



BEXLEY CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

Tuesday, January 24, 2012

7:00 p.m.

**Ben Kessler, President
Steve Keyes, Matt Lampke, Tim Madison,
Mark Masser, Richard Sharp and Rick Weber**

- I. **Pledge of Allegiance**
- II. **Roll Call of Members:** Ben Kessler, President; Steve Keyes, Tim Madison, Mark Masser, Richard Sharp and Rick Weber. (Matt Lampke arrived after roll call).
- III. **Others Present:** Lou Chodosh, Beecher Hale, Bill Harvey, Bruce Langner, Mike Price, Chief Rinehart, Kathy Rose and Gary Qualmann.
- IV. **Correspondence:** None
- V. **Presentations/Special Guests:**

Mr. Steve Bruning Professor of Communication Capital University discussed the future Bexley research project. He explained Capital had previously done a survey to gather residents' concerns and perspective on community issues. He said Capital had conducted previous surveys in 2001 and 2005. The last survey was dated spring, 2005. A copy of this survey was distributed to Council members. He requested they contact him if there were any specialized areas they would like to have included in the survey.

Mr. Bruning explained they mail approximately 800 surveys and had 241 returned which represents 31%. He said President Bowman will pay for the mailing and stamps. This research project is available at no cost to the City. He said an example of some of the questions asked included services received from the City; community recreation; perspective of Capital University, etc. The time frame to develop the survey will be until February 6, 2012. They will be mailing out the surveys on the 13th of February and are due returned early in March. We would request to present the findings to City Council on the week of April 9th.

Some of the questions requested by Council to be added to the survey included:

1. Possible Dog Park within the City.



2. Tax payers' opinions on purchasing adjoining properties or property outside of Bexley.
3. Alcohol use at Jeffrey Mansion for wedding receptions or planned parties.
4. Residents' perception on crime in Bexley.
5. Residents' perception on whether or not Main Street is thriving.
6. Whether or not tax payers think it is a fair value for their taxes.
7. Possible use of food carts and vendors on Main Street, including book vendors, etc.

Council thanked Mr. Bruning for his time and look forward to the presentation.

The second presentation was made by Ms. Bernice Cage regarding 2012 Metropolitan Transportation Plan. Ms. Cage presented a power point presentation regarding future work planned on the highways and surrounding areas.

The third presentation was made by Susan Quintenz and Judy Brachman, Tree and Public Garden Committee regarding vision, goals and activities. Ms. Quintenz said the Tree and Public Garden Committee meeting on a regular basis in order to sustain and enhance a "spectacular" environment. Forestry is also included as part of our goals. She said the committee is responsible for the placement of the end caps on the Gateway Plan. In addition, one of their goals is to increase the green space in the Bexley Community. They do review the landscape plans but only on an advisory capacity for the Planning Committee.

Larry Helman spoke regarding the trees in the City and the Drexel Circle. He said they will be involved with the N. Cassady MORPC project and we are trying to attempt a unified look. He said they are also working closely with the City of Columbus.

Ms. Ann Porter has been working on ways to use the funds and applying for grant projects to assist the Bexley Tree and Public Garden Committee. Ms. Quintenz said the Community Fund has raised \$130,000 in grants for the community.

VI. Ordinances and Resolutions:

A. Finance Committee – Richard Sharp, Chair

Third Readings.

None.

Second Readings.

Ordinance 01-12 – to approve modifications to the labor contract between the City and the American Federation of State County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME) effective, January 1,



2011, as contained in the Memorandum of Understanding attached hereto, introduced by Mr. Sharp, (Introduced on January 20, 2012). **No Action**

Resolution 01-12 – authorizing the Mayor of the City of Bexley to submit an application for a grant to the State of Ohio, Department of Transportation for funding the preparation of a Safe Routes to School Travel Plan and authorizing the Mayor to sign all appropriate documents on behalf of the Applicant in accordance with the application for, and acceptance of, such grant, introduced by Mr. Sharp, (Introduced on January 10, 2012). **No Action**

Ordinance 02-12 – to create Rule 29 of Section 220.01, in order to provide for the appointment of Council Liaisons to various commissions, boards, committees, and other organizations, introduced by Mr. Kessler, (Introduced on January 10, 2012). **No Action**

Resolution 02-12 – requesting the Auditor of Franklin County, Ohio, to make advance payment to the City of Bexley of monies held for its account in the County Treasurer, Introduced by Mr. Sharp, (Introduced on January 10, 2012). **No Action**

Ordinance 03-12 – to amend Section 223.02(b), Public Meetings, to clarify the method of recording and distributing meeting minutes, introduced by Mr. Kessler, (Introduced on January 10, 2012). **No Action**

Resolution 03-12 to establish the official meeting dates for City Council Meetings for the calendar year 2012, introduced by Mr. Kessler, (Introduced on January 10, 2012).

Ordinance 04-12 to appropriate \$11,500 from the unencumbered General Fund for the purpose of paying mileage reimbursement and tuition reimbursement, introduced by Mr. Sharp, (Introduced on January 10, 2012). **No Action**

Ordinance 05-12 authorizing appropriations for certain special revenue (donations) funds for 2012, introduced by Mr. Sharp, (Introduced on January 10, 2012).

Council decided to add a Section 2 to the Ordinance. Mr. Sharp made a motion to Amend. Mr. Keyes seconded the motion. **Vote 7-0 AMENDED.**

Mr. Sharp made a motion to suspend the three reading requirement. Motion was seconded by Mr. Lampke. **Vote 7-0 SUSPENDED.**

Mr. Sharp made a motion to adopt. Motion was seconded by Mr. Lampke. **Vote 7-0 PASSED**

First Readings.

Ordinance 06-12 to create a special project fund designated College Avenue and South Cassady Avenue Project Avenue Fund and to appropriate \$4,036,428.00 from this fund for the purpose of recording expenses related to the College Avenue and South Cassady Avenue projects; introduced by Mr. Sharp, (Introduced on 1-24-12). **No Action**



President Kessler said the expenditure had previously been approved.

Ordinance 08-12 to set the salary and automobile allowance for the office of the Mayor, City of Bexley for the years beginning 2012 through 2016 to remain the same amount as 2011, introduced by Mr. Sharp, (Introduced on 1-24-12).

B. Recreation and Parks Committee – Mark Masser, Chair

Third Readings.

None.

Second Readings.

None

First Readings.

None.

C. Safety Committee – Matt Lampke, Chair

Third Readings.

None

Second Readings.

None

First Readings.

None

D. Service Committee – Steve Keyes, Chair

Third Readings.

None

Second Readings.

None.

First Readings.

Resolution 04-12 to appoint Mr. Joseph Re to the Bexley Tree and Public Gardens Committee for a three year term, introduced by Mr. Keyes (Introduced on January 24, 2012). **No Action**



E. Zoning and Development Committee – Rick Weber, Chair

Third Readings.

None

Second Readings.

None

First Readings.

Ordinance 07-12 to approve an Amendment to the detailed development plan approved by Amended Ordinance No. 31-85 for a Planned Unit Residential (PUR) Development on Clifton Avenue known as “Lyonsgate”, introduced by Mr. Weber, (Introduced on January 24, 2012).

No Action

Council asked Ms. Rose why this Ordinance was being presented to Council. Ms. Rose said any time there is a major change, it goes before Council. They are requesting to increase the footage.

F. Strategic Committee – Tim Madison, Chair

Third Readings.

None

Second Readings.

None.

First Readings.

None.

Tabled Ordinance 23-11 to form and endorse the Bexley Alternative Revenue Task Force, introduced by Mr. Kessler, (Introduced on December 13, 2011, Tabled on January 10, 2012).

Mr. Madison made a motion to remove from Table. Mr. Weber seconded the motion. **Voice Vote – All in favor. REMOVED.**

Mr. Madison made a motion to amend. Mr. Keyes seconded the motion. **Vote 7-0 AMENDED.**

Mr. Madison made a motion to pass Ordinance 23-11. Motion seconded by Mr. Lampke. **Vote 7-0 - PASSED**



VII. Tabled or Referred Legislation –

Ordinance 52-11 to amend Section 232.08 (b) (1) and (2) of the Bexley Codified Ordinances regarding the Budget Stability Fund, introduced by Mr. Sharp (Introduced on November 29, 2011). Tabled 12-20-2011

VIII. Committee Reports

Zoning and Development – Rick Weber – No Report

Strategic Committee – Tim Madison – He said the first meeting was held this evening and there were a number of good ideas. He thanked President Kessler for the creation of the Task Force and thanked Council for their passage of same.

Finance & Judiciary – Richard Sharp- No Report

Recreation and Parks – Mark Masser – Mr. Masser thanked Mr. Sharp for substituting at the Recreation Board while he was out-of-town.

Safety – Matt Lampke- No Report

Service- Steve Keyes- No Report

President’s Report –Ben Kessler- President Kessler thanked those who attended the presentation last Tuesday. He said we are working on a return of investment. He announced WIFI is now available in Council chambers but does require a pass code. If anyone is interested, please contact Mr. Halsey to receive your code. He said the plan with PDF forms will be online. He said the MSI is helping design the Main Street work for the TIF in order to maximize the \$180,000 in funds.

President Kessler said he met with the library staff but has not yet met with the schools. Mr. Kessler said there is a possible grant idea for work on the Alum Creek Corridor. Mr. Masser suggested some work for senior housing issues. Another suggestion was made for an amphitheater on Alum Creek.

IX. City Official Reports

John M. Brennan, Mayor – President Kessler said he was serving as the Acting Mayor. He said Mr. Harvey will be going on vacation next week so he would be in the office full-time for the next two weeks. He said with the economy and cost sharing options are becoming available and he did meet with the City of Columbus and discussed some details and whether or not the City of Bexley should purchase. He has another meeting



scheduled for early February. He said he was disturbed after hearing the Metropolitan Transportation presentation that Bexley was not on the list as having applied for any grants. Mr. Harvey explained that MORPC does not provide any funding. The OPWC is strictly a loan grant deal.

Gary Qualmann, Auditor – We have hired an Assistant to the Finance Director. Her name is Angela O’Kelly and is actually Mary Ellen O’Kelly’s daughter. Mr. Lampke asked if this would be a conflict of interest since she handles payroll checks. Mr. Qualmann said no because there are enough links in the mechanics of payroll that it is not a concern. President Kessler asked what level of pay she was being hired. Mr. Qualmann said she will be receiving the same pay as Ms. Bowen was receiving.

Lawrence Rinehart, Chief of Police - No Report

William Harvey, Service Director- Mr. Harvey said he would be gone the next couple of weeks for vacation. He reminded Council there would be a public meeting held at City Hall on Thursday regarding the Columbia Gas project. He said it will run from Fair to Main, Drexel to Gould. Mr. Weber asked if we had received a commitment from them regarding the yellow pipes. Mr. Harvey said he has discussed that with them but they are not able to correct those until the weather breaks. Mr. Keyes asked why Columbia Gas is doing this now. Mr. Harvey said the infrastructure they need to replace. He has received complaints regarding lawns, etc. He said Columbia Gas is working on the entire area including Central Ohio.

Residents on Cassady – along with Fair to Broad will be having the City do work on trees. They will be losing 15 – 20 trees which will be in the way. The majority of the trees are old or ash trees. The big trees will be replaced with little trees.

Lou Chodosh, City Attorney- No Report

Bruce Langner, Development Director- Mr. Langner said some of the new businesses are now open such as Roll, the new Fitness facility and Piccadilly (which is a play area for younger children).

Mike Price, Recreation and Parks Director- No Report

X. **Old Business- None**

XI. **New Business-** Mr. Qualmann presented a motion for payment that was needed for audit purposes. Mr. Hale explained the City has certain contracts that require payment by January 1st and the year end is not yet completed. The result is having to make a payment prior to having the PO set up in the system at that point. This occurs every year because it is impossible to have the PO set up prior to year end. Mr. Qualmann



said they need the approval for audit purposes. Mr. Sharp made the motion and Mr. Lampke seconded. **Motion Approved.**

XII. Remarks from Audience – None

XIII. Executive Session – Council made a motion to adjourn into Executive Session pursuant to 223.03 (e) regarding confidential matters. Clerk of Courts called roll call.

XIV. Regular Meeting Adjourned 8:00 p.m.

