

CITY OF KETTERING
CITY COUNCIL
WORKSHOP MINUTES
April 23, 2019

The Council of the City of Kettering, Ohio met in a workshop session on Tuesday, April 23, 2019 in the Kettering Meeting Room, 3600 Shroyer Road, Kettering Government Center. The meeting came to order at 6:02 p.m.

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

Staff Members Present: City Manager Mark Schwieterman, Assistant City Manager Steve Bergstresser, Law Director Ted Hamer 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.

Fire Department Promotions – Mr. Schwieterman informed the Council members three individuals in the Fire Department were recently promoted to Captain.

Census Presentation – Mr. Schwieterman informed City Council members the Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission will be making a presentation regarding the upcoming Census at the May 14th City Council meeting.

Gas Tax CIP Policy – Mr. Schwieterman noted the City staff has been meeting to set policy and operating procedures for Gas tax spending. Staff will present the policy to City Council members most likely in June.

Waste Management – Mr. Schwieterman stated Waste Management has informed the City that due to expense and the lack of phone calls received they are discontinuing their call center hours on Saturdays of Holiday weeks. Staff members will have the phone number of a Waste Management route supervisor, if Council members receive a trash complaint on a Holiday week Saturday they can call Mr. Bergstresser or Mr. Schwieterman who will then notify the Waste Management route supervisor of the problem.

Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Allocation – Mr. Schwieterman noted the City has received the annual allocation letter from HUD. For FY 2019 the City will receive \$557,907 of CDBG funding, which is an increase of 2.5% over FY 2018. He also noted the City’s HOME funds are currently frozen until our consortium partner, the City of Dayton, get certain issues worked out with HUD.

Project Updates – Mr. Bergstresser noted on the Hilton Drive project, the contractor plans to set up road closure for the project on May 13th and begin the water main replacement that same week, the roadway portion of the project should begin in June. He also stated on the Waving Willow Drive project the contractor is planning to mobilize equipment this week and start construction on the water main replacement the first week of May, sewer and street work will follow. He gave a quick update on the Schantz Avenue bridge project; he noted about one half of the bridge has been taken down to date.

Kettering Connection – Mr. Bergstresser said staff is recommending closing the Kettering Connection in the Town & Country shopping center on Tuesday and Thursday mornings, the location would remain open on Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings. This would allow Ms. Carraher more time for home visits and to be out in the community. City Council members were in agreement with the recommendation.

Keith Thompson Memorial – Mr. Schwieterman stated the price to place a memorial brick at the Veteran’s Memorial Plaza in honor of Mr. Thompson is \$500.00. Mr.

Schwieterman suggested Council members offer donations to pay for the brick. Council was in agreement with the suggestion.

Overbrooke Road Assessments – Mr. Schwieterman said there is a gentleman that resides on Overbrooke Road and he is unhappy about the City’s sidewalk, curb and gutter assessment policy. He may attend this evening’s meeting to discuss.

Art Donation – Mr. Schwieterman stated he had recently met with a resident who was potentially interested in donating large outdoor art pieces to the City. The resident has now contacted Mr. Schwieterman and said he is no longer interested in donating the art to the City.

HB 422 – Mr. Schwieterman stated House Bill 422 passed in January and it removed the Research & Development restriction on the land at the Miami Valley Research Park (MVRP), the Bill was effective as of April 5th. As per the contract the City has with the MVRP for the purchase of vacant property at the Park, the City has 90 days from the effective date of the Bill to pay the remaining purchase price amount (approximately \$1.2M). The payment is being set up to be made on June 21, 2019.

Kettering Business Park (KBP) – Mr. Schwieterman stated staff is getting ready to start the KBP rezoning process, if approved the zoning will be changed from Economic Overlay District #15 to Residential, Office and Industrial zoning districts. The Planning Commission will meet and hear the case on May 6th. Mr. Robillard and Mr. Gorsuch have been meeting with property owners and tenants in the KBP to inform them of the proposed zoning change. The zoning case will eventually come before City Council for action.

Hate Crime Issue – Mr. Schwieterman said the City has been contacted by the Council on American-Islamic Relations and there is concern regarding why an incident that allegedly occurred in the Meijer parking lot was not classified as a hate crime. Mr. Hamer explained the Ohio Hate Crime Law does not include assault, so while the alleged suspect was charged with a crime, he could not be charged with a hate crime. Mr. Hamer feels assault was accidentally omitted from the Ohio Hate Crime Law. Mr. Hamer noted the City could pass a local Ordinance that would classify assault as a hate crime if Council desired. Mayor Patterson and the other Council members said they would like to know what other communities are doing regarding this and if the State of Ohio is going to change the State Law to include assault. Staff will research the issues brought up by Council and report back.

Council Compensation – Mr. Klepacz stated the Personnel and Finance Committee met on March 27th and the Committee recommended City Council have a discussion regarding the Mayor and Council Members compensation, in addition the Committee requested the City Manager present options for compensation to be considered by City Council. It was noted Section 3-5(b) of the City Charter states City Council can review and adjust compensation in odd number years, if action is taken it must be taken prior to June 1st of that year. If brought forward for a vote in May and approved, the Ordinance would take effect in 2020 for newly elected district representatives. There would be no immediate impact or benefit for the Mayor or any current members of City Council. Mr. Schwieterman distributed a City of Beavercreek survey regarding local jurisdictions city council salaries and benefits. Mr. Schwieterman also noted the City of Beavercreek recently passed legislation (effective 1/1/20) to increase Mayor and Council members’ salaries from \$6,000 to \$10,800 per year. Mr. Schwieterman also gave examples of what the Councils compensation would look like if they had been receiving cost of living adjustments from 2013 through 2020. Mr. Wanamaker stated he feels Council members should receive a cost of living adjustment. He stated he feels it would be fair to increase Council compensation by \$200, not making the adjustment retroactive to 2013, but giving the Council members and Mayor the same 2.5% increase that the City employees received in 2019. Mr. Scott stated he would not be in favor of any Ordinance that would increase Council salary. After further discussion Mr. Klepacz noted it appears not making any potential increase retroactive is the most popular decision. City Council instructed staff to prepare an Ordinance for their consideration that would adjust elected official compensation, as permitted in the recently amended Section 3-5 of the City Charter. The potential adjustment would increase compensation by \$200. So, effective with the term beginning in January 1, 2020, district Council members would receive an annual salary of \$8,200. Effective January 1, 2021 and thereafter, district Council

members would receive an annual salary of \$8,400. And effective with the term beginning January 1, 2022, at-large Council members would receive an annual salary of \$8,400. And finally effective with the term beginning January 1, 2022, the Mayor would receive an annual salary of \$12,600.

The workshop meeting adjourned at 7:23 p.m.

ATTEST:

DONALD E. PATTERSON
MAYOR

LASHAUNAH D. KACZYNSKI
Clerk of Council