

MINUTES

COUNCIL-MANAGER BRIEFING

May 14, 2012

Mayor D'Epifanio called the Council-Manager Briefing to order at 6:00 p.m. at the Fairfield Municipal Building, 5350 Pleasant Avenue. The following Councilmembers were present: Tim Meyers, Terry Senger, Jeff Holtegel, Mike Oler, Debbie Pennington and Adam Jones. Staff present: Angie Jolivette, John Clemmons, Mary Hopton, Mike Dickey, Jim Bell, Tim Bachman, Dave Butsch, Dave Crouch, and Don Bennett.

Metrics Report for March 2012

City Manager Pizzano explained the metrics process which began a couple of years ago has been changed to periodically replace instead of adding more information. Assistant City Manager Mark Wendling explained the metric process has been pared down to make it more streamlined, topical and current. Mr. Wendling explained the information will be color coded with green equaling trending positive, red is trending negative and yellow is neutral. Mr. Wendling explained if it was close to even it should be neutral otherwise it was marked positive or negative.

Finance Director Mary Hopton discussed the metrics for the Finance Department noting the withholding income tax was up .72% and is an indication of the employer base and what they are investing back into their employees. Ms. Hopton explained profit as far as business is tax based profit and will fluctuate the most and depending on the business which can claim a lot of deductions to get to a lower taxable income. She explained tax for individuals is for those who are self employed or work in areas that are not taxing on their income. She advised expenditures are broken down between operating expenditures and capital expenditures. She stated operating expenditures were down 3.5% through the month of March. She explained the net effect for expenditures was coded as positive.

Development Services Director Tim Bachman discussed the number of inspections is up and is coded green or positive, but the number of violations found is up as well and is coded red or negative. He commented the building permit valuation is very positive at an almost 100% increase. Mr. Bachman discussed the unemployment data which is down for not only Fairfield, but also the County, the State of Ohio and the United States. Mr. Bachman briefly discussed feedback from the company and consultant site selection regarding the former Fisher Body Plant building regarding a project that had considered locating in Fairfield. Mr. Bachman advised that the City will be working with Duke who will provide a mock consultant and a matching \$10,000 grant for improvements and marketing concepts for the Fisher Body plant. Mr. Pizzano and Mr. Bachman further discussed the role of the site selection consultant and Duke's involvement. Mr. Bachman advised that Guest Supply, a hotel products distributor, has leased 60,000 square feet for their company.

Fire Chief Don Bennett explained benchmarks have been established, which he thinks are achievable to provide service to the community. He explained turnout time is the time the dispatch is received to the time the unit goes into service and discussed the standards Fairfield will be setting. Chief Bennett explained the benchmark set for response time set for emergency medical calls. Chief Bennett advised when there is an additional call Quint 31 can respond as a first responder and has ALS capabilities. He explained if the number of runs has increased this will be considered negative and shown in red because that is a higher demand for service. In response to the Mayor's question, he explained Fairfield average run time is below the state and national averages; however, in order to analyze how they are delivering service they need to look at these numbers. Chief Bennett explained the goal is to be 90% compliant for EMS response times of less than seven minutes. He explained the changes in units being out of their district either at the hospital or in another area of the city and needing to respond, which affects the response time since they are not originating from their district. Chief Bennett briefly discussed the number of fire runs and how much it has increased through the years.

Parks and Recreation Director Jim Bell explained the Community Arts Center and the Recreation Activities revenues and expenses are being combined, because the recreation fund takes in the revenue but does not have overhead while the CAC has all the overhead without taking in the revenue. He discussed the cost recovery being used using the unit price for the building. Mr. Bell pointed out ticket revenue is low because the Sojourner tickets sell out in October, so the revenue is shown in October with the expenses shown in the spring for the show. Mr. Pizzano advised Council to look at the month to month comparison instead of the year-to-date percentage change.

Police Chief Mike Dickey stated property crime for March is down, which is a 23% reduction; however, it is up for the year-to-date. He explained there has been a slight increase in violent crimes. Mr. Pizzano briefly commented on Fairfield's participation in the International City Managers Association and Center for Performance Measure in which Fairfield compares itself with other cities around the country. Chief Dickey gave a few examples of what constitutes a violent crime. He commented arrests are down, which he sees is a positive trend; however, in the future that may need to be broken down more. Councilmember Oler commented traditionally summer brings on a significant amount of crime.

Public Works Director Dave Butsch discussed Operation Dump Truck has steadily increased since 2008 and is still trending up. He explained for fleet maintenance 70-85 vehicles are serviced and the difference could be driven up based upon a large repair. He explained the miles driven metric is coded red; however, with the milder weather smaller vehicles are being used and other types of maintenance are being done. He discussed the metrics for the maintenance of the storm sewer system, noting how the numbers goes up and down based on the weather and what crews are able to work on regarding jet rod cleaning versus inspecting catch basins and culverts. Mr. Butsch discussed snow removal, which is seasonal, but is a large expense to the City. He commented snow removal is down considerably from last year and may even be a historical low. Mr. Butsch stated two hook trucks and five boxes are used for Operation Dump Truck.

Public Utilities Director Dave Crouch explained the industry standard for main breaks is about 30 main breaks per year and last year we finished with 53, so it is coded red. He further discussed the main breaks historically and what is expected for this year. Mr. Crouch discussed the distribution of work orders and how staff could be managed in other areas if the number of orders is down for an extended period of time. Mr. Pizzano commented the exercise is not to put statistics together it is to use the information to help people think a little deeper about modifying the way it has been and make adjustments. Mr. Crouch discussed the metric for sewer line cleaning noting Public Works has worked together with his department in the use of equipment. He explained in an ideal year 15,400 feet per month will be cleaned and will be coded as green. Mr. Crouch discussed work in the summer, which creates overtime when it is not peak flows. He stated insurance companies are impressed with our aggressive cleaning.

Adjournment

Council/Manager Briefing adjourned at 6:51 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Angela Jolivette
Clerk of Council