

Mr. Raines: None.

Petition from Randy Case, 916 Vine Street

Mr. Case –You are short on money but you are going to hand out raises for the next three years. With the economy there are a lot of people that are not getting raises but the City employees are. Until things get better I don't think the City should be handing our raises.

Mr. Tarbert: Do we have the authority in this document to amend the percentages?

Mr. Raines: No. You can reject it. We would have to go back to negotiate with the union some more.

Mayor Zwelling: This was a negotiated deal with 3 or 4 meetings. This was the last item of several we negotiated. We ended up with 1%, 2%, and 3%. This union got 3% less than the last contract we negotiated with. Now it is subject to Council's approval.

Mr. Tarbert: I appreciate your optimism, but we are back to having optimism as a financial strategy for the City that we hope and assume that 3 years from now we will be able to meet that 3% raise. There is no projection done to show that we can do that.

Mayor Zwelling: We have done several things, such as cutting overtime in half, reduce subsidies the same and we raised sanitation fees. We have a committee that reviews every requisition from general fund.

Mr. Tarbert: Those things may or may not get us through 2010.

Mayor Zwelling: You said may or may not, but I think we haven't taken a good look at it to see if it is working. The reports show that we are doing overall better.

Mr. Tarbert: It shows that overtime is down, but it does not show what comp time is going to do to us. We are playing the shell game.

Mayor Zwelling: The fire chief has assured me that those taking comp time have very little on the books.

Mr. Tarbert: If we reject this and you are unable to negotiate a contract with them what happens?

Mr. Raines: Go to fact finding then to binding arbitration.

Mr. Vincent: Remember in our past history, with arbitration, we have not done well, as far as keeping things under control.

Mr. Roberts: Mayor, part of the 1%, 2%, and 3% raises that they did agree to also left out furloughs and layoffs for these correction officers?

Mayor Zwelling: That was part of the negotiations.

Mr. Tarbert: So as part of the negotiations we agreed not to layoff or furlough these people? When we renegotiated the union contracts in the future, isn't every union going to want a guarantee of no layoffs and furloughs. Can we do that Mr. Hillis?

Mr. Hillis: I don't believe we can.

Mr. Raines: It is not in the contract, it is in a letter from the Mayor. The letter is for two years.

Motion carried.

Ordinance No. 10-13 – Introduced by Council – An ordinance authorizing the proper City official to amend Ordinance No. 06-134 concerning the cell phone policy of the City of Zanesville.

Mr. Tilton moved to replace Ordinance No. 10-13 with Ordinance No. 10-13 Amended, seconded by Mr. Kilpatrick.

Motion carried.

We are now at Ordinance No. 10-13 (as Amended) – An ordinance authorizing the proper City official to amend Ordinance No 06-134 concerning the cell phone policy of the City of Zanesville.

Mr. Zakany moved for second reading, seconded by Mr. Baker.

Mr. Tarbert: If they do not want to mark their calls they have to reimburse the City for the full amount of their plan – how have you figured that? If they have a family contract – one primary account holder and a number of people only paying \$20.00 per month.

Mrs. Moyer: We addressed it in the cell phone policy.

Mr. Tarbert: One fireman that is the main account holder on the contract and his phone bill said he pays \$75.00 per month. And then you have seven more firemen who are under that plan and they only pay \$20.00 per month.

Mrs. Moyer: If they do not mark their calls. Fire is the only one that does not mark their personal phone calls.

Mr. Dubeck: One way of doing this is to take the monthly bill and divide it among the firemen that have City cell phones.

Mrs. Moyer: If we did do that we would have to change the policy.

Mr. Tilton: We would have to do that with every department, correct?

Mr. Sims: We have requested information on group plans and we are waiting on a reply.

Motion carried.

Ordinance No. 10-14 – Introduced by Council – Amending Ordinance No. 09-37, which established pay, benefit, and employment policies and procedures for unaffiliated employees in the municipal service.

Mr. Zakany moved for second reading, seconded by Mr. Tarbert.

Motion carried.

Ordinance No. 09-115 – Introduced by Council – Amending Ordinance No. 00-16, which adopted a classification plan for City employees, amending Ordinance No. 97-127, which authorized a maximum schedule of positions, amending Ordinance No. 09-37, which established pay, benefit and employment policies for unaffiliated employees, and declaring an emergency.

Mr. Tarbert: Ways and Means Committee recommended to make this position salary and we have an opinion from the Law Director and City Council may not have the authority to do that.

Mr. Tarbert moved to table for two weeks, seconded by Mr. Tilton.

Motion carried.

Ordinance No. 09-123 – Introduced by Council – An ordinance authorizing the proper City employee to take all actions necessary to implement a furlough system, and declaring an emergency.

Mr. Tilton moved for third reading, seconded by Mr. Tarbert.

Petition from: Michael Wyatt – 1158 Selsam Street–The employees did not do anything wrong to warrant furloughs.

Petition from: Randy Case – 916 Vine Street - Correction Officers, Water, and Sewer employees will not be furloughed. The Sanitation employees will not be furloughed because Council voted to increase the rates and make them self supporting.

Mayor Zwelling: What this ordinance does is authorizes the Treasurer to adjust the pay accordingly.

R. C. for passage

8 Ayes – 1 Nay - Mr. Zakany Motion carried.

Ordinance No. 10-08 – Introduced by Council – An ordinance authorizing the proper City official to purchase water meters and accessories without bidding from Badger Meter Company for the replacement of water meters.

Mr. Tilton moved for third reading and passage, seconded by Mr. Hutcheson.

Mr. Baker: Mike, are you having anybody coming to talk about this?

Mr. Sims: I understand that Mr. Baker had some concerns about the ordinance and I asked Neal Maxwell the Water Metering/Maintenance Administrator to explain to you a little more in depth.

Mr. Maxwell: Hopefully I can answer any questions you may have.

Mr. Baker: It seems that a \$150,000 at this time is an extravagant expenditure.

Mr. Maxwell: I can understand that because to date we have spent \$1,340,000 on retro fitting our system. We need to install another 1,250 units. We have 12,270 already installed and the cost to finish this program is \$95,968. I really believe you are getting your money's worth. We trained our personnel to install the meters. Most cities spend \$750,000 to have the meters installed. We have saved the City \$750,000 by installing the meters ourselves. These meters are your "cash registers". They are what makes your water and sewer self sufficient.

Mr. Baker: What would be the downside of waiting two years?

Mr. Maxwell: The meters we are pulling out are meters made in 1983 – 1988. The meters have plastic disks and the longer it's in the thinner it gets, the thinner it gets the less it reads. The ones we are removing loose you money. My opinion, yes I think it is worth every penny. We test and build our own meters. With rebuilding the meters ourselves we saved \$ 7,000 and what we tested saved \$9,000.

Mr. Vincent: What else could this money be spent on?

Mr. Sims: It would be divided among operations or maintenance, small water line replacements, it would be scattered.

Mr. Vincent: So you would do other projects you were not planning for this year?

Mr. Sims: If you took the entire amount it might do one small water main line.

Mr. Zakany: Are we doing this in house?

Mr. Maxwell: Yes, sir.

Mr. Baker: Would it be possible to use this money for outside of sewer and water by City ordinance?

Mr. Sims: I do not know of any mechanism that would allow us to move water revenue outside of the water funds.

Mr. Tarbert: We committed to this project seven years ago and it was a good idea then. If we are going to finish this project someday these meters are only going to get more expensive. You said the pay back for putting in these meters has come around.

Mr. Maxwell: Yes, I do not have the figures with me, but our billing department does.

Mr. Tarbert: So far we have invested \$1.3 million. You're telling me we have recouped that amount by the installation of these meters? That is the money we have saved by putting in these meters?

Mr. Maxwell: Yes, sir. The entire program.

Petition from: Randy Case – 916 Vine Street - In the last year there was an ordinance to buy meters before the rates went up.

Mr. Sims: It was not to buy the rest of what we needed, it was to order meters with the money we had left in the 2009 budget.

Mr. Maxwell: We bought 928 meters. And we have used all of them.

Petition from: Michael Wyatt - 1158 Selsam Street – I put in for 2 ordinances to talk about. What fee increase will we have when you put this system in and the second thing is do we have the money in the bank to pay for it? If we don't I am against it.

R. C. for passage
7 Ayes – 2 Nays – Mr. Baker,
Mr. Hutcheson Motion carried.

Ordinance No. 10-09 – Introduced by Council – An ordinance authorizing the proper City official to advertise for bids and enter into a professional contract for the purchase of fire hydrants, replacement parts, and main water valves for the water maintenance division.

Mr. Tilton moved for third reading and passage, seconded by Mr. Baker.

R. C. for passage
9 Ayes – 0 Nays Motion carried.

PRIVATE PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS:

None.

MISCELLANEOUS AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Mayor Zwelling: The Sunday Times Recorder had an article on the Underground Railroad. It is an article to cut out and save. At Secrest we had the Best of Zanesville last week and it was an outstanding show. All the artists donated their time and talent. This Friday, February 26th we have the Jake Owens Concert. On March 5th and 6th Miss Muskingum Valley and two weeks later Zaney Follies.

I have had some people tell me that are not in the bargain units, people that would not come under furloughs that they would volunteer to take the furloughs. If for Council's information I would invite any City employee that would voluntary take a furlough to help the City out.

Mr. Tilton moved to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Hutcheson.

Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm.