

COUNCIL

August 7, 2008

(Clerk's Note: The regularly scheduled council meeting did not occur due to lack of a quorum. The notes below represent the conversation of those in attendance at the 7:30 p.m. meeting time.)

Assistant Chief Duane Weyand was present.

Council gave the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

President Ertel: At this point in time, we do not have a quorum to get started so we cannot even have a motion to postpone. Cindy is on her way and she suspected she would be here around 8:00 p.m. from Cleveland and Sandy is on her way back from Dayton. They both thought they would be close to being here, but they are not here yet.

Paul Hunter: You have enough to adjourn, Mr. President.

President Ertel: Well, we can't even have a motion to adjourn.

Law Director Kathryn Hapner: A motion to adjourn does not have to be passed by a majority as long as there is a motion and a second and there is no objection to it.

President Ertel: O.K. Do council members want to wait a little bit for the others?

Rob Jaehnig: Can we hear about the mayor's afternoon?

President Ertel turned on the P.A. system.

Mayor Raizk: As you know, this afternoon Senator McCain came to Wilmington and the first thing I want to say to Duane is that the guys and gals did a great job and we appreciated your efforts; it went very smooth and I also know you were assisted by the Sheriff's Department and everybody did a good job. It was very orderly and ran very smooth. Senator McCain met with a group of their campaign's picking of about 25 folks in a kind of round table format at the McCoy Room in Kelly Center. At first he heard from Congressman Turner who has been working very diligently with us and he kind of explained the overview. I explained a little bit about what happened in Germany and also what the Task Force has been working on. He heard from Mary Houghtaling who is kind of responsible for getting Senator McCain here. She had approached him when he was at a meeting in Portsmouth on July 9 and wanted him to come and gave him a very emotional plea. And he heard from other folks around the table, workers representing ASTAR and ABX and I think he got a real flavor of what is happening. He was very touched by it and he was very realistic about things as most of us have been, realizing that we are working on a dual track of not only retention, but also of redevelopment at the same time. It lasted about 45 minutes and then he gave a prepared statement to the press in another room and then he walked out and met with some of the workers as they had them behind kind of a line there. That was pretty much it. It lasted a little over an hour. He came about 3:30 and he was gone by 4:30 or 4:45, but we were very appreciative of that because it certainly brings some national attention. Retention really focuses on how much national attention we can get on this transaction and efforts at the antitrust scenario and also federal contracts. There are a lot of other things involved here at the federal level. Many of these companies have very lucrative federal contracts to haul things for the government and the military and different things like that so it is important that these transactions get scrutinized. One of the other things that the national attention focuses on is there is some pending legislation about Open Skies which is an effort primarily in the passenger world of air travel by the European airlines. They have kind of formed a group to try to get, there is some Open Skies legislation that has to do with what they can do in the United States. As I understand it, it's very simplistic, but in Europe if a plane left here it can go on to a different destination there. In the United States a plane might fly from Frankfurt to Cincinnati and then if you want a connecting flight, those airlines can't do the connecting flight. Let's say it was

Lufthansa or somebody that did that. So that is what that Open Skies' legislation is about is about other carriers being able to do those connecting flights and, frankly, before this transaction there really wasn't any opposition to that. It was like this is good business for everyone, etc. Now those kinds of things are getting called into question because of the behavior of Duetsch Post and DHL. So it is very important to have the folks at the federal level looking at these things because they do give credibility to the efforts here and to keep shining that bright light on them. Hopefully, those folks are going to back away or come up with a different solution. So we're very thankful that Senator McCain came to Wilmington to give us this kind of national exposure. It was on the news almost immediately that he was here. I had friends call and say they saw his statement on CNN. I had a friend call me from South Carolina who said he saw McCain on CNN talking about Wilmington. That is very important to our efforts in the retention area. That was pretty much the afternoon and I think everything went smoothly. Duane, again, thank you and all of your folks and please pass that on from all of us.

Other activities that are coming up, just to give you some background, our next Task Force meeting is the morning of the 19th and then in the afternoon there will be a joint session of the State Representatives and our State Senate Committee that is chaired by John Carey and Dave Daniels here in Wilmington rather than in Columbus and they are going to listen and they want to bring other lawmakers in the state hearing some of these things of a regional nature. It's going to be out at ABX in Building 2 so that will be interesting and it will be at 1:00 p.m. on the 19th. Is that open?

Clerk Laura Curliss: We don't know that yet.

Mayor Raizk: We think all of these efforts to keep this on Page 1 is what is driving this effort. That's all I have.

President Ertel: Very good. Any other discussion?

Councilman Rob Jaehnig: If we're looking to burn time, we can go back to my favorite subject, Holidazzle. On August 25, in the Community Room downstairs at 6:30 we will have our kickoff parade meeting. Anybody that has even the slightest interest in possibly being in the parade, this is the meeting that you will want to attend. We will have photos of last year's event that we will be reviewing, we'll have applications, we'll be able to answer questions in regard to what you can and can't do. We'll be reviewing and helping with electrical issues and how you go about putting your float together. We'll be unveiling the proposed new parade route at that particular point and the logistical changes for those interested in the parade. We're looking to get as many people for that event at that particular point they'll have an opportunity that night to get their application filled out and even approved if they would like to get it all done in one single evening. We've had some extremely successful talks already in regards to the parade. We're jumping from three bands to five. We have all four county bands already committed, plus Jamestown is going to be coming down. We are still in discussion with a few others. There is still discussion going on that will hopefully be finalized next week to add a pipe band on top of that and we're getting a lot of interest from outside the community with entertainers and so forth wanting to participate in the parade or in the event itself. It's a very exciting time. This is the time when Holidazzle starts to kick into high gear to be ready for the Saturday after Thanksgiving.

When asked if there was a rain date in case the weather was bad, Rob responded that there was not; they just "go with it."

Paul Hunter: Clinton County Open Lands is having a local foods dinner next Wednesday, the 13th, at the General Denver, all local produce prepared by the chef at the General Denver and I would like to encourage everybody to come. It is to support our organization. It's \$25 per person.

Mayor Raizk asked again about the time and Laura Curliss responded that it was 5:30 social and 6:00 for dinner.

Mayor Raizk: When we were building class floats, as Mr. Wells will remember, we had to keep the location secret or roving bands of other classmates would come and tear up your float.

Rob Jaehnig: We're not having that issue.

(There was some banter and laughter here.)

Mayor Raizk to Mike Wallace: Coach, you have your first home football game?

Mike Wallace: August 29th with Miami Trace at Wilmington College; we're excited about that.

(There was further discussion about the Jimmy Buffet entertainment at the Murphy Theatre being the same evening as this football game, etc.)

President Ertel suggested Mike Wallace give an update on the tennis courts.

Mike Wallace: The tennis courts are now starting to pick up speed after all of the rains and monsoons in June. We're looking at a completion date around the first week in September. We think that is a good estimation. (He discussed the blacktop, fence, and nets.)

Paul Hunter asked about the Fall season.

Mike Wallace: The girls have started their season already.

(There were multiple discussions going on at one time and it was not possible to transcribe this area of the tape.)

President Ertel stated that they were not receiving a response from their cell phone attempts to contact absent council members so there was some discussion about adjournment and whether or not a special council meeting would be required.

Laura Curliss said the legislation regarding boundaries might need to be amended to an emergency if the Board of Elections needed it and the legislation on Workers' Compensation had been amended already to an emergency because of its due date on the 25th.

Cindy Peterson was on Route 72 approximately 15-20 minutes out and President Ertel asked council if they wanted to wait.

Law Director Hapner said nothing could be passed tonight anyway. President Ertel said council could just advance the legislation by one reading. However, if a Special Meeting was going to be held anyway . . .

It was decided to adjourn. President Ertel thanked those who attended.