

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT  
OCTOBER 19, 2009**

In attendance: Committee members John Kevern, Joe Lawless, Mike Olmstead; and Rick Thielen, Planning, Zoning and Economic Development Administrator;

Chairman John Kevern called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

1. NextEconomy - Discussion

Mr. Thielen reported to the Committee of a meeting between Mr. Alexander, Mayor Evans, himself and Mr. Kevern to discuss the NextEconomy initiative which is focusing economic opportunities on "development-ready" sites in a planned and coordinated, strategic approach. They also discussed beginning a dialog with the Wood County Economic Development Association and the Toledo Port Authority in order to create a quasi-partnership in the future. Mr. Lawless asked if all parcels that were being looked at were for sale and Mr. Thielen responded yes, but only one parcel was being sold by the City. Mr. Thielen told the Committee he would keep them updated on further action pertaining to this initiative.

2. 2010 Budget

Mr. Thielen presented the 2010 Budget for both Planning & Zoning and Economic Development to the Committee. He stated that the total amount for the 2010 proposed budget is \$503,665 with an 11.17% reduction over the 2009 amended Budget, which would create a cost savings just under \$11,000 for 2011. Mr. Kevern asked about the drop in funds needed for information technology and Mr. Thielen responded that he was not ordering any new computer hardware for 2010 bringing this section down to a \$365.00 balance. Mr. Lawless asked about the \$43,221.00 increase under the section labeled "P & Z Staff". Mr. Thielen responded that Dennis Laymen would be retiring in August of 2010 and that there would be a retirement pay-off of \$36,777.00 for this. He also told the committee that Nancy Behe would be moving over with the Engineering Department and would not be replaced. The intern that is currently working for the Planning & Zoning Department will be hired on part-time for January through August of 2010 and at that time the position that was filled by Mr. Layman will be changed from a Zoning Inspector to a Planning and Zoning Administrative Associate. With these two changes in employee positions the department will see a savings of \$2,000 and in the future, the changing of Mr. Layman's job title will decrease pay and benefits by \$12,000.

The Committee also asked if there were any positive results that occurred because of the Economic Reception held last spring. Mr. Thielen stated there were no

concrete results, but there were several positive responses that could possibly lead the Planning and Zoning Department to sponsor another reception in 2010.

With no other business Mr. Kevern adjourned the meeting at 7:10 p.m.

The next Economic Development meeting will be November 16, 2009 at 6:30 p.m.