

CITY OF KETTERING  
CITY COUNCIL  
WORKSHOP MINUTES  
February 12, 2019

The Council of the City of Kettering, Ohio met in a workshop session on Tuesday, February 12, 2019 in the Kettering Meeting Room, 3600 Shroyer Road, Kettering Government Center. The meeting came to order at 6:05 p.m.

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

Staff Members Present: City Manager Mark Schwieterman, Assistant City Manager Steve Bergstresser, Law Director Ted Hamer, Community Information Manager Stacy Schweikhart, Assistant Public Service Director Rob Baker and Economic Development Manager Gregg Gorsuch.

Mr. Sterling Abernathy was also in attendance.

Agenda Review – Mr. Schwieterman reviewed the agenda for this evening’s meeting with the Council members.

COPE Discussion – Mr. Schwieterman said some Council members and staff members participated in the Cost of Poverty Experience (COPE), he asked the Council members to state their feelings about the event. Mr. Lautar said he was unable to attend, but the Partners for a Healthy Youth members who participated expressed the feeling that it was a great program and they got a lot out of it. Mr. Klepacz noted he had participated in the program once before as well as this most recent COPE event and he feels Kettering is doing some things right. He feels having Vickie Carraher and Jonelle Carroll in their positions is a good way to help our community. Mr. Schwieterman said the Directors team had positive feedback as well, although they would like to see the Police Department characterized in a more positive manner. Mr. Scott said he felt it was a very worthwhile event and he would encourage others to take part if they have the chance. Mr. Schwieterman said the event may be offered again in 2019 so more City and School employees could participate.

Animal Control – Mr. Schwieterman informed Council there will be legislation on the February 26<sup>th</sup> City Council meeting regarding the City’s agreement with SICSA and the cat trap-neuter-release program. The February 26<sup>th</sup> agenda will also contain a zoning text change hearing and an appeal to a recent Board of Zoning Appeals case.

Ridgeway Bridge – Mr. Schwieterman noted the City will be posting a weight limit on the Ridgeway Bridge. This limit will not have an impact on Kettering or Oakwood emergency services. This bridge is scheduled to be replaced in the near future.

City Manager Absence – Mr. Schwieterman stated he will be having surgery on Monday (2/18) of next week. He is not sure how long he will be out of the office, but he should be back in the office by the end of that week.

Schantz Avenue Bridge – Mr. Bergstresser stated three bids were received for the Schantz Avenue Bridge Replacement & Public Art Project. The bids were received on February 7<sup>th</sup> and the apparent low bid is from Eagle Bridge. The total bid from Eagle Bridge was \$2,592,752.31. The public art portion of the bid was \$305,357.52, which is about \$53,000 over budget. Mr. Bergstresser then pointed out the Public Art Fund currently has a budget of \$569,212.00. The Public Art Fund already has \$280,600 dedicated to the Ridgeway Bridge project, \$20,000 dedicated to the Haverstick neighborhood art project, so with the \$305,357 for the Schantz Bridge art piece and \$31,250 for the Schantz Bridge miscellaneous portion of the project the Public Art Fund balance would be (\$67,996). Staff is recommending advancing the \$67,996 and doing the entire Schantz Avenue Bridge art project now, then the 1% For the Arts money for

year 2019 would replace the funds prior to any other art project being completed. The average annual “1% For the Arts” CIP contribution was \$75,000 from 2016 through 2019, so it would only take one or two years to replenish the fund. Mr. Klepacz asked how the Art Committee felt about that plan. Mr. Schwieterman said the Art Committee is in favor of this plan and completing the entire art project now. The Council members agreed to move ahead with the entire art portion of the project and fund it according to this plan.

Rosewood Art Center – Mr. Schwieterman gave the Council members a Rosewood Art Center project update. Mr. Schwieterman reviewed the Rosewood revenue and subsidy situation. He also noted moving Rosewood to another location or demolishing the existing building and building a new structure would both be greater the \$6.1M. The option staff is currently reviewing is to renovate the existing facility; this cost is estimated to be approximately \$3.5M. Staff is looking at putting this in the CIP Budget for years 2020 through 2024. Mr. Schwieterman noted he does not need a decision this evening; he just wanted to update the Council members on the direction staff is looking to move toward.

Strategic Plan – Mrs. Schweikhart gave Council members a community survey and strategic plan update. She noted the National Community Survey (NCS) offer three collection methods. NCS offers web data collection, hard copy collection and open participation. The NCS offers the option to benchmark against communities meeting specific criteria in addition to national benchmarks. Mrs. Schweikhart also mentioned a community can have the survey asked custom questions. She also reviewed a partial list of jurisdictions in Ohio, Indiana and Kentucky that the National Resource Center (NRC) has in their data base. She noted the NRC advises the survey takes about 4 months to implement. In order to stay on our timeline to have survey results by mid-2019, we will need to proceed with survey implementation by the end of March. Mrs. Schweikhart noted staff is recommending moving forward with conducting the NCS using either the web data or hard copy collection method. Mr. Lautar stated he is a little disconcerted, he did not see a jurisdiction on the list that was a good fit to compare with Kettering. Mr. Schwieterman stated the standard result will compare Kettering to every community in the data base or we can select certain communities we feel are similar to us. He also noted we can pick and choose what data points we would like recorded. Mrs. Schweikhart said yes, there are custom comparisons we could order for the Police Department, Fire Department, PRCA etc. Mr. Lautar said that makes more sense and he feels better about the survey after hearing the explanation. Mr. Klepacz said we are conducting the WSU survey every two years and we are benchmarking against our self and our past performance, he thinks that is OK. Mr. Klepacz asked if we could just conduct the NRC survey on a one time basis. Mrs. Schweikhart said yes, we could conduct it only once for example just for the Strategic Plan. Council directed staff to continue looking at the NRC survey as an option, but don’t present legislation until further discussion with Council.

At 7:18 p.m. Mr. Klepacz made a motion to enter into executive session under Section 121.06 (k) of the Codified Ordinances for purposes of Conference with Attorney; the motion was seconded by Mr. Scott. The motion passed by a unanimous roll call vote.

At 7:28 p.m. Council exited the executive session and went back on the public record.

The workshop meeting adjourned at 7:29 p.m.

ATTEST:

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BILL LAUTAR  
VICE MAYOR

LASHAUNAH D. KACZYNSKI

Clerk of Council