

President Dan Kaman **called the meeting to order** at 5 p.m. after the **Invocation**, given by Pervis Brown, and the **Pledge of Allegiance**.

The clerk called **the roll** and the following Commissioners responded: Pervis Brown, Dan Kaman, John Hamilton, Dick Brady, Julie Farrar, Dave Waddington and Diedre Cole.

City staff present: Todd Roth – Engineer, Jim Lang – Interim Police Chief, Paul Ricci – Acting Fire Chief, Carrie Handy – Planner, Scott Miller – General Services Director, Judy Nagy – Recreation Program Supervisor, Tom Whitted – IT Manager, Don Icsman – Law Director & Acting City Manager, Hank Solowiej – Finance Director, Kelly Kresser – Commission Clerk.

Upon motion of Pervis Brown and second of Diedre Cole, the commission voted to approve the minutes of the January 10, 2011, meeting and dispensed with the oral reading. All Ayes. The President declared the motion passed.

PRESENTATION

Interim Police Chief Jim Lang presented a **certificate to School Resource Officer Dana Newell in recognition of his work with the Sandusky city schools**. Dana Newell was recognized as a fine officer and for setting a good example for all. Dave Waddington said Dana Newell has excellent communication skills with both the students and staff and thanked him for his work.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (*Agenda Items only*)

Gary Toll, 333 Cedar Point Road, urged the commission to vote yes on Item #1. He said this will help to protect one of our greatest assets, Lake Erie. He said this will produce concrete results with the EPA and will move the city forward by helping to keep the lake clean.

John Ginty, 5055 Providence Drive, said he is not a proponent of the EPA and feels Item #1 is another unfunded mandate. John Ginty said there are 111 groups in 27 cities that have made application for Item #2, the historic preservation tax credit. He said Item #3 includes moving light poles from the west side to the east side of Cedar Point Drive. He said he is happy to see the city potentially saving some money with Item #4 and congratulated Hank Solowiej on getting this program through.

Elaine Waterfield, 3412 Galloway Drive, said as an Erie County resident, she cares what happens to Sandusky. She encouraged the commission to vote yes on Item #1 to provide clean and safe water. She said smaller communities are also scraping the necessary funding together and this may help to alleviate fines from the EPA.

Andy White, City Manager for the City of Huron, said there is value in passing Item #1, although Huron has not yet endorsed an agreement. He said in terms of specific objectives and values added, this will be a collective partnership. Andy White said this concept has been discussed for several years and the City of Huron is considering two proposals, one from Erie Soil & Water and another from the Erie County Health Department. He believes there is merit and value to both proposals and consideration should be given for a combination of both.

Pat Shenigo, Erie County Commissioner, said he met with staff from the Erie County Health Department today regarding their proposal and said Lake Erie is our greatest asset. He said site runoff is manageable and is a step in the right direction. Pat Shenigo said it seems there are a lot of different entities with involvement in this issue who also have income into the program. He said all of the players are in place and this goal can be accomplished in a cost effective manner. He encouraged the commission to think about funding for the program and said the new governor is writing new rules for the EPA. He said it needs to be decided who is going to do the work and more than \$30,000 or \$40,000 will be needed to accomplish what is necessary.

Breann Hohman, 1205 Chalet Drive, thanked the commission for considering the proposal in Item #1. She said she grew up in Sandusky, made it a point to come back to the area and now has a job dealing with water quality and watersheds. Breann Hohman said there are challenges everywhere with pollution and hopes the agricultural ends of storm water runoff are taken care of to keep our biggest asset (Lake Erie) as clean as possible. She said this comes down to human health and safety and a lot of progress has already been made.

Bob England, Director of Environmental Health for the Erie County Health Department (ECHD), said a meeting was held today and that both the ECHD and the Erie Soil & Water Conservation District bring skills to the table. He said by the end of the meeting, everyone realized this is not a job for one position. He said the ECHD is competent in mapping and illicit detection of illicit discharges; he said it is not that he does not support the Soil & Water Conservation District, but he believes the strongest plan possible needs to be adopted with all of the agencies as a collective approach is necessary to protect Lake Erie.

Eric Dodrill, Perkins Township employee, said he spent nine years with the Soil & Water Conservation District and has been part of this plan since before the 2003 deadline. He said this is a storm water plan for Erie County and all communities in Erie County agreed to cooperate in it and is how the EPA permit was applied for and subsequently reapplied for. He said this is an unfunded mandate and Carrie Handy helped to put this plan together. He said in 2005, the Soil & Water Conservation District did not have enough staff or enough time to add to their workload; this is when the conversations began with the other communities in Erie County. He said Breann Hohman's program has delivered several hundred thousand dollars in grants and includes program money as well as money for her salary. He said funds are also received from several other state and federal agencies. Eric Dodrill said local commitments to the district are state matchable and the realistic figure to employ a person was approximately \$40,000 for salary and \$65,000 complete; this figure was then rounded to \$70,000. He said any state match money would become program money to reach out to communities. Eric Dodrill said there are six minimum measures which each community must meet with the EPA and there are some shortfalls in the overall program. He said he has been looking at this for seven years and is still learning. He said there are certain certifications needed by the person hired to manage this program. He said this is a big decision and will appreciate the city's participation in this joint effort.

Tom Ferrell, Erie County Commissioner, said there are many events that have gone on with the storm water issue since 2003. He said this proposal is a way to get the biggest bang for the city's buck. He said there are qualified agencies to perform storm water management in Erie County and for every dollar the city contributes to the program, it will get \$.50 from the State of Ohio to help manage it. He said the county works closely with the Soil & Water Conservation District and this is the simplest decision which can be made. He said there is an educational piece to this and some of the people who have actually applied for the position have the qualifications. He said there is a place for both the ECHD and the Soil & Water Conservation District.

PRESENTATION

Carrie Handy, Planner, gave a **presentation regarding the current status of the city's Weed & Seed program through the Department of Justice which is designed to develop a strategy to reduce crime and improve neighborhoods**. She said the city collaborates with as many entities as possible for ideas and funding. She said there four elements of strategy including: 1) law enforcement and community policing; 2) prevention; 3) intervention and treatment, and; 4) neighborhood restoration. The idea is to weed out problems and seed good things in neighborhoods.

Carrie Handy said membership of the steering committee includes community members and approximately 15 different agency representatives. She said the main law enforcement goals are to: 1) reduce robberies, aggravated assaults and weapons crimes; 2) reduce the number of drug-related arrests, and; 3) reduce neighborhood-related nuisance violations and property crimes. Carrie Handy said the community policing element should: 1) increase resident involvement in crime prevention and law enforcement; 2) reduce harmful youth behavior and increase the positive activities available to youth, and; 3) increase partnerships between police and probation officials. Carrie Handy said the prevention, intervention and treatment goals have been established to: 1) establish a multi-service community based continuum of youth and adult services including activities which are safe and free from drug and criminal activity (safe havens); 2) offer a continuum of services to reduce risk factors of crime and violent behavior, and; 3) improve the function and economic health of families living in Sandusky.

Carrie Handy said the "seed" goals for neighborhood restoration are to: 1) reduce the number of property nuisance and code compliance issues in the city; 2) encourage homeownership and the rehabilitation of existing housing stock, and; 3) enhance the visual appearance and safety of city neighborhoods. The "weed" goal priority is to reduce robberies, aggravated assaults and weapons crimes in the City of Sandusky and the "seed" goal priority is to establish a multi-service community-based continuum of youth and adult services including activities which are safe and free from drug and criminal activity.

Carrie Handy outlined the many strategies to accomplish each of the goals by increasing police presence in the neighborhoods, targeting first time offenders, targeting faith-based programs in the community and looking at the returning offenders to Sandusky. She said safe havens are provided through partnerships with schools, churches and non-profits, after school activities, increasing access for health choice programs and providing positive peer pressure, use of existing community groups for activities and services and by working with the Mental Health Board to bring mental health services to safe havens and neighborhoods.

Carrie Handy said since the establishment of Weed and Seed in Sandusky in January, 2007, the city has collaborated with the Center for Cultural Awareness and the Mental Health & Recovery Board by adopting programs to help with the youth in the community. She said the police department has offered its youth and citizen academies and has established a drug tip hotline and email address to report drug activity. The police department also recreated the position of animal control officer because of problems of this nature in the community.

Carrie Handy said the city received funding for police overtime and began directed patrols to target problem areas and reduce shootings and violence. She said the police department also patrolled in the downtown area during the holiday shopping season and attended children's events. She said two police bicycles were purchased for bicycle patrol to deal with issues such as loud stereos and disorderly subjects and to interact with children. She said the police department has also maintained its community police station in the Foxborough neighborhood and is actively looking for another COP location in the south side neighborhood.

Carrie Handy said the police department participates in many state and federal law enforcement initiatives and has received several grants to attend training related to gangs. Carrie Handy said two new block watches have been formed and surveillance cameras were purchased. She said the city allocated CDBG funding for the citizens circle program which connects clients to services and jobs and provides mentoring and support groups. She said a transitional housing program started in 2010 with the help of WT Realty. Carrie Handy said five neighborhood advisory groups have been established and helped to form a local landlord association. A safe haven has been established at the Center for Cultural Awareness and a second location is being considered for Spirit and Truth Ministries in the former Madison School.

Carrie Handy said the Center for Cultural Awareness and Serving Our Seniors hosted a forum which led to the development of a foreclosure task force being placed under the United Way of Erie County. She said code enforcement activities have increased in neighborhoods and commercial building code enforcement is forthcoming.

Carrie Handy said city staff has actively pursued removing blighted structures through 81 demolitions and there are six more awaiting bids. She said the city and county are working on several acquisition and rehab projects through the NSP grant to improve existing housing in neighborhoods. She said the city has committed CDBG funds for housing rehabilitation, emergency home repair, emergency housing and utility assistance, homebuyer counseling, economic development and infrastructure improvement programs. She said the city worked with the Erie County Health Department for community wellness and gardening programs.

Carrie Handy said the city received a Job Access Reverse Commute grant to fund the Sandusky Perkins Area Ride Connection (SPARC), a service which provides transit service to lower income neighborhoods and the U.S. Route 250 corridor. She said the city is working with citizen's circle and the Erie County Adult Probation Department to provide rides to jobs and to counseling for ex-offenders on the transit system.

Dr. Kirk Halliday, Director of the Erie-Ottawa Counties Mental Health & Recovery Board, provided a progress report on the Sandusky conestoga initiative. He said this program was piloted in Port Clinton where the results have been spectacular. This program has been successful in reversing a downward trend in the focus area where property values had fallen by 34%. During the three years of the conestoga program, property values have increased by 5% – 6% each respective year. Dr. Halliday said the goal is to eliminate or substantially reduce incivilities in the focus area such as nuisances, family arguments and mouthy children. He said this can reinforce the impression that local authorities are not in control and people do not want to stay in that type of neighborhood. Dr. Halliday said the behavioral health field success rate for persons in recovery has increased to 70% – 80% (from 10% - 20%). He said parenting, alcoholism and other similar programs can change the expectations of an entire community because persons in a desperate situation can be helped. He said 80% of the referrals in the target area

were self-referrals or persons who wanted to help themselves; they were not court-ordered referrals. Dr. Halliday said the people living in this area in Port Clinton now are not the problem; rather, they are part of the solution. He said this attitude changes the character of everything and said he believes this program will work in Sandusky.

Dr. Halliday said the City of Sandusky has reserved funds in its weed & seed program to begin the consultation process and a meeting will be held tomorrow. He said some funds have been released from the indigent driver's alcohol treatment program to begin services for persons in need. Dr. Halliday said he has worked with the Erie County Commissioners and Judge Erich O'Brien for a second level of treatment with the benchmark program. Dr. Halliday said his board is also going to provide additional funding for these programs and will help to implement a 4 – 5 year program.

Dan Kaman asked if there were any questions for Dr. Halliday and Dave Waddington said he would like to ask the commission to provide a Resolution of support to apply for grant funding for the conestoga program. **Upon motion of Dave Waddington and second of Dick Brady, the commission voted to provide a Resolution of support allowing staff to apply for grant funding for the conestoga program.**

Discussion: Dick Brady asked if there is a specific neighborhood which is being targeted for the conestoga program and Dr. Halliday said one of the neighborhoods in either the Old Plat or the southern district have been discussed as they have also received many of the development funds. Dave Waddington said safety is a big issue and this is one way to combat this type of thing. He said some neighborhoods with older housing stock can be saved. Dan Kaman said he hopes this program can begin in Sandusky and wished Dr. Halliday much success with implementation.

Roll call on the motion: Yeas: Pervis Brown, Dan Kaman, John Hamilton, Dick Brady, Julie Farrar and Dave Waddington, 6. Abstain: Diedre Cole, 1. The President declared the motion passed.

Upon motion of Dave Waddington and second of Pervis Brown, the commission voted to accept all communications. All Ayes. The President declared the motion passed.

ITEM #1 – Submitted by Todd Roth, P.E., P.S., Director of Planning, Engineering & Design

TABLED: 11.22.10 AND 12.13.10

ORDERED IN: 1.10.11

Budgetary Information: The initial annual amount for continuing to participate with the Erie County NPDES Phase II program is \$10,000. This amount will be reviewed on an annual basis and adjusted as needed to accommodate program objectives which shall be approved by the city prior to implementation of any adjustments. The annual cost will be paid with sewer funds.

ORDINANCE NO. 11-001: It is requested an Ordinance be passed authorizing and directing the city manager to enter into a memorandum of agreement with the Erie Soil & Water Conservation District for participation in the Erie County National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Phase II program; and declaring that this Ordinance shall take immediate effect in accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.

Upon motion of Pervis Brown and second of Dave Waddington, the commission voted to adopt this Ordinance under suspension of the rules and in accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.

Discussion: Dave Waddington said it is time to move on this as it has been ongoing for over two months. He said all governmental entities and elected officials need to protect themselves from fresh water hazardous runoffs. Diedre Cole said she still has one concern with the fifth item in the agreement and Todd Roth said any future increases will need approval by the city commission; Don Icsman concurred this change was made to the agreement. Dick Brady said there have been meaningful comments about what appears to be competing proposals. He said neither is mutually exclusive and he wants the best of both worlds for his community. Dick Brady asked if the city can merge the best parts of both issues rather than going with one at the expense of the other. Dan Kaman said this would be up to both the ECHD and the Soil & Water Conservation District. He said this agreement is with Soil & Water Conservation District and gives latitude for both entities to work together. Dick Brady asked about the term and Dan Kaman said this agreement has a two-year term. Julie Farrar said this was brought to her as if there are competing proposals, but she believes collaborative efforts can be made. Julie Farrar said municipalities get stuck with unfunded mandates and the worst one for her was the "No Child Left Behind Act". Dan Kaman said his concern is all of the storm water running into Sandusky and his belief that Sandusky needs to be involved in all future discussions so they are not the last to know. Todd Roth said each community will still have responsibilities and will be doing work in-house.

Roll call on the motion: Yeas: Pervis Brown, Dan Kaman, John Hamilton, Dick Brady, Julie Farrar, Dave Waddington and Diedre Cole, 7. The President declared the motion passed. Roll call on the Ordinance: Yeas: Pervis Brown, Dan Kaman, John Hamilton, Dick Brady, Julie Farrar, Dave Waddington and Diedre Cole, 7. The President declared the Ordinance passed.

ITEM #2

RESOLUTION NO. 02-11R: It is requested a Resolution be passed supporting the renewal of the Ohio Historic Preservation tax credit; 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 Julie Farrar, the commission voted to adopt this Resolution under suspension of the rules and in accordance with Section 14 of the city charter. Roll call on the motion: Yeas: Pervis Brown, Dan Kaman, John Hamilton, Dick Brady, Julie Farrar, Dave Waddington and Diedre Cole, 7. The President declared the motion passed. Roll call on the Resolution: Yeas: Pervis Brown, Dan Kaman, John Hamilton, Dick Brady, Julie Farrar, Dave Waddington and Diedre Cole, 7. The President declared the Resolution passed.

ITEM #3 – Submitted by Kathryn K. McKillips, Engineer

Budgetary Information: The cost for the relocation for the street lights is \$42,202.06, to be paid with CDBG funds.

ORDINANCE NO. 11-002: It is requested an Ordinance be passed authorizing and directing the city manager to enter into a services contract with Ohio Edison Company and expend the funds necessary for the relocation of twelve (12) street lights and poles for the Cedar Point Drive improvement project; and declaring that this Ordinance shall take immediate effect in accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.

Upon motion of Pervis Brown and second of Julie Farrar, the commission voted to adopt this Ordinance under suspension of the rules and in accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.

Discussion: Dick Brady said he has experience dealing with the electric utility and they are a good operation. He said if this Ordinance passes, the city's next order of business should be to set a completion date with Ohio Edison as it will negatively impact this entire project if this portion is not completed. Todd Roth said Ohio Edison would not consider a schedule. Diedre Cole said she is baffled by the statement in the agreement about making payment to Ohio Edison prior to work being done and Todd Roth said the plans need to be reviewed and finalized prior to determining if all twelve poles need to be relocated. Todd Roth provided a recap of the bike path project which initially included the removal of three poles. He said this path needs to be 10' wide in order to allow for multi-use and will be on the east side of the street. Todd Roth said this limits the space between the trees and the street and after reviewing the project, ODOT officials said the pathway was too close to the poles. He said the bike path was relocated further from the right-of-way which then called for relocation of more poles. Todd Roth said the city was told that before further consideration can be given by ODOT, this document must be executed with Ohio Edison. Dan Kaman asked what the start date is for this project and Todd Roth said initially a target date for the spring was being considered; because of this change, it may be later in the year. He said the city also needs to be cognizant of Cedar Point traffic.

Roll call on the motion: Yeas: Pervis Brown, Dan Kaman, John Hamilton, Dick Brady, Julie Farrar, Dave Waddington and Diedre Cole, 7. The President declared the motion passed. Roll call on the Ordinance: Yeas: Pervis Brown, Dan Kaman, John Hamilton, Dick Brady, Julie Farrar, Dave Waddington and Diedre Cole, 7. The President declared the Ordinance passed.

ITEM #4 – Submitted by Hank S. Solowiej, CPA, Finance Director

BUDGETARY INFORMATION: There would be an estimated savings of up to 22% for this electric account. The savings over 16 months is estimated to be greater than \$61,000. This savings is larger than the city residential and small commercial accounts aggregation program administered by AMP Ohio which provides a savings of 3%. Programs like these are available to larger users with usage greater than 700,000 kWh per year.

ORDINANCE NO. 11-003: It is requested an Ordinance be passed approving a pricing schedule addendum to the agreement with FirstEnergy Solutions, substantially in the same form attached, for electric service at the Big Island Water Works facility located in the City of Sandusky for the period of February, 2011 through August, 2012; and declaring that this Ordinance shall take immediate effect in accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.

Upon motion of Julie Farrar and second of Dave Waddington, the commission voted to adopt this Ordinance under suspension of the rules and in accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.

Discussion: Diedre Cole thanked Hank Solowiej for catching this.

Roll call on the motion: Yeas: Pervis Brown, Dan Kaman, John Hamilton, Dick Brady, Julie Farrar, Dave Waddington and Diedre Cole, 7. The President declared the motion passed. Roll call on the Ordinance: Yeas: Pervis Brown, Dan Kaman, John Hamilton, Dick Brady, Julie Farrar, Dave Waddington and Diedre Cole, 7. The President declared the Ordinance passed.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

Don Icsman said **the city received a letter from the Randolph J. and Estelle M. Dorn Foundation regarding their donation to the city for mowing of tall grass and weeds.** He said this letter from Mel Stauffer, President, indicated the foundation's gracious approval to use the balance of this money through the spring and summer months.

Don Icsman asked for approval from the commission for **the city to be a member of Heritage Ohio based upon the recommendation from Carrie Handy. Upon motion of Pervis Brown and second of Diedre Cole, the commission voted to approve the city's membership in Heritage Ohio at a cost of \$350 for CY2011. All Ayes. The President declared the motion passed.**

Don Icsman said **the city received a letter from the Perkins Fire Department commending two Sandusky police officers, Scott Dahlgren and Steve Ritterbach, for providing assistance on a recent ambulance call at Kroger's.** Dan Kaman thanked these two police officers (and all) for doing their jobs and going above and beyond.

Don Icsman requested permission **to submit a grant application to the Sandusky Erie County Community Foundation for funds in the amount of \$20,000 to be used for basketball courts at Lions Park.** He said matching funds in the amount of \$10,000 will be paid with Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds and the deadline for submission is February 1, 2011. **Upon motion of Pervis Brown and second of Julie Farrar, the commission voted to authorize the city to make application for these grant monies to the Sandusky Erie County Community Foundation.**

Don Icsman said **upon receipt of information received from Acting Fire Chief Paul Ricci, a motion has been filed by the City of Sandusky to intervene in the case involving the former American Crayon property.** He said neither the bank nor the previous owner should be able to walk away from the issues with the property and the city and its taxpayers should not have to take care of them. Don Icsman said this will help to put responsibility where it belongs and hopefully the legal filings will help the judge to see this. He said there are safety and fire issues as well as other concerns. Dave Waddington asked if someone was living in this building and if the building is now secured. Paul Ricci said there has been evidence of transients getting into the building and there is no physical way to effectively secure the building. Diedre Cole asked if the city contacted the Volunteers of America for assistance with transients and Don Icsman said this is private property and the city cannot provide authorization to go onto the property. Paul Ricci said the city was first advised of the problem by agencies which were aware of transients getting into the building. He said nearby residents have also been advised to contact the city if they see people entering the building.

Don Icsman said he received information and attended a webinar presentation from **a company offering a recycling partnership called Greener Corners.** He said Greener Corners offers a cost-free, full service public space recycling program for a turnkey operation for recycling at locations chosen by the city. He said the bins are custom made, are installed and maintained, and their program has a trash component involving local haulers. He said Greener Corners offers an education and public awareness program which is an integral part and they provide quarterly reports including EPA reporting information. Don Icsman said this almost seemed too good to be true, but he does believe this is real. He said contact has been made with staff from Greener Corners in New Jersey as well as with other communities in the nation utilizing their services; they have provided rave reviews. He said Greener Corners also takes care of selling advertising for the recycling bins.

Don said a representative from Greener Corners, Aaron Klein, will make a presentation at the next commission meeting. Dave Waddington said Ohio House Bill 592 states it is the responsibility of the counties to meet recycling requirements and does not know how this got shifted to the cities and townships. Dave Waddington said this can work in our community and education needs to take place.

Dave Waddington said two recycle bins were replaced and will cost the city \$20,000. He said if these can be placed in the downtown and park areas, the city may be able to reduce to only one location and cut the cost by half. He said the city may not need the \$2 per resident cost which was passed in 2010. Dave Waddington said he believes all of the commissioners want to be responsible and provide recycling and this (Greener Corners) could be the city's ticket to providing it. He said no one will be put out of business and jobs are important for members of our community. Dave Waddington said the presentation made last week was good and he is excited about Sandusky taking ownership and reversing this back to the county. Don Icsman said he has also looked at the law and does not see any reason why this would not qualify. He said Colorado Springs has placed 125 of these containers and is a community similar to Sandusky. Don Icsman said they will also provide some money down the road, but he does not want to get too far ahead. Dave Waddington said this may be something Cedar Point could be interested in looking at because of their volume of recyclables. Don Icsman said the city wants to be regional and cooperative, this will be a Sandusky program and others are welcome to it. Dan Kaman thanked Don Icsman, Dave Waddington, Pervis Brown and Amanda Meyers for not giving up on this (recycling) and agreed that recycling should fall to the county. He said somehow it fell onto the city and he hopes this proposal works. Dan Kaman said he is looking forward to the presentation and is glad the county cannot say it is their program and then have the city pay them (the county). He said the city is supposed to get a portion of the tipping fee from the landfill but has not received it for several years. Julie Farrar said this is wonderful news and asked how many recycle bins the city can have; she thought residents may be more inclined to recycle if there is a recycle location closer to their home. Dan Kaman said it would be nice if a small one can be provided at each park. Dave Waddington said this would hopefully eliminate the many calls for cleanup in the downtown and park areas and hopes the education will help to put Sandusky ahead of the game. Don Icsman said the education and awareness will help reach out to people in the community to reduce tonnage and energy use.

OLD BUSINESS

Dave Waddington said an **audit/finance committee meeting was held last week and he is concerned about the increase in gas prices and income for 2011 to the city through bed taxes, hotel/motel tax, Cedar Point, etc.** He said the city has projected a \$3.4 million carryover and this is 22% higher than last year. He said the city has the \$100,000 tucked away and he would like to sit on it; he said he hopes the commission takes a conservative approach to this year's budget. Dave Waddington said he is also concerned about **local government funding and estate taxes.** Dave Waddington said it has been almost three years since the housing issue and the insurance company will get hit with the bulk of this, but hopes the extra \$1 million will be spent to get these houses in order.

Dan Kaman asked about **the status of drilling the holes and the coal tar plume issue.** Todd Roth said he met with Malcolm Pirnie last week and they are awaiting comments from him in order to finish the report (currently in draft form). Dan Kaman said the city should stay on this and not drop the ball.

Julie Farrar asked Scott Miller about the **street light at Sycamore Line and Cleveland Road** and Scott Miller said the electricians made an adjustment to this traffic light last week.

NEW BUSINESS

Dan Kaman said the **fire chief selection committee** met last week and narrowed the candidates to five. He said the essay questions will be sent to these five applicants and answers will be due February 11. He said he hopes to pass the committee's recommendation on to Don Icsman so that he can make a decision by early March.

Upon motion of Pervis Brown and second of Dave Waddington, the commission voted to hold an executive session regarding the sale of personal property. Roll call on the motion: Yeas: Pervis Brown, Dan Kaman, John Hamilton, Dick Brady, Julie Farrar, Dave Waddington and Diedre Cole, 7. The President declared the motion passed.

Upon motion of John Hamilton and second of Pervis Brown, the commission voted to hold an executive session regarding personnel, city manager. Roll call on the motion: Yeas: Pervis Brown, Dan Kaman, John Hamilton, Dick Brady, Julie Farrar, Dave Waddington and Diedre Cole, 7. The President declared the motion passed.

Upon motion of Dave Waddington and second of Pervis Brown, the commission voted to hold an executive session regarding personnel, engineering department. Roll call on the motion: Yeas: Pervis

Brown, Dan Kaman, John Hamilton, Dick Brady, Julie Farrar, Dave Waddington and Diedre Cole, 7. The President declared the motion passed.

Julie Farrar asked about **scheduling the next planning session**. After some discussion, it was decided this special meeting would take place on Thursday, February 10, beginning at 5 p.m.

Under **Audience Participation**, the following persons offered their comments:

Andy Ouriel, Sandusky Register, 314 West Market Street, asked if there were any local candidates for the position of fire chief and Dan Kaman said there was one candidate from Sandusky. Andy Ouriel asked if there have been any studies showing what is discharged into Sandusky Bay and asked how many combined sewer overflow sites (CSO's) there are in Sandusky. Dan Kaman said the city has not performed any studies that he knows of and there are seven CSO's in Sandusky.

John Ginty, 5055 Providence Drive, asked about the removable bollard which is used at the end of the Meigs Street Pier for ADA accessibility. He said this has been removed and asked the reason. Dan Kaman said he would check on this as it may have only been removed for the wintertime.

At 7 p.m., Dan Kaman announced adjournment of the open session. Three executive sessions were held beginning at 7:05 p.m.

At 8:15 p.m., the commission returned to the table in regular open session.

At 8:35, Andy Ouriel, Sandusky Register, arrived and Dan Kaman announced that the commission had decided to suspend the city manager search. Dan Kaman said it is believed the November elections will impact the composition of the commission. He said it is in the city's best interest for the new (2012) commission to take over the city manager selection process at that time.

The commission responded to questions; at 8:45 p.m., President Kaman announced adjournment.

Kelly L. Kresser
Clerk of the City Commission

Daniel J. Kaman
President of the City Commission