

MEETING MINUTES

FINANCE & PERSONNEL COMMITTEE WEDNESDAY - May 2, 2007 - 6 p.m. COUNCIL CHAMBERS

Members Present: Romberg (Chair), Morack, O'Connell, Henke

Others present: Hager, Villiesse, Toltzman, Hanlon

Romberg called the meeting to order at 6 p.m. Morack/O'Connell to adopt agenda. Carried 4-0.

1. Committee discussed residency of commissions and board members. It was determined that the issue was the number of new residents on said boards rather than no non-residents serve. The Committee responded to a suggestion that an ordinance be drafted to the effect that a majority of members of any commission may not be non-residents of New London. Henke/Morack to recommend to Council adoption of an ordinance forbidding the appointment of a majority of members of any commission or board who are non-residents. Carried 4-0.
2. Kent presented his findings from research on how best to solicit developers for the City downtown Riverfront property. The suggested method involves use of a targeted R.F.P. integrated with a Web page providing extensive detail of the property, along with a mass mailing advertising availability of the R.F.P. and notice of the Web page. Members suggested waiting until the current downtown visionary project was complete before issuing the R.F.P. Next meeting members will review the progress of the Downtown project.
3. The Committee reviewed the data collected for negotiation of 5-year rural fire protection contracts with the surroundings Towns. They approved the methodology and instructed the City Administrator to proceed. Morack/Henke Carried 4-0.
4. The Committee reviewed our Delinquent Property Tax collections and the procedures followed by the counties and the City.
5. Staff presented a summary of City direct expenses associated with assisting the Shamrock Club of New Dublin and matters pertaining to the St. Patrick's Day weeks events. Members noted how they often hear that the City does nothing for the business community. They thought that perhaps that is because when we do good things we seldom let any one know it. To this end, Kent was asked to write an article for the Chamber Newsletter and send a letter to the Shamrock Club explaining what expenses the City incurred during the celebration and that this is a contribution by the City to the event.
6. Members suggested that they be made more aware of complaints and their resolution. This could be a monthly summary of complaints received and the resolution attempts made. It was also suggested that we could develop a frequently asked questions section on our Web site along with a place for citizens to list their concerns, which then might be addressed.
7. The Finance Director stated that all funds received for any City items sold were receipted and placed in the City Treasury.

8. The continuing integration of the Streets and Parks Divisions into one common department and negotiation strategy for Union Contracts was discussed.
9. The Reports of the Finance Director, the monthly budgetary reports and the Economic Development Report were reviewed.
10. There being no further business, Henke/Morack to adjourn. Committee adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Jim Villiesse
City Clerk