MINUTES
AUGUST 14, 2017
CITY & SAFETY SERVICES COMMITTEE

Members in Attendance:	Kent Butler, Chair Peter Kotses, Vice-Chair Arian Smedley, Member
Other Council Members:	Chris Fahl Patrick McGee Michele Papai Jeff Risner
Administrators and/or Other Elected Officials:	President Knisely Mayor Patterson Service-Safety Director Horan Moseley Auditor Hecht Law Director Eliason

ITEMS DISCUSSED:

- Traffic Boxes (art presentation)
  -Butler – as part of the *Essence of Athens*, up to 10 art designs have been recommended by AMAC to be placed as vinyl wraps on traffic control boxes – theme is "purely Athens" scenes – wraps will be removed after 3-5 years, depending on condition and/or at the discretion of the City -- $500 is awarded for each design

  -Kelly Lawrence – assisted in reviewing approximately 120 designs

  -Papai – asked about the condition of the wraps that were installed a year ago
  -Mayor – they are in good condition

- Art Bench Project
  -Donna Goodman, Art Bench Committee Member – explained that the Athens Conservancy expressed an interest in developing an art and poetry trail on one of its preserves, Council Member Fahl's idea – a suitable place could not be found, so came up with the idea of art benches that could be installed in interesting areas along the Hockhocking Adena Bikeway – noted that the Art Bench group is independent of the Athens Conservancy – would like Council's approval of the proposed site for the first art bench

  -Kari Gunter-Seymour provided a presentation on "The Art Bench Project" (see attached)

-Fahl – it is gratifying to see such a project come forward from community members – noted that upon installation the bench will become the property of the City – this project has been recommended by AMAC

-Smedley – asked if the site has been approved by City officials
-Goodman – yes, by both EPW and APR – requests the City do a little bit of leveling of the site for the bench, and to pour a small concrete pad – the artists will then install the bench – suggested it might be nice if the City could donate a tree to provide shade

-Fahl – the site overlooks the wetlands

-Smedley – asked the Administration if the group's requests are doable
-Mayor – yes, to both ground preparation and concrete work, as well as a shade tree

-McGee – applauds the group's efforts; it is very inspirational

-Papai – the quality of the art and the organic nature of it is setting a bar for future art projects

-Goodman – asked if the City might consider at least partially funding future benches within the City
-Mayor – could be considered as part of AMAC's budget

-Goodman – asked about Council's approval process
-President Knisely – City Council will consider a motion next Monday to approve the project

- Water (tap outside corporate limits, Peach Ridge)
-Mayor – this is an undeveloped parcel at the intersection of Collins and Peach Ridge – other properties in this area have City water service – resident will be paying for the extension up to the property – the Athens City-County Health Department has approved a septic system for this lot

-McGee – questioned the City providing services outside the corporate limits, reiterating his concern about the safety of residents in the Stimson, Rock Riffle area and being told the City had no authority outside the corporate limits

-Papai – surprised we provide water this distance outside the City limits
-S-S Director – City water main was installed decades ago to serve residents in this area – resident will be paying the City water rate, plus 20% -- this is the last buildable lot according to the City Engineer

- County Sewer Corridor
-S-S Director – a revision to the 2014 agreement and updated map is attached

-Mayor – indicated that a sewage rate has been negotiated; City will be tracking Inflow and Infiltration (I&I); at three tie-in points coming into the City, will be monitoring water usage on a quarterly basis, and any uptick in intensity of sewage being received – if there is a discrepancy of 8% a surcharge will be assessed that can increase up to ½% per year which will be held in escrow to be used for corrective actions

-Fahl – important to understand that the County is assuming all responsibility – the City is being a good neighbor

-Papai – understands this is needed to protect environmental issues due to problems with old septic systems in highly developed areas – this will address EPA concerns

-Fahl – clarified this proposal addresses only what is already in place, not future development
-Mayor – noted Section 4, Service Area

ITEMS NEEDED ON THE NEXT CITY COUNCIL AGENDA:

1. Water Tap
2. County Sewer

MINUTES
AUGUST 14, 2017
PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Members in Attendance:	Chris Fahl, Chair Jeff Risner, Vice-Chair Patrick McGee, Member
Other Council Members:	Kent Butler Jennifer Cochran Peter Kotses Michele Papai
Administrators and/or Other Elected Officials:	President Knisely Mayor Patterson Service-Safety Director Horan Moseley Auditor Hecht Law Director Eliason

Items Discussed:

- Disabilities Commission (amend ACC 3.07.70 (A), voting members)
  -S-S Director – a request has been made to increase the number of voting members to a minimum of eleven

  -Mayor – this change will bring the Commission's bylaws in line with authorized legislation

- Parking Regulations (amend ACC)
  -Fahl – changes are being updating to include not only parking meters, but pay centers – will clarify enforcement procedures

  -McGee – asked about conversion of some of the leased spaces in the parking garage to those for public use, citing many appear to be empty a lot of the time
  -Mayor – has also noted this, but believes these spaces may be held by students who keep that space over the summer when they are off-campus, but will be returning for fall semester – will explore options
  -McGee – freeing up parking spaces in Athens would be most helpful, and appreciates any efforts made toward additional spaces

-Mayor – our City Planner, Paul Logue, is working on a large parking study at this time, both on-street and off-street, that will become part of the Comprehensive Plan

ITEMS NEEDED ON THE NEXT CITY COUNCIL AGENDA:

1. Disabilities Commission
2. Parking Regulations

MINUTES
TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE
AUGUST 14, 2017
7:00 p.m.

Members in Attendance:	Michele Papai, Chair Peter Kotses, Vice-Chair Arian Smedley, Member
Other Council Members:	Kent Butler Chris Fahl Patrick McGee Jeff Risner
Administrators and/or Other Elected Officials:	President Knisely Mayor Patterson Service-Safety Director Horan Moseley Auditor Hecht

ITEMS DISCUSSED:

- Athens Public Transit (University Courtyard Service)
  -Michael Lachman, Director of Athens Public Transit – bus service has been operated by Ohio University – the University is requesting a third party contract (similar to that of the Summit at Coates Run) with Athens Public Transit to begin operating bus service to University Courtyard – to begin operation of this service fall semester, a bus will need to be added to the APT fleet – a negotiated offer has been extended to purchase the Ohio University 2014 shuttle bus for $38,000 – over time the entire purchase price will be captured through the Courtyard contract, and reimbursed to the City

  -McGee – asked about the terms of the contract
  -Lachman – explained that this is a fully allocated contract, net zero to the City of Athens and to the Transit System – it is an open door contract for public use – advantage is that such a contract brings in local money and improves APT's local match for Federal funding of up to 50% of what has been generated locally

  -Fahl – asked if additional staff will need to be hired to manage this contract
  -Lachman – yes, additional staff will be hired

-Smedley – asked why Ohio University no longer wants to operate this route
-Lachman – it has to do with Federal Charter regulations – it is no longer to their advantage due to exceedingly high standards that must be met – also, the University has divested itself from this property
-Smedley – is the purchase price reasonable
-Lachman – yes, he did a national price study
-Smedley – asked about expected increase in ridership
-Lachman – he will need to get back with her on that

-McGee – is supportive of APT providing this service – asked about the evening hours of transit service
-Lachman – currently there are (2) buses that run until 10:00 p.m.
-McGee – asked if the evening hours could be extended
-Lachman – good idea, he will review the need

-Papai – in order to continue with our sustainability efforts to move citizens around the City it is important to have a viable bus system

- Athens Public Transit (vehicle disposal)
  -Lachman – this is a 2010 (175,000 miles) bus purchased with ARRA (American Recovery and Reinvestment Act) funds – State standard is 200,000 miles, but this bus lost its transmission – it will go to auction

- Athens Public Transit (auctioned vehicles)
  -Lachman – ridership is increasing, mostly due to the Bobcat Pass Program – some buses are now standing room only – if this trajectory continues on our highest productivity routes, APT may be finding it has more passengers than there is capacity on current buses – would like ability to purchase buses through Government auction – after its Federal useful life, buses often have a fair amount of useful life left if properly maintained – would like to be in a position that if an auction vehicle in favorable condition came along HAPCAP could bid on it to fill APT's capacity needs – prices range from $3700 to $15,500 on govdeals.com

  -Auditor – funds need to be in place prior to authorizing the purchase

  -Kotses – important to know ridership numbers for fall semester – would like to see need before moving legislation forward

  -Smedley – is there any concern that the City would be investing in an auctioned vehicle that wouldn't last very long
  -Lachman – tradeoff is low cost

  -Papai – would they be retrofitted like other City buses
  -Lachman – yes

- Halloween 2017 (street closing, noise, vending, parking garage)
  -Brandon Thompson – plans are same as last year for the street closing – full closure of area at 1:00 p.m. – stage entertainment will begin at 6:00-6:30 p.m. and end at 12:30 a.m.

  -Papai – asked about cost to the City for this event
  -President -- $65,000 to $70,000 – similar cost for both the City and the University

  -McGee – concerned about restaurant owners losing business due to early vending hours
  -Thompson – vending does start at 1:00 p.m. – he will speak to AUBA on this issue
  -Papai – asked if the vendors are local
  -Mayor – largely outside, carnival type vendors

  -McGee – asked about possible additional parking outside the City for the event with a shuttle bus to keep cars from impacting City streets
  -Service-Safety Director – Fairgrounds parking is never completely full – this year she would like to add legislation suspending the parking garage rates since the rate structure changes for the Halloween event

  -Thompson – still looking for family-friendly events for the daytime hours when the street is closed

  -Papai – asked how many years this event has been happening
  -Thompson – this will be 43 – noted that the 2018 event will be held on October 27th

- Revised LPA Agreement (East State Street Project)
  -Mayor – revision will allow ODOT to place closed circuit cameras along US 33 as part of this project – revised language will be 100% funded by ODOT – this is being done statewide

  -Fahl – questioned the general purpose of the cameras
  -S-S Director – noted that it is not a license plate reader; it does not have that capability
  -Kotses – sees value in monitoring and measuring traffic flow
  -Papai – collecting such data could well serve future highway improvements

- ODOT Guardrail Project
  -Mayor – replacement is on US 50 near Blackburn Road
  -Papai – the replacement is 2.6 miles in length ending .21 miles east of Blackburn Road

ITEMS NEEDED ON THE NEXT CITY COUNCIL AGENDA:

1. University Courtyard Bus Purchase
2. Bus Disposal
3. Auctioned Vehicle Bus Purchases
4. Halloween
5. Revised LPA
6. ODOT Guardrail