

Service Committee Minutes

Honorable Council
City of Newark, Ohio
March 13, 2014

Mr. Cost opened the public hearing to discuss Resolution No. 14-20

Resolution No. 14-20 APPROVING THE RENEWAL APPLICATION FOR PLACEMENT OF FARMLAND IN AN AGRICULTURAL DISTRICT AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

There were no comments from the audience, the public hearing was closed and Resolution 14-20 was forwarded to the Service Committee.

There was a meeting of the Service Committee in Council Chambers following the Finance Committee, on Monday March 10, 2014. These members were present:

Bill Cost Jr., Chair	Alex Rolletta
Jeff Rath	Ryan Bubb
Jeremy Blake	

At the discretion of the Chair Mr. Ebel presented his annual report prior to the other items on the agenda being discussed.

Mr. Ebel-this is 2013 rap up and the 2014 look ahead. The big thing for us in 2013 was that we passed our National Accreditation. We got notified in October or November that we were one of the first 22 in the Country, 2nd in Ohio. One of the other things that we kicked off last year was our tobacco use reduction initiative. We set a big goal of reducing the smoking rate in Licking County by 50% over the next 10 years. One of the things that we just did last month was make available the inspection results on our website for restaurants, grocery stores, food service type of establishments. Our inspectors are now using tablets and new software to enter their inspections and they will upload almost immediately to be viewed on our website. Once we start doing our swimming pool inspection they will also be available on line. More things that we issue permits for will be added to that as we continue along. We are one of the first departments in the state that adopted this new software that allows us to communicate with the State so we don't have to print this off, email them or send out quarterly reports. They have access to the data base and can pull the reports. We can also email reports to the owners of the establishments instead of leaving one with the manager which allows us to be sure the inspection report was received by them. We had a bed bug summit and there were about 20 people in attendance to that. We had a pest control person there and someone from legal aid. We provided education to the public regarding what bed bugs are, how they can deal with them and what resources are out there. We have also been out to Washington Square and did bed bug presentations there for their employees and residents. On the down side one of our long time Board of Health members is retiring Rod Ellis after about 15+ years. The District Advisor Council meets tomorrow to appoint a replacement so we keep our 11 member board.

Ron Dierks worked for the City Health Department before joining our staff, he was responsible for spraying for mosquitos and is also the one who got shot at a couple of years ago has retired. If have any suggestion on things you would like us to do better or any problems throughout the year be sure to let Chad Brown our Department of Health Director know and he can address that. There is only so much I can do and without the staff and field workers we couldn't reach the point of accomplishment that we have. Certainly without the financial support of the community, our funders and the grants that we receive we couldn't do what we do. If you look at our finances over a 1/3 of our money comes from grants, about 1/3 from fees and roughly a 1/3 comes from the cities, villages and townships tax base.

Mr. Blake- thank you Joe for coming tonight, I appreciate hearing the information that you are giving us. I do have a question about the nursing services that you provide. I was curious if you were noticing any trends that are occurring in the community. You have some statistics in here over the last two years but are you noticing say with STD testing or HIV testing, it looks like the numbers have slightly dropped for 2013 but are you seeing over the years any types of trends that might be significant?

Joe Ebel- we have seen over the last few years one of our STD's Chlamydia has been really high. We have put together a group to try to work out a strategy; people from family health services who does family planning, from our agency and from Licking Memorial. They are trying to figure out how we can turn that around. We run an STD clinic one day a week there is a limited number of cases we are able to identify. A lot are identified at doctors' offices when individuals go in for pregnancy. We have tried to improve the partner notification. If someone is positive we want to bring their partner(s) in to get tested. That is probably where we have had the least success. We have done some random screenings at the OSU Newark campus. A lot of times men and women don't know they have Chlamydia because they don't have symptoms which especially for women can be problematic later for women wanting to get pregnant if it goes on long term undiagnosed. We have an access to care community that has a lot of different agencies represented; we have been talking to that group about the expansion of Medicaid and the affordable care act plays and how it plays into the free services we have done in the past in trying to get people enrolled and also some problems with the amount that Medicaid pays now. Unlike when a child gets on Medicaid they come in and get services and they don't pay anything extra for it. With the expanded low income adult type of Medicaid they are expected to spend a fair amount out of pocket before Medicaid kicks in and unfortunately that is the population that doesn't have money in their pocket. If they have a catastrophic illness the hospital is going to get paid for most of it because it is going to get passed that deductible. Routine care which is really what we want them to be having they are still running into some barriers there. We are early in that process of trying to work out those bugs and make that system work.

Mr. Blake- just a specific question about HIV and AIDS, I know Lisa Murphy at the Aids Resource Center which is in my Ward on Union St, I try to make rounds to all the different groups that are in my Ward, have you guys ever had a relationship with our Aids Resource Center? She does some HIV testing as well and it is prevalent in the community. I was just wondering as far as your partner organizations if there have ever been in considerations there.

Joe Ebel-I know that we work with Family Health Services who has a grant from the Ohio Department of Health to do STD including HIV testing and treatment. The State provides free testing materials and right now we don't charge if someone comes in and gets tested. They are

working on have a sliding scale so there may be potential charges if people have any money. Access to testing isn't really the problem I think that for a lot of people it doesn't come to mind, either they don't want to know or they don't think they are at risk. Statistically Licking County doesn't have anything exceptional as far as HIV statistics. The data is reported to the State and sometimes it takes a while for us to get those numbers back because you have other people testing and it all filters into the State.

Ms. Best- I am curious what is the software that the health department uses that makes their inspections so much better. Does the health department have satellite clinics like maybe one downtown or closer to target areas? When someone comes in with an STD do you counsel them on birth control? Do you offer birth control?

Joe Ebel- the software is called health speaks. The State put out to bid a year or two ago for a vendor nationally that would work for us, we are kind of the States agent, we issue food licenses and things. What we had has worked pretty well for us for the last 10-15 years but it is a little out dated and didn't have that web based access yet. You would go out and do inspections come back and upload them but then they were still only in your server. Fortunately it doesn't cost us anything out of our pocket because the State saw some benefit to it.

We have satellites for immunization clinics as well as our WIC clinics we do in Johnstown once a month, Buckeye Lake once a month, Pataskala is one a month for immunizations and twice a month for WIC. We don't currently have a satellite downtown although we do send one of our nurse practitioners to the community health clinic which is downtown here and they see uninsured adults at that clinic as well. We used to have a WIC satellite in town but it was hard to keep our rent up sometimes because we were trying to get it for free from the church and we would wear out our welcome eventually. It is one of our struggles with the transportation system; there isn't easy transportation to get out to our office especially for people who don't plan far enough ahead to take care of that. The bike trail terminates fairly close to our office but it doesn't go all the way out there. That is another area that we would like to see addressed at some point. We do talk to people about birth control and we do provide condoms for free, we don't prescribe birth control they can get that through the health services clinic. We have talked about getting into that but as long as they are able to provide that at their facility and get it paid for under a grant we so far haven't felt that we need to compete with them and do it free as well. If something should happen and they wouldn't be able to do that then we have talked about stepping in and filling that void.

1. **Resolution No. 14-19** authorizing and directing the Director of Public Service of the City of Newark, Ohio to negotiate and enter into contract to provide sanitary sewer service to the Village of St. Louisville within the North Fork segmental sewer district considered.

Roger Loomis- this is just authorization for us to enter into contract with the Village of St. Louisville. In 1977 the city accepted a grant for installing the north fork interceptor; it runs up to the Prescott Estates area. It was Federal Grant money that was used to install that to service the area which is known as the North Fork segmental sewer district, which is also known as Licking County sewer district number 2. The City of Newark, Village of St.

Louisville and Licking County at that time entered into an agreement that the City would service that area and if the village ever put in a centralized sewer system we would accept their waste and treat their waste. We are in the process of putting together an agreement with them which will address how we are going to handle the discharged into the sewer and who is responsible for what. We almost have that agreement completed so all we need is authorization to enter into that agreement.

Mr. Blake- there are two big reasons for us to go into this, one is that we are required but two is that they are north of us so if we don't take care of it; it will come into our waters and the possibility of earning revenue from this too correct.

Roger Loomis- we will be charging them for our services but this is also in the water shed or our drinking water system. Originally the Prescott Estates had their own treatment facility but it failed in the late 70's. That was when the epitasis to the North Folks interceptor was installed. That is when that treatment plant went out and we took their waste. There are some major advantages to protect our water supply in that area. It is good to get all of the septic tanks out of St. Louisville and get them on a centralized collection system.

Motion by Rath to send to full Council, second by Mr. Blake

Motion passed by a 5-0 vote

2. **Ordinance No. 14-03** annexing certain territory, generally described as being 0.275 acres, more or less, (lot 26 in Van Tassel Mt. Vernon Road allotment) located in Newark Township, to the City of Newark, Ohio considered.

Director Rhodes- this is for the annexation of a piece of property in Newark Township to the City of Newark and I believe the next step is that it will go to the Planning Commission.

Motion by Mr. Bubb to send to full Council, second by Mr. Rath

Motion passed by a 5-0 vote.

3. **Resolution No. 14-20** approving the renewal application for placement of farmland in an agricultural district and declaring an emergency was considered.

Director Rhodes- it is just a renewal for an agricultural district

Motion by Mr. Bubb to send to full Council, second by Mr. Blake

Motion passed by a 5-0 vote

4. **Resolution No. 14-21** authorizing and directing the director of public service to accept bids and sell certain surplus personal property now owned by the City of Newark, Ohio, and declaring that such property is no longer needed for any municipal purpose was considered.

Director Rhodes- we are going to have an auction out at the Service Complex for cars that we have taken in at the impound lot

Motion by Mr. Bubb to send to full Council, second by Mr. Rath

Mr. Rath- where do we come up with 67 automobiles

Director Rhodes- off of the side of the road, abandoned vehicles, it is amazing. As a matter of fact we are going to have two auctions this year. We are going to have another one in September. This list could have been 100 if we could have gotten them processed. We have about 150 bicycles, miscellaneous 4 wheelers and motorcycles.

Mr. Blake- what happens to the stuff if it doesn't get auctioned off?

Director Rhodes- it just sits there and it continues to accrue fees and it goes unclaimed, it rusts and weeds grow up around it.

Mr. Blake- if all of the 150 bikes don't get auctioned off could we give them to an organization or something?

Director Rhodes- we would have to check with the law director and make sure that we are able to give them away but they sell them for a buck or two. The last three auctions I have done we have sold all of the bikes. There are people there that buy 10-12 bikes and they do give them to organizations like that.

Motion passed by a vote of 5-0.

5. **Ordinance No. 14-05** changing the zoning classification of certain real property, generally described as 1567 West Main St, City of Newark, Licking County, Ohio, from that of (GO) General Office District, to (LB) Limited Intensity Business District was considered.

Director Rhodes- this is another one that will go to the Planning Commission and we will render an opinion on it.

Motion by Mr. Bubb to send to full Council, second by Mr. Rath

Mr. Rath- what is the difference between Limited Intensity Business District and General Office?

Director Rhodes- Jeff I would have to get back to you on that

Mr. Rath- is this the building where Arensberg is at?

Mr. Cost- yes it is

Mr. Rath- maybe they would be willing to pitch in money for a traffic light at the intersection of Terrace and West Main

Motion passed by a vote of 5-0.

Bill Cost Jr, Chair