

**MINUTES**  
**FACILITIES/MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**JUNE 7, 2010 —5:45 PM**  
**CITY COUNCIL CONFERENCE ROOM—2<sup>ND</sup> FLOOR, CITY HALL**

The Facilities/Management Committee met on Monday, June 7, 2010 at 5:45 p.m. The following members were present:

Council Members Present: Chairman John Howren  
Councilman Dave Kirlin  
Councilwoman Brenda Craig

Other Council Members Present:  
Mayor Jennie Stultz  
Councilman Keith Tidwell  
Councilman Dale Burkett

Chairman Howren welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order. The Committee meeting was also attended by several citizens, with one individual, Mr. Robert Kellogg, 2409 Payton Drive, Gastonia, making a presentation during the public comment period. Mr. Kellogg expressed his thanks to City Council, and he also presented a proposal regarding the City Council health insurance and stipend. After Mr. Kellogg's presentation, Chairman Howren thanked him and the other citizens for attending. Chairman Howren then recognized Mr. Jim Palenick, City Manager, for staff's presentation.

**ITEM 1: Development of Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC):**

Mr. Palenick stated that the solid waste issue affects everyone in the community, and more input and involvement are needed from the citizens regarding this issue. Mr. Flip Bombardier, Assistant City Manager, and James Currence, Solid Waste Administrator, provided information on the specific make-up of a proposed Solid Waste Advisory Committee. This committee would provide citizen input regarding the direction of solid waste services offered by the City. Staff recommended it consist of 18 members (Council and Mayor would each appoint 2 citizens, Gaston County Chamber of Commerce would appoint 2, and also 2 appointments representing Gaston County Recycling.) The Committee also discussed that consideration be given to adding member(s) that could represent the multi-family and commercial recycling interests.

**Committee Recommendation:**

The Committee voted unanimously (3-0) to recommend the creation of the Solid Waste Advisory Committee with the guidelines listed above, as well as, to create a list of goals for the Solid Waste Advisory Committee.

**Necessary Council Action:**

Accept or reject the Committee recommendation; appoint members to the Solid Waste Committee by a target date of July 20, 2010.

**ITEM 2: Policy for Disposing of Remnant Property:**

Chairman Howren recognized DeeDee Gillis, Neighborhood & Community Resources, for Staff's presentation in the absence of Myra Messer. Over the last year, City staff has worked to make an all-inclusive list of City-owned property. During this inventory, remnant properties were identified for sale. Ms. Gillis presented sample maps of remnant properties to the Committee and informed the Committee that the information was ready to publish on the City's web site pending Council's approval. Staff presented information to the Committee regarding the legal sale of remnant property and recommended a policy to enhance efficiency of receiving/approving purchase offers. While the Facilities/Management Committee will grant final approval on all transactions, this policy grants the City Manager authority to review and approve offers made on remnant property.

**Committee Recommendation:**

The Committee voted unanimously (3-0) to approve the policy as presented.

**Necessary Council Action:**

Accept or reject the Committee recommendation.

**ITEM 3: City Council Health Insurance Coverage and Stipend:**

Chairman Howren recognized Larry Wood, Assistant City Manager, for staff's presentation. At the prior City Council meeting, the issue of Mayor/Council health insurance and stipends was directed to the Facilities/Management Committee for further discussion. Information was presented regarding how the overall policy, provision of actual health insurance, and the stipend amounts were developed, as well as, the current stipend amount as approved in the FY 10/11 Budget. All Council members attending discussed their viewpoints on this issue as well.

State statute stipulates that Council may only revise its compensation by adoption of the annual budget (which took place at the last Council meeting). City Attorney Ash Smith advised that an argument could be made that with an approved budget, no changes could be made to those line budget items that were coded as Council compensation until the following budget year (FY 11/12 Budget).

**Committee Recommendation:**

The Committee voted unanimously (3-0) to recommend that each Council member has the choice to take or refuse the options afforded to them regarding health insurance and that it was a personal decision. The Committee also voted unanimously to recommend that a formal policy on Council compensation be further developed and implemented for future councils.

**Necessary Council Action:**

Accept or reject the Committee recommendations.

With no other business, Chairman Howren thanked everyone for attending and adjourned the meeting.