

Thursday, January 6, 2011

**ITEM 1: CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Flaute called the Riverside, Ohio Regular Council Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. at the Riverside Municipal Center located at 1791 Harshman Road, Riverside, Ohio.

**ITEM 2: ROLL CALL:** Council attendance was as follows: Ms. Campbell, present; Mr. Denning, present; Mr. Fullenkamp, present; Mrs. Reynolds, present; Mr. Schock, present; Mr. Smith, present; and Mayor Flaute, present.

Staff present was as follows: Bryan Chodkowski, City Manager; Katie Knisley, Assistant City Manager; Mike Brown, Police Department; Bob Turner, Fire Department; Bob Gillian, Finance Department; Bob Murray, Economic Development; and Mitch Miller, Service Department.

**ITEM 3: EXCUSE ABSENT MEMBERS:** There were no absent members.

**ITEM 4: ADDITIONS OR CORRECTIONS TO AGENDA:** There were revisions to the agenda prior to the start of the meeting: Item 13, Communications – a report from the Planning Commission was added; and Item 14, Presentations – a Presentation of the Key to the City was added.

**ITEM 5: APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** A motion was made by Mrs. Reynolds to approve the agenda as revised. Mr. Denning seconded the motion. A roll call vote was as follows: Mrs. Reynolds, yes; Mr. Denning, yes; Ms. Campbell, yes; Mr. Fullenkamp, yes; Mr. Schock, yes; Mr. Smith, yes; and Mayor Flaute, yes. **The motion passed.**

**ITEM 6: ESTABLISH DATE AND TIME FOR MEETINGS:** Mayor Flaute opened the floor to suggestions.

Ms. Campbell said sometimes we have a heavy work session and she suggested those be done on Monday nights, then on Thursday just have the regular meeting. She said she thought that would be better than rushing to cram it all in on one night and then we would have time to talk about the subjects.

Mr. Smith said personally, he was comfortable with the way it is. Ms. Campbell said she meant just when we knew there was a heavy load. Mr. Denning said sometimes we are rushed but a lot of times we get through the work session and we have 20 or 25 minutes before we get started on the business meeting. Mr. Smith said he thought tonight's meeting was a light agenda and the work session and business meeting could have been combined into one meeting.

A motion was made by Mr. Denning to keep the schedule as is; first and third Thursdays with work sessions at 6:00 p.m. and business meetings at 7:30 p.m. Mrs. Reynolds seconded the motion.

Ms. Campbell asked if it's a heavy load, can they meet on Monday nights. Mayor Flaute said the only way we will know to do that is when the time comes; he heard the request and he will do that. Mr. Fullenkamp asked if these would be special meetings and Mrs. Reynolds said only when we have a heavy load. Ms. Campbell said sometimes we need more than an hour and a half and there are things we rush through. Mayor Flaute said there are times when we can see that coming and he would take a suggestion from any of the Council Members that we ought to meet on a Monday.

Mr. Fullenkamp said he would suggest if we have an important issue that we have enough time to consider the issue; sometimes a work session followed by a business

Thursday, January 6, 2011

session where we have to address the item is not enough time to really consider it. He said sometimes the discussion creates additional questions.

With no further discussion, a roll call vote to keep the date and time for meetings the same was as follows: Mr. Denning, yes; Mrs. Reynolds, yes; Ms. Campbell, yes; Mr. Fullenkamp, yes; Mr. Schock, yes; Mr. Smith, yes; and Mayor Flaute, yes. **The motion passed.**

**ITEM 7: ELECTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR:** Mayor Flaute opened the floor for nominations of Council Members to serve as Deputy Mayor for 2011. The following nominations were made: Ms. Campbell nominated Mr. Schock; Mrs. Reynolds nominated Mr. Fullenkamp; Mr. Denning nominated Mr. Smith; and Mr. Schock nominated Ms. Campbell.

On call of the roll for Mr. Schock: Ms. Campbell, yes; Mr. Denning, no; Mr. Fullenkamp, no; Mrs. Reynolds, no; Mr. Schock, yes; Mr. Smith, no; and Mayor Flaute, no. The vote was 2-yes; 5-no.

On call of the roll for Mr. Fullenkamp: Mrs. Reynolds, yes; Ms. Campbell, no; Mr. Denning, no; Mr. Fullenkamp, yes; Mr. Schock, no; Mr. Smith no; and Mayor Flaute, yes. The vote was 3-yes; 4-no.

On call of the roll for Mr. Smith: Mr. Denning, yes; Ms. Campbell, no; Mr. Fullenkamp, no; Mrs. Reynolds, no; Mr. Schock, yes; Mr. Smith, yes; and Mayor Flaute, no. The vote was 3-yes; 4-no.

On call of the roll for Ms. Campbell: Mr. Schock, yes; Ms. Campbell, yes; Mr. Denning, no; Mr. Fullenkamp, no; Mrs. Reynolds, no; Mr. Smith, no; and Mayor Flaute, no. The vote was 2-yes; 5-no.

The clerk announced a tie between Mr. Fullenkamp and Mr. Smith. Mayor Flaute asked the clerk to do a roll call vote for each of those Council Members.

On call of the roll for Mr. Fullenkamp: Mr. Denning, no; Mr. Fullenkamp, yes; Mrs. Reynolds, yes; Mr. Schock, no; Mr. Smith no; Mayor Flaute, yes; and Ms. Campbell, no. The vote was 3-yes; 4-no.

On call of the roll for Mr. Smith: Ms. Campbell, yes; Mr. Denning, yes; Mr. Fullenkamp, no; Mrs. Reynolds, no; Mr. Schock, yes; Mr. Smith, yes; and Mayor Flaute, no. The vote was 4-yes; 3-no.

Mayor Flaute said Mr. Smith will serve as the Deputy Mayor for 2011.

**ITEM 8: WORK SESSION ITEMS:**

- a. Elect Council Members to the VFFDF (Volunteer Fire Fighters Dependent Fund) Board

A motion was made by Mrs. Reynolds to reappoint Deputy Mayor Smith and Mr. Schock to the VFFDF Board. Mr. Denning seconded the motion.

Mayor Flaute asked both if they wanted to stay on the board. Deputy Mayor Smith and Mr. Schock both said yes.

With no further discussion, a roll call vote was as follows: Mrs. Reynolds, yes; Mr. Denning, yes; Ms. Campbell, yes; Mr. Fullenkamp, yes; Mr. Schock, yes; Deputy Mayor Smith, yes; and Mayor Flaute, yes. **The motion passed.**

Thursday, January 6, 2011

b. Discussion: Meeting Plan for the City Manager Annual Review

Mayor Flaute asked Mr. Chodkowski when he was due for an annual review. Mr. Chodkowski said his anniversary date is January 18<sup>th</sup>. Mayor Flaute congratulated him and said that will be three years. Mr. Chodkowski said no; it will be the start of the fifth year, making him the longest tenured City Manager in Riverside history.

Mayor Flaute asked Council if they were ready to meet sometime this month and who is going to take the responsibility of going through the papers from last year; he thought Mrs. Reynolds did that last year and asked if she would be willing to do the same procedure this year.

Mrs. Reynolds said she would be willing to do that and asked if they could talk a little about the procedure. She said we've looked at several different evaluation tools in the past and we've all come away with the same thoughts that it's not the best way. She said she was looking at changing the process since we are at a crossroads in the city and setting direction is part of the evaluation. She said she looked at five areas as follows: priorities; identifying roles and the participants; the activities; review of the progress; and the evaluation of the outcome.

Mrs. Reynolds said under priorities it is just a statement of where are we going; where do we want this City Manager to take this city and putting that piece in place. She said identifying the roles of the participants would be who is actually in charge of the projects, setting direction, and making sure direction is followed. She said she has longed for the Council to have sub-committees and as Ms. Campbell mentioned earlier, sometimes we have very long meetings and everybody is sometimes on a different page because we have never had to bring pieces together before hand. She said the activities are how to make it happen; we know the City Manager is in charge of the day to day operations, but it is just that and not always forward movement; it's maintaining. She said she appreciated that and they talked about that a lot last year about how we were glad to be able to turn the lights on in the morning and turn them off at night, but she didn't think that's where they wanted to stay. She said item four was review of the progress and she thought that was something Council needed to be more involved with at regular 3, 6, and 9 month intervals where we sit down and look at the direction that was set, see where the manager is at, see where we are at, see what hasn't been accomplished, see why it hasn't been accomplished, and see what we can do to accomplish it. She said she thought in evaluating the City Manager, those are the things Council needs to be looking at. She said finally, number five is just to evaluate the outcomes. She said we can set direction; there are seven very smart people sitting up here with good ideas being brought forth but sometimes we leave it just to the word consensus. She said she didn't know if that was the way they needed to run business; we need to have a hands on approach to things. She said the evaluation process can incorporate goal setting, outcomes, and what we want the city to look like; the only way to do that is through what we determine we want the City Manager and his staff to do.

Mrs. Reynolds said those are just her ideas and she thought they needed to look at maybe encompassing our goal setting with the evaluation process.

Ms. Campbell said she thought they froze wage increases which includes the City Manager so why do we need to evaluate him. Mrs. Reynolds said we still need to evaluate him and evaluations are not always tied to money. Mr. Chodkowski said in all fairness, he sent out an email to senior staff telling them that despite the fact that there may not be wage increases, performance evaluations still need to be done to make sure expectations are known and clarified. He said he didn't expect it to be any different for him.

Thursday, January 6, 2011

Mr. Schock said he liked Mrs. Reynolds' simple layout; easier than the three or four page form they generally do for the manager but item four is an annual review? Mrs. Reynolds said it is a review of the progress on a 3, 6, and 9 month schedule; dates she felt were appropriate because any program they might want to undertake, it should be known within three months whether its working or not; at six months we ought to be able to see something else; and at nine months we should know. She said we've always looked at long range and there's nothing wrong with long range but she thinks we are at a crossroads now; we know we are not going to have a train station so we know we have to start looking for something other than that. Mr. Schock said so you want to do quarterly reviews. Mrs. Reynolds said yes and that may be a point where we adjust or change what we are doing. Mr. Fullenkamp said it could just be a progress report or interim evaluation.

Mr. Denning said we did a six month review last year and that worked out very well. Mr. Schock said that was something he brought up last year and he liked Mrs. Reynolds' bullet points. He said number four is quarterly and he thought they should establish a review program for the City Manager using those five bullets.

Deputy Mayor Smith said the City Manager is on a calendar year review and we usually don't get done with the annual review until March so that will put him behind the eight ball for a first quarter program report. Mayor Flaute said we can just do it every three months; it doesn't have to be by the calendar and he would rather have the clerk put it on the agenda calendar every three months. Deputy Mayor Smith said so it would be three months after we do the evaluation. Mayor Flaute said right – if that's what we want to do; like Mr. Denning said, last year we did a half year review and nothing earth shattering came of it. He said he's not sure we need to do it four times per year.

Mr. Denning said he thought Council needed to wait to see what goals are set for the manager; if there are short term goals set then the review can be a report from the manager on where he is on those things and it can be part of the work sessions in June and September. He said we can't say whether we want quarterly or six month reviews until we figure out what it is we are talking about. He said he sees a two part process: first, go over last year's goals with the manager; and second; set a different way of doing this. Mrs. Reynolds said it may not be anything different when we look at the goals from last year but she thought they all knew that we are looking in a different direction.

Deputy Mayor Smith said he agreed and we are going to set what it is we want the City Manager to do but the City Manager has been very good in the past at keeping us abreast of where we are with the projects either in his weekly report or in open session during our meetings.

Mr. Fullenkamp agreed and said fixed meetings may not be necessary depending on how well we are abreast and knowledgeable about the current state of events; it could work either way as long as we understand the projects.

Mr. Chodkowski said Mrs. Reynolds touched on council sub-committees earlier; he knows this council has had discussion on whether or not those would be beneficial and in the past, has chosen not to go that direction. He said depending upon the discussion Mr. Denning is wanting to have with council and with the manager, that might be an avenue in which some of that communication must be able to occur if there are some issues with his report and that report comes to council.

Mr. Denning said last year the manager did a report to council and we took that to the first meeting for review. He said we started the process and made sure we were all on board with that. He said we came back at a second meeting to set our new expectations

Thursday, January 6, 2011

and at a third meeting we met with the manager. He said the manager's time is valuable and he didn't think council needed him at the first meeting. He said he thought that process worked very well.

Mr. Schock asked if Mrs. Reynolds had the direction to draw up the five bullet points she suggested tonight as the evaluation tool. Mayor Flaute said he thought a lot of that was in the previous evaluation form but it seems a little more organized.

Mr. Fullenkamp said being a freshman member and never being through this process before, he would like to have as much information as he can get his hands on; the previous evaluation as well as other information if possible.

Council discussed dates to set offsite meetings and instructed the clerk to contact Walnut Grove for meetings at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, January 27<sup>th</sup>, Thursday, February 10<sup>th</sup>, and Thursday, February 24<sup>th</sup>.

c. Discussion: ED/GE Program

Mr. Chodkowski said at Council's last meeting there was some discussion on this program. He said Council had made some inquiries for information which was provided via email. He said there was some additional mathematics requested which followed at a later date once we had the information necessary from the county to do those calculations. He said to the best of his knowledge, we have provided council with all the information requested.

Mr. Fullenkamp said he was pleased with the information provided; he had doubts about the efficacy of the ED/GE program but he cannot permit us to not be able to participate.

Mr. Chodkowski said just for council's knowledge, Oakwood is scheduled to pass this legislation tonight. He said Union is the only municipality that did not rejoin the ED/GE program; Union's decision was based on the fact that their community is largely residential and they opted not to participate in the program for cash flow reasons.

A motion was made by Mr. Denning to bring forward legislation for participation in the ED/GE program to the business meeting this evening. Mr. Schock seconded the motion. A roll call vote was as follows: Mr. Denning, yes; Mr. Schock, yes; Ms. Campbell, yes; Mr. Fullenkamp, yes; Mrs. Reynolds, yes; Deputy Mayor Smith, yes; and Mayor Flaute, yes. **The motion passed.**

**ITEM 9: RECESS:** The Council took a recess 6:44 p.m.

**ITEM 10: RECONVENE:** The meeting was reconvened at 7:31 p.m.

**ITEM 11: PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Council Member Steve Fullenkamp led all those in attendance in the pledge of allegiance.

The agenda was revised during the recess to add Item 20 (II) a, Resolution No. 11-R-1518 and a motion was made by Mr. Denning to approve the agenda as revised. Mr. Fullenkamp seconded the motion. A roll call vote was as follows: Mr. Denning, yes; Mr. Fullenkamp, yes; Ms. Campbell, yes; Mrs. Reynolds, yes; Mr. Schock, yes; Deputy Mayor Smith, yes; and Mayor Flaute; yes. **The motion passed.**

**ITEM 12: MINUTES: Consider approval of the minutes for the December 16, 2010 Council meeting and the December 28, 2010 Special Council meeting.** A motion was made by Mrs. Reynolds to approve the minutes as written. Mr.

Thursday, January 6, 2011

Fullenkamp seconded the motion. A roll call vote was as follows: Mrs. Reynolds, yes; Mr. Fullenkamp, yes; Ms. Campbell, yes; Mr. Denning, yes; Mr. Schock, yes; Deputy Mayor Smith, yes; and Mayor Flaute, yes. **The motion passed.**

**ITEM 13: COMMUNICATIONS:** Report from the Planning Commission and Request for a Public Hearing.

Mr. Murray said this request involves the approval of a rezoning case seen before the Planning Commission on December 20, 2010 and now it will come before this body for final approval. He said we are looking at a date of February 3, 2010 where the participants can present their case to council in a public hearing.

Mayor Flaute asked where the property was located. Mr. Murray said the property is next to Huber Heights and backs up to the sewer plant.

A motion was made by Mrs. Reynolds to hold the public hearing before Council for Planning Commission Case# 10-0002 on February 3, 2010. Mr. Denning seconded the motion. A roll call vote was as follows: Mrs. Reynolds, yes; Mr. Denning, yes; Ms. Campbell, yes; Mr. Fullenkamp, yes; Mr. Schock, yes; Deputy Mayor Smith, yes; and Mayor Flaute, yes. **The motion passed.**

**ITEM 14: PRESENTATIONS:**

- a. Presentation of Key to the City

Mayor Flaute said he does this with great happiness and great sorrow because one of the fine folks who have given so much time to our city might not be coming to visit us any longer. He asked Mr. Earl Reives to come forward and said he would like to start with a quote: "silent gratitude isn't much use to anyone". He said at this point we want to express our gratitude for all the work you have done and he read as follows:

***City Of Riverside  
Presentation of Key to the City***

***Mr. Earl Reives***

*Whereas, Earl Reives is the Dayton Power and Light account manager for the City of Riverside and has provided unequalled and exemplary service to the city since its inception seventeen years ago in 1994, and*

*Whereas, Earl Reives was the Dayton Power and Light account manager for the Mad River school district for the years prior to becoming the city's account manager and has provided top quality personal and professional service to the Mad River and Riverside community for his entire twenty-two years of employment with Dayton Power and Light, and*

*Whereas, Earl Reives has volunteered his time and has secured Dayton Power and Light contributions and resources for numerous Riverside community activities and functions such as Riverside leadership teambuilding programs and activities, Riverside business retention and expansion programs, employee recognition events, community volunteer recognition events, annual Founders Day, Riverside Community Festival, and Riverside bicycle rodeo events, and many other functions and activities, and*

*Whereas, Earl Reives has generously provided his time and energy and labored diligently and relentlessly to support the Riverside community with countless hours of his own personal time at a sacrifice to his own personal and family time and has never sought recognition or accolades, and*

Thursday, January 6, 2011

*Whereas, Earl Reives is retiring from the Dayton Power and Light Company after twenty-two years of exceptional and dedicated service and we hope he continues to be involved with our community.*

*Now, Therefore the Riverside City Council does hereby recognize Earl Reives for his many years of service and dedication to the Riverside community and presents him The Key to the City of Riverside to personally thank him for his commitment and positive contributions to improving the quality of life for all Riverside residents and businesses, and extends the city's gratitude upon his well-deserved retirement.*

Mayor Flaute congratulated Mr. Reives and said we appreciate everything he has done. Mayor Flaute presented Mr. Reives with a Key to the City and said the Key is only given to very special people. Mr. Reives thanked everyone.

b. Presentation of Service Pins

Mayor Flaute said another quote: “no one is more cherished in this world than someone who lightens the burden of another”. He said Ms. Campbell has done that in her five years working on Council. He said Ms. Campbell was very involved with the city before she was on council, working diligently and volunteering many, many hours on the CDC. He said this is such a little token for all the work she has done and they appreciate it very much; he presented Ms. Campbell with her five year pin. He congratulated her for her service and also presented her with a City of Riverside pen.

Deputy Mayor Smith said tonight we recognize Mayor Bill Flaute for his 15 years of service on the City Council and for the City of Riverside. He said Mayor Flaute has served as a Councilman for 14 years until last year when he was appointed Deputy Mayor and with the passing of Mayor Doan, Deputy Mayor Flaute became the new Mayor of the City of Riverside. He said it gave him great pleasure to present Mayor Flaute with his 15 year pin for all the hard work and service he has given to the City of Riverside.

Mayor Flaute thanked everyone for their support. He said staff, we have been through some times together and hopefully we will have a few more.

**ITEM 15: ACCEPTANCE OF WRITTEN CITIZENS PETITIONS:** Mayor Flaute advised the audience members to fill out a request form if they wished to speak about agenda or non-agenda items.

**ITEM 16: PUBLIC HEARINGS:** There were no public hearings.

**ITEM 17: CITY MANAGER’S REPORT:**

- (1) FYI Items
  - a. Council Request Sheets.
  - b. Council Agenda Calendar.
  - c. Minutes of the November 23, 2010 Board of Zoning Appeals meeting.
  - d. Minutes of the September 20, 2010 Planning Commission meeting.
  - e. Minutes of the December 12, 2010 Records Commission work session.

Thursday, January 6, 2011

Mr. Chodkowski said you have my report and he would be happy to answer any questions.

Mrs. Reynolds asked what the next court date was for the Linden Avenue situation. Mr. Chodkowski said he didn't have the information with him but would get it to her tomorrow.

**ITEM 18: PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS:** There were no public comments on agenda items.

**ITEM 19: UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** There was no unfinished business.

**ITEM 20: NEW BUSINESS:**

**I. ORDINANCES**

**II. RESOLUTIONS**

- a. **Resolution No. 11-R-1518 authorizing the City Manager to enter into an Economic Development/Government Equity participation agreement with the Board of County Commissioners of Montgomery County, Ohio.**

Mr. Chodkowski said this is Resolution 11-R-1518 is to authorize participation in the Economic Development/Government Equity program.

A motion was made by Mr. Denning to approve Resolution No. 11-R-1518. Mr. Schock seconded the motion. A roll call vote was as follows: Mr. Denning, yes; Mr. Schock, yes; Ms. Campbell, yes; Mr. Fullenkamp, yes; Mrs. Reynolds, yes; Deputy Mayor Smith, yes; and Mayor Flaute, yes. **The motion passed.**

**ITEM 21: REPORTS:** Deputy Mayor Smith said he attended the MVRPC meeting this morning where they discussed a number of things. He said they did pass a resolution to adopt our recommended Regional Complete Streets Policy which basically talks about the bikeways and various projects within the cities and counties that MVRPC represents. He said it is pretty in depth and he has a copy if anyone would like to see it. He said it talks about what they are going to do on the various streets and crosswalks and education for kids in school. He said it is similar to the Safe Routes to School program.

Deputy Mayor Smith said they also talked about adopting the program called JARC (Job Access Reverse Commute) which is spending for sidewalks and mobility. He said one of the things that caught his interest is if we have a bus stop that's located in an area that doesn't have a sidewalk or doesn't have curb access for a wheelchair and if there are residents in that location that do ride the bus and use a wheelchair, we can apply for a grant to have a sidewalk installed in that area and possibly complete one end of a sidewalk to another. He said sometimes we have these gaps and they will possibly grant us the money to build such a sidewalk.

Deputy Mayor Smith said then we had the Federal Transportation Services earmarks and the City of Riverside is in second position for the Harshman Road project which is the renovation of the interchange at Rt. 4 and Harshman Road. He said that also includes improvements for Harshman Road to allow for the increase in jobs coming to WPAFB due to the BRAC.

Thursday, January 6, 2011

Mayor Flaute asked what that means exactly – are we just in line for some funding. Deputy Mayor Smith said we scored 47 which put us in the second position; the highest scoring project scored 60 and it is a \$30 Million project; we are asking for \$1.1 Million. Mayor Flaute asked if this was Issue II. Mr. Murray said what it looks like they are trying to do is garner grants from a lot of different sources but there are still some things we have to talk about. Mayor Flaute said that's very good news. Mr. Chodkowski said it is the ODOT project for the reconfiguration of the Rt. 4 interchange, basically the interchange that would run through Chief Reiss's office. He said it would not involve city dollars unless we made requests for improvements within our right of way.

Deputy Mayor Smith said we also discussed the Rt. 35 renovation of the Spinning Road Bridge. He said all the studies are done for that and we are sending away to get grant money for that as well. He said we covered a lot of information in a short period of time.

Ms. Campbell said she thought we had something to repair the intersection at Valley and Harshman. Mr. Chodkowski said we had made application to Issue II and it was not funded. He said that will be part of the discussion when we discuss capital items on January 20<sup>th</sup>.

**ITEM 22: PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS:** Mr. Earl Reives, DP&L Representative said tonight he would like to introduce us to Mike McKinney who is an Electrical Engineer from the Ohio State University. He said Mr. McKinney will be replacing him as the city's DP&L Representative and he hand picked Mr. McKinney who will do a good job.

Mr. Reives said when council changed their meetings from Monday and Thursday to just Thursday, his car used to just come here on Monday anyway; so if he shows up some Thursday it will be because his car wouldn't take him home. He thanked everyone and said to enjoy Mike.

Mayor Flaute welcomed Mr. Mike McKinney and said we appreciate him being here very much and he hoped Mr. McKinney didn't too bored with some of things we go on about up here. He said if we can have your presence as long as we've had Mr. Reives that will be quite good for our city; Mr. Reives has brought in a lot of good things for us and you have some big shoes to fill. He said we are certainly looking forward to you being here.

Mrs. Lori Luckner of Waneta and Mr. Laymon Hoskins of Sedgewick said they would be interested in getting a copy of the council packets before the meetings. Mrs. Luckner said they want to be able to be more informed of what's going on and to know before we walk in here, or even while we're sitting here, what you are talking about. She said if there is a way, it would be great to have those packets ahead of time so we can be more informed citizens and possibly bring forth some ideas.

Mr. Hoskins said he does feel they need something. He said when he came to his first meeting he thought there would be 200 to 300 people here and there was only about five, he thought there must be a reason. He said he sat here and felt like he didn't know anything about what was going on and he understood why people don't attend meetings because you don't get much out of the meetings. He said he felt the more information that is given to the public, the more interested they will become. He said he thought we do need for people to be interested in our government.

Mrs. Luckner said she couldn't even look at what the agenda was going to be tonight on our website because it wasn't posted. She said that's where she goes, the website,

Thursday, January 6, 2011

to see information and read the past minutes and that needs to be a form of communication.

Mayor Flaute asked council if they wanted to put that on the agenda as a work session item. Mr. Chodkowski said by law if they request the information we have to provide it and the packets are done the week prior to the meeting. He said we have their information and we can either mail it to them or they can pick it up or provide it to them in whatever media we are able to produce it. Mayor Flaute asked if there was a charge for that. Mr. Chodkowski said there is a small charge.

Mr. Denning said he would like to see this as a work session item because there are some things we could do or at least think about whether it's to put it up on the website or have a limited number of packets available at the meeting. He said it could be a work session discussion or we could take 10 minutes and discuss it now, but people could get their ideas together instead of trying to do it right now.

Mr. Fullenkamp said he thought it was a good idea and there are a lot of ways we can distribute this kind of information at virtually no cost to the city. He said he looked forward to having that discussion in a work session.

Mayor Flaute said his issue is something Mary Ann is checking on and he isn't ready to discuss it until he has more information. Mr. Denning said we want it to be soon; we don't want it to be a work session in June. Mayor Flaute said Mary Ann is very good at that and for all of council's sake, anytime they have an item to discuss in a work session, please give it to Mary Ann, she will get it on the agenda as soon as she can and we will discuss it.

Mayor Flaute thanked Mrs. Luckner and Mr. Hoskins for bringing that to council's attention and he also thanked Earl for bringing Mr. McKinney in to meet council.

**ITEM 23: COUNCILMEMBER COMMENTS:** Mr. Schock congratulated Earl on his retirement and said he hoped Earl had a lot of time to spend on the golf course. Mr. Schock said for Earl to make up for the times he didn't get a chance to do all the things he wanted to do because he was always busy servicing DP&L in our city. He said he wanted to personally thank Earl for everything he got done here. He said it's amazing it took a "double e" to replace you.

Mr. Schock said all the homes are being removed on Old Harshman; they are doing an excellent job and he appreciated it.

Mrs. Reynolds said she had an opportunity to attend the court cases last month and had an opportunity to talk with the judge for a little while and our prosecutor. She said he brought some concerns to the table and we are going to be discussing those very soon; the City Manager is bringing some information to Council that she feels is very important to discuss.

Mrs. Reynolds said she also had the opportunity to attend the Way of the Cross Holiday Basket give-away and she couldn't tell how many families they served but there was box after box after box, etc. She said there were clothes for the children and toys for the children and a lot of things that benefited our community members and she wanted to thank that congregation for what they did. She said they made sure that many of the children in our community were fed, clothed, and had a toy on Christmas Day.

Mrs. Reynolds wished Staff a Happy New Year and said this is going to be a good year for us; we've faced it all and we can do anything now. She said she appreciated Council and the Clerk as well as everyone in the audience that takes their time to come

Thursday, January 6, 2011

to the meetings. She wished Mr. Reives a wonderful retirement and thanked Mr. Cory Frolik for the excellent article on the Air Force Museum. She also thanked Mr. Murray and Mr. Frolik for the article on the Chamber. She congratulated Mr. Smith on his appointment as Deputy Mayor; she said she had that honor and it is an honor being Deputy Mayor; it's a lot of work but it is rewarding. She congratulated Ms. Campbell on her five years, congratulated Mayor Flaute on his 15 years, and congratulated Mr. Chodkowski on starting his fifth year.

Mr. Fullenkamp congratulated Mr. Reives and wished him the best. He said he hadn't had much opportunity to interact much with Mr. Reives but everything he has heard has always been real positive. He congratulated Mr. Smith on his appointment to Deputy Mayor and he thanked everyone for coming to participate in their city government.

Deputy Mayor Smith said he too was at the Way of the Cross to help with giving out the holiday baskets; there were a lot of people come through and it was a good program. He thanked council for his appointment to Deputy Mayor. He congratulated Mr. Reives on his 22 years at DP&L and serving our city. He said in the past when he was the chairperson for the festival committee, they called on Mr. Reives several times for power and generators and Mr. Reives always came through, helped us out, and even stayed there through the weekend with us. He said he really appreciated him doing that. He thanked Mayor Flaute on his 15 years service and thanked Ms. Campbell for her five years.

Mr. Denning thanked staff for everything they do and thanked the service department for getting down the brine and keeping the salt trucks running. He also thanked the manager for making sure they had enough money to be able to do that. He thanked everyone for being here and said their participation is what helps council make this a better city. He asked Deputy Mayor Smith if there was a date yet for council to help with the Habitat for Humanity home. Deputy Mayor Smith said he would check into that.

Mayor Flaute said there was a Chamber meeting at Expressly Espresso on Monday evening where they had a service dog and a trainer for the service dogs. He said it was a very interesting program; it's just like a program for our police dogs but they are trained to turn out lights or tell a person when to answer the phone; it's amazing all the things a service dog does.

Mayor Flaute said he also attended a meeting today at Radiance Technologies, one of our new Riverside groups and one of the things they have is an open source research center. He said right now they are hiring seven new people who are displaced workers from General Motors and these people are coming in to their establishment and they will be checking the internet to see where terrorists are doing things. He said evidently there is a need for that - it just has not been done in the past, so they've gotten a little money from the federal government to do that with the hopes of getting quite a bit more money from the federal government to continue. He said it appears as though that might not happen; they wanted to hire 50 more people because the need is that great but the word "earmark" is no longer allowed to be used in Congress. He said they were asking for \$5 Million for next year and \$6 Million for the year after that and they were not promised it but it was said they were going to get it but now the earmarks are in great jeopardy; they only have enough for maybe one year and we don't know about the other two years.

Mayor Flaute said there needs to be a big lobbying going on and to that point; he believes he needs to go to Washington D.C. with the National League of Cities because when he can get everyone at the same place at the same time talking the same language, he thinks it's important he does that. He said he may need a couple of

Thursday, January 6, 2011

hundred extra dollars because Washington is expensive and he hopes council will be generous enough to do that.

Mayor Flaute said anyone who wants to know what's going on over at Radiance Technologies – it is one heck of a program and one heck of a place. He said they have 10,000 square feet now and have 10,000 more square feet ready to go if they get this funding. He said we are looking at other options, maybe Third Frontier money, and we had the county folks there to get them thinking about how we can get funds for Radiance Technologies and keep this program going.

Mayor Flaute said he had 11 weddings in the last week and a half and heard there is tax advantage to getting married at the end of the year. He said it's always a pleasure to do the weddings; people are always in a good mood and its fun to be a part of their day. He wished everyone a Happy New Year.

**ITEM 24: EXECUTIVE SESSION:** There was no executive session.

**ITEM 25: ADJOURNMENT:** A motion was made by Mr. Denning to adjourn. Ms. Campbell seconded the motion. A roll call vote was as follows: Mr. Denning, yes; Ms. Campbell, yes; Mr. Fullenkamp, yes; Mrs. Reynolds, yes; Mr. Schock, yes; Deputy Mayor Smith, yes; and Mayor Flaute, yes. The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

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William R. Flaute, Mayor

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Clerk of Council