The Council of the City of Kettering, Ohio met in a workshop session on Tuesday, August 28, 2018 in the Kettering Meeting Room, 3600 Shroyer Road, Kettering Government Center. The meeting came to order at 6:03 p.m.

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

Staff Members Present: City Manager Mark Schwieterman, Assistant City Manager Steve Bergstresser, Law Director Ted Hamer, Fire Chief Tom Butts, Assistant Fire Chief Mike Miller, Assistant Fire Chief Mitch Robbins, Human Resource Director Sara Mills Klein, Administrative Services Director Drew Miller and Economic Development Manager Gregg Gorsuch.

Mr. Sterling Abernathy was also in attendance.

Explosive Devices – Mr. Schwieterman noted the Police Department is responding to a home in Kettering where some explosive devices (hand grenades) have just been discovered. The devices will be taken to Moraine Farm and detonated as quickly and safely as possible.

Agenda Review – Mr. Schwieterman reviewed the agenda for this evening’s meeting with the Council members. He also noted the Law Director will give a Motion to Mayor to be read at the beginning of the Council meeting to remove the public hearing from this evening’s agenda. The public hearing is concerning a zoning case and there has been an administrative error that must be corrected prior to the case moving forward. It is assumed the public hearing will be held at the next regularly scheduled City Council meeting.

The Taste – Mr. Schwieterman noted the 32nd Annual Taste event will be held on Thursday, August 30th from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. on the Civic Commons.

CIP Workshop Meeting – Mr. Schwieterman noted the CIP Workshop will be held in the Deeds Meeting room beginning at 5:30 p.m. on September 11th.

December Council Meeting Dates – Mr. Schwieterman noted due to the holiday in December we must adjust the regularly scheduled meeting dates. It was decided the December City Council Meetings will be held on December 4th and December 11th. The December 4th Workshop Meeting will be the annual Budget Workshop Meeting.

Fire Department Overtime Presentation – Chief Butts continued the Fire Department overtime discussion from the previous Workshop Meeting. He displayed a flip chart page showing future options and potential costs. One option is to take no action, it is predicted the overtime cost just to fill required part time fire fighter (PTFF) positions is estimated to be between $704,550 to $990,644, this is a high risk option. Option two is to hire three additional career firefighters, promote one flex firefighter to flex Captain; the additional career personnel costs would be $411,312, overtime costs just to fill PTFF required position $330,015 to $495,023, this is a medium risk option. Option three is to hire six additional career firefighters, promote one flex firefighter to flex Captain; the PTFF program would be managed but not relied upon for daily operating staffing. This option eliminates all PTFF overtime expenses other than training expenses, expected costs $813,501; this is a low risk option. Mayor Patterson asked if the Chief would hire the five PTFF as career firefighters in this scenario. Chief Butts said currently one of the PTFF would qualify to be hired by the City. Mr. Schwieterman reviewed the Fire Department Personnel Budget and said there are two questions. Question one is which of the options Chief Butts
presented does Council like best and question two is do we continue hiring PTFF or let attrition run its course. Mrs. Fisher asked if the Chief is finding it hard to get existing City firefighters to fill open slots. Chief Butts said in 2017 he had to order firefighters to work six times; already year to date in 2018 he has had to order firefighters to work sixteen times. Mr. Lautar said he would like to see the total personnel costs for the Fire Department; he wants to see what the bottom line is for the City. Mr. Klepacz stated he would like to see a pie chart showing the entire department personnel expenses. Mr. Schwierieterman suggested Council eliminate options 1 and 2 and staff will take option 3 and try and create some pie graphs showing the personnel expenses and then bring that back before Council members, the City Council members agreed.

Fiber Ring Project – Mr. Schwierieterman gave City Council members an update on the Fiber Ring project. He noted the total construction costs of the project are estimated at $1,265,000. Customer revenue will pay for $125,000 while the total cost share for the partner cities is estimated at $1,140,000. He then reviewed the construction project details; there would be the construction of 19.2 miles of new fiber network (100% underground). The new fiber would connect to existing fiber systems to create a fiber ring; the total ring would be approximately 40 miles. The project construction would take approximately 8 months. The option the MVCC members are currently looking at is for the Miami Valley Educational Computer Association (MVECA) to build, own and operate the fiber ring. MVECA ownership versus MVCC ownership would save an estimated $253,000. Mr. Schwierieterman noted there would be 288 fiber strands and one empty conduit, which could be sold in the future, installed during the project. Each city would get 12 strands of fiber, 6 to 10 strands to IFN, 24 strands to MVECA and 242 strands to MVECA, which leaves 230 strands for future use/sale. Mr. Schwierieterman then displayed a map of all the connections the project would make to create the ring. Mr. Schwierieterman then reviewed the estimated project construction cost breakdown by partner. He then listed the project benefits, which included faster internet speed, city to city connectivity, redundancy for public safety and internet access in the event of emergencies and line breaks, potential for voice over internet protocol system for individual cities or entire network at a significantly lower cost over current usage. The fiber ring could also be a potential economic development tool, by providing business access to high speed dark fiber, it could potentially lower the cost of high speed internet access for local non-profits and provide increased educational opportunities for local public school students. Mr. Schwierieterman then explained how the operation and maintenance of the system would work. Each participating city would pay about $6,900 per year for operation and maintenance. This fee would include internet access, fiber transport, maintenance, repair and utility locates to fiber network and management of the fiber network. Finally, Mr. Schwierieterman reviewed the potential future sale of fiber and conduit space. He noted the 1.25” empty conduit could be worth $715,000, there also could be the sale of dark fiber. There would be over 200 strands of fiber available at approximately $1,500 per strand per mile. The revenue generated could help support MVCC in light of the franchise fee decline. Mr. Scott asked if 12 strands of fiber is enough for Kettering. Mr. Miller said yes for our traffic signals and City owned buildings it would be fine. Mr. Wanamaker asked if this project could provide a source of revenue for the MVCC, Mr. Schwierieterman said it absolutely could. Mayor Patterson said he is not sure why all cities are getting the same amount of strands (12); he feels a city the size of Kettering should get more strands than a city the size of Oakwood. Mr. Schwierieterman did note that Kettering would pay approximately 38% of the project costs and then receive approximately 38% of revenue generated by the project. Mr. Schwierieterman stated all the partner cities City Managers are giving the updated presentation to their City Councils, then all City Managers will report back to MVCC with the goal of moving the project to a decision point.

The workshop meeting adjourned at 7:27 p.m.

ATTEST:

DONALD E. PATTERSON
MAYOR