

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

The Clerk called the roll and the following Commissioners responded: Blake Harris, Dennis Murray, Dick Brady, Naomi Twine, Mike Meinzer and Dave Waddington.

Upon motion of Blake Harris and second of Dennis Murray, the commission voted to excuse Wes Poole. The President declared the motion passed.

Upon motion of Mike Meinzer and second of Dave Waddington, the commission voted to approve the Minutes of the February 10, 2020, meeting and suspend the formal reading. The President declared the motion passed.

City staff present: Aaron Klein - Director of Public Works, Scott Dahlgren – Police Lieutenant, Rick Wilcox – Fire Chief, Angie Byington – Director of Planning, Matt Lasko – Chief Development Officer, Don Rumbutis - IT, Stuart Hamilton – IT Manager, Michelle Reeder – Finance Director, Trevor Hayberger – Law Director, Eric Wobser – City Manager and Kelly Kresser – Commission Clerk.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Tim Schwanger, 362 Sheffield Way, and representing Save Our Shoreline Parks, said the downtown Opportunity Zone came up in 2018 and asked who the stakeholders are as they are mentioned in the communication. The supporting documents also mention public outreach will include online surveys, steering committees, stakeholders, focus groups and roundtables. We may run into a problem because the stakeholders for this group will be the primary source for input leaving the public with taking a simple survey. In the past we have had major studies done and the general public was heavily involved and hopes we can do this again. If the city wants to put a nuclear power plant in the middle of Columbus Avenue, go ahead; but when it comes to waterfront development, the public needs to be involved (Item #2). Tim Schwanger asked what the funding incentive is for the developers or investors in this Opportunity Zone and asked if an explanation can be given as to how this works. He asked the difference or advantage of an Opportunity Zone versus an Enterprise Zone, Tax Incremental Financing areas, tax abatements and Port Authorities all of which we have downtown. He asked what outcome is expected from an additional study with a lot of similarities.

Nick Katsaros, Regional External Affairs for FirstEnergy Corporation, said he is here to introduce himself to the City Commissioners he has not met before and make sure there are no outstanding issues with Ohio Edison or FirstEnergy.

Tom LaMarca, 206 48th Street, said he questions the study being proposed (Item #2) as it seems to him there are some other studies which are probably collecting dust in a drawer somewhere. He also questions the bid and asked if it will be like the design|build project downtown where the numbers continue to come in after the fact. The not to exceed cost is \$108,000 for this, but like the other bids presented for Shoreline Drive the Jackson Street Pier, the reimbursable expenses are outlined for travel, meals, etc. are estimated not to exceed \$4,300. Additionally, the document submitted states MKSK also wants to charge extra, subject to approval, for trips plus for meeting materials and expenses at \$1,800+ per trip including materials costing \$7,000. The steering committee meeting included materials and expenses costing \$6,000 and a public meeting with materials and expenses would cost \$20,000 and there is potentially another \$30,000 which could be on top of the initial \$100,000. He wants to be sure we are all playing in the same ballpark.

PUBLIC HEARING

The President announced the opening of a Public Hearing regarding the FY 2020 CDBG One Year Action Plan.

Arielle Blanca, Community Development Manager, said this will be the first of two Public Hearings regarding the city's **2020 Community Development Block Grant program year**. As an entitlement city, Sandusky receives a direct allocation of funds from the Department of Housing & Urban Development to carry out selected activities within the community. Eligible activities include but are not limited to acquisition, rehabilitation, demolition, public facility, infrastructure improvements and planning activities. Under this grant, there are certain requirements which cannot be exceeded. In general, these included a maximum of twenty percent of the allocation to be expended on administration planning expenses and a maximum of fifteen percent for public services during the program year. Seventy percent of the funds must benefit low to moderate income persons or households, but all of the funds must meet one of three national objectives including low to moderate benefit, elimination of slum and blight and community urgent need. Sandusky anticipates an allocation of approximately \$720,000 of new funds for program year 2020. The following activities were budgeted in the 2019 program year which is currently underway:

- Program Administration \$121,000.00
- Fair Housing 9,500.00
- Public Facilities 315,000.00
- Clearance & demolition 191,000.00
- Parks and ADA improvements 35,000.00
- Meals on Wheels 30,000.00
- OHgo 15,000.00

Subrecipient funding applications became available for PY 2020 starting February 14 and are due no later than 5 p.m. on March 6. A draft of the Action Plan will be available on March 25 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. Public input on community needs relating to the CDBG funding can be submitted by written correspondence to the Planning Department, 240 Columbus Avenue, emailed to ablanca@ci.sandusky.oh.us, or by calling 419.627.5847.

The President asked if anyone wished to address the FY 2020 CDBG One Year Action Plan.

Tim Schwanger, 362 Sheffield Way, asked for more specific dollar amounts for the categories and if there are particular projects where these dollars might be going. Tim Schwanger asked if the city is now taking ideas for 2020.

Arielle Blanca said the dollar amounts provided are for the current program year which started July 1 and runs through June 30. The \$315,000 for public facilities went toward the reconstruction of Shoreline Drive the Jaycee Park improvements. The Meals on Wheels program and the OHgo mobile food pantry was part of public services. A Consolidated Plan Advisory Committee meeting was held and we are taking public input.

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

CURRENT BUSINESS

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

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

The President asked if any of the commissioners wished to remove any items from the Consent Agenda. There were no requests to do so.

SECOND READING

A. Submitted by Greg Voltz, Planner

AMENDMENT TO ZONE MAP FOR PARCELS LOCATED ON EAST WASHINGTON STREET

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

ORDINANCE NO. 20-036: It is requested an ordinance be passed amending the official zone map of the City of Sandusky to expand the transient occupancy overlay district to include Parcel

No's. 56-01177.000, 56-00647.000, 56-01241.000 and 56-00912.000 located at 623, 627, 629 and 631 East Washington Street; 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.

B. Submitted by Rick Wilcox, Fire Chief

PURCHASE OF TURNOUT GEAR FROM MUNICIPAL EMERGENCY SERVICES, INC. FOR THE SANDUSKY FIRE DEPARTMENT

Budgetary Information: The total amount of this expenditure is \$42,434 with each set costing \$3,031. This purchase will be paid with monies from the EMS fund.

ORDINANCE NO. 20-037: It is requested an ordinance be passed authorizing and directing the City Manager to purchase fourteen Morning Pride Tails turnout gear, fire coat and pant sets through the State of Ohio, Department of Administrative Services, cooperative purchasing program from Municipal Emergency Services, Inc., of Southbury, Connecticut, dba Warren Fire Equipment, for use in the Fire Department; and declaring that this ordinance shall take immediate effect in accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.

C. Submitted by Rick Wilcox, Fire Chief

SUBMISSION OF EMS GRANT APPLICATION TO THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY FOR THE FIRE DEPARTMENT

Budgetary Information: There is no budgetary impact. This grant, if awarded, is one hundred percent funded by the Ohio Emergency Medical Services grant through the Ohio Department of Public Safety. There is no matching of funds.

RESOLUTION NO. 007-20R: It is requested a resolution be passed approving the submission of a grant application for the 2020 – 2021 Ohio Emergency Medical Services grant program through the Department of Public Safety for the Sandusky Fire Department; and declaring that this resolution shall take immediate effect in accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.

D. Submitted by Rick Wilcox, Fire Chief

AGREEMENT WITH STATE COLLECTION & RECOVERY SERVICES, LLC FOR DEBT COLLECTION

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 Compliance administrative penalties, rental registration fees, inspection fees and uncertified nuisance abatement charges. This legislation, if passed, will generate revenue.

ORDINANCE NO. 20-038: 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 Monroeville, Ohio, for debt collection services for the Sandusky Fire Department and Code Compliance Division for the period of January 1, 2020, through December 31, 2020; and declaring that this ordinance shall take immediate effect in accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.

E. Submitted by Debi Eversole, Housing Development Specialist

ACCEPTING FIVE PARCELS FOR THE LAND REUTILIZATION PROGRAM

Budgetary Information: The cost of these acquisitions will be approximately \$380 to pay for the title exams and transfer fees. The city will not collect the approximately \$10,631 owed to the city in special assessments, nor will the taxing districts collect the approximately \$6,036 owed in delinquent taxes. However, all or part of these costs may be recouped and reimbursed upon the sale of the parcels. As the properties are put back into tax producing status, the taxing districts will once again begin collecting real estate taxes of approximately \$4,070 per year.

RESOLUTION NO. 008-20R: It is requested a resolution be passed approving and accepting certain real property for acquisition into the land reutilization program; 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 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 they be in accordance with Section 13 or Section 14 of the City Charter. Roll call on the motion: Dennis Murray, Dick Brady, Naomi Twine, Mike Meinzer and Dave Waddington and Blake Harris, 6. Roll call on the

ordinances and resolutions: Yeas: Dennis Murray, Dick Brady, Naomi Twine, Mike Meinzer, Dave Waddington and Blake Harris, 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 John Storey, Economic Development Specialist

GRANT AGREEMENT WITH FAMILY HEALTH SERVICES, LLC

Budgetary Information: The city will be responsible for providing a total of \$65,000 in substantial development grant proceeds from the economic development capital projects fund on a reimbursable basis at the completion of the project.

ORDINANCE NO. 20-039: It is requested an ordinance be passed authorizing and approving a grant in the amount of \$65,000 through the substantial development grant program to Family Health Services, LLC, in relation to the property located at 1912 Hayes Avenue; 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 full accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.

Discussion: John Storey said Family Health Services is wholly owned by Family Health Services of Erie County, Inc. They were established about ten years ago to serve the city and the county by providing comprehensive primary care services, preventative women's health care services, behavioral health services and a pharmacy. They currently operate in two locations in Sandusky: 1912 Hayes Avenue (the former Providence Hospital) and at 620 East Water Street in the Erie County Senior Center. This project is for the buildout of a dental facility to be located at the south campus of Firelands Regional Medical Center to serve the uninsured or under-insured residents of the area. This is strictly a lease arrangement with Firelands Regional Medical Center. It is important to note coverage for this market segment is lacking for the low income and under-privileged of the region based upon the data provided labeling it as a 'dental desert' with a wait list in the thousands. One of the quotes he found in researching this is: "You can tell the health of a community by the health of its citizens' teeth." This project will include the buildout of a new dental practice with eight to ten chairs in a 3,000 SF area. The total project cost will be \$1.5 million with \$500,000 on the physical buildout and \$800,000 for equipment installation. The buildout should take no longer than six months and they expect it to be operational by March 31, 2021. At the end of year one, it is estimated this clinic will facilitate 10,000 patient visits and will increase to 20,000 at the end of year three. The staffing will grow from 2½ dentists, 2 hygienists, 6 dental assistants and 2 front desk personal to up to 4 dentists, 4 hygienists, 8 dental assistants, 4 front desk personnel and 1 manager with a revenue stream approaching \$3 million and a payroll approaching \$1.5 million. The physical construction/buildout cost is estimated to be \$500,000; equipment purchase and installation is \$800,000 and soft costs and contingency costs are \$200,000. Funding sources include owner equity of \$550,000, bank financing of \$900,000 and the city's grant at \$65,000, if approved tonight. The city's portion is 4.3% of the total project cost. There will be approximately eight to ten dental chairs. This project was unanimously approved by the city's Economic Development Incentive Committee for \$65,000 from the substantial development grant program. Naomi Twine said this will be a great asset to the community. From a personal standpoint, while growing up in Sandusky in a family without a lot of resources, dental care was not high on the list. This will be great for persons in a low income bracket needing this type of service and appreciates the idea and the submission of this grant request. Dick Brady said he believes he knows the answer to this question, but asked if this type of an operation takes dollars from dentists in our community. He does not believe this is the case, but asked for an explanation as to how this works. David Tatro, Chief Executive Officer, said one of the first things he did when he started last July was to start to develop a dental service line by reaching out to a lot of the private Dentists; there are ten to twelve apprentice Dentists who are supporting this. They are supporting it because of the difficulty with Medicaid patient reimbursements. This is a symbiotic working relationship with the private Dentists who have Medicaid patients on a waiting list of around 2,000 persons; they will not compete with them at all. The wait list in Fremont is 1,800 persons with a three month waiting list; Erie County also has one and the Erie County

Health Department welcomes this because there are too many people who need better oral hygiene. These people tend to be in the low income category which is what they need to be as a Federally-Qualified Health Center (FQHC). Dick Brady said he is astonished by the numbers they anticipate seeing by year three and this tells him there is a terrific need here. David Tatro said as a FQHC, this is a designated Health Professional Shortage Area (HPSA) which provides a score from 0 to 25. In Erie County, the score is 23 and this can help us to recruit dentists from schools and offset some of their tuition by requiring them to stay for at least three years before going into private practice. These dentists will see 15 to 20 patients each day and if there are four of them with the volume, it will work very well for us. He thanked the city for this grant and said he hopes to partner with marketing efforts moving forward because the city is making a gallant effort in providing for low income residents.

Roll call on the motion: Dennis Murray, Dick Brady, Naomi Twine, Mike Meinzer, Dave Waddington and Blake Harris, 6. Roll call on the ordinance: Yeas: Dennis Murray, Dick Brady, Naomi Twine, Mike Meinzer, Dave Waddington and Blake Harris, 6. The President declared the ordinance passed under suspension of the rules and in full accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.

ITEM #2 - Submitted by Angela Byington, Director of Planning

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH MKSK FOR PREPARATION OF THE DOWNTOWN OPPORTUNITY ZONE MASTER PLAN

Budgetary Information: The total not to exceed cost is \$108,000, and will be paid from the following funds: \$10,000 from the capital projects fund (mobility fund); \$73,000 from Issue 8 funds from the capital projects fund (planning and special projects); and \$25,000 from private donations. To date, the city has accepted: \$5,000 from Firelands Regional Medical Center; \$5,000 from Cedar Point Park; and \$5,000 from Civista Bank. A donation of \$10,000 from the Randolph J. and Estelle M. Dorn Foundation is being requested for acceptance as part of the February 24 City Manager's report.

ORDINANCE NO. 20-040: It is requested an ordinance be passed authorizing and directing the City Manager to enter into an agreement for professional services with MKSK of Columbus, Ohio, for the downtown Sandusky/Opportunity Zone Master Plan 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 Mike Meinzer, 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 permission is being requested to enter into contract with MKSK of Columbus, Ohio, for professional services to prepare the downtown opportunity zone plan. Due to the designation of the downtown as an opportunity zone which offers financial incentive at the federal level for investors, it is anticipated development will steadily continue for the downtown. Staff believes it is pertinent to plan and prepare the city for continued development. The plan will recommend physical infrastructure improvements, policy provisions and large-scale public and private investments that should be encouraged downtown. The infrastructure and development should meet or exceed current resident and business expectations while continuing to make Sandusky a place where new residents and businesses want to locate, draw visitors and spur additional development, both residentially and commercially. The plan will address specifically, but not exclusively, connections to adjoining neighborhoods, the waterfront and Battery Park, high level multi-modal recommendations, streetscape and intersection improvements, existing and anticipated parking needs and recommendations on large public and private investment sites and market opportunities. The total contract cost will not exceed \$108,000 which includes the reimbursables mentioned earlier and the additional optional items mentioned tonight. These were options we chose not to include in this contract so there will be no change orders. The funding is as follows:

- Capital projects fund mobility \$10,000.00
- Issue 8 Capital Funds 73,000.00
- Firelands Regional Medical Center 5,000.00

- Cedar Point \$5,000.00
- Civista Bank 5,000.00
- The Dorn Community Foundation \$10,000.00

It is being requested this ordinance be passed under Section 14 of the City Charter so the planning process can begin as soon as possible and so the document can be utilized at the earliest opportunity. The Opportunity Zone is a federal designation, not a local incentive, so if a developer wants to invest within it, they will be allowed to defer some of their capital gains. A prior stakeholder meeting convened downtown was informational only and was not to talk about the plan for downtown. This was to inform possible investors and property owners what the Opportunity Zone could allow regarding federal incentives. The more public outreach, the better, and we are planning on doing some of this in-house in order to reduce our budget and is why we did not choose some of the optional items in the proposal. This plan differs from recent plans which were high level city-wide plans to look at the downtown, analyze what is here and then provide items including streetscape typicals and cost estimates which were not prepared in past plans. Dick Brady said it is fair to say our prior plans were looking at this area from 30,000 feet while this plan will take a look from 500 feet, is a much more targeted approach and will not be a duplication of services. This will be a very specific plan with goals and tasks and said we chose not to exercise some options which can be done in-house.

Arin Blair, Planner with MKSK, said their firm has about 100 people including 15 – 20 planners and most of the rest are landscape architects. Their biggest office is in Columbus, Ohio, and they have six other offices across the Midwest. They are passionate about people and places and specialize in a wide variety of fields. About one third of their work is done with municipalities, townships, villages, cities, counties and for state-wide planning efforts. Another one third of their work is done for institutions including hospitals, colleges, universities, private institutions and libraries. Another third is with the development community working on development projects and individual buildings so they understand things from lots of different angles. They believe this lends a lot to the planning process because they understand what all of the different players will want to see and how they all fit together to make a great place. In some of the projects MKSK has been involved with for downtown planning, they do a lot of planning with a 500' focus and are known for their iconic projects which their landscape architects get to draw, manage, build and prepare construction drawings for. A lot of the story that does not get told is how often they are involved with the planning process way before a development happens. A few of these which are well known include the Arena District in Columbus through the urban design strategy, the streets, the park and the architectural design guidelines. They continue to be involved with this and it has leveraged more than \$2 billion of development for the City of Columbus. Bridge Park was recently built in Dublin, Ohio, which is a suburb that was struggling with expanding their tax base and in meeting a different type of residential demand. MKSK was involved in the initial conversations about building a multi-story, mixed use development on the River which seemed like an insane idea at the onset, but has become a case study nationwide of how suburbs can change the metric on their success. The Columbus riverfront gets a lot of use and this was one of the catalytic projects from the Columbus Downtown Plan prepared as an idea in 2010 and authored by MKSK. This was a huge effort to take a wide river, shrink it, make it ecologic, and includes many other layers which the community rallied around. There was lot of creative funding including from private organizations, public investment and was a community-wide effort to build and people love it; it has completely changed the downtown. The Van Aken District in Shaker Heights, Ohio, is a similar project and MKSK worked with a developer to think about this corner and how it could be something new and different. In downtown Toledo, a plan was completed in 2017 which used a similar process where they initially had to think about an overall Master Plan. It then started to drill down into focus areas and think about catalytic projects and how downtown Toledo could capitalize on some investment opportunities. Since the plan completion, there have been a number of projects already implemented which people can enjoy today including Promenade Park. In Akron, Ohio, their downtown Master Plan started off with thinking about Main Street which is a very linear place. Main Street is Akron's primary corridor and all of the focus areas end up being surrounded by it. Akron is seeing a number of these happen including the North Side Green which was a tactical urbanism project. Here they

suggested simply changing the paint - which is a relatively inexpensive investment - but can really change a place. Overall, MKSK builds for people and place and every project they do is unique and they want to build on the assets already here. The community and built-in environment that makes a city strong are the key assets to build value and place, and ultimately think about what makes places great for people. Dennis Murray said there have been decisions made in Washington whereby the wealthy people in this country are paying too much in taxes and this program was created and there is no reason why Sandusky should not take advantage of it. This allows folks who have very significant capital gains from the sale of entire corporations or huge portfolios of stock to defer and even avoid paying income taxes on them. He does not agree with this policy and said we are running trillion dollar deficits and are talking about cutting things like Social Security and Medicaid in order to be able to pay to these deficits, but these decisions have been made. The question is who will take advantage of this and communities like ours are able to do so. We are taking steps to make sure when this money comes into the federal government it will not be invested in a way which has adverse impacts on our community. We want to shape it, form it, and direct it in a way we think is appropriate for Sandusky and its history so we do not end up with things we do not want. Angela Byington said this is absolutely correct and these are not our dollars, but we know we are designated as an Opportunity Zone and we anticipate there will be individuals or developers who may want to take advantage of being able to defer capital gains. We want to be able to have a plan which aligns their development with what is best for the city. We do not want haphazard development, we want to make sure we have the right infrastructure in place, capacity for the residents for parking, and that everything is in place for the continued development we anticipate will be happening downtown.

Roll call on the motion Dennis Murray, Dick Brady, Naomi Twine, Mike Meinzer, Dave Waddington and Blake Harris, 6. Roll call on the ordinance: Yeas: Dennis Murray, Dick Brady, Naomi Twine, Mike Meinzer, Dave Waddington and Blake Harris, 6. The President declared the ordinance passed under suspension of the rules and in full accordance with Section 14.

ITEM #3 – Submitted by Rick Wilcox, Fire Chief

TERMINATION OF EXISTING AGREEMENT AND AUTHORIZATION TO ENTER INTO NEW AGREEMENT WITH FIRELANDS REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER TO RESTOCK AMBULANCE SUPPLIES

Budgetary Information: There is no budgetary impact.

ORDINANCE NO. 20-041: It is requested an ordinance be passed authorizing the termination of the existing ambulance restocking agreement with Firelands Regional Medical Center of Sandusky, Ohio; approving and authorizing the execution of a new ambulance restocking agreement for restocking city ambulances with supplies and pharmaceuticals; 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 full accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.

Discussion: Dennis Murray said he really appreciates Firelands Regional Medical Center stepping up and becoming an even better partner in this community by stocking our ambulances when we have had to pay for this in the past. This is great community service and he is appreciative of it. Dick Brady said he did a surface investigation and was astounded by the value of this. He thought it was in the neighborhood of \$800 or \$900 dollars, but it is multiple times this amount. This is significant and he hopes this can continue for years to come.

Roll call on the motion: Dennis Murray, Dick Brady, Naomi Twine, Mike Meinzer, Dave Waddington and Blake Harris, 6. Roll call on the ordinance: Yeas: Dennis Murray, Dick Brady, Naomi Twine, Mike Meinzer, Dave Waddington and Blake Harris, 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 John Orzech, Police Chief**PURCHASE OF AN UNMARKED VEHICLE FROM NATIONAL AUTO FLEET GROUP FOR THE POLICE DEPARTMENT**

Budgetary Information: The cost for the vehicle is \$32,917.47 which will be paid for with law enforcement trust funds.

ORDINANCE NO. 20-042: It is requested an ordinance be passed declaring a 2011 Chevrolet Malibu as unnecessary and unfit for city use pursuant to Section 25 of the city charter; authorizing and directing the City Manager to purchase a 2020 Chevy Traverse from National Auto Fleet Group of Watsonville, California, 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 Mike Meinzer, the Commission voted to approve this ordinance under suspension of the rules and in full accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.

Discussion: Lt. Scott Dahlgren said the 2011 vehicle currently used by the SPD is unfit and has well over 100,000 miles. Through talks with staff in the SPD and Fleet Maintenance, it was decided it is time to purchase something new.

Roll call on the motion: Dennis Murray, Dick Brady, Naomi Twine, Mike Meinzer, Dave Waddington and Blake Harris, 6. Roll call on the ordinance: Yeas: Dennis Murray, Dick Brady, Naomi Twine, Mike Meinzer, Dave Waddington and Blake Harris, 6. 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 Aaron Klein, Director of Public Works**DISPOSAL OF 2012 EVOQUA MIXER AND EMERGENCY PURCHASE OF ONE EVOQUA MIXER FROM BISSNUSS FOR BIG ISLAND WATER WORKS (APPROVED BY MOTION 2.10.20)**

Budgetary Information: The cost of \$21,956 for the new water champ mixer will be paid with water funds.

ORDINANCE NO. 20-043: It is requested an ordinance be passed declaring an Evoqua Water Champ mixer as unnecessary and unfit for city use pursuant to Section 25 of the city charter; ratifying the emergency purchase of an Evoqua/Wallace & Tiernan Water Champ mixer for the Big Island Water Works plant and authorizing and directing the City Manager and/or Finance Director to expend funds to BissNuss, Inc. of Westlake, Ohio, in the amount of \$21,956; and declaring that this ordinance shall take immediate effect in accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.

Upon motion of Mike Meinzer 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: Aaron Klein said typically a backup system is needed at a Water or Waste Water Treatment plant in case one mixer fails. In this case, one of our mixers did fail and it was rebuilt, used for about 15 months, and it has failed again; this legislation is to replace it. Mixers typically would last about five years, but we had it only for about one. We want to make sure the backup is in place and that we can operate without being in jeopardy of not being able to use aluminum sulfate in our treatment system. We have to use the exact same style, model and manufacturer which is from a sole provider called BissNuss.

Roll call on the motion: Dennis Murray, Dick Brady, Naomi Twine, Mike Meinzer, Dave Waddington and Blake Harris, 6. Roll call on the ordinance: Yeas: Dennis Murray, Dick Brady, Naomi Twine, Mike Meinzer, Dave Waddington and Blake Harris, 6. The President declared the ordinance 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 grant in the amount of \$10,000 from the Randolph J. & Estelle M. Dorn Foundation.**

Discussion: Eric Wobser said this money will be used toward the cost of hiring a consultant to develop a plan for the downtown Master Plan Opportunity Zone.

The President declared the motion passed.

- **Upon motion of Dave Waddington and second of Naomi Twine, the commission voted to accept a \$10,000 donation from the Randolph J. & Estelle M. Dorn Foundation for the preparation of an Opportunity Zone Master Plan. The President declared the motion passed.**
- **Upon motion of Dave Waddington and second of Naomi Twine, the commission voted to accept the donation of a modified mini-van from Serving Our Seniors.**

Discussion: Eric Wobser said this will be used by the Sandusky Transit System and is a 2000 Dodge Caravan with an electric wheelchair ramp and has just over 25,000 miles. The VIN is 2C4RDGCG7HR750736.

The President declared the motion passed.

- **Upon motion of Dennis Murray and second of Dave Waddington, the commission voted to authorize the City Manager to sign an Economic Development TREX Transfer form on behalf of New Beginnings Enterprises, Inc., dba Ten Fifty Eight Event Center.**

Discussion: Eric Wobser said the permit is coming from ZHUG, LLC located in Cleveland Heights, Ohio. The new owners of the Ten Fifty Eight Event Center in the Sandusky Plaza desire to obtain this permit so liquor can be sold, via cash bar, at events and meetings hosted by local non-profit organizations. They expect to make an approximate \$10,000 total investment, will create an estimated four new jobs and will generate an estimated \$17,820 in tax revenue annually. It is requested the City Commission, by motion, provide authorization to sign off on the TREX Transfer form indicating the City of Sandusky endorses and acknowledges this transfer as an economic development project which will benefit the community. This proposed TREX transfer will come back to the City Commission one additional time in the near future (by the Division of Liquor Control) for one more step where the city will indicate whether a hearing is requested prior to being issued by the State.

The President declared the motion passed.

- **Dan Brake will be retiring from the Sandusky Fire Department** on March 18, 2020, as a Lieutenant with 26 years of service. Dan started his career as a Fire Fighter on August 29, 1994 and we wish him well in retirement. **Chris Brandal will be promoted to Lieutenant** in March and interviews will be starting soon to hire one Fire Fighter.
- The city will no longer have an **employee available to assist with filing municipal income taxes**. For income tax assistance, residents may contact the Regional Income Tax Agency at 1.800.860.7482, or visit their website, www.ritaohio.com. Tax payments can also be made at the Customer Accounting Office in City Hall located at 240 Columbus Avenue.
- Welcome to **Mark Hanni who has joined Big Island Water Works** as a Shift Operator II, and congratulations to **Philip Barone for his promotion to Shift Operator II at the Waste Water Treatment Plant.**

- **Upon motion of Dave Waddington and second of Naomi Twine, the commission voted to provide 80,000 of rock salt to the Sandusky City Schools.**

Discussion: Eric Wobser said **Sandusky City Schools is in immediate need of highway rock salt** to ensure safety for employees, visitors and students. In response to this emergency, Streets & Traffic staff is declaring that 80,000 pounds of rock salt are no longer of use for city purposes and are seeking a motion to dispose of the salt to Sandusky City Schools. Dennis Murray said this has occurred several years in a row and we have directed the schools to the State of Ohio's Cooperative Purchasing program and encouraged them to seek their supplies from this source. He would like this to be the last year the city does this and will not vote to approve this again next year as it is out of order. Eric Wobser said good planning will eliminate the need for this to happen in the future.

The President declared the motion passed.

- Greenhouse staff have already begun accepting **palm and fern reservations** for Good Friday, Easter and graduations, so please plan ahead and call 419.627.5884 to place an order.
- **The Neighborhood Initiative will honor Black History Month** on Friday, February 28 at 4 p.m. with a screening of "Remember the Titans." The event is open to the public will take place at the Nehemiah Center.
- The **Planning Commission meeting** is February 26 at 4:30 p.m. city commission chambers.
- The **Board of Zoning Appeals meeting** is March 19 at 4:30 p.m. in the city commission chambers.
- The **Landmark Commission meeting** is March 18 at 4:30 p.m. in the city commission chambers.
- The **Public Arts and Culture Commission meeting** is March 17 at 5:15 p.m. in the city commission chambers.
- The number of fixed route **passengers riding on the Sandusky Transit System** was 20,164 in January which is 45,000+ miles traveled. In 2019, this number was 13,380 passengers with 23,283 miles traveled. Last year there was almost a complete doubling of the previous year and clearly this is a critical service. As we all get together to discuss workforce issues on a regional level, transit may be the most important of them and getting people to and from their places of employment in a relatively low income economy.
- **Upon motion of Dennis Murray and second of Dave Waddington, the commission voted to authorize the Recreation Department to file a grant application with Ohio American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) Foundation for bicycle helmets.**

Discussion: Eric Wobser said The Sandusky Recreation Department is applying to the Ohio AAP's Put a Lid on It! Bike Helmet Safety program to receive 75 bicycle helmets for use in the Recreation Department's Safety Day collaboration with the Sandusky Fire and Police Departments and Firelands Regional Medical Center this summer. The Safety Day will include a bicycle safety component and will be hosted at 222 Meigs Street. The deadline for the helmet program is Monday, March 2.

The President declared the motion passed.

- Sandusky Recreation's award-winning culinary program, **Midtown Supper Club II Presents**, will host its second annual dinner on March 4 at Halo Live, 805 Wayne Street. Doors open at 5 p.m. with dinner being served at 5:30 p.m. The evening will include a three-course meal created, prepared and served by our very own Chefs-in-Training under the instruction of Chef Katie Korobkin of Sweet Potato Catering and Chef Brad Kraft of Sandusky City Schools. Entertainment will be provided by Sandusky Recreation's Mini-Tapadoodles, a kids dance team led by instructor Morgan Johnson. A silent auction featuring a variety of culinary items will be available throughout the night. Tickets for the event are \$25 each or two for \$40 with various levels if purchasing three or more tickets. Tickets can be purchased online in the "Programs" section of the Recreation Department's website: www.cityofsandusky.com/recreation. For more information or for questions regarding the Midtown Supper Club II Presents event, please call the Sandusky Recreation Department at 419.627.5888 or 419.627.5886, or contact Tondra Frisby at tfrisby@ci.sandusky.oh.us.

OLD BUSINESS

Dave Waddington asked to meet with Eric Wobser to talk about adding a **third dump day in Sandusky or to place dumpsters in neighborhoods in the designated zones to help clean up the city.**

Dennis Murray said we got a response from Father Monty Hoyles who is the representative for the **Toledo Diocese about the lease for Mills Creek Golf Course.** They are putting their teams together to meet with us. This was an encouraging response and we will have to see where these discussions go.

Dick Brady said he would like the commissioners to name their appointments for the **2020 Charter Review Committee.** Kelly Kresser said in the absence of Wes Poole, his choices are **Jeff Berquist**, a local real estate broker and **Tom LaMarca** who is a retired real estate agent. Blake Harris will appoint **Duff Milkie** who serves as General Counsel/Business Development for Cedar Fair and **Alex Jones** who is the Parent Involvement and Community Engagement Specialist for Sandusky City Schools. Dennis Murray said he will appoint **David Mack** who has lived in Sandusky for 14 years, is on the Board of Directors for Chesapeake Lofts, has a degree in Finance from Miami University and is the Operations Manager for Brady Sign Company. David lives in Sandusky with his wife Christine and their two children Ella and David. Dennis Murray said his second appointment is **Lisa Sortino** who is a younger member of our community to get a new generation involved. She grew up in Sandusky, is a SHS graduate and is the managing partner of the LLV Group who own and manage two local hotels. Dick Brady said his selections are Adriana DeLuca-Guerra who is a Customer Success Manager at Morningstar Investments which is an independent investment research company who graduated from DePauw University in 2013 with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Economics. She is married to Tom Guerra, has one daughter and they reside in Sandusky. Dick Brady said his second choice is **Melanie Murray** who he is related to in some degree as a second cousin three times removed. Melanie is a SHS graduate and earned a degree in Urban Planning from Miami University of Ohio; she is presently employed with Perkins Township as the Zoning Inspector. Naomi Twine said she is appointing **Jade Castile** who she met a number of months ago and is very impressed with her desire to participate. Jade is a 2013 graduate of The Ohio State University with a Bachelor's Degree in Political Science and Pre Law with a minor in English. She is the business Manager for United Way of Erie County and previously was a Crisis Legislative Assistant for the Ohio House of Representatives, a Legal Assistant and Government Relations Intern. Her second appointment is **Kima Yandell** who relocated to Sandusky from Seattle and is looking for opportunities to learn about our beautiful city and to get more involved in the workings of the city. Mike Meinzer said he will appoint **Kurt Kresser** who is the son of former City Commissioner Mike Kresser and is a Funeral Director with Groff Funeral Homes. He will also be appointing **Conor Whelan** who served on the 2015 Charter Review Committee and works as a teacher at Sandusky High School. Dave Waddington said he will appoint **Dru Meredith** who is a lifelong resident of Sandusky and serves as Vice President of Operations and Marketing/Strategic Planning for Firelands Regional Medical Center. He serves on the city's Tax Incentive Review Committee and the CRA Housing Council. His second

appointment is **Judy Corso** who is a lifelong Sandusky resident and former SCS Board member. Judy is a retired former business owner who remains active working with the local school levies and also runs the Art Walk Sandusky downtown. Dick Brady said this is a very diverse group of individuals for this very important task. He has asked Kelly Kresser to reach out to them and schedule a date for an organizational meeting to elect a Chairperson and Vice Chairperson and said the process will move forward from there. Dick Brady thanked all of these persons for their willingness to serve. Blake Harris said it is encouraging to see so much diversity and loves to see young folks, like Jade, who he has had the pleasure of knowing for 20+ years as well as Alex Jones, and he hopes this is a trend that will continue. As we look forward and think about the future, ultimately, the torch will be passed onto folks like ourselves and if there are more who take the initiative to become involved and claim our stake in this whole process, this will set the standard for those who follow. He appreciates the recommendations and participation. Dick Brady said he has tried to warn most of these individuals they should be forewarned that historically, people who serve on this committee have become City Commissioners.

Dick Brady said the issue of **broadcasting the commission meetings on Buckeye Broadband** has been an issue. There has been some finger-pointing in both directions, but the city's IT people are absolutely certain the issue is with Buckeye. We have moved this discussion out of Sandusky to a higher level in Toledo who have agreed to review this issue and provide options. He is hesitant to ask the other commissioners for their feelings on this because he thinks we need to make an informed decision. This is an important topic for all of us to continue to be able to broadcast in some fashion, but this decision needs to be made with the facts as to potential costs(s). We will wait this out a bit longer and know the ball is squarely in their court. Dennis Murray said there has been a lack of coordination and sharing of information within Buckeye itself and we have had a number of residents who called about this. These residents have been told that Buckeye indicated this is the city's fault and they did not receive the feed, but their IT people have acknowledged they **are** getting the feed and the problem is at their end. He is not suggesting Buckeye is deliberately misinforming the public, but the public is being misinformed about the reason for it not broadcasting.

Naomi Twine said the members of the **Police Chief Search Committee** had their first meeting on February 12. This was an organizational meeting and includes a diverse group of people. We are looking forward to the vacancy closing and then going through the applications.

NEW BUSINESS

Upon motion of Dennis Murray and second of Dave Waddington, the commission voted to hold a Public Hearing on March 9 regarding the 2020 budget. The President declared the motion passed.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Mike Zuilhof, 243 East Market Street, said he is glad the commissioners are interested in cable, but the most important service Buckeye provides for the community is broadband. This is really important to the economic health of this community. It is tough getting a competitive marketplace for these services. Cities do not have the same authority and power they used to have to ensure the best service. He encouraged the city to do everything it can to incentivize competitors in the marketplace and make sure there are openings for service. It would be better for our local businesses if they had choices.

Tim Schwanger, 362 Sheffield Way, asked if there will be a schedule of meetings for the Charter Review Committee for the public to attend. He asked if the Sandusky City Schools will pay for the rock salt approved tonight; Dick Brady said they will.

Tom LaMarca, 206 48th Street, asked if the contractors will get Shoreline Drive and the Jackson Street Pier construction areas cleaned up for the start of Ohio Bike Week in May so the downtown is presentable. He also asked if the Cooke Building demolition which has been moved to the end of May can work with the Ohio Bike Week schedule so it is not torn down during the same week.

ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion of Dennis Murray and second of Dave Waddington, the commission voted to adjourn at 6:14 p.m. The President declared the motion passed.

Kelly L. Kresser, CMC
Commission Clerk

Richard R. Brady
President of the City Commission