

Personnel Committee Minutes

Honorable Council
City of Newark, Ohio, 2017
September 26, 2017

There was a meeting of the Personnel Committee in Council Chambers on Monday, September 25, 2017 following the Street Committee with these members in attendance:

Ryan Bubb, Chair
Mike Mangus
Jeff Rath for Doug Marmie
Dee Hall
Jonathan Lang

We wish to Report:

1. **Ordinance No. 17-42** creating two positions of Court Security Bailiff within the Municipal Court and setting compensation therefore was considered.

Judge Higgins- the Municipal Court is going to be hiring two what we call Security Bailiffs to provide security primarily for Licking County Municipal Court on the floors we occupy but also tangentially to the rest of the city. I think that it would be better left to the administration to explain the details of what we are going to be doing but essentially these two gentlemen will be manning an X-Ray machine and scanning devices for the entrance way to City Hall similar to how every other court in the State of Ohio operates its court. We believe this is long overdue. I appreciate the cooperation of the Mayor, Service Director and Safety Director finally getting us to this point. You will notice the Courts have some funds available presently and at least for a while we should have enough funds in our Special Projects account to pay the salaries of these individuals so it won't be taxing on the General Fund budget. I don't know when we will be ready to go on this, it is really going to be up to the administration to buy some capital goods so the front door is operable and other avenues of ingress and egress are limited.

Mr. Rath- did you say an X-Ray machine?

Judge Higgins- yes, have you been over to the Court of Common Pleas in the last 6 or 7 years
Mr. Rath?

Mr. Rath- I think so, I know I have walked through a scanner before I didn't know that was an X-Ray

Judge Higgins- it's not, it is a magnetometer. The X-Ray machine is when you put your briefcase or your purse down it is just like the airport.

Mr. Rath- what are the hours of operation?

Judge Higgins- we anticipate starting shortly before 8:00 A.M. and quitting at 4:30 P.M. Normal building operation hours except we would have them here in place before City Hall opened. We

have just reached this compromise in the last month or so and are still working out some things.

Mr. Bubb- before we continue with any more questions, Safety Director Baum if you would have any items that you want to add to this because I know some of these jobs are predicated on equipment out front.

Director Baum- I think that the city and the court reached a good compromise and we are going to have a good working partnership. We are going to have someone on the third floor, a couple of people on the first floor and maybe somebody floating back and forth a little bit. We will do our best not to inconvenience city employees but we will be checking all visitors and visitor packages. We have the gate working for the garage downstairs. We have found an X-Ray machine and a magnetometer to order however we are going to wait until there is some personnel so we can sort of coordinate this at the same time because when we done have the apparatus sent it they will be send someone in to train the people operating it. I think Director Rhodes has identified the funds. We have worked out some kinks. This building wasn't designed necessarily for security so we are going to have to make a few changes but all and all I think it is a very positive thing for the city and the courts.

Mr. Lang- do we know what the costs are going to be to the city for the equipment?

Director Baum- \$43,000.00 for the X-Ray and the magnetometer that you walk through.

Judge Higgins- this has been an ongoing issue in the last 4, 5 to 6 years but going back to past administrations we were extremely pleased that we were able to work out this agreement. It is a good deal for the city, some people will be inconvenienced but we are talking about safety of the public that is actually the paramount reason for doing this. You folks are probably aware of this but on any given day I would venture to say that 90% of the people who enter this building are going to the third or fourth floor. That is a guess but I think I can state that without too much fear of contradiction. Today we had thirty jurors coming in. It is a good thing we are doing this, it's not just for the protection of the people who work in the court but it is primarily for the protection of the people who are forced to be here either as witnesses or jurors or defendants. We have had incidents in the past, none that have been life threatening but there have been many times people have brought weapons into the court, into this building, contraband and we think it is a really good step for us to take.

Motion by Mr. Rath to send to full Council, second by Mr. Mangus

Motion passed by a vote of 5-0.

Ryan Bubb, Chair