

Dennis Murray 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: Greg Lockhart, Dick Brady, Naomi Twine, Dennis Murray, Dave Waddington, Nikki Lloyd and Wes Poole.

City staff present: Aaron Klein – Public Works Director, John Orzech – Police Chief, Rick Wilcox – Fire Chief, Matt Lasko – Chief Development Officer, Angela Byington – Planning Director, Sally Poggiali – Senior Account Auditor, Trevor Hayberger – Assistant Law Director, Eric Wobser – City Manager and Kelly Kresser–Commission Clerk.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Upon motion of Dave Waddington and second of Naomi Twine, the commission voted to approve the minutes of the June 25 meeting and suspend the formal reading. The President declared the motion passed.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Tim Schwanger, 362 Sheffield Way, said there is a \$6.8 million expenditure for the Sandusky Bay Pathway and asked if the Battery Park TIF dollars will be from the old one or the new one (Item #2). He asked if the contract for the 2018 tree and stump removal project is only to take care of the stumps for trees removed in 2018 and if so, what will be done with those left over from the 2016 and 2017 programs.

PUBLIC HEARING

The President opened a Public Hearing regarding a proposed amendment to the zone map for parcels located on Third and Fourth Streets.

Angela Byington, Planning Director, said John Hancock, on behalf of Cedar Point, LLC, has applied for a zoning amendment to rezone four parcels located at 2066 and 2064 First Street to commercial recreation. Although the addresses are titled on First Street, they are actually located on Third and Fourth Streets. Cedar Point plans to utilize these parcels for buffering and screening for a prior approved construction of an additional 9,700 SF of employee housing. The Planning Commission voted to recommend approval of the rezoning at the May 23 Public Hearing as it is in line with the city's Bicentennial Plan which calls for mixed use development and promotion of a campus atmosphere in this area.

The President declared the Public Hearing closed.

CURRENT BUSINESS

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

CONSENT AGENDA

Dennis Murray asked if anyone wished to remove any of the Consent Agenda items. There were no requests to do so.

A. Submitted by Todd Gibson, Facilities & Properties Supervisor**APPROVAL TO REQUEST REIMBURSEMENT FROM ERIE COUNTY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT FOR CITY-WIDE CLEANUP AND YARD WASTE DROP-OFF EVENTS**

Budgetary Information: Reimbursement funds, if received, will be deposited into the general fund for the Horticultural Services Department.

PASSED ON FIRST READING: It is requested a resolution be passed approving a request for reimbursement from the Erie County Solid Waste Management District through the community grants program for expenses relating to the city's cleanup and recycling events.

B. Submitted by Arielle Blanca, Community Development Manager**APPROVAL OF SUBRECIPIENT AGREEMENT WITH THE ERIE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT FOR 2-1-1 INFORMATION & REFERRAL PROGRAM**

Budgetary Information: The city will award the Erie County Health Department a total of \$5,000 for the 2-1-1 Information & Referral service program for CDBG program year FY 2018. This award shall be paid with CDBG grant monies and there will be no impact on the general fund.

ORDINANCE NO. 18-136: It is requested an ordinance be passed authorizing and directing the City Manager to enter into a subrecipient agreement with the Erie County Health Department to provide a 2-1-1 Information & Referral services program and to expend an amount not to exceed \$5,000 from the FY 2018 Community Development Block Grant funds; and declaring that this ordinance shall take immediate effect in accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.

C. Submitted by Arielle Blanca, Community Development Manager**APPROVAL OF SUBRECIPIENT AGREEMENT WITH THE ERIE COUNTY SENIOR CENTER FOR MEALS ON WHEELS PROGRAM**

Budgetary Information: The city will award the Erie County Senior Center a total of \$15,000 for the Meals on Wheels program for CDBG program year FY 2018. This award shall be paid with CDBG grant monies and there will be no impact on the general fund.

ORDINANCE NO. 18-137: It is requested an ordinance be passed authorizing and directing the City Manager to enter into a subrecipient agreement with the Erie County Senior Center to assist with the Meals on Wheels program and to expend an amount not to exceed \$15,000 from the FY 2018 Community Development Block Grant funds; and declaring that this ordinance shall take immediate effect in accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.

D. Submitted by Arielle Blanca, Community Development Manager**APPROVAL OF SUBRECIPIENT AGREEMENT WITH OHGO FOR THEIR REACH PROGRAM**

Budgetary Information: The city will award OHgo a total of \$15,000 for the OHgo Reach program for CDBG program year FY 2018. This award shall be paid with CDBG grant monies and there will be no impact on the general fund.

ORDINANCE NO. 18-138: It is requested an ordinance be passed authorizing and directing the City Manager to enter into a subrecipient agreement with OHgo to assist with their Reach program and to expend an amount not to exceed \$15,000 from the FY 2018 Community Development Block Grant funds; and declaring that this ordinance shall take immediate effect in accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.

E. Submitted by Arielle Blanca, Community Development Manager**APPROVAL OF SUBRECIPIENT AGREEMENT WITH THE VOA OF GREATER OHIO FOR THE CROSSROADS EMERGENCY SHELTER AND TRANSITIONAL HOUSING PROGRAM**

Budgetary Information: The city will award the Volunteers of America of Greater Ohio a total of \$15,000 for the Crossroads emergency shelter and transitional housing program for CDBG program year FY 2018. This award shall be paid with CDBG grant monies and there will be no impact on the general fund.

ORDINANCE NO. 18-139: It is requested an ordinance be passed authorizing and directing the City Manager to enter into a subrecipient agreement with the Volunteers of America of Greater Ohio to provide the Crossroad emergency shelter and transitional housing program and to expend an amount not to exceed \$15,000 from the FY 2018 Community Development Block Grant funds; and declaring that this ordinance shall take immediate effect in accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.

F. Submitted by Amanda McClain, Housing Manager**TRANSFER OF PARCEL TO ERIE COUNTY'S LAND REUTILIZATION CORPORATION THROUGH THE LAND BANK PROGRAM**

Budgetary Information: The only cost associated with the transfer of this property is a \$90 fee for deed preparation and the total amount of staff time expended to transfer title.

ORDINANCE NO. 18-140: 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 No. 57-01699.000, located at 612 Neil Street, Sandusky, is no longer needed for any municipal purpose and authorizing the transfer of said property to the Erie County Land Reutilization Initiative program; and declaring that this ordinance shall take immediate effect in accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.

G. Submitted by Amanda McClain, Housing Manager**ACCEPTANCE OF TEN PARCELS THROUGH THE LAND BANK PROGRAM**

Budgetary Information: The cost of these acquisitions will be approximately \$1,510 to pay for the title exams, deed preparation and transfer fees. The city will not collect the \$10,061.71 owed to the city in special assessments, nor will the taxing districts collect the \$14,206.99 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 tax districts will once again begin collecting real estate taxes of approximately \$5,889.26 per year.

RESOLUTION NO. 026-18R: 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.

H. Submitted by Kelly Kresser, Commission Clerk

It is requested the Commission Clerk be authorized to notify the Ohio Division of Liquor Control the city has no objection to the transfer of a D5 liquor permit (*spirituous liquor for on premises consumption only, beer, wine and mixed beverages for on premises or off premises in original sealed containers, until 2:30 a.m.*) liquor permit from Michael Townsend dba Talltown Tavern to Derrick's Mobile Diner, LLC, 1109 Warren Street.

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

accordance with the Section reflected in the ordinances and/or resolutions, whether it be in full accordance with Section 13 or Section 14 of the City Charter.

Discussion: Dennis Murray said there is much good work being accomplished in all of these pieces of legislation and many services are being provided for our residents including the OHgo program, Meals on Wheels, the 2-1-1 system and the various land bank items. We do not mean to not shine light on these good things, but they are approved through the Consent Agenda and expressed appreciation to those who are here to support them tonight.

Roll call on the motion: Greg Lockhart, Dick Brady, Naomi Twine, Dennis Murray, Dave Waddington, Nikki Lloyd and Wes Poole, 7. Roll call on the ordinances and resolutions: Greg Lockhart, Dick Brady, Naomi Twine, Dennis Murray, Dave Waddington, Nikki Lloyd and Wes Poole, 7. 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 Angela Byington, Planning Director

ZONE MAP AMENDMENT

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

ORDINANCE NO. 18-142: It is requested an ordinance be passed amending the official zone map of the City of Sandusky to rezone four parcels from R1-40 single-family residential district to CR commercial recreation district; 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 Naomi Twine and second of Nikki Lloyd, the Commission voted to approve this ordinance under suspension of the rules and in accordance with Section 13 of the city charter.

Discussion: Dennis Murray said we appreciate the investment being made in our community and hopes this will be a much better place for Cedar Point's seasonal employees who will have better housing than they have had in a long time.

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

ITEM #2 - Submitted by Angela Byington, Planning Director

AUTHORIZATION TO SUBMIT BUILD TRANSPORTATION DISCRETIONARY GRANT APPLICATION TO THE US DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR THE SANDUSKY BAY PATHWAY

Budgetary Information: The total budgetary impact to the city would not exceed \$6,859,774.53 which includes a grant match of up to \$4,634,982.79 and design, environmental and right-of-way services totaling \$2,224,791.74. The total city cost would be paid with capital project funds (pedestrian bike path construction), the downtown/Battery Park TIF fund and the Cleveland Road fund. It is expected the city will issue notes or bonds to finance the city's total cost.

RESOLUTION NO. 027-18R: It is requested a resolution be passed authorizing the filing of a grant application with the U.S. Department of Transportation for the 2018 Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) discretionary program grant for the Sandusky Bay Pathway; and declaring that this resolution shall take immediate effect in accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.

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

Discussion: Angela Byington said the Battery Park TIF funding referenced would be from the newly created district. A map was provided showing the area of the pathway proposed for this funding. The full amount of the grant request is approximately \$13.9 million and the city's portion would be 25% of the total project cost. If the city were funded the full amount, our maximum would be approximately \$4.6 million. The city's share would be paid with the newly created downtown Battery Park TIF, capital projects funds/pedestrian bike path monies and the Cleveland Road TIF. We have already committed \$10 million toward construction of the bike path. Once we know the total amount to be funded, our out-of-pocket cost would decrease if the grant is decreased (no less than 25% of the total project cost). Separate from the actual grant request, the city would also be funding the final design, environmental and right-of-way acquisition and the total amount would not exceed \$2.2 million. After a firm is selected, we would request commission approval with the final numbers and accounts for the grant and for the right-of-way design.

Upon motion of Wes Poole and second of Greg Lockhart, the commission voted to amend this legislation to require, if the grant is awarded, to be brought back to the commission to authorize the work specifically to be done. After discussion (below), Wes Poole withdrew his motion and Greg Lockhart withdrew his second.

Discussion: Wes Poole asked for priorities to be set by the commission including what ultimately will be done with this project if the grant is awarded. This is a large sum of money and multiple funds are involved without any real identification of how much will come from any particular fund or what it will be spent on. There are many issues which are influx with the project including a couple of bridges he is not sure we are going to build. Having a blanket authorization to begin submitting without any oversight, supervision or discussion with the public about the priorities (on such an extremely large project) is inappropriate. He is very much in favor of submitting this grant and if it is awarded, there should be conversations about how the money will be spent and detail provided indicating what we will get for it. Eric Wobser said he recommends approval of the grant application as written. There are still many checks and balances and the grant is likely to vary dramatically from what we are actually applying for. There will have to be future grant agreements which will give opportunity to allow for feedback. The actual expenditure of funds will have to come back to the commission for approval. Angela Byington said we will not be able to move forward with anything until the contract is approved by the city commission; funds cannot be spent until the consultant and contractor are selected. Wes Poole asked for further explanation about these checks and balances. Eric Wobser said if this legislation passes, he will be able to sign the grant agreement if awarded, but the city will still have to go through a competitive process to select the firm to design and engineer it after commission approval. The time for conversations with the commission as to what specifically will be built will happen throughout the design process. Finalizing and signing off on design work will take place

after approval by the members of the Planning Commission and the city commission. This legislation will authorize Eric Wobser to sign a grant agreement, if awarded. Dennis Murray said the key is we will execute the grant rather than execute the project. Wes Poole asked about the process for discussions with the public once we receive the money as to how we move forward. Dennis Murray said this is a long project and if it is to be successful, we will need to have goodwill by the commissioners, the staff and the public. Eric Wobser said this commission approved authorization to issue a RFP and regardless of the money awarded, the next step will be an 18-month process to gather feedback.

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

ITEM #3 - Submitted by Aaron Klein, Director of Public Works

CONTRACT AWARD TO ECOTREE SERVICES, LLC FOR 2018 TREE & STUMP REMOVAL PROJECT

Budgetary Information: The estimated cost of the project based on bids, including legal advertisement and recording fee, is \$73,258.36 and will be paid with capital projects funds (Issue 8 infrastructure).

ORDINANCE NO. 18-141: It is requested an ordinance be passed authorizing and directing the City Manager to enter into a contract with Ecotree Services, LLC of Lorain, Ohio, for the 2018 tree and stump removal 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 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: Greg Lockhart said it is a welcome thing to have trees removed when they become a hazard, especially throughout the cemetery. He and other commissioners have probably received calls and comments about trees and applauds moving this project along in a number of neighborhoods. Aaron Klein said we have 30 dead trees being removed under this contract including stump removal as trees are cut down plus an additional 67 stumps slated for removal. Before a recent article in the Sandusky Register we were caught up, but our list has gotten longer because of the number of calls received since. We are in the process of analyzing these additional calls and are probably looking at one or two more contracts before catching up. We will keep doing an annual contract to address all of these issues in addition to having city personnel continuing to maintain our tree canopy. Dennis Murray said we have been aggressive in removing dead and dying trees and asked where we are with our replacement cycle. Aaron Klein said we planted 30 trees this spring and intend to plant 30 more in the fall. We applied for a grant to plant an additional several hundred trees (60 per year) which exceeds the number being removed. Wes Poole said we have been doing this project for several years, thought the contracts included stump removal and asked how we ended up behind. Aaron Klein said stumps have been removed as part of the tree removal process during the past few years; the ones which have been added have been there for years and before we started having them removed contractually. There are not records of these and we are trying to catch up with them.

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

- Upon motion of Dave Waddington and second of Naomi Twine, the commission voted to accept a \$500 donation from David Stedman in honor of Lynne Nota Grathwol Stedman for the Red Wagon endowment. 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 \$25 from James and Barbara Thom and \$100 from the Erie County Homebuilders Association for the K9 fund. The President declared the motion passed.
- Upon motion of Dick Brady and second of Naomi Twine, the commission voted to accept a donation of \$50 from the Solowiej family for the Fire Department Trust Fund in memory of Tony L. Bonner. The President declared the motion passed.
- Upon motion of Naomi Twine and second of Dave Waddington, the commission voted to accept three donations from: 1) the Kiwanis Club of Sandusky [\$15,000]; 2) the Mylander Foundation [\$15,000]; and 3) Firelands Regional Medical Center [\$2,400] for improvements at Kiwanis Park.

Discussion: Eric Wobser said in honor of the Sandusky Kiwanis Club Centennial celebration and the city's Bicentennial, the Mylander Foundation, the Kiwanis Club and Firelands Regional Medical Center made these donations for a new shelter, fencing and picnic tables for a total in-kind donation of \$32,400. A ribbon cutting will be held on August 1 at 12 p.m.

The President declared the motion passed.

- The **Festival of Sail** starts July 12. Gates open at 11 a.m. and the Parade of Sail beings at 2 p.m. As a reminder, the community is invited to free entertainment all weekend with the movie *Moana* being featured on Thursday at 8 p.m., Robert Randolph and the Family Band at 8:30 p.m. on Friday and The Wailers on Saturday at 8 p.m. All events will take place on the Jackson Street Pier.
- The city's Law Director, **Justin Harris, will be leaving his position after two years** of great service and is returning to the private sector to practice law. Although we are sad to see him go, we are excited for what he has accomplished here and wish him well in his future endeavors. In the interim, Eric Wobser said Trevor Hayberger will serve as the Acting Law Director and will be letting the commissioners know how he proposes to conduct the process to fill this position. The Law Director reports to the City Manager but hiring for this position must be approved by the commission and he (Eric) will come back to let them know how this process will take place. Justin Harris said when he first graduated from Law School his only goal was to be a trial attorney and make lots of money. One thing missing was public service and when the

opportunity to serve the community presented itself a couple of years ago, he took it. The political climate here was not as good or well off as it is now and thanked the commission for their leadership as well as that of city staff members. We have an exceptional Law Department and probably one of the best in the State of Ohio. A Law Director's job is to determine whether things are legal, but from someone who has been in the private sector and given the opportunity to look behind the curtain, this is a municipal corporation with the best group of talent to be found anywhere. The city is moving in the right direction and is proud he had the opportunity to serve. Dennis Murray said Justin Harris has been a wonderful counsel to the city and the commissioners, thanked him for his service and said he has been a joy to serve with.

- **Members of the Police Department distributed 1,000 optic lights to children** on the Fourth of July at various locations in town and Eric Wobser said he has heard about many special interactions from residents.
- The **Police Department's Community Impact Officer partnered with OHgo** in several parks this summer to pass out freeze pops. The officers have been interactive with the Parks & Recreation programs and will continue to do so throughout the summer. This is a great way to create relationships which are paying dividends.
- **Members of the Fire Department have been very active in the community** participating with the Shoreline Park cleanup, the Daddy and Me event and the July 4 celebration and thanked them for their continued involvement.
- An **exit conference on the 2017 audit** was held by the Audit/Finance Committee and external auditors on June 22. The audit reports are expected to be released later this summer.
- The **Street Department utilized Durapatch** on several streets within the city. This method involves applying an asphalt emulsion over cracks or holes in the street and then spreading a thin limestone layer over the emulsion. So far it has proven to be extremely cost effective and durable at most locations. At a couple locations, however, the limestone cover has not adhered properly to the emulsion allowing it to re-liquefy causing the material to be tracked by passing vehicles. We are currently working with the manufacturer/supplier to rectify situations where this has occurred.
- The **Division of Forestry has completed planting more than 30 spring trees and plans to plant about 30 more this fall.** Property owners who are interested in having a tree planted in their boulevard are encouraged to call 419.627.5884. This is our fourth year of the tree program and the amount of service calls have greatly diminished. These are processes we never finish, but it will continue to take years of investment to maintain a tree canopy and we are moving in the right direction utilizing Issue 8 funds for this purpose.
- **Norfolk Southern has scheduled demolition of the abandoned pedestrian bridge** along SR-250 for July 8. This is only anticipated to last one day and should not impact vehicular traffic.
- **Upon motion of Dave Waddington and second of Nikki Lloyd, the commission voted to write a letter of support on behalf of the Erie County Health Department for the Lead Hazard Control grant program.**

Discussion: Eric Wobser said the Erie County Health Department is once again preparing to submit a multi-year grant application to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development through their Lead Hazard Control program. The three-year grant request is seeking \$3.5 million in lead remediation and emergency repair funding – the overwhelming majority of which will likely be expended within the City of Sandusky. The city has been asked to provide a letter of support in the efforts to secure grant funding. As opposed to years past where an exact dollar amount has been requested as a commitment, the city is now merely being asked to state all applicants are eligible to apply for additional funding through the city's housing development and beautification programs for the duration of the grant period conditioned on funding availability. This is customary with past practices since the inception of the program which has provided support to multiple properties completing lead remediation projects through the Erie County Health Department.

The President declared the motion passed.

- The regular **Planning Commission meeting** scheduled for July 18 has been rescheduled to August 2 at 4:30 p.m. in the first floor conference room.
- The regular **Board of Zoning Appeals meeting** is scheduled for July 19 at 4:30 p.m. in the first floor conference room.
- A **Landmark Commission meeting** is scheduled for July 18 at 4:30 p.m. in the first floor conference room.
- On August 1, there will be a **public meeting at 6 p.m. in Washington Park for the Public Art Master Plan**. The backup rain location will be at City Hall, first floor conference room.
- Youth Program Director Tondra Frisby will be taking 15 youth in Grades 7 – 10 to **college access days at BGSU Firelands** on July 25 in collaboration with the Boys & Girls Club of Erie County. The 2018 community collaboration will take place on August 3 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Lions Park. Participants in the summer park program and sponsoring community organizations will gather as one for games, tables and fun; lunch and refreshments will be provided by the Salvation Army and OHgo. This will be the first time we will bring our individual park programs together for a culminating event.
- We are in the final stages of selecting a **site for the new Justice Center**. The architects have been reactivated to drill down on two sites and are fully confident the committee will be making a recommendation by Labor Day. We will then move forward with design and funding for the location selected.

OLD BUSINESS

Wes Poole said he interacted with a resident from Winnebago Avenue who was extremely pleased with the **work done at Lions Park**. He asked us to take a look at removing the trees and brush in the northwest corner. Dave Waddington asked about **turning the benches at the north end of Lions Park** so they face the water. Aaron Klein said they will be looking into doing this later in the year.

NEW BUSINESS

Greg Lockhart said the commissioners received a letter about **blocked railroad crossings** on the west end and has spoken to the citizen who wrote it. Living on the west end is particularly troublesome with the trains slowing down, stopping and blocking crossings and creating a potential hazard for our safety services on West Monroe Street. We need to look into what can be done about this or officially lodge a complaint with the railroad or others. Greg Lockhart said for the last few years when traveling on West Monroe Street, the railroad runs multiple trains in multiple directions cutting off traffic. Although we have the overpass to alleviate some of this, we do not have use of some roads east and west and this could create a bad situation. Dennis Murray said he spoke with the gentleman who wrote the letter and urged him to contact the railroad but they (the railroad) did nothing. We have asked the Police Chief and Engineer to contact the railroad and they have multiple times, but the railroad did nothing. The railroad is perhaps the most arrogant organization ever placed on the planet and they abide by no local regulation. They are answerable to no one except the federal government. Dennis Murray said he has asked the City Manager, Law Director and Engineer to put together a letter for the commission to sign as a body laying out the times we have complained, what our concerns are and demanding action. This situation also exists in Bellevue. The only thing he can think to do as a government is to complain to our federal officials about this being a problem for the neighborhood. For Norfolk/Southern to say the city has not contacted them is the height of arrogance, is untrue and is unacceptable.

Dave Waddington asked the City Manager to let Tom Speir know **the parks looked the best they have in many years** and he heard a lot of comments from people on July 4.

Upon motion of Nikki Lloyd and second of Dave Waddington, the commission voted to appoint Naomi Twine as the liaison to the Recreation Board.

Discussion: Nikki Lloyd said it was brought to her attention the commission made a small error in this liaison appointment earlier in the year. Some city boards and commissions require a formal appointment process.

The President declared the motion passed.

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

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

Wes Poole said this can wait until the next commission meeting, but he asked Dick Brady to request an executive session on personnel regarding a **citizen complaint about conduct of an employee**. Dick Brady said he received this request but perceives it be in error since the employee is not an employee of the City Commission; rather, he is an employee of the City Manager and knowledge about this can be discussed with Eric Wobser. Wes Poole said every employee is an employee of the City Commission and any issue with an employee is handled by the City Manager and reported to the commissioners. He will bring this up again at the next meeting.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Andy Ouriel, *Sandusky Register*, asked for a point of clarification about the Recreation Board liaison prior to Naomi Twine's appointment this evening. Dennis Murray said there was an erroneous attempt to appoint someone but there was not a member appointed prior to tonight as the commission did not follow the ordinance. Andy Ouriel asked if Commissioner Lockhart was a part of the Recreation Board this year; Dennis Murray said technically he was not because the commission did not properly act to appoint him. Andy Ouriel asked Greg Lockhart if he had any comment on this situation and Dennis Murray said posing questions to individual commissioners during the public comment section is not appropriate.

Joan Chaney Burton, 2024 Foxborough-Apt. C, said she lives in a disability unit owned by the VOA. They cannot seem to get the Foxborough Commons to understand they do not want the nuisance in this area including loud music and BB gunshots to their windows. She has made police reports and nothing has been done. There is a lot of trash, there are problems with snakes and dogs and she is here to see what the city can do in spite of the area being spruced up and made to look like everything is okay. She turned off the electrical breaker and this affected electricity to her neighbor's home and this also needs to be addressed. Dennis Murray asked someone from our Code Enforcement and Building Divisions to look into this situation.

Susie Wyse, 105 West Water Street, said no one buys property and wants the neighborhood to get worse, they want things to get better. A couple of months ago, Governor Jerry Brown of California was asked what he views as the primary purpose of his government and he said it is fiscal responsibility. When he became Governor in 2011, California had a \$27 billion deficit for the year; last year, he put \$6 billion into reserves. According to the *Sacramento Bee*, he has a 70% approval rating from the democrats in California and if he could run again, he would be elected as long as he could function. He has struck a really good balance not simply by austerity or with increased taxes but through a combination. Residents of the Hubbard Building try to be fiscally responsible and assess themselves large amounts of money. They have had engineering reserve studies done to determine what has to be spent over the next 30 years to keep their building in top shape as it was built in 1860 and this is not a cheap proposition. They have patched the sandstone, treated the façade from water damage, and have had structural engineers in to figure out the best way to take care of these issues. If an individual homeowner does not mow their grass for a period of time or has peeling paint or other code violations, the city's inspector requests they do this or it will be done for them and the property owner is billed. If the downtown does not look the way it should or property owners are not taking care of their buildings, the same mechanism should be used for them. If the city wants more revenue, perhaps they should get it from out-of-town persons who come in on the weekend, park on the Jackson Street Pier and then leave the city as they do in Port Clinton, at Cedar Point, in Orlando or Cleveland. There will be continued parking problems in the future with City Hall relocating downtown and there used to be a parking official who marked tires and gave tickets. This could be reinstated to help the businesses and move cars through downtown. There will also be more people in the Feick Building as it is redeveloped and parking issues will be created in this area as well. We do not need a study to figure out how to solve this. A plan to tax or assess residents in a specific area of the city is not appropriate. To be fiscally responsible, this government needs to take care of its main maintenance issues. In Sandusky, we have increased revenue to the city and have austerity measures to preserve this and make sure every bit of money spent goes to help every person. Dennis Murray said there is a parking plan in place and as the city grows and becomes more congested downtown, we will be turning to this. It was developed a couple of years ago and as additional developments come online, this is something the staff is looking at.

Tim Schwanger, 362 Sheffield Way, said he feels the city should take the money saved from not implementing the Special Improvement District failure and offer a care package to every business owner downtown by buying them a snow shovel, a broom and a dust pan and let them take care of their own properties like they should. As the spokesman for Citizens for Responsive Government circulating the petition for the smoking ban and the recall of a commissioner, this is an opportunity to clarify that this process was completely led by the citizens of Sandusky who were in attendance at three separate meetings. These meetings were not led by him, by Greg Lockhart or Wes Poole. It was very enlightening all of the residents who attended were well aware of the issues and clear conflicts of interest of a certain commissioner and it has been overwhelming how much residents of Sandusky have paid attention. They have had people from outside the community who wanted to sign both petitions but obviously they cannot. This is a very legitimate process for the smoking ban and the recall based on ethics and conflicts of interest and they will continue to move forward and he will not step away from the podium as Matt Westerhold would like him to.

At 6:12 p.m., the President announced a recess of the regular session. At 6:18 p.m., the commission convened into executive session. At 6:50 p.m., the commission returned to open session. Upon motion of Dick Brady and second of Wes Poole, the commission voted to adjourn. The President declared the motion passed.

Kelly L. Kresser, CMC
Commission Clerk

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