

**MINUTES OF THE COMMON COUNCIL
WORK SESSION
February 15, 2011
City Council Chambers – Rouss City Hall**

PRESENT: Councilor Evan Clark, Les Veach and John Willingham; Vice-President Art Major; Vice-Mayor Milt McInturff; Mayor Elizabeth Minor (6)

ABSENT: President Jeff Buettner; Councilor John Hill and John Tagnesi (3)

Vice-President Major called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

Items for Discussion:

Presentation: United Way – Joseph Shtulman & Bryon Grigsby

Joseph Shtulman and Dr. Bryon Grigsby presented the Community Needs Update for the region. Mr. Shtulman stated the priority issues are education, income, and health. The United Way is asking people to give financial support to programs aimed at the priorities, to advocate for the priorities through different organizations, and to volunteer time and energy to make a difference.

Action item: Vice-President Major requested the same presentation be given to the School Board.

Presentation: Retreat Briefing – Jim O'Connor

City Manager Jim O'Connor presented the items discussed at the Retreat and updated Council on items that have already been addressed. He requested feedback on any items that may have been left out. Council will be receiving quarterly reports on the progress being made.

Mr. O'Connor also stated staff has begun putting together information for the IT RFP discussed at the retreat. He requested approval for a committee to work on putting the RFP together.

Action item: Vice-President Major requested the IT RFP Committee be put on the February 22nd Work Session agenda for discussion.

O-2011-05: AN ORDINANCE TO ADOPT SECTION 5-15 OF THE WINCHESTER CITY CODE PERTAINING TO PROHIBITION OF ANIMALS IN THE FESTIVAL AREA DURING SPECIFIED EVENTS

Chief Sanzenbacher stated after each festival, a critique meeting is held to discuss areas for improvement. One item mentioned after each festival is the number of

animals brought to the event and how it can be limited. This ordinance would give the city the power to exclude animals to the downtown mall when needed.

Councilor John Willingham made a motion to forward O-2011-05 to Council. The motion was seconded by Vice-Mayor McInturff then passed 5/1 with Councilor Clark voting in the negative.

Police Department Update: Chief Kevin Sanzenbacher

Chief Sanzenbacher presented the 5 year major crime trend which is at a 5 year low except for grand theft cases. He stated one of the department's goals is to decrease shoplifting by 10% over 2009 levels. Staff plans to do a community survey every quarter to receive feedback on public perception. The department is working on training officers to concentrate on CSI, officer survival, and patrol investigations. Eighty percent of the officers passed the initial fitness test in the fall giving a baseline. The goal is to have 100% of the officers pass by December 2011. Since the start of the fitness program, the department has seen a decrease in sick time use but will also monitor injuries, etc. Another goal the department is working towards is improving employee recognition. Staff reviewed the number of traffic violations and collisions in the city and is also reviewing enforcement techniques. Chief Sanzenbacher also presented the data collected on the time it takes to take someone to Detox compared to taking them to court and ways to decrease the amount of time for court. He also stated there are 3 students currently participating in the program at the Timbrook House.

Fire & Rescue Department Update: Chief Scott Cullers

Chief Cullers presented a summary of the various calls for the month of January. The data showed an increase in activity of 18% over January 2010.

Report of Liaisons

Councilor Veach stated the School Board is struggling with balancing the budget. Some of the issues being discussed are overcrowding at Kerr and Frederick Douglas, freezing salaries for the 3rd year, and reduced state funding. They are looking at a \$46.6 million budget with \$44 million funding that assumes level funding from the city. The board did request the Building & Grounds Committee come back with options for the overcrowding issue in March.

Councilor Willingham stated the MPO received a draft of the Millwood Study report. The next meeting will be in March. The OTDB had an assessment by the National Main Street Center and the Virginia Main Street. We will be receiving feedback from the assessment.

Adjourn

Councilor Willingham moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:17 p.m. The motion was seconded by Councilor Clark then unanimously approved by voice-vote.

