

**MINUTES  
OAKWOOD CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION  
OCTOBER 19, 2009**

The council of the city of Oakwood, Ohio, met in a work session on Monday, October 19, 2009 in the conference room of the Oakwood Municipal Building, 30 Park Avenue. The Mayor of the city, Judy Cook, presided. Council members in attendance were Mayor Judy Cook, Vice Mayor Carlo McGinnis, Steven Byington, William Duncan and Stanley Castleman; Staff in attendance were City Manager Norbert Klopsch and City Attorney Dalma Grandjean.

Also attending for the discussion on the proposed income tax code amendment and executive session to discuss labor negotiations was Assistant City Manager Jay Weiskircher; and for the discussion on the income tax code Finance Director Cindy Stafford and Income Tax Administrator Linda Merker.

Mayor Cook led a discussion on the following agenda items:

- COUNCIL COMMITTEES
  - FINANCE, MR. DUNCAN
    - Proposed Tax Code Amendment. Mr. Klopsch introduced the topic in stating that staff is recommending a change in the city's tax code regarding business losses offsetting income. Mr. Klopsch then asked Cindy Stafford and Linda Merker to provide details. Mrs. Stafford and Ms. Merker explained that the proposed amendment would remove the ability for Oakwood taxpayers to deduct certain business losses from their Oakwood taxable income. Of 95 municipalities in southwest Ohio, Oakwood is one of only ten that allow the offset. Centerville is the only other municipality in the Dayton area that allows the loss credit and they are currently discussing making a change. The change would result in Oakwood receiving an additional estimated \$50,000 in annual revenue. Mr. Duncan commented that this change would make Oakwood consistent with most other local governments and it could be argued that this consistency is a benefit to not only Oakwood but also to tax preparers. Mr. Castleman questioned whether making this change was fair. A general discussion ensued during which all concluded that it is appropriate for Oakwood to amend the tax code. Mr. Klopsch stated his desire to present the amendment at the November 2 council meeting and to prepare it such that the change would apply to the 2009 returns being filed in 2010. Ms. Grandjean stated that this could be done. Mr. Klopsch will see that the legislation is prepared. At the conclusion of this discussion, Mrs. Stafford and Ms. Merker departed the meeting.

Mayor Cook then asked for a motion to go into executive session to discuss labor negotiations. Motion by Mr. Castleman, second by Mr. Byington. Upon a viva voce vote, council entered into executive session at 5:28 p.m.

At 5:54 p.m., Mayor Cook closed the executive session at which time council continued with the regular work session. Mr. Weiskircher departed the meeting at this time. Mayor Cook then led a discussion on the following work session agenda items.

- FINANCE, MR. DUNCAN
  - BRC Meeting and 2010 Budget. Council had a general discussion about the October 15 Budget Review Committee meeting and about the 2010 Budget. Mr. Klopsch distributed a spreadsheet showing financial projections on year-end cash balances in the city's funds between 2009 and 2012. The projections assumed a \$1,000,000 annual estate tax receipt and showed that with that limited estate tax revenue, the city's general fund and other discretionary funds would reach a zero balance some time in 2012 – this if no new revenue is generated. Mr. Klopsch also reported that staff is working on a document that will compare the cost of living in various communities in the Dayton area. These communities would include the eight MVCC cities as well as the city of Dayton, Bellbrook and several townships. Mr. Duncan asked that Beavercreek be included as well. The comparison will include various taxes and fees for public services. Council then discussed staff's suggestions to raise refuse rates to make the refuse operation more self-sustaining. This discussion also contemplated changing from quarterly to monthly billing for refuse. Mr. Klopsch stated his intent to develop a plan for raising refuse fund revenues. Council expressed support for developing such a plan. Mr. Klopsch added that he would like to implement some changes effective January, 2010.
- PLANNING & ZONING, MR. BYINGTON
  - Routsong. Council discussed the status of the Routsong retail center application. Ms. Grandjean reported that she and Mr. Weiskircher met with Mr. Routsong's attorney to discuss possible additional plan amendments that may make the retail center approvable. The major amendment would involve moving the new structure closer to Oakwood Avenue and in line with the existing residential properties in the area. Vice Mayor McGinnis asked what staff's recommendation would be if Mr. Routsong agreed to make this change. Mr. Klopsch stated that staff would then recommend to the Planning Commission that the amended plan be approved.
- PUBLIC PROPERTIES, MR. CASTLEMAN
  - Athletic and Rec Master Plan. Council discussed progress on the master planning project and Mr. Klopsch provided a brief summary of the discussion items on the October 20 committee meeting agenda.
- MISCELLANEOUS
  - DP&L Electric System Upgrade. Mr. Klopsch informed council that he has tentatively scheduled a meeting with residents in the area of Woods and Garden, and the area of Ashridge, Woodstock and Devereux for 7 p.m. on November 19 for the purpose of discussing an electric system upgrade project. The project would involve removing old residential transformers from underground

installations and installing new transformers above ground. Mr. Klopsch will conduct an additional meeting with DP&L and several property owners around Woods and Garden at 7 p.m. on Thursday, November 5 for the purpose of discussing a recent lightning strike and power outage that resulted in damage to appliances and other electrical systems in several Oakwood homes.

- Vectren Gas Line Upgrade. Mr. Klopsch explained that Vectren is in the process of upgrading most of their old gas lines throughout Oakwood and while doing that will be raising the line pressure. This change will require that gas meters be moved from basement installations to outside mountings.
- 2010 Census. Mr. Klopsch presented council with a letter from Montgomery County inviting Mayor Cook to serve on the 2010 complete count committee.
- Local Government Reform Meeting. Council discussed the meeting planned for October 30 as scheduled by Commissioner Dan Foley, a member of the 15-person State of Ohio committee studying local government reform options. Mayor Cook, Vice Mayor McGinnis, Mr. Byington, Mr. Castleman and Mr. Klopsch are planning to attend the meeting.
- Pointe Oakwood Environmental Issues. Mr. Klopsch briefed council on the Board of Health's response to environmental issues raised by Oakwood resident P. Andrew Pruitt and the Board of Health's recommendation that no further action is warranted.
- City Manager Evaluation. Mayor Cook mentioned that council has not evaluated City Manager Klopsch this year and suggested that this take place at the November 16 work session. Council concurred.
- Mayor Cook Farewell. Mr. Klopsch confirmed that a farewell reception will take place to honor Mayor Cook's 20 years of service to Oakwood from 4-7 p.m. on Wednesday, January 13.

There being no other business, Mayor Cook adjourned the work session at 7:39 p.m.

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Mayor

ATTEST:

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Clerk of Council

MEMORANDUM

TO: MEMBERS OF STAFF  
FROM: NORBERT KLOPSCH  
SUBJECT: COUNCIL MEETING WORK SESSION MINUTES  
DATE: OCTOBER 26, 2009

Attached is a copy of the minutes from our most recent council work session. I send this to you for your information and follow through as appropriate. Please see me if you have any questions.

NSK:cg

attachment