

City of Gahanna

*200 South Hamilton Road
Gahanna, Ohio 43230*



Meeting Minutes

Monday, November 27, 2000

8:15 PM

Council Committee Rooms

Committee of the Whole

Rebecca W. Stinchcomb, Chairman

Karen J. Angelou

L. Nicholas Hogan

Thomas R. Kneeland

Michael O'Brien

Donald R. Shepherd

Debra A. Payne, ex officio

Members Absent: L. Nicholas Hogan

Members Present: Debra A. Payne, Rebecca W. Stinchcomb, Thomas R. Kneeland, Donald R. Shepherd, Karen J. Angelou and Michael O'Brien

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES:

Jerry Isler; Tom Weber; Col. Hall; Raleigh Mitchell; Karl Wetherholt; Mayor; Tom Komlanc; Isobel Sherwood; Donna Jernigan; Stacey Bashore; Press

PENDING LEGISLATION

ORD-0281-2000

TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO CONTRACT WITH EVANS, MECHWART, HAMBLETON & TILTON, FOR UPDATE OF THE CITY'S WATER AND SEWER ATLASES; AND TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY

Wetherholt stated that what this does is use engineering funding to split between water and sewer, to get the atlases updated and on electronic format; anyone can tap into it; has had 1st reading from last week.

Recommended for Adoption, Consent

ORD-0243-2000

TO ACCEPT THE FINAL PLAT FOR PROPERTY KNOWN AS WOODMERE PLACE; BROOKWOOD CONSTRUCTION CO., INC., APPLICANT

Mayor stated that Glen Dugger stopped in with a proposal; C.V. Perry and Doug Maddy had no objection to City abandoning 50 yards of road in middle; this satisfies concerns with safety; felt it would not be subject to Planning Commission; seemed attractive to him; will need something from C.V. Perry stating that he does not object; much less controversial; option for Council; Dugger will take care of the paperwork; has been ill; have not received anything from either one; Mayor stated that he would like to run the approval of Woodmere contemporaneously so they will know at the end of the process if they both pass; have an opportunity; no reason if the abandonment passes; parkland issues interest of compromise through road. Sherwood stated that the abandonment will need to be separate legislation. Shepherd asked about the land in between, will it be given to the City. Mayor stated it would be the land adjacent to C.V. Perry's property and Armor Hill; half of it would go to Perry and half would go to McCutcheon Park; right of way would begin again after that. Sherwood stated that vacations of land do go to the Planning Commission; it cannot be done together at this point. Mayor stated this was just Dugger's proposal; no objections to it; whole concern is a connector near bike paths and athletic fields. Weber mentioned that this is a final plat; we do not have a lot of discretion with rejecting. Mayor stated that it does not meet safety requirements; if we cannot run these items together would like Council to turn down Woodmere Place; presents danger to children; have whole process start over. Weber mentioned that you could always postpone; voting it down is not a good idea; running out of time. Mayor stated that we are just talking about 50 yards so that it cannot be connected; need to keep it as a safe pedestrian environment; it is the cut through traffic that kills; people going to the park are not a problem. Shepherd asked why Planning Commission would not want to do this. Sherwood stated that they believed the road should go through; they did not feel that the approval of this plat would mean that the road would be built; did not feel that cul-de-sac would be good planning. Shepherd stated that he had no problem with abandoning. O'Brien stated that it could be a huge liability if we abandon; Perry could force us to buy it. Mayor stated that Perry has access to Ridenour; we could not abandon right of way in front of his lots; as long as we abandon 50 yards to lots that face Armor

Hill, not on his rights at all. Weber stated that you will have to record the vacation; on this Ordinance 243-2000, you need to do something, this is a final plat; you have to do something with this plat now. Mayor questioned why we could not delay. Sherwood stated that they have to act within 90 days. Weber mentioned that you can't defer plat. Mayor stated that he has no objection to the plat, just the through way. Kneeland read from Section 11.06, Action by Council, of the Charter regarding extension of time. Sherwood stated that Council will need to make a recommendation at Monday's meeting to postpone until December 18; needs the Administration to provide legal descriptions, survey map and memo to Planning Commission to get a recommendation going for the vacation of the land.

RECOMMENDATION: Postpone until December 18; Consent Agenda.
Motion Resolution to Extend time after the 90 day
Expiration.

Recommended for Postponement to a Date Certain

ISSUES - Carried Over from Previous Meeting:

Morse Road Right of Way

Mayor stated that the issue is the 5 lanes; huge undertaking for us; need different types of equipment. Wetherholt mentioned potential mowing; all of the additional maintenance work that would be provided by a 5 lane highway. Angelou asked whether the properties on Gahanna side will be losing anything. Wetherholt said it would only be the right of way going to Columbus; adjoining properties only come up to right of way; all of the property that is in Gahanna with Morse Road will stay in Gahanna. Stinchcomb questioned control issues; by giving this up would we lose any right to anything. Wetherholt stated that there is not much to control. Mayor stated that we would not give up curb cut regulation on south side. Stinchcomb asked what could we lose by agreeing with this. Wetherholt stated that there really wasn't anything to lose besides a lot of maintenance problems. Wetherholt stated that right now the plans for the section is 3 lane; which we can maintain; we would be getting some additional maintenance with that; right now the county is maintaining that. Mayor stated that the county is maintaining the whole thing but they are getting ready to pull out. Wetherholt stated that the developers are paying for the maintenance on that; Franklin County took a leadership role on this forcing the developers to do the widening from Hamilton to almost to 62; takes up the slack; joint project; middle of designing; it is going to take a long time; county does not want to proceed with legislation unless everyone is in agreement; they want a resolution in support of. Weber stated that we need to have the department do a sample resolution for Council to look over. Wetherholt said they could do that. Isler asked if this was scheduled at some point to go to 5 lanes. Komlanc answered that it is projected in the year 2015 or 2017. Mayor reminded that would also be a state and federal project. Wetherholt stated that we could demand developers to put signalization in; we are cooperating with Columbus and County; sometimes a struggle to work with multiple jurisdictions. Stinchcomb stated that she would like to see a draft resolution from Engineering with a lot of detail in the attachments. Stinchcomb asked if it only needed one reading. Weber answered yes. Wetherholt stated that there was no hurry; probably prefer to get all issues out. Stinchcomb asked Wetherholt to let the County know that they are thinking it is okay, would like to explore it more; will be looking for draft Resolution sometime in January.

RECOMMENDATION: Put it on as a monitor item; Bring it back to Committee of the Whole in January.

West Gahanna Entry, Phase II - Informational Report Only.

Wetherholt stated that they have come back with a revised plan to lower costs; bring the costs down for the local match; more in line. Mayor stated that they are proposing for next year's budget, \$250,000. Wetherholt stated that they will try to go lower; doesn't impact project that much; delay bidding until first of April as opposed to middle of January; MORPC says that the funds will still be good through summer; concrete type of work will be done in summertime; landscaping done in fall of 2001. Kneeland stated that he has been getting a lot of heat about the amount. Wetherholt explained that the central office of ODOT does the estimate. Kneeland stated that the feedback he has gotten is why are we spending this much on landscape. Komlanc mentioned that part of this is for the power source. Kneeland stated that when this was initially brought up there was an actual plan; brought as an economic tool; reinvigorate the West side; spawn development; have received no report of the progress we made from the Development Department; expected some data; what is the value of project; how is it being received; what type of investment return; we have only looked at the flora aspect; taking offense to the fact of money being spent on trees and flowers. Angelou stated that this is the most used entryway; want it to be top notch; spent millions for unseen things; thinks it is an economic development tool. Shepherd stated it would beautify the area; could bring potential development sites. Stinchcomb stated that she had been misquoted in the paper regarding spending money on the West side; she said it would be too much for the West side Entry Way; entry way was left off; we need to look at the plan; seem to have forgotten what was in that plan; what is the million for; ODOT overestimating; if it all was for landscaping that was too much; no problems if it is for more. Kneeland stated that he feels we have gotten away from initial purpose. Stinchcomb stated that the other thing she heard comments from people being concerned about arch and where it is; feel that the arch is the entrance to the City of Gahanna; it is only the entrance to Old Gahanna. Wetherholt mentioned that Stygler and 62 will have mastarms and they will be ornamented with the G which will tie in with all of Granville Street; the consultant who did the design will be modifying it to keep it as the general center piece; to bring the cost back down and to resubmit the modified plans; will be finished in just about 2 weeks; will have to resubmit to ODOT; it will take ODOT about 2 months to process plan; will need to get artist conception from Development; we will be submitting the reduced plans as soon as they are done; what you will find is the reduced concepts still fit with the artist conception.

RECOMMENDATION: Information in Friday packets; Back to Committee of the Whole.

Chapter 505 - Animals & Fowl

Weber will come back with a final version sometime in January.

Unclassified Personnel Salaries

Mayor passed out version for consideration; have had opportunity to talk to Council; this includes Council employees; 3 1/2% to 5%; 3 or 4 employees go beyond because of range changes; have not changed any other language; insurance is different; new program; does increase insurance rates very modestly. Mayor stated that it was designed to encourage people to use the network plan; there is an additional bonus if 2 people are insured and drop out; saves the City money.

RECOMMENDATION: 1st reading; Consent; Back into Finance Committee.

ADDITIONAL DISCUSSION:

Water and sewer rates need to be raised for constituents. Isler is going to draft legislation. This is something that is going to have to be done after the first of the year. Only wanted to alert Council at this point.

RECOMMENDATION: 1st Reading, Consent; 2 pieces of legislation; back to Committee of the Whole in 2 weeks.

Stacey Bashore, Recording