

Cuyahoga Falls City Council
Minutes of the Public Affairs Committee Meeting
February 6, 2006

Members: Debbie Ritzinger, Chair
Diana Cola vecchio
Doug Flinn

Mrs. Ritzinger called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m. All members were present.

The minutes of the January 17, 2006 meeting were approved as submitted.

Legislation Considered:

Temp. Ord. A-16
Temp. Ord. A-17
Temp. Ord. A-18
Temp. Ord. A-19

Discussion:

Temp. Res. A-16

A resolution supporting and urging the passage of the statewide initiative on Clean Indoor Air, ensuring a smoke free Ohio, and declaring an emergency.

Mrs. Ritzinger read A-16 (second reading). Mr. Flinn said this resolution supports a statewide effort to ban smoking in public places. He distributed literature from the American Cancer Society and the SmokeFreeOhio website to Council members. Both groups want a ballot initiative in November and are collecting signatures for that purpose.

Mr. Walters asked if it might be appropriate to delay passage of the resolution until the petitions are certified. Mr. Flinn said the sponsors prefer that the resolution be approved now to indicate the City's support.

Mr. Arrington provided Council members with a handout containing the actual language of the proposed statute. This language is more restrictive than that of Summit County's resolution.

The committee recommended bringing out Temp. Res. A-16 for approval.

Temp. Res. A-17

A resolution commending George Potts for his service on City Council and declaring an emergency.

Mrs. Ritzinger read A-17 (second reading).

Mr. Barnhart said that Mr. Potts served 18 years on City Council, 5 years on the Planning Commission, and 8 years on the Northampton Board of Zoning Appeals. Mr. Potts involvement in the City, especially in Ward 8, has brought about many significant and dramatic changes beginning with the merger. Mr. Potts is a dear friend, a man of his word. Mr. Barnhart thanked Mr. Potts for his service and extended best wishes to him and his wife Mary.

Mrs. Ritzinger said she enjoyed working with Mr. Potts on Council and wishes him the best.

Mr. Mader said that Mr. Potts was his mentor, and he appreciates everything he's done. He thanked Mr. Potts and said he hopes to lean on him for advice in the future.

Mr. Flinn thanked Mr. Potts for his leadership and contribution to the City.

Mr. Potts thanked everyone for their comments and said it's been a pleasure to serve. He said Mr. James is a former student of his.

Mr. James said he really enjoyed working with Mr. Potts on Council.

Temp. Ord. A-18

An ordinance authorizing a mutual aid agreement with interstate and intrastate participating municipalities with municipal electric systems, in order to be able to receive and provide mutual assistance during times of emergencies through the interchange and use of personnel and equipment, and declaring an emergency.

Mrs. Ritzinger read A-18 (second reading). Mr. Myers said this agreement replaces the one that has been in effect with AMP-Ohio since 1984.

The Committee recommended bringing out Temp. Ord. A-18 for approval.

Temp. Ord. A-19

An ordinance authorizing the execution of one or more long term power purchase schedules and declaring an emergency.

Mrs. Ritzinger read A-19 (second reading). Mr. Myers said this legislation is intended to get the City out of the expensive short-term gas market and into a more advantageous buying position.

The Committee recommended bringing out Temp. Ord. A-19 for approval.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:47 p.m.

