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News

Council passes tax breaks

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Setting the path for the economic growth and development of Circleville was the primary topic at a lengthy Tuesday meeting of City Council.

With little hesitation, council passed two proposed ordinances from July which had been tabled at the Aug. 5 meeting.

The ordinances are aimed at providing tax incentives to encourage new businesses to locate in the city and existing businesses to increase employment opportunities.

"This is a very competitive environment, and these ordinances will level the playing field with other communities," said Nate Green, Economic Development Director. "These businesses have to create at least 10 new jobs, and have to agree to leave the money they save in the community," he said.

One creates a Net Profit Tax Credit Program for new and existing businesses while the second creates a Municipal Income Tax Credit Program for businesses which comply with the regulations.

"Council has worked diligently to make Circleville a more competitive job market," said Council president David Crawford after the votes.

Council plans to begin investigation next month of the possible start-up of a revolving loan fund, again aimed at attracting new businesses and jobs to the area.

Also passed were:

An ordinance levying assessments for cutting of weeds and the abatement of nuisances on certain city lots.

An ordinance establishing the Municipal Immobilizing of Disabling Devices Fund with Circleville Municipal Court.

An ordinance amending the annual appropriation ordinance in the general fund and Cities Development Block Grant fund.

An ordinance authorizing the advertisement of bids for removal and installation of filter media for the water treatment plant.

A resolution providing approval for the spin-off of Time Warner Cable Inc.

Thomson site owner greets council

Joel Schomaeker of Cincinnati, a member of a nationwide company that redevelops older industrial sites and partner in Circleville Pickaway LLC, which is planning reuse of the former Thomson site south of Circleville, gave a short address to council.

"We are experts in the adaptive reuse of commercial structures which no longer serve the needs of their owners," he said in his address.

While future plans for the site have not been determined, his firm is committed to turning the property over to new tenants as quickly as possible.

And, the former Thomson plant, purchased in April, is in line to receive a \$5 million job-ready site grant.

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