

MINUTES OF COUNCIL

A regular session of Troy City Council was held Monday, July 3, 2017, at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers.

Members Present: Heath, Kendall, Phillips, Schweser, Snee and Terwilliger.

Upon motion of Mr. Kendall, seconded by Mr. Heath, Mrs. Oda was excused from this meeting by unanimous roll call vote.

Upon motion of Mr. Kendall, seconded by Mr. Schweser, Mr. Tremblay was excused from this meeting by unanimous roll call vote.

Upon motion of Mr. Schweser, seconded by Mr. Kendall, Mr. Twiss was excused from this meeting by unanimous roll call vote.

Presiding Officer: Martha A. Baker President of Council

Others Present: Patrick E. J. Titterington, Director of Public Service and Safety
Grant D. Kerber, Director of Law

INVOCATION: An invocation was given by Council Member Phillips, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

INTRODUCTION: Matthew D. Webb was introduced. He was appointed to the position of Firefighter on June 12, 2017.

MINUTES: The Clerk gave a summary of the minutes of the June 19, 2017 meeting of Troy City Council. There were no corrections or additions to these minutes. A motion was made by Mr. Phillips, seconded by Mr. Heath, to approve these minutes. Motion passed by unanimous roll call vote.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Law & Ordinance Committee: Mr. Schweser, Chairman, reported that notice has been received regarding three liquor license applications:

- New D2 permit for Studio 14 Creative Arts Center LLC, dba Studio 14 Creative Arts Center, 8 N. Market Street.
- New C2 permit for Dolgen Midwest LLC, dba Dollar General Store 1955, 785 W. Market Street.
- Transfer of existing C1 and C2 permits from the Ninos Gas LLC, 503 E. Staunton Road, to the name of Fuel One LLC, dba 55 Express Mart, of the same address.

Personnel Committee: Mr. Terwilliger, Chairman, gave the oral report that Committee supports the request of Mayor Beamish for several reappointments to the City Beautification Committee. A motion was made by Mr. Terwilliger, seconded by Mr. Phillips, to approve the reappointments of the following for new two-year terms commencing July 1, 2017: Judy Fiessinger, Patricia Doran, Wanda Tremblay, Barrie Van Kirk, Mary Davis, Phyllis Dawkins, and Amy Cullis. Motion passed by unanimous roll call vote.

CITIZEN COMMENTS: None.

RESOLUTIONS: None.

ORDINANCES: None.

COMMENTS OF THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE AND SAFETY: Mr. Titterington commented that on July 4 City offices will be closed but refuse will be collected on the regular schedule.

COMMENTS OF COUNCIL MEMBERS: Mr. Schweser inquired about the railroad ties left by CSX along Hydraulic Ave. and stated his concern about the appearance of the area and that someone may be hurt on the ties and other materials. Mr. Titterington commented that CSX has advised that the ties should be removed the week of July 24, and the City has pounded down sharp edges in the interim.

Mr. Phillips asked about the status of residents receiving an extra refuse bin, with Mr. Titterington commenting that a few residents have qualified to receive an additional bin, but that residents have become more accustomed to the new system.

Mr. Terwilliger noted that some sidewalk and curb that has been repoured on the north of town is a project of a utility company and not the City.

COMMENTS OF PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL: Mrs. Baker commented she appreciated the Troy Development Council update that was in the Council packet.

PRESENTATION: Mr. Titterington provided a presentation of the MKSK Downtown and Riverfront Study (with the 16 page document attached to the original minutes). In addition to the information contained in the presentation, Mr. Titterington further commented: the City funded \$25,000 of the study cost and is only one of the partners in funding the study; since the June roll-out of the study, a number of meetings to review the Study have been scheduled with a variety of governmental agencies, clubs and organizations, citizens, and community organizations; the downtown has the ability to add additional retail and residential space with redevelopment and mixed uses; MKSK has recommended that the City test some of the ideas mentioned in the report to see how they work and are received, including the future closing of N. Cherry to vehicle traffic for another gathering place use; to provide a test for the use of N. Cherry Street, activities are being planned for July 14 (a downtown concert will be moved from Prouty Plaza), August 12 (a family oriented movie) and September 28 (a ticketed dining event); to provide better connections from the bike trail to the downtown, by August 1 a bike lane will temporarily be placed on the south side of Water Street; other asphalt markings will be placed to help cyclists find the bike lanes; other testing is included in the study to be implemented along East Water Street within two years and to further redevelop Prouty Plaza; other proposed implementation is recommended for time frames of 2-5 years, 5-10 years, and 10 years plus; using the north river bank is considered an ideal location for residential units, additional downtown parking, and a non-vehicular bridge; there needs to be much discussion regarding funding of such bridge; a more radical item in the study, and in a longer time frame, is to redevelop the public square (roundabout) to a "squareabout"; the 26 spaces that could potentially be lost on the south side of E. Water Street (to provide the bike lane) can be offset by allowing additional parking spaces on the north side of E. Water Street; the "branding" is being reviewed at this time to best "tell the Troy story" and this is more than only changing logos; the branding will be reviewed with the Council and many of the other entities that are to receive presentations; cost estimates are being worked on for some of the 0-2 year implementation items; it is recognized that implementation of the study will require private investors as well as investments by the partners/stakeholders; the entire 97-page study is available on the City's website; feedback is important and is sought.

-Mrs. Baker asked that Council be made aware of when the meetings with other entities are scheduled in case Council Members wish to attend any of those meetings.

-Mrs. Baker asked if Council will be asked to approve the study, as Council is on the front line when it comes to the public in making changes. Mr. Titterington advised that is not necessary, but Council could if Council wishes; Council would have to be involved for items like applications for funding, requesting any changes to the state routes, and approving funding for infrastructure.

-Mr. Heath asked about the market for the N. Cherry Street project. Mr. Titterington replied that as the first item is moving a concert, it will only require getting the word out about it being moved. Marketing for the August 12 movie will be kicked off soon, with riding bicycles to the movie encouraged. The August 12 movie event will also involve activities at Treasure Island Park. He stated that the Chamber, The Troy Foundation, Troy Main Street, and the City are working on these three events.

-Mr. Schweser stated that he likes much of the plan; a number of communities are already implementing initiatives similar to that proposed; but he is very concerned about many of the streets selected for bike lane connections and how parking will be addressed with using roadway areas for bicycles. Mr. Titterington stated that if the bike lanes are implemented, it will not be this year, and implementation will take more research.

-Mr. Kendall said he is excited about much of the study and how it can address current and future needs of citizens and investors, and he has seen similar plans put in place in other areas and countries. Mr. Titterington commented that MKSK is impressed with the activities that Troy already pulls off, and MKSK does not feel that Troy has fallen behind the curve in progressing.

-Mr. Phillips stated he thinks many of the projects are needed, but there must be efforts to reach out to get the factual information before the citizens, and he feels that marketing needs to be done in a positive fashion. He suggested that many elements of the plan should be in the Comprehensive Plan. Mr. Phillips asked to see a count of cyclists in the City and particularly in the downtown, as well as cycling organizations.

-Mrs. Snee commented she is encouraged that the plan recognizes the lack of certain housing. She supports getting as much information as possible out about the study. Regarding a comment about the location of parking on E. Water Street, was advised that it would be near Hobart Cabinet.

-Mr. Terwilliger stated he sees the main issue to be parking in a number of areas. He also commented that he believes the green space of the levee is a very important part of the City and he does not support development at a loss of something that can never be replaced again, such as the levee area. He further commented that to take parking area at the Hobart Arena, or to take the North Market Street ballfields for development would be to take an area that would forever be lost to the City. Mr. Titterington stated there was discussion about the potential loss of green space and how it is used, and the Steering Committee is sensitive to retaining green space, and MKSK will take those concerns into account. Regarding the parking needs downtown and the

“river district concept”, Mr. Titterington stated that a parking structure could be under the residential area, a parking structure could expand the parking available at the Arena, and a safe walkway across the river from a parking structure could help alleviate a conceived parking problems in the downtown. He also noted that this concept will require considerable further review.

-Mrs. Baker suggested that there be mechanisms to get out and speak to the citizens, and not just those in the Southwest Historic District, as they are the ones who contribute to the tax base and get feedback from the citizens before plans are further looked at.

CITIZEN COMMENTS:

Rosemary Jones, 1453 Cornish Road, stated she believes the MKSK plan needs to speak more to the older citizens, and not just be a plan for cluttering the river and creating more street congestion. She suggested that if the live “web cam” of the public square is looked at, anyone could see that it works quite well. She suggested not attracting more just to change.

There being no further business, Council adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Clerk of Council

President of Council