

Approved  
Bellbrook-Sugarcreek Merger Study Commission  
Special Session Minutes  
July 14, 2010

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Mike Shank, Co-Chairperson of the Merger Study Commission.
2. Linda Hummel, Tom Frantz, Bill Berry, Donna Hellmann, Ron Folkerth, Charlie Schwegman, Howard Ackerman and Joan Gallagher were present. Sam Staley was not present.
3. Others present were Scott Bryant, Jim Tharpe, Floyd Tharpe, Renee Numington, Denise and Tim Toth, Dona Seger-Lawson, Nadine Daugherty, Katherine Ulmer, Robert Portune and Mark Schlagheck.
4. Minutes for the June Work Sessions had been circulated and were presented for approval. For the June 9 and 16, 2010 meetings there wasn't a quorum from the City who attended. Therefore, a Motion was made by Mrs. Hellmann "To put the Unapproved minutes from these Work Sessions on the Web-site" so the Public could have access to them. Mr. Berry seconded the motion. A vote was taken which passed unanimously. There was a Motion by Mrs. Hellmann "To approve the Minutes from the June 23 and 30, 2010 meetings." Mr. Folkerth seconded the motion. Roll call was taken for the June 23 meeting with everyone voting Yes, except Mrs. Gallagher who abstained. The June 23 minutes were approved. Roll call was taken for the June 30 minutes and everyone voted Yes except Mr. Ackerman and Mr. Schwegman who abstained. The June 30 minutes were approved.
5. The next topics of discussion were Conditions of Merger with Rationales. Mr. Shank and Mr. Berry had attended the July 12, 2010 City Council Meeting where the Council voted against putting a 5 year 6 mill tax levy on the November 2, 2010 ballot to finance a Merger. This action necessitated that the Merger Study Commission go to alternative measures to finance the Merger. Mr. Portune had forwarded to the Commission several drafts of alternatives. After discussion of these alternatives the Commission selected a version of Alternative 3 which stated that there needed to be a Tax Levy Vote in 2011 with the Merger Effective date of 7/1/12. A Motion was made to "Have Mrs. Gallagher take the Draft of the Conditions of Merger, 3a, to the Board of Elections for review". All 9 Commissioners voted Yes and the

motion passed unanimously. Rationales were to be covered in the Work Session immediately following the Special Meeting.

6. Following this action Mr. Schwegman asked if a vote to Approve the Conditions of Merger could be taken at this Special meeting? Such a vote would decide whether or not to send the Merger to the November 2, 2010 ballot. There were several Commissioners who said that this vote had been scheduled for July 28, 2010 and wanted to keep that schedule. Mrs. Hellmann stated that she wasn't ready to vote yet. Mr. Schwegman responded that he could respect her stand on this.
7. Meeting Schedule, Work Session on July 21 and Regular Meeting on July 28, 2010. The August 4, 2010 meeting was cancelled.
8. Web-page Reminder, Mr. Schieman indicated that after the Public Hearings there were considerable hits on the web-site, mergerstudy.com. There were a total on 2900 so far.
9. Public Comment:

Mr. Schieman referred to the Rationales and said that in other Merger Study reports that the rationales were buried in the conditions of Merger

Mr. Martin challenged Mr. Portune on general law terms, compared the Public Hearings to the Life Style Study Focus Groups in that they opposed a Merger. He also said that the Final Report needed to be mailed to the public because not everyone has a computer. On a second trip to the podium, Mr. Martin said that when he was in Xenia, he asked about Mr. Portune and was told he was well respected and a good lawyer.

Mr. Bryant asked for an honest review at the July 28, 2010 meeting as to whether to put the Merger Study on the November ballot.

Mrs. Toth asked if the Commission members discussed Merger business with their friends on the Commission. Mr. Shank answered no, that according to the Ohio Sunshine laws that was not allowed. Both Mr. and Mrs. Toth once again asked the Commissioners not to put the Merger on the November ballot because it might pass, since it is very confusing.

10. The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 PM.