



City of Gahanna

Meeting Minutes

Public Service & Safety

Office of the Clerk of Council
200 South Hamilton Road
Gahanna, Ohio 43230

Karen J. Angelou, Chair, Thomas R. Kneeland, Jamie Leeseberg

Kimberly McWilliams, CMC, Clerk of Council

Monday, July 28, 2014

Council Committee Rooms

Immediately Following Finance

Present 3 - Karen J. Angelou, Jamie Leeseberg, and Thomas R. Kneeland

Additional Attendees:

Dottie Franey, Karl Wetherholt; Representatives from United Baptist Church Franklin Damero and James May.

2014-0093 Service Supporting Docs

1. UPDATE - United Baptist Church, Taylor Road

Angelou called the meeting for Monday, July 28, 2014 to order; said talk about Taylor Road United Baptist Church; thank you for coming to talk about this.

Franklin Damero, Taylor Road Baptist Church representative, said Gahanna has been running water over and on their property; went to the Attorney General's office about water that won't run off church property; Attorney General's office asked if Gahanna had any permits to run water over property; church said no; church was then advised to take issue to Gahanna Council meeting; if no solution can be found, bring the problem back to the Attorney General's office; Damero provided pictures of how the land used to be; now is swamp and can't be mowed.

Angelou said what year were the pictures; determined they were from 1997; what do you mean by water running over your property. Damero said when houses built, proper drainage was not installed. Angelou said you are saying the water is from Foxwood.

Wetherholt said the drainage from Foxwood has an outlet for the entire basin in Gahanna Woods; there are 4 to 6 hundred acres of tributary area to that point; much is on the eastern side of Taylor

Station Road. Angelou said there has been a lot of development in Jefferson Township that is outside the City of Gahanna; some of this problem could be potentially coming from that development in Jefferson Township; your property is in Jefferson Township. Damero said that is true. Angelou said some of the problem could be from development to the east rather than Gahanna. Wetherholt said I did not analyze the upstream area to the east on Taylor Road to determine development increases since 1997 to the present.

Kneeland said in the Service Department report, there are several steps identified as done over the course of 12 years along with attempts to mitigate storm water; under next steps it says to review the stormwater management report prepared by Homewood and EMH&T; outcome of that review would be to investigate any technical solutions; what are your thoughts on what you read.

Wetherholt said we are still doing that review; part of the issue here is not just the water upstream coming down here but the level of the pond in Foxwood; the mitigating project was a storm drain that drains from the Foxwood pond low level; it is at an elevation that is lower than the church's property; if the water could get from the church property into this drain, theoretically it would lower the water table there; this would happen provided the water could get across church property from one side to the other; there is field tile there; when we looked at it in 1999 it was deteriorating and filling up; they had multiple problems with it. Angelou clarified the tile was on church property. Wetherholt said it goes from very close to Taylor Station Road through the Gahanna Woods Nature Preserve; then it crosses the church's property and empties into the Foxwood pond. Angelou asked was this put in when Foxwood was developed. Wetherholt said no; it went in back in the 20's or 30's when the area was farmed to enable them to grow crops on it. Angelou said that is a drainage tile from back in history. Wetherholt said yes. Angelou said the tile was in place when Gahanna took over Gahanna Woods Nature Preserve. Wetherholt said yes. Angelou said it is taking water from the Nature Preserve away. Wetherholt said it takes it through the church property and at present empties into the Foxwood pond. Angelou said what has happened; is this drain tile part of the issue in carrying the water away or is the pond not lower. Wetherholt said could be a combination of those things.

Kneeland said was there an event; one day dry and the next it was not. Wetherholt said their pictures show dry property; we have aerial photos from 1994 that show the pond at it's current water level in April with a lot of rain; I have seen it at times dry to mow; it is not in a permanent dry or wet situation. Angelou said this year has been an incredibly wet year.

Angelou said the responsibility for the solution is not clear; is this a Gahanna issue, Jefferson Township or church issue; looking to experts; there was an offer made some time ago to purchase the area to add it to the preserve, but that was turned down; and there is the review of the stormwater management report. Wetherholt said we are still looking at that; have not had enough time to complete research. Angelou said how long do you think that will take; there is the EMH&T report with documentation that would help; the administration is still reviewing that; perhaps we will find a fix in there; you feel Taylor Road brought in the water; we know that because the tile is there that there has always been some amount of water in the area; continue the review to determine how we can help or not help.

James May, Johnstown Ohio church member, said back years ago when Taylor Road was made a 3 lane road they raised the drain tile from the woods pond because of the creek that was on the other side of the road; that is when the water stopped going away; there were times we had water but it used to go away; now it does not go away.

Wetherholt said when we built Taylor Road, the tile was undocumented; it was not discovered until after the new drainage systems had been put in; the tile is lower than the elevation of the of stream that is receiving it; never see that; always the out fall to a pipe dumps into a stream at some level at the bottom of the stream; this is below that by a considerable amount; don't know how it drained before that; resident that lived there said the water would bubble up like an artesian well; in 2001 we built a reliever pipe farther down stream so it could outlet at the top of the stream; ran that all the way over to the Foxwood pond and also to pick up the tile on the northern side of Taylor Road; worked in theory since that pipe was lower than the ground level where the church is; when Foxwood pond went in, if it could get into the pond, it would drain; don't know the level of Foxwood pond right now.

Angelou said going forward; we should have Wetherholt continue his investigation; see if something will show why this is such a problem and if there is anything we can do about this; we want to cooperate with our neighbors. May said this has been in discussion for a long period of time. Angelou said don't know who is responsible for what at this point but would like to have a plan. May said they are surrounded by Gahanna; not sure how they wound up in Jefferson Township. Angelou said we would love to have you annex into the City.

Angelou said will come back to committee in 2 weeks; will notify you if delayed.

Larick asked Wetherholt if that was enough time. Wetherholt said issue now is getting a copy of the Foxwood Stormwater Report; not had time to search for it. Angelou suggested EMH&T or Foxwood may have a copy.

ITEMS - FROM CITY ENGINEER

1. Larry Lane Sanitary Sewer - SA 1013 - Assessment

Wetherholt said we have been talking about the Larry Lane sewer project for the last 6 months; we are at the point where we bid the project; we received 2 bids; ready to award the contract; first item is assessment; 2 properties will be immediately served; they are currently unsewered and discharging into the creek; one has funding; the one at 510 requested to be assessed for the fees; only charging these residents the statutory fees for hook up; that is why we have an assessment project; one of many steps for this project is to proceed with the assessment; need an ordinance to proceed with this process; they know this is coming; they have requested it. Angelou asked do you need anything to speed this up. Wetherholt said the next action item speeds this up; we need to award the contract so we can build the sewer so they can hook up. Angelou said and you want that with waiver and emergency. Wetherholt said yes. Angelou said how long will this take to be corrected. Wetherholt said 4 to 6 weeks.

Recommendation: 1st Reading, Consent Agenda;waiver of 2nd Reading, Consent Agenda; Emergency Language.

2. Larry Lane Sanitary Sewer - SA 1013 - Award Contract

See discussion under Larry Lane Sanitary Sewer-SA 1013-Assessment

Recommendation: 1st Reading; waiver of 2nd Reading, Consent Agenda; Emergency Language.

ITEMS - FROM DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE

1. Electric Supply RFP - Tradition Energy

Franey said last month brought forth legislation to re-sign with AEP; they have been our supplier for a number of years and we have worked with them directly; on follow up we realized we were not going to get a lower rate; decided this would be the time to go out for RFP; realized we do not have the expertise to put together an in house RFP; complex issue; the supplier may not be transparent; prices can be shown and not be apples to apples; we decided we needed to work

with a broker; realized we would have the same problem with them; next we found a cooperative, US Communities; they have over 55,000 entities; they can bid out an item and other communities can hook on to that bid; we found First Energy Advisor had a bid out for Mesquite, Texas; the successful bidder is Tradition Energy; this was competitively bid and they were the winners; this seemed like a good advisor for us to use since they have already gotten apples to apples with the brokers; first legislation is to enter into agreement with Tradition Energy; they will do the RFP; they will manage our electric; we are asking this be passed with emergency and waiver so they can go right for the RFP immediately.

Franey continued the 2nd item relates to Ord-0094-2014 which was legislation we passed when we thought we would be working directly with AEP; needs to be made more generic so Tradition Energy can assign it to whatever supplier comes in low; could be AEP as they are a supplier to this broker, if they are lowest; this would repeal the original legislation and create a more generic one.

Angelou said it will be \$3,500 a year. Franey said it is about 1% and explained in our report; compares to what we pay to have our natural gas managed by the State.

Angelou said this needs emergency and waiver. Franey said yes on both.

Recommendation: 1st Reading; waiver of 2nd Reading, Consent Agenda; Emergency Language.

2. Electric Supplier

See discussion under Electric Supply RFP-Tradition Energy.

Recommendation: 1st Reading; waiver of 2nd Reading, Consent Agenda; Emergency Language.

Della Brandenberger, Reporting