

CITY OF CANAL FULTON

March 18, 2003

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING:

Mayor Shawn Kenney called the March 4, 2003 Council Meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. in City Hall Council Chambers.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

CALLING OF THE ROLL: Present: Bill Dane, Nellie Cihon, Diane Downing, Linda Zahirsky, Robert Szanto, Mike Mouse, Mayor Shawn Kenney.

OTHERS PRESENT: Marge Loretto, City Manager; Debbie Kerr, Finance Director; Dale Kincaid, Law Director; Mike McNeely, Police Chief; Robert Hill, Fire Chief; Bill Dorman, City Engineer; Fred Etheridge, Park Board; Fred Fleming, Park Board; Ana Burns, Davey Resource Group, Karen Wise, Davey Resource Group; Joan Porter, The Repository; Julie Scheurer, The Independent; Victor Colaianni, Bret Stephan, Dennis Downing, Rochelle Rossi, Ray Coffman, Florence Corsaut, Kathryn Beck, Robert Beck, Elizabeth Beck, Dina Eden, all residents.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION BY CANAL FULTON PARK BOARD:

Mr. Etheridge said he would like to thank everyone for coming and also thank the Mayor and Council for this opportunity.

He said Don and Carol Schalmo have the desire to donate to the City a piece of land in honor of their son James D. Schalmo. He died tragically in 1985 at the age of 28. Mr. Etheridge said it is wetlands property approximately 13 acres. The Schalmo family will also donate \$100,000 to get the project started. He said the Schalmo's tried to donate this land to the City in 1980, but at that time there was no access to the park. To overcome that, Schalmo purchased a house on Greenwood. He said that was done so that if the City accepted the land, the house would be moved so an entrance could be made. Mr. Etheridge said it will cost \$21,500 to move the house and that will also be paid for by Schalmo. He said he has hired a landscape architect to do a preliminary plan of the park. Mr. Etheridge said Schalmo has already donated land for Discovery Park. He said Councilman Mouse asked Schalmo if they would consider donating that land to the City for park purposes, which they did. He said the Park Board has already approved the wetlands park, and the Planning Commission has reviewed the conceptual plan and has agreed that it is good for the community. Mr. Etheridge said he would like to get a vote of confidence from Council that you do want to accept this land and the \$100,000 donation. He said the next level would be to approach all the residents surrounding the park to get their input.

Karen Wise from Davey Resource Group then addressed the group. She said she is a wetlands biologist. She described the property in detail and passed out maps of the land. She said the City had a very unique situation in which they had a large tract of wetlands in the middle of the City limits. She said observation decks or overlooks, walking paths, etc. would be put in. She said she knows that issues will come up about money. How will the improvements be paid for, upkeep, etc.

Ana Burns from Davey Resource Group said just the donation of the land alone counts in the City's favor as matching funds for a grant application. The \$100,000 donation is also additional matching funds for grants. She said two funding sources that would be most applicable to this is through the Ohio Public Works Commission, through the Clean Ohio Conservation Fund. She said there are Natural Resource Assistance Councils throughout Ohio. There is one in Stark County. She said they usually get about \$1,000,000 a year. She said with the environmental education component on this project, the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency is also a source for funding. She said there are also opportunities through the Ohio Department of Natural Resources.

The Mayor asked how much it would cost if everything on the plan is done. Ms. Burns said probably anywhere from \$150,000 all the way up to \$500,000 level.

Mr. Etheridge said he envisions the project being done in phases. The \$100,000 could be used for making the access, landscape mounds, and the parking lot. He said that would be the first phase.

Mrs. Downing asked about the quality of the water in there. Ms. Wise said she did not know what the quality of the water is, but she said it is highly doubtful that the water is contaminated. She said all you would need to do is some baseline sampling.

Mayor Kenney asked if the grants that were mentioned could be applied for year after year. Ms. Burns said absolutely.

CITY OF CANAL FULTON

March 18, 2003

Mr. Szanto asked if the City will need a sizable chunk of money annually for maintenance. Ms. Wise said the type of maintenance would be significantly less than an active "sports" park.

Mr. Mouse said he was enthusiastic about getting more park space in Canal Fulton, but he had some concerns that need to be addressed. He said they need to do soil and water sampling.

Mr. Etheridge said he has approached Echoing Ridge on Mr. Mouse's behalf to see about the donation of some land. Their Board of Directors will meet and get back with him.

The Mayor asked what Mrs. Puffenburger thinks of all this. She owns the property on the other side of Locust from this property. Mrs. Puffenburger said she thinks it would be a good idea. She said it is a wonderful thing for the City.

The Mayor said this was a special presentation from the Park Board.

ADOPTING/CORRECTING OF MINUTES: SPECIAL RECOGNITIONS:

The Mayor asked for approval of the March 4, 2003 regular Council meeting. Mr. Szanto made a motion to approve the minutes of March 4, 2003. Mrs. Cihon seconded the motion. Roll: Yes – ALL. The Mayor then asked for approval of the Special Council meeting of March 12, 2003 Council meeting. Mrs. Cihon made a motion to approve the Special Council meeting of March 12, 2003. Mrs. Zahirsky seconded the motion.

Mr. Szanto stated that Mr. Mouse was absent from that meeting. He did send a letter expressing his point of view of the ordinance discussed that night. Mr. Szanto said, for the record, he would ask Council to acknowledge Mr. Mouse's absence as an excused absence.

Roll: Yes – 5. Mr. Mouse abstained.

Mr. Szanto then made a motion to excuse Mr. Mouse's absence from the March 12, 2003 meeting. Mrs. Zahirsky seconded the motion. Yes – 5. Mr. Mouse abstained.

CITIZENS COMMENTS ON AGENDA MATTERS:

The Mayor asked that this portion be a general citizens' comments, since they have the audience here from Chapel Hill.

Mr. Downing asked if there has been any movement on increasing green fees. The Mayor answered yes, and that it is before the Planning Commission. He said a member of the Park Board has been researching that.

Mr. Mouse said he is also getting information on that subject.

REPORTS OF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS:

Senior Citizens.

Mrs. Cihon said there is a spaghetti dinner on April 3. Community Service workers will be helping.

Community Service Coordinator. No Report.

Fire Chief.

Chief Hill introduced himself to the audience. He then said he is recommending to the Mayor that the City hires Mark Brink. The Fire Chief said he will be sent to school' first EMT school than on to fire school.

The Mayor so recommended the Fire Chief's proposal. Mr. Szanto made a motion that Council approves the recommendation of the appointment of Mark Brink as part-time firefighter, pending the normal training and drug and alcohol tests. Mrs. Cihon seconded the motion. Roll: Yes – ALL.

The Fire Chief then recommended to the Mayor is Angela Much. She is already trained and would be going onto the part-time program. She already has her EMT fire training. She is currently in paramedic school at the top of her class.

The Mayor so recommended. Mr. Dane made a motion that Council hires Angela Much as probationary firefighter. Mrs. Cihon seconded the motion. Roll: Yes – ALL.

The Fire Chief then recommended to the Mayor is Jonathan Zalisky. He already has his 240 fire card and is already a paramedic.

The Mayor so recommended. Mrs. Zahirsky made a motion to approve Jonathan Zalisky to the firefighter program, subject to physical, drug and alcohol tests. Mrs. Downing seconded the motion. Roll: Yes – ALL.

CITY OF CANAL FULTON

March 18, 2003

The Fire Chief then recommended to the Mayor Michael Peel. He is a professional firefighter at Jackson Township and is a 240 paramedic. He would be coming to work for the City on the part-time program.

The Mayor so recommended. Mr. Szanto made a motion that Michael Peel be appointed part-time firefighter, pending physical, drug and alcohol testing. Mr. Dane seconded the motion. Roll: Yes – ALL.

Police Chief.

Police Chief Michael McNeely introduced himself to the audience. He said he would like to report to Council that the Department had two State audits last week. He said they were good audits.

He said the subject involved in the purse snatching that occurred back in December has plead guilty and was sentenced to four years in prison last week.

Engineer/Streets/Public Utilities.

Mr. Dorman introduced himself to the audience. He said he would like to report a re-plat of some lots at Sugar, Cherry and Portage. They are being consolidated to provide larger building sites. He said the Library is planning a major expansion. He said involved with that is a vacation of an alley and consolidation of lots for the site. He said he has made initial contact with the contractor for the Locust/Millfield intersection and they will be getting back to us regarding completion of the project.

Director of Finance.

Mrs. Kerr passed out the February bank reconciliation and asked for a motion from Council that they have received same. Mrs. Cihon made a motion to acknowledge receipt of the February 2003 bank reconciliation. Mr. Dane seconded the motion. Roll: Yes – ALL.

Mrs. Kerr then stated that she put information in the Council's boxes regarding the employee fidelity bond. She said the City has an employee blanket bond for employees. She said the City, in the past, has bought separate bonds for many employees that we did not need specific bonds for. She said what they are doing now is only buying four specific bonds in addition to the blanket. She said this will save the City money because we are not buying specific bonds for more employees than we need to. Mr. Kincaid said the City is also increasing the coverage.

Mr. Szanto said, since this has been recommended by the Law Director, Mr. Kincaid, he would make a motion that they approve the new amounts on the employee blanket bond. Mrs. Cihon seconded the motion. Roll: Yes – ALL.

Mr. Dane had a question regarding the purchase order for the dump truck. Mr. Dane said during the appropriations budget, it was his recollection that they had appropriated money for the lease of a truck, but there is a P.O. this week for \$74,000 that appears to be the purchase of a truck.

Mrs. Kerr said the truck needs to be purchased first and then look into leases. Mrs. Zahirsky said that the City is not actually going to be putting out \$74,000. It will be approximately \$17,000 or less. A short discussion followed.

Report of Mayor

Mayor Kenney said this is his fourth year as being mayor. He said prior to that he served as Law Director for thirteen years. He said the Mayor's responsibilities are to connect as the head of the City and look after the day-to-day administration. He said, for instance, he hired Marge Loretto, who is the City Manager. He said he gets paid the whopping sum of \$3,700 a year. He said it is a part-time job for him and that is why they have a City Manager who does the day-to-day details.

City Manager's Report.

Mrs. Loretto introduced herself and said she had worked in North Canton as Finance Director and before that she was a State Auditor.

She said the first thing she has to report on, however, is that Well #8 has come in as a dry well. So they are back talking with the EPA about where they will place Well #8 had how to proceed.

She said they are also working with the City's website company to add items for economic development.

She said she would also like to commend the Street Department for their work during the winter. She said now they are into fixing the potholes.

CITY OF CANAL FULTON

March 18, 2003

She noted that the Building Doctor Clinic is scheduled for May 1, 2003. The Ohio Historic Preservation Office will be running the seminar. It will focus on historic and older homes and problems and restoration.

Parks.

Mary Ann Higgins of the Park Board said they are currently working on the summer recreation program. They are also working on renovation of the softball fields. She said there is a current vacancy on the Park Board that they are hoping to fill soon.

Law Director.

Mr. Kincaid said he is in his sixth year as Law Director and had served four years in the 10970's as Law Director. He said he is the City's lawyer, although criminal and traffic matters are handled by the Massillon law department by contract.

READING OF ORDINANCES

THIRD READINGS: None.

SECOND READINGS:

Ordinance 9-03: An Ordinance amending the Historic District Code of the Canal Fulton Historic District Codified Ordinances, Chapter 1175, to include historic district definitions.

Ordinance 10-03: An Ordinance amending the Historic District Code of the Canal Fulton Historic District Codified Ordinances, Chapter 1175, to include Criteria for Designation.

Ordinance 11-03: An Ordinance amending the Historic District Code of the Canal Fulton Historic District Codified Ordinance, Chapter 1175, Section 1175.04 (d), to include the power and duty of the Historic Preservation Commission to review resources nominated for designation as either a historic landmark or structure and actions to be taken after the proposed designation.

Ordinance 12-03: An Ordinance amending the zoning code of the Canal Fulton Codified Zoning Ordinances, and adding Chapter 1150 entitled "Designation of Historic Landmarks and Historic Districts."

FIRST READINGS:

Resolution 6-03: A Resolution entering into a contract with CTI Environmental, Inc., for engineering services for Phase 1 of the Canal Fulton Community Park Improvement Project, and declaring an emergency.

The Mayor said that there is a request by the administration that Council consider passing this contract as an emergency measure.

The Mayor said the City had received a grant where the City only had to come up with 20%, and the State and Federal governments are coming up with the rest. He stated that Community Park is our front porch for all the people who now travel the Canal Corridor. He said the project is about a \$500,000 project. He said the Starkweather estate willed the city a \$100,000, which was specifically set aside for the park.

Mr. Szanto stated that he had reservations at first about spending the money in light of the possible money crunch the City may have over the next couple of years. He said, however, he was reminded that this is coming out of the Starkweather bequest, which was specifically for capital improvements or beautification projects. He said, the fact is, the City cannot use this money for operating funds.

Mr. Szanto said, with that in mind, he is making a motion to suspend the rules on Resolution 6-03. Mr. Dane seconded the motion. Roll: Yes – ALL.

Mr. Szanto then made a motion to pass Resolution 6-03 under suspension. Mrs. Cihon seconded the motion. Roll: Yes – ALL.

PURCHASE ORDERS AND BILLS:

P.O. #3231, in the amount of \$10,343.80 to STX Protective Apparel Corp, for ten sets of firefighter protective clothing.

Mr. Dane made a motion to approve P.O. 3231 in the amount of \$10,343.80 to STX Protective Apparel Corp. Mrs. Cihon seconded the Motion. Roll: Yes – ALL.

P.O. #3235, in the amount of \$17,163.75 to Sunrise Equipment & Supply Co., for Steiner Mower Tractor.

CITY OF CANAL FULTON

March 18, 2003

Mrs. Cihon made a motion to approve P.O. #3235 in the amount of \$17,163.75 to Sunrise Equipment & Supply Co. Mr. Dane seconded the motion.

Mrs. Zahirsky addressed the audience to say that they have seen two things tonight to show why we will have on the ballot in May the issue of an increase in the income taxes to cover part of the park budget, which has been eating away at the general fund. She said here we have another \$17,000 for normal mowing equipment. It is not cheap to mow all of the grass in town and in our parks.

Roll: Yes – ALL.

P.O. # 3236 in the amount of \$74,271.00 to Canton Truck Sales for 2003 International Dump Truck. The amount in the budge is \$17,000 for the first year of lease payment, but the purchase order needs to be approved for the entire amount of the truck.

Mr. Mouse said at this time we do not know what the lease agreement and amount is. He was uncomfortable about this.

Mrs. Zahirsky made a motion to approve P.O. #3236 in the amount of \$74,271.00. Mrs. Cihon seconded the motion. Roll – Yes, 5. Mr. Mouse abstained.

Bills: \$107,224.55

Mr. Mouse asked what the bill to Canal Fulton Electrical Supply was for. Mrs. Kerr said it was for various expenses and projects that had to be upgraded.

Mrs. Cihon made a motion to accept the bills in the amount of \$107,224.55. Mr. Dane seconded the motion. Roll: Yes – ALL.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mr. Szanto said Mr. Etheridge had asked Council for some type of approval for the James D. Schalmo Park. He asked Mr. Etheridge exactly what he was looking for. Mr. Etheridge stated he is looking for Council to be receptive to the project. He said he was looking for a vote of confidence. Mr. Szanto said his concern is what this will cost the City in the future in the way of maintenance. He said, however, he would like to see the project go ahead, with questions and answers along the way.

Mrs. Zahirsky said she, likewise, gives her support. She said, however, that her term on Council will end this December and she has not made up her mind at this time if she will run again.

Mr. Dane said the project also has his support.

OLD BUSINESS:

OTHER BUSINESS:

CITIZENS COMMENTS:

Mr. Downing said the Main Street Promotion Committee had planned July 12 and August 9 events, which turned out to be in conflict with Bicentennial events scheduled by Mrs. Rossi. He said Main Street sent a letter to Mrs. Rossi and proposed that on July 12 and August 9 they would move the DJ to the plaza area and try to have the games first. He said Mrs. Rossi rejected this proposal. He said Main Street came up with another solution, which is that they will delay the DJ until the Bicentennial Band is finished. He also said Main Street would like to make a \$50 donation to the Bicentennial. Mrs. Rossi said yes and thanked Main Street.

Mr. Downing asked about the snow ban. Mr. Szanto said they will be recommending to change the ordinance to 4 inches before the snow ban goes into effect and more signs put up.

Mr. Etheridge said let us all remember to pray for our troops overseas.

Jason Miller thanked everyone for coming to Chapel Hill. He then asked if the City has done or can do anything concerning emergencies, especially such things as bioterrorist attacks or chemical attacks.

Mrs. Loretto said if it was a bioterrorism act, the City would bring in HAZMAT. Further discussion on this issue followed. Mr. Szanto said Sts. Philip and James Elementary School has just received a new set of guidelines in the event of a terrorist attack. Further discussion followed.

REPORT OF COUNCIL PRESIDENT:

CITY OF CANAL FULTON

March 18, 2003

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEES

The regular meeting was adjourned.

Sharon Reiter, Clerk of Council

Shawn Kenney, Mayor