

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

DAYTON LEGAL BLANK, INC., FORM NO. 10148

Held April 18, 2017 20

The Council of the City of Milford met in Council Chambers at 745 Center Street at 7:00pm on April 18, 2017. Mayor Howland called the meeting to order and stated that we are a community that is in shock with the sudden passing of Retired Chief Cooper. I think we can all say this that it left many of us speechless. So I ask that after our Pledge of Allegiance please take a moment of silence in his honor. Thank you.

Roll Call: Present: Mayor Howland, Ms. Russell, Mr. Brady, Mr. Haskins, Ms. Evans. Absent were Vice Mayor Brewer and Mr. Albrecht. Ms. Howland asked for a motion to excuse Ms. Brewer and Mr. Albrecht who were out for business reasons. Ms. Evans- so moved. Mr. Brady seconded the motion. All voted yes. Ms. Howland wanted the record to reflect that Mr. Albrecht will be out at the next council meeting that were business trips that he already had on his calendar before the position became available. But he has since adjusted his calendar and just so everybody is aware.

Introduction and Presentation: Greater Milford Historical Society – Ms. Howland – as many as you know, the Greater Milford Area Historical Society is based out of the Promont House. And it is one of my favorite places in the city to go to. It is an honor to give you the proclamation to celebrate 50 years and I hope that you continue to be around for another 50 years and longer into the future because you are an asset. If you have not been, I encourage you to go to the Promont House and take a tour. And if you have taken a tour, I recommend that you take another tour because each time you will get a different tour. And each time you will learn something new. It is very exciting!

Proclamation: 50th Anniversary of the Greater Milford Area Historical Society 30th day of April, 2017 the official anniversary. Marty Kleinfelter wanted to thank the city of Milford. If it was not for the city, to help promote activities that we do, I do not think the Historical Society would be in the position it’s in today. You are a great asset and a great help to us and we truly appreciate it. Since the Mayor brought up visiting the house – it is open on Sundays now from 1-4pm. We encourage you to come up and we would love to give you a tour. Thank you again!

Proceedings: Ms. Evans made a motion to adopt the Proceedings from April 4, 2017; seconded by Mr. Brady. All voted yes.

Correspondence: The Ohio Division of Liquor control regarding an application for a new liquor license for 233 Main St. Milford Ohio – Chez Renee French Bistrot. Ms. Evans made a motion that we do nothing. Seconded by Mr. Brady. All voted yes

Financial Statements: none

Public Comments: Charlene Hinnners presented to council the National Day of Prayer which comes on the 1st Thursday in May each year. There will also be an evening service at a local church also on May 1st. When we heard about John Cooper, that day is going to be to honor Chief Cooper. John Cooper was always so with being here with people, the people and the fire trucks. We pray for our city, and for John Cooper and his family. Brian Wikoff from Evan’s Funeral Home and is also The Chaplain of the Fire Department Pastor George Hart will be present on May 4th Thursday morning from 9-10 am in front of the Police department/City Hall. We hope to see you there.

Lou Bishop – commenting on a recent editorial in the Cincinnati Enquirer by Rachel Richardson. Some of the things she said really struck hard with me. I wanted to give you my thoughts and feelings about these things. I would like to read some of the notes I made: Since I served on the Milford Council for three terms and Mayor for two terms, a total of 11 years, plus a 90 day appointment at the end of 2015. I believe it is fair to say that I have an understanding of how local government operates in the State of Ohio. And how Sunshine Laws effect the operation of the city and how it applies to our council. In addition I am a member of the Milford Methodist Church. I was on the committee to find solutions to our parking dilemma. I attended several meetings with the committee. The St. Andrews Catholic Church Leadership also attended these meetings as they had interest in purchasing some of the land. I can speak honestly and confidently about some of the charges leveled against the city and the churches involved. I am not speaking tonight as a representative of the church, I am simply speaking to the community as an individual with the purpose of providing my knowledge and my experience on the issues involved and the comments that were made in that editorial. The churches never had a parking crunch while Milford Main School existed. Members of both churches often used the parking spaces east of the schools on Sundays as well as additional spaces alongside the school. With the demolition of the school and the uncertain use of the land, the Methodist Church felt a real need to make an effort to purchase the some additional parking area from the city. At this time the Methodist Church set up a committee to seek a solution to our parking concerns. And as I stated earlier, St. Andrews church also participated in some or all of these meetings. In her editorial, Mrs. Richardson stated “among those records include emails sent by Mayor Howland via a private account in which she schemed with members of the neighboring church interested in paving over half of the prime city owned real estate for a parking lot”. Wow! Schemed. That struck me pretty hard. That charge is wildly untrue. Our committee did invite Mayor Howland to one of our meetings to discuss our concerns and need for more parking. She attended and we discussed our concerns. That is the total

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extent of that matter. For sure there was no secret plot or scheme involved. And I assure you that frankly as a citizen, I deeply resented those comments. AS a former Mayor I can tell you that Mayors are often asked to attend meetings from firms and groups that have an issue or concerns. There is certainly nothing illegal or against Ohio Law for a Mayor to attend such meetings with local groups. The church committee never, ever acted improperly or in some secret fashion to purchase this land. That is outlandish! The church has made a full light of day presentation to council regarding our needs and plans. Full and honest disclosure. Isn't that what a community would expect from its churches? My personal comment – regarding charges that the city acted improperly in terms of Ohio Sunshine laws. Our law director Mike Minniear always made us totally aware of the State laws as they pertained to council meetings, proper conduct and abiding by those laws and not meeting in private groups to discuss city business. We always understood the importance of conducting our business properly and in the full light of day. After all, every step the city takes for every legal step purpose or commitment is done by ordinance. They are read at every council meeting and are voted on by council. Members of the public that have an interest can witness personally every step the city takes that requires any action by council to make it lawful. IN my opinion any statement or charge that our city is operating secretly or outside the law, is totally false and unwarranted. It is a total shame that our taxpayers had to spend \$80,000 plus dollars of city money to defend an action that in my personal opinion was totally without merit from the very beginning. The city can be proud of its government. And it can be sure it is operation legally, honestly and truthfully.

Standing Committee Reports:

Community Development

Presented by Ms. Evans - Community Development Committee Meeting Minutes April 6, 2017
The meeting was called to order at 4:30 by Mayor HowlandPresent: Mayor Laurie Howland, Sandy Russell Staff: Michael Doss, Lori Pegg
The committee agreed to excuse the absence of Lisa Evans.

Annual Free Community Yard Sale

Ms. Pegg asked that committee waive the yard sale fees for two weekends per year for the Community Yard Sale.

The committee agreed to make a motion to draft a resolution allowing for two waivers per year of the yard sale permit fee for the community wide yard sale. The dates will be at the discretion of the City Manager. Ms. Howland seconded the motion. All voted yes

Sparks in the Park Fireworks

Ms. Pegg presented a contract with Rozzi's Famous fire for the 1st Annual "Sparks in the Park" on July 3rd, 2017. The event will begin with a classic car cruise in at 5:00pm. At 7:00pm there will be local music from the Taylor Shannon Band and fireworks at dark! Ms. Pegg will be working to gather sponsorships for the event, but needs to sign a contract with Rozzi's in the amount of \$10,000 with a \$2000 deposit to put us on their calendar and the \$8000 remainder to be paid 10 days after the completion of the event.

The committee agreed to make a motion to draft a resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into a contract with Rozzi's Fireworks in the amount of \$10,000 for a fireworks display on July 3rd.

Mr. Brady seconded the motion. All voted yes

There be no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:15pmRespectfully Submitted, Lori Pegg

City Manager's Report:

MEMORANDUMTO: City Council

CC:Mike Minniear, Law Director Jackie Bain, Administrative Assistant/ClerkFROM: City Manager

DATE:April 18, 2017RE:Manager's Report

CITY MANAGER Update: New City website went live today. It has been revised and updated. I encourage everyone to get on the website: Milfordohio.org We redesigned the website to make it more user friendly and to make it more attractive to those that are interested in coming to Milford, visiting Milford or having a business in Milford. Ohio Hometown Magazine – The City is submitting an entry to become Ohio Magazine's 2017 Best Hometown. Board and Commission Vacancies – Reminder: There is a vacancy on the BZA and Personnel Commission. Individuals interested should provide a letter of interest to Pam Holbrook for BZA and Lori Pegg for Personnel Commission. The deadline for letters of interest is April 28. PUBLIC WORKSCapital Improvements Plan – Kleingers submitted a 5 year CIP last week for final comment. We anticipate completing this by April 30. It will help us forecast projects and identify where the City can apply for grants.Public Works Facility –Alt & Witzig completed boring at Garfield and staff is currently reviewing the final geo-tech report. Once the department gets approval for the Garfield location, they can finalize estimate and schedule for construction.Memorial Park –JD Construction will finish pouring concrete and grading when the weather permits. Contractor notified the County that he will be out this week. Department anticipates being complete by April 30, 2017. Milford Sign @ US 50 & SR 126 –The Sign is up and the lights should be complete by this week. Street Division State Route 28/Main Street –The department will receive a final set of plans April 17, 2017. The project is expected to begin in June and be completed by mid-summer.Mill and Water Street Intersection Improvements – Department will have a kickoff meeting with Roberts Engineering for design of the intersection improvements tomorrow at 2pm. The intersection improvements will be based on the traffic study completed by Kleingers earlier this year.

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Wastewater Division2017 Sewer Lining project – Laurel to Gatch–Miller Pipeline contract is being executed. Department will set a preconstruction meeting and Notice to Proceed in the near future
High Street Sanitary Sewer Main – The city kicked off design with MSP for engineering services for this project March 24, 2017. Department anticipates design deliverables by April 30, 2017. In addition, the City received verification letters of funding from the Ohio Public Works Commission in the amount of \$119,462
Sanitary Sewer Siphon Line – The city kicked off design with MSP for engineering services for this project March 24, 2017. Department anticipate design deliverables by April 30, 2017. In addition, the City received verification letters of funding from the Ohio Public Works Commission in the amount of \$178,735. **STANDING COMMITTEE MEETINGS** None at this time

REMINDERS

City Hall offices will be closed Friday, April 21 in observance and respect from the recent passing of Retired Chief John Cooper, Sr. and his funeral services
April 22nd Spring litter cleanup in the City from 10-12, register at www.springlittercleanup.com
April 29th from 10am-1pm: Free community shred and electronic recycling in the lot of the city building at 745 Center Street.
Council Meeting on May 2 has been rescheduled to May 4 because of Election Day
May 19-21 Yard sale weekend

Police department report:

Assistant Chief Sean Mahan reported that they will be doing the DEA Drug Take Back April 29th from 10-2pm. Two locations this Spring – Main entrance at Walmart and pairing up with the Shred event at the parking lot of the Police department. We are accepting any unused medications. We cannot accept glass or any type of sharp but anything else we would be more than happy to take off your hands and get it destroyed. I wanted to say something about Chief Cooper. I started here 20 years ago and one of the very first things I noticed was the high level of cooperation between the Police department and the Fire department. You do not see that in a lot of other communities. Chief Cooper, because of his leadership is the reason why we had all that cooperation. On behalf of the Police department, our condolences go out to Chief Cooper and his family as well as our brothers and sisters down at the Fire department. He was a good person and is going to be missed.

Fire and EMS Report:

Chief Baird informed council that they are transitioning their management software that is much more user friendly from the perspective of generating and creating, adding reports and we are starting to take advantage of some features that allow us to do that. We have had steady business as usual. This will be the last opportunity that I have to remind people of the importance of the May 2nd Special Election. We are asking for the renewal of existing 12.5 mill Fire & EMS Levy. It is not an addition. It is simply a renewal of what is already there. It will not cost the property owner any additional money to renew the tax levy for the next 3 year period. We respectfully ask that people turn out and support the Fire Levy. It can only be used for the provisions of the Fire & EMS service and we ask for that support from our citizens. The events regarding the funeral services of Chief Cooper – visitation is this coming Thursday from 4-8pm at the Eastside Christian church. At 6pm there will be a Fire Chief’s memorial service done jointly with the Clermont/Hamilton County Fire Chief’s Association. John had the distinction of being the only Fire Chief who actually served as President at one point in time of both organizations. Milford’s situation is in two counties, he was very involved for many years Hamilton County Fire Chief’s Association and then was always involved in the Clermont County’s Chief’s Alliance and served as past President in both of those. Friday there will be a Service at 10am at the same church and there will be a procession through town. There have been many, many friends of the Milford Fire department who have reached out and offered and have been taken up on their offers on their assistance to make this happen. We would like to thank those communities, those departments and those individuals for offering their help. At the family’s request at the point of the procession, they have asked that all of those that wish to participate who were part of Chief Coopers life along the way. The procession will leave the church at approximately 11:15am and travel throughout the city and there will be a military service at the Fire house and short service with final radio call. Then a small procession to the Evan’s Funeral home. We have a lot of information posted to our Facebook page and please go to our website: www.milfordcommunityfd.org for additional information. University of Cincinnati AirCare will be doing a fly over during the procession. The circumstances that the family has gone through since Friday have done an awfully good job of holding it together and planning a very fitting tribute to their father. Finally, we cannot let the protection of the city be diminished while the department is attending the service, it has been arranged that there will be a staffed engine company and two staffed ambulances standing by at the station. We are full steam ahead to a quite fitting and wonderful tribute to Chief Cooper. Ms. Howland said to the Chief that Thank you. This has been quite a hard week for you and the department. But I want to thank you for all your effort and time putting all this together and organizing it on behalf of the family along with everybody in the police department. Chief Cooper used to always say to me that the most important thing is Community. It is only fitting that the community has come together to send him off in the way that is most appropriate. Please give our condolences to your

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department and thank you and everybody else in the department for working so hard to do this for him. We do appreciate it.

Public Comments: none

Council Comments: Ms. Evans had a question regarding Kleingers has something about voting for your favorite park. And Riverside Park was one of them. Mr. Doss said it was in conjunction with Arbor Day. They are having it where one of the four communities and whomever gets the most votes, Kleingers will donate a tree and come down and come and plant that tree. The information will be on the city website. Ms. Evans said to vote for Riverside Park. Mr. Brady wanted to say thank you to Nate Clayton and Mr. Doss for anything that they did to get Duke back in the neighborhood to clean up the grading. There are a lot of happy neighbors in Tree Ridge. Mr. Minniear also read a statement in response to the column by Rachel Richardson that appeared in the Cincinnati Enquirer on April 12, 2017 that he wrote in its entirety and an abbreviated portion of this is going to appear in the Advertiser and perhaps the Cincinnati Enquirer. Ms. Howland wanted to thank Mr. Minniear for all of his hard work and staff on this. It has been dragging out. All that it takes is a conversation. If you wanted to know what was going on with the churches and what their goal was or what my scheming goal was, all you had to do was call me up and get the facts. I love the use of the scheming because nobody sitting up here could scheme for anything. It takes 4 people for an action to take place in this city. It would take 4 out of 7 people to buy or sell real estate and that vote would have to take place in public. And even if I had wanted to sell this property, underhanded, at a cheap cost, to the churches, I could not have done it. I could not walk to the Law Director and Finance Director and say, sign this piece of paper. I find this very lopsided that this was reporter who did this, yet didn't speak to any of the parties that were involved, which meant the churches and me. So it all comes down to the facts. The facts are they had a need. They called me and the City Manager up to express their need and to listen to it. That is how all this started. And has anything changed after \$86,000 + dollars of taxpayer's money? When I hear from developers and their ideas, I bring it to the appropriate committee and let them know the idea. I hear ideas probably every day. It is what happens when you carry the title of Mayor. You get the calls. You get invited. It is my job to listen to those ideas. Sometimes I love them. And sometimes I will inform other council members that this is a wonderful idea. It doesn't mean I am scheming. It's like any idea that we agree with or disagree with. Sometimes I hear ideas from organizations, groups or residents that are not good ideas. But just because I don't agree with it doesn't mean it ends with me. I still bring it to the appropriate committee because that is my job. I do not make a decision as one. It takes four. So I will continue to meet with groups, organizations and people that call me up and want to share an idea. We will continue to have Executive Sessions when it is appropriate and we need to discuss something along the lines of litigation, legal, personnel or the buying and selling of real estate. \$86,000 dollars of taxpayer money, and as Mr. Minniear needs to say, you be the judge of that if it were well spent. And to my original point, have a conversation. If you have any questions for me in regards to this lawsuit, call me up. I would be glad to meet you for a glass of wine or a cup of coffee and we can sit down and talk about it. Thank you. Ms. Evans had an additional council comment – she mentioned that on several of the posts my name was brought up and my family's business was brought up. That I was also scheming to try to provide parking for Evans Funeral Home, which is our family business. I want to clarify that too. They never asked me to try to scheme things and get parking and I never asked council to buy the property for parking and I would never do such a thing. I would recuse myself if there ever was an issue between the business and council. So just to clarify that as well.

New Business:

Ordinances and Resolutions

- 17-604 A RESOLUTION WAIVING YARD SALE PERMIT FEES FOR THE CITY'S COMMUNITY WIDE YARD SALE Ms. Evans made a motion to approve. Seconded by Mr. Brady All voted yes
- 17-1273 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AN AGREEMENT WITH ROZZI'S FIREWORKS FOR THE CITY OF MILFORD'S CELEBRATION OF JULY 4TH Ms. Evans made a motion to suspend the rules and read by title only. Seconded by Mr. Brady All voted yes. Ms. Evans made a motion to adopt. Seconded by Mr. Brady All voted yes
- 17-1274 AN ORDINANCE APPROVING THE EDITING AND INCLUSION OF CERTAIN ORDINANCES AS PARTS OF THE VARIOUS COMPONENT CODES OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF MILFORD, OHIO Ms. Evans made a motion to suspend the rules and read by title only. Seconded by Mr. Brad All voted yes Ms. Evans made a motion to adopt. Seconded by Mr. Brady All voted yes

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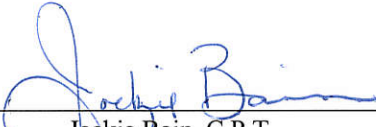
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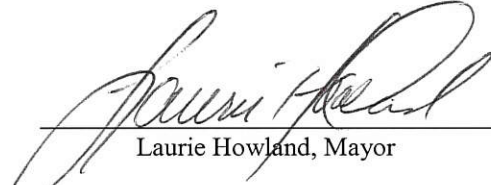
Public Hearing (see attached information)

Old Business: none

Adjourn: There being no further business to come before the City Council; Mayor Howland adjourned the meeting at 8:43 p.m. with a motion from Ms. Evans; Seconded by Mr. Brady. All others voted yes.



Jackie Bain, C.P.T.



Laurie Howland, Mayor