

City of Gahanna

*200 South Hamilton Road
Gahanna, Ohio 43230*



Meeting Minutes

Monday, September 10, 2001

7:00 PM

Council Committee Rooms

Communications & Technology Committee

*Thomas R. Kneeland, Chairman
Karen J. Angelou
Michael O'Brien
Rebecca W. Stinchcomb, ex officio
David Lee, ex officio*

Members Absent: Thomas R. Kneeland

Members Present: Karen J. Angelou and Michael O'Brien

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES:

Stinchcomb, Lee, Mumma, White, Press.

PENDING LEGISLATION:

ORD-0192-2001

TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO CONTRACT WITH AT FIRST SITE, INC. TO DEVELOP AND MAINTAIN A NEW DYNAMIC WEB APPLICATION NECESSARY FOR THE CITY; TO SUPPLEMENTALLY APPROPRIATE \$30,000 THEREFORE; AND TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY.

White stated she had only received one comment after last meeting and that was from Angelou; no one else responded with any concerns or questions.

O'Brien stated he voice his reservations at the meeting; representative was sincere and think they can do a good job. White stated she will work with us, interview us, and give us three alternatives; will tell us where we're going; will E-mail it out when received; ask what do you like and what don't you like.

White stated we really need to get our site up and running; even if it doesn't look like what everybody will like, it will be getting valuable information out and will accomplish our goal; can tweak it down the road or improve it; our current site is out of date; the whole site needs to be updated.

O'Brien asked who is going to oversee - a management team or an oversight team. McGregor stated that from a technical standpoint needs Lee's review and input; but there is also a sales issue; that is more of a development function; they do sales and marketing for the City; think Development would be the best place for main oversight; will be representative from each department.

Recommended for Adoption, Consent

Mark O'Donnell - mygahanna.com

Stinchcomb noted an E-mail forward by Angelou from Mark O'Donnell regarding a new web site he is creating - my gahanna. com; went into it but there is nothing there yet; he is asking whether or not he can use content from our site on his site; not so sure that's a good idea. In response to question, Less stated that anything that was proprietary or copyrighted information could not be used. Stinchcomb stated that E-mail addresses are public record but not sure this should be a blanket OK for a commercial site; there is advertising; we don't want to be put in the position of looking like we endorse something. Payne stated we should ask for a disclaimer; he has to put in a disclaimer on everything he would use; anything copyrighted he can't use; TIDE program is an example of something copyrighted.

McGregor stated he was concerned with items like the little section on humor; what does he consider funny; could be off color; could be offensive ethnically. Angelou stated it would be an essential communication tool for residents; there is no external funding of any kind; would be an evolving community project; didn't know what kind of

reservations we would have in saying use our stuff; may be copyrighted; images might be such they wouldn't want them to be lifted; this is a citizen trying to put out information about the community; has asked us to provide a link from our site. McGregor stated that Murdock will look into this; Lee can also check; also need to know what the law dictates. Stinchcomb stated newspapers copyright their entire content. McGregor noted that we get criticized for things we have no control over; don't mean to criticize; we are accountable; if they think we are involved it might not necessarily be a good thing for us. Lee stated he would check out the site; we are spending a lot of money on our web page; should copyright it. Payne stated there were things you can do on the web page so you can't down load. Lee stated that you can block but it also makes it difficult for some people to view. Lee stated a lot of pages are active server pages; he won't be able to get to database; can link back to it; he requests a page, server looks at it and executes, but all he sees is results; never has the program itself; would like the site but wouldn't navigate the same way. Stinchcomb stated we discussed this issue a couple of years ago; we don't want to link. Angelou stated if he wants to public a calendar of events or something along that line, that is public information; can't see a problem with that; that was the intent I saw. O'Brien agreed stating he was doing it as a public service. Stinchcomb stated she thinks there are legal issues involved; will probably be resolved in the Courts eventually; if we give someone a perceived endorsement of their site by linking back we could have trouble. Payne stated we haven't endorsed if we don't link back to him; we're not endorsing. McGregor stated that somebody requested a link and we turned it down; we also turned down the Dispute Resolution Center a while ago; may provide links to the CVB, Junior League Baseball, etc.; other City organizations are good links.

ISSUES:

Report - Director of Network Operations

Lee stated he had sent a report; E-mail for Court should be operational tomorrow; GBS will be in and have it working; have eliminated all their excuses; other item in report was fiber validation; Tom Kneeland was instrumental in making sure it was running properly.

Lee stated he is doing some research on why we are not having the ability for Firststar to allow organizations that pay municipal taxes to directly transfer to our account; gov. connect were going to enable; was under the impression they were waiting on us; came from gov.connect; City is ready and CMI has said it is capable; what can we do; been told that Firststar has been bought out by Bank of America; doubt if original contract can be consummated; they are in negotiations; delay is on their end; waiting for word from those two organizations.

Lee stated that they were in the process of doing a security audit this week; is intrusive on some machines; may have equipment failures and servers crash; trying to find it all now; two people doing the audit; already have found some pretty glaring things we need to get addressed; threats and levels of threats in holes they have found; glad we are doing this; it started today.

Stinchcomb stated there were a fair amount of glitches last week also. Lee stated that our Web and E-mail server had some problems; are removing functions from that server to lighten its load; also demonstrated to Sherwood a revamped document manager system; using cold fusion now which is very intrusive; uses a lot of resources; now trying active server pages; still testing; rebooting weekly right now; question the vitality of that server; would like to build new ones; have Daystar server and backup main controller in next year's budget; will take care of some of it; shift more load off these

desktop machines; it will help. Payne stated that cold fusion was purchased because that was what Choung knew; we don't want something that will hog the system; if we moved away from that wouldn't have a great concern. In response to question, Lee stated that in order to try and keep running longer, we are looking at reducing the load to a manageable level; will come forward with a recommendation if this doesn't work. Stinchcomb stated that as we have all moved to an electronic system, we are trying to focus on method; critical E-mails are not getting through; currently getting things at home and work because our system is not working. Lee stated he was working on that; one of the things that can be done immediately is to limit the file size that can go through; recommend closer to 4 in order to get large files; we have several hundred messages and some go to multiple recipients; takes a lot of power; will have to talk about further.

2000-0035

ISOBEL L. SHERWOOD, CMC/AEE, Clerk of Council, reporting.