

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of

Delaware City Council

Meeting

BEAR GRAPHICS 800-325-8094 FORM NO. 10148

Held January 6 20 20

The work session meeting of Council held January 6, 2020 was called to order at 6:30 p.m., in the City Council Chambers. The following members of Council were present: Second Ward Lisa Keller, Third Ward Cory Hoffman, Fourth Ward Drew Farrell, At-Large George Hellinger, Vice-Mayor Shafer, and Mayor Riggle who presided. Absent from the meeting was First Ward Chris Jones.

Staff Present: Blake Jordan, Public Utilities Director, Dean Stelzer, Finance Director, Bruce Pijanowski, Police Chief, Sean Hughes, Economic Development Director, Dave Efland, Planning and Community Development Director, Kyle Kridler, Assistant City Manager, and Tom Homan, City Manager

Motion to Excuse: Mrs. Keller motioned to excuse Councilman Jones, seconded by Vice-Mayor Shafer. Motion approved by a 6-0 vote.

ITEM 2: PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

ITEM 3: PRESENTATION ON US 23 CORRIDOR STUDY

PRESENTORS:

Chris Hermann, MKSK
462 South Ludlow Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Ryan Rivers, Delaware NOW Representative &
Orange Township Board of Trustees
1680 East Orange Road
Lewis Center, Ohio 43035

Bob Lamb, Delaware County Economic Development Director
101 North Sandusky Street
Delaware, Ohio 43015

Mr. Hermann presented to Council the study on the US 23 Corridor. He reviewed the study area. He discussed the past growth trends and the expected population by 2040 and how the growth has impacted transportation infrastructure. This infrastructure has struggled to keep pace with the growth and impacts the economic development potential. The study objectives are to create a shared vision and identify critical infrastructure improvements. The study is also to compare and prioritize alternative transportation and land use patterns to visualize critical infrastructure improvements. The study showed that Delaware County is a Bedroom Community and single family residential is planned to be the predominant land use in the townships with residents commuting to work in Franklin County. The study also discussed the need to simplify the development process and reserve US 23 frontage for higher uses for commercial and employment-based uses. Growth should balance residential with non-residential development to support a broader fiscal base. He reviewed the existing land use for the US 23 Corridor and the planned land use. Information was provided on data on transportation. There is currently 36 traffic lights from Coover Road to I-270 and more than 20,600 trucks utilize the corridor daily. There is limited interstate access, with only two exits to I-71. The average annual daily traffic is

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expected to rise. Also reviewed was employment and workforce data that was gathered from the study area. Mr. Hermann discussed the Strategic Guide and recommendations. He discussed the recommendations to have a zoning overlay for land around US 23, advance traffic improvements, Economic Development Incentives, and marketing a unified business corridor.

ITEM 4: DISCUSSION

Mr. Hoffman discussed his interest in rebranding the US 23 Corridor and voiced a question on alternative arteries and how it will solve problems in the long run. Mr. Lamb discussed that transportation improvements will help to move vehicles off US 23 to keep traffic flowing more efficiently.

Mrs. Keller voiced a concern regarding the timetable for action steps. Mr. Lamb discussed that the County has been discussing the issues for the past year and that the timeframe was to help move the project forward.

Mrs. Keller questioned the joint zoning overlay and how would the City ensure that assets to the city are not lost. Mr. Rivers discussed how Orange Township recently completed a Comprehensive Plan Update in 2018 and the opportunity to get more commercial growth and the need for a plan. Mrs. Keller requested information on the funding of the study. Mr. Lamb discussed the amount provided by the County and funding for the study provided by sponsors through the Delaware County Foundation and Delaware NOW. A list of sponsors was provided in the presentation. Mr. Lamb informed Council that Delaware NOW had changed their name to ONE Delaware. Mrs. Keller also requested who the study has been presented to. Mr. Lamb discussed that Orange Township received the study as part of their Business Delaware Today, and conversations with One Delaware with Liberty Township and Delaware County is working with Berlin Township. Mrs. Keller voiced that she would not support moving forward on a study with the current timeframe. Mr. Lamb discussed that working with One Delaware to commission another study with MKSK and looks at moving forward on the overlay zoning with Orange County.

Mr. Hoffman discussed the zoning overlay and the thought to pair the area with a JEDD to create both a zoning neutrality and a tax neutrality.

Mr. Farrell discussed the different plans and questioned how much overlap would be between the different groups. Mr. Hermann discussed the interest in having a joint corridor but need to see who is interested and wanting to move forward. Mr. Hermann also discussed the interest by the school districts that would be affected by the plan.

Mr. Efland discussed some good ideas in the study and some ideas that need some work and more public input. Mr. Hughes discussed the use of the corridor as a marketing tool for economic development. He discussed the benefits of branding the US 23 Corridor to help break down perceptions of the surrounding area from developers.

Mr. Homan discussed an access management plan was not completed since 2002 and was encouraged by the transportation initiatives. He recommends a steering committee created by the different elected officials along the corridor.

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ITEM 5: ADJOURNMENT

Motion: Vice- Mayor Shafer motioned to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 8:08 p.m.



Mayor Carolyn Kay Riggle



Elaine McCloskey, Council Clerk