

New Philadelphia City Council

Public Works & Economic Development Committee

Meeting Notes

October 27, 2014 – 6 p.m.

Present for all or portions of the meeting were the following: committee members Darrin Lautenschleger, Sandy Cox and Rob Maurer; committee alternate Dan Lanzer; Councilmembers Cheryl Ramos, Winnie Walker and John Zucal; Council President Sam Hitchcock; Clerk of Council Patti McKay; Safety Director Greg Popham; Service Director Jim Zucal; Law Director Marvin Fete; and Jamie Hambach of WJER Radio.

ITEM: Real Estate Tax Abatement Request from Menard Inc.

DISCUSSION: Service Director Jim Zucal informed the committee members that officials from Menard Inc. had submitted a formal request to the city for consideration of a 50-percent real estate tax abatement from the city for its planned demolition project and construction of a Menard's home improvement store on the site of the former Kmart store on Bluebell Dr. NW.

Mr. Fete reported that his research revealed that in order for the request by Menard Inc. to be properly considered, the company needs to submit a formal application to the city and State of Ohio through the state's Community Reinvestment Area program. The property is zoned as a "business" property by the City of New Philadelphia, and this dictates which program must be used for consideration of any tax reduction, he said.

Mr. Fete also said he advises that the city formally notify the administrations and Boards of Education of both the New Philadelphia City Schools and Buckeye Joint Vocational School District about the request and the city's intentions to negotiate with Menard Inc. to consider its request.

ACTION: On a motion by Chairman Lautenschleger, seconded by Ms. Cox, the committee unanimously voted (3-0) to authorize the mayor, service director and law director to conduct negotiations with Menard Inc. on its real estate tax abatement request, and to prepare the appropriate legislation and recommendation for consideration by the Public Works Committee as soon as possible.

With no further business to be discussed by the committee, the meeting was adjourned at 6:11 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Darrin Lautenschleger
Chairman