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Many liked the second scenario of the Strategic Plan, Infill and Redevelopment. "That focused a lot on increasing density in and around urbanized area." The next step in the process is the upcoming meetings. "What will happen at that point is a gross scenario assessment and we're going to be looking at transportation impacts, utility including water and sewer impact and fiscal impacts of the growth we just outlined...what impacts does it have fiscally on (the services provided) for various things including law enforcement, fire, utilities so on and so forth," he added. The cost and revenue have to both be taken into consideration along with the quality of life issue. Cleveland currently has a population of 40,261 in 2009, a growth of 8.2% since 2000. Dalton is at 33,604, a 20% growth. Cleveland is projected to have a population of about 45,000 when the 2010 census is published. Councilman Bill Estes expressed concern about the

cost of growth, commercial and residential. He stated, "In the next few years we need to be very intentional for the long term health of Cleveland on where we focus our efforts to grow to keep us balanced."

More was discussed about the moving of the Cherokee Chieftain from Johnston Park to the Museum Welcome Center front lawn. Mayor Rowland reminisced about the Chieftain. He had met Peter "Wolf" Toth, the designer, when he came to Cleveland for the first time. To make this sculpture he wanted a 100 year old oak tree that was still in the ground. Toth was also selling smaller carvings of the Chieftain to pay for his stay. First Baptist Church was the original home of the Chieftain. Toth came back in 1986 when the city did the time capsule in Johnston Park and he had asked the Chieftain be treated at least once a year. Tommy Myers, Director of City Works showed much concern over the base of the

statue. He stated that no one thinks the base will be able to be moved and it will have to be replaced. He said it would be about \$2,000 to replace the base; this would be the only cost of moving the statue. However, there was also talk about making a cover for the Chieftain and some kind of plaque to talk about the Chieftain and give a little history about him. To be able to do this, a more comprehensive plan has to be brought up before a final vote, and a motion will have to take place for the extra work on the Chieftain.

More on Johnston Memorial Park included what the future of this park might be. Veterans and those who attend the Evening Shade events and other events in the park are afraid that this may never be an option again. The City Council believes the heirs of Johnston Park would be open to negotiation about its future. A committee would be made up to talk to the heirs about this issue. Councilman Richard Banks

brought up this concern to the council and a second vote by Councilman George Poe opened up the authorization to start negotiations with the heirs of Clyde Johnston Hardwick there were restrictions on what can be done with the park. These are that the park must be maintained as it appeared at the property's conveyance. No monuments, buildings or other structures can be put in the park except for a monument in memory of Mrs. Hardwick. No playground equipment or other objects can be put in the park that might obstruct the view across the park. The park is not to be used as a picnic ground or venue for public speaking. If the City of Cleveland violates any of these restrictions the deed to the park would go right back to Mrs. Hardwick's heirs. The restrictions only allow the implementation of appropriate benches and landscaping. The dilemma with this park is,

there is no point in having it as a city park if it can't be used as one. Banks has two goals for the future of Johnston Park. Amend the park's current restrictions and allow the Veteran's Day Ceremony, Evening Shades and others to hold their events in the park, or if the restrictions are not amended the property will be returned to the heirs and will cease being a city park. Banks stated that the discontinued use of the park would be a disservice to Cleveland's citizens; however the council agreed that there is no point in having it as a city park if it can't be used like one.

The mayor has been authorized to submit an application to the TML Safety Partners Loss Control Grant for \$2,000 with a match from the city of another \$2,000 which will total \$4,000. The department heads will discuss these funds and the best way to use them.

A resolution in the meeting on Monday was the authorization of the Mayor to sign

a quitclaim deed to transfer the Hardwick Field property to the Cleveland Municipal Airport Authority. The Cleveland Airport Authority made a commitment to the City of Cleveland that the old property would be transferred to the new municipal airport. This will happen when the new airport opens and the old one is sold. These proceeds will go towards the cost of the new airport. The hope is that the sale of the old airport will be enough to help fund for the new one without having to go into debt over it. The quitclaim deed written up describes very clearly the property lines of the Hardwick Airport. The Airport Authority meets on Fridays at 9 a.m. at the Municipal Building in the City Council Chambers.

The Cleveland City Council will meet again on Monday, July 26, 2010 at 2 p.m. for a work session and at 4 p.m. for a voting session in the Council Room of the Municipal Building.

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This is an organization put in by George W. Bush through "executive order on January 29, 2001." The purpose is to strengthen faith-based community organizations and provide federally funded social services. Under the Obama Administration the name of the organization has been changed and both secular and religious leaders have been seated to also safeguard against bias rulings. President Obama states, "The goal of this office will not be to favor one religious group over another or even religious groups over secular groups. It will simply be to work on behalf of those organizations who want to work on behalf of our communities and to do so without blurring the line that our founders wisely drew between church and state."

America was not founded as a Christian nation as stated in the Treaty of Peace and Friendship between the United States and the Bey and Subjects of Tripoli of Barbary written in 1796. In Article 11 it states: "As the

Government of the United States of America is not, in any sense, founded on the Christian religion..."

"When people say that America was founded as a Christian nation, they're really referring to the colonial periods where in places like Massachusetts they executed Quakers and whipped Baptists. Their idea was that they wanted to create an example of a true Christian nation. If you're going to have a true Christian nation then you've got to do something to those other people," says Dr. Pettibone. This was the case in colonial doctrines, but America the Nation was never established under such stipulations.

Now, America is a country where the majority of people would consider themselves Christians, even if they don't have a specific denomination that they follow. According to the adherents.com website, in 2007 Christianity claimed 2.1 billion people in its numbers with Islam following behind at 1.5 billion. "Europeans who visit Amer-

ica are amazed, either positively or negatively, by how religious we are. We have the largest percentage of the population who attend church of any industrialized nation and a number of historians have clearly indicated that it is the separation of church and state that's made this possible by creating a free market in religion. The logical explanation for this is that the free competition of ideas keeps religion alive," comments Professor Pettibone.

Even though the Founding Fathers' references to a Creator this is a reference to something different. It is not a reference to the Christian God or the Muslim God, or even Abraham's God. It's just something greater, something that surpasses these titles. These men had different sets of beliefs and different ideas about what "God" is yet they still managed to put together this country and have managed to keep it together since.

However, the fight continues with having the Ten

Commandments in courthouses and prayers in public schools. Here's my problem with this; when it comes to the 10 Commandments, the argument for this is that they are a continuous moral code to go by. However, this is a strictly Christian-Judaic set of rules. And though I can agree with most of them, a couple of them I believe are unnecessary and in my mind there can be arguments and exceptions made for all of them. Though I find this is favoritism towards the Christian-Judeo religion, it is not a law, and neither is prayer in public schools. These aren't necessarily encroachments on my own rights. But then again if things like this are going to be allowed and kept in public places, who gets to decide? Who gets to pray? Can we have Muslim, Buddhist, Pagan or Jewish prayers too? I have no doubt that any of you reading this would find it unfair if your own faith (or even lack thereof) was dismissed for another or even thought of as silly or unim-

portant. How would it feel to not be represented or be treated unfairly? To be ignored? I know I don't like it, I imagine you wouldn't like it either. None of us would.

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He said he would question the reasoning behind the raise in fees.

John Stone from the Bradley County Sheriff's Department came before the commission to present an idea about possibly building a rappelling tower on the property at the Justice Center. The purpose of the tower is to further the training of BCSO SWAT team members. It would be built using mostly donated materials and donated labor.

There was an issue, however, about how the City of Cleveland would handle the structure and if it would be in compliance with City codes. Chairman Louie Alford advised Stone to gather all plans and information, then meet with the Law Enforcement Committee,

County Attorney Joe Byrd and County Engineer Sandra Knight to make final plans, go over codes and check all legal issues before proceeding with the project.

On July 19th, commissioners approved a resolution to Appoint Judicial Commissioners and Authorized the transfer of athletic field lighting.

The Bradley County Commission meetings and committee meetings are open to the public. Commission meetings are held in the Bradley County Courthouse. Their voting sessions are on the 1st Monday at 7pm and the 3rd Monday at 10am. Commission work sessions are on the 2nd Monday at 12pm and on the 4th Monday at 7pm. Committees meet as needed.

Do You Have Questions or Comments For Jamie? If So, E-mail her at: peoplenewsdesk@aol.com