

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR
MEETING OF LOVELAND CITY COUNCIL
Tuesday, July 22, 2008**

Acting Mayor Bednar called the meeting of Loveland City Council to order at 8:02 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Members Present: Vice Mayor Bednar, Mr. Elliott, Mr. Fitzgerald, Mr. Osborne, Mr. Schickel, Mr. Zuch

Also Present: Mr. Carroll, City Manager; Mr. Wright, Assistant City Manager; Mr. Klaine, Solicitor; Mrs. Cox, Clerk of Council; Mr. Taphorn, Finance Director; Mr. Steger, Assistant Finance Director; Chief Sabransky; Acting Captain Wilmes; and Police Specialist Shockey

Acting Mayor Bednar entertained a motion to excuse Mayor Weisgerber; so moved by Mr. Elliott and seconded by Mr. Schickel. The motion was approved by unanimous consent.

Mr. Fitzgerald moved to approve the minutes of the July 8, 2008 Council meeting; seconded by Mr. Osborne. The motion was approved by unanimous consent.

Mr. Carroll welcomed Acting Captain Tim Wilmes, an 18-year veteran of the Loveland Police Department who is filling the vacant Captain position on an eight month rotation since the position was vacated when Captain Tim Sabransky was promoted to Chief.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORTS

Memorandum No. 66 explains a resolution before Council tonight allows the City to apply for the State Capital Improvement Program, a grant program the City has been highly successful in pursuing in years past. Loveland has received the third highest amount of money of any jurisdiction in Hamilton County. City projects to be submitted for this grant have not all been identified yet, but Mr. Wright and Mrs. Klopfenstein will be identifying projects and submitting applications.

Mr. Wright reported the former Rolke and Amend properties, a single-family vacant home, and two vacant commercial structures on Broadway Street are all vacant and comprise properties in the Downtown Loveland Job Creation and Redevelopment project. All structures will be demolished so they don't continue to have a blighting influence on the area. The contractor feels he can begin demolition within two weeks and is confident it can be completed in five or six days. It is anticipated the Broadway sidewalk will be closed, but traffic will not likely be affected; concerns will be addressed at a pre-construction meeting scheduled for next week. In the interim of demolition and future construction on the site, the area will be covered with gravel to permit temporary parking; trees will be preserved. It's believed historic items located on the property were sold at an auction Mr. Rolke held in May.

COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. Carroll reported the Permit Report for the Month of June (Communication No. 1) shows a fair amount of building activity in the City and a higher than expected number of housing starts given the economic conditions in the housing market. Acting Mayor Bednar noted there were \$1,600,000 worth of permits issued in June and Mr. Carroll explained that the cumulative investment in the City through the first half of this year is \$8,323,000, which is on pace with the last year or two. Mr. Fitzgerald noted the property maintenance code violations list seems to grow through the season and asked if there's any way to summarize what the success rate is. Mr. Wright explained the creation of the Building and Zoning Department software is near completion, at which time they will be able to present additional data to give the status of a complaint and display the results differently. This report tracks complaints reported January through June 2008, a majority of which were brought into compliance after being contacted by the City. Duplicate complaints for the same address appear as a one-time violation, but duplicate complaints and follow-up are tracked through a data base.

COUNCILMANIC WORKSHEET

Acting Mayor Bednar reported approval of the Financial Report will be moved to the October 21 Council meeting, at which time both the second and third quarter reports will be considered.

NEW BUSINESS – ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

Mr. Osborne introduced A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE FILING OF AN APPLICATION FOR STATE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM 2009 FUNDS AND EXECUTION OF PROJECT AGREEMENT WITH THE OHIO PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION. ROLL CALL: Osborne, yes; Schickel, yes; Zuch, yes; Bednar, yes; Elliott, yes; Fitzgerald, yes. Resolution was approved and assigned the number 2008-54.

Mr. Osborne introduced A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH SOLID ROCK CONSTRUCTION SERVICES FOR THE DOWNTOWN LOVELAND JOB CREATION AND REVITALIZATION DEMOLITION PROJECT. Acting Mayor Bednar asked Administration to elaborate on the bid process. Mr. Wright explained a legal ad was run for three consecutive weeks, as well as notifying local construction clearing houses of the project. On July 18, 11 sealed bids were opened, after which references were checked on the lowest bidders. Solid Rock's references were found to be impeccable and they've had repeat business with several schools and local governments and staff is very happy with the bid results. Mr. Schickel reminded Mrs. Cox that he will be recusing himself. Mr. Elliott noted the bids ran from approximately \$27,000 to \$160,000 and questioned why there's such a large discrepancy. Mr. Wright explained demolition jobs typically have a larger spread from the lowest to the highest bid as compared to a construction job. In this case, the highest bidder is also the largest company and they've done work nationwide; area jobs they've completed have cost several million dollars. The lowest bidder has completed several local projects and they're very familiar with this market, though they are located in a more rural part of the state where perhaps the overall cost of doing business is cheaper; however, they are aware this is a prevailing wage job and have as clear an understanding of the project as other bidders. The engineer's estimate for this project was \$50,000, which was based on prices submitted previously. ROLL CALL: Zuch, yes; Bednar, yes; Elliott, yes; Fitzgerald, yes; Osborne, yes. Resolution was approved and assigned the number 2008-55.

OTHER NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Carroll reported Lebanon Road will be closed from 7:00 p.m. until 5:00 a.m. on July 28 and 29. Notice has been given to area neighborhoods, as well as being sent to the media and posted on the City web site. Also posted on the City web site is the cable replay schedule for the Amazing Race.

There being no further business to come before Council, Acting Mayor Bednar entertained a motion to go into executive session under Ohio Revised Code Section 121.22(G)(3), Pending or Imminent Litigation; so moved by Mr. Osborne and seconded by Mr. Elliott. ROLL CALL: Bednar, yes; Elliott, yes; Fitzgerald, yes; Osborne, yes; Schickel, yes; Zuch, yes. Motion was approved and Council went into executive session at 8:23 p.m.

Acting Mayor Bednar entertained a motion to reconvene the regular session; so moved by Mr. Elliott and seconded by Mr. Osborne. The motion was approved by unanimous consent and the meeting reconvened at 9:03 p.m.

Acting Mayor Bednar entertained a motion to adjourn; so moved by Mr. Osborne and seconded by Mr. Elliott. The motion was approved by unanimous consent and the meeting adjourned at 9:03 p.m.

Mayor

Clerk of Council