

BEAVERCREEK CITY COUNCIL/SCHOOL BOARD

Work Session, March 2, 2009 6:00 p.m.

COUNCIL PRESENT: Mr. Hadley, Mr. Jarvis, Mr. Leonard, Vice Mayor Giambrone, Mayor Vann

ABSENT: Mrs. Howard, Mr. Petrak

STAFF PRESENT: Mr. Cornell, Clerk Bucheit, Mr. Thonnerieux, Mr. McGrath, Mr. Kucera

SCHOOL REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT: Steve Maag, Denny Morrison, Peg Arnold, Richard Eckhardt, Joyce Carter, Mike Verlingo, Al Nels

Mayor Vann called the meeting to order followed by roll call.

Mr. Hadley MOVED to approve the agenda as amended, seconded by Mr. Leonard. Motion PASSED by unanimous voice vote

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Community Survey Results

Mr. Cornell briefed the School Board on the community survey and comments that came up that would impact the schools.

Building Construction Update

Mr. Morrison stated that the Bond Levy had been passed in November 2008 for the purchase of land, construction of a Middle School, Elementary School and maintenance to the existing buildings including renovations to Main Elementary to the auditorium and addition of a gymnasium, and the addition of surveillance/security and off site project work. He reviewed the school enrollment and the projected growth rates over the next ten years.

Development Update

Mr. McGrath reviewed the current development trends including the downturn in residential activity and the significant development of commercial, office and research within the City. He stated that the types of development that we have seen in 2008 and will continue to see in 2009 include projects like the proposed new Kettering Hospital which will most benefit the community in terms of job creation and tax revenue with minimal impact on school and city services. He also pointed out that there has been a lot of redevelopment occurring recently in the City on Colonel Glenn Highway with the addition of Sonic, at Fairfield and Kemp with the addition of Walgreens and the new Krogers' Marketplace coming it at Dayton Xenia and Fairfield.

Levy Updates

Mr. Maag stated that the Schools would have a Permanent Improvement Levy on the ballot in November, two emergency levy renewals and an operating levy added in 2010.

Mr. Kucera stated that the City had two levies that were on the ballot in March 2008, a 3.3 mil for Police and 1.0 mil for streets that passed by a two to one margin. There are two levies up for renewal in 2011 also, the 3.3 mil for Police and 1.9 mill for streets.

Roundtable Discussion

Mr. Leonard was interested in collaboration between the Schools and the City for a Community Center in the future and he would also like to see the school buildings used in the summer for recreation and classes.

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Vice Mayor Giambrone stated to get back to the values and to be good stewards of taxpayer dollars and to collaborate makes a lot of sense. The concept of community schools, meaning that they are community assets like the City building and to find ways to use them for more is the way to go. And as you look towards expansion in the future there is an opportunity to look at concepts such as "Under One Roof" and to use the community assets to our best advantage. She also spoke about the intergenerational aspect to incorporate activities between senior citizens and the school age children.

Mr. Nels stated that shortly after Mr. Morrison started that the schools changed the policy to allow and welcome the public in to use the schools. Mr. Morrison stated that there was a rule previously prohibiting the use of the school grounds but they are now allowing even the use of the new turf and track until dark. They want the schools to be the center of the community and he stated that the buildings are practically opened 24/7 but he had to be careful because he also had to pay a custodian to open up early and lock up and he did not want to over burden the taxpayers more than was necessary.

Vice Mayor Giambrone stated that those are the type of opportunities to work together, on a weekend when we have staff working also and with communication we can find those opportunities to help each other.

Mayor Vann asked how non-profits would go about using school facilities. Mr. Morrison stated that they have an individual that schedules all the facilities, Carol McFaddin at the building and grounds office and they had set up a 6 tier program. Nonprofit groups with citizens in Beavercreek can use the buildings at whatever the schools costs are. If a school event comes up for some reason they would bump any outside organization.

Mr. Morrison spoke about the Governors Initiative which would call for smaller class sizes, longer school years and a full day kindergarten which are all good things for our children. Mr. Morrison was however worried about the impact it would have on our citizens because the funding would not come along with the mandates and would cost Beavercreek eight million dollars the first year for added personnel costs alone, not to mention the additional need for about 60 new class rooms or two new buildings.

City Council and the School Board agreed to meet again in September or October.

Vice Mayor Giambrone MOVED to adjourn at 7:55 p.m. seconded by Joyce Carter, the motion PASSED by unanimous voice vote.

Julie Vann, Mayor

ATTEST:

Clerk

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