

# Mayor's Update to City Council January 24, 2017

### North Community Garden Update

The community garden has kicked off design and is aiming to have a draft design in the next month or two.

#### Southwest Bexley Framework Plan – Public Workshop The next public workshop is tomorrow at City Hall at 6:30 pm

### Schneider Park Athletic Fields Playground

Mike Price and I met with the ED of the Blue Jackets Community Foundation to discuss possible funding of the playground at Schneider Fields. While this is a competitive grant, Schneider seems to fit well with their funding objectives, and we anticipate applying for a grant this spring.

#### Ferndale/Mayfield BCS Wi-Fi

We met with the Bexley Schools to discuss assisting them with a project to bring school district wi-fi to Ferndale/Mayfield. The project is in early planning, but an early look at the project looks promising re: logistics and feasibility.

#### Pit Bull Policy Update

The draft Pit Bull Policy is attached. This version has been approved by myself, the chief, and the ACO. Please review and let me know if you have any questions.

#### Senate Bill 331

We will be discussing this in the zoning/development/judiciary committee tonight. AT&T successfully pursued a legislative proposal that eliminates local control for Ohio municipalities with respect to their rates, zoning and maintenance efforts regarding pole attachments of "small cell" wireless antennas and accessory equipment. AT&T added this legislation as an 11<sup>th</sup> hour amendment to SB 331 in the lame duck session.

- **§** This proposal strips away a municipality's constitutional authority for local control. Specifically, it:
  - permits any entity who files a completed request (this is not limited to telecommunications companies could include speculators seeking to reserve space on your poles for resale) to attach a wireless antenna to <u>any</u> utility structure owned by a municipal corporation or build a new free-standing pole in the public right-of-way.
  - This could lead to multiple companies placing numerous poles within the right-of-way.
  - permits the entity requesting consent to place accessory equipment (any size) anywhere in the right-of-way.

• exempts all proposed actions (construction of new facilities, pole attachments, increasing pole or other structure height up to 50 feet) from any local zoning requirement.

**\$** Any dispute arising from local concerns with applications will be heard and decided by the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (for those requests that are not automatically approved under the bill). Municipal electric utilities are currently regulated and accountable to their local communities and not the PUCO.

Many small cities and villages do not have the necessary resources to negotiate, comply or challenge agreements through the costly PUCO process.

**§** One or more entities requesting consent could file a single city-wide application for multiple wireless antennas (1, 100, 1,000 antennas) and a municipality would have 30 days to undertake an initial review, and 90 days to approve.

**§** Abandoned wireless facilities would be the responsibility of the municipality.

**§** The legislation singles out municipalities and does not include infrastructure owned by rural cooperatives, investor owned utilities, townships, counties or the State of Ohio.

**§** We are unaware of any issues that AT&T or others have experienced in Ohio that warrant blanket Draconian restrictions specifically on municipalities through statute.

**§** Municipalities are already required to provide non-discriminatory access. This bill creates a special carve-out for telecommunications companies or other entities requesting consent.

**§** Municipalities are already required to charge fees that are reasonably related to the cost.

## Coming Up

January 25, 6:30 pm: January 26, 6:00 pm: January 27, 7:00 pm: February 1, 5:30 pm: February 6, 6:00 pm: February 7, 9:30 am: February 9, 6:00 pm: February 10-11: February 14, 6:00 pm: February 21, 6:30 pm: SW Bexley Master Plan Public Workshop BZAP Meeting Meet me at the Mansion – Youth and Rec Fund Fundraiser Rec Board Meeting Bexley CIC Meeting Bexley CHAT Bexley ARB Bexley City Council Retreat City Council Meeting. Happy Valentine's Day! State of the Community Address at Drexel Theatre