

CITY OF KETTERING
CITY COUNCIL
WORKSHOP MINUTES
August 25, 2020

The Council of the City of Kettering, Ohio, met in a workshop session on Tuesday, August 25, 2020, in the Deeds Conference 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 Klepacz, Mr. Duke, Mr. Lautar, Mr. Wanamaker, Mr. Scott and Mrs. Fisher.

Staff Members Present included City Manager Mr. Schwieterman, Assistant City Manager, Steve Bergstresser, Law Director Ted Hamer and Community Information Manager Mary Azbill.

Mr. Sterling Abernathy was also in attendance.

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

Surplus Land - Mayor Patterson and Vice Mayor Klepacz asked about the sale of surplus land and timeframe for due diligence. They requested updates as things progressed.

Mr. Schwieterman confirmed that timing concerns were addressed and updates would be provided.

Fire Chief Recruitment Process - Mr. Schwieterman reminded Councilmembers that Chief Butts retires October 2. To fill his position, there will be an internal recruitment for which two candidates could apply. The City Manager will interview candidates and select. This will open positions for assistant chief, battalion chief, captain and firefighter.

Neighborhood Pride Program – Mr. Schwieterman stated that the Neighborhood Pride Committee selected and announced winners for June, July and August. A video is being made to be shown during the first Council meeting in October. Due to COVID-19, the Volunteer Office is recommending a drive-thru ceremony to give City Council an opportunity to recognize winners.

CARES Act Funding – Mr. Schwieterman stated that another \$175M in CARES Act funding was released. The same formula will be used as outlined in HB 481 which was \$3.5M. the City received \$792,000. The City follows the Office of Management and Budget and plans to use funds for Kettering Fire Department wages and runs. The City is waiting to hear if that general plan is viable. The City is also working on another plan involving KFD staffing that is more detailed to justify COVID-19 expenditures.

Mayor Patterson asked if the City will spend all of the funds allotted.

Mr. Schwieterman confirmed the City tracks all personal protective equipment and COVID-related expenditures over \$100K. We also have a list of items that are precautionary—hands-free lavatory items and technology for remote work etc.).

Chicken Ordinance – Mr. Schwieterman stated that during a resident’s comments at a previous City Council meeting regarding allowance for chickens, he advised that Beavercreek was considering allowing residents to own them. Research showed that Beavercreek does not currently allow chickens. A Beavercreek resident group brought a request for legislation approved by Planning Commission. This will be on Beavercreek’s September 14 Council agenda for consideration of adoption. Beavercreek surveyed citizens via Facebook resulting in a 72% in favor of vote. Agricultural lots are able to house chickens. Single family residential units are recommended to be greater than 15,000 square feet. Lots must be at least one-third of an acre. Residents are limited to 6

chickens, no roosters, must have a pen or coop, must have a fenced yard no less than 48” high, the coop must be 20’ from the property line and in the backyard—directly behind the house. There can be no processing of chickens in plain view. A permit is required for construction of the coop, as well as a permit for keeping chickens.

Mayor Patterson asked if the City has looked at cities that have chicken laws.

Mr. Duke suggested that more people are going to ask about chickens and recommended a survey and research for cities like Kettering—size and suburb.

Revenue Trend Schedule - Finance modified the schedule for trend data. Income tax is down 2.3%. January through July showed a \$1.6M estimated decrease. There is a decrease in property taxes that is not COVID related. The County gave an August 15 extension to pay. Next quarter will show the property tax picture. Licenses and permits are down due to pandemic impact on businesses. The City is experiencing a local government fund anomaly in that more money is being received as funds are no longer being diverted to the opioid crisis due to numbers continuing to decrease. Charges for services are down 79%--\$5.8M. No PRCA activities, no Frazee resulted in \$5.7M down. EMS run money is down \$94K and is now trending upward as hospitals reopen. Fines and forfeits are down as are court appearances. Investment earnings are down, as well.

The City is saving money with the implementation of a hiring freeze. The City currently has nine fulltime positions unfilled.

In April, the subsidy estimate was double the \$300K budget. Most of those expenses are related to fixed costs. Building chargeback will be there regardless, as well as utilities and maintenance. The subsidy for PRCA would be \$200K greater. Ice and pool makes money. Closing those two added to the City’s subsidy.

At 6:51 p.m. Mr. Scott made a motion to enter into executive session under Section 121.06 (k) of the Codified Ordinances for purposes of Property Matters; the motion was seconded by Mr. Lautar. The motion passed by a unanimous roll call vote.

At 7:13 p.m. Council exited the executive session and went back on the public record.

Police Department communication in response to inquiries is nearly finished.

The workshop meeting adjourned at 7:17 p.m.

ATTEST:

DONALD E. PATTERSON
MAYOR

LASHAUNAH D. KACZYNSKI
Clerk of Council