

**TIPP CITY WORK SESSION**

**TIPP CITY, MIAMI COUNTY, OHIO**

**May 2, 2016**

**Work Session**

The work session began at 6:45 pm. The following Council members were present: President Joe Gibson, Mayor Pat Hale, Carrie Arblaster, Katie Berbach, John Kessler, Tom Merritt and Matt Owen. Also attending was City Manager Tim Eggleston, Assistant City Manager Brad Vath, Finance Director John Green, Director of Municipal Services and Engineering John Donnelly, Law Director David Caldwell, Police Sergeant Chris Graham, Fire Chief Steve Kessler and Clerk of Council Janice Bates. Reporters Carla Ungerecht and Cecilia Fox were also in attendance.

Guests include members of the Charter Review Commission; Jackie Wahl, David Cook, Paul Harto, George Lovett and David Wirth.

Charter Review  
Commission  
Recommendations

Mr. Eggleston informed Council the Charter Review Commission has their final recommendations and are ready for Council. The Commission has two recommendations to bring before Council. Mr. Kessler inquired if there were other issues that was of concern for the Commission. Mr. Wirth replied there were a few grammatical issues, but those are minimal. The Commission didn't want to create voter fatigue with several amendments to the Charter. President Gibson inquired if a series of amendments could lead to voter fatigue. Mr. Harto stated this is why the Commission decided upon the two proposal being presented. President Gibson inquired if these suggestions would be on the November ballot. Mr. Eggleston replied if Council should approve. President Gibson thanked the Commission for their review of the Charter and all of their hard work. Mr. Caldwell stated the Board of Elections has an August 10 deadline, but an ordinance of Council's approval would be required as part of the exhibits for the Board of Elections. Mr. Eggleston stated legislation will be before Council to meet these deadlines.

Cost of Electric Service  
Study

Mr. Green provided Council with follow-up information regarding the current cost of electric service study being conducted by Sawvel and Associates. Mr. Green stated current rates should provide sufficient revenue to meet the City's needs for the next five-year budget cycle. Mr. Green added Tipp City is not competitive with DP&L for large Industrial or General Service customers. Mr. Green stated he anticipates Sawvel will recommend an increase to the residential customer charges to approximately \$10/ month, to create a new Industrial consumer class for users in excess of 1,000 kw and to increase the kW demand for General Service, Industrial and Large Power customers and remove the kWh component from the existing rate for the General Service customer class. Additional recommendations would be to establish new rate structure to generate same revenue levels taking into consideration the increased customer charge and changes in demand and kWh charges. The time to fully implement these changes would be to have the smallest impact to the customer. Mr. Green stated it is difficult to quantify until new rate structure is determined. Mr. Green stated for example and as discussion, if the customer charge were to increase from \$4 to \$10 and the kWh rate is increased by 5%, the average residential bill would increase approximately \$8.50/ month. Mr. Green stated when Council is ready, we will ask Sawvel to make a presentation and walk Council through their findings. President Gibson stated the ultimate result will be an increase for the

residential user and a decrease for the Industrial users. Mr. Eggleston commented, "We would be creating a system that was fair to everyone". Mayor Hale inquired the cost of the service study. Mr. Green stated he didn't have that information with him at this time, but would provide tomorrow. Ms. Arblaster inquired of the next steps. Mr. Green stated he can notify Sawvel asking them to "wrap-up" their findings and to schedule a presentation for Council in June or July. Mr. Eggleston inquired if the presentation can be made on June 20<sup>th</sup>.

**Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at 7:17 pm.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Joseph Gibson, President of Council

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Janice Bates, Clerk of Council

**TIPP CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

**TIPP CITY, MIAMI COUNTY, OHIO**

**May 2, 2016**

**Council Meeting**

The following Council Members answered roll call. President Joe Gibson, Mayor Pat Hale, Carrie Arblaster, Katie Berbach, John Kessler Tom Merritt and Matt Owen.

City Staff in attendance include: City Manager Tim Eggleston, Law Director David Caldwell, Assistant City Manager Brad Vath, Finance Director John Green, Director of Municipal Services and Engineering John Donnelly, Police Sergeant Chris Graham, Fire Chief Steve Kessler, EMS Chief Jeff Calicoat and Clerk of Council Janice Bates. Reporters Carla Ungerecht and Cecilia Fox were also in attendance.

Guests signing the register include: Jordan McMahan, David Wirth, David Cook, Paul Harto, Thomas Chaney, Andrew Doviak, Wyatt Wilson, Rich Wilson, Mitchell Poynter, Haley Altic, Rev. Gary Boggs, Josh Bessler and Alicia Bhagwat.

**Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance**

Pastor Jeff Seekins from Community Bible Church gave the Prayer for Guidance. President Gibson led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Approval of Agenda**

Ms. Berbach moved to approve the agenda. Mr. Kessler seconded. Motion carried.

**Minutes**

4/18/16 Council Work Session

Mr. Kessler moved to approve the minutes of the April 18, 2016 Work Session. Ms. Berbach seconded. Motion carried.

4/18/16 Council Meeting

Mr. Owen moved to approve the minutes of the April 18, 2016 Council Meeting. Ms. Berbach seconded. Motion carried.

**Presentations, Proclamations, & Awards**

Mayor Hale read a proclamation for National Day of Prayer. Rev. Gary Boggs accepted the proclamation and informed everyone the ceremony will take place this Thursday, May 5 at noon in the parking lot of the United Methodist Church.

Mayor Hale read a proclamation for Municipal Clerks Week. Clerk of Council Janice Bates accepted the proclamation. Mayor Hale informed everyone Ms. Bates has also recently been accepted as an Athenian Fellow and asked Ms. Bates to describe what that entailed. Ms. Bates stated this is an honor and achievement that has been presented by the International Institute of Municipal Clerks. Throughout the entire organization including 15 different counties, there are only 74 Clerks who are Fellows and there are only 4 in the State of Ohio. Ms. Bates stated she participated in 10 dialogues reading various books on leadership, participated in day long classes and wrote essays in correspondence to the book that was read. Mayor Hale congratulated Ms. Bates for her hard work.

Mayor Hale read a proclamation for Poppy Days.

**Ordinances (2<sup>nd</sup> Reading)**

There were none.

**Resolutions**  
Health Savings Accounts  
Contributions

A resolution authorizing an employer contribution to employee Health Savings Accounts.

City Manager's Comments: Each year, staff comes before Council asking to contribute to the employees who have elected to take a high deductible medical policy. Staff is also proposing the stipend that Council authorizes be paid quarterly with the caveat that if the employee has a catastrophic event, they are able to petition the City to get the full amount. In the past, if an employee comes in and receives their \$3,000 or \$1,100 respectively and they end employment with the City, they leave with that amount of money. This way, it protects the City.

Ms. Berbach introduced the resolution and moved for its adoption. Mr. Kessler seconded. President Gibson inquired the length of this program. Mr. Eggleston replied it has been in effect for 5 years. Motion passed 7-0. Resolution 12-16 was declared adopted and President Gibson affixed his signature in witness thereto.

**Ordinances**  
**(1<sup>st</sup> Reading)**  
Amending 2016  
Appropriations

An ordinance amending 2016 appropriations and modifying the annual operating budget as a result of this action.

City Manager's Comments: This completes the appropriations for the CR25A project. Because this was not budgeted, staff is asking Council make an amendment to the budget and ask that this ordinance be moved to a second reading.

Mr. Kessler introduced the ordinance.

**Motions**  
City wide liquor permit  
renewals

A motion to request or not request a public hearing for any/all liquor license renewals in the City of Tipp City.

City Manager's Comments: This is an annual renewal, and the Police Chief has no problem with the renewals.

Mayor Hale moved to not request a public hearing. Mr. Owen seconded. President Gibson confirmed with Sergeant Graham the Police Department had no concerns with any of the renewals included in the materials that were provided to Council. Sergeant Graham stated the Police Department does not have any concerns with the renewals. Motion carried.

Accepting the 2016-2017  
Council Strategic Plan

A motion accepting City Council's 2016-2017 Strategic Plan.

City Manager's Comments: This is the final plan, unless Council has any changes or comments to accept this plan. Staff will begin moving forward in implementing those items they can. Some are already in the implementation phase such as the entry design for I-75. Staff is asking Council accept the Strategic Plan.

Mayor Kessler moved to accepting Council's Strategic Plan. Mr. Owen seconded. Ms. Arblaster inquired if the plan will be posted online. President Gibson stated it will once adopted. President Gibson also thanked Council for their hard work on this project. Motion carried.

**Miscellaneous**

There were none.

**Citizen Comments on  
Items not on the  
Agenda**

There were none.

**Councilmember  
Comments**

Ms. Arblaster wished to extend “a hearty congratulations to Janice”. “You do a really great job and I have no doubt that you’ve earned that honor”. Ms. Arblaster also reminded everyone the Downtown Tipp City Partnership has their First Friday event this week. They will be doing a “Wine Vine” from 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm downtown. Make sure you “pop in”.

Mr. Owen also wished to congratulate Janice as well. “Job well done and that is a big task to do. Congratulations!” Ms. Owen also wished to thank the citizens who have volunteered and participated in the City’s Comprehensive Master Development Plan. Mr. Owen also reminded everyone the Community Wide Garage Sale is this weekend. It will be a big day in Tipp with a lot of people out and about. Mr. Owen encouraged everyone to be cautious of everyone walking around. Mr. Owen also reminded everyone the FC Tippecanoe Soccer tryouts have been established and will take place at Kyle Park on May 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>. President Gibson inquired of the Open House scheduled to take place in early May for the Comprehensive Master Development Plan. Mr. Owen confirmed the date is May 9<sup>th</sup> and will be held in Council Chambers and is open to the public.

Ms. Berbach also congratulated Janice. Ms. Berbach also reminded everyone, Tipp City SAY Soccer sign-ups are still going on. That will go on until June 1<sup>st</sup>. Registration can be completed at the website; [tippsoccer.org](http://tippsoccer.org).

Mr. Merritt also congratulated Janice. Mr. Merritt agreed there was a great turnout at the recent Comprehensive Master Development Plan meeting. Mr. Merritt encouraged everyone to visit the Imagine Tipp City website and to complete the survey.

Mr. Kessler informed everyone the American Legion Women’s Auxiliary makes the red poppy lapel pins for donations. Those donations go toward the VA Center and for homeless Veterans. “We also put some money aside at the Legion to help Veterans in the Community when they need help. If you see them out, feel free to donate and to buy a poppy and to wear it proudly. Along those same lines with Memorial Day coming up, you might see me walking the cemeteries. I straighten up all of the headstones and grave markers and repair them as well. If you have an interest in doing that and seeing some of the history...they go from the Revolutionary War to present day. Give me a hand. I will be glad to explain to you what I know. Thank you”.

Mayor Hale thanked the Charter Review Commission. “It is nice to have a group of people who are willing to step forward and to help out”. Mayor Hale informed everyone he attended the Arbor Day tree planting ceremony last Friday in City Park. Staff gave 180 saplings to students that day. “That is really good for the community as a whole”. Mayor Hale also thanked Janice for her work. “This has been a process she has started five years ago. This isn’t something that just came about very quickly. Congratulations again”.

President Gibson stated, "I shall also congratulate Janice as well. She has worked very hard to achieve this accomplishment and this recognition in her field. I know she works very hard dealing with these 7 people, which can be no small task. I do appreciate all of your work, and thank you very much for all you do. Continued success and keep up the good work. Thank you again for all the time and effort you put in to this every week. Just for everybody's knowledge; in addition to being the Clerk of Council, she is also the Executive Assistant to the City Manager. She has to wear two hats in any given day to take care of us on City Council as well as take care of the City Manager. We thank her for all that she does. Congratulations once again". President Gibson reminded everyone there is a lot going on this Spring and early Summer in Tipp City. "We've got the garage sale coming up this weekend, we have the Open House for the Comprehensive Master Plan. I want to thank the Council Members who participate in that as well as all of the Committee Members as well as those members of the public who have offered their insight. We continue to seek everyone's thoughts on that. Anyone wishing to get involved can visit [imagnetippcity.com](http://imagnetippcity.com) on the website and FaceBook. Put your two cents worth in there and let us know where you think the City ought to be going. I also want to echo Mayor Hale's thanks to the Charter Review Committee. They had to review the City's Charter and make recommendations on any changes to keep it updated. That is no small task and we appreciate the time and the effort that they have put into that and the thought going into the recommendations. The second part of this process, is for me as Council President to call upon Council Members to take a look at the Charter themselves and see if there is anything from their perspectives. There is citizen input and there is Council input on this process. We are now at the Council phase and anyone wishing to give us any information on that. There will be a Study Session from the Council's perspective as well". President Gibson reminded everyone Canal Music Fest is coming up in early June. Also in June is the Antique and Artisan Show, Guns and Ribbons (this year Guns and Ribbons will also be a Cross Fit competition). "We also have our 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebration as well. Mark your calendars for a Home Town 4<sup>th</sup> of July Celebration including some fine fireworks as well. Finally, Mr. Kessler and I have talked about this before the meeting. He has submitted some noticed problems in our City's traffic code. The Law Director has put together some thoughts as well on some issues that he saw, just on a few sections of the Traffic Code. It occurred to me that it probably has been a significant period of time since the Traffic Code has had a comprehensive review. I know we have done that with the City's Sign Code and we did a lot of good there. We have also done that with the City's land use plan regarding Zoning rules and so forth. That was a very long, and I hate to say it, but costly process. But I dare say, we might need to do the same with the City's Traffic Code. Since the issues have been brought up and are substantive enough that might require a look see. I request Council and Staff to see if that is something we can do internally. I know Traffic Codes can be uniform throughout the State, but we still might have provisions about you shall not tie up your horse two feet too close to the local tavern. If we have any rules in our Traffic Code like that, we need to update them and modernize them. I call on Council and Staff to consider as the next step in our Code modification, updating the Traffic Code. It seems to be a hot enough issue and I've received citizen concerns. It has been raised by Mr. Kessler and Mr. Caldwell, our Law Director. I hope to have a Study Session on that in due course as well". President Gibson informed the Seniors who were in attendance, they are invited to approach the dais after the meeting adjourns to get all the

required signatures for their projects. President Gibson reminded everyone, "These proceedings have been recorded and will be rebroadcast over the next two weeks on the local cable access station in this area, it is Chanel 5 of the Time Warner Cable lineup. You can also log on to kittv.org and download all meetings of City Council, Monroe Township Trustees and the School Board anytime day or night. That is kittv.org."

**City Manager  
Comments**

Mr. Eggleston informed everyone CR25A signage is being updated to take care of some concerns of the residents. Chief Burris has asked his officers to give as much time as they can to assist and maintain the neighborhood character

Staff is hoping to bring legislation before Council regarding the parking issues Mr. Kessler has raised.

Staff has sent out a fireworks/sponsorship letter, which we are receiving several back. We would like to thank those who have contributed so far. It is very thoughtful of them to contribute money to the fireworks display.

Please remember the Miami County Police Memorial will be at the Courthouse in Troy on Wednesday, May 4, 2016. The event begins at noon.

Mr. Merritt reminded everyone to remember their Mother's on Sunday for Mother's Day.

**Adjournment**

Mr. Kessler moved to adjourn. Mayor Hale seconded. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:04 pm

\_\_\_\_\_  
Joseph Gibson, President of Council

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Janice Bates, Clerk of Council



