

MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 25, 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
Police Chief Pyle

ITEMS DISCUSSED:

- Percent for Art Brochure
 - Butler – the idea for this brochure is related to the 2007 City of Athens percent for art legislation
 - Carol Patterson, Chair, Athens Municipal Arts Commission – addressed the use of the brochure – changes can still be made to the wording – she is not aware of any substantive changes, only structure for clarification – the City has chosen to make a commitment to enhance projects with artwork – this document is to encourage private businesses to make a commitment to artwork on public property – this brochure will be passed out with other materials in the Code Enforcement Office for dissemination to project developers – this would get the brochure into the hands of the people who will use it
 - Fahl – questioned the use of the word “fine” art in the brochure
 - Patterson – has no problem eliminating that word
 - Fahl – appreciates the idea of the brochure
 - McGee – encouraged artwork that shows Athens’ diverse cultures
 - Patterson – can add the word diversity to future requests for proposals (rfp’s)
 - Patterson – asked about approval process for this brochure
 - President – by motion at the next regular session – still need to clarify that permission to use the front page image has been received from the artist
 - Patterson – will follow up in writing

-Mayor – a lot of effort and much forethought has been given to public art by the City – AMAC partnership is helpful

-Patterson – noted that private property owners can contact AMAC and be partnered with an artist to provide artwork on retaining walls

-Butler – clarified, percent for art in the private sector is totally voluntary, not enforced nor imposed, only encouraged – the brochure is a method of awareness

- Police (Body Worn Cameras – BWC)

-Police Chief Pyle – is not advocating the use of body cameras, nor is he opposed to them – he is here this evening only to provide information to the Council – he does see some issues with cost and expectations – based on storage, he would recommend a cloud-based system – department would be creating a new set of public records that would require labor intensive redaction – ACLU has concern with privacy issues

-McGee – is a proponent of BWC's – recordings can be a valuable resource in a courtroom setting – believes, by having this kind of protection, there are benefits to both the City and APD – cost appears to be about \$20,000 per year – suggested the use of voice recording devices, instead of actual video – it may be less costly

-Smedley – asked the Chief for his recommendation on important aspects the Council should consider in moving toward a decision on this rather complicated issue

-Chief – public records law is important – need to follow what is happening at the State level – it has a huge impact on employment (payroll) costs – if a BWC system is implemented, an additional full-time clerk would be needed to review the video, in its entirety, on a daily basis in order to redact any identifying information – the \$20,000 annual cost noted earlier for equipment and cloud storage is just the beginning, it does not factor in the cost of a new position – would need to consider the benefit of having the video footage vs the loss of potential patrol hours from the street – this is not hands-free technology, the officer is required to add meta data tags to each video at an estimated time of 30 minutes per shift, per officer – again, he is not opposed to implementing BWC's within the department – from an evidentiary perspective it would be helpful, however the records would need to be kept permanently – bottom line, cost benefit to the community vs overall cost

-Kotses – questioned whether there are other cities our size who have implemented BWC's

-Chief – the City of Lancaster has implemented a BWC system, with decent success, along with a huge cost in public record maintenance – Dublin is currently testing the system with ten cameras

-McGee – asked about the number of cameras with the presented quote

- Chief – 30 cameras, there is no significant price break after 20 – each officer would need a camera – 30 would include investigators, reserve officers, and cover extra officers brought in for special events
- McGee – suggested using possibly 5 cameras on a trial basis – he sees no reason why cameras should be used on a regular basis during daytime hours or routine traffic stops
- Chief – wouldn't advocate using cameras only at certain times – it is not uncommon for criminal behavior to happen during the daytime
- McGee – asked if cameras could be placed inside the cruisers at a lesser price
- Chief – yes, but he would not advocate for that – APD used this system in the late 90's and the APD budget could not sustain the maintenance, plus officers spend less time in their vehicles and more time on the street – feels a BWC system would be better used – pointed out that Lancaster has an in-car video with a harness that can then be used as a BWC, so could really have both for the same cost
- Mayor – concerned about cost and time away from patrol
- Butler – BWC's could be a benefit for the safety and security of our personnel and the public as well

MINUTES SEPTEMBER 25, 2017

FINANCE & PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Members in Attendance: Jeff Risner, Chair
Chris Fahl, Vice-Chair
Kent Butler, Member

Other Council Members: Peter Kotses
Patrick McGee
Michele Papai
Arian Smedley

Administrators and/or
Other Elected Officials: President Knisely
Mayor Patterson
Service-Safety Director Horan Moseley
Auditor Hecht

Items Discussed:

- WTP and WWTP Notes

- Risner – engineering design for the WTP has a \$625,000 note, plus interest – recommendation is to pay \$20,000 - \$30,000

- Auditor – the reason for paying down such a small amount is because the plan is to roll the balance of the engineering design loan into the OWDA construction loan – would like to pay down \$200,000 on the \$450,000 WWTP Improvements Note – both payments are due in December – legal documents will be provided by Bond Counsel Dennis Schwallie

- Fahl – recalled that once a bond is issued an accelerated payment is no longer an option

- Auditor – that is correct

- Appropriations

- Risner – Transportation Fund needs an appropriation, yet to be determined, for fuel – Street Fund appropriation of \$20,000, T.C. 300, for removal of trees in the r-o-w

- Papai – asked if the fuel line was budgeted conservatively

- Auditor – fuel costs vary annually

-Fahl – asked if the tree removal is for Ash trees
-Auditor – not only Ash trees, includes other street trees

-Auditor – appropriation is needed in the General Fund – Municipal Court, 52,000, T.C. 100, for personnel services

- HB 49/HB 5 (Income Tax Laws)

-Auditor – requested joining a coalition of municipalities retaining special counsel to challenge the constitutionality of amendments relating to Municipal Income Tax (see attached letter from Athens City Income Tax Administrator Tina Timberman)

-Fahl – HB 49 is a complete overrule of Home Rule – need to stop erosion of Home Rule

-Auditor – these tax language amendments were attached to a Budget Bill – changes will have a big effect on the City budget – attention to detail of business returns will not happen at the State level – there is also a cash flow issue – how often will the State make the refunds to municipalities

-Smedley – asked about funds available to cover the participation cost

-Auditor – funds are available – City will pay \$4000

-Smedley – appreciates Auditor's office keeping at the forefront of this issue

-Auditor – this is the City's main source of revenue

-Mayor – OML is expecting 100 plus cities/villages supporting this coalition – it is total overreach by the State to control our business returns and taking a portion of our revenue by charging us an administrative fee for processing the returns

ITEMS NEEDED ON THE NEXT CITY COUNCIL AGENDA:

1. Bond Renewals
2. Appropriations
3. Coalition

MINUTES SEPTEMBER 25, 2017

PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Members in Attendance: Chris Fahl, Chair
Jeff Risner, Vice-Chair
Patrick McGee, Member

Other Council Members: Kent Butler
Peter Kotses
Michele Papai
Arian Smedley

Administrators and/or
Other Elected Officials: President Knisely
Mayor Patterson
Service-Safety Director Horan Moseley
Auditor Hecht

Items Discussed:

- Madison Heights Minor Subdivision, Diversified Properties
 - Fahl – explained that the development area is on the corner of East State and Madison, site of the former Athens Flower Shop – Diversified Properties, John Sole and Jim Bloom, property owners, will present their new design concept
 - Jim Bloom – provided a brief overview of the project – Diversified Properties has owned the property for 12 years – during this time period the partners have considered a number of different development concepts, ranging from a 24-unit apartment building with an underground parking garage to a densely populated attached single-family housing – the site is incredibly challenging in terms of its topography and an ingress/egress easement giving access to four additional properties under different ownership – a fair amount of people are looking for residential locations which are incredibly hard to find in the City – their new concept would be to remove the existing garage and replace it with two 2-bedroom structures with four parking spaces built below the building – footprint will remain about the same – the former flower shop will be retrofitted to house two more 2-bedroom units using the majority of the existing foundation and first floor as basis for the construction – greenhouse portion will be removed – parking for this structure will be on a peninsula (see attached

map) – approximately 40% of this area will be used for parking for parcels C & D by deed, in perpetuity, and 60% will be dedicated and preserved green space with no further development – plan to keep the existing parking area along Madison for guest/overflow parking – there will also be (2) single-family lots (parcels A & B on the attached map) – ingress and egress easement will be attached to these two parcels – the current parcel will be subdivided (as shown on the map) and rezoning will need to be considered

- -Fahl – clarified that the property will be subdivided, requiring Council to approve a minor subdivision lot split – acknowledged that a plat, with minor adjustments, has been submitted for Council approval, and has not been approved by the Planning Commission – clarified that any amendment of the plat will require $\frac{3}{4}$ majority (6) votes of the Council, or owner can return to the Planning Commission for recommendation of these changes – understands that rezoning is also part of this request, from B-1 to R-1 and R-3 – this is in line with the City's Comprehensive Plan to identify ways to increase residential areas

-Mayor – understands that lot lines were slightly changed – it should be returned to the Planning Commission

-Papai – property is very steep – asked about steps taken to ensure stability

-Bloom – full soil exam has been done

-Papai – asked whether the plan is to build the apartments or residential homes first

-Sole – intention is to remove the garage and work on the flower shop area first, and then move to the two single-family building lots

-Fahl – explained that this will be a 2-step process – first the rezoning and then the lot splits – both should be approved by the end of the year, with a 30-day waiting period into January

-Bloom – will plan to return to the Planning Commission for a recommendation of the amended plat

-Smedley – asked when the flower shop closed

-Bloom – approximately 3 years

-Smedley – appreciates the efforts of Diversified Properties to provide something that will be of value to the community – this appears to be a very positive project and fits well with the needs of the City

-Butler – appreciates this investment in the near east side community – supports the project

- WWTP Septage (amend ACC Title 5)
 - Fahl – this will allow sewage waste to be trucked into the City's WWTP, and will establish a fee of \$.05 per gallon, as requested by Director Stone of EPW
 - Mayor – this \$.05 charge is about 7 to 8 times more than that charged residential customers, in large part due to the additional energy costs required to process the septage – this legislation will honor the EPA WWTP septage agreement
 - Fahl – would like septage defined, so that it does not allow fracking waste
 - Mayor – agrees
 - Risner – asked what type of sampling is required
 - Fahl – certainly, at the very least, there should be random sampling
 - Mayor – will get clarified for Council
 - Kotses – understands that the plant's performance is more efficient with higher volume, and whether this septage will improve that
 - Mayor – will find out
- Affordable Housing Commission
 - Fahl – this Ordinance was tabled in order to clarify membership to (11) and duties to include Safe Routes to Schools and Economic Development Council
 - Papai – noted that the Vogt Santer-Executive Summary referred to in the Relevant Supporting Information of the Housing Report was commissioned by the Economic Development Council – the Report's vision revolves around creating a well-balanced, multicultural community inclusive of professionals, the disabled, low-income, minorities and the under-represented, retired, families and single residents – this Commission is the public part of an eventual public-private partnership – professionals who understand the housing needs – encourage Council to review the Report
 - Fahl – City Council will be approving this Recommendation Report in order for it to be used as a working plan
 - Smedley – is pleased that the focus of the Report is not income based – will ensure that the needs of the entire community are adequately addressed
 - McGee – has read the entire report and was impressed – voiced his concern for the need for neighborhood schools – emphasized that, if these

schools are abandoned, it could cause blight and devastation of neighborhoods – applauds adding schools to the Commission's duties

-Fahl – a lot of thought went into this Recommendation Report – establishing the Affordable Housing Commission is the next step to carrying forward and implementing the Report's vision for better housing

-Mayor – this is a great guiding document and is pleased with the composition of the Commission

ITEMS NEEDED ON THE NEXT CITY COUNCIL AGENDA:

1. Madison Heights
2. Septage

MINUTES
TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE
SEPTEMBER 25, 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

ITEMS DISCUSSED:

- AUBA Trick-or-Treat
 - Papai – this event is sponsored by the Athens Uptown Business Association (AUBA) and will take place on Monday, October 30, from 6-7:30 p.m. – during this time Court Street will be closed from Union to Carpenter and a parking ban will be in effect at 3:00 p.m.
- East State Street Project
 - Papai – understands there is no change in the design, only that the project needs to be re-bid
 - Mayor – bid opening came in 22% over the estimated cost
 - S-S Director – believes the bids came in high due to the tight time constraint for paving to be completed by November 30 – that will be removed and the re-bid should be sound
 - Mayor – patchwork will be done on East State Street this year
 - Papai – asked if that includes the sidewalk
 - S-S Director – sidewalk will be an option for this year or next
 - Kotses – noted that the second lane on-ramp to East State Street from US 33 has not opened and asked if that will also have to wait until next year
 - S-S Director – believes it will be in conjunction with the City's project
 - Mayor – clarified the 2017, Phase I, and 2018, Phase II, will occur during the 2018 construction season

ITEMS NEEDED ON THE NEXT CITY COUNCIL AGENDA:

1. AUBA