

Dennis Murray called the meeting to order at 5 p.m. after the Invocation, given by Dick Brady, and the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Clerk called the roll and the following Commissioners responded: Dave Waddington, Nikki Lloyd, Greg Lockhart, Dennis Murray, Wes Poole, Naomi Twine and Dick Brady.

**City staff present:** Dave Degnan – Fire Chief, John Orzech – Police Chief, Aaron Klein – Public Works Director, Matt Lasko – Chief Development Officer, Angela Byington – Director of Planning, Brad Link – Public Service Director, Don Rumbutis – IT, Stuart Hamilton – IT Manager, Justin Harris – Law Director, Hank Solowiej – Finance Director, Eric Wobser – City Manager and Kelly Kresser – Commission Clerk.

**Upon motion of Dave Waddington and second of Naomi Twine, the Commission voted to approve the minutes of the January 23, 2017, meeting and suspend the formal reading. The President declared the motion passed.**

### **PRESENTATION**

BreAnn Hohman, member of the Sandusky Tree Commission, recognized other members of the Tree Commission in attendance this evening, and thanked the Commissioners for allowing them to present. A tree inventory was done a few years ago to record what was going on with the city's boulevard trees and provide a value assessment. There is an approximate \$9 million asset along our streets and this does not include trees in parks or other public areas. The canopy is in very good condition despite some of the trees being in poor condition. We have a very mature tree stock which adds to character, but also adds to maintenance issues. There have been issues with tree branches in electrical wires, and tree roots pushing up sidewalks. There were a few years when the city did not perform as much maintenance on trees but since the passage of Issue 8 and receipt of a few grants, they have stepped up. Last year, the city spent over \$105,000 on tree care in the city, about 25,000 more than the previous year. Most of this money was for tree removals and trimming; the rest was for plantings and for emergency cleanups. Most of this money came from Issue 8 funding, storm water funds provided tree planting money and the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative grant. GIS is now starting to be utilized to record every tree, along with its condition. This will help in the future with routine maintenance and trimming issues. Last year, members of the Tree Commission spent a great amount of effort on education and outreach hosting a Go Green event and a Fall Into the Greenhouse event talking to the community about what is going on with our trees and providing tips on how to take care of their own. The city received a Growth Award last year from the ODNR which is recognition of a community increasing their efforts in caring for trees. Sixty one trees were planted last year using grant funding (\$12,000) in target areas of parks including a large planting at the Paper District Marina. Another notable event was the June microburst storm which caused a lot of tree damage. The city utilized \$29,000 during CY 2016 and \$23,000 of this amount was for this particular storm. We do have an older tree stock and this was combined with a storm event going seventy to eighty miles per hour for about five minutes and maxing out at ninety miles per hour. These act like giant sails without large roots and run the risk of much higher damage during this unique type of weather environment. The U.S.D.A. has a risk tree analysis based on the age of trees and approximately 1,500 trees fall into this criteria. The Tree Commission recommends working toward zone maintenance to catch up on this important process; move to zone trimming to make the program more structured; increase the planting to removal ratio and urban forest management plan; and, review the city's code pertaining to our trees. The Tree Commission meets on the last Tuesday of each month at the City's Greenhouse at 4 p.m. and the public is welcome to join them. Arbor Day will be celebrated on April 29 at the Greenhouse from 10 a.m. – 1 p.m. Greg Lockhart said he serves on the Tree Commission and said a lot of people may have registered complaints or concerns about their trees and now might be the time to have a best recommendation about how to take care of our trees using GIS.

**Upon motion of Greg Lockhart and second of Wes Poole, the commission voted to allow the Tree Commission members to create a Strategic Plan for the city. The President declared the motion passed.**

*Discussion:* Wes Poole asked what the storm risk (90% good canopy) means and BreAnn Hohman said these calculations are our risk of damage of trees coming down based on any given storm and we have 1,500 trees which fall in this risk category. This does not assess damages to a home or vehicle if it were to fall. Wes Poole asked to consider identifying these 1,500 trees and how likely they are to fall so they can be removed as we have spent an insignificant amount of money on tree removal and we will never catch up. Dennis Murray said we are catching up and making progress dealing with dead and dying trees and have stepped up planting efforts. Dennis Murray asked when we might catch up if we continue at this rate. It takes a long time to create an urban forest and it has great value. BreAnn Hohman said this is tough to put a number on but does recall estimating how much this would be and she recalls this had a two million dollar price tag. Brad Link said we are doing removals at 80 to 100 trees each year through contract and with those to be taken care of through the Forestry Division, our number will increase. Dennis Murray asked about the mention of updating the codes and asked who is taking care of this; Jim Arthur said he has been working with the Law Department. Greg Lockhart said the purpose of creating this plan is to see where we have been, assess where we are and where we will be with our urban trees. Wes Poole said we need to take care of more than 100 trees per year and does not think doubling the amount of money we are spending would be too much. It is an insignificant amount of money. Nikki Lloyd said she agrees with this and thanked BreAnn and members of the Tree Commission for their passion and it is important for residents to understand the process we are going through and we are moving in a positive direction.

Ida Alexander said she is here to thank the city for their support of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Day activities recently held in Sandusky. In February, 2007, the City of Sandusky bestowed a Key to the City to her and she is receiving some of the interest from this investment ten years ago. If every Commissioner, city secretaries and members of the Police Department work as hard as Dave Waddington, the city is in good hands. Brenda Jones thanked the entire City of Sandusky, especially the Commissioners, the Sandusky Police Department and the City Manager for helping with a wonderful weekend. Everything went off without a hitch and this was a tremendous motorcade and cannot say enough about the members of the Police Department who were with them every inch of the way. They were out in full force and were supportive. They will begin planning again for the 2018 celebration and will be working with city staff and Second Baptist Church which has great historical significance for Sandusky. They are ready to start another project with the city and have talked about having events at the stadium and for this partnership which has been formed with the city. Dave Waddington said he and Dick Brady have met with Ida, Brenda and others at Ebenezer Baptist Church and will host a diversity community Chambers from 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. We will contact local elected officials, clergy, safety forces, Sandusky City Schools, Sandusky Catholic Schools and residents who might want to sit in regarding topics such as diversity, community relationships, drug issues and domestic violence. We cannot be separate 364 days per year and meet only on MLK, Jr. Day. This is a way to work together as a community and offset future problems between us through diversity, communication and building relationships of trust. We are physically changing Sandusky and need to work cohesively with residents as one group for the common good. Dick Brady said this was a wonderful day and it is a shame we only do it once per year. We need to do it more so when there are issues, we know each other's names, faces and phone numbers and this might derail or help neutralize an otherwise very volatile situation. Ida Alexander said she would like to see all of the commissioners and it is important to be supported after the voter polls.

#### **AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION**

Trudy Thompson, 105 West Water Street, Unit 3B, said they purchased a condo at the Hubbard Building which did not have designated parking, but was told plans were in the making for the parking lot behind the State Theatre to be a parking garage. This parking lot has been redone with fewer spaces and it is not a parking garage. They also heard there were plans to take parking

away from the Jackson Street Pier and are very concerned as there are only certain places residents can park. They can park on West Water Street, Shoreline Drive, the Jackson Street parking lot on the Jackson Street Pier. Depending on what is going on downtown, there are times the Pier is the only place they can park. There are no issues with downtown activities and this is great for the city and businesses, but as a resident, they are concerned about the parking. Trudy Thompson said she has been to parking commissions and spoken about resident parking. They also rent a condo at Chesapeake Lofts which has its own parking but downtown parking will be an issue with more people coming downtown.

### **PUBLIC HEARING**

**Dennis Murray opened a Public Hearing regarding 2017 – 2018 CDBG funding and introduced Arielle Blanca.**

Arielle Blanca said this will be the first of two Public Hearings concerning the city's 2017 Community Development Block Grant program year. A Consolidated Plan Advisory Committee meeting was also held on February 3. As an entitlement city, Sandusky directly receives an allocation of funds from the Department of Housing & Urban Development to carry out selected activities within the community. These eligible activities include but are not limited to: acquisition, rehabilitation, demolition, code enforcement, economic development activities, public facility projects, infrastructure improvements and planning activities. Under this grant, there are certain requirements which cannot be exceeded. In general these include a maximum of twenty percent of the allocation to be expended on administration and planning expenses and a maximum of fifteen percent of the allocation to be expended on public services during the program year. Seventy percent of the funds must benefit low- to moderate-income persons or households. All of the funds must meet one of the three national objectives which include low- to moderate-income benefit, elimination of slum and blight and community urgent need. Sandusky anticipates an allocation of approximately \$650,000 of new funds for PY 2017 plus some additional carryover funds.

The following activities were budgeted in the 2016 program year which is currently underway:

- Program Administration - \$122,000
- Fair Housing - \$9,000
- Streets, Sidewalks, Curb & Gutter - \$237,000
- Parks – ADA Improvements - \$150,000
- Clearance and Demolition - \$85,000
- Healthy Lifestyles Program - \$10,000
- Code Enforcement - \$170,000
- Help Against Homelessness Program – 40,000
- Citizens Circle Program - \$15,000
- Economic Development Revolving Loan Fund - \$55,000 (Program Income)
- Housing Rehabilitation - \$40,000

Subrecipient funding applications became available on February 3 and are due to the Community Development Department no later than 12 p.m. on March 3. A draft of the plan will be available on March 10 after which there will be a 30-day comment period. The draft plan will be available for review at City Hall as well as at the Sandusky Library. There will be a second Consolidated Plan Advisory Committee meeting on March 24. On April 10 there will be a second Public Hearing held at 5 p.m. during the Commission meeting. Public input on community needs relating to CDBG funding can be submitted by written correspondence to the Community Development Department, emailed at [ablanca@ci.sandusky.oh.us](mailto:ablanca@ci.sandusky.oh.us) or by phone at 419.627.5847.

Christine Boesch said OHgo this is a non-profit mobile service currently operating by converting FedEx-style trucks to homes and neighborhood parks. They target areas where families might have a hard time accessing main stream services to deliver goods and services as well as offering a Book Mobile. OHgo will be requesting funding for his program to expand with another team in four different neighborhoods. The city has amazing services and organizations, but the people

they visit may not have access to these so they will be taken to them. These families will register, show verification of low income status and will be provided groceries through Second Harvest, activities, resources and information. As one example, the Sandusky Library will provide a literature-based activity along with the Book Mobile and kids will be allowed to take a book home and to sign up for Imagination Library so they will receive free books every week. They will also receive transportation vouchers. Dennis Murray thanked Christine for what she does and for bringing forward this idea as it sounds like something we should be taking a look at. Wes Poole asked if the city has funded a reading program in the past and Arielle Blanca said not since she has been involved with the program. This money is competitive and if data supports the number of kids OHgo works with, he is in support of expanding the program. Wes Poole asked if the city received grants for housing demolition and Matt Lasko said the Erie County Land Bank secured a grant for this purpose and the city has done this for privately-owned properties or for emergency demolitions through the neighborhood improvement dollars. These must be in target areas and owned by the Land Bank or the city and have secured a small portion for these six to ten houses.

**There being no further discussion, the President declared the Public Hearing closed.**

### **CURRENT BUSINESS**

**Upon motion of Naomi Twine and second of Nikki Lloyd, the Commission voted to accept all communications. The President declared the motion passed.**

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

#### **SECOND READING**

##### **A. Submitted by Casey Sparks, Assistant Planner**

##### **ZONE MAP AMENDMENT FOR 2513 VENICE ROAD & 1651 TIFFIN AVENUE**

Budgetary Information: There is no impact to the general fund.

[ORDINANCE NO. 17-011](#): It is requested an ordinance be passed amending the official zone map of the City of Sandusky to rezone one parcel from Limited Manufacturing District and General Business District, and one parcel from General Business District to Residential Multi-family District.

##### **B. Submitted by Aaron Klein, Director of Public Works**

##### **ANNUAL COST SHARING AGREEMENT WITH ERIE SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

Budgetary Information: The annual amount for continuing to participate with the Erie County National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Phase II program is \$10,000. The annual cost will be paid with storm water funds.

[ORDINANCE NO. 17-012](#): It is requested an ordinance be passed authorizing and directing the Finance Director to make payment to the Erie Soil & Water Conservation District to continue participation in the Erie County National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Phase II program; and declaring that this ordinance shall take immediate effect in accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.

##### **C. Submitted by Jane Cullen, Project Engineer**

##### **EAST END SEWER IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT CHANGE ORDER #2 - TIME EXTENSION ONLY**

Budgetary Information: Change Order #2 will not impact the contract amount. The contract amount will remain as \$4,603,959.90 at this time.

[ORDINANCE NO. 17-013](#): It is requested an ordinance be passed authorizing and directing the City Manager to approve the second change order for work to be performed by Underground Utilities, Inc., of Monroeville, Ohio, for the East End Sewer Improvements project and declaring that this ordinance shall take immediate effect in accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.

##### **D. Submitted by Jane Cullen, Project Engineer**

##### **FIFTH STREET RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT CHANGE ORDER #1 - TIME EXTENSION ONLY**

Budgetary Information: Change Order #1 will not impact the contract amount. The contract amount will remain as \$273,671.88 at this time.

**ORDINANCE NO. 17-014:** It is requested an ordinance be passed authorizing and directing the City Manager to approve the first change order for work to be performed by Precision Paving, Inc., of Milan, Ohio, for the Fifth Street reconstruction project; and declaring that this ordinance shall take immediate effect in accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.

**E. Submitted by Jeffrey Keefe, Project Engineer**

**SUBMERGED LANDS LEASE FOR 103 LURIE LANE**

**Budgetary Information:** There is no budgetary impact.

**RESOLUTION NO. 008-17R:** It is requested a resolution be adopted pursuant to Section 1506.11 of the Ohio Revised Code finding and determining that based upon the representations and application filed by William F. and Jayne E. Djubek, Trustees for property located at 103 Lurie Lane, the use and development of the territory so described, a submerged lands lease may be entered into by the State's Director of Natural Resources; and declaring that this resolution shall take immediate effect in accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.

**F. Submitted by Jeffrey Keefe, Project Engineer**

**SUBMERGED LANDS LEASE FOR 1107 CEDAR POINT ROAD**

**Budgetary Information:** There is no budgetary impact.

**RESOLUTION NO. 009-17R:** It is requested a resolution be adopted pursuant to Section 1506.11 of the Ohio Revised Code finding and determining that based upon the representations and application filed by David A. & Norma J. Jesse for property located at 1107 Cedar Point Road, the use and development of the territory so described, a submerged lands lease may be entered into by the State's Director of Natural Resources; and declaring that this resolution shall take immediate effect in accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.

**G. Submitted by Marvin Ranaldson, Transit Administrator**

**AUTHORIZATION TO RESUBMIT BUS & BUS FACILITIES GRANT APPLICATION FOR SANDUSKY TRANSIT SYSTEM UTILIZING SECTION 5339 (b) IN ORDER TO RECEIVE AWARDED FUNDS**

**Budgetary Information:** The 5339 (b) Bus and bus facilities grant will require \$42,665 of local match funding, of which \$42,665 will be from the capital replacement fund. The capital replacement fund is dedicated to provide local match for capital expenses like vehicles, equipment and vehicle maintenance.

**RESOLUTION NO. 010-17R:** It is requested a resolution be passed authorizing the filing of a grant application with the Ohio Department of Transportation through the U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Transit Administration for the buses and bus facilities program grant for the Sandusky Transit System; and declaring that this resolution shall take immediate effect in accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.

**H. Submitted by Victoria Kurt, Recreation Superintendent**

**PRIORITY USE AGREEMENT WITH PANTHER BASEBALL CLUB FOR KIWANIS PARK**

**Budgetary Information:** The agreement will not result in any additional budgetary expenses. The city will benefit from the agreed upon ballfield maintenance performed by the Panther Baseball Club.

**ORDINANCE NO. 17-015:** It is requested an ordinance be passed authorizing and directing the City Manager to enter into a three year license agreement with the Panther Baseball Club for priority use of the Kiwanis Park Ballfield located at 2227 First Street, Sandusky, Ohio, for the Firelands Interleague Baseball League program (March 1 through July 31) beginning March 1, 2017; and declaring that this ordinance shall take immediate effect in accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.

**The President asked if anyone wished to remove any of the Consent Agenda Items. 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 accordance with the Section reflected in the ordinances and/or resolutions, whether it be in accordance with Section 13 or Section 14 of the City Charter. Roll call on the motion: Yeas: Dave Waddington, Nikki Lloyd,**

Greg Lockhart, Dennis Murray, Wes Poole, Naomi Twine and Dick Brady, 7. The President declared the motion passed. Roll call on the ordinances and resolutions: Dave Waddington, Nikki Lloyd, Greg Lockhart, Dennis Murray, Wes Poole, Naomi Twine and Dick Brady, 7. The President declared the ordinances and resolutions contained in the Consent Agenda passed in accordance with the City Charter.

## **REGULAR AGENDA**

### **SECOND READING**

**ITEM #1** – Submitted by Angela Byington, Planning Director

#### **AGREEMENT WITH OSBORN ENGINEERING FOR SHORELINE DRIVE PROJECT**

**Budgetary Information:** There is no impact to the general fund.

The total preliminary engineering cost is not to exceed \$150,042 and will be initially paid with capital funds. The city intends to finance all costs associated with the Shoreline Drive rehabilitation project with notes or bonds from the newly expanded urban renewal area. The notes or bonds will use proceeds from the Chesapeake TIF to pay for the debt service. Costs associated with final engineering and construction administration will require City Commission approval.

**ORDINANCE NO. 17-016:** It is requested an ordinance be passed authorizing and directing the City Manager to enter into an agreement with Osborn Engineering of Cleveland, Ohio for professional design services for the Shoreline Drive rehabilitation project; 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 at second reading and in full accordance with Section 14 of the City Charter.**

*Discussion:* Wes Poole said he has concerns about the walkway shown in the conceptual drawings and there are concerns about parking in this area. Wes Poole asked which property owners the city has spoken to regarding the placement of a boardwalk on the backside of their buildings. Eric Wobser said there has been an extensive public process and has spoken to many business owners about this including owners of the Reber Building, the Windau's, Bob Hare, condominium owners in the Hubbard Building, Trustees of the Ruth Parker Foundation and others. This is only one of at least three options we will look at as it will be very technically difficult to do this boardwalk. Wes Poole said ultimately, we will have spent a lot of money to design something that may be a problem if a property owner may not want it connected to their building. Voting to do this in the fashion we are, is not a wise choice. Eric Wobser said the process was structured in such a way to have engineering performed and then look at several options and have a public process to select a conceptual plan to move forward. We will need to know the concept the public desires but we need to know what technically would be required or available to us to move forward. Dennis Murray said he will abstain as his office is across from this area.

**Roll call on the ordinance: Yeas: Dave Waddington, Greg Lockhart, Naomi Twine and Dick Brady, 4. Nays: Wes Poole, 1. Abstain: Nikki Lloyd & Dennis Murray, 2. The President declared the motion passed at second reading and in full accordance with Section 14 of the City Charter.**

**ITEM #2 - Submitted by Kelly Kresser**

#### **AUTHORIZATION TO ACKNOWLEDGE A TREX LIQUOR PERMIT TRANSFER FROM M & J HOSPITALITY, HAMILTON, OHIO, TO ZELLER GAMING, LLC, 142 COLUMBUS AVENUE**

It is requested the Commission Clerk be authorized to notify the Ohio Division of Liquor Control the city has no objection to the TREX Liquor Permit Transfer of **D1** (Beer only for on premises consumption or in original sealed containers for carry out only until 1:00 a.m. ), **D2** (Wine and mixed beverages for on premises consumption or in original sealed containers for carryout only until 1 a.m.), **D3** (Spirituous liquor for on premises consumption only until 1 a.m.), **D3A** (Extended issued permit privileges until 2:30 a.m.), and **D6** (Sale of intoxicating liquor on Sunday between the hours of 10 a.m. or 11 a.m. and midnight) **Liquor Permits** from M & J Hospitality, LLC dba

MG's Tavern & Fine Food, Hamilton, Ohio to Zeller Gaming, LLC, 142 Columbus Avenue, Sandusky.

**Upon motion of Dave Waddington and second of Wes Poole, the commission voted for the Commission Clerk to notify the Ohio Division of Liquor Control the city has no object to the TREX Liquor Permit Transfer of D1, D2, D3, D3A and D6 Liquor Permits from M & J Hospitality, LLC dba MG's Tavern & Fine Food, Hamilton, Ohio to Zeller Gaming, LLC, 142 Columbus Avenue. Roll call on the motion: Yeas: Dave Waddington, Nikki Lloyd, Greg Lockhart, Dennis Murray, Wes Poole, Naomi Twine and Dick Brady, 7. The President declared the motion passed.**

**ITEM #3 - Submitted by Casey Sparks, Assistant Planner**

**APPROVAL OF LANDMARK DESIGNATION FOR WHITWORTH BUILDING, 234 - 236 COLUMBUS AVENUE**

**Budgetary Information:** There is no impact to the general fund.

**ORDINANCE NO. 17-017:** It is requested an ordinance be passed approving the Sandusky Landmark Commission's designation of the Whitworth Building located at 234 – 236 Columbus Avenue, Parcel No. 56-01247.000, Sandusky, Ohio, as a local landmark; and declaring that this ordinance shall take effect under suspension of the rules as contained in and in accordance with **Section 13 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 full accordance with Section 13 of the City Charter.**

*Discussion:* Wes Poole said the members of the Planning Commission asked that the application filed on behalf of the Whitworth building be provided as a public document. Angela Byington said this will be sent to the Sandusky Library reference department. Wes Poole said Mr. Whitworth was a very compelling individual and this is a worthwhile read. Casey Sparks said the applicant is Marous Brothers, LLC and they have applied to locally landmark this building. John Whitworth had a huge impact to the City of Sandusky and in his death, Sandusky lost one of its oldest and best known, valued citizens. Many businesses owe their excellence and progress largely to his influence and for what he did for his fellow citizens and for Sandusky and his far-reaching influence cannot be told. Planning staff and the Planning Commission recommends approval of the local landmarking for this building.

**Roll call on the motion: Yeas: Dave Waddington, Nikki Lloyd, Greg Lockhart, Dennis Murray, Wes Poole, Naomi Twine and Dick Brady, 7. The President declared the motion passed. Roll call on the ordinance: Yeas: Dave Waddington, Nikki Lloyd, Greg Lockhart, Dennis Murray, Wes Poole, Naomi Twine and Dick Brady, 7. The President declared the ordinance passed in accordance with Section 13 of the City Charter.**

**ITEM #4 - Submitted by Amanda McClain, Housing Manager**

**AUTHORIZATION TO SELL PROPERTY LOCATED AT 1017 PUTNAM STREET THROUGH LAND BANK PROGRAM**

**Budgetary Information:** The cost associated with this purchase and sale agreement is the total amount of the title examination, deed preparation, escrow fees and any other customary fees that may be due and payable in the ordinary course of the sale and purchase transaction, which will be recouped from the purchase price. The sale and rehabilitation of this property will revitalize the neighborhood by enhancing the surrounding property values and reducing the city's rental housing. The taxing districts will once again begin collecting real property taxes in the amount of \$1,039.68 annually.

**ORDINANCE NO. 17-018:** It is requested an ordinance be passed declaring that certain real property owned by the city as part of the land reutilization program identified as Parcel #58-02370.000, located at 1017 Putnam Street, Sandusky, is no longer needed for any municipal purpose and authorizing the execution of a purchase and sale agreement with respect to that real property; 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 full accordance with Section 14 of the City Charter.**

*Discussion:* Dennis Murray congratulated Mr. Jordan (purchaser) and wished him good luck. Dave Waddington said he is excited as Mr. Jordan has proposed a \$17,877.49 rehabilitation project and will change this property from rental to home ownership and we need more projects like this.

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

**ITEM #5 - Submitted by Angela Byington, Planning Director**

**SECOND SUPPLEMENT TO COMPENSATION AGREEMENT WITH SANDUSKY CITY SCHOOLS TO INCLUDE SECOND URBAN RENEWAL AREA**

**Budgetary Information:** There is not an impact to the budget.

**ORDINANCE NO. 17-019:** It is requested an ordinance be passed approving a second supplement to the compensation agreement with Sandusky City School District; authorizing and directing the City Manager to execute an agreement extending the use of Chesapeake TIF funds into the second urban renewal area; 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 full accordance with Section 14 of the City Charter.**

*Discussion:* Angela Byington said the purpose is to allow for use of the Chesapeake TIF funding to be used both in the existing urban renewal area as well as the second one which was recently adopted. Eligible projects will continue to be urban renewal projects which help eliminate the spread of blight. These include the installation, construction or reconstruction of streets, utilities, parks, playgrounds, demolition, property acquisition, rehabilitation and conservation. The SCS has approved this supplement and there is no impact to the city's budget. Greg Lockhart asked what we may be using this money for and Angela Byington said there are no specific projects currently and these would come to the City Commission for approval prior to entering into contract. The Jackson Street Pier and Shoreline Drive area is one where we may utilize these funds. Wes Poole said although he agrees with the concept in general of using the TIF money for improvements, he is not comfortable the monies are adequately interacting with the community for making decisions about what we spend it on. The Jackson Street Pier is not a revenue-producing project and it will take an extremely large amount of money to do anything with it. We are not laying out a plan that makes any sense or ties to what we will specifically spend it on and will vote "No". Dennis Murray said he will abstain as this expands the area which already exists.

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

**ITEM #6 - Submitted by Aaron Klein, Director of Public Works**

**AUTHORIZATION TO BID THE WAYFINDING & SIGNAGE PROJECT**



**Budgetary Information:** The total cost of planning, design, inspection and advertising is \$575,000 to be paid through the following funding sources: Federal Highway/ODOT (via MPO) - \$165,000, Lake Erie Shores & Islands - \$150,000, City of Sandusky - \$150,000, Firelands Regional Medical Center - \$50,000 and Cedar Fair - \$50,000. The city's portion will be drawn from capital funds (Issue 8).

**RESOLUTION NO. 011-17R:** It is requested a resolution be passed declaring the necessity for the city to proceed with the proposed wayfinding and signage project; approving the specifications and engineer's estimate of cost thereof 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 Nikki Lloyd and second of Naomi Twine, the Commission voted to approve this resolution under suspension of the rules and in full accordance with Section 14 of the City Charter.**

*Discussion:* Dick Brady said he will abstain due to a business which he owns which may bid on this project. Aaron Klein said we have been talking about this project for about one and one half years and we are finally to the point where we can bid it. We will send this legislation to ODOT for approval with the bid process and he would expect construction to begin this summer. These signs will be placed throughout the entire city to help tourists and commuters to be able to get around to our marinas, museums and the hospital as agreed to by the Steering Committee. Dennis Murray said we will get a lot of leverage from the funding as while the city is investing \$150,000, the balance will be paid by private businesses, Shores & Islands and ODOT. This is a great coalition put together to support funding for this project which will have far reaching consequences for the city. Aaron Klein said one thing we are going to install is several kiosks in the downtown area to help people at the transient marina or ferry boats. The city will have access to the maps and these will also be available for other locations. Wes Poole said the total cost of planning, design, inspection and advertising was outlined, but asked if this includes erection of the signage. Aaron Klein said he left the word "construction" off and this does include the construction and installation.

**Roll call on the motion: Yeas: Dave Waddington, Nikki Lloyd, Greg Lockhart, Dennis Murray, Wes Poole and Naomi Twine, 6. Abstain: Dick Brady, 1. The President declared the motion passed. Roll call on the resolution: Yeas: Dave Waddington, Nikki Lloyd, Greg Lockhart, Dennis Murray, Wes Poole and Naomi Twine, 6. Abstain: Dick Brady, 1. The President declared the resolution passed under suspension of the rules and in full accordance with Section 14 of the City Charter.**

**ITEM #7 - Submitted by Jeff Keefe, Project Engineer**

**PERMISSION TO BID COLUMBUS AVENUE UNDERPASS REPAIRS**

**Budgetary Information:** The estimated cost of the project, including engineering, inspection, advertising and miscellaneous costs is \$85,000 and will be paid with capital projects funds (Issue 8).

**RESOLUTION NO. 012-17R:** It is requested a resolution be passed declaring the necessity for the city to proceed with the proposed Columbus Avenue underpass repairs project; approving the specifications and engineer's estimate of cost thereof; 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 Wes Poole, the Commission voted to approve this resolution under suspension of the rules and in full accordance with Section 14 of the City Charter.**

*Discussion:* Dennis Murray said it is a good idea to repair these things in order to maintain the underpasses rather than waiting until they crumble.

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

**ITEM #8 - Submitted by Aaron Klein, Director of Public Works**

**PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH T & M ASSOCIATES FOR COMMUNITY-WIDE BROWNFIELDS ASSESSMENTS GRANTS**

**Budgetary Information:** The Brownfields grant will fund one hundred percent of this contract.

**ORDINANCE NO. 17-020:** It is requested an ordinance be passed authorizing and directing the City Manager to enter into an agreement with T & M Associates of Cleveland, Ohio, for professional environmental services in conjunction with the U.S. EPA Brownfields grant received from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency; 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 approve this ordinance under suspension of the rules and in full accordance with Section 14 of the City Charter.**

*Discussion:* Dave Waddington said he is happy to see the city will reestablish its Brownfields program which was previously very effective and caused demolition of the former Apex, Sandusky Cabinets and properties in the Paper District area, City Ice, the Jackson Street parking lot, Deep Water Marina and many others.

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

**ITEM #9 - Submitted by Aaron Klein, Director of Public Works**

**CHANGE ORDER #1 FOR BIWW EMERGENCY INTAKE REHABILITATION & CHEMICAL FEED LINE PROJECT**

**Budgetary Information:** The original contract with Hank's Plumbing & Heating Co., Inc. is for \$435,995. Change Order #1, for an additional amount of \$7,486.56 will revise the contract amount to \$443,481.56. The project is fully funded through the water fund.

**ORDINANCE NO. 17-021:** It is requested an ordinance be passed authorizing and directing the City Manager to approve the first change order for work performed by Hank's Plumbing & Heating Co., Inc., of Toledo, Ohio, for the Big Island Water Works emergency intake rehabilitation and chemical feed line installation project in the amount of \$7,486.56; 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 full accordance with Section 14 of the City Charter.**

*Discussion:* Aaron Klein said this is one of the projects where the contractor was very diligent in making sure the city got a quality job at the end. They realized the dike which holds in the cells for the ODNR site was falling into and getting into the emergency intake. During construction, they asked if we wanted to take the sheet metal and use it as a retaining wall which worked out to be a very good proposal to protect our investment and infrastructure as well as the park. Down the road, some safety and handrails will be added but the equipment is all accessible now and in the future.

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

**ITEM #10 - Submitted by Marvin Ranaldson, Transit Administrator**

**AUTHORIZATION TO PURCHASE A TOTAL OF FIVE BUSES THROUGH STATE OF OHIO COOPERATIVE PURCHASING PROGRAM FOR SANDUSKY TRANSIT SYSTEM (2 SEPARATE VENDORS)**

**Budgetary Information:** The 5339 (B) bus and bus facilities grant will require \$42,665 of local match funding, and will be paid with capital replacement funds. The capital replacement fund is dedicated to providing local match for capital expenses like vehicles, equipment and vehicle maintenance.

**ORDINANCE NO. 17-022:** It is requested an ordinance be passed authorizing and directing the City Manager to purchase four low-floor 20-passenger buses from American Bus and Accessories, Inc., of Cincinnati, Ohio, and one light transit vehicle from Bus Service, Inc., of Canal Winchester, Ohio, through the State of Ohio Department of Transportation cooperative purchasing program for the Sandusky Transit System; 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 approve this ordinance under suspension of the rules and in full accordance with Section 14 of the City Charter.**

*Discussion:* Marvin Ranaldson said these five vehicles will replace vehicles originally received in 2010 which have reached the end of their useful lives and will be solely used for SPARC routes. Our fleet is one of the oldest in the state and through the investments made in 2016 and 2017, we are drastically reducing the age of the fleet and making STS more effective to operate and more pleasant for riders. Dennis Murray said ninety percent of the funding is through grants. Dick Brady asked if these were new vehicles and it never turned out well for us to purchase “beater” busses.

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

**ITEM #11 - Submitted by Marvin Ranaldson, Transit Administrator**

**APPROVAL OF AGREEMENT FOR TRANSPORTATION SERVICES WITH SANDUSKY CITY SCHOOLS**

**Budgetary Information:** Sandusky Transit System will receive revenue from Sandusky City Schools for the length of the proposed contract. The funds collected will be used to offset the capital, planning and operating expenses through the 2017 5311 Rural grant program.

**ORDINANCE NO. 17-023:** It is requested an ordinance be passed authorizing and directing the City Manager to enter into an agreement for transportation services between the City of Sandusky and the Sandusky City Schools for services related to the Sandusky Transit System; 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 Nikki Lloyd, the Commission voted to approve this ordinance under suspension of the rules and in full accordance with Section 14 of the City Charter.**

*Discussion:* Marvin Ranaldson said this is a comprehensive transportation agreement with the Sandusky City Schools and entails both dial-a-ride, group trips and bus stop service through

SPARC for students unable to use school bus service. In addition, students will also be able to use SPARC to get to jobs or internship programs through the district. Dennis Murray applauded efforts to bring this forward as we have been talking about it for a long time and is a demonstration of partnership between the city and SCS. This will provide students with a lot of different options for after-school transportation when school vehicles are not available to them.

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

**ITEM #12 - Submitted by Victoria Kurt, Recreation Superintendent**

**APPROVAL OF ERIE BLACKTOP FIELD FENCE REPLACEMENT PROJECT WITH FREMONT FENCE & GUARD RAIL**

**Budgetary Information:** The quoted cost of the project is \$19,193 and will be paid with the monetary donation received from Erie Blacktop and the monetary donations raised from Leadership Erie County Class of 2016.

**ORDINANCE NO. 17-024:** It is requested an ordinance be passed authorizing and directing the City Manager to expend the necessary funds for the purchase and installation of fencing from Fremont Fence & Guard Rail Co., of Fremont, Ohio, for the Erie Blacktop Field fence replacement 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 full accordance with Section 14 of the City Charter.**

*Discussion:* Victoria Kurt said Leadership Erie County's Class of 2016 raised funds to improve the field at Amvets Park and Erie Blacktop donated \$10,000 and fencing was the major item they wanted to focus on. This work would need to be completed by May 1. Dennis Murray expressed his appreciation to the LEC class and to Erie Blacktop.

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

**ITEM #13 - Submitted by Brad Link, Director of Public Services**

**PURCHASE OF PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT AND SURFACING MATERIAL FROM DAVID WILLIAMS & ASSOCIATES / GAMETIME FOR LIONS PARK**

**Budgetary Information:** This purchase in the amount of \$65,883.32 will be paid from the capital projects fund. This project was made possible through Issue 8 funding.

**ORDINANCE NO. 17-025:** It is requested an ordinance be passed authorizing and directing the City Manager to purchase playground equipment and associated surfacing from David Williams & Associates / Gametime of Alliance, Ohio, for Lions Park; 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 Nikki Lloyd, the Commission voted to approve this ordinance under suspension of the rules and in full accordance with Section 14 of the City Charter.**

*Discussion:* Dick Brady said the city will put this equipment together and has already done this several times. None of this equipment will be lost, wasted or used with any type of

reconfiguration. Brad Link said this is part of Phase II of the overall project for Lions Park and this play equipment will be placed by the splash pad. The “little” playground will be by the bike path and the older equipment will go by LaSalle Street to replace older equipment.

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

**ITEM #14 - Submitted by John Orzech, Police Chief**

**PURCHASE OF FIFTEEN CRUISER MOBILE VIDEO SYSTEMS FROM L3 MOBILE-VISION, INC. THROUGH THE STATE OF OHIO COOPERATIVE PURCHASING PROGRAM**

**Budgetary Information:** The cost for the fifteen cruiser mobile video systems from L3 Mobile-Vision, Inc., is \$97,469.75 which will be paid \$82,431.23 from the Enforcement & Education fund, approximately \$4,977.21 (75% federal share) from the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance grant and the remaining balance will be paid with capital improvements funds.

**ORDINANCE NO. 17-026:** It is requested an ordinance be passed authorizing and directing the City Manager to purchase fifteen cruiser mobile video systems and accessories through the State of Ohio Cooperative Purchasing program from L3 Mobile-Vision, Inc., of Rockaway, New Jersey, for the Police Department; 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 full accordance with Section 14 of the City Charter.**

*Discussion:* John Orzech said the cruisers have audio/video systems dating back to 2006 and in 2011, we changed to DVR storage but all other equipment remained in place. We are trying to upgrade all of the systems and received a grant for one. We applied for a waiver for the twenty five percent match and we will be receiving the full amount of one system (\$6,077) from the Education & Enforcement fund which is collected through the Municipal Court through OVI fees and some capital funds (\$11,000). We have a good relationship with this company and they are giving us a full maintenance warranty for three years which is an \$11,000 value. These will be HD cameras and equipment and it has come down in price significantly since our 2006 purchase. Dick Brady asked if city personnel will be installing this equipment and John Orzech said the K-9 vehicle will be done first and these will be changed out as the Fleet Maintenance staff has time to do so. Dick Brady said our employees have the ability to do these things which saves us time and money.

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

**ITEM #15 - Submitted by Dave Degnan, Fire Chief**

**PURCHASE OF CHEST COMPRESSION SYSTEM FROM PHYSIO-CONTROL, INC. THROUGH THE STATE OF OHIO COOPERATIVE PURCHASING PROGRAM**

**Budgetary Information:** The total amount for the Lucas 2.2 Chest Compression system purchase is \$17,419.60 with a discount of \$4,271 through the Ohio Cooperative Purchasing program, State of Ohio schedule contract #800252 with a grand total of \$13,148.60. A grant in the amount of \$5,000 was received from the Wightman Wieber Charitable Foundation bringing the grand total amount of \$8,148.60 which will be paid from the EMS account.

**ORDINANCE NO. 17-027:** It is requested an ordinance be passed authorizing and directing the City Manager to purchase one Lucas 2.2 chest compression system from Physio Control, Inc. of

Redmond, Washington, through the State of Ohio Cooperative Purchasing program; 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 Nikki Lloyd, the Commission voted to approve this ordinance under suspension of the rules and in full accordance with Section 14 of the City Charter.**

*Discussion:* Greg Lockhart said during his time with the Fire Department as liaison, he was able to see this device firsthand and it will save lives by mimicking the compressions first responders give. This is something we should have and perhaps even more than one. Dave Degnan said Fire Fighters and EMS providers follow rules of the American Heart Association and have taken CPR classes. CPR is an easy skill to learn, but through years of study, they have found advanced life support providers stop for more than fifty percent of the time while someone is in cardiac arrest because of fatigue or to perform other procedures. This device has been perfected and can be placed over a patient and it has a very sophisticated motor which is programmed to supply the right amount of compressions even with an advanced airway and compresses to the proper depth. In field trials, this is perfect CPR which never tires and does not call off sick; we only need to keep the batteries charged. The American Heart Association recommends it for hospital providers because it is an extra helping hand. We would like to purchase one now and place it on the main fire engine at Station #1 as it responds to all cardiac arrest calls and go forward from here. Greg Lockhart said this may cost \$17,000, but there is not a price tag on a human life. Dave Degnan expressed his appreciation to the Wightman Wieber Foundation for providing this grant.

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

#### **CITY MANAGER'S REPORT**

- Governor Kasich's office today announced he intends to seek approval from the State Legislature to bring the **State of the State address** to Sandusky on April 4. The Sandusky State Theatre has agreed to host this event along with Senator Gardner and State Representative Steve Arndt. There are a lot of logistics to be taken care of and this is a great opportunity to build a relationship with the State and to seek out all of the partners who have been with us during the past several years in showcasing the amazing things happening in Sandusky. They would like to showcase the health of Lake Erie and our tourism and specific initiatives including the State Historic Tax Credits awarded for our administrative offices project with Vintage Development to the Sunoco Gas Station, the \$1 million grant for the Sandusky Bay planning to be undertaken in the next year. This is a great opportunity and is a reflection of the leadership shown by the Commission to put Sandusky on the map. Dennis Murray said it is exciting and is a great opportunity and whatever people think of the Governor, he has been a leading advocate for some of our environmental issues, renewal energy and for protection of business. He is glad Governor Kasich has chosen Sandusky as well as State Representative Arndt and Senator Gardner.
- Fire Chief Dave Degnan has let us know after twenty years of service with the Sandusky Fire Department including two plus years as service as Chief, he will be retiring. Dave is leaving the Department in a better place than he found it and inherited it at a very difficult time. He struggled through these difficult financial times and assisted in passing Issue 8, shown leadership during union negotiations and recently upgraded the city's ISO rating for the department to a level not achieved in the past. This puts the city at a very high percentage of Fire Departments. The Department is being left better than it was and we are happy for him and wish him well as he takes advantage of his family and personal life. Dave Degnan extended his appreciation to the City Commission and said it has been an

honor to work for them. The city's staff has been incredible to work with and also thanked the citizens. Dave Degnan said he came to Sandusky twenty years ago, having grown up in Chicago, and he has met some of the most incredible people here and has seen a lot of great things and has helped a lot people and has always felt compassion for people in this town who needed it the most. This is the most important thing he could have done. Most of the Fire Fighters would say the same and he was fortunate that when he tested it was the best thing for him. Dave Degnan said he is fiercely loyal to Sandusky and does not like to hear people say anything negative about it.

- Dave Degnan introduced **Captain Mario D'Amico who will assume the duties of Interim Fire Chief**. Captain D'Amico has been on the department for nineteen years and is also fiercely loyal to Sandusky and is a great Fire Fighter and also be politically correct but is not afraid to tell people what they need to hear and will be a great addition.
- **Upon motion of Dave Waddington and second of Wes Poole, the commission voted to accept a donation in the amount of \$17,500 from the City of Vermilion and Vermilion Community Services for supporting Transit in Erie County. The President declared the motion passed.**
- **Upon motion of Naomi Twine and second of Dave Waddington, the commission voted to accept a donation in the amount of \$200 from Randy Harris and Marianne Coburn for the K-9 Fund. The President declared the motion passed.**
- **Upon motion of Dave Waddington and second of Nikki Lloyd, the commission voted to pay dues in the amount of \$379 to the Erie County Chamber of Commerce for March, 2017 through February, 2018. The President declared the motion passed.**
- **Detective Jon Huffman has retired** effective February 3, 2017. We thank him for his years of dedicated service at the department, his military years as an Army Ranger and wish him well in his future endeavors.
- **Eric Costante has been reassigned to the Detective Bureau** to fill the vacancy of Detective Huffman.
- **Officer Bronson Lillo has been re-assigned as the Community Impact Officer** position effective February 9, 2017.
- The **State Auditor's Financial Health Indicator report for the City of Sandusky** for 2015 is available. The report measured 17 "financial health indicators" and according to their report, there are no critical outlook indicators and there are only two cautionary outlook indicators. The remaining indicators were all noted as positive outlook.
- The city was contacted in late January by Erie County Sheriff Paul Sigsworth and Village of Milan Police Chief Bob Meister about possible **irregularities involving the Village of Milan Fiscal Officer** and our ability to assist them in paying their employees, issuing W-2's, and paying vendors. We informed them that we would be able to assist because we both use the same software system. Dennis Murray thanked Hank Solowiej for saying yes to our neighbors and is glad to see this kind of leadership.
- The next two scheduled **Finance Committee meetings** are Friday, February 24 and Friday, March 24 at 7:45 a.m.
- After successful completion of the two lift stations for the **East End Sewer project** (one at Farwell and one at East Oldgate) they were considered officially operational on January 20. The contractor will return in the spring to plant grass and perform other minor punch list items.

- Mannik & Smith will perform a **Phase I Environmental Site Assessment at the old Sunoco site** for the fourth tank discovered during excavation. Staff also plans to move forward with a Phase I and asbestos assessment at the former Meier's Winery on Campbell Street. Combined costs for these two projects are approximately \$20,000 to be paid wholly from the Brownfields Grant.
- There will be public meeting regarding **transient rentals** on February 15 beginning at 6:30 p.m. at Sandusky High School, Room 300. City staff will present general alternatives regarding regulations and public input will be sought.
- There will be a public meeting and informational session regarding the City's **2017 Housing Development and Beautification programs** on February 15 between 5 p.m. and 6 p.m. at the Central Fire Station training room located at 600 West Market Street. Property owners and contractors are encouraged to attend. Staff will be present to summarize the programs and eligibility requirements, walk through the application process and answer any questions. Thanks to Commissioner Lockhart for suggesting we open this up to the public. Greg Lockhart said he asked for this forum to be created for residential citizens to get together with contractors as he has heard some are having problems finding contractors to get estimates in for their application which is required for the application process and hopes everyone who needs this joins us.
- **Upon motion of Wes Poole and second of Greg Lockhart, the commission voted to leave the façade signage assistance at sixty percent.**

*Discussion:* Eric Wobser said the 2017 guidelines and applications for the **Economic Development programs have been released**. The program categories remain unchanged from 2016 and include Substantial Development (for projects over \$500,000 in total costs), Signage and Façade (for new signage and comprehensive façade restorations) and small business assistance. The most significant change from 2016 is increasing the maximum assistance for signage and façade to seventy five percent of project costs from the previous maximum of sixty percent. This is in order to encourage total façade restorations. A pre-application meeting with a member of the development staff is a program requirement. Wes Poole said he is not in favor of increasing the assistance to facades from sixty to seventy percent as functionally, if there is going to be a fifteen percent increase every year, there is no reason for people to invest in improving this year knowing it will go up. The incentive would be to provide less assistance (55% to 50% as an example) and seventy five percent is entirely too much. This would be a slap in the face to people who stepped up and took a risk and invested in their properties during the first year and seventy five percent is more than he thinks it should be. Matt Lasko said these programs were created in 2016 from the housing and economic development standpoint with a commitment to re-evaluate based on usage and investment whether the levels needed to be raised or lowered. For example, using the housing programs as a parallel, we know the down payment assistance program and the exterior repair programs were heavily utilized. We made a small amendment to reduce the amount citizens could receive from a matching grant and the amount they could receive from the down payment assistance grant. We realized we needed to make a larger investment up front for people who are taking risks. Folks who received the sixty percent assistance are very grateful for it and still had to take a chance on the city whether at any percentage. Until we hit the critical mass, we need to continue to look at ways to change our program and increase or decrease levels of investment based on usage. A lot of thought was put into what the city needs to do to stimulate investment and activity with specific concern for the facade and sign program based on usage. There are still some economic challenges that warranted the city stepping up this level of investment. Eric Wobser said there were a few large scale properties which were prioritized for their challenging facades and as we look at costs to make changes to exteriors of these properties, it will be an extremely



incredible burden as the blight is a challenge all of us face. For certain catalytic projects, this may be the appropriate incentive to get folks to act who may not otherwise have the resources to do so. The larger, extensive projects done last year were not comprehensive enough and we would like to see more attention to historic detail. The increase to seventy five percent is to get at some of these recommendations. Nikki Lloyd said this presents a fantastic opportunity to increase assistance and we can keep increasing for those who cannot afford to improve their facades and supports the community and property owners to help them maintain their buildings. Matt Lasko said he referenced the housing program simply as an example of a parallel comparison about shifting resources and investment based on need and demand. These programs were heavily used to the point where we thought it might be good to scale back the level of investment with, still, a significant demand. Matt Lasko said this is not precedent setting in any way and we are only two years into the program and will always make efforts to amend them based on demand on an annual basis. Eric Wobser said these programs are funded through Issue 8 monies which were to be used for blight elimination. The economic development programs are exclusively funded from the admissions tax which Cedar Point pays and asked the city to use to diversify the tax base. These are all additional tax dollars, they are not general fund dollars. Wes Poole said what was done with the housing program makes good sense but heard Matt Lasko say critical mass will be the determining point to figure out where this percentage should be and asked what the critical mass would be. Matt Lasko said, as an example, if the city sets aside \$50,000 annually for façade and signage improvements, not only do we expend these funds entirely during a calendar year, but we also have a waiting list of people looking for monies. This tells us we can scale back the level of investment we are making. This would allow us to lower the threshold and get more properties done on an annual basis. Wes Poole said this logic leads into what he has said: when money being invested is in the bank and earning one or two percent, if the threshold or critical mass is not met, we will have to go higher than seventy five percent next year. Anyone who has real money and is being prudent would recognize this thought process would give them an incentive to not participate. Matt Lasko said this is not precedent setting and if we still lack people participating in this particular program this year, we can invest funds in something else. Nikki Lloyd said this would be for a maximum of seventy five percent so if there are a lot of applications, the city can offer less and it is nice to have this option. Wes Poole said at some point, we need to know how we are going to measure this investment besides the property value increase. Dennis Murray said the members of the Audit/Finance Committee has seen the additional private dollars leveraged as a result of these programs and is one metric used. Dennis Murray commended the staff for being innovative and flexible and if supply and demand indicates making an adjustment, he supports this. Dick Brady said he will refrain from discussing this due to his sign business.

**Roll call on the motion: Yeas: Wes Poole, 1. Nays: Dave Waddington, Nikki Lloyd, Greg Lockhart, Dennis Murray and Naomi Twine, 5. Abstain: Dick Brady, 1. The President declared the motion failed.**

- The City of Sandusky is accepting applications for **Formula Year 2017 Community Development Block Grant**. Applications can be obtained from the city website or from the Planning & Zoning Office. The deadline for submittal of applications is March 3 at noon.
- There will be a presentation on the individual proposed neighborhood plans for the **Sandusky Neighborhood Initiative** on Saturday, February 18 at the Sandusky State Theatre. The presentations will run from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Citizens are invited to attend one or all of the neighborhood presentations, as all six neighborhood plans will be presented back to back with a lunch provided to participants from 12 p.m. to 1 p.m.

- The launch of the **new routes for the Sandusky Transit System** is being pushed back from February 6 to March 21. This will ensure that staff can dedicate the proper resources to ensure a smooth launch of the changes to our service.
- The **SPARC fare increase** from \$1 to \$1.50 went into effect on February 6, 2017.
- **The submerged pier at Lions Park will have buoys marking the shallow water.** Property Maintenance will work with the Fire Department to place the buoys this spring. Dave Waddington said we are also removing the rocks along the shoreline and planting trees to help with the erosion problem and thanked Brad Link for assisting with these issues. Wes Poole asked how we are determining where the buoys are to be placed and Dave Waddington said we have a contact from the Ohio Department of Natural Resources who is helping to facilitate this. Brad Link said the ODNR has been contacted about the erosion issues while the buoys will mark shallow, rocky water which the city has the authority to do so long as we are not marking a no wake zone.
- We will begin to take **shelter reservations** on March 1; call 419.627.5884 for a list of shelters and to reserve your date. As always, this is first-come, first-served.
- **Upon motion of Dave Waddington and second of Naomi Twine, the commission voted to transfer funds from the Recreation Department to Sports Force Park for the 2017 Coaster Classic Softball Tournament.**

*Discussion:* Eric Wobser said the City of Sandusky plans to enter into a partnership agreement with Cedar Point Sports Force Park. We would like to transfer funds from the Recreation Department to Sports Force Park for the Coaster Classic Softball Tournament as it is being relocated from Dorn Community Park. The city has also received money and reservations which will be transferred to Sports Force Park. Eric Wobser thanked Will Spence, the General Manager of Sports Force, for helping put this partnership together. Dave Waddington said this is fabulous and these new parks are great and remind him of the Toledo Mudhens. Wes Poole clarified these funds are monies sent in by teams to pay and Eric Wobser said they are deposits, they are not city funds.

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

- **Sports Force Park will provide a five-year \$50,000 commitment to the city to support local recreational programming** in the city as well as an agreement for public access to their fields for a certain amount of dates each year for all-star or championship games for our local youth sports tournaments.
- Request for Proposals for the **operation of the Shelby Street Boat Launch facility** were issued on February 8 for the 2017 season running April 1 to October 31. Proposals are due by February 24 at 3 p.m.
- **Jason Werling will begin employment with the City of Sandusky Recreation Department** as the Recreation Program Supervisor on February 21.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

**Upon motion of Dave Waddington and second of Nikki Lloyd, the commission voted to extend the terms of certain city board and commission members through March 14, 2017. The 30-day extension granted in January will end tomorrow and there are upcoming meetings for some of these boards and they need full membership. This gives time to resolve changes being made to legislation. Dennis Murray said the complication is we are touching so many different pieces of**

legislation and Justin Harris said this work is almost complete. Wes Poole suggested this new legislation be done in pieces starting with the most important so there is time to discuss each one. These extensions are as follows:

Martha Thompson on the ADA Advisory Board; Dan Moncher, Brian Allen and Jim Ruthsatz on the Audit/Finance Committee; John Mears on the Board of Zoning Appeals; Thomas Darden, Kevin Zeiher, Andy Martin and Matt Leser on the Oakland Cemetery Memorial Park Board; David Miller (Regular) and John Panzer (Alternate) on the Erie Regional Planning Commission; John Jacobs on the Fair Housing Board; John Mears & David Miller on the Planning Commission; Jackie Collins and Sherrie Waddington on the Recreation Board; Breann Hohman and Joe Viviano on the Sandusky Tree Commission; Karen Gerold, John Poole and Dave Waddington on the Solid Waste Collection Review Board; Darwitt Garrett on the Erie County General Health District Board; King Baer on the Fire Prevention Code Board of Appeals; Walt Matthews (Regular) and Sharon Johnson (Alternate) on the Housing Appeals Board; Mark Dunn, John Luipold, John Zoellner and Dave Swander on the Plumber Examining Board and John Luipold on the Residential Building Code Board of Appeals.

The President declared the motion passed.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

Dave Waddington said he and Dick Brady will host a **Coffee With Commissioners** on Saturday from 8:30 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. at City Hall, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor Conference Room.

Upon motion of Dick Brady and second of Naomi Twine, the commission voted to hold an executive session regarding the potential purchase of real estate. Roll call on the motion: Yeas: Dave Waddington, Nikki Lloyd, Greg Lockhart, Dennis Murray, Wes Poole, Naomi Twine and Dick Brady, 7. The President declared the motion passed.

Wes Poole said there would be **back-to-back meetings on the same night this week** (Wednesday) and going forward to consider it is tough for the public to make both.

Upon motion of Dave Waddington and second of Dick Brady, the commission voted to appoint **Bob Varner, Mike Meinzer and Abbey Bemis to be on the Fire Chief Selection Committee to replace Chief Dave Degnan.**

*Discussion:* Dennis Murray said with Dave Degnan's announcement of his retirement, we have to turn to the Charter regarding selection of his replacement. This provides the Commission President or his designee to Chair the Selection Review Board along with the Chairperson of the Civil Service Commission who currently is Vince Rhodes, along with three other citizen appointments. Dennis Murray said he would like this process to begin rather than wait another two weeks to put this committee together and hopes to utilize our own staff to prepare advertisements and review the applicants. The Selection Board then provides up to three recommendations to the City Manager who then makes the determination as to who to hire.

The President declared the motion passed.

#### **AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION**

Mike Zuilhof, 243 East Market Street, said with regard to subsidies for building renovations, the advisory committee rules on the matter of whether exterior renovations or changes in the historic district conform to the design review guidelines. People who have properties in this historic district have an additional burden of conforming to these guidelines for the greater good and to protect our heritage but there is also an extra cost. There is flexibility in this process and sometimes these are highly compliant with guidelines but other times they are forced to be more flexible in granting approval. A good solution might be to use the flexibility in the percentage to

ensure the highest percentage is reserved only for those projects that are highly compliant and do the best job of honoring and protecting the historic aspects of the particular property.

Tim Schwanger, 362 Sheffield Way, asked for clarification regarding the legislation with Osborne Engineering for Shoreline Drive; Dennis Murray affirmed four commissioners voted yes, one voted no and two abstained. Tim Schwanger asked if the Lions Park buoys and shoreline discussion repairs would be temporary fixes and Brad Link said some natural changes are being made. Tim Schwanger said the city is losing one Police Officer through retirement and asked if there are plans to replace him. John Orzech said the advertisement is being finalized for the new testing process and once this becomes public, there will be a testing process with the National Testing Network which was utilized for the last process. Once a list is completed, interviews and background checks will begin and he hopes to have someone hired by summertime. Tim Schwanger said he does not know if Cedar Point utilizes prevailing wages in all of their projects, but it appears with Imagine Baking, they are not going to use CDBG money because they do not want to pay the prevailing wages. Tim Schwanger asked the Commission to require prevailing wages be paid if monies are utilized with the city's economic development fund to prevent a business hiring "Acme Paint" to pay employees \$10/hour.

Vicki Bird, 2114 Wilbert Street, thanked the Erie County Health Department for making a presentation at the last Commission meeting, especially about the lead grant to remove this from homes in Sandusky, because of the high rental rate here. She is appreciative of the discussions regarding clean water and does not go to sites on the Bay in Sandusky to look at green water. The Detoxification Center is being worked on at the west end as well as the former Sunoco, Hoppers and the G & C Foundry property. She is also hoping for safe crossing at Venice Road and Tiffin Avenue as well as at Sanford Street with the potential of a new senior housing complex at this location. The railroad overpass on Tiffin Avenue also needs some work as this floods and the walls are crumbling. Regarding the revitalization of the Jackson Street Pier, she noticed in the rendering there is less parking and a fence on the edge; people need access to the edge of the pier, but need to keep some parking. In the summertime, at least half of the lot is empty cars sitting and waiting for people who are on the ferry boats outside of the city. These people are not leaving their money. Tourists come into Sandusky every Spring, Summer and Fall and pay admissions taxes. The Jackson Street Pier should be more family-oriented, accessible, connected and a destination to enjoy for the entire city. Sometimes people can be uninformed or misinformed, but need to listen and not be dismissive as this is disrespectful. When Issue 8 passed, fifty percent of the money from the admissions tax was going toward economic development; the other goes into the general fund and this is a good thing. The city has already won an award for transparency in its finances and the city is at a crossroads. She wants to see the city as a destination, not just Cedar Point. Our waterfront needs to be walkable and does not normally walk out on a pier; she has vacationed on piers to walk, shop, eat and people- watch. Vicki Bird thanked the commissioners and staff for all they do. It would be nice to get a full service grocery store on the west end of Sandusky.

**At 7:36 p.m., the President announced a recess of the regular session. At 7:45 p.m., the commission went into executive session. At 8:10 p.m., the commission returned to open session and the President announced the meeting was adjourned.**

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Kelly L. Kresser, CMC  
Commission Clerk

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