

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

MEETING OF COUNCIL

March 28, 2016

Mayor O'Callaghan called the City of Union council meeting to order on Monday, March 28, 2016 at 7:30 p.m.

Attendance was taken and the following council members were present: Mayor O'Callaghan, Mr. Bruns, Mrs. Oberer, Mrs. Kyle, Mr. Blackwell, and Ms. Tremain.

Other city staff members attending the meeting were John Applegate, City Manager, Denise Winemiller, Clerk of Council, and Joe Moore, Law Director.

Mayor O'Callaghan said that Mrs. Perkins was not able to attend the meeting. He moved that her absence be excused. Ms. Tremain seconded the motion. All concurred and the motion was passed and her absence was excused.

Mayor O'Callaghan asked for a moment of silence.

1. Mayor O'Callaghan asked if there were any additions, corrections, or deletions for the minutes of the March 14, 2016 council meeting. There were no corrections so Mayor O'Callaghan moved that the minutes be approved. Ms. Tremain seconded the motion. All concurred and the minutes of the March 14, 2016 meeting were approved.

2. Citizen's and Visitor's Comments

There were no comments from any citizens or visitors.

3. Presentation from Montgomery County Transportation Improvement District (TID) of a traffic study done in the area surrounding the Dayton International Airport.

Steve Stanley from Montgomery County Transportation Improvement District (TID) and Jeff Koehn, from the IBI Group were present to give a presentation.

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Mr. Stanley said that the addition of the P&G Distribution Center to the City of Union has been a tremendously successful project, but the project had created some issues. Mr. Stanley said that they were in the process of obtaining money for improvements for the roadways in the area and to best utilize the funds, they wanted to determine the traffic volume. They were looking to make improvements on State Route 40, from the airport access road to Union Airpark Blvd, and the study was done to best determine how the funds from Dayton, Montgomery County, and ODOT would be allocated. They were concerned with how wide the roads should be and how many lanes were needed to best serve the area.

Jeff Koehn from IBI Group said they were looking at various things and had some preliminary data taken from October 2015. Vandalia was also interested in part of the study for northern sections and offered to pay for that portion of the study. He said they were going to all of the local governments with their information and because of the study, they had a much better and more accurate picture of the traffic in the area.

Mr. Koehn said that they were able to get even more information than before due to changes in technology. They also had access to other data from ODOT, MVRPC, and the county and federal data. They chose October 27, 2015 as a date to record twenty-four hours of traffic data. The data could differentiate between passenger vehicles, trucks (like FedEx, busses, and delivery trucks) and longer trucks like semis.

Mr. Koehn presented various charts and ways of looking at traffic and also a history of traffic in the area, such as there was a decrease in traffic in 2007.

Mr. Applegate asked Mr. Koehn to point out the various locations on the map that they were dealing with. Locations included the Vandalia industrial areas, Union Airpark, the schools, etc. The traffic study for 2007 shows that the truck traffic was down for I-70 and I-75.

On October 27, when the recent traffic study was done, Mr. Koehn said that the P&G distribution center was at 125% capacity. They had done a gradual ramp up of their deliveries and the last one was at the end of September.

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Mr. Koehn stated I-75 had declined in truck traffic which was not the perception of the area.

Mr. Koehn also discussed that people “feel” like there are more trucks in the area. He said the data shows that 7:00 am and 5:00 pm are the busiest times. At 7:00 am the truck traffic peaks to 6%. He said there is not a huge different percentage of trucks. There are roughly 20 to 36 trucks per hour. The truck traffic sticks to the areas with higher performance.

He explained the goal of the study is to improve the areas where they want the trucks to go because the truck drivers will go the fastest and best way. The traffic data collected helps justify the improvements. The past history of the area shows traffic was higher before when the Emery plant was operational.

Mr. Koehn said the roadway improvements that were made were larger than what was needed by P&G and they allow for future growth. Most of the trucks are going where they are supposed to go. They are trying to keep the trucks on the preferred routes.

Mr. Stanley said that after listening to the presentation, he was able to draw four conclusions.

1. He said from a pure planning perspective for improvements to U.S. 40, they can justify the improvements which they have to do to receive funding.

2. There was not a significant difference historically in the traffic from before and what they are seeing now. He said in the past when Emery was operational and the roads did not have the improvements they do now, the traffic was more than now so with the roadway improvements, they are ahead of the game.

3. The trucks involved in with the Vandalia industrial park and P&G are going where they want them to go. There are a few stragglers but not a significant number. Some of the intersections north that are smaller have a small amount of truck traffic but it is not a huge volume and manageable in the future.

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Vandalia has concerns with the intersection of Dixie and State Route 40 but there does not appear to be a tremendous number trucks turning there. He said most of the truck traffic is where it should be.

4. The data points out that there are relatively small amounts of additional traffic and they have a good picture of what is happening in the area.

Mr. Koehn agreed with all of Mr. Stanley's points.

He said that Vandalia's concern with the traffic on the Dixie and State Route 40 intersection could be because trucks move slowly through intersections and possibly the timing of the lights but he said they had no data on that.

Richard Oaks, Traffic Engineer said he had been working with Mr. Applegate since 1982 and had worked with Vandalia on the intersections in Vandalia, traffic signals and helping to obtain right-of-ways. Mr. Oaks said what helps Vandalia also helps Union.

Mr. Koehn said that ODOT was also applying for grants which would reduce what they have to pay and accelerate the funding cycle.

4. Open Agenda

Mayor O'Callaghan said he hoped that everyone had a nice Easter holiday. He thanked council member Mr. Blackwell, his family, and the police and fire departments for their assistance in the community spring egg hunt on Saturday, March 19. He said that they did a fantastic job.

The Mayor also thanked the citizens for voting for Union's street levy.

Mayor O'Callaghan also suggested that people check out the Aristocrat pear trees blooming along Main Street. He said it was very beautiful.

Mr. Blackwell said the egg hunt went very well and it was well attended, even though it was a little chilly. He said that he wished to thank the VFW 5434

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and JD's Frozen Custard for their donations. He said every child was able to receive something for attending. He also thanked the Fire Department and the Police Department for their help.

Ms. Tremain said that the opening ceremony for Union's Bicentennial Celebration will be held at the VFW 5434 on Friday, May 13 and there will be the presentation of colors, the Star Spangled Banner, the Color Guard, and a speech by the Mayor. Ms. Tremain said she will get the time of the event and asked if they could get coverage by the Englewood Independent.

Mrs. Oberer thanked the police chief and police officers that attended former police officer Kevin Kern's funeral. She said it was very nice and respectful and that Officer Kern was a good guy.

Mr. Bruns thanked Mr. Stanley and Mr. Koehn for their presentation.

Mr. Bruns said the next meeting would be on April 11, 2016.

Mr. Applegate said they had started the West Martindale Water Main replacement project and everything was moving right along.

Mr. Applegate said the presentation from Mr. Stanley and Mr. Koehn put to rest a lot of the comments the city had received about increased truck traffic because the traffic in the area is not as high as it has been in the past. He added that the city will continue to do the things they needed to do and that everything would get bigger and better. Mr. Applegate said this planning would be very beneficial and all of them were working hard and steady towards a successful industrial park. Mr. Applegate said that P&G was there to stay and for the industrial park, they were all in it together, including Vandalia and the airport. He said he will keep everyone updated.

Mrs. Winemiller thanked Mr. Blackwell for the successful Easter Egg hunt.

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Mrs. Winemiller informed the council that they were currently applying for recycling incentive grant funds to get a sign, benches, and picnic tables for the Union Wellfield Park.

5. Mr. Bruns moved that the council meeting be adjourned. Mr. Blackwell seconded the motion. All concurred and the motion was passed. The March 28, 2016 council meeting was adjourned. The next council meeting will be on Monday, April 11, 2016.

Respectfully submitted,

Denise A. Winemiller,
Clerk of Council

John Bruns, Vice Mayor