MINUTES
MARCH 24, 2014
CITY & SAFETY SERVICES COMMITTEE

Members in Attendance:	Steve Patterson, Chair Jennifer Cochran, Vice-Chair Jeff Risner, Member
Other Council Members:	Kent Butler Chris Fahl Chris Knisely Michele Papai
Administrators and/or Other Elected Officials:	President Sands Mayor Wiehl Service-Safety Director Horan Moseley

ITEMS DISCUSSED:

- Compost Exchange (presentation by Ray Leard)
  -Cochran – has visited the Compost Exchange – founder, Ray Leard, is attending this evening to propose a pilot project for City curbside organics pickup – the City of Athens values environmental stewardship and reducing our carbon footprint, where possible – there are lots of backyard conservation efforts ongoing, but some residents may not be able to maintain their own compost bin – this program is another way to divert food waste from the waste streams and landfills that grow ever fuller

  -Ray Leard – explained that the Compost Exchange is a Class II EPA licensed processor facility located on Poston Road, The Plains – proposed consideration of a pilot project for the curbside collection of organics (see attached) – about 30% of the waste stream is organic recyclables – idea is to choose a portion of the City as a cross sampling of residents to gauge interest – residents in sampling area (possibly 100 households across the City) would be provided a bucket for pickup on current trash/recycling day – pilot project would be free of charge – educational component addressed through fliers in pilot area – company would provide necessary insurance – currently the company receives about 20 tons of waste per week – program could realize a cost decrease to City and customer with less waste being charged at the landfill – understands City would like to keep number of haulers to a minimum – ideally, a permanent collection plan would be handled by the current haulers

-Cochran – interested citizens can go to the following website: www.thecompostexchange.com for more information

-Papai – asked if there are currently other cities in Ohio that are composting organic waste and whether there are haulers including this as an additional recyclable

-Leard – not aware of any curbside pickup – there are industrial haulers, not aware of any residential – would like other cities to say, “Look at what Athens is doing.” – having a processing facility so close is a big advantage, without that transportation would be costly and that is what prohibits this type of collection for processing

-Papai – asked about the sale of the compost he generates

-Leard – sells it to landscapers and others – hasn’t worked much on marketing yet

-Knisely – interesting idea – asked about what would be required as far as data gathering – understands there will be an online questionnaire for participating residents, and self-reporting on information on how much this program has helped them reduce the amount of garbage they are putting out

-Butler – has been approached by some of his constituents on the west side about compost recycling, and feels many of them would be interested in being a part of this pilot project – asked for clarification that his group would be responsible for collection during the pilot project

-Leard – that is correct

-Butler – expressed his support in moving forward with this pilot project – feels this recycling effort is doable in our community and looks forward to the data collection and hopefully, moving forward with something more permanent

-Patterson – asked if the bucket is critter proof

-Leard – doesn’t appear to be a problem

-Patterson – asked about the potential of reduced waste to the landfills – will it be weighed and monitored through the pilot program?

-Leard – on the average each bucket holds about 25 lbs.

-Sands – asked about timeframe from beginning of pilot project to end results being reported

-Leard – about 10 weeks from start of project

-Mayor – weight criteria would be helpful in terms of the success of the program – as the next step, requested Mr. Leard contact City Planner Paul Logue to attend a meeting of the Environment & Sustainability Commission for their perspective and recommendation

-Papai – would like a report back from the Environment & Sustainability Commission to City Council

- APD Flooring
  -Patterson – tile repairs are needed -- $5500 will need to be appropriated to the Law Administration Building Improvements Fund, 585

- Storage Building
  -Patterson – with the renovation of 458 Richland Avenue (next door to Fire Station) as a residential home, the Fire Department is in need of a storage area to replace the use of the garage they are currently using at 458

- Updates
  -Patterson
    - Armory walkthrough on Monday, April 7, at 6:00 p.m., prior to the regular session of Council
    - JPAC safety tour on Thursday, April 3, encouraged community to let them know of safety concerns

  -Risner – questioned whether crime statistics would be posted on the City's website

  -S-S Director – discussion continues on the best way to get the data out to the general public

  -Mayor – noted that there is a lot of data that would need to be reviewed and redacted – would be time consuming for current staff

- Social Hosting
  -Patterson – JPAC Subcommittee is holding a dialogue, reviewing the idea of a policy – the subcommittee includes (2) student representatives, both Police Chiefs, Council Members Knisely and himself

ITEMS NEEDED ON THE NEXT CITY COUNCIL AGENDA:

1. APD Flooring

MINUTES
TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

MARCH 24, 2014

Members in Attendance:	Michele Papai, Chair Kent Butler, Vice-Chair Jennifer Cochran, Member
Other Council Members:	Chris Fahl Chris Knisely Steve Patterson Jeff Risner
Administrators and/or Other Elected Officials:	President Sands Mayor Wiehl Service-Safety Director Horan Moseley

ITEMS DISCUSSED:

- Rally North America (street closing)
  -Papai – the group looks for scenic downtown historic backdrops to begin their rally – first visit to Athens – this is an automotive scavenger hunt fundraising activity – requesting Court Street be closed between State and Carpenter on Tuesday, July 8, from 7:00-10:00 a.m. – nice summer tourism event

- Street Tour
  -Papai – need to schedule a date for this annual review of street maintenance, infrastructure and safety

  -S-S Director – suggested either Saturday, April 19 or 26

  -Papai – Council Members should contact the Clerk on which of these dates will work best – requested citizen street concerns be addressed to the Council Clerk

- Transportation Sub-Committee
  -Papai – standing meeting will be held at EPW on April 1st at 1:00 p.m.

ITEMS NEEDED ON THE NEXT CITY COUNCIL AGENDA:

1. Rally North America Street Closing

MINUTES
MARCH 24, 2014

FINANCE & PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Members in Attendance:	Chris Knisely, Chair Steve Patterson, Vice-Chair
Other Council Members:	Kent Butler Jennifer Cochran Michele Papai Jeff Risner
Administrators and/or Other Elected Officials:	President Sands Mayor Wiehl Service-Safety Director Horan Moseley

Items Discussed:

- Community Food Initiatives (CFI annual presentation, Mary Nally)
  -Knisely – CFI Executive Director Mary Nally will be presenting their annual report, and goals for the coming year (see attached)

  -Patterson – is particularly impressed with CFI's educational component

  -Risner – asked if CFI tracks the seed giveaway production

  -Nally – there is no formal follow up system for the seed giveaway program

  -Butler – applauds CFI's community efforts, particularly with the community orchard initiative

- State Issue I
  -Knisely – these State dollars are responsible for many of the public works improvements happening in the City: improvements to Carpenter Street; Columbus Road, East Union, East State, Middle School paving area; and Elliottsville Road rebuild; totaling approximately $3.6 million – other projects have been provided to the Villages of Amesville and Albany – the Mayor requests that Council put forward a Resolution of support to continue this State Issue I funding

-Mayor – noted that this will be a 10-year bond issue on the May primary ballot

-S-S Director – this funding contributes a significant amount of support for our local infrastructure projects – including West Union Street this summer

- Subordination (CHIP Housing)
  -Knisely – a request has been received – City has a mortgage on down payment assistance provided to the owner through the CHIP grant – this is a 10-year forgivable loan – the loan being sought is in the amount of $34,000, and will place the City's mortgage behind this second loan, and in a lesser position for payback – the Law Director will be reviewing this request along with other HAPCAP and grant requirements

  -Mayor – pointed out that criteria used by City Council in past subordination requests include: 1) an independent appraisal; and 2) the appraised value of the property exceeds by 20% all mortgages on the property both before and after the subordination – noting that this request does not meet the second criteria – the homeowner is seeking a second loan to consolidate her debt and to provide some improvements to the property

  -Papai – understands that historically City Council has not approved a subordination without meeting both guidelines as set forth

  -Cochran – acknowledged that the owner has markedly improved the value of the property through improvements she has already made

ITEMS NEEDED ON THE NEXT CITY COUNCIL AGENDA:

1. State Issue I Support