

REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF SHIVELY HELD IN THE
NEWMAN MEMORIAL BUILDING, 3920 DIXIE HIGHWAY
ON MONDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2008

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.

ROLL CALL:

Mayor Conner	present		
Ms. Burton	present	Ms. Mayes	present
Mr. McDonald	present	Mr. Miller	present
Ms. Renn	present	Mr. Wathen	present

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

ROLL CALL:

Ms. Burton	yes	Ms. Mayes	yes
Mr. McDonald	yes	Mr. Miller	yes
Ms. Renn	yes	Mr. Wathen	abstain

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Ms. Burton, reported she talked to PVA for dates when Mr. Lindauer would be available to come and speak.

Ms. Mayes, reminded everyone about the upcoming Easter Egg Hunt in Shively Park which will be on March 22nd at 10:00 a.m. Also said she was very proud of the Butler High School Girl's winning the L.I.T. and feel we should do something for them.

Mayor Conner said she plans on preparing a proclamation and will take it to them on Friday during their pep rally.

Mr. McDonald, announced we are going to have yard waste pickups due to the recent storms. The pickup days will be on February 6th and 13th which are on Wednesdays.

Mr. Miller, said we may not have all the littering problems straightened out yet but my newspaper is now on my porch. He is also very disappointed about the Liquidation Center at the old Dillard's building because of the \$5.00 entry fee, which has many people upset. There seems to be a lot of disgruntled people coming out of there. He feels we should do something before the upcoming weekends because you have to pay for merchandise in cash and he wants to make sure the City will get their fair share of the money being made there even though they are temporary.

Mayor Conner said there have already been fire and police runs made there.

Chief Vincent said they had problems with one set of doors not opened and ceiling tiles are missing. The owners should have checked the building out better before renting it out.

Ms. Renn, asked what is the date of the Easter Egg Hunt? She said isn't that the day before Easter? She thought it was March 15th and said she would like to help if needed.

Ms. Mayes said we thought if we had it later we wouldn't run into bad weather so that is why it was changed.

Mr. Wathen, thanked the City for the get well card – it was a real pick me up. The surgery was a success and hopefully this week I'll get approval to sit.

Mayor Conner then made a few announcements. She said she knows a lot of citizens were without electricity last week due to the storms. We had the fire, police and works departments out all night and into the early morning hours. Some of them had to sit at downed wires until LG&E came and they all worked very very hard and we appreciate that. I hope this next storm is not as bad as last weeks (especially for me). Also, the AARP is here preparing taxes on Mondays and Wednesdays from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. in February.

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.

As I begin my fourth year as Mayor I have had time to better understand the workings of the City and as I do this I learn something new each day. I do my very best to represent Shively in a productive and honest way.

We have all heard about other municipalities, near and far and small and large, and how they are experiencing budget shortfalls but I am very pleased and proud to announce the state of Shively is very sound.

We received a favorable audit for 2006-2007. We are projecting an excess of approximately 2 million. This has been our objective from the beginning so that we could better serve the citizens of Shively. A lot of hard work went into acquiring this surplus amount of funds. Some tough decisions had to be made to enable us to be in this situation. Large purchases were scrutinized and analyzed before they were made. It has been with visions of moving Shively forward that we are in this financial position and where we have wanted to be since 2005. I want to thank the finance committee, council members Richard McDonald and Ronnie Wathen for their help in overseeing the finances of the City as well as the other council. We have carefully watched our purchases and spending habits and will continue to do so in the future. I will outline some of the items this money will be used for as I go.

A portion of this money will subsidize our “rainy day” fund, hire additional workforce and strengthen our retirement account.

One of our many goals this past year that we accomplished is the one I am most proud of and that is our Walking Path. The Walking Path officially opened in July. We received grant money from the state with the help of Shively’s state representatives, Joni Jenkins and Dennis Horlander. Along with the Walking Path, we have made many improvements to our larger City Park. New playground equipment has been installed. The Walking Path is utilized daily and with the addition of new park equipment the park has had the most use in years. And we are not finished yet as we are planning Phase II of the Walking Path now.

Recently, we received an additional \$3,000.00 from a safety grant that will be used in the park to help make the playground area more secure.

The **Police Department** is one area where some of our excess dollars will be utilized. We will be hiring additional officers to help make your streets safer. We have received \$35,000.00 in grant money to be used for more patrols for DUIs, Breathalyzer testing, and radar detection.

Cameras have been installed around the fire and police building and in various locations throughout the park. The cameras will help citizens feel secure while using the park. All of these cameras were purchased with grant money of \$35,000.00.

The **Fire Department** is now fully staffed for the first time in years with the recent hiring of three additional firefighters. After 26 weeks of intense training they were ready and able to start work and they all began in late December.

Exhaust systems for our fire trucks have been purchased and installed with grant money to make the environment at the firehouse safer.

Also, there has been a discrepancy about the method in which firefighters have been paid for the past few years. This dispute is now at the Supreme Court level. Depending on their decision we could possibly owe several thousand dollars in back pay to our firefighters. If necessary, some of our excess money will be used to fulfill this obligation.

The **Works Department** continues to complete drainage work throughout the City. Our plan is to clean **every** drain and culvert within the City. And this project is well under way and near completion. For as long as I am Mayor we will continue to do this every year for residents.

We are planning two large drainage and safety improvement projects to get under way in the spring of this year. A grant from the state in the amount of \$187,500.00 will help pay for one of these projects. A new storage building was erected to house and better protect our equipment at the Works Department.

Several **City Hall** improvements were completed in 2007. New windows were installed along the library side of the building. The hall area received a much needed face-lift with paint and carpet. New computers and phones were purchased for City Hall and a

computer upgrade was installed in an effort to better serve our citizens. Grant money also helped to pay for these developments.

All of the City's departments continue to be vigilant about their budgets and I can't stress how important this is to the stability of City.

As you have noticed a lot of purchases were made with grant money. Applying for grants takes time and concentration but the department managers know how important this type of money is to the City and they make the extra effort to apply whenever a grant is offered in order to supplement City spending and I applaud them for their efforts.

In the next few years the City could potentially have several long-term employees retire. We have always needed to tuck some money away for these situations but unfortunately have never been able to do so. And in the past it has **always** placed a strain on the budget. Again the excess money will better able us to take care of employees that have served the City well.

Shively has an aggressive **Code Enforcement Board**. These citizens work hard to help make Shively a great place to live and work. They also are thoughtful and respectful to citizens' needs. In 2007 we logged 543 complaints/concerns. These complaints/concerns ranged from parking in front yards to tall grass. I am pleased to announce that 498 of these cases have been resolved. That's a resolution of 92%!

I want to thank the code board for their tireless dedication.

In next year's budget we will be planning some beautification projects throughout the City. We want to install new decorative street signs and spruce up each of our 6 islands located in different areas of the City.

We have all been waiting patiently for a replacement of the old Dillards' store. I wish I could make an announcement but I can't at this time. But I have been in constant

communication with the new owners and developers and I have been assured they will be making an announcement very soon.

Preparations are underway for your 2008 Shively Festival. We are planning a bigger and more superior event this year. Please mark your calendar for June 27th & 28th for all of the festivities and, of course, the fireworks!

I want to thank the entire council for their support and assistance this past year and I look forward to 2008.

The managers of each department within the City deserve recognition in the highest manner. They work hard every day to make this a great place to live and work. They, along with all of our employees, are committed to giving the best and most efficient services to Shively's citizens. And I personally thank each of them.

I want to leave you with this quote from Franklin D. Roosevelt. The message stands true in life and work:

“The test of our progress is not whether we add more to the abundance of those who have much; it is whether we provide enough for those who have too little”

Thank you.

OLD BUSINESS:

None.

NEW BUSINESS:

M.O. No. 3, Series 2008 – Approving Bills Over \$500.00. Introduced by Mr. Wathen. Motion by Mr. McDonald, second by Ms. Mayes. All ayes.

Ms. Mayes asked why the Parks Department water bill was so high.

Mitzi Kasitz, City Clerk said she would check on it and get back to her.

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ROLL CALL:

Ms. Burton	yes	Ms. Mayes	yes
Mr. McDonald	yes	Mr. Miller	yes
Ms. Renn	yes	Mr. Wathen	yes

M.O. No. 4, Series 2008 – Silent Auction of Surplus Property. Introduced by Mr. McDonald. Motion by Mr. Wathen, second by Ms. Mayes. All ayes.

Mayor Conner said this will be held in the police and fire station training room because the Library is using the hall that day.

Mr. McDonald said by law we have to have an auction. We just can't give it away or throw it away.

ROLL CALL:

Ms. Burton	yes	Ms. Mayes	yes
Mr. McDonald	yes	Mr. Miller	yes
Ms. Renn	yes	Mr. Wathen	yes

CITIZENS PARTICIPATION:

Mr. Miller thanked the City on behalf of the citizens who are experiencing problems with the subject of home mortgages and foreclosures. They appreciate what this council has done regarding this matter and Senator Jim Bunning has responded by cooperating with us.

Mr. Alphonza Bradley, 3200 Hampstead Court thanked the Police Chief for checking on the citizens of Hampstead Court. He also asked for help in getting some trees cut down because one is almost ready to fall now.

Mayor Conner said if a portion of the tree is in your yard that tree is now yours to take care of.

Mr. Bradley also asked if someone from code enforcement could go by and talk to the residents at 3204 Hampstead Court about picking up trash in their yard?

Mayor Conner said yes they can.

ADJOURN:

There being no further business to come before the Council, motion by Mr. McDonald, second by Mr. Wathen to adjourn the meeting.

All in favor signify by saying aye. Those opposed, no. Ayes have it, so ordered. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:09 p.m.

MAYOR

CITY CLERK