The Council of the City of Kettering, Ohio met in a workshop session on Tuesday, July 11, 2017 in the Kettering Conference Room, 3600 Shroyer Road, Kettering Government Center. The meeting came to order at 6:00 p.m.

Council Members Present included Mayor Patterson, Vice Mayor Scott, Mrs. Schrimpf, Mr. Wanamaker, Mr. Lautar and Mr. Klepacz and Mr. Duke.

Staff Members Present: City Manager Mark Schwieterman, Assistant City Manager Steve Bergstresser, Law Director Ted Hamer, Community Information Manager Stacy Schweikhart, Administrative Systems Director Drew Miller and Economic Development Manager Gregg Gorsuch.

Mr. Sterling Abernathy was also present.

City Council Meeting Agenda Review – Mr. Schwieterman reviewed the Council meeting agenda with the City Council members.

Shared Community Fiber Network Project – Mr. Schwieterman gave the Council members a Power Point presentation on The Shared Community Fiber Network Project. Mr. Schwieterman stated this is just a pilot presentation; he would like to get the Council members comments and questions so he can keep updating the presentation. Once the details of the project are worked out Mr. Schwieterman and others will be giving the presentation to the other communities involved in the project. Mr. Schwieterman said that for more than 20 years MVCC and its member cities have been exploring a fiber network to provide better broadband access to each municipality. In 2014, with MVCC serving as the coordinating agency, three communities: Centerville, Kettering and Oakwood joined together in a Local Government Innovation Fund grant project to explore the existing conditions and to develop a plan to improve fiber and internet connectivity for their (and possibly other) communities. As a result of the study, it was determined that this project could now realistically be accomplished and could now benefit a much larger group including Centerville, Kettering, Oakwood, Miamisburg, Moraine, Springboro and West Carrollton. Mr. Schwieterman noted the construction costs for the fiber ring are currently estimated at $860,000, while the total cost share for the partner cities is estimated at approximately $550,000 with the difference being made up by other partners such as school districts. Mr. Schwieterman noted if school districts participate in the project the group could utilize the E-rate program to offset construction costs with Federal funding and provide a cost savings. Washington Township is also discussing becoming a partner and sharing the construction costs. He then provided some of the construction project details noting there would be construction of 17.1 miles of new fiber network to connect existing fiber systems to create a fiber network “ring”. The construction time would be approximately 6 months. Mr. Schwieterman then displayed a map indicating where the fiber ring network would be located. He reviewed the estimated project construction cost breakdown by municipality; the City of Kettering’s estimated cost would be $211,924. The other communities project cost ranged from $23,799 to $90,558. Mayor Patterson asked how the amount each city would pay for construction was determined. Mr. Schwieterman stated it was determined based on populations. Mr. Schwieterman then explained the benefits of the project, which include faster internet speed at a significantly lower cost. City to city connectivity sufficient for video sharing, redundancy for public safety and internet access in the vent of emergencies and line breaks. There is potential for voice over internet protocol system for individual cities or entire network at a significantly lower cost over current usage. Other potential benefits include sharing systems, software, and date storage, as well as joint projects such as crime mapping between communities becomes feasible, economic development tool, by providing business access to high-speed dark fiber. The system could also increase educational opportunities for local public school students. Mr. Schwieterman noted each
community would pay about $3,800 per year for operation and maintenance, currently many of the participants pay more than that for just internet access. The MVCC will be responsible for managing and maintaining the new fiber network. MVCC will contract with Miami Valley Educational Computer Association (MVECA) to provide operational support for the network, as well as the provision of internet access. Mr. Klepacz asked what is the life expectancy of fiber “wire” technology. Mr. Miller said wireless technology cannot compete with the broadband capabilities of fiber. Mrs. Schrimpf asked how does fiber wear down or break. Mr. Miller said usually only happens from an accident such as a tree falling or a car hitting a pole. Mr. Duke asked what the icon located to the north on the map represents. Mr. Miller said that is the Dmix switch located in the City of Dayton municipal building, this project would greatly reduce how much the City has to rely on that switch. Mayor Patterson said he would like the group to take another look at how the project is funded looking at other factors such as how much fiber a community already has installed etc. rather than just dividing the costs based on population. Mr. Schwieterman said there is a possibility the project will go out to bid in the Fall of 2017 with the work being completed by August of 2018. Mr. Schwieterman will continue to gather information on the project and update Council at a future Workshop meeting.

Police National Night Out – Mr. Schwieterman reminded the Council members the National Night Out event is scheduled for Tuesday, August 1st, at the Town & Country Shopping Center. Stroop Road will be closed between Far Hills Avenue and Shroyer Road for the event.

Kettering Children’s Choir – Mr. Schwieterman reminded the Council members at the last Workshop meeting Council discussed the fact the Kettering Children’s Choir has decided to stop renting the Rosewood Art Center and they will move all practices in the future to Wright State University. Natalie DeHorn had contacted Mr. Duke and stated the Choir would still like to receive the $3,500 annually the City is giving them for general operations. She stated these funds would be used as scholarship money for Kettering residents and the Choir name would not change as long as we continue to make the payment. Mr. Duke recommended the City continue to fund the Choir at $3,500 per year. The Council members had many questions about the Choir and the funding and directed staff to gather more information and report back at a future Workshop meeting. Staff gathered the requested information and provided it to Council members in the Friday packet. Mr. Schwieterman asked the Council members how they would like to handle the situation. Mayor Patterson said due to the time let’s put the decision off until the July 25th Workshop meeting so we can give the matter the attention it deserves.

City Picnic – Mr. Schwieterman mentioned the annual City Picnic is scheduled for Thursday, July 13th from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at Polen Farm.

Recreation Complex Passes – Mr. Schwieterman noted a few questions had remained after the last Workshop meeting regarding Recreation Complex Passes for individuals over the age of 70 who are CIL Senior Center members. Staff sent out a memo in the Firday packet addressing those questions. Mr. Schwieterman stated it is staff’s recommendation to implement the new global pass structure for the Kettering Recreation Complex (including CIL) that was discussed with Council at the June 27th, Workshop meeting. And furthermore, not implement the Silver Sneakers Program and continue to bill CIL members for fitness passes. He also mentioned with the new global pass structure all CIL members will get a 20% discount on fitness passes. Council agreed with the recommendation and instructed staff to proceed accordingly.

LED Street Lights – Mr. Bergstresser stated Miami Valley Lighting has completed their LED street light conversion program for the lights they own in Kettering. The City currently has an RFP out to have all of the City owned street lights changed to LED.

3813 Wilmington Pike – Mr. Schwieterman informed Council staff has closed on the property located at 3813 Wilmington Pike and the City now owns the property. Mr. Schwieterman and Mr. Gorsuch are meeting with the commercial tenants tomorrow to negotiate a lease. He also noted staff will begin developing ideas for long term use of the property.
The workshop meeting adjourned at 7:27 p.m.

ATTEST:

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DONALD E. PATTERSON
MAYOR

LASHAUNAH D. KACZYNSKI
Clerk of Council