
Memorandum

To: Mayor & Members of Council
From: Monica Irelan, City Manager
Subject: General Information
Date: February 26, 2016

CALENDAR

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 29TH

Meeting Agendas

6:00 pm – *Parks & Recreation Board*

7:00 pm – *Charter Review Commission*

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

1. AMP Update/February 19, 2016
2. OML Legislative Bulletin/February 19, 2016

MI:rd

Records Retention - CM-11 - 2 Years

February 2016							March 2016							April 2016						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6		1	2	3	4	5							1	2
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
28	29						27	28	29	30	31			24	25	26	27	28	29	30

 Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28	29 6:00 PM Parks & Rec Board Mtg. 7:00 PM Charter Review Commission Mtg.	1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8 4:30 PM Board of Zoning Appeals Meeting 5:00 PM Planning Commission Meeting	9	10	11	12
13	14 6:00 PM Municipal Properties/ED Committee 6:45 PM Board of Public Affairs 7:00 PM City Council	15	16	17	18	19
20	21 6:00 PM Tree Commission Meeting 6:15 PM Parks & Recreation Committee Meeting 7:00 PM City Council	22	23	24	25	26
27	28 6:30 PM FINANCE & BUDGET Committee Meeting 7:30 PM SAFETY & HUMAN RESOURCES Committee Meeting	29	30	31	1	2 8:30 AM OML Newly Elected Council Training @ Oberhaus Park

City of Napoleon, Ohio
Parks & Recreation Board

LOCATION: Council Chambers, 255 West Riverview Avenue, Napoleon, Ohio

Special Meeting Agenda
Monday, February 29, 2016 at 6:00pm

- I. Call to Order
- II. Swearing in of member: Ryan Miller
- III. Approval of Minutes
- IV. Discussion on future Swimming Pool improvements
- V. Discussion on Spring Recreation Programs
- VI. Miscellaneous
- VII. Any other matters to come before the Board
- VIII. Adjournment

Gregory J. Heath, Finance Director/Clerk of Council

City of Napoleon
Parks & Recreation Board
Special Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, January 27, 2016 at 6:00pm

	PRESENT	
Members		Matt Hardy – Chair, Mike Saneholtz, Peg Funchion, Aaron Schnitkey, Chad Richardson, Jon Knepley. Joe Bialorucki – Council Representative
City Staff		Tony Cotter, Parks & Recreation Director Greg Heath, Finance Director/Clerk of Council Monica Irelan, City Manager Jason Maassel, Mayor
Recorder		Tammy Fein
Others		Media
Absent		
Call To Order		Clerk of Council Heath called the meeting to order at 6:00pm.
Swearing In: Saneholtz		Mayor Maassel swore in Mike Saneholtz and administered the Oath of Office.
Election Of Chairman		Heath asked each member in order of seniority for a nomination for Chairman: Saneholtz nominated Hardy
Motion To Appoint Hardy Chairman		Motion: Funchion Second: Schnitkey To appoint Hardy as Chair for the Parks & Recreation Board Funchion passed Hardy passed Richardson passed Schnitkey passed Knepley passed
Passed		Roll Call vote on above motion:
Yea- 6		Yea- Saneholtz, Funchion, Hardy, Richardson, Schnitkey, Knepley
Nay- 0		Nay-
Approval Of Minutes		Minutes of the December 2 meeting stand approved with no objections or corrections.
Discussion On The Swimming Pool		Cotter restated the options of the swimming pool, either repairing the liner by pouring in a PVC lining to seal the concrete beneath which would require additional repair with an estimated cost of \$175,000 not including the work to the gutter raising the cost to approximately \$200,000 to \$250,000; there is currently \$75,000 in the Reserve Fund toward this repair.

Cotter stated the second option is building a new pool incorporating some water park features; Cotter stated that Bowling Green has currently done this at a cost of approximately \$3.5 million, while Wauseon has recently requested a levy in excess of \$1 million to build a new pool. Cotter asked the Board for discussion regarding these options to move forward to Council. Knepley asked if the liner option would increase maintenance in the Spring; Cotter replied that it would, however there would be no spot painting only cleaning. Cotter stated that if the gutters are in fact they could be bonded with a stainless steel plate to seal this portion; Cotter believes that the current gutter is separated from the concrete wall that would require additional repair. Sanholtz believes the Aquatic Club would require the competition pool to remain and believes that two (2) pools would be necessary to separate the competition pool from the water park pool. Knepley asked for the Spring maintenance costs; Cotter stated that the pool is only spot painted as necessary each year, estimating approximately \$5,000 in startup costs to repair damages that cannot be handled internally. Cotter reported that the water loss cost in 2015 was approximately \$10,000, driving up the cost of chemicals, as well as the cost of heating the water. Knepley asked if the filtration piping is causing any of the water leakage; Cotter stated that the concrete decking was replaced and at that time discovered that many main feed lines were broken and repaired at that time as well as a pump. Cotter believes the cost of a new pool would require a levy; Funchion asked the average loss annually; Cotter replied approximately \$70,000 per year. Schnitkey asked if there was a leak in the input line; Cotter stated there was a leak in the meter that was corrected though it was not as significant as previously thought. Hardy does not believe that this is a decision of the Board and asked for direction from the City and Council. Maassel believes there are more residents purchasing the temporary pools than previous years, adding that the renovations cost is a lot to lose on an annual basis. Maassel suggested going to the water park option; Hardy disagreed, stating that he believes the money will never be made back. Sanholtz suggested repairing the current pool and polling the residents to find the interest in the water park option. Heath asked Cotter if he knew why Bowling Green decided to go to the water park; Cotter stated that this was researched through surveys and town hall meetings regarding features, though the responses were split, adding that an indoor pool was also considered. Heath asked what Wauseon considered in their decision; Cotter stated that their pool was closed due to the Virginia Graham Act to change their filtration system which cost approximately \$60,000 which led to an initiative to build the new pool; Funchion added that this involved a levy as well as bonds. Schnitkey asked if the admission rates were increased at Bowling Green and Wauseon; Cotter believes the admission rates were six dollars (\$6) per day. Funchion asked the life of a liner; Cotter replied approximately ten (10) to fifteen (15) years then sandblasted out and replaced if it starts to leak; Funchion believes that Council must make this decision and this should be brought to the residents for their opinions. Cotter recommended that this be moved to Council to be referred to Committee for direction.

Motion To Move Swimming Pool Discussion To Committee Of Council

Motion: Saneholtz Second: Schnitkey
To move swimming pool discussion to Committee of Council

Passed
Yea- 6
Nay- 0

Roll call vote on above motion:
Yea- Saneholtz, Funchion, Hardy, Richardson, Schnitkey, Knepley
Nay-

Discussion On Board Appointments

Hardy asked for nominations for the Board; Schnitkey suggested Nick Sonnenberg.

Miscellaneous

Knepley

None

Schnitkey

None

Hardy

Hardy reported that he monitored the halls of the school during a current basketball practice with no complaints.

Funchion

None

Saneholtz

None

Cotter

Cotter reported that he and Irelan met with the County Commissioners recently to discuss the agreement between the City, County and Soccer Club regarding the field at C.D. Brillhart; this building has not yet been sold and the Commissioners were receptive to trading services including grounds upkeep, mowing and snow removal; the Soccer Club will assist with this as well. Cotter reported that an agreement will be reached between the Recreation Department and the Soccer Club. Saneholtz asked if the ground needed repair; Cotter stated that the ground had some damage and this will be researched to better the condition. Cotter added that the Soccer Club expressed interest in being involved in the programming side of the third and fourth grade soccer programs.

Cotter reported that the slope mower was delivered with a net cost of \$17,000 which will be shared among various Departments; also the snow removal tractor was delivered.

Cotter reported that the fifth and sixth grade basketball leagues are finishing and Spring programs will be beginning.

Cotter stated that the new school gym is being utilized, the elementary school is being used more than the junior high gym and all is going well; the custodial staff is treating the Recreation programs well.

Any Other Matters

None

Motion To Adjourn

Motion: Saneholtz Second: Funchion
To adjourn the meeting at 6:41pm.

Passed

Yea- 6

Nay- 0

Roll call vote on above motion:

Yea- Saneholtz, Funchion, Hardy, Richardson, Schnitkey, Knepley

Nay-

Date Approved

Matt Hardy, Chair

DRAFT

City of Napoleon, Ohio
Charter Review Commission

LOCATION: Council Chambers, 255 West Riverview Avenue, Napoleon, Ohio

Meeting Agenda
Monday, February 29, 2016 at 7:00pm

- I. Call to Order
- II. Swearing in of Commission members
- III. Election of Commission Chairman
- IV. Scheduling of Meeting dates and times
- V. Setting of the Agenda
- VI. Charter Review Process and Procedures
- VII. Any other matters to come before the Commission
- VIII. Adjournment

Gregory J. Heath, Finance Director/Clerk of Council



UPdate

A weekly newsletter presented by AMP President/CEO Marc Gerken

February 19, 2016

AMP seeks volunteers for Focus Forward Advisory Council

By Jolene Thompson – executive vice president of member services & external affairs

In recognition of emerging trends impacting the electric industry, the AMP Board of Trustees is establishing the Focus Forward Advisory Council and soliciting interest from the AMP membership for volunteers who would like to contribute. The council will initially focus on a strategic approach to address the following issues:

- Interconnection policies for distributed energy resource integration
- Rate design best practices
- Model ordinances

This group will represent a diversity of member communities, and include administration, superintendents and elected officials, as well as key consultants who will work closely with AMP staff.

AMP will host a kickoff meeting to develop the Focus Forward Advisory Council charter, structure, mandates and deliverables this spring. Future meetings will largely be conducted via webinar or in conjunction with regularly scheduled AMP events. AMP will send additional details to interested parties regarding the meeting schedule and agenda.

Please contact David Deal, director of energy policy & sustainability, at ddeal@amppartners.org or 614.540.0840 if you are interested in participating.

Second unit comes online at Meldahl

By Scott Kiesewetter – senior vice president of generation operations

AMP received notice stating that Meldahl Unit 1 was declared available for commercial operation as of Feb. 13. Unit 1 is now under full control of the plant operating staff and joins Meldahl's Unit 2 that achieved commercial operation on Jan. 20. Commissioning and testing continue on Meldahl's third unit.



I'd like to thank and congratulate all involved in achieving commercial operation on Meldahl Unit 1.

"Meldahl's Unit 3 had its first synch this week, which is an exciting milestone for the project," said Doug Childs, Hamilton's energy management administrator. "Units 1 and 2 have already been approved for commercial operation, and in approximately the next 45 days or so, Unit 3 should reach commercial operation as well."

see MELDAHL Page 2

Moody's report: Prairie State meets expected operating performance

By Chris Deeter – assistant vice president of finance & member credit compliance

On Feb. 18 Moody's Investors Service (Moody's) released a special report regarding the operating performance at the Prairie State power plant. Moody's pointed out that the facility operated at or near the capacity factors that were expected by the project ownership for 2015. They also made several other positive points within the report:

- The record-setting performance is a credit positive for the project owners;
- The performance strengthens Prairie State's long-term position as a source of electric production;
- Plant production meets federal environmental standards, though risks with carbon emissions remain;
- The combined capacity factor for the plant reached 78 percent in 2015, which is above average for coal-fired power plants;
- The capacity factor performance supports its long-term competitive position, particularly from a variable cost standpoint;
- The plant's equivalent availability factor was in the 80 percent range for 2015;
- The plant is able to compete reasonably well with natural gas-fired generation; and
- The mine mouth plant has future fuel supply without transportation costs and it is also exempt from any future market price volatility.

The report also noted the favorable effects of the new management at the plant. If you have any questions, or would like a copy of the report, please do not hesitate to contact me at 614.540.0848 or cdeeter@amppartners.org.

MELDAHL continued from Page 1

AMP is developing the project with Hamilton, which originally procured the development license from the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). Hamilton retains the rights for a 51.4 percent share of the energy output from the facility, with AMP taking the remaining output for the 48 other AMP members participating in the project.

AMP's Mckenzie to assist APPA with safety manual updates

By Michelle Palmer, PE – vice president of technical services

Scott Mckenzie, AMP's member safety manager, has been named to the American Public Power Association's (APPA) Safety Manual Revision Task Force (SMRT Force).



Scott Mckenzie

Mckenzie will serve as an at-large representative in Region 9 on this task force that will work diligently over the next 14 months to revise the APPA Safety Manual.

The APPA Safety Manual is updated every four to five years to reflect the important changes in industry, and NESC and OSHA standards. The manual is the premier source for safety compliance information for utility employees.

APPA is actively seeking proposal submissions for the manual. Members are encouraged to make submissions, which may be completed online [here](#).

For more information, please contact Scott at 614.306.4269 or smckenzie@amppartners.org.

APPA Legislative Rally to be held March 7-9 in Washington, D.C.

By Michael Beirne – vice president of external affairs

As a reminder, the 2016 American Public Power Association Legislative Rally



will be held March 7-9 at the Grand Hyatt Washington in Washington, D.C. There is still time to join the AMP/OMEA group.

Detailed position papers are being drafted, and staff is contacting congressional offices to secure time on the legislators' calendars.

Due to the number of AMP/OMEA attendees and logistics involved with planning the trip, we request an RSVP via registration form returned to us for our use in arranging meals, meetings, etc.

Please contact Jodi Allalen at jallalen@amppartners.org for more information. Members of the AMP/OMEA group should expect a confirmation mailing in the next few weeks.

On Peak (16 hour) prices into AEP/Dayton Hub

Week ending Feb. 19

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
\$30.80	\$28.03	\$25.65	\$25.49	\$24.08

Week ending Feb. 12

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
\$26.57	\$31.46	\$33.13	\$38.56	\$30.81

AEP/Dayton 2017 5x16 price as of Feb. 18 — \$36.76

AEP/Dayton 2017 5x16 price as of Feb. 11 — \$37.13

AFEC weekly update

By Jerry Willman – assistant vice president of energy marketing

Cold temperatures last weekend and earlier this week provided strong support for baseload operation overnight and duct firing during the peak hours.

Duct firing operated for 49 hours this week. The plant generated at an 81 percent capacity factor (based on 675 MW rating).

Energy markets update

By Jerry Willman

NYMEX natural gas for March 2016 closed down \$0.08 cents Thursday to settle at \$1.852. The EIA reported a withdrawal of 158 Bcf yesterday from U.S. gas inventories for the week ending Feb. 12. Natural gas futures fell despite the EIA reporting a slightly larger-than-expected draw on gas inventories.

Forecasts call for temperatures to remain well above seasonal averages through Feb. 22 before dropping back to more seasonal levels through the end of the month. On-peak power prices for 2017 at AD Hub closed yesterday at \$36.76/MWh, which was \$0.37/MWh lower for the week.

McKee joins AMP as environmental specialist

By Randy Meyer, QEP – senior director of environmental affairs

Clayton McKee joined AMP this week as an environmental specialist. He will handle environmental compliance activities for AMP owned/managed generation assets.



Clayton McKee

Prior to AMP, McKee served as an environmental scientist with TetraTech. He also worked with the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (OEPA) as an environmental specialist-division of drinking and ground water, and previously worked in the OEPA's air division.

He holds a bachelor's degree in natural resources from Purdue University and a master's degree in environmental science from Indiana University.

Please join me in welcoming Clayton to AMP.



Trends in sustainability

By David Deal – director of energy policy & sustainability

Distributed Energy Resources (DER) and their associated infrastructure are providing new revenue streams for everyone in the energy industry, including utilities. As a result, public power utilities are engaging with customers through new programs such as rooftop residential solar programs, community solar gardens, microgrids and energy storage projects. However, ongoing challenges to accurately value these products and services continue to produce major challenges, as is evidenced by several regulatory proceedings occurring at the state level across the country.

In a recent survey conducted by GTM Research, “73 percent of utilities noted regulatory hurdles as the greatest challenge faced today, and the top ways to eliminate those hurdles are for regulators to develop market-based reforms to value DER.” In another survey conducted by West Monroe Partners of over 100 utility executives surveyed, “Almost two-thirds (65 percent) of those surveyed agree uncertain cost and benefit implications represent the top planning challenge for commissions. Regulators therefore need to help utilities find substantive ways to quantify the challenges DERs represent instead of relying on generalized and often anecdotal evidence concerning their benefits.”

Both surveys suggested customers are “the main driver behind this market evolution” and that many customers (48 percent) are considering adding DERs within the next two years.

While acknowledging the need for continued regulatory reform in a changing landscape, utilities are not taking the “wait and see approach.” Industry responses suggest four out of five utilities (80 percent) are working on interconnection processes and procedures, almost two-thirds (65 percent) are considering changes to their revenue models, and almost as many, 59 percent, are considering revisions to distribution planning to better integrate customer-sited resources.

Please see Focus Forward Advisory Council article on Page 1 for solicitation of member interest for serving on a new AMP advisory council on these topics.

AMP to host NERC update, call

By Art Iler – director of reliability standards compliance

AMP, in coordination with Utility Services Inc., will host its monthly NERC update call and webinar for members from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. on Feb. 25. Topics to be discussed include: (i) TOP/IRO standards to be additionally modified; (ii) SARs for definition changes: Interconnection, Load, Net Energy for Load, Facility, and Transmission Customer; (iii) NERC Alert – Manipulation of ICS; (iv) CIP-002-5.1 assessment by 4/1/16 and Self Cert by 5/2/16; (v) New Standards effective 7/1/16: COM-002-4 and PRC-004-4(i). The presentation will be followed by a question and answer session.

Please contact me with questions, and for the dial-in number and webinar instructions at ailer@amppartners.org or 614.540.0857.

Calendar

March 7-9—APPA Legislative Rally
Grand Hyatt Washington, Washington, D.C.

March 10—AMP Finance & Accounting Meeting
New Martinsville, West Virginia

March 15-17—AMP Metering Course
Piqua, Ohio

April 2-6—APPA Rodeo and E&O Conference
Minneapolis, Minnesota

April 7—AMP Finance & Accounting Meeting
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

April 26-27—AMP Technical Services Conference
AMP Headquarters, Columbus

May 5—AMP Finance & Accounting Meeting
Hillsdale, Michigan

May 18-19—AMP Underground Distribution Workshop
AMP Headquarters, Columbus

June 2—AMP Finance & Accounting Meeting
Salem, Virginia

June 13-17—Basic 1 Lineworker Training
AMP Headquarters, Columbus

June 27-July 1—Intermediate Lineworker Training
AMP Headquarters, Columbus

July 28—AMP Finance & Accounting Meeting
AMP Headquarters, Columbus

Aug. 26-27—AMP Rodeo
AMP Headquarters, Columbus

Sept. 12-16—Basic 2 Lineworker Training
AMP Headquarters, Columbus

Sept. 26-29—2016 AMP/OMEA Conference
Hilton Columbus at Easton

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News or Ads?

Call Krista Selvage at 614.540.6407 or email to kbselvage@amppartners.org if you would like to pass along news or ads.



Classifieds

Borough of Ephrata seeks electric system manager

The Borough of Ephrata (Pop. 13,000) located in northern Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, seeks a successful candidate for the full-time position of Electric System Manager.

This position is responsible for managing skilled individuals involved with the operation and maintenance of a Public Power electrical distribution system. The Electric System Manager will direct the day to day activities, preventative maintenance, and capital projects of the borough's electrical distribution systems in order to provide operations that are safe, cost effective and reliable. The Electric System Manager will be expected to interact with the customers of the system on a regular basis and to ensure that safe and sound practices are employed throughout the electric distribution system.

To be considered for this position, candidates must have at least 10 years of experience in the electric utility industry with a minimum of five years supervisory experience and a proven track record of achieving positive results. A thorough working knowledge of line work, electric distribution, substations and high voltage systems (up to 69kv) is essential. An associate degree in electrical engineering technology or related field from an accredited college or trade school is desired, however, relevant practical experience in lieu of a degree will be considered.

Please send resumes to Human Resources, Borough of Ephrata, 124 S. State St., Ephrata, Pennsylvania 17522. EOE M/F/D/V

Columbus has opening for power division administrator

The City of Columbus, Department of Public Utilities is seeking qualified candidates for the position of Power Division Administrator. This position is responsible for planning and coordinating the operations of the Division of Power. Other duties include directing the personnel involved with municipal power generation, transmission and distribution systems, advising the fiscal staff in the preparation of the division's budget, and developing work methods to improve efficiency in the Division of Power.

To qualify, candidates must have a bachelor's degree and five years of management experience to include policy formulation and implementation, management of a budget in excess of one million dollars, and direction of a large staff (20 employees or more) through subordinate supervisors. Substitution: A master's degree in business administration, public administration, or closely related field may be substituted for one year of the required experience. Must have a valid Driver's License. (Salary \$95,077 - \$158,434)

Interested candidates should submit an application to the Civil Service Commission by applying online at www.csc.columbus.gov by March 1, 2016. Please attach a resume to your application. You may also apply by emailing your

resume to DPURecruitment@columbus.gov. If you prefer to mail in a paper application, please mail it to Krista McGee, 910 Dublin Road, Columbus, Ohio 43215. EOE. Applicants may inspect and acquire a copy of the City of Columbus, Department of Public Utilities EEO Plan by visiting the DPU website.

Painesville has meters available

The City of Painesville has a surplus of 52 new Class 100, 120V GE meters. If interested, please contact Jeffrey McHugh, City of Painesville Electric Department superintendent, at 325 Richmond St., Painesville, Ohio 44077; 440.392.5939; or jmchugh@painesville.com.

Piqua seeks associate engineer

The City of Piqua is accepting applications for the position of Associate Engineer for the Municipal Power Department. The position performs engineering and planning for the Power System. Responsibilities include, but are not limited to, working with engineering staff to complete a variety of projects, primary responsibility is the day-to-day operation of the Power System's metering department. Qualifications include experience in the power utility industry or related business and an associate degree in engineering/engineering technology. Individuals with demonstrated related work experience may be considered with bachelor degrees in other disciplines.

Please send letter of interest, three business references, salary requirements and application to: 201 W. Water St., Human Resources Department 2nd floor, Piqua, Ohio 45356. Visit www.piquaoh.org to download an application. Deadline for applications is Feb. 26, 2016. EOE.

Tipp City arborist needed

The Tipp City Electric Department will be accepting applications for the position of Tree Trimmer/Arborist. Duties of the Tree Trimmer/Arborist will include, but will not be limited to: Line clearance near energized electric circuits up to 69,000 volts; tree trimming/removal of city owned trees, in the curb lawn, and parks, etc.; landscaping, tree planting; assisting electric crews when required; assisting other city departments when needed.

A preference of three years of experience in aerial lift operation, tree climbing, rigging and chipper operation is required. Class A CDL with trailer certification will be required within six months of employment. ISA Arborist certification will be required within a one year period from date of hire. This position will require periodic drug and alcohol testing, work in inclement weather and non-traditional hours. Pay Range is \$19.15 to \$24.40/hour. Resume and application to City Manager's Office, Tipp City Government Center, 260 S. Garber Dr. Tipp City, Ohio 45371 by 4 p.m. Feb. 26, 2016. Tipp City is an equal opportunity employer.



Ohio Municipal League
Our Cities and Villages ★ Bringing Ohio to Life

Legislative Bulletin

Ohio Municipal League Legislative Bulletin

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February 19, 2016

PROPOSAL TO EXPAND BWC FIREFIGHTER CANCER EXPOSURES SCHEDULED FOR HEARING

The Senate Insurance committee has announced that a third hearing will be held on SB 27, Sen. Tom Patton's bill which will expand current BWC allowable coverage's by providing that a firefighter who is disabled as a result of specified types of cancer is presumed for purposes of the laws governing workers' compensation and the Ohio Police and Fire Pension Fund to have incurred the cancer while performing official duties as a firefighter.

The hearing is scheduled for Tuesday, February 23 rd at 10:30 A.M. in the Statehouse/Senate Annex Building, South Hearing Room.

The bill is similar to HB 292, legislation the league, along with the Ohio Township Association, has previously expressed our opposition with. To be clear, the league supports all safety force personnel, and as the employer, our members strive to make working conditions safe for our forces. Municipal legislative boards, by and large, share the same goals of our fire departments, to protect their citizens and their property from harm. The issue with the legislation is, if enacted, will put an additional financial strain on municipal budgets that employ firefighters, at a time when revenue cuts and shifts in revenue sharing agreements with the state and its local partners continue to create fiscal challenges for cities and villages.

The league would like to encourage any municipal officials who may be concerned with the consequences the expanded coverage's would have to their current BWC rates, to join us in the Senate Insurance committee next week to share those concerns with the committee members hearing the bill.

BILL TO ALTER CURRENT TIF STRUCTURE RECEIVES OPPONENT MUNICIPAL TESTIMONY

HB12, legislation that is a reintroduction of a proposal that stalled in the previous General Assembly received a third hearing this week in the House Ways and Means committee. The bill, introduced by Rep. Jim Butler and Tony Burkley, would establish a procedure by which political subdivisions proposing a tax increment financing (TIF) incentive district would be required to notify the owner of each parcel within the proposed incentive district before creating the district, and to permit such owners, under specific conditions, to exclude their parcels from the TIF by submitting a written response.

The league would like to thank the city of Delaware's legal representative, Mr. Darren Shulman for attending the hearing and providing the committee with points of concern that have identified with the current language. Specifically, Mr. Shulman shared with the committee concerns related to the ease to which a property owner can withdraw from a proposed TIF and how that late notification, which will not include information or examples of why the parcel should not be included in a proposed TIF area, can jeopardize the effectiveness of the total improvement district plan.

We expect the House Ways and Means committee to continue holding hearings on the proposal. We would encourage any of our municipal members who may have concerns with the bill and the future usefulness of the current TIF program to share those views with their state elected officials and to consider presenting your views through testimony to the House committee.

LEAGUE TESTIFIES IN SUPPORT OF DOWNTOWN REDEVELOPMENT LEGISLATION

On Wednesday, the Senate Ways and Means committee held a third hearing on Rep. Schuring's bill to establish a procedure by which municipal corporations may designate Downtown Redevelopment Districts (DRDs), in conjunction with the Ohio Historical Preservation Tax Credit program. The league was happy to present proponent testimony to the Senate Ways and Means committee members and urging Senators to support the passage of the bill. A copy of the league's testimony can be found on our website www.omlohio.org.

As our members may remember from previous bulletins covering this issue, the DRD program is designed to allow municipalities to harness the value and functionality of their historical infrastructure assets for the purposes of rehabilitating historic buildings, creating jobs, and encouraging economic development in commercial and mixed-use commercial and residential areas. In addition to implementing the new DRDs, the bill also allows for the creation of an Innovation District within a DRD designed to attract and facilitate growth of technology-oriented businesses.

LEGISLATION TO ESTABLISH BOND BANKS RECEIVES HEARING

Rep. Jeff McClain introduced legislation recently that is designed to benefit local governments by lowering borrowing costs through economies of scale, reduced administrative burden, and more efficient capital market access. The bill Rep. McClain has proposed, HB 435, would specifically authorize the Treasurer of State to issue revenue obligations of the state for the purpose of making loans to qualifying public entities for their acquisition of permanent improvements through the Treasurer of State's purchase of public obligations of those qualifying entities. The bill received a second hearing in the House Financial Institutions, Housing and Urban Development committee on Wednesday.

The bill would create a state bond bank administered by the state treasurer's office which would be able to

issue loans to qualified local governments. The proposed fund will be designed to support permanent improvement projects among local governments.

As explained by the bill sponsor and witnesses who provided proponent testimony, the bond bank can potentially provide significant cost savings to local government issuers through reduced interest rates and reduced costs of issuance through economies of scale. In addition to those savings, the bond bank can benefit local governments by handling or assisting with post issuance compliance matters.

The program would anticipate the availability of state-payment intercept provisions, which would reduce interest costs without obligating the state, and would rely on the staff of the Debt Management Department.

We will be tracking this legislation closely and would encourage any local official to contact their state representative or senator and share their views about this bill with them.

HOUSE PASSES RESOLUTION URGING PRESERVATION OF TAX-EXEMPT STATUS OF MUNICIPAL BONDS

The OML is proud to announce a recent legislative accomplishment with the passage of HCR 7. The resolution expresses opposition to any push that eliminates or limits the federal tax exemption on interest earned on municipal bonds, which are critical for local governments to raise the funds needed to finance infrastructure projects.

“We want to protect Ohio cities, counties, and schools from a federal tax grab that would raise their debt interest cost,” said Representative Robert Sprague, who sponsored the resolution.

This comes in response to occasional attempts by the president and Congress to either tax or alter the federal exemption of interest earned on the bonds. At a time when building and improving infrastructure is required to meet federal mandates and support economic development, HCR 7 aims to preserve a financing tool that excludes interest on state and local obligations from federal gross income.

The Resolution now moves on to the Ohio Senate for their consideration.

[Committee Schedule](#)

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