

CITY OF BURTON
COUNCIL WORKSHOP MEETING MINUTES
MAY 19, 2004, 4:00 P.M., COUNCIL CHAMBERS

THE COUNCIL WORKSHOP IS CALLED TO ORDER BY VICE PRESIDENT BOB CENTILLI AT 4:10 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Cross, Curtis, Isham, Centilli, Wells

MEMBERS ABSENT: Martinbianco, Bement

OTHERS PRESENT: Mayor C. Smiley, K. Foster, Deputy Controller, J. Adams, Clerk's Office

PURPOSE OF THE MEETING: COUNCIL WORKSHOP TO DISCUSS THE PROPOSED 2004-2005
CITY OF BURTON BUDGETS, AS FOLLOWS:
1. Final Budget Amendments

PRESENTATION:

Mayor Smiley introduced Janice Karcher, Vice-President of the Genesee County Growth Alliance. She is here to talk about what they have been doing over the past year and to answer any questions.

Ms. Karcher presented to Council the 2003/2004 Annual Report from the Growth Alliance. She addressed the program activity and results, investments and job creations over the last 5 years. She stated they concentrate on companies that sell products and services outside the area and bring new money into the economy. That money then gets cycled through other types of businesses. There is a lot of focus in our activity on manufacturing and exportable service-type firms. Identifying and promoting available industrial and commercial real estate and buildings throughout the community is the first product that companies typically want to look at.

Ms. Karcher expressed further the impact of less and less activity from General Motors and Delphi. They were both a huge economic engine for them for many years.

Council inquired regarding how Growth Alliance has helped the City of Burton. Ms. Karcher addressed businesses they are involved with in Burton and how the Growth Alliance is instrumental in promoting the surrounding areas. Lengthy discussion ensued regarding the Growth Alliance program, monies directed in their budget for salaries, staffing and operating expenses, and how much is directed towards the communities.

Ms. Karcher addressed further the 2003/2004 Annual Report. She spoke regarding the Growth Alliance personal marketing, travel, publications, maintaining a website, and updating technology on their industrial data base.

Mr. Isham commented regarding State Shared Revenue cuts. He indicated he would like to look at the Growth Alliance audit and obtain more clarity on the amount of money being directed to create opportunities for the City of Burton.

Mayor Smiley spoke regarding the impact of State Shared Revenue cuts and the unforeseen affects it will have on the City. The City is basically striving because of developments. Discussion followed regarding paving the city's remaining gravel streets with a Council 7-0 vote.

Mr. Wells indicated Councilman Martinbianco has some changes and amendments. They will obtain his amendment package for Council to review.

Meeting adjourned at 5:12 p.m.

jra