

MINUTES OF A COUNCIL CAUCUS
Monday, October 4, 2010 at 8:00 p.m.
Mayfield Village Civic Hall

The Council of Mayfield Village met in Caucus Session on Monday, October 4, 2010 at 8:00 p.m. in Mayfield Village Civic Hall. Council President Bill Buckholtz presided.

ROLL CALL: Present: Mr. Buckholtz, Mrs. Cinco, Mr. Marquardt, Mrs. Mills,
Mr. Saponaro and Dr. Parker

Absent: Mr. Marrie

Also Present: Mayor Rinker, Mr. Wynne, Mr. Diemert, Chief Dearden,
Mr. Metzung, Mr. Marrelli, Mr. Cappello,
Chief Mohr, Mr. Thomas, Mr. Dinardo,
Mr. Esborn, Mrs. Kalina and Mrs. Betsa

IN COMMITTEE (STATUS)

Safety and Service

Mrs. Cinco reported that Safety and Service met this evening. Everything that was discussed is on the agenda tonight for Caucus.

Hillcrest Council of Councils

Council President Buckholtz reported that Hillcrest Council of Councils met on Saturday morning. It was a lively discussion with the four main candidates for County Executive. Mrs. Mills and Mrs. Cinco were also present. A good time was had by all. Mrs. Mills agreed that it was a good meeting.

BUILDING DEPARTMENT

Mr. Marrelli reported that an assessment was performed on the Stabile property buildings a couple of weeks ago. He put together a lengthy photo log of what's all wrong with the house and the garages. He wrote a memo to the Mayor. He is going to circulate the memo and attach some select provisions out of the photographs so that Council can deem the structures as not repairable and we can move forward with Fire and Service and take care of getting those buildings removed.

Council President Buckholtz knows that Chief Mohr had a comment on that. Maybe you might want to chime in right now.

Chief Mohr reported that when we looked at the possibility that that building was going to be removed, I contacted Tri-C, Cuyahoga Community College and Fire Technical, if you remember that was the people that burned down the house on Bonnieview. The EPA is rather strict now as to assessments as whether you can or cannot burn down a surplus home within a community due to asbestos or pollution control issues. Ted Hoffman from Tri-C who runs that program may be willing to assume all costs so that they can train firefighters including our own with that structure. That's why we are bringing it to Council's review right now. The Service Director and I have been down there to look. It's a perfect training opportunity for fire, so it's just whether or not we can do it.

Council President Buckholtz asked Mr. Marrelli if he is preparing the assessment.

Mr. Marrelli replied, I finished the assessment. Because it's so lengthy we are going to pare it down so we can circulate it to Council. In short, I believe that with the repairs being extensive, it will cost somewhere between \$80-100,000 to get the house into shape. The garage is in danger of falling into the ravine, so this is something that needs to be done pretty quick. I will circulate this so that at the Council meeting we can put it on the agenda so it can be deemed as surplus property or whatever we have to approve it as so that we can get the fire training done and get it cleaned up.

Mrs. Mills asked if this would be ready for Finance.

Mr. Marrelli thinks we are waiting on a price quote.

Mr. Metzger replied, we have costs that we will have to have the garage/barn and another outbuilding removed and then the cost to remove the rubble after the fire to burn the structure down. I have made contact with someone to do that. I am waiting on the cost.

Council President Buckholtz asked, so Tri-C won't pick up those costs then?

Mr. Metzger replied, correct.

Mr. Marquardt asked, how old are the structures?

Mrs. Mills replied, it was probably built about 1910. That's one of the original farm properties there.

Chief Mohr stated, there's solid wood in the barn that still has bark on it.

Mr. Marrelli replied, well, maybe the barn. The barn is older than the house.

Mayor Rinker stated, but the house is newer.

Mr. Marrelli replied, the barn definitely has been there a long time. Maybe there was another house there before this one.

Mr. Marquardt stated, there are organizations that claim old buildings like that and tear them down and rebuild them someplace.

Mr. Marrelli stated, it's not that old. It's not a 100 year-old building where you can take out beams and things.

Mayor Rinker asked about the barn structures.

Mr. Marrelli replied, it's not bad at all.

Mayor Rinker asked about the older ones.

Mr. Marrelli replied, the barn/garage has some heavy timber in there. It's 8x8. It's heavy timber that might be worth something to somebody, if they can carefully dismantle it without losing it because the back wall under the beam has buckled outwards. It's like one false move and it's just going to go.

Mayor Rinker asked, if we do it, can we evaluate if there's a salvage value and maybe we just sell off the parts?

Mr. Marrelli replied, yes, if we can find somebody that can take it apart.

Mayor Rinker asked, if we paid to take it apart but then retained pieces and parts for some sale, is there any merit in that?

Mr. Marrelli replied, yes, but you won't recover your costs.

Mr. Metzger added, like Midwest that we used for the house next door, when they come in and do those kind of things, they do salvage. That helps pay for the price on it.

Council President Buckholtz knows a person that if you want to get a second opinion, just to get an idea of that, that's exactly what he does, like barn-siding and all that. I'm working with him every day so I will get you his number. He's in Gates Mills. He can take a look at it.

Council President Buckholtz asked if there were any other questions. Council President Buckholtz asked Mr. Marrelli to get the information to Council.

Mr. Marrelli asked if we should move forward with trying to set up the fire training while we are waiting for prices on the demo.

Council President Buckholtz thinks so.

Mr. Saponaro stated, you can always schedule it. If it doesn't work out, it doesn't work out.

Mr. Marrelli stated, between now and then if we don't get the prices, he would hate to lose the weather.

Mr. Metzung stated, once we talk to Tri-C, they have a lot of things they have to do, I don't think you can pull the rug out from under them. You either tell them yes or no.

Chief Mohr replied, true. The question is, do you want me to give Tri-C the green light to proceed with the asbestos scan and environmental study? They would have to remove the roof, which is an asphalt shingle roof. There's no slate over there. They would do an asbestos study to make sure there's no asbestos flooring or siding which I don't think there is. Those are the things they have to do. They bring in an expert to certify them.

Mayor Rinker stated, it seems to me that that alone is worth the price of admission, having Tri-C do it.

Mr. Marrelli stated, the finance part of it is a matter of who gets the contract for cleaning up and how much that will cost. That's something we will bring to you as soon as we get the price.

Council President Buckholtz thinks so. Anybody else?

Chief Mohr added, Tri-C is looking to use this for students in training during the month of November. They would like to drop it by the end of November because obviously the weather is closing in.

Council President Buckholtz stated, that's doable if we get all the information.

Mayor Rinker asked, start to finish, how much time do they need?

Chief Mohr replied, probably 6 weeks to do it right, to do the scans and testing and have a report. The big issue is that the community needs to declare the property surplus. They do a title search. They want to make sure that we own the property and that it's a free and clear title. They do the same due diligence like anybody else. They stated 6 weeks.

Council President Buckholtz stated, very good. It's better to not spend any money on it. Dr. Parker, you had questions for the Building Department?

Dr. Parker replied, yes. As far as neon signs are concerned, I know we discussed them quite some time ago. I noticed driving through it seems like there might be more of them now, especially ones that say "lottery" on them, right in the front of the window. I know there were some issues as to how far back they can be.

Mr. Marrelli replied, they are supposed to be back three to five feet.

Dr. Parker replied, far enough so that anyone entering could see it coming in. I recall something like eight feet when we discussed it, but it seems like it's becoming a little bit more prevalent or maybe I just noticed it more.

Mr. Marrelli has not seen much change.

Dr. Parker stated, I may have just noticed it more. I know the "lottery" sign over here at the beverage store is right on the window. We have told other people they couldn't do it, as well as the look, I don't know if we now want that look or not.

Mr. Marrelli replied, as far as I know nobody's added any signs. I did have a conversation with that particular business when they first opened about regulations on those signs. I will go see if they moved it or not. At one time Patsy and I talked about it. They pulled it back on to the glass and for some reason that meets our requirement. Maybe now is a good time to talk about, is that something that you wanted to have people be allowed to do or not? You don't know if the business is open or not with no signs in the window.

Dr. Parker stated, I guess it just depends on the look we want. We have always discussed that issue, what kind of look do we want?

Mr. Metzger replied, there's new signage out that's just a lighted sign. It's not neon. It gives that illusion of being neon.

Mr. Marrelli stated, it wouldn't meet our definition of neon because it's not tubing, but it may look like neon.

Dr. Parker asked, it's essentially the same, right?

Mr. Marrelli replied, here the question is, was the thinking at the time the sign code was written, was it about neon per se or was it the look? To figure out what that was, it takes some research unless somebody knows in their memory banks why it was passed that way.

Mrs. Mills knows at the time that ordinance was passed, it was neon signs, whether it was illuminated signs had to be pulled back or not. That came through Planning and Zoning.

Mr. Marrelli asked, was it lighted signs in general or just neon?

Mrs. Mills does not know. You would have to go back and look at that ordinance. That was a long time ago.

Mr. Marrelli asked, that was 12-15 years ago?

Mrs. Mills replied, exactly.

Council President Buckholtz is not as familiar with the ordinance but I remember the discussion when Ordinance Review was working on that. It's when D.O. Summers came in. They were

rejected for having neon in the window. Ordinance Review was talking about language that you couldn't see any visual light from the street. I remember personally commenting then that it would preclude any beverage machine, cash register, light or anything. It was not written well. It wasn't going to be viable to enforce. Chief Stevens might have still been here at the time and he said: "Don't pass legislation that you can't enforce. You would have to go to every business", so it just kind of went away. But I think the intent was not to have it right up against the window. That was the compromise.

Mr. Marrelli added, I think the enforcement compromise was pull it back out of the window 3-5 feet.

Council President Buckholtz agreed. It wasn't really what it was made out of, it was more the light. That was the conversation.

Mr. Marrelli will take a look at the situation.

MAYOR

Mayor Rinker reminded everyone that on Wednesday night, Dr. Keller from CSU will be speaking about referenda in general. The agenda for the night is a representative from Charter Review will talk about the basic propositions put forward. Dr. Keller will then talk. Joe Diemert will talk and then the meeting will be opened up for a panel discussion. For those of you who want to get up to date on the Charter amendments, that will be this Wednesday here.

Council President Buckholtz asked if this meeting was advertised to the public. Mayor Rinker replied, yes, it was, extensively.

Council President Buckholtz urged all of Council to get the word out to the people in their areas.

FINANCE

Tax Rate Resolution

Mr. Wynne reported that the tax rate resolution is something that we are required to do every year to confirm to the County Auditor how we want our property tax dollars allocated between our general fund, debt retirement, police pension and police operating. This is just formalizing that in legislation to get to them for next year. There has been no change in that allocation between this year and next year.

A second item which is not on the agenda, I passed out to members of Council an Excel spreadsheet. It outlines all of the considered budget adjustments for this year based upon the passage of the tax increase. There will be legislation drafted for the Council meeting that will allow me to officially adjust the budget on the books to reflect those changes.

Council President Buckholtz asked if there was any discussion.

Dr. Parker stated, I do have a question. My understanding is that even without the tax increase we are ending up with a positive or net cash increase, correct?

Mr. Wynne replied, correct.

Dr. Parker continued, so my question is, with an additional \$1.2 million if we budget all of these items out and we look at how much is being budgeted for additional debt payment, we are only allotting about 6.2% of that to go to debt reduction. I guess my question would be (1) why are we not using more of the funds for debt reduction, and (2) is this reflective of what we can expect for next year's budget in terms of the amount of increase in dollars because of the tax increase as it relates to our additional debt reduction? Is this all we can do for debt reduction? Why can't we do more? What are our expectations for next year's budget?

Mr. Wynne replied, for this year's budget, the \$75,000 really was probably not the maximum, but we really did not start receiving the increase in income tax dollars until the middle of September so we had no increased cash flow during this year as a result of that increase and the Notes rolled over on September 2nd so we had to make a decision by the first of September how we were going to do that.

Next year's pretty much wide open. We talked about paying down a total of \$300,000 to \$400,000 on our Note that renews every year. This year we paid down \$200,000 so we are looking to increase that by an additional \$100,000 next year, possibly \$200,000 depending upon how the year proceeds and really how much we decide to budget for next year will be wide open when we do the budget planning for 2011 in the latter months of this year.

Council President Buckholtz asked, so the \$75,000 isn't the total amount we paid down, it is included in the \$200,000?

Mr. Wynne replied, yes. We had initially budgeted at the beginning of this year to pay out only \$125,000. When the year got better, knowing that tax monies weren't going to be received by then, we decided to increase that from \$125,000 to \$200,000. Next year we can increase it by a lot more because we will have a year under our belt of the increase in the income tax dollars.

Dr. Parker asked, when we talked about net increases, we are talking about, these are all increased expenditures, correct, based on that \$1.2 million we are bringing in, correct?

Mr. Wynne replied, possibly. A majority of that money hasn't been spent at all yet. It might not be.

Dr. Parker understands, but we are still only, whether you look at what the totals for the year, which I am not really trying to look at right now, but when you look at these increases in revenues, we are still only taking only 6.2% of them which is \$75,000 out of the \$1.2 million increase towards debt reduction. I'm not comfortable with that or feel that that's necessarily a prudent way to use all of the money. I'm not saying you don't have other expenses that we need

to earmark it for, but I would like to see a greater percentage of our increases going toward debt reduction. If these monies haven't been spent and they're just being proposed, why can't we consider greater debt reduction and maybe not spending money in another area? That's my question.

Council President Buckholtz stated, this is a 2010 use of tax –

Dr. Parker stated, this is just the increase in tax revenues that we received, but that weren't budgeted for because we didn't know we were receiving them until the vote and so it was all unexpected payment. It's just how you decide to partition or divide up, subdivide those payments. What I'm saying is that I think we are going to need more debt reduction.

Mayor Rinker's only comment to add to that and I think it's just something we should be bearing in mind is that we have not negotiated our contracts yet. I think that's a discussion that Finance Committee has had and should have, will have, as we go forward, because we still have not even seen what the proposals are or what we are proposing in terms of longevity of contract, how to deal with those dollars. We know we have some significant expenses to face with to catch up on our existing contract. I am just saying we are trying to anticipate expenses that we don't even have a number for yet, not to mention what the revenue stream will be for next year. So what we have tried to do is balance out all of these factors and I guess all I would ask is don't look just at the percentage, but look at the methodology.

Mr. Marquardt replied, but I think if you don't set aside stuff for debt reduction you are not going to get there. I don't know how many of these negotiations are going to impact this year, but I think Dr. Parker has a good point. We need to plan to get this debt down in a more expeditious manner than what we are doing. It's a liability for us.

Council President Buckholtz suggested, we can continue discussing that in Finance.

Mr. Wynne stated, it will be discussed ongoing. When we put the budget together for 2011, it will be put together using certain assumptions which I will review with the Finance Committee and review with Council. Those assumptions are up for discussion before the passage of the final budget.

Dr. Parker asked, are we going to have legislation for these amounts at the next Council meeting? I guess I don't understand how, it's not being decided at that point what the legislation allows us the ability to change the distribution.

Council President Buckholtz asked, how much of this has been spent already? These are expense dollars or these are allocated dollars?

Mr. Wynne replied, allocated. Some of it was spent.

Council President Buckholtz asked, like the Worton Park chip seal and some of the infrastructure improvements have already been spent?

Dr. Parker replied, a smaller portion of it has been spent than not spent.

Council President Buckholtz asked, is there a potential for adjustment?

Mr. Wynne replied, yes, they could adjust, but nothing as far as the debt payment goes for this year.

Council President Buckholtz stated, because you made the decision on September 1st.

Mr. Wynne replied, the Note was maturing on September 2nd. We had to make a decision at that point in time as to how much we would pay down the Note that was maturing and how much additional we wanted to rollover.

Mr. Saponaro asked, so, Ron, you cannot make another payment on that Note is that what you're saying?

Mr. Wynne replied, without penalty.

Mr. Saponaro stated, so we can allocate funds to pay more next year.

Mr. Wynne replied, right.

Dr. Parker stated, some of these funds could be allocated towards it.

Mr. Saponaro stated, you can't make another payment, but you can allocate the funds.

Council President Buckholtz stated, this just came up on another issue, the Sewer Relief Fund. Are we still, is that a growing balance?

Mayor Rinker replied, we have to regrow it.

Council President Buckholtz stated this would be the first contribution into that. That's the number we see.

Mr. Wynne stated, Council could decide at the end of this year to not make that transfer and allocate that money towards debt payment if they wanted to do that.

Council President Buckholtz stated, that's always been a handy fund when we ran into trouble with infrastructure, waterline and a couple of other things. It's kind of being held there. Dr. Parker, it's not that terminology "a done deal", it's just that we have to allocate this way. Payment's been made, but there's extra dollars. That's what Ron would consider doing with it. Is that what I am understanding here?

Mr. Wynne replied, yes, this is what we talked about as potential use of this money for this year. The transfers are not actually spending the money, it's just moving it to another fund which does not have to take place.

Dr. Parker stated, moving the dollars from a fund such as the Sewer Relief Fund which is almost a debt reduction in itself or an investment in future needs, from there to debt reduction does not really in the end increase your debt reduction because you're taking funds that you would have put aside and saved for something instead of trying to see where you could maybe reduce expenditures that were directly coming out. I see that almost as like, I don't want to say a wash, in fact I would hate to see the Sewer Relief Fund reduced in lieu of just saying, okay, so we paid off more debt. To me it doesn't help the Sewer Relief Fund because we need those dollars and have to come up with them, at the same time, it's paying down your debt a little bit more but it doesn't affect how we're spending our money on other things. So, I understand what you're saying about being able to transfer those dollars instead of to Sewer Relief to Debt, but I don't know that that's the most effective or the best way for us to approach our debt reduction.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

. Cleaning services for new police facility

Chief Dearden stated, I have determined that there is a need for us to go out for bids for a cleaning contract for a new facility. I anticipate working with the Law Department, putting together an ad for cleaning the new facility. We have done some informal soliciting from companies that are currently cleaning other police departments in the area and I think price-wise we are actually going to save a little bit of money over what we are currently paying part-time employees.

. Vehicle service lifts for new police facility

Chief Dearden reported that we have had a company come out to look at repairing our vehicle service lift. They have quoted us about \$1,600 for repairs to the lift that is 17 years old. As an alternative, I have discussed with them the purchase of a new lift. A new lift would cost \$3,750 installed. It would be my recommendation that we look to replace it with a new lift. Once the new lift is in operation, we can attempt to sell the old one either on E-bay or Craig's List.

Council President Buckholtz asked, is there such a thing as buying a used one, or is that just buying somebody else's headache?

Chief Dearden stated, I'm not going to look at it. I'm not going to try and guarantee what is purchased.

Council President Buckholtz added, who gets rid of a lift?

Council President Buckholtz stated this item should be sent to Finance.

Council President Buckholtz asked Chief Dearden if he had any further matters. There were none.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

. New vehicle for Fire Department (replacing 2002 Crown Vic)

Chief Mohr provided to Council the proposal to replace a 2002 Crown Victoria car that the frame is rusting off of. This is State bid. Safety and Service discussed this item this evening. VanWert is StateWide Ford. This is for an Expedition 4 x 4 vehicle. The main purpose for that is it gets us through in the snow. That will be in your packets for Friday.

. Siren Control Upgrade

Chief Mohr stated this item was also discussed in Safety and Service. We have a siren next door that everybody knows goes off at Noon. The main purpose of that, the genesis of that is that years ago we called the volunteers before radio technology. If there was a fire, the siren blew and the volunteers responded. Now technology has made that siren obsolete to the point where we don't use it for fire alerting anymore, we use it for weather warning for major catastrophes like if there's a Hazmat incident on the freeway. We put it in the *Voice of the Village* numerous times that if you hear the siren, go to your t.v. or radio and listen to what the emergency is. The issue now is that since dispatch is moving out of the building across the street, they currently have the physical facility there that they press a button which turns the siren on. The siren goes off at Noon on a timer, but in the event of an emergency, someone physically has to hit the button so to speak and turn that thing on.

The new station is obviously remote from where the siren controls are and there was the proposal in three packets. It was a three-phase increase of communication equipment for radio alerting and then part of the siren activation was to use a radio to activate the siren. It was around \$3,900. That was part of the package that I gave to the Safety and Service Committee. Two of the three items have been approved by Council. They have already been installed in the new facility. This is the third item. It can be deferred until January and that's what I talked with the Finance Director about. Then a tornado went through Wooster two weeks ago. Never say never, but if we play the odds, obviously in January I am going to come back and say I need this because it's part of our grading services for our insurance rating as well as just to have the buttons so to speak to activate the siren. I put it on the agenda tonight just to talk about it and see what you folks want to do. Safety said bring it to Finance. I'm bringing it to Council. I can defer this until January. We are playing the odds quite frankly.

Council President Buckholtz asked if this is a price that's likely to go up or down?

Chief Mohr replied, it's not going to go up. It's on State bid.

Mrs. Cinco asked Chief Mohr, didn't you mention something now that they are putting in the rest of the radio systems, it would be good?

Chief Mohr replied, this got overlooked and that's why I came back to Council.

Mrs. Cinco asked, is it better to put it in now as far as the other system going in?

Chief Mohr replied, yes, it would be better to have it now. Then it's completely done.

Dr. Parker asked Chief Mohr, you had mentioned that there might be something area-wide happening. How long before that happens?

Chief Mohr replied, that would at least be several years with the other communities looking for a regional grant to put additional sirens throughout the region, weather warning sirens. That would be at least a year out, Dr. Parker.

Council President Buckholtz stated, well, if no one has any objection, I think it's not a huge ticket item. We should move forward and send it to Finance and discuss it there.

. **2008 Assistance to Firefighters Grant Extension (to be used for fire prevention, education and training materials/equipment – pass through)**

Chief Mohr reported, our communication grant of 18 months ago was extended because we had surplus funds. The economy scale was such that we were able to get all of our radio equipment for less money than what was proposed. There was a surplus in the grant. The Federal Government FEMA is allowing us to apply this towards fire protection, fire education and materials that we can take to the schools and to the community. Again this will be in your packets for Friday. It's around \$133,000 with the Federal Government picking up \$80,000 and Cuyahoga County picking up 20%. So with 7 other communities, there's a list of equipment and materials that we are going to purchase with these other communities. This will be a pass-through.

Council President Buckholtz stated, we will look for that information on Friday. Anything else?

There were no further matters.

SERVICE DEPARTMENT

. **Purchase of replacement trees along SOM and other Village properties (Chagrin Valley Nursery - \$5,000.00)**

Mr. Metzger stated this will be the first step to getting the trees replaced from the landmark decision in *Mayfield Village v. Great Lake Construction*. We will not have to pay for the trees. We are looking to get between 25-30 trees. We want to work in those kind of numbers as we plant the trees so that we don't get into the hundreds as we have done in the past. It kind of gets away from us. We are looking at working in 25-30 trees. We will do them in the Fall and we are looking to do some more in the Spring. Some of these trees may be planted in the Wildwood area where we took out some pinoaks. We will replace those.

Purchase of two cab and chassis

Mr. Metzung reported that this goes towards replacement of our two ton and a half trucks that we use for snowplowing and salting and our leaf mulch delivery and our leaf machines. They are kind of a middle truck for our dump truck.

This was budgeted for next year, but in getting the specs together for these trucks, I came across an opportunity to purchase two trucks that are on the lot that are 2009 and are brand new. They pre-date the new emission code. We went about putting specs together and pricing for the new trucks. Internationals were in the \$73,000 range; Freightliner is going to be a little more than that for the same type of truck. These trucks, brand new 2009 are under \$55,000 so I kind of want to take the opportunity to move forward and get these trucks this year. I won't get the beds or hydraulics. We will do that next year out of next year's budget. The opportunities since these trucks are here now, I would like to take advantage and move forward and purchase the cab and chassis part of the truck and then purchase and the rest of the truck next year.

As Ron mentioned in Safety and Service, we are kind of bartering. We put the new driveway at the Service Department on this year's budget. That's not going to happen this year until we get the 319 Grant. I would like to move those monies to the purchase of these trucks and replenish the new driveway money with what would have been next year's trucks.

Mr. Marquardt asked, how do we know that the trees that we plant on SOM are going to last this time?

Mr. Metzung replied, first of all, we are going to plant them properly which was why we didn't have to pay for the last ones, they were all planted improperly. We are going to plant species that we feel are hardy enough to weather the bad storms. We are going to plant some maples. We have had luck with maples in the north end so we are looking to do that again. They are going to be okay. We wanted to add some Fall colors. As we looked to decide what kind of trees we were going to get, we wanted variety, first of all and we wanted to have something different and interesting as the year went on, so at the south end here we have all of the pear trees that we hope will start to give us Spring flowers as they get a little older. The maples will add some Fall colors. We are doing honey locusts which are like iron so we are real confident of them. There's a species that I don't think we are going to try. The word is that these should be really good trees.

We are planting in the Fall this year. I have always planted in the Spring. This is somewhat experimental. We are going to plant in the Spring, the same species, to see what does better. Actually all indications are telling me that Fall is better. My gut says Spring is better, why put it through a tough season of salting. But that's why we are doing what we are doing.

Mr. Marquardt stated, I am just wondering when we give up. If they are not going to live, quit throwing money into it.

Mr. Metzung replied, never give up. They are getting paid for out of the SOM project.

Dr. Parker stated, hopefully with our changes in the amount of salt we are putting down, these will be okay.

Mr. Metzger stated, the *VOV* is going to come out soon with an article. The amount of salt that we have reduced is almost staggering. We used to budget 2500 tons of salt. Last year, we were under approximately 1,000. With the reductions that we have made in these last few years, it's pretty phenomenal. We have to take the winter into account so you want to average it out over several years.

Council President Buckholtz stated, this should be moved to Finance. Are there questions on the truck? Do we want to take advantage of this deal and move forward on that? Mrs. Cinco replied, yes. This item will be sent to Finance as well.

Council President Buckholtz asked if there were any other questions. There were none.

PLANNING DEPARTMENT

Cuyahoga County Municipal Energy Program

Mr. Esborn reported that we became involved in this program two years ago when it was announced that the Cuyahoga County Planning Commission was going to be conduit for Federal stimulus dollars for energy. At that time the Planning Commission sent out a survey to all County communities about basic energy usage and whether or not they had an energy audit done. Six months later, I asked the Commission Director, Paul Alsenas what they intended to do after completing the survey and he said their idea was to fund energy audits for all of the County municipalities and now a year/year and a half later, that's the program that they've unrolled. 100% match on an energy audit.

The thinking is that the Commission wants to know sort of what the baseline in each community is so that when they go to fund projects down the road, they already have a sense of what's going on energy-wise in that community. We are pursuing that application now. It's almost more of a registration than an application because sort of like NOPEC, it's not competitive. The money's allotted for all of the communities. In order to be eligible for this though, we have to put some information about the square footage of our buildings and what types of energy we use and aside from that there does need to be legislation. There's no money involved in the legislation so it's purely a resolution of support for this program and our being part of it. I just went to the kick-off for this program last Wednesday so I have not gotten the chance to work with the Law Department yet to form legislation, but we hope to get this before Council this month.

Council President Buckholtz asked, you used the word "matching", but that's not matching funds.

Mr. Esborn replied, right. They said 100% match. They could have just as easily said fully funded.

Council President Buckholtz asked if there were any questions. There were none.

HUMAN SERVICES

Mrs. Kalina reported that our flu shot program is the 22nd of October. We had a sign-up session last Friday. We have another one coming up on Wednesday.

The Senior Snow Removal program technically is closed. People are still bringing in applications but we are going to cut that off pretty quickly. The deadline was September 30th.

ENGINEER

Mr. Cappello reported that Wilson Mills is open. They just have to clean up.

Council President Buckholtz stated, it really went rather smoothly. Nice job.

LAW DIRECTOR

6536 Wilson Mills Road

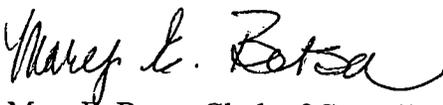
Mr. Wynne stated this is the Kozel property. The lady passed in the Spring. We secured a new tenant for that property. This is just approval of that Lease Agreement.

ANY OTHER MATTER BEFORE COUNCIL

Council President Buckholtz asked if there was anything else. There were no further matters.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at approximately 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Mary E. Betsa, Clerk of Council