

Finance & Judiciary Committee Meeting

MINUTES

June 22, 2010

6:00 p.m.

Members: Ben Kessler, Chair, Richard Sharp, Rick Weber

Roll Call: All members present.

Review of Minutes: June 8th, 2010- **Approved**

Presentation and/or Special Guests: None.

Ordinances & Resolutions

Third Readings.

Resolution 10-10 adopting the recommendations of the Bexley Tax Incentive Review Council regarding tax-abated properties on East Main Street, introduced by Mr. Kessler, (Introduced on May 25, 2010) **Previously discussed.**

Second Readings.

Ordinance 28-10 to appropriate \$6,685.55 from the unencumbered General Fund for the purpose of sharing payroll tax revenue from 2009, derived from the Bexley gateway project, with the Bexley City School District in accordance with Section 57-09.82 of the Ohio Revised Code, introduced by Mr. Kessler (Introduced on June 8, 2010) **No Action**

Ordinance 29-10 to appropriate \$23,372.19 from the Tax Increment Financing Fund (36-170-51320) for the purpose of paying for expenses related to right-of-way improvements in the Main Street TIF District, introduced by Mr. Kessler (Introduced on June 8, 2010) **No Action**

Ordinance 30-10 to increase the annual salary for the Recreation Supervisor of the City as listed in the body of this Ordinance, introduced by Mr. Kessler (Introduced on June 8, 2010) **Vote 3-0 in favor of recommending passage.**

Discussion was held pertaining to Ms. Mullin picking up extra responsibilities once Mr. Price was promoted to Director. Mayor Brennan stated that both Ms. Mullin and Mr. Hays had taken on additional responsibilities with their positions.

Mr. Harvey said Mr. Hays was the only employee who was below the range in the pay study conducted. He said Mr. Hays has already saved the City money by taking on the Fire Inspection responsibilities. He took the fire inspection training so the City no longer needs to pay for a part-time fire inspector. Mr.

Weber asked if the administration was certain the additional fire inspecting responsibilities wouldn't interfere with his Code Enforcement responsibilities. Mr. Harvey said Mr. Hays responds to all complaints received pertaining to Code Enforcement but he can't state that he actually inspects the entire City each day. Mr. Harvey agrees there is a timing issue to coordinate both responsibilities. Mr. Weber said he understands that Mr. Hays may not visibly see all areas but he is compassionate with the residents and the entire process. Mr. Harvey agreed and stated that he does have a good relationship with the residents and always knows who he should contact to resolve any issues.

Mr. Sharp asked if this is an area where the Technology Commission might be of use by setting up a web site to receive any complaints Mr. Hays needs to address. Mr. Weber said residents might be a little more hesitant filing complaints over the internet.

Mr. Morison asked if Mr. Hays would be overtime exempt. Mayor Brennan said the Recreation Supervisor would be exempt from overtime. Mr. Harvey said it would be rare for Mr. Hays to work overtime and it does not happen very often. Mayor Brennan said currently, this is the busiest time of year for Mr. Hays. He is very responsive to calls and he has found a happy medium between violations and complaints.

Mr. Harvey said Mr. Hays also sends letters to the residents to provide them with the opportunity to get the alley cleaned up prior to us starting service work.

Mr. Lampke asked if he had any missing certifications. Mr. Harvey said some of the certifications that Mr. Hays has will require ongoing certification. Mr. Masser asked what has changed between now and then when this increase was previously requested. Mr. Harvey said he was originally told to take it off the table and come back. The money was in the budget for an increase but he was told to take the money out of the budget and to come back.

Mr. Weber said he was comfortable with both Ordinance 30-10 and 31-10. Mr. Kessler and Mr. Sharp both agreed. Mr. Sharp said his concern is making sure that the additional responsibilities are doable. Mr. Kessler said if an employee is taking on additional responsibilities, it is appropriate to reward the employees for their skills and eliminate overtime money.

Ordinance 31-10 to increase the annual salary for the Code Enforcement Officer of the City as listed in the body of this Ordinance, introduced by Mr. Kessler (Introduced on June 8, 2010) **Vote 3-0 in favor of recommending passage.**

Resolution 11-10 to be adopted on or before July 15, 2010 and submitted to the Franklin County Auditor on or before July 20, 2010 introduced by Mr. Kessler (Introduced on June 8, 2010)

Mr. Qualmann said this is a starting point of 2011 and the full process through summer and fall. Mr. Kessler asked when they could begin discussing the 2010 budget? Mr. Qualmann said the budget needs the month of June's results to use it as a starting point to move forward. He said they could have the initial draft prepared by the end of July. Mayor Brennan said the end of July would be a

good time provided everyone reviews and is prepared for discussions after the August recess. Mr. Qualmann said the tax budget will be the first item to be tweaked.

First Readings.

Ordinance 32-10 to amend Ordinance 103-06 expanding the scope of the Jeffrey Mansion tuck pointing and roof replacement project to include interior renovations as well as exterior renovations, introduced by Mr. Kessler (Introduced on June 22, 2010)

Mayor Brennan said this project is being done with money left over and used for the interior renovation. President McClelland said these funds were already designated for the Jeffrey Mansion use and the design already prepared. Mr. Weber said there were some problems with the work. Mr. Harvey said there was a potential for the risk of leakage. Mr. Weber said the specifications weren't accurate with the space and there is still a problem according to Mr. Price. Mr. Harvey said there was a water leakage problem. The contractor identified the problem where the water was leaking. Mr. Price is working with the contractor but no water leak as occurred in the last two months. The roof warranty won't cover us on any "new" work being done. President McClelland asked if this has been in existence since the opening of the pool. Mr. Harvey said yes. They are telling us now that it is all fixed. Mr. Morison said it would be important to receive an update from Mr. Price on this issue. Mr. Kessler asked if the excess funds could be used to pay off the service debt. Mr. Qualmann replied that the funds have to be used on the mansion.

Ordinance 33-10 to reduce appropriations in the Street Maintenance and Repair Fund (03) \$88,000.00, introduced by Mr. Kessler (Introduced on June 22, 2010)

No Action

Resolution 13-10(A) or (B) to proceed with placing the issue on the ballot for a renewal tax levy for purposes of providing for the current expenses of the City of Bexley, introduced by Mr. Kessler (Introduced on June 22, 2010)

Mr. Qualmann reviewed the A and the B with Council members. He said the term "renewal" will be the \$318,000 versus \$308,000 based on 6.5 mills which is a decrease of \$10,000 per year. Mr. Morison suggested that the 6.5 mill is the number the school levy is using, would it be helpful to call the residents and survey the language. Mr. Sharp said the lower mill effects everything. The .65 would actually increase the residential rates leaning more toward straight renewal. Mr. Kessler said it equates to an average of \$4.00 so he is in favor of the wording "replacement" because it would behoove us to reset the value. This would be proposal B. Mr. Weber asked if .65 was more sellable than 3.4.

President McClelland said the .65 could be confused as 6.5. Mr. Morison said he preferred the renewal versus the replacement. President McClelland said he

agrees and prefers the renewal as well. Mayor Brennan said the key would be that no figures will be confused as long as the residents know they weren't going to be impacted. The selling point is that there will be no change and we are not raising it. Mr. Morison said that is the precise answer, no change – just a "renewal".

New Business: Mr. Morison said the fee for bike helmet law would be a \$25.00 fine. He is hoping to introduce an Ordinance tonight in order to pass it by the next Council meeting. He would like to see this Ordinance in place prior to the end of summer.

Mr. Chodosh said Council needs to remember the situation where parent may make the child wear the helmet and kids just take it off down the street. Keep in mind that it will be the parents who may have to pay the \$25.00 fine.

Mr. Morison said he sees this Ordinance could be held up by including scooters, skateboards, etc. He would prefer it to remain worded for bicycle helmets only for now. He also requested to have the wording "sidewalks" added as well.

Old Business: Mr. Masser asked to verify that the employee pay raises were initially introduced in December and Mr. Harvey was told to come back even though the funds were in the budget already? Mr. Harvey said it may have been because he presented more employees but he was told to take it out of the budget and come back. This amount is new dollars at this point. Mr. Kessler said they did not have sufficient time to discuss or consider the issue.

Adjourned 6:55 p.m.