

CITY OF KETTERING
CITY COUNCIL
WORKSHOP MINUTES
February 13, 2024

The Council of the City of Kettering, Ohio, met in a workshop session on Tuesday, February 13, 2024, in the Deeds Conference Room, Kettering Government Center, 3600 Shroyer Road. The meeting came to order at 6:00 p.m.

Council members present included Mayor Lehner, Vice Mayor Fisher, Ms. Duvall, Mrs. Hall, Mr. Scott, Mr. Suddith and Mr. Sullivan.

Staff members present included City Manager Matt Greeson, Assistant City Manager Steve Bergstresser, Assistant Law Director Maggie Pasqualone, Planning and Development Director Tom Robillard, Volunteer Administrator Dawn Kirchner, Economic Development Manager Amy Schrimpf and Community Information Manager Mary Azbill.

Kettering Sustainability Committee Members, Mr. Ron Klenk, Mr. Buzz Portune and Ms. Leah Ceperley, were also present.

Mr. Klenk presented an outline of the evolution of Kettering's Sustainability Committee during its first year in place, as well as recommendations and findings determined for the future. The committee was established with 12 members and currently has 3 vacancies for which interviews are being held. The committee has several goals including: developing programs for all ages to further educate and share resources enhancing the City's sustainability goals; support programs to reduce the carbon footprint of homes and businesses; developing a sustainability plan that determines baseline data and promotes annual progress review for each department; and participating in local, state and national initiatives for sustainability. The mission statement for the Sustainability Committee is: filling the needs of current generations without compromising the needs of future generations, while ensuring a balance between economic growth, environmental care and social wellbeing. The Sustainability Committee recommends that the City creates a position for a full-time sustainability manager to work with all departments in coordinating sustainability efforts to meet the priorities of the City's strategic plan. Data gathering to establish baselines for our community include: transportation; water quality and usage; education, including schools; waste and recycling; economic development; green space and native plants; climate resilience; carbon neutrality; food efficiency and composting.

Mr. Portune distributed a proposed resolution regarding the addition of a sustainability manager.

Ms. Duvall asked what the cost would be to hire a sustainability manager and how the City would pay for it. Mr. Portune stated that the salary for the position would range between \$85,000 and \$145,000 based on area and national comparisons.

Mr. Scott asked how the City would quantify cost savings by adopting new initiatives. Mr. Portune stated that those savings would likely be tracked by the Finance Department.

Mayor Lehner asked committee members to name one item that would save money. Mr. Portune stated that switching police cruisers from standard engines to hybrid could save money in 1.5 years.

Mr. Portune reiterated the importance of commitment from the City to hire a sustainability manager for the adoption of the budget having the funds available January 1, 2025.

Mr. Scott asked for a city similar in size with Kettering that has a sustainability manager in place. Mr. Portune noted that Dayton is a regional partner with a program like this in place.

Mr. Scott asked if a current staff member could cover the duties of sustainability. Mr. Portune stated that it is unrealistic as staff is currently working at maximum effort.

Mayor Lehner complimented the group for the work and assured them that discussions will occur in the future.

Mr. Greeson briefly reviewed the agenda for tonight's City Council meeting.

At 6:32 p.m., Vice Mayor Fisher made a motion to enter Executive Session under Section 121.06 (k) of the Codified Ordinances for the purposes of conference with attorney; considering the purchase or sale (?) of property for public purposes; preparing for, conducting or reviewing negotiations or bargaining sessions with public employees concerning their compensation or other terms and conditions of their employment; and considering the appointment, employment, dismissal, promotion, demotion or compensation of a public employee, seconded by Mr. Scott. The motion passed unanimously upon roll call.

At 7:15 p.m., the Council exited Executive Session and went back on public record.

Council members voted to accept the second amended joint Chapter 11 plan of reorganization of Endo International PLC and its affiliated debtors and proxy for voting on scheme of arrangements of Endo International of PLC.

E-911 Fund Changes - Mr. Greeson stated that the Montgomery County E-911 committee will submit a plan for the qualification, preparation, allocation and access to E-911 funds.

Sustainability Decisions - Mr. Greeson recommended that Council members take into consideration the committee recommendations as part of the upcoming strategic plan adoption and implementation. When a decision is made, the process needs to be considered, as well.

Mayor Fisher asked if the timing is appropriate as far as alignment, strategic plan, budget and implementation. Mr. Greeson replied that much attention will be paid to operationalizing and developing priorities to align with the strategic plan.

RTA Route 28 - Mrs. Hall stated that she fears that residents are not aware of the new bus route. Partners for Healthy Youth is willing to finance brochures to distribute. Mrs. Hall is concerned that there is no place to pay cash for a smart card to purchase bus tickets on the west side of Kettering. Ms. Azbill stated that RTA information was distributed to all residents in Contact With Kettering. The news was also released several times on social media. She stated it is important to work with RTA to ensure all parties agree on further promotion.

The City Council Workshop Meeting adjourned at 7:29 p.m.

ATTEST:

PEGGY LEHNER
MAYOR

LASHAUNAH D. KACZYNSKI
Clerk of Council