

KIRTLAND CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

October 5, 2009

The meeting of Kirtland City Council was called to order at 7:12 p.m. by Council President R. Robert Umholtz. Councilman Webbe led the prayer which followed the Pledge of Allegiance. The members of Council present were: Royal Brettrager, Douglas Davidson, David Kirek, Timothy Powell, Robert Skrbis, R. Robert Umholtz and Donald Webbe.

Administrative personnel present were: Mayor Mark A. Tyler, Law Director Daniel Richards, Finance Director Keith Martinet, City Engineer Philip Kiefer, Service Administrator Carm Catania, Police Chief Wayne Baumgart and Fire Chief Anthony Hutton.

MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 21, 2009 COUNCIL MEETING:

Mr. Davidson moved to waive the reading of the Minutes, with the second by Mr. Webbe. The motion of Council passed by unanimous vote. Mr. Davidson moved to adopt the Minutes, with the second by Mr. Webbe. **ROLL CALL: MOTION CARRIED 7/0 (VOTING YEA: DAVIDSON, KIREK, POWELL, SKRBIS, UMHOLTZ, WEBBE AND BRETTRAGER. VOTING NAY: NONE).**

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Fire Chief Anthony Hutton advised that the monthly report has been distributed.

Police Chief Wayne Baumgart advised that the monthly report for Police and Fire has been distributed.

Chief Baumgart introduced Brian Kravos, noting that he will be sworn in as a new part-time police officer at tonight's meeting. Chief Baumgart stated that Mr. Kravos graduated from Lakeland Police Academy; he also graduated from Lakeland Community College with an Associate Degree in Criminal Justice. The Chief noted that Mr. Kravos graduated from Kent State University, where he was a member of the Phi Beta Kappa Society. Chief Baumgart noted that Mr. Kravos served internships with the Kirtland Police Department and with the Geauga County Sheriff's Department, and that he is a lifelong Kirtland resident.

Mayor Tyler administered the Oath of Office to Police Officer Brian Kravos. Mr. Kravos was joined by his parents, and many friends and family members also attended the ceremony. He received the applause of all those present and the congratulations of Council members.

Service Administrator Carm Catania did not give a formal report and no questions were asked of him.

City Engineer Philip Kiefer did not present a formal report and no questions were asked of him.

Finance Director Keith Martinet reminded Council members that a Finance Committee meeting will be held following the next regular meeting on October 19, 2009. Upon Mr. Martinet's request, it was agreed that the Board of Tax Review meeting also be held following the next regular meeting.

Law Director Daniel Richards did not present a formal report and no questions were asked of him.

MAYOR'S REPORT/ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Mayor Mark Tyler offered congratulations to Police Officer Brian Kravos.

Mayor Tyler reported that the first community shred day was held at the Community Center on Saturday, noting that it was a success.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Councilman Skrbis stated that he is in the process of gathering information regarding recreational facilities; he requested that Council members forward to him any information they may have in this regard. Mr. Skrbis noted that a Recreation Standing Committee meeting will soon be scheduled.

CORRESPONDENCE:

None.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA:

Bruce Borthwick, 9129 Prelog Lane, stated that he and other citizens are present to revisit an issue that was discussed three years ago regarding safety concerns at the intersection of Route 6 and Sperry Road. Mr. Borthwick questioned whether an engineering or traffic study has been done and when this issue will be addressed. Mayor Tyler advised that studies have been completed; the project has the support of the Administration and City Council, and it has been approved. He noted that the City has received approximately one-third of the funding for the project from the State. The Mayor stated that some of the City's resources have been dedicated to the sewer project, noting that the City is under a State mandate. Mayor Tyler noted that funding is in place to pave Route 6 next year, noting that both projects will be coordinated in 2010.

Valerie Wolcott Mendelson, 9106 Prelog Lane, addressed Council regarding the intersection of Prelog Lane and Sperry Road. She stated her concerns about safety when making a left-hand turn from Prelog to Sperry and when making a left-hand turn from Sperry to Prelog, due to the difficulty in seeing oncoming traffic. Ms. Mendelson stated that it is a dangerous intersection and that she has requested the placement of convex mirrors to help motorists' visibility of oncoming traffic. She noted that the traffic on Sperry Road frequently exceeds the 35 mph speed limit. Noting that the orientation of the intersection and the line of sight was discussed at Council's work session, Mayor Tyler advised that the option of installing convex mirrors will be investigated and a decision will be made within the next month. Police Chief Baumgart stated that this area will be added to the direct patrol list.

Councilman Webbe requested that City Engineer Kiefer provide specific information to Mr. Borthwick following tonight's meeting with regard to the Route 6 and Sperry Road intersection project.

Chief Baumgart advised that, since January 1, 2006, there have been three injury accidents at the intersection of Route 6 and Sperry Road, and no accidents at the intersection of Sperry Road and Prelog Lane.

Chris Amato, 9070 Prelog Lane, stated that she has a report indicating that 14 accidents occurred from 2004 to 2009, which is approximately 2.8 accidents per year over a five-year period. It was noted that this figure includes non-injury accidents and minor incidents. Ms. Amato expressed concern about safety at the intersection of Route 6 and Sperry Road.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA (continued):

Council President Umholtz thanked the residents for attending, noting that the Mayor will respond to the request for convex mirrors within the next month and that the Route 6 and Sperry Road intersection will be addressed next year.

Noting that there is a large hole in the road at the end of the Prelog Lane cul-de-sac (in front of the Amato residence), Councilman Skrbis requested that the Service Administrator inspect this section of the road.

Gary Amato, 9070 Prelog Lane, addressed Council with regard to the overall condition of Prelog Lane, in addition to the hole in front of his driveway. Mr. Amato noted that repairs were done last year, and he inquired when the road will be repaved. Council President Umholtz advised that the Service Administrator has a list of priority streets, noting that there are limited funds for paving; he noted that the hole in the road will be inspected by the Service Administrator right away.

Noting that the City website has been updated, Councilman Skrbis stated that the residents can contact him by e-mail or by telephone.

OLD BUSINESS:

None.

NEW BUSINESS:

RESOLUTION NO. 09-R-46
(Mayor Tyler)

- **A RESOLUTION TO PERMIT DOMINION EAST OHIO GAS, A PUBLIC UTILITY, TO CONSTRUCT A COMPRESSOR STATION AT 8620 EUCLID-CHARDON ROAD, OPTION B, IN THE CITY OF KIRTLAND, OHIO AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

Read by title only. Responding to Councilman Powell, Bob Flesher of Mr. Excavator advised that he has spoken with representatives of Dominion and that they will move forward if Council approval is granted. Noting that the Planning and Zoning Commission made a recommendation to Council for another site, Council President Umholtz stated that he would like a representative of Dominion to attend the next Council meeting and explain the rationale for the requested site change; the other Council members concurred. The legislation was placed on First Reading.

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CONTINUING CONCERNS:

None.

COUNCIL COMMENTS:

Councilman Powell personally welcomed Officer Kravos as the newest member of the Police Department.

Councilman Davidson commented that the Route 6 and Sperry Road project should be kept on the "front burner".

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

None.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Kirek moved to adjourn, with the second by Mr. Davidson. The motion of Council passed by unanimous vote. The time was 7:42 p.m.

President of Council

Clerk of Council