

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL**

**OF THE CITY OF SHIVELY HELD IN THE**

**NEWMAN MEMORIAL BUILDING, 3920 DIXIE HIGHWAY**

**SHIVELY KY 40216**

**ON TUESDAY, JANUARY 19, 2010**

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Mayor Conner.

Opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

The Mayor also requested a moment of silence for the people in Haiti.

**ROLL CALL:**

|              |         |             |         |
|--------------|---------|-------------|---------|
| Mayor Conner | present |             |         |
| Ms. Burton   | present | Mr. Dummitt | present |
| Ms. Mayes    | present | Ms. Renn    | present |
| Mr. Vance    | absent  | Mr. Wathen  | present |

Motion made by Ms. Mayes, second by Mr. Wathen to approve the minutes from the last meeting as received. All ayes.

**ROLL CALL:**

|            |     |             |     |
|------------|-----|-------------|-----|
| Ms. Burton | yes | Mr. Dummitt | yes |
| Ms. Mayes  | yes | Ms. Renn    | yes |

Mr. Vance

absent

Mr. Wathen

yes

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Ms. Burton**, reported on March 4, 2010 at 6:30 p.m., PVA will be here for the citizens to ask any questions they may have and requested this to be put in the next newsletter. She also reported violinist Maestro J will be performing in Shively Park during the Music in the Park this summer.

**Mr. Dummitt**, no report.

**Ms. Mayes**, thanked John Haywood, Works Director for putting up the signs at Burrell Drive and Farnsley Road.

**Ms. Renn**, no report.

**Mr. Vance**, absent.

**Mr. Wathen**, no report.

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

Mayor Conner then gave the following State Of The City Address:

This is the required State of the City address due at the beginning of each year.

*Today Shively is very sound financially. That is not just what I think but our auditors think we are doing remarkably well at keeping the city financially sound. They reported in our most recent audit that our debt ratio is 40 to 1.*

*This is a great number to have. It technically means the City could run for 40 months on the money we have in the bank. That is a little over 3 years. Of course, the other side of that coin is that costs in all areas continue to soar and we can't control these outside costs. Also, in this year's audit some departments reflect being over in their budgets. This was caused from the manpower and equipment used in the natural disasters. We are receiving FEMA money to cover these costs.*

I have to reflect back a little to when I first became Mayor at the end of 2004. We had very little money to run the City. A lot of hard work, perseverance, and determination went into saving Shively by a lot of people. I am not a quitter by nature and giving up was not an option for me personally.

So I pushed and after scraping by the first few years without any improvements I proposed projects that would show citizens Shively was alive and well. I wanted to instill pride in citizens by making improvements in the neighborhoods that I grew up in and around. The park received a major overhaul and now is used more than ever. I was hopeful some of my determination and pride would rub off. I wanted to show the citizens that the years of having no improvements were for naught.

The last few years have been tough financially for a lot of folks. But Shively as a city has progressed, we have done it without raising property taxes for 3 consecutive years. Now I do worry about that because although it sounds great to not raise taxes other costs have continued to skyrocket. By not raising taxes, in the past, we got ourselves into a dire financial situation. I don't want that to happen to us again. We cannot sit still and do nothing. We cannot move backwards and let the economy beat us down. We still have to make every effort to ensure Shively is a good place for residents and businesses.

*We haven't completed the island project yet but we will continue to move forward with the plans at a slower pace, I feel it is a very worthwhile project, but it is not worth raising taxes for and we can make these improvements a little each year.*

So we look for more enhanced ways to spend your tax dollars. A few examples are: buying "expensive looking" furniture from an auction house to replace furniture that was falling apart, buy holiday decorations after each season like regular folks do, apply for grants, sell old equipment on line to get a better price for it, and spending less than \$7,000.00 for \$34,000.00 worth of fire equipment because of grant money received. These are just a few ways we have become creative in our spending habits. Much like each and everyone one of us does in our daily lives. And we are fortunate that it has paid off for the citizens.

We have continued to give Shively citizens high levels of service and they have become accustomed to them. I certainly don't entertain the thought of cutting any services from any departments.

This past year the council and I, after much thought and discussion, made the decision to pay off the debt for the fire and police building. We saved approximately \$265,000.00 in interest alone. This also created negatives in the fire and police budget but the savings was worth it.

We recently partnered with TARC and Metro government to make some desperately needed improvements along Dixie Highway. We are installing more sidewalks, making improvements to existing sidewalks, placing benches and trash receptacles at bus stop areas.

Due to \$137,000.00 in federal grants the Police Department has been able to re-establish the D.A.R.E. program in Shively's elementary schools. And it has allowed them to begin encouraging residents to participate and become more engaged in their neighborhoods through the Block Watch Programs. The bike patrol was launched and we recently opened a sub station at the Shively Center. The grant money also paid for two patrol cars and 7 in-car cameras. This grant money was part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. Major crime is down 11% in Shively. Chief Miller will be giving a full report with more stats tonight.

The Works Department obtained new snow removal equipment this past year and unfortunately has already put it to the test. We will begin another large drainage project this year in the southern portion of the city which should relieve a lot of water problems for several streets.

I want to thank the current council for their support, time, and assistance and I look forward to working with each of you this year.

**Each department manager: fire, police, works, and city hall all deserve high recognition and praise for their continued hard work and for their leadership.**

**Also, without great employees, small cities like Shively could not function so I thank each of them as well for their daily hard work and dedication. Many citizens serve on committees that assist the City with hiring and with staying compliant with regulations. Our Code board has resolved 89% of their cases. That is up from 82% from last year. Many thanks to all of these folks for their tireless dedication to Shively.**

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The City will sponsor its 9<sup>th</sup> annual Easter Egg Hunt Saturday, March 27<sup>th</sup> and the groundwork has started for *your* 2010 Shively Festival. It will be our 12<sup>th</sup> year for hosting the festival. We continue to add new features that will make it attractive to everyone. Mark your calendars for June 25th & 26th and come be a part of the fun and festivities. We promise you'll have a great time.

**JFK said: “Efforts and courage are not enough without purpose and direction.” Shively has both purpose and direction and they will guide us to make this city even greater in years to come.**

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This is my sixth year as Mayor and I am still amazed at how much I learn each day as being mayor of this great city. It is sincerely my pleasure to serve as your Mayor. I am still proud of Shively and I am committed to representing the City with integrity in all ways.

Thank you.

Sherry S. Conner, Mayor

Chief Miller also gave the following Shively Police Annual Report:

The overall crime statistics for 2009 have decreased by 11% from last year and the department increased its personnel with federal grant money. We have received over \$137,000 in grant money and will continue applying for additional funding. The D.A.R.E. program will resume in 2010 and the neighborhood block watch program will have a bigger emphasis on neighborhood watches, surveys and businesses involvement. We have also added a substation in the Shively Center where the D.A.R.E. officer, neighborhood block watch program and the bike patrol unit will be based out of.

He also provided stats on activity/calls for service, crime and crash data for 2009.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

None.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

M.O. No. 2, Series 2010 – Approving Bills Over \$500.00. Introduced by Mr. Wathen. Motion by Ms. Mayes, second by Ms. Burton. All ayes.

**ROLL CALL:**

|            |        |             |     |
|------------|--------|-------------|-----|
| Ms. Burton | yes    | Mr. Dummitt | yes |
| Ms. Mayes  | yes    | Ms. Renn    | yes |
| Mr. Vance  | absent | Mr. Wathen  | yes |

First reading: Ordinance 1, Series 2010 – Providing For Payment Of Attorney Fees By Delinquent Taxpayers. Introduced by Ms. Mayes.

Chief Vincent reported he drove the fire truck in the Martin Luther King, Jr. parade and everything went safely. He also said one of Buechel Fire Department’s firefighters passed away (Terry Cannon) and we will be participating in the funeral procession.

Chief Miller also reported on the parade and said the lead car got off at Dixie Highway and I-264 and the rear car was still at I-65 and Arthur Street so that shows how long the parade actually was.

Chief Vincent said I thought the parade was about 2 miles long but Chief Miller says it was more like 10 miles.

**CITIZENS PARTICIPATION:**

None.

**ADJOURN:**

There being no further business to come before the council, motion by Mr. Wathen, second by Ms. Mayes to adjourn the meeting.

All in favor signify by saying aye. Those opposed, no. Ayes have it, so ordered. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:57 p.m.

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**MAYOR**

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**CITY CLERK**