

## **Council-Of-The-Whole / Joint Township**

November 15, 2010

5:30 p.m., City Hall Multi-Purpose Room

**In attendance:** Medina City Council: Chairman Cindy Fuller, John Coyne, Paul Rose, Mark Kolesar, Dennie Simpson, Jim Shields, Andrea Burdell-Ware  
Lafayette Twp. Trustees: Bryon Macron, Nanci Shanley, Lynda Bowers  
Medina Twp. Trustee: Sally Gardner  
Montville Twp. Trustees: Ron Bischof, Jeff Brandon  
York Twp. Trustee: Colene Conley

**Also present:** Denny Miller, Jeff Kessler, Chief Patrick Berarducci, Keith Dirham, Mayor Dennis Hanwell, Tom Halama, Mark Crumley, Nino Piccoli, Debra Lynn-Schmitz, W. Parker Browne, Elaine Ridgley, Evelyn Czyz, Jennifer Pignolet, Pamela Miller, Bob Painter, Carol Stilla, Tim Swanson, Kathy Patton, Chuck Novicky

President Cindy Fuller opened the meeting at 5:30 p.m. Lynda Bowers called the Lafayette Township Special Meeting to order with Ms. Bowers, Mr. Macron and Ms. Shanley present. Jeff Brandon called Montville Township's Special Trustee meeting to order with Mr. Bischoff and Mr. Brandon present. Sally Gardner called the Medina Township meeting to order at 5:35 p.m. with herself present.

### 1. Sports Activity Permit / Parks Maintenance

Mayor Hanwell gave an overview of the City's recent meetings with the townships, the recent removal of the Sports Activity Permit fee, and thoughts on having a field-use fee instead, which he feels might be a fairer way to do it. He stated that it also might prevent the sports associations from trying to shop around and get a better price depending on the jurisdiction they play in. He explained that he asked Parks and Recreation Director Tim Swanson to take a look at all of the fields that we have been scheduling throughout our region and come up with a fair price.

Medina City Parks and Recreation Director Tim Swanson stated that the SAP was a non-resident tax to persons using city sports fields to help care for and maintain them; but this has been repealed and will no longer be charged. He stated there is a general belief among City and Township officials that a centralized scheduling office would be beneficial. He stated they would like to explore this scenario while seeking ways to generate revenue during the scheduling process. He stated the group believes a fee is necessary to schedule the sports fields and facilities that each agency owns. The costs to maintain fields are high, and the ability to reimburse a portion of these costs is possible through a field usage fee. He stated that the fee will not replace the expenses that each agency spends on an annual basis but rather offset a minor portion thereof. He stated that they are trying to assimilate all of the times the sports associations utilize the fields and come up with a cost. He stated he would like to meet again with the Townships to go over how to format the scheduling process.

Mr. Swanson reported that the City of Medina Parks and Recreation Department can meet the objective of a centralized scheduling office and seek ways to generate this revenue. The City and Parks Department currently own Class software which will enable them to meet this goal. He stated that utilizing this software, he has created a temporary facility booking template that will assist in evaluating the pluses and minuses of centralized scheduling. He reported there is a yearly license fee involved with this software which includes software support and troubleshooting support. (see example of schedule attached). He would like to know if the Townships would like him to continue to pursue this idea, obtain pricing information, and move toward the centralized scheduling format.

Lynda Bowers, Lafayette Township Trustee stated that Lafayette will need to have a discussion with their Board and Association before making a decision.

Jeff Brandon, Montville Township Trustee stated that Montville Township is in agreement with the central scheduling idea.

Colene Conley, York Township Trustee stated that she is interested in getting involved as well; and would like to discuss further.

Jeff Kessler, Medina Township Sports Field Manager stated that they already have a scheduling process in place and it works well for them.

President Fuller stated that the discussion needs to continue and the Townships should forward all questions to Mayor Hanwell or to the Mayor's Assistant, Dawn Conwill.

## 2. Armstrong Cable Fees

The Mayor explained that the City charges the franchise fee but the City also pays for all of the operations of the Cable Access Network (Channels 36 & 37), which includes all of the government, court, and school programming. The question being, if everyone was receiving the fees, why should the City of Medina bear all of the costs of those operations? After a short discussion, it was found that not all of the jurisdictions were getting the franchise fee that was being discussed.

The Mayor stated that this matter would have to be looked into further, considering that programming involving the schools and courts involve individuals from all jurisdictions.

Debra Lynn-Schmitz stated that the bulk of funding for Cable Access comes from the City's franchise fee.

Councilwoman Andrea Burdell-Ware stated the next Cable Access Committee meeting is scheduled for November 23, 2010 and they will discuss this matter further.

3. Fire District/Safety Services

Mayor Hanwell explained that the City would like to see if there is interest in creating a Fire District to lower emergency response times and share equipment and staffing. He stated the City would be willing to take the lead and start having organizational meetings.

The group agreed with the idea and suggested a meeting with the Fire Chiefs and officials from each entity for a round-table discussion. All also agreed it would be better to begin with small group.

Mayor Hanwell stated that if there are any needs for police services, the City is interested in sharing some of those services as well.

4. Sweepstakes Terminal Café's / Internet Café's

President Fuller explained the City's recent request regarding an Internet Sweepstakes Cafe and inquired whether any of the Townships have had any as well.

Elaine Ridgely, Zoning Inspector for Medina Township stated that they have received multiple requests regarding these and are forwarding all requests to the County Prosecutor's Office (330) 723-9536.

The City of Brunswick has put a moratorium on them, as well as the City of Wadsworth, and the City of Cleveland.

Medina Police Chief Patrick Berarducci stated that Cleveland is prosecuting. They already have some cases pending, as do Akron and Canton. He stated he feels it is gambling.

Evelyn Czyz, Brunswick Hills Township Zoning Inspector stated that she has a letter from the Attorney General's Office regarding this, which she will forward to all interested parties.

Chief Berarducci stated that when there is a question about the law, police officers are going to enforce it based on the Ohio Revised Code. His opinion is that it is against the law until a competent court says it's ok.

President Fuller thanked everyone for their input and for attending.

Lafayette Township adjourned at 6:35 p.m.

Medina Township adjourned at 6:35 p.m.

Montville Township adjourned at 6:35 p.m.

City of Medina adjourned at 6:35 p.m.