

**MT. HEALTHY CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
September 5 2017**

The council meeting was called to order by President of Council Ross Bittner at 7:00p.m.

**ROLL CALL:**

***Present:*** Mrs. Moody, Mr. Parsons, Ms. Petersen, Mr. Roetting

***Absent and Excused:*** Mrs. Lingo, Mrs. George, Mrs. Dosa

Mrs. Moody made a motion and was seconded by Mr. Roetting to excuse the absent members. All in favor *motion carried*.

**ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:**

Mayor James Wolf, City Manager Bill Kocher, Finance Director Scott Bauer,

**MINUTES:**

A motion to adopt the Public Hearing minutes with a few changes on page 2 of the August 15, 2017 meeting was made by Ms. Petersen and seconded by Mr. Parsons. An aye vote carried the motion. Minutes were adopted.

A motion to adopt the minutes of the August 15, 2017 council meeting was made by Ms. Petersen and seconded by Mr. Parsons. An aye vote carried the motion. Minutes were adopted.

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

None.

**GUESTS, SPECIAL EVENTS:**

None.

**PUBLIC INPUT:**

Kim Cremeans; Asking for volunteers for Celebrate Mt. Healthy on September 9th. She will be sending around the signup sheet.

**MAYOR'S REPORT: James Wolf**

None.

**CITY MANAGER'S REPORT: Bill Kocher**

Update: *Phil Riechart*; He has dog houses at the end of his property on Joseph Street backs up into the park, which is city property. He has had it this way for the 19 years he has lived in the home and is now being asked to take them down.

Council members went by to look at how much the dog houses are on City property. Mr. Kocher spoke with the law director and he does not think we should allow exceptions. If we allow it this time we would just be opening a can of worms. Council gets to make the final decision. We need to get an answer back to the property owner.

Council agrees with the law director to not allow exceptions and have him take the dog houses down.

We need to start discussions regarding the CDBG application process. The grant application is now available for the next 3-year cycle. We will be having public hearings and we will have to decide what we want to apply for. We have been made aware of separate community funds and we are hopeful we are able to apply for the Main Theatre project and different things. We will have to maneuver our way through this process.

SCIP projects were discussed last meeting and there was some disappointment with the priorities changing. The likely hood of us receiving SCIP funds next year are slim and without us doing a 50% match it doesn't seem to make sense. We do have secure funding for South end of Perry, North and South Lynndale and Park, which is two years' worth of work. It might be a good time to re-evaluate everything and bring in JMA to have them give us some advice on priorities. We can still apply, but we don't want to apply for a big project and we need to match with 50% of the funding. This application needs to be submitted by the end of the month.

*We will bring JMA in for the October 3<sup>rd</sup> work session.*

**RESOLUTIONS:**

None.

**ORDINANCES:**

**Ordinance 17-1824** A first reading of an ordinance amending Chapter 77, Schedule I (A) (B) of the Mt Healthy Code regarding traffic and parking.

**Ordinance 17-1825** An ordinance amending Chapter 153.26 “General definitions” and Chapter 153.31 “Exterior property areas” of the Mt Healthy Code of Ordinance.

***Ordinance 17-1825 was “TABLED”***

Public Input on Ordinance 17-1825:

*This all came from unmanaged Honeysuckle. There is honeysuckle that covers entire fronts of the home. Honeysuckle is an invasive species.*

- *Mary Laymon;* Does not understand the intent of this ordinance. Why has this come up and what is the City hoping to manage with this ordinance. There are other Cities that are trying to do the same thing. There are benefits from managed natural landscaping. Water retention, keeping soil healthy, keeping run off from the storm drains, which is all things we would like in the City. Banning this is an extreme measure.
- *Jim Lowenburg;* Managed landscape should be allowed. Understands the intent of the ordinance, but there needs to be modifications and get a better understanding of the intent.
- *Karen Mandell;* Against this ordinance. Feels this is abuse of government power and should start over and figure out what is the final goal.
- *Karen Arnett;* Managed natural landscape is a step forward and we should be promoting it, not prohibit. Would like to ask for a work session to discuss this more in detail.

*This Ordinance will be the topic at the November 7<sup>th</sup> Work Session immediately after the council meeting.*

**MT. HEALTHY CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION  
SEPTEMBER 5, 2017**

The council work session began at 8:15 p.m. The purpose of the work session is regarding Police and Fire.

There is a draft ordinance adopting a Zoning Map Amendment for "OB" Office Business District and Assorted Zoning Code Amendments, Additions, Modifications and Deletions. There will be a public hearing on October 3<sup>rd</sup> before the regular council meeting addressing this ordinance.

**Police Department:**

Part time employees are not staying because they come in looking for full time employment. We have 10 full time officers and we can hire 1 more based on the Charter.

The overtime hours are very high. It is burning employees out.

Civil service test was a disappointment. There were only 9 people that took the test and 7 people passed.

\*Decision from council is to hire 1 more full time officer from this group that passed the civil service test. Mr. Kocher will inform Chief Demasi to set up interviews from this test group. Work on the turn-around of the part time officers. Get overtime down.

**Fire Department:**

Negotiations are still moving along with the Fire Department becoming unionized. The part-time employees are asking for \$2 more per hour.

The City is receiving pressure from Springfield Township about the amount of runs they are making in our City. Right now reports show them making about 10% of our runs. Springfield Township has enough man power to make these runs, but they would like a solution to not have to make this many in our City.

We are changing the power shift to 6a-6p, which will cost the City more money, but it should help cover some of these shortages.

We can ask them how much they would bill us for each run they make in our City. Mr. Kocher is going to meet with the Township. For right now we will go with the 4 people on with the power shift. Will keep council updated on the contract negotiations. This will be a 3 year contract.

Work Session ended at 9:00 p.m.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

There will be a public hearing before the October 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting regarding the Planning Commission's decision for conditional use for 7613 Hamilton Avenue.

There is nothing new on Studio 54.


Kathleen Norris from Urban Fast Forward should have an update at the next council meeting.

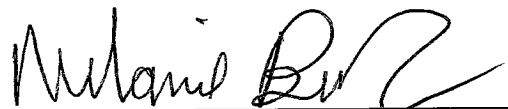
**NEW BUSINESS:**

October 15<sup>th</sup> Bicentennial will be hosting a Golf Outing. Lunch will be served at noon and tee off at 1:30. Cost will be \$75 per person. There will be up to 22 teams of 4. More information will be made available as it comes.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Parsons and seconded by Mrs. Moody. An aye vote carried the motion and the meeting was adjourned at 8:05 pm.

  
~~President of Council Ross Bittner~~  
PRO-Tem, Denise LINGO

  
Melanie Branditz, Clerk of Council