

CITY OF BLUE ASH
Interoffice Memo - City Manager's Office

TO: City Council
FROM: City Manager and Department Directors
SUBJECT: Agenda Items for the May 13, 2010 Council Meeting
DATE: May 11, 2010
COPIES: Department Directors, Press, Clerk of Council, Solicitor

The following offers a brief description of the items included on the May 13 Council agenda:

9.a.1. Ordinance No. 2010-24 - Authorizing purchase of professional computer related services and materials in 2010

Ordinance No. 2010-24 authorizes purchase of various computer related services and materials expected to be needed throughout 2010 from Blue Ash based InTrust Group (formerly known as LAN Solutions) for an aggregate amount not to exceed \$43,000 in 2010.

Although no single project or service requested of this vendor is expected to exceed the ordinance threshold of \$25,000, since aggregate purchases throughout the year will likely exceed that amount, Council approval via ordinance would be in line with audit guidelines. In addition to the routine direct network support and services from InTrust Group received throughout the year, the amount would include the services and materials associated with a new E-mail server, including software purchases and licensing. The City has utilized and trusts the services and staff of this Blue Ash based company for many years and is very satisfied with their product and services.

Please direct questions regarding this ordinance to the Treasurer.

9.a.2. Motion setting 7PM, Thursday, July 8, 2010 as public hearing for consideration of the 2011 Tax Budget

As is customary this time of year, this motion sets the public hearing date for the 2011 Tax Budget for July 8, 2010 at 7:00 PM. It is necessary to hold a public hearing and to thereafter present Council with a resolution for the Budget's acceptance, as has been the practice in the past. A copy of the Tax Budget will be available for review by the public, and Council's copy will be delivered in early July.

Please direct any questions regarding this motion or the tax budget process to the Treasurer.

9.b.1. Ordinance No. 2010-20 - Authorizing agreement with Hamilton County regarding the Cooper Road rehabilitation project (east of Kenwood Road)

The Municipal Road Fund (MRF) Program is administered by the Hamilton County Engineer to assist County jurisdictions with various types of road work throughout Hamilton County. The MRF Program is funded from the sale of license plates within the county. Jurisdictions submit projects for consideration and the County Engineer makes recommendations to the Hamilton County Board of Commissioners for consideration and approval of various projects.

The City of Blue Ash requested MRF funding to assist with the rehabilitation of Cooper Road between Kenwood Road and Cooper Lane after work is completed on the 36" water line currently under construction by Greater Cincinnati Water Works (GCWW). Although GCWW will pay over half of the restoration costs, other work is needed on the roadway that will be funded by the City. The MRF funds help offset the City's share of the rehabilitation costs.

The City of Blue Ash requested \$50,000 in MRF funds; however, not all projects could be fully funded and our request was approved for \$25,000. The Agreement with Hamilton County authorizes the County to provide the funds when the City is ready to start the project.

Please direct questions regarding Ordinance No. 2010-20 to the Public Works Director.

9.b.2. Resolution No. 2010-2 - Authorizing participation in ODOT cooperative purchasing program

The Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) has a Cooperative Purchasing Program that provides political subdivisions a means to purchase items from ODOT purchasing contracts. It is similar to the State's Cooperative Purchasing Contract program administered by the Ohio Department of Administrative Services (DAS) in which the City already participates; however, the ODOT program is separately authorized by Ohio Revised Code Section 5513. As a separate program, legislation is required by ODOT to express the intent of the political subdivision to participate in the program. Purchases through this program are exempt from a separate competitive bidding process since the items under contract have already been competitively bid through ODOT, similar to the State's DAS program.

Resolution No. 2010-2 allows the City of Blue Ash to participate in the ODOT Cooperative Purchasing Program, but does not require any specific level of participation. Also, there is no fee for participation. All items considered for purchase through this program will be evaluated for applicability to Blue Ash standards and the bid price must be fair and reasonable for each item. Examples of items that may be available through this program are asphalt, crack sealing, microsurfacing, etc.

Please direct questions regarding this resolution to the Public Works Director.

9.c.1. Ordinance No. 2010-21 - Amending various sections of the Code of Ordinance related to property maintenance issues (First Reading)

For the past several months, the Community Development office has been working closely with representatives from Dinsmore & Shohl towards suggestions for revisions to the Blue Ash Code to enhance the City's property maintenance enforcement efforts. A brief summary of the suggested changes is below; and complete marked-up versions of the actual code provisions are attached to the ordinance for further reference. The suggested changes are very similar, if not exactly the same, as was discussed at the Housing Study work session of Council held in February.

SECTION & SUBJECT	BRIEF DESCRIPTION
905.11 Trees & Shrubs	Adds "shrub or plant" wording to the description. Clarifies right-of-way wording.
911.01 Weed & Grass Control	Clarified to include that all noxious weeds shall be prohibited
1711.07 Storage & Parking of Junk or Inoperable Vehicle	This is a new section prohibiting outside storage of junk/inoperable vehicles
1711.08 Outside Storage	This is a new section addressing outside storage of additional items, such as landscape materials, trash containers, etc.
1711.09 Defacement of property	This is a new section requiring the property owner to remove all markings and graffiti from exterior surfaces of all structures.
1711.10 Swimming pools	This is a new section addressing swimming pools
1711.11 Sanitation	Provides more definition of how exterior property areas should be maintained.

1711.12 Grading & Drainage	Requires the property owner to maintain their watercourse to prevent pollution and contamination from occurring. Added roof drains & sump pumps discharge limits (adequate grade to direct stormwater runoff)
1711.14 Accessory Structures, Fences & Walls	Further defines and adds fences, walls, retaining walls, and detached garages to the maintenance provisions
1711.15 Foundation, Walls & Roof	Includes mildewed, rust, peeling paint to the description and adds flashing to the roof maintenance paragraph.
1711.18 Windows, Doors & Hatchways	Requires window & door insect screens to be free of holes & in good working condition
1711.45 Other Containers	In lieu of the existing wording within this section, the reader is directed to Section 917.03 Trash Collection Policy
1711.99 Violation & Penalty	The violation fine is being changed from \$100 to \$150
1719.03 Parking Lot Maintenance	Requires residential driveways to be maintained and in proper state of repair

Thursday's reading of Ordinance No. 2010-21 represents the first reading of the recommended changes to the Code. The second reading, and formal vote, would be scheduled for the May 27 Council meeting.

Please direct questions regarding this ordinance to Rich Dole at 745-8542. (Rich will also be present at Thursday's meeting to address questions from Council or the public.)

9.c.2. Motion setting a hearing for Thursday, May 27, 2010 for consideration of an appeal related to the Fire Code

The City received a request from the architect representing the owner of Outlier Technologies to appeal a requirement related to the Blue Ash Fire Code associated with their planned improvements at their existing facility on Ashfield Drive. Though further details and information will be forwarded to Council before this hearing, a motion setting the hearing for the next regular Council meeting, May 27, would be appropriate.

9.c.3. Motion setting 7:05PM, Thursday, July 8, 2010 as public hearing for consideration of a zoning map amendment that would rezone seven lots on Old Pfeiffer Lane from R-2 Residential to C-2 Planned Commercial

As Council is aware, the City is in receipt of an application for rezoning of seven parcels of currently-zoned R-2 Residential property to C-2 Planned Commercial, and also approval for a planned development involving construction of commercial buildings on this property. The property involved is about 3.8 acres on Old Pfeiffer Lane east of Hickory Point Drive. This motion, and the motion next on this agenda, would represent the next step in this application process, formally setting public hearings for these requests to the City. This motion would set the hearing associated with the rezoning request for 7:05PM, Thursday, July 8, and the subsequent motion would set the hearing associated with the planned development at 7:10PM on the same evening.

Further details and information regarding these applications will be provided to Council for the hearing in July.

9.c.4. Motion setting 7:10PM, Thursday, July 8, 2010 as public hearing for consideration of approval for a Planned Development on about 3.8 acres on Old Pfeiffer Lane in a proposed C-2 Planned Commercial district

See Item 9.c.2. above.