

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

DAYTON LEGAL BLANK, INC., FORM NO. 10148

Held September 20, 2016 20

The Council of the City of Milford met in Council Chambers at 745 Center Street at 7:00pm on September 20, 2016. Mayor Howland called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance and a Moment of Silence.
Roll Call: Present: Mayor Howland, Vice Mayor Brewer, Ms. Russell, Mr. Brady, Mr. Bonnell, Mr. Haskins, Ms. Evans

Introduction and Presentation: There was no introduction or presentation at this time

Proceedings: Mr. Bonnell made a motion to adopt the Proceedings from September 6, 2016; seconded by Ms. Evans. All others voted yes.

Financial Statements: Mr. Bonnell made a Motion to accept the July, August 2016 Finance Report; seconded by Mr. Brady. All voted yes.

Public Comments: There were no comments at this time

Standing Committee Reports

Parks & Recreation: Presented by Mr. Bonnell
SEM Playground swings were replaced due to marks being left on clothing. Fall Festival coming up in conjunction with Valley View October 15th. There are still discussions regarding the shelter at the Riverside location.

Safety Services Report: Presented by Mr. Haskins
Safety Services Committee Meeting-September 12, 2016City Hall
Attending: Ted Haskins, Amy Brewer, Laurie Howland, Michael Doss, Dan Burke
Charles Evans, Joseph Cooper, Andrew W. Evans, Lisa Evans, Justin Bonnell, David Spinney ,Mark Baird, Sandy Russell, Jennifer Hemminger, Laura Whalen, Nick Thiele, Mark Flanigan
Mr. Haskins called the meeting to order at 6:10 pm. to discuss the Milford Community Fire Department Fire Levy and the 2017 Fire Contract with the Milford Community Fire Department.

Presentation by Chief Baird: I come to you in the spirit of cooperation on behalf of the department. We are all here for the same reason, to serve and protect and take care of our residents and businesses. We certainly have that as our first intention. The decisions that are made are always made in the best interest of our community. The Fire board met last week in a special meeting and would like to propose the following for discussion: We will continue to use its internal resources, our volunteers, the recall of off duty members, such as Assistant Chief Flanigan, Lieutenant Thiele, Mr. Nickell and a couple of the other people who work for the department and live in or close enough to the community to respond back and other avenues people who quite frankly when the run came in while they were still asleep from the shift the day before. Those kinds of resources for the foreseeable future fill openings in the fire engine staffing while both fire engines and ambulances are on details. Currently we staff our optimum staffing is at least 7 people and the minimum is 6 people. We hire back on overtime if we drop below 6 people. Our minimum before we hire back is 6. Our preferred staffing is a minimum of 7. And that minimum of 7 allows us to have two full-time to the primary ambulance solely and allows us to have 4 people assigned to fire engine and one person who will float between the two, the backup ambulance or whatever the situation is or the ladder truck. The idea being that the person as a “floater” is the person on the back up ambulance. So that we only have to pull one person off of the fire engine for cross staffing purposes. In the best case scenario, we would leave 3 people to staff the fire engine while 4 people are tending to the ambulance calls. And then we backfill the fourth position on the engine by sending out notification via our messaging system, to the entire department, but specifically targeting the off duty officers or volunteers so that they know the department is short staffed. They can either respond to the station or they can listen in to make sure if they respond to a subsequent call. We have made a lot of effort to provide our volunteers and off duty with ways to communicate while they are off duty. A phone App called Active 911 which we are using, allows us to notify back to the station electronically that someone is monitoring the run, that they are in route to the station for the run, are unavailable for the run, and we can see that graphically. And we can see that on our phones by use of the app. We have also had the great fortune to have extra radios. We have made an effort to replace a lot of old technology radios which will stop working eventually, but as long as parts are available, they can be repaired. So we have distributed those to our volunteers and our community based paid employees. The radios are not currently out there since they are being repaired and updating radio transmission. When all is said and done, everyone will have the same radios as we carry on the fire trucks so that they can communicate verbally to the station that they are on their way in. This is a little bit of information on the background of how the volunteers, recall duty, off duty officers, and etcetera fill the openings when and where possible on both of the ambulances when both are on details. We urge the city as a department however to prepare for the eventual need to staff an 8th Fire Fighter position each day. I make no secret of it, to this group in the past. As with Retired Chief Cooper, it really worries us both that when both of the ambulances are out on details, we have a short staff of firefighters because our contract very clearly states that we are not only providing EMS service but we are also providing fire fighter/protection service. And when we are short staffed, it gives us quite a bit of concern for that period of time. The department proposes that we will continue to maintain the exact staffing level we have in place since the beginning of 2016 which is minimum of 6, optimal 7, on duty, in the station, in the years 2017, 2018 and 2019. And we propose to do that basically by meeting a budget deficit for those years and

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drawing down the Fire departments cash reserve. The Fire department has maintained a cash reserve for a number of years and we would like to make it clear that the cash reserve is not only our rainy day fund that we can immediately access but we have also made a number of Capital purchases over the years through that same fund. It is not just a rainy day fund; it is also a capital fund. Some examples of purchases that have been made fairly recently where we pulled money from the cash reserves includes: the 2015 ambulance which was about \$250,000.00 purchase, remodeling the sleeping area, \$35,000.00. The second power stretcher \$40,000.00. And the refurbishment of the 2002 Fire Engine at about \$115,000.00 which will extend the life of that truck for at least another ten years and vs. the cost of a new fire truck, which save a significant amount of money by doing the refurbishment. Those are some of the examples of the emergency cash reserve but also cash purchases from the fund as well. The Board agrees with what appears to be the prevailing sentiment that City Fire/EMS Levy fund, which is your fund that the city controls to contract with the Fire Department and pay other expenses for example: building payment, fire station payment, 911 fees, the County Auditors Treasurer's Fees, the County charges on collecting taxes on behalf of the city and whatever part of the postage meter machine and whatever else we have as part owner of the City Hall. We agree that between the City Fire/EMS Levy, it should have an adequate reserve in it, which Mr. Burke will speak on that he does not feel comfortable that that is the case currently. And between the two, the Fire department and the Fire Board and the city, that if we can maintain a reserve somewhere around \$ 1,000,000.00 between the two. That would be a safe number for not only rainy day but also for future capital purchases. WE know that by about 2020 that we are going to have to replace an ambulance. And by that point in time, who knows. It will be close to 275,000.00 or 300,000.00. Which is crazy since the 1st ambulance that I was first involved in cost 65,000.00. Between us, there are about 1,000,000.00 available for those purposes. That was the result of our spending down the department's reserves, and allowing the city's reserves to come up, is just that. Our numbers will go down and the city's reserve will eventually work its way back up. We ask the city to consider extending a fire protection agreement to the department for the years 2017, 2018 and 2019 at the same number that we have been at since 2013 which is 1.7 million dollars per year. And just as a side note, I would like to at least for you to consider a multi-year contract of some kind. It is silly to keep coming back here to do these contracts every year. But I would just like to throw that out there as a personal preference. It is certainly not set in stone. And the fire department proposes finally that the city agree to place a 12.5 mil renewal tax levy which is the existing millage on the ballot in the May 2017 election, for a 3 year period as we have been doing previously. We are not seeking the additional 1 ½ mil as in the original proposal. We have had the benefit of 8 months plus knowing what our budget impact has been having the staffing at the level that it has been at so instead of speculating we have hard numbers that we feel comfortable that we can work with and I would like to credit Mr. Spinney for much of that. He has handled the Treasurer's position for a number of years and me as the 6 month-plus new Fire Chief, every manager, fire chief, police chief, city manager or business owner will take a while to get a reading of the pulse of how budget works. After a while you can just feel how it is supposed to feel/work. I am very budget conscious and very comfortable with numbers but it is still not the same as seeing the money spent and how it lays out through the year. Mr. Spinney however obviously has that benefit and we have sharpened our pencil to use one of the terms along the way to make sure that we feel comfortable with our numbers. I would like to go on by saying that you are still learning who I am. And that may take a couple of years. I ran a million dollar department at my former job location on about ½ a million dollars a year. I am not afraid to cut. I am not afraid to say no. I am not afraid to rein things in when I see things out of control. Quite frankly, honestly and earnestly I don't see where anything is out of control and out of place. Can you find a nickel or dime here or there? Sure you can! We can nickel and dime it to death. I have put some controls into place to make sure for example that we are definitely, without question, where possible seeing multiple proposals for projects and frankly we have not had very many in the past several months. For example: we had an air conditioning unit go out at the station. And I insisted that Nick go out and get proposals. I am not saying that was not done in the past but quite frankly I am just telling you how I work. I am willing to look at other alternatives. Looking at our vendors through the years, and we are about ready to renew our health insurance. We are going to have to make some tough choices when the time comes. And I am not afraid to make those tough choices. I can stand up here and speak to you all day. All I can tell you is that based upon my professional experience, and my belief is that you should always try to do the right thing. I believe that we are offering the right solution for here for right now. But we are as a group, City Council and the Fire Board going to have to take a conservative look at what we are going to look at down the road. Our department has changed in the 3 plus years since I have been here. The department has changed in the last fifteen, twenty years. The most visible change is the department changing from a volunteer to a paid department. They did not hire people because they wanted to they hired people because they had to. They are going down the path as most cities in the Cincinnati area, especially - Hamilton County. We are fortunate to have our volunteer base. And to have our off duty members who are still willing to come in and answer calls off duty and not ask for any more money to do it. We are very fortunate because that is not the case in most counties. I would love to have volunteers, but that is not possible. The only reason we are where we are is because we could not retain volunteers. It is a nationwide issue. It has nothing to do with the department. Ms. Brewer: We have discussed earlier in private I have thanked the Chief and I feel as though the he heard us and he feels as though we all worked on what was truly the best that no one had to concede to get there. You were given a list of questions. I currently do not have any questions, but was there anything that was asked of you that you would like to clear the record right now? I would like to give you the chance today and for the record, is there anything that you would like to set the record straight on? If not, no big deal, I wanted to give you the opportunity. Chief Baird: Personally I would rather have the opportunity to answer the

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questions with a little more than a week’s opportunity to look at the questions. I believe in openness I believe in honesty. There should be no other motive. I just do not work that way. And I assure you that if you ask a question, I will give you the best answer I have. It may not be the answer you want but I will tell you what is on my mind. I implore you to ask. The questions are fine and we will get through that list. I just hate that it came to a list. I have had the opportunity to meet with Mr. Doss. , The Mayor, The Vice-Mayor privately. My intention is to continue on to meet through the Council members one at a time to give you the opportunity. Both of the meetings yielded things quite frankly I had no idea that that was on their mind. And that is good, that is fine. I plan to extend the same courtesy to the other Council members along the way. But I do not want it in the future, to come to a list. I just ask that you just ask the question. I may not like to hear the question, but I will try to answer it. One thing I cannot stand is to be ambushed in an open meeting. I would rather get it taken care of beforehand and other things be discussed and open meetings go as smooth as possible. I pledge to you that we will continue to be as open and honest and forthright as a department as we possibly can be. I will give you the answers that you are looking for but I do not, my personal opinion: I do not believe that the system is broken. I believe there may have been some miscommunication, lack of communication, failure on my part to communicate. I publicly stated that at the July meeting. I take responsibility for you not having the information that you needed to make an informed decision about this. And the reason I did this quite frankly was that Chief Cooper and the Mayor and myself have been having committee meetings about this for 3 years. And without thinking about 3 new Council members I figured all were on board. That is my excuse and I am sticking to it. In the end I believe that, in my professional opinion, the model works effectively and with better communication it can work for years to come. It is a very good working relationship. It is a very economical way to do it. There could be argument there. I know what is going to happen when this goes public. I have expressed this to a number of people. You will be paying the same money or more for less service. Ms. Howland: One of the things that you and I have talked about was an education thing and not necessarily about the levy, but more on how the Fire Department operates. There are many City Council members that do not have that knowledge of how exactly it is set up. You would be surprised to know that it is a private company vs. public. We had talked about was just that you had done a budget and coming in every year to City Council especially to the new members. We always get the budget layout from the Fire Department and some of us have been here for a while and understand but it might be helpful this year to have a presentation of the budget and to show how the Fire Department operates. I think it would go a long way. I think that was why there was a list of questions. There is a lot to understand. Especially since it is ran differently from our other safety services since it is a private company. To Council’s credit – asking questions is part of what we were elected to do. It has always been a great partnership. There were some unanswered questions that needed to be answered. Chief Baird: the Fire Protection 2016 contract stated that the Fired Department show financial information and everything else to Mr. Burke and Mr. Doss every month which is the same packet of information that the Fire Board members are presented with. I also want to point out that for years and years, that the City Manager is a non-voting member of the Fire Board. And they have jokingly talked about only seeing city managers at only one or two meetings a year. We are not having closed door meetings. The city Manager is part of the contract that you agreed upon. And that is part of it. **Mr. Doss:** If the contract comes back and it is not 1.7, but 1.65, what happens at that point? And does the Fire Board come back and ask for renewal and an additional? Chief Baird: I am not in the position to answer that question. I will defer to my board members. Mr. Spinney: We would not be asking for a change in the levy amount. It is a decision that City Council has to make to enter into that contract with us. We would not come back and ask for more. I understand the need for the city to have a higher fund balance than it has now. I really do not understand why it was allowed to go down. We would like to see a balance of at least a million dollars between the two because that it is how it has operated. If you were to come back with a contract of less than the 1.7 million dollars, our fund balance would drop down faster. And in our discussions, we recognize the need for the city to have a balance that would make sense for the department to have so that we would not have to run back to the city if the ambulance broke down and we did not have enough money in the account. We would like to have some funds there as well to make some capital purchases. We would much rather let that fund balance come down gradually, lowering our contract to below the 1.7 million will just make our fund balance would drop down faster. We would be well below the 800,000.00 at the end of that three year period. **Mr. Doss:** What is the percentage of your fund balance in relation to your annual operating expenses? **Mr. Spinney:** Our operating expenses (taking out all the Capital expenses) for 2016 is \$1,957,000.00 plus or minus. Approximately \$2 million dollars. Capital initially in 2016 was higher but it is basically reduced to \$250,000.00. That is the lowest it has been since 2010. Our total cash expenditure would be \$2,107,000.00. That is what we are anticipating until the end of the year as operating income. The reserve is \$1.3 million **Mr. Evans:** My opinion is that this is the most professional fire-fighting crew in the area. They have a great staff and the department keeps their trucks maintained. Fire departments work on contingencies. They need to have this money. They do not know what they are up against. The city of Milford is not purchasing a fire truck. The Fire department is. It is about 1 million dollars for a fire truck. Insurance on a truck must be significant. Healthcare will probably go up for the department. And I am sure they are saving the money for the city vs. a unionized fire department. Pragmatically we are discussing budgets. But if you ever had the need the fire department will be there in 6 minutes. We had to use the department in 2002 in our home. They saved our building, and our lives. It is significant. It is significant the number of lives they have saved in the city. If it’s not broke, then do not fix it **Mr. Haskins:** What is our next step? **Ms. Howland:** We have to have more discussions since we are now working with 1.65 mills. **Ms. Howland:** We need to have both numbers on both scenarios to compare 1.7 and the 1.65. **Mr. Spinney:** We will get together with Dan and make sure we

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are talking about the same scenarios. **Ms. Howland:** And again, we are looking at business numbers. This has nothing to do with judgement on the fire department. This is purely a numbers **Ms. Brewer:** We can re-convene. We can discuss a week from today. October 4th? **Mr. Haskins:** Meeting adjourned

City Manager’s Report: Mr. Doss provided the following report

MEMORANDUM

TO: City Council
CC: Mike Minniear, Law Director
Jackie Bain, Administrative Assistant/Clerk
FROM: City Manager
DATE: September 20, 2016
RE: Manager’s Report

CITY MANAGER

Main Street/SR 28 Paving Project – The paving and curb replacement project scheduled for this fall has been delayed until next spring. The city received a preliminary draft of the paving bid last week and the bid would have to be out for advertisement for at least two weeks. The project did not include total replacement of the curb/gutter; and in order to accomplish this task it would take approximately one month to demo and construct curb/gutter. As a result, the asphalt overlay would be effectively rushed and possibly not be completed before the asphalt plants closed in mid-November. The thought behind the delay is to incorporate new curb/gutter/catch basin for all of Main Street beginning from five points to Kirgan Lane. Paving would be from five points to either Crestview Drive or Castleberry Court. The city is also looking to include conduit placement for future street light enhancement or a streetscape project that would bridge downtown Milford Main Street to the uptown Main Street/SR 28 business district.

Shawnee Run Road Update – The bridge tunnel at Shawnee Run Road will remain closed for the next thirty to sixty days as ODOT and ODNR repair a culvert and earthen collapse near the Little Miami Trail. The bridge and access point on Shawnee Run Road was closed because of the close proximity to the collapse and deteriorated culvert. ODNR officials anticipate that the collapse issue coupled with the culvert and fill work being performed in the area might degrade the structural integrity of the bridge tunnel. The City is in the process of evaluating the cost to repair the bridge tunnel versus replacement of the bridge tunnel. The bridge tunnel is the responsibility of the City of Milford because it is within our corporate boundaries.

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SERVICE DEPARTMENT

Work at Memorial Park is in progress. The service department is currently evaluating streets for paving overlay projects this fall. The center lane and parking stall painting project will continue this week throughout town.

WASTE WATER DEPARTMENT

The Main Street/US 28 sewer replacement project is complete. Miller Pipeline will start slip lining pipe on Riverside Drive this Thursday. The sewer siphon line and High street sanitary sewer projects scored very well and have made it out of the OPWC Clermont County Sub-Committee. Both projects are now being considered for final funding at the ODOT district level.

WATER DEPARTMENT

Water testing is complete and submitted OEPA. Hydrant flushing by the Milford Community Fire Department continues this month.

STANDING COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Administrative Services Committee: Not scheduled at this time

Community Development Committee: Not scheduled at this time

Public Services Committee: Not scheduled at this time

Safety Services Committee: Not scheduled at this time

REMINDERS:

Art Affaire this Saturday, September 24 in Historic Downtown Milford

Next Tuesday, September 27 at 7:30 pm. at Pattison Elementary Cafeteria we will hold our Town Hall meeting regarding the future of the Milford/Main property.

Police Department Report: Sergeant Lane and Kibby completed their first week of residential study at Police executive leadership college. No OVI's at our check point last Friday night. 26 applicants took the Civil Service Examination last Saturday. The Citizens Police Academy class will have AirCare and Emergency vehicle extraction this week.

Ms. Howland: Mentioned the Fill The Cruiser. Great volunteers! It was fun and sweet to see the participation by the people in Milford.

Fire and EMS Report: There is no report at this time

Public Comments: Milford Main-

Mr. Minnear asked that those speaking come to please approach the podium and identify themselves.

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Joyce Snell: I have lived in this town all my life. I appreciate the opportunity to come and say something. Read from her prepared statement: Preface with statement that she has no horse in this race. I do not have any close relationships with any of the people along Lila or Main Street. What I have to say is from my heart and I really feel for the people who live there. I love this town very much! I have lived here all my life and I have raised my children here and I will spend my last days here. I would like to see this land used as a lovely park area that would be an attractive entrance to Historic Milford. This is our last piece of open land that could be developed into a beautiful prominent spot compatible with the neighborhood and would be a useful pleasant place to spend time and even view in passing. Details would have to be worked out by a committee. I would like to see some play equipment but certainly not a complete playground. Civic Groups could assume some responsibility for the area. To use with interesting plantings and benches. Used for community events with adequate parking at the church end of the property. Events such as concerts, fundraisers, picnics and much needed parking for both of the churches and the school which are located there. The Milford Mural depicting Milford's history, the idea of which was originated on the property, paid for by the Milford students as their sesquicentennial gift to the city. The mural could be displayed there under protective covering. We should not miss the opportunity to preserve this property for generations to enjoy. I am sure Uncle Lewis Gatch , who sold this property to the school over a hundred years ago would be very happy to see his flatiron used in this way. What I am against – I am opposed to condos that are esthetically incongruent to this residential neighborhood. It would be a travesty to place this kind of development between the Main and Lila homes. I feel the value of their home would be greatly decreased. Before putting any additional rental property – if the future of tax levy's or bonds of the school and the town. The owners of rental property are in it for a profit. I know that owners of rental properties have a certain amount that they charge to cover the costs to make a profit and meet their expenses. Most renters are smart enough to know that if a tax issue passes their rent can go up to cover the increase so the owners can meet their financial goals. If a tax levy was placed on the ballot, the renters, especially those along the riverbank could control any election if they voted as a block. We do not need any more concentrated rental properties in Milford. Developers will present a cogent argument on how much tax money you could get from commercial development in this area. We have had much needed development in the past and will have more in the future. But there comes a time when we must say enough is enough. WE are not willing to sell our souls for a buck. The people who live here need this property for their own use. This property has been the heart of Milford for a very long time. This property has meant a lot to Milford. Put our developments in more suitable places instead of on Main Street.

Marc Ziegenhardt: I think the property should remain as the zoning is right now. The zoning is zoned Institutional. All on Council, the citizens should look at the Milford Land Use Plan. There was to going to be a large development at Valley View, 155 acres, plus 55 more from the Gatch Farm. It would have been advantageous to have a development there of homes along Garfield Avenue. The Milford South residents brought that down who were protesting against the development. The parks that are available now are subject to flooding. I liked the message from the City Manager that he will enhance the quality of life for the citizens as we can accomplish this by new and improved recreational opportunities and by making all of Milford a walkable community for everyone to enjoy. There is a lot of activity that goes on at the Milford Main property at this time. Basketball, kite flying and the backstop is still there. The city was smart in putting in the parking lot lines. It is also convenient to walk to the Methodist Church. And if you go to the point you may be able to see (once the tree leaves are gone) that it points directly to the Promont House. It will take some work to enhance the property into a park. Immediately we should be in a tree city and we should try to get some trees planted along the perimeter of the fence. I grew up on Miami Avenue and use to walk to Miami Main kindergarten. Milford is a safe city. WE use to have the YMCA Camp SEM where we could go to day camp, play and swim. Where Miami Woods condos are located, it used to be a wooded area and we would go play there. The homes along Walnut Street and Riverside and other streets that are a close distance to this property, and when you are 9, 10,11 or 12 your parents don't mind you going to a location like Milford Main to play vs. down by the river. The area is an easier area to monitor than our other parks are. Everyone should read the Land Use Plan and become familiar with it and try to follow it as much as possible. So far we have.

Bruce Bishop: Presented a Public Park model for everyone to view. Think about what we might be giving up if condos go up. We have one chance and only one chance of getting this right. Lots of homes have small yards. This would be a nice place for families to go to. Ice skating on the pond could happen in the winter. Could place a band shell there. The location would be available to the schools for graduations. The churches could also use it. Cincinnati Symphony Playhouse - Concerts in the Park could also use the park. Brick areas and grassy areas where larger crowds could use that area to sit in. There are events that we have never thought of that could now be held in Milford with this idea. The bricks could be sold to have names placed on them and placed at the park. Also concrete could also be used to look like bricks – similar to an area in Fairfax. IN the spring time, maybe people could come down and help mulch the area after the city dumps mulch at the location. People could volunteer to help take care of the area. These are all possibilities. If we are not going to do something well, then let's not do anything at all. The area at this time does not look that terrible as it is. If we have to let it sit a year or two, to get the funding to do something nice, then let it sit. We are never going to have this opportunity again. And think where this land is in Milford. It is located in the heart of Milford. People traveling on 50 will see this and it is going to be beautiful. If the park is built: name it after Mary Sue Vilardo who lives across the property. Also, dedicate the band shell after Betty Meyers. She was very much involved in the Arts.

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John “Jack” Evans: Has lived in Milford since 1960. He has watched the Milford/Main building go from a beautiful structure to the dump since no maintenance has been done since 1964. I was happy to see the building go as seeing the way the building was. Thank God the Council had enough nerve to reject the zoning. I do like the greenspace that is there. And you couldn’t say any more than what Ms. Snell has already said. Both of the churches need parking. And don’t be in any hurry to cover up that beautiful green grass and the parking that is already there. And let the kids continue to shoot basketball.

David Grenier: I am a business owner on Main Street and I live on Elm Street. Funding is available - as in a green space or a park for Milford/Main. Two children from the community raised about \$5,000 dollars with a Go Fund Me Campaign. The money is available for that greenspace at the Park National Bank essentially waiting to be used for the right purpose. We will have to discuss with the children what the money will go towards when the time comes and if the city decides not to go forward with the greenspace, what it can be used for otherwise.

Charlotte Evans: Own property on Center Street. I conquer with Mrs. Snell that both of the churches need parking and a nice greenspace with park like development would be appropriate for the area. And it would be nice welcome as you drive into the community.

Pam Cerveney: I would like to agree with everything that was already said. It is exactly what is on my mind and what brought me here tonight. I would like to see the space turned into a greenspace. We are a small city and we could use more of a tax base. But I think there are other ways to get that. We have enough empty storefronts. It is tough to make it in a tiny city. Those empty spaces could help to build our tax base. I believe that Milford/Main is the primo spot in Milford that leads into the old downtown. And the area needs to be greenspace.

Tom Vogel: Resident – who is a member of the St. Andrews Parish that due to the location of the church which is adjacent to the potential park, were wondering how they could compliment the space in that facility. It would really be a partnership with other organizations or churches could pick up the same kind of theme. We had an architect come in and give us some ideas on how we could redo the front of St. Andrew and how we could compliment whatever might take place there. It was nothing official but asking someone to do this on the side. There is great potential and Milford is such a great place to live. When my son in law moved here to be a basketball coach with the High School he took a video of the area. Many assets here in Milford: the river, the bike trail and the rest of the community. He wanted us to see how beautiful the area was. It is such an opportunity and I am sure you will do the right thing.

Jo Ann Weigel: Letter sent to: City Manager, Council and the citizens of Milford Ohio.
The Milford Main property has been a hot topic in the city for some time. I supported the first plan but since it was overwhelmingly shot down, I have moved on.
The present situation is “What to do with the property”. The amount of money (\$360,000) the City paid for this property should trigger all residents to be involved. Unfortunately, most again won’t speak up. Well, I still want to remain strong that I am against the common belief that it will be a parking lot and a green space.
Let’s talk about parking. I have lived in the Milford area for 75 years. I have attended St. Andrew Church many of those years. I have yet to go home because I couldn’t find a place to park. The notion that people won’t go to church if they can’t find a parking spot is so shallow, it causes me to snicker. No, there may not be a place at the front door, there may not be a place in the parking lot but there are many parking spaces within that block that houses both St. Andrew and the First United Methodist Church. If you want the front door parking spot, go early and spend a little more time with the Lord. If you are unable to walk far, another reason to go early. This will solve the problem.
My next question is how much is each church willing to pay for parking. With the high cost of this property, I don’t think the City leaders can just write it off. If the churches would help recover some of this money, I seriously doubt it would be a substantial to the initial cost.
Next, a green space? How many more do we need? We have 7 parks within a City of 3.75 square miles. Really, do we need more?
How about a community center? Good idea but again, this would not generate enough money to recover the cost. It would fall on the City to keep it going.
A community pool? Sorry folks, parking would then become a real problem.
I sincerely hope that someone or several come up with a better idea than what has already been tossed around.
If I lived in the area, I think I would want it to be a green space (park). But is this what is best for the entire City or would you be playing the “I” don’t want to look at a development?
The City should see if any developer is interested in purchasing this property for development. It is a very important piece of real estate but it should have something that will generate tax income to recover the initial amount and make money for the City. With the loss of 3M and the Board of Education, the replacement of the existing water tower, I would hope that our Council will stand up and do what is right for the City. I think that is part of the oath you took.
Sincerely,
Jo Ann Weigel

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of

Meeting

DAYTON LEGAL BLANK, INC., FORM NO. 10148

Held _____ 20____

101 Postoak Ln. 2C
Milford, Oh 45150


Encourage you to come out next Tuesday at 7:30pm to Pattison Elementary for the Round Table Event to share more ideas.

Council Comments: Reminders: Fall Festival – Scarecrows contest. Art Affaire is this Saturday. Merchants will stay open late for this event. October 1st is the Rallye Porsche Milford. The event starts at 10am and will end at 2:30 pm. The awards will start at 2:30pm. A special mention to the South Milford Neighborhood Association for their fundraiser during their yearly block party for Shop with a Hero. Mr. Brady also requested an email version of the Safety Committee Minutes since the information is quite lengthy. Mr. Bonnell commented on how great the CPA of Milford is. You will learn a lot. May Café – has delicious food!


New Business: None

Old Business:

Adjourn:
There being no further business to come before the City Council; Mayor Howland adjourned the meeting at 7:50 p.m.



Jackie Bain, C.P.T.



Laurie Howland, Mayor