

**Village of Mantua
Special & Regular Council Meetings
February 20, 2007**

Mayor Hopkins called the special council meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Roll Call: Claude Hopkins, Marty Hura, Wesley Hawkins, Ben Prescott, Jim Rogers, Linda Schilling, Giles Seith. Others present: Asst. Clerk Susan Skrovan.

Council reviewed the applications for the position of solicitor and will interview four applicants, Michele Stuck, Christley, Herington & Pierce, Chad Murdock and Mark Manlove. David Benjamin will not be interviewed due to his current position as solicitor; however, he is being reconsidered for the position.

Council has set Monday, March 12, 2007 to interview applicants. The special meeting will begin at 6:00 p.m. A legal notice will be placed in the Record Courier and Claude will notify all applicants.

Motion to adjourn the special meeting at 6:28 p.m. made by J. Rogers with a second by M. Hura, all ayes on vote.

Mayor Hopkins called the regular council meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and led the pledge of Allegiance. He asked for a moment of silence for the passing of Ruth Hammel.

Roll Call: Claude Hopkins, Marty Hura, Wesley Hawkins, Ben Prescott, Jim Rogers, Linda Schilling, Giles Seith.

Others Present: Asst. Clerk Susan Skrovan, Police Chief Harry Buchert, Village Administrator Ed Trego, Village Solicitor David Benjamin, Rich Iafelice & Brian Rogers with C.T. Consultants, Linda Clark, Dawn Pechman, Candy Cline.

Minutes: Motion by L. Schilling to bring the minutes from the Council meeting of January 16th, 2007 to the floor with a second from B. Prescott. All ayes on vote. There was no discussion. Motion to approve as submitted made by L. Schilling and seconded by B. Prescott. All ayes on vote.

Mayors Report : A proclamation was issued for Burn Awareness Week, February 4th thru the 10th in conjunction with the Shriners and the Mantua-Shalersville Fire Department. Claude attended a meeting on the downtown revitalization along with Jim Rogers and Ben Prescott. There was a ribbon cutting ceremony that he attended for the McDonalds remodeling. McDonalds gave the Village a \$250.00 donation. Claude enclosed a letter to everyone on the Village's recycling program; there has been an increase of .50 cents a month to the residents. They received 267,415 pounds of recycling materials for 2006 from the Village. Claude sent congratulation letters to four scouts for their receiving the Eagle Scout award planned for March 4th. He also received a letter from the National Arbor Day Foundation congratulating Mantua Village for being named a 2006 Tree City USA. Claude asked if Council would like to invite Charles Raimer with The Portage County Recycling Center to our next meeting to update everyone on the rate increase. Council agreed. Claude also received a letter from Dick Krzys requesting the tapping of sugar maples on Village property. An FYI, the gas line to the backup generator has been hooked up; we should be getting final occupancy on the building.

Bills of Resolution: Motion to bring the bills of resolution with addendum to the floor made by L. Schilling with a second from M. Hura. All ayes on vote. There was no discussion.

Motion to approve as submitted made by L. Schilling and seconded by M. Hura. All ayes on vote.

Committees for 2007: Jim Rogers, as president of council, has submitted a list for committee members for 2007. Wes stated two council members will have masters in finance, however, neither one are on the finance committee? Jim explained the upcoming legislation 2007-09 & 2007-11 address changes to the rules of council that would allow them to meet twice a month if needed. Jim wants all six council members to be on Finance and Service. Motion to accept the committees for 2007 made by B. Prescott with a second from L. Schilling. All ayes on vote.

Legislation:

ORDINANCE 2007-07. AN ORDINANCE RATIFYING FUND TRANSFER MADE BY THE VILLAGE CLERK-TREASURER ON OR ABOUT THE CLOSE OF JANUARY 2007 AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. 1ST READING. Motion to bring to the floor made by L. Schilling with a second from M. Hura. All ayes on vote. Wesley asked why the fund transfers were needed. Sue replied the funds were transferred to cover some current expenses; we are operating on temporary appropriations until the budget is approved. Motion to pass on 1st reading made by B. Prescott with a second from L. Schilling. All ayes on vote. Motion to suspend the rules made by L. Schilling with a second from M. Hura. All ayes on vote. Motion to pass on 3rd and final made by L. Schilling with a second from M. Hura. All ayes on vote.

RESOLUTION 2007-08. A RESOLUTION EXPRESSING COUNCIL'S SUPPORT FOR THE REVITALIZATION EFFORTS OF THE _____ (ORGANIZATION NAME) TO DEVELOP DOWNTOWN MANTUA, AND PLEDGING FINANCIAL SUPPORT TO CONTRIBUTE ONE-THIRD (1/3RD) OF THE COSTS NOT TO EXCEED TWENTY-FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$25,000) OVER TWO YEARS. Motion to bring to the floor made by J. Rogers with a second from L. Schilling. All ayes on vote. Linda Schilling asked where the money would be coming from. Jim responded that some property owners in the Village wish to form a non-profit organization (501-C-3) to design, do grants and oversee sub-contractors. 2/3rds of the money would be raised by the property owners. Linda asked if there are plans to view. Jim said no, this money would be to prepare plans for viewing. Wes asked if there was any guarantee that the 2/3rds would be raised. Jim said the property owners must come up with their portion of the funds first. Ben said this would be a slow process. Linda does not have a problem with it; her concern was where the money would come from. Wes asked if the grant money would be matching funds from the Village and if so, where would it come from. Jim said the grants would probably be matching funds. David Benjamin explained the funds would allow the Village to do the initial planning; it would not cover any revitalization costs. There are grant programs in greater Cleveland that may contribute to a program such as this to better Northeast Ohio. Ben said the overall cost would depend on the design they come up with and present. Ed asked whether this was for a "conceptual" plan or a "construction" plan. Ben replied it is a design for construction. More discussion. Vote to adopt the resolution was unanimous.

ORDINANCE 2007-09. AN ORDINANCE AMENDING MANTUA CODE OF ORDINANCES SECTION NO. 121.01, TO PERMIT VILLAGE COUNCIL TO DETERMINE, BY THEIR RULES, WHAT THEIR MEETING SCHEDULE SHALL BE, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY, AS VILLAGE COUNCIL DESIRES TO IMPLEMENT THIS CHANGE AT THE EARLIEST POSSIBLE OPPORTUNITY. 1ST READING. Motion to bring to the floor made by L. Schilling with a second from J. Rogers. All ayes on vote. Motion to pass on 1st reading made by L. Schilling with a second from M. Hura. All ayes on vote. Motion to suspend the rules made by M. Hura with a second from L. Schilling. All

eyes on vote. Motion to pass on 3rd and final made by M. Hura with a second from L. Schilling. All eyes on vote.

ORDINANCE 2007-10. AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT IN WHICH COUNCIL MEMBER LINDA SCHILLING WILL PROVIDE VARIOUS SERVICES TO THE VILLAGE, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY, AS VILLAGE COUNCIL DESIRES TO INSURE THE CONTINUATION OF THESE SERVICES WITH THE SMALLEST POSSIBLE DISRUPTION. 1st READING.

Motion to bring to the floor made by W. Hawkins with a second from J. Rogers. L. Schilling abstained from voting, all others, ayes on vote. Wes felt it would be illegal for Linda to be employed with the Village and sit on Council. David Benjamin responded that he was asked to give a legal opinion; he researched it and felt this was not a violation. As long as Council passes this ordinance and makes these findings, there is not a violation of law. Giles felt this may come back to bite the Village. Jim stated the solicitor's opinion gives Council approval to do what they desire to do on the subject. Wes still feels this is illegal. Motion to pass on 1st reading made by J. Rogers with a second from M. Hura. L. Schilling abstained from voting, Wesley voted no, all others, ayes on vote. Motion to suspend the rules made by W. Hawkins with a second from J. Rogers. L. Schilling abstained from voting, J. Rogers-yes, M. Hura-yes, B. Prescott-yes, W. Hawkins-no, G. Seith-no.

RESOLUTION 2007-11. A RESOLUTION AMENDING VILLAGE COUNCIL'S RULES TO PROVIDE FOR ITS SPECIFIC MEETING SCHEDULE AND MAKE OTHER CHANGES NECESSARY AND/OR APPROPRIATE.

Motion to bring to the floor made by B. Prescott with a second from M. Hura. All ayes on vote. Jim commented that this resolution is a companion to ordinance 2007-09. Motion to adopt made by M. Hura with a second from L. Schilling. All ayes on vote.

Claude asked if there was any other legislation to come before Council. Claude asked Wes if he had done any more on the ordinance that was tabled regarding the salary for the clerk-treasurer position. Wes said he had not; he still wants to get together with other members of Council. Wes asked David what the time limit was to have this done. David believed to change compensation; you need 75 days before election. Linda said it is 120 days if we want to change it from an elective to a non-elective position. David said that would be a different ordinance not before Council at this time; he thinks this one is 60 or 75 days. It can however, be passed on emergency.

Chief Harry Buchert brought up the safety meeting scheduled for Sunday, February 25th at 8:00 a.m. The meeting schedule conflicted with some council members. After discussion, the meeting was changed to Thursday, February 22nd at 7:30 a.m. The paper will be notified. Harry attended the open house for McDonalds along with the Mayor. A \$250.00 donation was also presented to the police department to be put in the police capital fund. The two old patrol cars were sold, one for \$1850.00, the other for \$1250.00, and have been released to their new owners. The equipment from inside the cruisers will be sold separately if possible. Harry presented a safety award to the Mayor and Council for 46 years of pedestrian free accidents received from AAA.

Ed Trego, Village Administrator, reported the International truck was sold for \$4550.00. The newer truck is ready for the bad weather. They still have piles of snow that need to be cleaned up. Ed gave an update on current projects. Franklin/Reagan Street will be an Issue II project. Buchert Park Trail Extension, Marty and Ed are working on getting the necessary easements including one from Mantaline. Brian with C.T. was asked whether a building permit would be needed if there were any structures such as an observation deck. Brian said yes, you would need a permit.

Rich Iafelice with C.T. Consultants had asked Brian to come tonight given his involvement. Brian updated council on the Glacial Esker Trail Leg project. In addition, Rich updated everyone regarding the County on Aurora Meadows subdivision. The County is looking at sewer service including the possibility of a packaging plant. He complimented council members on their efforts for the revitalization project.

Claude proceeded around the table if anyone had anything to bring before council. Sue had two letters addressed to the auditor's office that need signatures. Wes asked about the audit reports for 2005, which he has not yet seen. Wes was told he could view those reports online. Wes also commented that he was not against the project for revitalization, just concerned with the funds the Village really does not have. He also stated he felt Linda Schilling does a great job on council.

Candy Cline clarified the date and time of an upcoming Chamber of Commerce meeting. The meeting is scheduled for March 6th at 8:00 a.m. at the fire station. The backup date is March 13th.

David Benjamin, Village Solicitor, not having heard from Council regarding any scheduling of a public hearing, assumes his last day will be April 30th. He will continue to work with whomever Council chooses.

Claude brought up having a conversation with Eaton Corp regarding their acreage. Stamm is also looking to fill part of the building.

Public: Linda Clark asked what the organization's name would be for Resolution 2007-08. The organization has not been named yet, Candy may have it in her paperwork; it is a spin off from the Chamber of Commerce. It will consist of a 4-5 member board. Linda Clark also asked about the property tax assessment. The Village may want to consider an income tax instead. Claude said only those buildings and businesses that have frontage along S.R. 44 where the work is planned would be assessed. Linda Clark asked about Ordinance 2007-10 regarding the cleaning job, what would be covered in the contract. Claude said it is mainly for rental of the lodge; cleaning the police department would be the second part. Linda Clark asked whether Linda Schilling would write a contract for each job or how that would work, because she would like to apply. She questioned the amount left blank. Linda was told the ordinance did not pass; it was left on 1st reading. Linda Clark addressed Mr. Trego about an article in the newspaper from the last meeting where it said, "the road has been repaired but the Clark's have not kept their word". Ed commented that the paper misquoted him, it was a misprint and that it was an issue for ODOT, not the Village.

Candy Cline had concerns about parking in front of her business now on Prospect St. Some things in a hair salon take longer than two hours. Can she get passes or something for some of her customers? She would also like a handicap parking space; some of her clients use a walker. Harry and Marty both said they would discuss her concerns at the next safety meeting.

Dawn Pechman reported the Community Journal comes out the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays. Anyone interested in putting something in the paper can contact her. She also noted a recent meeting regarding plans to expand the Portage County Airport and the potential.

The Mayor also brought up Portage County's Bicentennial; he will get dates by the next meeting and that Warner Cable will have networks due to expire; WEWS & WEWS-HD.

Motion to accept all committee reports on file by L. Schilling with a second from J. Rogers. All eyes on vote.

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:19 p.m. made by L. Schilling with a second by B. Prescott. All ayes on vote.

Mayor Claude E. Hopkins

Clerk-Treasurer Betsy M. Woolf