

**MINUTES  
COMMITTEE OF FULL COUNCIL MEETING**

**6:30 p.m.**

**April 17, 2007**

Pursuant to Codified Ordinance Section 111.01 (17) and ORC Section 121.22, notice of the following meeting was given on April 13, 2007.

**Present:**

**Council:** Mr. Cox, Mr. Black, Mr. Woodin, Mr. Harrold, Mrs. Manning, Mr. Ranally, Mr. Fiala

**Administration:** Mayor Anderson, Law Director Wiles, Service Director Tomaselli, Fire Chief Zwegat, Police Chief Straube, Parks and Recreation Director Katz, Finance Director Rogowski, Rick Carbone, Executive Director of R.I.T.A. and other representatives from R.I.T.A., Clerk Radebaugh

**REGIONAL INCOME TAX AGENCY**

Mr. Carbone explained that R.I.T.A. is a Regional Council of Governments formed in 1971 by 38 municipalities and now includes 133 municipalities. R.I.T.A. services over 1.2 million tax payers in the State of Ohio and is in 42 counties. The idea of a cooperative is that municipalities can join together to do things more efficiently and more effectively than they could do on their own.

Mr. Carbone explained how R.I.T.A. is governed. Each municipality, as a member of the Council of Governments (COG), has one vote. The COG elects nine individuals to the Board of Trustees who are members of the community.

R.I.T.A. has some of the most advanced technology in municipal income tax in the State of Ohio. Mr. Carbone explained other services that R.I.T.A. offers besides tax collection such as electronic filing and a disaster recovery program.

Mr. Carbone stated that his projection for collection for the city of Willoughby would be a range of 1.69% to 1.94% or \$244,000 to \$280,000. Money is distributed to the municipality twice a month. R.I.T.A. retains 3% of each month's distribution and in June of each year the difference is reconciled. Mr. Carbone said that R.I.T.A. is the only entity that can get IRS information for the city. On the authorization of the city, R.I.T.A. will prepare and file lawsuits for collection. The city would only pay court costs and the cost of the paralegal. He commented that the State Auditor recommends R.I.T.A. to municipalities.

Council President Cox asked how the city could determine if R.I.T.A. will be collecting from everyone that CCA collects from. Mr. Rogowski explained that as a starting point, R.I.T.A. will have a data base tape from CCA which gives them some history of the city's current tax payers. They will also contact the businesses to let them know of the change to R.I.T.A.

Mr. Rogowski commented that the city would have access to "real time" information as tax payments are processed.

Mayor Anderson expressed his support for joining R.I.T.A.

The committee recommended that the city join the Regional Income Tax Agency (R.I.T.A). Legislation will be on the next council meeting.

**SENIOR CITIZENS DEVELOPMENT**

Council President Cox referred to two proposed developments currently on the Planning Commission agenda, Breckenridge and the Lithuanian Home, which do not meet some of the city's zoning ordinances. Breckenridge was asked by Planning Commission to draft a set of conditions that would make their development unique. The city is drafting legislation that will define Congregate Living in regards to the Lithuanian Home proposal. Mr. Cox suggested getting away from the spot zoning concept and make senior citizen developments a conditional use in residential developments. He suggested having Mr. Hartt explore this when working with the Master Plan. Mr. Wiles commented that the city at one time had a senior citizen zoning classification, but it was removed when the zoning ordinances were changed. He said we could put the senior citizen zoning classification back in place or else make it a permitted use in multi-family, subject to conditions. Breckenridge and the Lithuanian Home proposals would still have to continue under the current rules of the city. Mr. Cox commented that they could withdraw their application for rezoning and then start over again. Mr. Fiala said that the intent is to make senior citizen zoning in the residential district, not in multi-family. Mayor Anderson will contact Mr. Schell at Breckenridge to let him know what council has discussed.

Committee of Full Council Meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Date approved \_\_\_\_\_

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Chairman Charles W. Cox

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Clerk of Council