffic calming measures are being reviewed and considered for pedestrian safety

-Mayor – there is a high level of planning going into this project

ITEMS NEEDED ON THE NEXT CITY COUNCIL AGENDA:

1. Franklin Project
2. GoBus Disposal
3. Re-designation of HAPCAP
4. OPWC Application Submission