

SPECIAL REVIEW & OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE MINUTES

April 7, 2009

The Special Review & Oversight Committee meeting was held on April 7, 2009, at North Royalton City Hall, 13834 Ridge Road. The meeting was called to order at 7:10 p.m.

Present: Members: Chair Vince Gentile, Mike Farrell, Don Willey; Council: Larry Antoskiewicz, Dan Kasaris, John Nickell; Administration: Mayor Robert Stefanik, City Engineer Mark Schmitzer; Other Attendees: Pat Jones.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Proposed Ordinance No. 09-40

Mr. Nickell announced that Mrs. Fegan had provided Council with some numbers relative to the cost savings of using a consulting firm versus having a City Engineer on site. Mr. Nickell said since Bowen & Associates contract is up for renewal, he felt it should be reviewed. Mr. Nickell said that after reviewing the information it appears that there was a net savings of approximately \$58,000. Mr. Nickell said he feels a lot of projects have been completed and he is satisfied with what has been accomplished.

Mr. Willey said he feels the response time from the Engineering Department to other departments in the city and elected officials, as well as residents, has been invaluable. He also said he feels the Engineering Department takes a long range look at projects rather than just trying to place a patch on projects.

Mr. Gentile said he was not supportive of looking at the cost savings a year ago. He said there were so many projects that needed to get done that were plaguing the city and at that time those projects were being held up by the Engineering Department. He said the cost savings now is just an added bonus. Mr. Gentile recalled projects where the money was appropriated in 2006 but those project did not get underway until last year. He said that by getting these projects completed in a timely and professional manner, we are able to move the city forward.

Mr. Nickell agreed with Mr. Gentile and said he recalls projects where the money was there, but the jobs were not being done. He commended Mr. Schmitzer on all he has done and the time he has put in during the evening. He also thanked him for meeting with residents and speaking at meetings. He said he is grateful to Bowen for providing Mr. Schmitzer and Mr. Collins rather than different people each month. He feels Mr. Schmitzer and Mr. Collins know the city and are always very accessible.

Mr. Kasaris said he feels we are getting good quality service and thanked Mr. Schmitzer and Mr. Collins for all of their work in his ward and other wards in the city. He said he believes Mayor Stefanik did a good job in bringing Bowen to the city and said he supports this ordinance.

Mr. Antoskiewicz said he realizes we have kept Bowen busy and said he appreciates all of their hard work. He said they have done a good job this year.

Mr. Farrell said he thought it was a good idea to meet and review this agreement. He also said that he believes that more work has been done in the city in the last year and a half than in the previous 10 ½ years.

Moved by Mr. Willey, seconded by Mr. Farrell **to recommend to Council the approval of Ordinance No. 09-40.** Yeas: 3. Nays: 0. **Motion carried.**

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Mr. Farrell, seconded by Mr. Willey **to adjourn the meeting.** Yeas: 3. Nays: 0. **Motion carried.** Meeting adjourned at 7:19 p.m.