

## Economic Development Minutes

Honorable Council  
City of Newark, Ohio  
April 2, 2014

The Economic Development Committee met in Council Chambers on Monday March 31, 2014 following the Service Committee meeting. These members were present:

Jeff Rath, Chair	Dee Hall
Jeremy Blake	Curtis Johnson
Bill Cost Jr	

We wish to report:

1. **Resolution No. 14-25** a resolution to allow for the transfer of ownership of certain real property to the Board of County Commissioners of Licking County, Ohio was considered.

**Director Mauter-** this resolution will allow the City of Newark to transfer this property to Licking County. The property was purchased with the intent of being used as a Transit facility for indoor storage and maintenance of the buses. It was acquired with Federal Transit administration grant dollars; there were no city tax dollars used for this purchase. Since the city merge its' transit system with the county it no longer has a need for this property and now can't use it for the intended purpose for which it was purchase. This situation then necessitated the dispose of the property and repayment of the FTA grant funds to be initiated. Through good communication and coordination by the Newark Department of Development supported by Mayor Hall along with cooperation of the FTA and Mr. Tim Bubb and the other County Commissioners this alternative is the transfer of public assets through the Federal Registry System. This process will allow for a direct transfer of assets between public entities to take place with no exchange of funds. Title of this property will be directly transferred from the city to the county. The positive outcomes of this transfer will be upon completion of the transfer no other FTA involvement is required, no repayment of FTA funds are required, there are no further obligations to the FTA by either the city or the county provided that the property remains a public service for at least 5 years from the date of transfer, this vacant property will now be put into useful service and all the residents of Newark and Licking County are going to benefit from the acquisition of this asset.

**Motion by Mr. Johnson to send to full Council, second by Mr. Cost**

**Mayor Hall-** I want to compliment the Department of Development and all the players involved, the County and the FTA this has been a long process. It comes down to one little sheet of paper here tonight kind of quick but it is a great remedy. When you use FTA dollars to purchase an asset they still retain an interest in it and they dictate what

you can do with it. We could not have done alternatives with this property. Certainly going into the merger of the two systems we transferred the buses first and that was a good remedy then we put this on the tail end because it wasn't going to be used for the bus system with the county. We scratch our heads at times what are we going to do with these buildings. They are a liability to us because they sit out there vacant then there is damage to them. I want to compliment the Commissioners we met with them about a year ago out on site with the media and they thought that they could repurpose the buildings and use them; they are excited to have them. This is a great win, win. It goes off our books as a liability and goes on the County's as a positive asset.

**Motion passes by a vote of 5-0.**

Jeff Rath, Chair