

The President called the meeting to order at 5 p.m. after the Invocation, given by Greg Lockhart, and the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Clerk called the roll and the following Commissioners responded: Dick Brady, Nikki Lloyd, Greg Lockhart, Dennis Murray, Naomi Twine, Dave Waddington and Wes Poole (arrived 5:13 p.m.).

City staff present: Aaron Klein – Public Works Director, John Orzech – Police Chief, Jim Green – Fire Captain, Matt Lasko – Chief Development Officer, Stuart Hamilton – IT Director, Don Rumbutis – IT, Hank Solowiej – Finance Director, Trevor Hayberger – Acting Law Director, Eric Wobser – City Manager and Kelly Kresser – Commission Clerk.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Upon motion of Dave Waddington and second of Naomi Twine, the commission voted to approve the minutes of the November 13, 2018, meeting and suspend the formal reading. The President declared the motion passed.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Tim Schwanger, 362 Sheffield Way, said he does not understand why two items are on the Consent Agenda including an amendment to the appropriation legislation (Item D). It looks like we are spending 2018 sidewalk replacement and repair program dollars to make repairs on the Meigs Street Pier and in the past, the leaseholders were responsible for these repairs. At least part of the funding from the leaseholders should be used to pay for these improvements.

CURRENT BUSINESS

Upon motion of Dave Waddington and second of Naomi Twine, the commission voted to accept all communications. The President declared the motion passed.

CONSENT AGENDA

The President asked if anyone wished to remove any of the Consent Agenda items. Greg Lockhart requested Items B and D be removed from the Consent Agenda (New Items #1 and #2 under Regular Agenda below).

A. Submitted by Kim Piotrowski, Municipal Court Clerk

AUTHORIZING APPLICATION TO SUPREME COURT OF OHIO FOR TECHNOLOGY GRANT

Budgetary Information: The total cost of this project is \$45,045.05. Any amount of the \$45,045.05 that would not be awarded through the technology grant would be paid through the Sandusky Municipal Court's computer improvement fund.

RESOLUTION NO. 052-18R: It is requested that a resolution be passed approving and ratifying the submission of a grant application to the Supreme Court of Ohio for financial assistance through the 2019 technology grant fund program for the upgrade and installation of software and hardware for the Sandusky Municipal Court; and declaring that this resolution shall take immediate effect in accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.

B. Submitted by Aaron Klein, Director of Public Works

ANNUAL PAYMENT TO OHIO EPA FOR LICENSING TO OPERATE BIWW

Budgetary Information: The total amount of \$12,180 shall be paid with water funds and has been appropriated in the operating and maintenance budget for 2018.

ORDINANCE NO. 18-226: It is requested an ordinance be passed authorizing and directing the Finance Director to make payment to the State of Ohio Environmental Protection Agency for the renewal of the license to operate a public water system for the calendar year 2019; and declaring that this ordinance shall take immediate effect in accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.

Upon motion of Nikki Lloyd and second of Dave Waddington, the Commission voted to accept the Consent Agenda and declare all ordinances and/or resolutions as drafted and presented to the City Commission under the Consent Agenda shall take effect in full accordance with the

Section reflected in the ordinances and/or resolutions whether it be in full accordance with Section 13 or Section 14 of the City Charter. Roll call on the motion: Yeas: Dick Brady, Nikki Lloyd, Greg Lockhart, Dennis Murray, Naomi Twine and Dave Waddington, 6. Roll call on the ordinances and resolutions: Yeas: Dick Brady, Nikki Lloyd, Greg Lockhart, Dennis Murray, Naomi Twine and Dave Waddington, 6. The President declared the ordinances and resolutions contained in the Consent Agenda passed in full accordance with the City Charter.

REGULAR AGENDA

ITEM #1 - Submitted by Rick Wilcox, Fire Chief

AGREEMENT WITH STATE COLLECTION & RECOVERY SERVICES, LLC FOR EMS AND CODE ENFORCEMENT DEBT COLLECTION SERVICES

Budgetary Information: The contract will not negatively impact the city's budget as this is an attempt to collect debt owed to the City of Sandusky for ambulance services rendered and Code Enforcement administrative penalties, rental registration fees, inspection fees and uncertified nuisance abatement charges. This legislation, if passed, will generate revenue.

ORDINANCE NO. 18-227: It is requested an ordinance be passed authorizing and directing the City Manager to enter into an agreement with State Collection & Recovery Services, LLC, of Sandusky, Ohio, for debt collection services for the Sandusky Fire Department and Code Enforcement Division for the period of January 1, 2019, through December 31, 2019; and declaring that this ordinance shall take immediate effect in accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.

Upon motion of Naomi Twine and second of Dave Waddington, the Commission voted to approve this ordinance under suspension of the rules and in accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.

Discussion: Greg Lockhart asked how this will work going forward and what the impact is on the citizens. Matt Lasko said for Code Enforcement, the city needs to show diligence toward those who are not paying and try to secure, through any means necessary, delinquent rental registration and administrative penalties. In the past, we were able to assess these to the real estate tax bill, but there was an auditor's opinion some years ago which limited municipalities to assess real estate taxes for rental registrations. This is for delinquencies and penalties which are in the tens of thousands collectively and this is revenue which will be collected and go back into the city coffers to enhance and expand our rental registration program and allow us to continue to maintain our existing staff. This will help us to maintain a level playing field for folks who are diligently and responsibly paying fees and have throughout the years. Jim Green said this is also for delinquent EMS billings and the Fire Department teamed up with Code Enforcement to proceed with collecting these fees. Dennis Murray said we had turned these over for collection in the past and this is for a continuation.

Roll call on the motion: Yeas: Dick Brady, Nikki Lloyd, Greg Lockhart, Dennis Murray, Naomi Twine and Dave Waddington, 6. Roll call on the ordinance: Yeas: Dick Brady, Nikki Lloyd, Greg Lockhart, Dennis Murray, Naomi Twine and Dave Waddington, 6. The President declared the ordinance passed under suspension of the rules and in accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.

ITEM #2 - Submitted by Hank Solowiej, Finance Director

APPROPRIATION AMENDMENT #5

Budgetary Information: Appropriation amendments are required to update the budget for current and previous actions of the city. Examples include, but are not limited to:

- Fleet Department supplies
- Recreation Department supplies;
- Demolition agreement with the Erie County Land Reutilization Corporation;
- Salt purchases;
- Transit operations subsidy;
- State Route 6 maintenance agreement with ODOT; and

Capital expenses for street projects.

ORDINANCE NO. 18-228: It is requested an ordinance be passed adopting amendment #5 to Ordinance No. 18-066 passed by this City Commission on March 26, 2018, making general appropriations for the fiscal year 2018; and declaring that this ordinance shall take immediate effect in accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.

Upon motion of Nikki Lloyd and second of Naomi Twine, the Commission voted to approve this ordinance under suspension of the rules and in accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.

Discussion: Dennis Murray said appropriation amendments have been placed on the Consent Agenda in recent months as these are items where we have already appropriated money and are essentially cleaning up paperwork so the budget corresponds to the actions taken by the commission. This is not a discretionary issue and we do not normally have questions or discussion about them and started placing these on the Consent Agenda after the first public conversation about them. Hank Solowiej said about one year ago, this process was explained at a commission meeting at length, and there will be one more amendment before the end of the year. Greg Lockhart asked what this appropriation will cover and the time period it will take effect and Hank Solowiej said this is for this year's budget including salt purchases which were budgeted at a certain amount but need to be re-appropriated based on additional funds needed. Greg Lockhart said this includes the CHIP program, the Revolving Loan fund and Shoreline Drive and Hank Solowiej said in some funds, we had budgeted money that will not actually be spent this year so these will be reduced for the year. There will be more cleaning up on the last budget amendment. Greg Lockhart said \$250,000 was budgeted for Shoreline Drive and Hank Solowiej said this was budgeted at a higher number when the budget passed in March as it was thought the construction would have started by now.

Roll call on the motion: Yeas: Dick Brady, Nikki Lloyd, Dennis Murray, Naomi Twine and Dave Waddington, 5. Nays: Greg Lockhart, 1. Roll call on the ordinance: Yeas: Dick Brady, Nikki Lloyd, Dennis Murray, Naomi Twine and Dave Waddington, 5. Nays: Greg Lockhart, 1. The President declared the ordinance passed under suspension of the rules and in accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.

ITEM #3 - Submitted by Rick Wilcox, Fire Chief

PURCHASE OF THERMAL IMAGING CAMERAS FROM FINLEY FIRE EQUIPMENT

Budgetary Information: The total amount for this purchase is \$24,800, consisting of a cost for the thermal imaging cameras of \$25,800 and a trade-in value of \$1,000. The cost for the thermal imaging cameras was budgeted for in the 2018 five-year capital improvement plan. This purchase will be paid with funds from the EMS account.

ORDINANCE NO. 18-229: It is requested an ordinance be passed declaring three ISG K1000 thermal imaging cameras, Serial No's. K1K-1239EV, K1K-1211EV and K1K-1238EV, as unnecessary and unfit for city use pursuant to Section 25 of the city charter; authorizing and directing the City Manager to purchase three Bullard T3X thermal imaging cameras and accessories from Finley Fire Equipment of McConnelsville, Ohio, for the Fire Department; and declaring that this ordinance shall take immediate effect in accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.

Upon motion of Dave Waddington and second of Naomi Twine, the Commission voted to approve this ordinance under suspension of the rules and in accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.

Discussion: Jim Green said we did get our useful life out of these imaging cameras and the new technology and images have greatly improved and will help us with our operations and will be good from a safety aspect.

Roll call on the motion: Yeas: Dick Brady, Nikki Lloyd, Greg Lockhart, Dennis Murray, Naomi Twine and Dave Waddington, 6. Roll call on the ordinance: Yeas: Dick Brady, Nikki Lloyd, Greg Lockhart, Dennis Murray, Naomi Twine and Dave Waddington, 6. The President declared the ordinance passed under suspension of the rules and in accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.

ITEM #4 - Submitted by Jason Werling, Recreation Superintendent

PURCHASE OF PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT FROM PLAY & PARK STRUCTURES FOR HURON PARK

Budgetary Information: The total cost of the playground equipment is \$80,647.32 of which \$50,000 will be paid with Mylander Foundation grant funds donated to the City of Sandusky for parks and recreation purposes and the remaining balance of \$30,647.32 will be paid with capital recreation funds. The Mylander Foundation grant funds are to be used for “structural improvements made to the Sandusky city parks, at Oakland Cemetery or the Sandusky city recreation areas.

ORDINANCE NO. 18-230: It is requested an ordinance be passed authorizing and directing the City Manager to purchase playground equipment from Play & Park Structures of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, for Huron Park; and declaring that this ordinance shall take immediate effect in accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.

Upon motion of Naomi Twine and second of Dave Waddington, the Commission voted to approve this ordinance under suspension of the rules and in accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.

Discussion: Dennis Murray said he recalls we still want to do a master planning process for Huron Park. This is an important park in terms of visibility and there are a number of residents which it serves. This investment in play equipment might wait until the plan is completed, but this is some of the worst play equipment in the city and we need to get to this now as opposed to waiting. Eric Wobser said Huron Park is one of Sandusky’s three significant neighborhood parks and will also do a master planning process for Jaycee Park and Churchwell Park over the next few years. This is to replace the play equipment here as well as make repairs to the splash pad and believes it was prudent to do this. We would like to combine Warren Street and Huron Avenue traffic flows and make this a much better space in the future.

Roll call on the motion: Yeas: Dick Brady, Nikki Lloyd, Greg Lockhart, Dennis Murray, Naomi Twine, Dave Waddington and Wes Poole, 7. Roll call on the ordinance: Yeas: Dick Brady, Nikki Lloyd, Greg Lockhart, Dennis Murray, Naomi Twine, Dave Waddington and Wes Poole, 7. The President declared the ordinance passed under suspension of the rules and in accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.

Item #5 - Submitted by Jason Werling, Recreation Superintendent

AUTHORIZING APPLICATION TO ODNR FOR COASTAL MANAGEMENT ASSISTANCE GRANT

Budgetary Information: The estimated cost of the project is \$531,000 of which \$225,000 will initially be paid with city funds and then, if awarded, reimbursed through the grant. The city is required to provide at least a fifty percent match and it is anticipated the remaining balance of \$306,000 will be paid with Issue 8 funds from the capital project fund.

RESOLUTION NO. 053-18R: It is requested a resolution be passed approving the submission of a grant application to the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Office of Coastal Management for financial assistance through the FY 2020 Coastal Management Assistance grant program for the paddle Sandusky: Kiwanis Park project for the Recreation Department; and declaring that this resolution shall take immediate effect in accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.

Upon motion of Dave Waddington and second of Naomi Twine, the Commission voted to approve this resolution under suspension of the rules and in accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.

Discussion: Wes Poole said he has some reservations about this only because if we do not get the grant, this is a significant sum of money dedicated from our pockets. Dennis Murray said his understanding is this would still have to come before the commission if we do not receive the grant. Trevor Hayberger said if there were further expenditures over \$10,000, the commission would have to approve this. Eric Wobser said this is for permission to apply for a grant and we would not incur any obligation to expend funds by virtue of this legislation passing tonight. We are only committed to the project if we receive the ODNR grants. Jason Werling said most of the funding would be received in 2020 rather than in 2019, and this is simply authorization to apply for the grant. Wes Poole said the estimated cost is \$531,000 of which \$225,000 will initially be paid with city funds and asked if we already paid this money. If awarded, reimbursement will come through the program and asked how this works or if he has misinterpreted. Hank Solowiej said if the grant is awarded, we are going to pay the full cost of the project, but will be reimbursed for the grant portion.

Roll call on the motion: Yeas: Dick Brady, Nikki Lloyd, Greg Lockhart, Dennis Murray, Naomi Twine, Dave Waddington and Wes Poole, 7. Roll call on the resolution: Yeas: Dick Brady, Nikki Lloyd, Greg Lockhart, Dennis Murray, Naomi Twine, Dave Waddington and Wes Poole, 7. The President declared the resolution passed under suspension of the rules and in accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.

ITEM #6 - Submitted by Jeff Keefe, Project Engineer

PROFESSIONAL DESIGN SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH BROWN & CALDWELL FOR 2018 WWTP FERRIC TANKS PROJECT

Budgetary Information: The not to exceed cost for professional design services is \$34,700 and will be paid with sewer funds.

ORDINANCE NO. 18-231: It is requested an ordinance be passed authorizing and directing the City Manager to enter into an agreement for professional design services with Brown & Caldwell of Independence, Ohio, for the Waste Water Treatment Plant ferric tanks project; and declaring that this ordinance shall take immediate effect in accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.

Upon motion of Naomi Twine and second of Wes Poole, the Commission voted to approve this ordinance under suspension of the rules and in accordance with Section 14 of the city charter. Roll call on the motion: Yeas: Dick Brady, Nikki Lloyd, Greg Lockhart, Dennis Murray, Naomi Twine, Dave Waddington and Wes Poole, 7. Roll call on the ordinance: Yeas: Dick Brady, Nikki Lloyd, Greg Lockhart, Dennis Murray, Naomi Twine, Dave Waddington and Wes Poole, 7. The President declared the ordinance passed under suspension of the rules and in accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.

ITEM #7 - Submitted by Matt Lasko, Chief Development Officer

PERMISSION TO BID CITY HALL SIGNAGE & WAYFINDING PROJECT

Budgetary Information: The total cost estimate for this project, including advertising, contingency and miscellaneous costs is \$20,000. After receipt and review of bids, staff will present to City Commission in the future with a recommendation to enter into contract with the firm that provided the lowest and best bid for interior signage fabrication and installation, The project will be expensed from the capital projects fund.

RESOLUTION NO. 054-18R: It is requested a resolution be passed declaring the necessity for the city to proceed with the proposed City Hall signage and wayfinding project – interior signage; and directing the City Manager to advertise for and receive bids in relation thereto; and declaring that this resolution shall take immediate effect in accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.

Upon motion of Naomi Twine and second of Nikki Lloyd, the Commission voted to approve this resolution under suspension of the rules and in accordance with Section 14 of the city charter. Roll call on the motion: Yeas: Nikki Lloyd, Greg Lockhart, Dennis Murray, Naomi Twine, Dave Waddington and Wes Poole, 6. Abstain: Dick Brady, 1. Roll call on the resolution: Yeas: Nikki Lloyd, Greg Lockhart, Dennis Murray, Naomi Twine, Dave Waddington and Wes

Poole, 6. Abstain: Dick Brady, 1. The President declared the resolution passed under suspension of the rules and in accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

- **Upon motion of Dave Waddington and second of Naomi Twine, the commission voted to accept a \$1,000 donation from Remember Cruisin' Car Club and Mona Pizza for the city's skate park.**

Discussion: Eric Wobser said the funds are to be used for maintenance and/or future purchases associated with the skate park.

The President declared the motion passed.

- **Upon motion of Naomi Twine and second of Dave Waddington, the commission voted to accept a \$200 Kroger gift card on behalf of the residents of Harborview Apartments Senior Living.**

Discussion: Eric Wobser said the Fire Department plans to pay it forward and buy groceries to pass out to those in need in the Sandusky area.

The President declared the motion passed.

- **Upon motion of Dave Waddington and second of Dick Brady, the commission voted to recommend the hiring Trevor Hayberger as the full-time Law Director.**

Discussion: Eric Wobser said the city solicited applications for the position of Law Director and were also monitoring Trevor Hayberger's performance in the role of Acting Law Director for the past five months. Trevor has done an exceptional job and ultimately, when asked, director's workflow and day-to-day activities have been monitored and everyone has been very complimentary; there is a lot of support for him to be the full-time Law Director. Based on these things as well as Trevor's long-time commitment to Sandusky (he is a SHS grad and his students attend SCS), his employment for the past three and one half years, and his previous job in Napoleon, Ohio, while continuing to live in Sandusky, Eric Wobser said his recommendation is to promote him to this position full-time. Dennis Murray said he has observed Trevor Hayberger grow immeasurably in this position. He is more than capable of handling the job and has been a good advisor to the commission, to Eric Wobser and the department heads, and thinks he will do a great job for the city. Dave Waddington said he likes when he calls, Trevor Hayberger returns his calls and this is important to the commissioners.

Roll call on the motion: Yeas: Dick Brady, Nikki Lloyd, Greg Lockhart, Dennis Murray, Naomi Twine, Dave Waddington and Wes Poole, 7. The President declared the motion passed.

- **Members of the Police Department participated in escorting Santa to the lighting ceremony downtown and passed out snowflake wands to the children in attendance.**
- **Station 3 fire fighters along with our Community Impact Officer assisted OHgo's mobile food pantry at three locations which included Churchwell Park, Orlando Pace Park and New Jerusalem Missionary Baptist Church; 657 people were served. Members of the SFD will continue to help and donate time to OHgo the first and third Thursday of every month.**

- Members of the Fire Department assisted in the celebration of **escorting the Sandusky Blue Streaks to Bellevue for the playoff game**. Once there, our Community Impact Officer and another fire fighter grilled burgers and hotdogs for the tailgate party put on by the Sandusky High School Boosters. Eric Wobser congratulated the Blue Streaks on what was a pretty incredible run in the playoffs. It did not end the way everybody hoped it would, but thinks they really captured the excitement of the town. They were a pretty heavy Junior squad and looks forward to a great season next year.
- **Upon motion of Dave Waddington and second of Naomi Twine, the commission voted to provide a 2.5% cost of living adjustment to non-bargaining employees effective with the first pay period of 2019.**

Discussion: Eric Wobser said both the Administrative Benefit Review Committee and the Audit/Finance Committee have recommended 2.5% cost of living adjustments for non-bargaining employees effective with the first pay period of 2019. The next step is to have the City Commission approve this recommendation.

Roll call on the motion: Yeas: Dick Brady, Nikki Lloyd, Greg Lockhart, Dennis Murray, Naomi Twine, Dave Waddington and Wes Poole, 7. The President declared the motion passed.

- Eric Wobser reminded **property owners of vacant dwellings to turn off water service if a dwelling is expected to remain vacant and unoccupied during the winter months**. This will help prevent water lines from freezing and breaking which would lead to costly repairs for the property owner. The Customer Accounting Office number is 419.627.5893.
- Despite inclement weather, the **Division of Streets & Traffic has successfully collected leaves** from each zone in the city. The second round of the program will begin this week. If residents cannot meet the schedule, there will be a drop-off area for bagged leaves near the Marquette Drive entrance to the city's Service Center seven days a week and until January 4.
- Residents are encouraged to tell us **what they would like to see in the future at Jaycee Park**. This can be done by completing the survey which can be found on the city's website. A meeting to discuss upgrades is scheduled for November 27 at 6 p.m. at the Church of the Nazarene.
- A **Landmark Commission** meeting is scheduled for November 28 at 3:30 p.m. in the first floor conference room.
- The regular **Planning Commission** meeting is scheduled November 28 at 4:30 p.m. in the first floor conference room.
- The Sandusky Recreation Department is opening a **Request for Proposals to operate the Shelby Street Boat Ramp facility during the 2019 season**. The RFP packets will be available in the City Manager's Office on November 30 and will need to be turned back into the office by December 28. Interested parties can call Jason Werling: 419.627.5833 or have a pdf sent by emailing jwerling@ci.sandusky.oh.us.
- The Sandusky Recreation Department has released the **Winter Fun Guide** to round out the year in 2018 and have a great start to 2019. New for this year: New Year, New You Winter Break Camp, Softball Camp, Hip Hop Dance Camp, two Kids' Dabbles, movies at the Greenhouse including *Jumanji*, *Peter Rabbit* and *Jurassic Park*. The guides were given to all students in the Sandusky City and Sandusky Central Catholic

Schools. Those interested in a copy can download a version from the Recreation section of the city's website, via email: jwerling@ci.sandusky.oh.us or by stopping into the City Manager's office.

- Last weekend was a **whirlwind with a combination for our city Recreation staff and Bicentennial Commission** members and Eric Wobser thanked everyone for the incredible show of support and programming.
- Wes Poole asked about **researching the surface we use at our parks and use of the newer synthetic or rubberized materials rather than sawdust**. He asked for a cost analysis and said Huron Park looks horrible and thinks we can do better. Eric Wobser said we will absolutely look at this for maintenance and usability issues and said the service departments are responsible for these surfaces.
- Dennis Murray said he did not have a chance to look back at **improvements to the Meigs Street Pier** and how they are funded. Eric Wobser said we will have to take a closer look at the contract, but we do not use sidewalk funds for this purpose. These were included as part of the sidewalk legislation but there is a contribution from the park capital account for this purpose and did not detract from sidewalk funding in neighborhoods, but this is city money. As far as the contract for Battery Park Marina, there are responsibilities laid out and we are in ongoing negotiations with them about this. Because there was a sense of urgency with these current repairs, we felt most comfortable going forward with city funds. We ultimately hope to reach some level of satisfaction as it relates to responsibilities in the future and do not foresee any more capital repairs being made by the city until resolved. We did not want to get into another summer season without making these repairs.

OLD BUSINESS

Dennis Murray said the proposed **demolition of the water tower on Cedar Point Road** was tabled at the last meeting and there are still some unresolved issues and we need a little more time to resolve them before bringing this back.

NEW BUSINESS

Dave Waddington said he, Dick Brady and Dennis Murray will host a **Coffee with Commissioners** session on November 28 from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. at City Hall.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Tim Schwanger, 362 Sheffield Way, said he would like to address Sandusky becoming a walkable city, particularly McCartney Road. The city's economic development webpage states investments in economic development activities, underutilized or vacant buildings and sites would strengthen the real estate market, increase property values and create a more walkable community. The city's Capital Improvement Plan/Bicentennial Vision and Issue 8 all state we want to cultivate a bright future including a stunning waterfront, a beautiful park system and walkable neighborhoods. There is a walkable score website and Sandusky's is 48/100. In the McCartney Road area, there are currently 400 residents living in Muirwood Village and another 55 households on McCartney Road and many of these people have small children and sees them walking, pushing strollers and running. Putting sidewalks on at least one side of McCartney Road will fit in with Sandusky being a walkable community but for some reason, legislation passed last year to hire a consultant did not include sidewalks. Past administrations have said some of these streets are unimproved or are without curb and gutter to support a sidewalk system. Ferndale, Dorn Drive and Thorpe Drive all are unimproved and without curb and gutter, but they all have sidewalks and thinks it is imperative, as this process moves forward, to put them in on at least one side of the street. A few months ago it was proposed for the residents to pay for half the cost and the city to pay for the other half and this would be one solution. If we are going to be walkable, it has to be the entire city and be a concerted effort everywhere. We are doing sidewalks on Venice Road, but the whole west end should be walkable, not just certain segments.

Dennis Murray said the issue as he understands it is where this is a community improvement and the whole span of Venice Road is appropriate for this investment as well at the Sandusky Bay Pathway as it has a community-wide benefit. When talking about individual neighborhoods and streets, at some point this changes and becomes more of an individual property owner benefit and does not know where one draws this line but welcomes feedback. Greg Lockhart said at first impression he agrees with this and the benefit along Venice Road is obvious; in this particular neighborhood we have Muirwood Village, the residents along McCartney Road and Venice Road to Bay View and suggested a survey to see if people would find sidewalks useful in this area. Dennis Murray said he would like to get some understanding as to how McCartney Road residents would feel about a partial or complete assessment of a sidewalk and this is something we can talk about. Wes Poole said sidewalks in any area may improve things for all of us, they make places amenable to where people want to move and the biggest problem we have is people wanting to live here. Putting in sidewalks has value for the entire community. We need incomes and folks moving into the community especially in light of putting in kayak ramps which benefit a minimal number of people. Dennis Murray said he would also like to know how many property owners paid for sidewalks in other areas where they have been installed and suspects the sidewalks in nearly every single other neighborhood on the west end were paid for by the property owners and would like to know the answer to this. Eric Wobser said it is valuable for staff to hear from the commission and the public about its commitment to walkability. Walkability is a term which is about a decade old and is thought of in terms of sidewalks, but there also have to be places to walk to in the neighborhood. Mentioning Sandusky's overall walk score as 48 varies from area to area. In a more centrally located area (such as Central Avenue), the score would probably be closer to 87/100 and is not just because of sidewalks, but because they live in a residential area where people can walk to a church, to a corner store or doctor's office or another amenity. In planning for McCartney Road, Eric Wobser said he is focused on maintenance in this area and the trend toward walkability is looking at money which could otherwise be spent paving a local street and we want to make sure there is a return on investment. McCartney Road is more of a rural area and adding a sidewalk here may not get as much of a return on investment and is probably why most of Perkins Township is without sidewalks unless along a major artery. This does not mean we may never be in a place to put sidewalks on McCartney Road, but this is different than those added along West Monroe Street by Central Park. We believe the more resources we invest in making Sandusky walkable will have economic benefits, especially in areas with more mixed uses and amenities to be walked to. Wes Poole said Central Park would certainly have had more priority than McCartney Road but since we have not yet spoken to people on McCartney Road, we are not even sure how much they want sidewalks and need to do this so people know when their needs will be served.

At 5:52 p.m., upon motion of Dick Brady and second of Nikki Lloyd, the commission voted to adjourn. The President declared the motion passed.

Kelly L. Kresser, CMC
Commission Clerk

Dennis E. Murray, Jr.
President of the City Commission