

MINUTES
Fairfield City Council
Special Meeting of Council
May 11, 2011

At 6:05 PM, Mayor D'Epifanio explained that the City of Fairfield announced the meeting start time as 6:00 PM and Fairfield Township announced the meeting at 6:30 PM. Therefore, there would be 30 minutes of social time and the meeting will be called to order at 6:30 PM. He also thanked the Fairfield Chamber of Commerce for picking up the tab for any alcoholic beverages this evening since the City cannot pay for liquor. No official business was discussed during this 30 minute social time.

Call to Order

Mayor Ronald A. D'Epifanio called the Special Meeting of March 11, 2011 to order at the Phalen Center at South Trace Golf Course, 2200 John Gray Road at 6:30 PM.

Fairfield Township Trustee Terry Scharnhorst called the Special Joint meeting with the City of Fairfield to order at Wednesday, May 11, 2011 at 6:31 PM.

Roll Call

Clerk Johns called the roll of the Fairfield City Council. Present members were Councilmember Snyder, Councilmember Judd, Councilmember Senger, Councilmember Meyers and Councilmember Abbott. Councilmember Judd, seconded by Councilmember Abbott moved to excuse Councilmember Rhodus and Councilmember Oler. Motion Carried 5-0.

Fairfield Township Administrator Mike Rahall called the roll of the Fairfield Township Trustees. Present trustees were Terry Scharnhorst and Mark Sutton. Steve Morgan was absent.

Discussion of Items of Mutual Interest

Per the Mayor's request, City of Fairfield Assistant City Manager Mark Wendling, Township Administrator Mike Rahall and Township Trustees Terry Scharnhorst and Mark Sutton all introduced and offered background information about themselves. Mayor D'Epifanio asked for anyone to share any things they might want to do together. He briefly discussed the possibility of a school levy coming up and commented we do share those schools. Mayor D'Epifanio explained he is going to try to encourage the Butler County Mayors' Task Force, of which he is a member, to reach out to Trustees. This topic was briefly discussed with the Council and Trustees. He explained a recent topic of the task force has been the possibility of joint purchasing. A discussion ensued regarding the joint purchase of items such as salt and the pros and cons of sharing equipment. Councilmember Judd asked the status of the JEDD that was approved a year ago. Trustee Sutton stated they are having a difficult time getting businesses to volunteer. Mr. Rahall explained they need 50% of the businesses in the area to agree before there can be any collection at all and the problem is not with the property owners because they will not pay anything, but it is convincing businesses to voluntarily contribute 1.5%. Councilmember Meyers asked if there is anything Fairfield can do to help. Mr. Rahall briefly discussed some of the businesses and properties that are in the JEDD and explained all that can be offered to the businesses in place is additional publicity, promotion and partnership. The effects of the Estate Tax for both the City and Township were discussed as well as Senate Bill 5. Mr. Rahall commented the state changes are still in flux right now. The City Manager and Council discussed Fairfield's goals of economic stability and quality of life and some of the ways the city is achieving these goals. Councilmember Abbott commented with a common school, the city and township need to operate more closely. Mayor D'Epifanio suggested getting together periodically to discuss things working well for the township that the city might be able to implement and vice versa. A discussion was held regarding the 135 acres of land purchased by Kettering Medical. Trustee Sutton explained they are not sure yet what will be placed there and he briefly discussed that a zone change, infrastructure work, utilities, and re-alignment of Gilmore Road would probably all be needed for this area. Councilmember Snyder commented the region is turning into a collection of medical facilities. City Manager Pizzano discussed how the city administers incentives for businesses. Councilmember Meyers discussed the Fairfield City Schools Financial Review Committee which he chaired and the results of that committee. A discussion of the schools master facility plan and potential need for a school levy constituted the remaining portion of the meeting.

Adjournment

Councilmember Abbott, seconded by Councilmember Meyers moved to adjourn the meeting. Motion Carried 5-0. The meeting adjourned at 7:37 PM.

ATTEST:

Clerk of Council

Mayor's Approval

Date Approved _____