

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

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

City staff present: Todd Roth – Engineer, Jim Lang – Interim Police Chief, Paul Ricci – Acting Fire Chief, Anna Enderle – Assistant Planner, 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 and Kelly Kresser – Commission Clerk.

Upon motion of Pervis Brown and second of Dick Brady, the commission voted to approve the minutes of the February 14 and February 22, 2011 meetings and dispensed with the oral reading. All Ayes. The President declared the motion passed.

Upon motion of Dave Waddington and second of Dick Brady, the commission voted to approve the minutes of the February 10, 2011 meeting, as revised. All Ayes. The President declared the motion passed.

PRESENTATIONS

Don Icsman introduced Aaron Klein from Greener Corners to speak about the services which his company offers for recycling. Don Icsman said three webinars have taken place about this recycle concept with city employees and staff from Greener Corners. Aaron Klein said his organization provides public space recycling across the country. He said Greener Corners is the only company of its kind and he toured Sandusky with Scott Miller this afternoon to consider potential locations for the containers in the city's parks and other public spaces. He said education, public awareness and the EPA all mandate recycling efforts, yet recycle bins are currently not available in Sandusky. He said Greener Corners will provide the bins and the associated collection services and that these types of programs are sometimes cost prohibitive. Aaron Klein said this is a long-term initiative for future generations.

Aaron Klein said the recycle bins will be attractive, practical and user-friendly; numerous types are available including stainless steel or galvanized steel which is powder coated to be rust proof. He said a plan will be put in place to replace the concrete trash cans, to install the bins and to provide future cleaning and maintenance, graffiti removal and repair; all risk and liability will be assumed by Greener Corners. He said their newest program is being implemented in Colorado Springs and that local offices and staff members are a part of every program. A design will be chosen that will be unique to Sandusky.

Aaron Klein said Greener Corners will work with the local haulers for collection services so that jobs will remain in the community. He said a partnership will be formed for educational purposes with organizations such as the YMCA and others serving the youth-at-risk population in the community. He said these programs will be publicized through the media via a link to a page on the City of Sandusky's website. Aaron Klein said the results of this program will help individual residents in their recycling efforts as well. He said Sandusky has a core downtown area and 75% of waste will be diverted away from the landfill. Aaron Klein said this program is 100% cost free and he will work with the local business community to sponsor the recycle bins. These sponsorship dollars help to fund the program and a percentage will go back to the city (approximately 10% of gross revenue).

Julie Farrar asked about the frequency of emptying the recycle bins and Aaron Klein said each location will be emptied based upon their usage. Julie Farrar asked if recycle bins could be made available for residents/households and Aaron Klein said his company does not yet have a residential model that works; this program is currently available for public spaces only. Julie Farrar asked how many bins the city would require as a good starting point and Aaron Klein said he would recommend starting with approximately 25 bins/locations and build from there. Julie Farrar asked if different designs could be used at various locations and Aaron Klein said this is possible, but he would recommend some consistency with the design in specific areas, i.e. downtown, park areas, etc. Dick Brady said the correct answer to how frequently the bins will be emptied is "when they are full". He said there are many positive things about this program but the issue that continues to come up is the unsightliness of a bin that is not properly maintained, especially if it is overflowing. Aaron Klein said these concerns will be addressed at the onset of the program. He said the local hauler will be responsible to empty the containers when full. He said the liners will remain inside of the containers even if they are full and that they will be cleaned seasonally. Dave Waddington said he is supportive of this program and previously

had a concern about the EPA tracking and the community reports which has been cleared up. He said recycling signage is necessary near the parks and waterfront areas and would like to see this work for the community just for the sake of being able to say Sandusky recycles. He asked if the educational portion counts for points with the EPA and Lisa Beursken, Erie County Solid Waste District, said this will help the district greatly. Dave Waddington said the tipping fees recently went from \$4.50 to \$6.00 and this will help control the city's cost. He asked Aaron Klein if he met with officials from Cedar Point; Aaron Klein said he has not, but the program can be expanded to other communities as well as to private companies. Aaron Klein said his company website is www.greenercorners.com and information is also available on www.youtube.com. Dave Waddington said the city has struggled with recycling because of the high number of rentals and he believes this would help Sandusky to catch up. Dick Brady said it is important to point out this program is for public space recycling but is not yet available for residential curbside recycling. Aaron Klein said this is one piece of the environmental puzzle and is a step in the right direction.

Diedre Cole asked if there are economic development and marketing impacts to implementing this program and if Sandusky would be used as a model for the program. Aaron Klein said the small/local business inclusion with the haulers is a must for economic development. He said if Sandusky acts upon this, it will be the first community in Ohio to offer the program. Julie Farrar asked Aaron Klein if he had spoken with officials from Sandusky City Schools or St. Mary Schools and he said this has not happened yet.

Dan Kaman introduced Larrick Zirckle, co-director of the Nehemiah Center, to provide an update of the programs being offered. Larrick Zirckle said the center has been open since October and offers tutoring and homework help, recreation programs, an arts and crafts studio and a computer lab. He said new children are enrolling each week without a lot of broad based promotion. He said the staff is one hundred percent volunteers, including the executive director, Dr. Richard Koontz. He said last year the city commission provided a letter of endorsement for the 21st century community learning center grant and the Nehemiah Center will be pursuing this grant again in 2001 in partnership with Sandusky City Schools and WSOS. He said he will be attending a meeting with the school district superintendent and grant writers from WSOS to allow for the expansion of the services already being provided; a request for the 2011 grant cycle will be made to the city for their endorsement in the near future. Larrick Zirckle said additional board members and volunteers are coming on board and the services at the Nehemiah Center are increasing. Dan Kaman asked if the requested letter of support will be ready for the next commission meeting on March 14; Larrick Zirckle said he will work on making this available. Diedre Cole asked how many children are served at the Nehemiah Center and Larrick Zirckle said approximately 80 – 90 children are served each week in grades K-12. Diedre Cole asked if the 21st century learning center grant will help to expand programming and Larrick Zirckle said this grant is provided by the federal government (through the State of Ohio) and will allow the center to hire additional staffing and expand their hours, especially for junior high and high school aged children. Diedre Cole asked the maximum number of children who can be accommodated at the center and Larrick Zirckle said it is not currently operating at capacity, but grants can be pursued for other sites/locations and hopefully through partnership with the school district and other organizations in the community. Julie Farrar asked if cosmetology is being offered as a career path at the center and Larrick Zirckle said this program is not yet being offered. He said a program called "Cinderella's Closet" is offered for young ladies who cannot otherwise afford a dress, shoes or accessories for prom or homecoming. Larrick Zirckle invited the commissioners to stop by the Nehemiah Center at any time.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (*agenda items only*)

Bob Warner, 1011 Third Street, said he does not believe dogs should be restricted to a 6' leash (Item #6). Bob Warner said dogs will not get the proper exercise necessary if this Ordinance is put into effect and believes it would be better to require the owner(s) to restrain their dogs.

Bob Haag, 313 East Market Street, said the recycling business is a tight margin business and asked Aaron Klein what the business plan is for Greener Corners. Aaron Klein said the sponsorship revenue funds the entire program and Greener Corners is a for-profit company.

Mac Lehrer, Hoty Enterprises, said he is available to answer any questions the commission may have about the potential sale of the Fremont Avenue property to Fox Cycle Works (Item #2).

Andy Ouriel, [Sandusky Register](http://SanduskyRegister.com), asked Aaron Klein how Greener Corners satisfies the requirements of the EPA; how the local haulers will be incorporated; what materials can be recycled; the number of cities Greener Corners works with; and, the year the company started in business. Aaron Klein said he cannot

speak to the EPA commitments, but said this program will help the community meet or exceed its recycling tonnage or quotas. He said the local haulers will be chosen with the city's assistance and this makes the most sense for the program. He said the bins will accept all recyclable materials. He said there are about eight communities in New Jersey and the City of Colorado Springs is their newest out-of-state customer. He said Greener Corners was incorporated in 2009.

Lisa Beursken, Erie County Solid Waste District, asked if she understood correctly the city would not have to worry about funding this program and if the district can receive feedback about the amount of tonnage collected. Aaron Klein said this can be done for the public service locations, but not for commercial or residential purposes. Lisa Beursken asked if recycling would also be performed in the schools and Aaron Klein said this is a component of the service.

Rev. Herman Robinson, 1601 Oakmont Lane, said he loves dogs, but he is more loyal to people (Item #6). He said his grandson was attacked on January 20 and the issue is about having reasonable control over a dog (with a leash or mechanical device) and being a good neighbor. He said the animal complaint calls have increased since 2009 by 56%. He said the dog bite calls have increased by 34%.

Sharon Johnson, 1139 Fifth Street, said a 6' leash is just right and if this were extended to 20' or 25', the owner would not have control over their dog (Item #6).

Darlene Armour, 1007 Wayne Street, encouraged persons walking their dogs to carry a plastic bag.

Tom Whitted, City of Sandusky employee, said he supports the sale of the Fremont Avenue property (Item #2) to Fox Cycle Works.

Dennis Timple, 553 Bimini Drive, said if any animal is covered in the new leash law (Item #6), the police department's K-9 dog would need to be on a leash. He said the issue is about making animal owners be responsible and perhaps this could be done through the penalty section of the legislation.

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

ITEM #1 – Submitted by Carrie Handy, Chief Planner

TABLED 2.14.11

Budgetary Information: The total cost for the professional services is \$10,000 for the implementation of the fair housing program to provide fair housing services to low- and moderate- income residents in Sandusky under the rules and regulations of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Community Development Block Grant. There is no impact to the city's general fund.

ORDINANCE NO. 11-014: It is requested an Ordinance be passed **authorizing and directing the city manager to enter into a contract with Donald B. Eager & Associates, LLC, of Lancaster, Ohio, for professional services for the implementation of the city's Community Development Block Grant fair housing program;** 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 Diedre Cole, the commission voted to adopt this Ordinance under suspension of the rules and in accordance with Section 14 of the city charter. Roll call on the motion: Yeas: John Hamilton, Dick Brady, Julie Farrar, Dave Waddington, Diedre Cole, Pervis Brown and Dan Kaman, 7. The President declared the motion passed. Roll call on the Ordinance: Yeas: John Hamilton, Dick Brady, Julie Farrar, Dave Waddington, Diedre Cole and Pervis Brown and Dan Kaman, 7. The President declared the Ordinance passed.

ITEM #2 – Submitted by Amanda Meyers, Paralegal

Budgetary Information: The cost associated with this purchase agreement is the real estate agent's listing fee of 7% of the sales price, the total amount of the title examination, deed preparation, escrow fees and any other customary fees that may be due and payable in the ordinary course of the sale and purchase transaction. Pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 5722.08 (A), the city will recoup expenses incurred on account of the acquisition, administration, management, maintenance and disposition of the property from the proceeds of the sale, and the remaining balance, if any, will be paid to the county treasurer for reimbursement to the taxing districts. The commercial development of this property will enhance surrounding property values and the taxing districts will once again begin collecting real property taxes.

ORDINANCE NO. 11-015: 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. 60-00412.001, located at 1011 Fremont Avenue is no longer needed for any municipal purpose and authorizing the execution of a purchase agreement with respect to that real property;** and declaring that this Ordinance shall take immediate effect in accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.

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

ITEM #3 – Submitted by Jane E. Cullen, Engineering Technician

Budgetary Information: The total estimated project cost including engineering, inspection, advertising and miscellaneous expenses is \$292,067.65. The city is responsible for the entire project cost and it will be paid with the city's water fund.

RESOLUTION NO. 006-11R: It is requested a Resolution be passed **declaring the necessity for the city to proceed with the proposed Hayes Avenue waterline improvement project; approving the specifications and engineer's estimate of cost thereof; and directing the city manager to advertise for and receive bids in relation thereto;** and declaring that this Resolution shall take immediate effect in accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.

Upon motion of Pervis Brown 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.

Discussion: Dave Waddington said there was some concern about the area in front of Sandusky High School and stated this will be dug up under the sidewalk *only*. Todd Roth said there are some crossovers which were accounted for prior to the program being implemented. He said the waterline was extended through Hayes Avenue from Johnson Street and that there will be some work done at the intersection of Perkins Avenue and Hayes Avenue. Dave Waddington said some of this work cannot be helped and a plan is being worked on for Hayes Avenue, for other street upgrades and for the city's combined sewer overflows.

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

ITEM #4 – Submitted by Todd J. Roth, Director of Planning, Engineering & Development

Budgetary Information: The total project cost based on bids including engineering, inspection, advertising and miscellaneous expenses is \$326,355.00. The city has applied for federal funds from a discretionary earmark for \$164,755.25 (55% of construction cost) from the U.S. EPA. The city's share (45% of construction cost plus other costs) is \$161,599.75, to be paid with sewer funds.

ORDINANCE NO. 11-016: It is requested an Ordinance be passed **authorizing and directing the city manager to enter into a contract with C & K Industrial Services, Inc., of Cleveland, Ohio, for the Eastside and Westside interceptors cleaning project;** and declaring that this Ordinance shall take immediate effect in accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.

Upon motion of Dave Waddington and second of Julie Farrar, the commission voted to adopt this Ordinance under suspension of the rules and in accordance with Section 14 of the city charter. Roll call on the motion: Yeas: John Hamilton, Dick Brady, Julie Farrar, Dave Waddington, Diedre Cole, Pervis Brown and Dan Kaman, 7. The President declared the motion passed. Roll call on the Ordinance: Yeas: John Hamilton, Dick Brady, Julie Farrar, Dave Waddington, Diedre Cole and Pervis Brown and Dan Kaman, 7. The President declared the Ordinance passed.

ITEM #5 – Submitted by James F. Lang, Interim Police Chief

Budgetary Information: Proceeds from the sale of the 1996 Lexus ES300 and the 2004 Chrysler Sebring will be placed into the police department's contraband trust fund, 863 1050 101 00.

ORDINANCE NO. 11-017: It is requested an Ordinance be passed **authorizing and directing the city manager to dispose of surplus personal property and equipment as having become unnecessary and**

unfit for city use pursuant to Section 25 of the city charter; and declaring that this Ordinance shall take immediate effect in accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.

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

ITEM #6 – Submitted by Sgt. Richard Braun, Animal Control Supervisor and Officer Robert Gardin, Animal Control Officer

Budgetary Information: The cost associated with this request for legislation is the total amount of administrative staff time utilized for any necessary enforcement by the police department.

ORDINANCE TABLED: It is requested an Ordinance be passed **amending part five (general offenses) chapter 505 (animals and fowl)**, in the manner and way specifically set forth hereinbelow.

Upon motion of Pervis Brown and second of Dan Kaman, the commission voted to adopt this Ordinance under first reading.

Discussion: Dave Waddington said he has a problem with the 6' leash length restriction as this does not provide enough length to walk or exercise a dog. He said he would stumble on his dog if there were a 6' restriction. Diedre Cole said she is a 'no' vote on this legislation because there have been approximately 52 complaints which affect 1.04% of the dog owners in the community. She said this will punish 98.96% of dog owners because of 1% who are not controlling their dog and this is not fair. She asked Don Icsman to confirm that the city's K-9 unit is exempt from this regulation according to the Ohio Revised Code and he (Don) indicated it would be exempt. Diedre Cole said the issue of dogs running loose is what needs to be addressed. Dave Waddington said if the 6' restriction is changed, he would be open to looking at this legislation again. John Hamilton said he will also be a 'no' vote on this ordinance and does not believe the length of the leash matters. He said he likes the idea of an extendable, retractable leash and feels dog owners letting them run loose should be punished, not every other dog owner. John Hamilton said he has a dog that he likes to take swimming and play catch in the park and this would prohibit him from retrieving a ball with his dog. John Hamilton said he would like to see the city look at creating a dog park similar to the one at Erie MetroParks. Julie Farrar said she has two rescue dogs and she would never take them out of the house without a leash and that responsible pet owners know their animals. She understands what the Sandusky Police Department is trying to do, but feels the city should be stricter with the small percentage of people who are the actual problem. She said some dogs are being trained to be vicious and this may have been one of the dogs which attacked Rev. Robinson's grandson. Diedre Cole said she would entertain a retractable leash, but not with a 6' limit. Pervis Brown said it is important to keep this discussion open and incorporate some type of mechanism so dogs are not running around freely. He said the dog owners who are not responsible are the ones the city needs to take care of.

Sgt. Richard Braun, Sandusky Police Department, said there were over 1,000 complaints of dogs running at large which the SPD is trying to deal with. He said some dogs have bitten people and they were put down. He said there have been particular problems at schools, especially Ontario School, and dog owners have been cited. He appreciates the commission saying they would consider looking at this again rather than just saying no. He said officers will not go around town with a tape measure; they will look for specific problems.

Pervis Brown withdrew his motion and Dan Kaman withdrew his second.

Dave Waddington said Sgt. Braun is talking about dog owners being responsible, not the length of a leash. Sgt. Braun said persons using extra long leashes may not have good control of their dog. He said the city used to have a leash law and it seems we are coming back to it. Dan Kaman said retractable leashes in public spaces do not work and said many persons use these during outdoor public/special events. Julie Farrar said she wraps the leash around her wrist accordingly and said 6' would not be a problem; a retractable leash could go too far if it were extended to 20'. She said she would like to see the city talk more about the creation of a dog park.

Upon motion of Diedre Cole and second of Pervis Brown, the commission voted to table this Ordinance for redrafting. All Ayes. The President declared the motion passed.

ITEM #7 – Submitted by Paul E. Ricci, Interim Fire Chief

Budgetary Information: There will be no proceeds from the donation of the structural firefighting clothing which includes 12 jackets, 12 pants, 12 hoods, 12 sets of gloves, 12 pair of boots and 12 helmets.

RESOLUTION NO. 007-11R: It is requested Resolution be passed **authorizing the disposal of twelve (12) sets of structural firefighting clothing as being unnecessary and unfit for city use, approving their donation to the Sandusky Career Center Fire & Rescue Academy;** and declaring that this Resolution take immediate effect in accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.

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

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

Don Icsman requested **authorization for Scott Miller, general services director, and Troy Vaccaro, fleet maintenance foreman, to attend the National Truck Equipment Association "Work Truck Show" in Indianapolis, Indiana on March 8 – 9.** He said the cost of the trip will be approximately \$300. He said the city will be looking at purchasing some equipment in the near future and this would be a good trip to learn what is out there; the city has not attended this show previously. **Upon motion of Dan Kaman and second of Pervis Brown, the commission voted to authorize this out-of-state travel.**

Discussion: Pervis Brown said he is supportive of this request because the city has had a habit of letting its equipment go without considering replacement.

All Ayes. The President declared the motion passed.

Don Icsman asked the commission for **authorization to submit an application to the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention for the FY 2011 comprehensive anti-gang strategies and programs grant in the amount of \$250,000 for three years for a total of \$750,000 to be used to fund a community-wide gang assessment, a gang coordinator position, a school resource officer and additional youth programs.** He said the deadline for submission is March 11, 2011 and legislation will be presented at the March 14 meeting to ratify the grant application. **Upon motion of Pervis Brown and second of Dave Waddington, the commission voted to authorize Carrie Handy to apply for this grant.**

Discussion: Dave Waddington asked if this will work in conjunction with the Conestoga program and Carrie Handy said there could be some coordination with at-risk youth in the two neighborhoods identified for the Conestoga program.

All Ayes. The President declared this motion passed.

Don Icsman asked for **approval to begin a community gardening program that would be operated by the Erie County Health Department using CDBG funds.** He said the program would initially start with two gardens, one at Viewpoint apartments and one on city property at Churchwell Park. He said an agreement will be brought back for formal authorization.

Upon motion of Dave Waddington and second of Pervis Brown, the commission voted to authorize the creation of a community gardening program with the Erie County Health Department.

Discussion: Dave Waddington said this is a good idea and option for community involvement and getting people to work together. Pervis Brown asked if some of the property in the city's landbanking program could be used for this purpose. Carrie Handy said she would like to see this start small and then expand to other sites. Pervis Brown asked about the previous group offering a community garden and Carrie Handy said the company was called Erie Fresh. She said Erie Fresh is currently working on a garden project at Ontario School; she asked them to submit a proposal for this current project, but they did not.

All Ayes. The President declared the motion passed.

Julie Farrar said there are numerous properties in the landbanking program which have been vacated and cleared of structures and would be good locations for community gardens. She would like to see

how these two sites work first before expanding or trying to get buy-in for other neighborhood gardens. Julie Farrar asked Carrie Handy to notify her about the meeting date in March. Don Icsman said CDBG money is the funding source for this project.

Diedre Cole asked if **an update could be provided at the next meeting with the status of the feral cat (trap, neuter, release) program**. Don Icsman said he will look into preparing this for the next meeting.

Julie Farrar asked if the **ICMA report has been returned to the city** and Don Icsman said one (of two) report is pretty close to completion. He said the police study was delayed because of the two records systems utilized in the department (CODY and TAC).

Dave Waddington said he is concerned about **snow removal on the sidewalks along the underpasses**. He is concerned for safety because the kids are being forced to walk in the streets. Scott Miller said with the blowing and drifting during the last snowstorm, the crews were trying to keep the streets clear of snow and were not able to get to the sidewalks until the streets were completed. Dave Waddington said perhaps only one side of the sidewalk area could be shoveled so as to not sacrifice safety.

Diedre Cole said she spoke with a resident over the weekend who was concerned about the two **recycle locations** which had not been cleared of snow. She said she realizes there is a shortage of staff and equipment and the abruptness of the storm caused numerous problems, but believes the staff did an incredible job. She proposed formation of a **snow brigade** using volunteer residents to assign specific areas to be shoveled by persons who are interested in being part of the solution.

Julie Farrar said she received a call questioning whether the **recycle location on Marquette Street** is locked up on the weekends and Dan Kaman said it is not. Scott Miller said the entrance to the city's service center is locked, but the recycle area is open for walk-in or foot traffic only.

Dave Waddington said there is still a problem with a **taxi business operating illegally on Marlboro Street**. Don Icsman said Jim Lang, Todd Roth and Carrie Handy need to get together to talk about this problem. He said it is not realistic time to discuss additional employees, but the city has not had a zoning inspector for a number of years. He said this is the type of complaint would be for a zoning inspector to handle. Diedre Cole suggested Peter Zaehringer from Erie County Economic Development Corporation could consider this taxi business under the new business incubator program. She said there may be alternatives to relocating the business.

NEW BUSINESS

Dave Waddington said he attended the Audit/Finance Committee meeting last Friday and suggested scheduling a **public hearing date for the 2011 budget**. After discussion, it was decided to hold this special meeting on Thursday, March 10 at 6 p.m. Dave Waddington said the city has a \$3.4 million carryover. Hank Solowiej said with the last update, projections for the end of this year are at approximately \$3 - \$3.1 million. He said the revenues for 2011 are conservative and it looks like the city should finish in the black. Dave Waddington said he believes the city needs to stay conservative as there may be other implications coming our way. Dan Kaman said the City of Allen Park, Michigan, laid off their entire fire department today and he does not want to see Sandusky have to do something like this.

Dan Kaman asked for an **update at the next meeting regarding the status of the compactor truck requirement for local haulers** as this legislation took effect on January 1, but he still sees collection trucks which are not equipped with compactors.

Julie Farrar said she has been concerned with **Senate Bill 5** as it is currently written from a city level or perspective. She said the city could stand to lose its federal funding which would place the creation of a third SPARC route in jeopardy. She said there is \$171 million in federal funding that could be lost. Julie Farrar said State Representative Dennis Murray has a meeting scheduled on March 15 with U.S. Senator Portman, but this is the date the governor's budget will become public. She said Diedre Cole sent out an email about how Senate Bill 5 will affect Your Job Store and job training, but this is one more thing that would potentially be affected which helps people stay employed. She said the SPARC route takes people to their jobs and believes the city should look into the fallout for Senate Bill 5.

Upon motion of Dave Waddington and second of Julie Farrar, the commission voted to provide a letter of support to the Sandusky Lions Club supporting their fundraising efforts for new signage at Lions Park.

Discussion: Dick Brady said the funds to be raised by the Sandusky Lions Club will be utilized to purchase a new sign; he is in the sign business and will abstain from this vote.

Abstain: Dick Brady, 1. The President declared the motion passed.

Upon motion of Dave Waddington and second of Julie Farrar, the commission voted to appoint Naomi Twine to the Human Relations Commission for the remainder of a term which will end October 10, 2011. All Ayes. The President declared the motion passed.

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

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

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

OLD BUSINESS

Dan Kaman said at one of the first planning sessions held by the commission, he was accused of cutting Julie Farrar's knees out from under her with regard to the **sportsplex project**. He said he is all for this idea and that he likes the location, but is concerned about the money. Dan Kaman said Julie Farrar is comfortable with this and understands his position. He wished Julie Farrar the best of luck in jumping the hurdles.

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

Bob Warner, 1011 Third Street, asked the commission to consider providing a letter to the governor politely disagreeing with his position on Senate Bill 5 as it is currently written.

Barbara Clark, President of the N.A.A.C.P. and employee of U.S. Tsubaki, said she too has a problem with Senate Bill 5 and said the laborers are heading to Columbus tomorrow at 6 a.m. She thanked Julie Farrar for her efforts to reach out to the employees of U.S. Tsubaki. Barbara Clark said the snow removal for Sandusky was terrible and noted the difference from the north to the south side of Perkins Avenue. She asked if the city had considered asking Erie County for assistance with plowing and Dan Kaman said in addition to having their own trucks, Perkins Township gets assistance from the State of Ohio and Erie County. Barbara Clark asked if the city has established there are gangs in Sandusky and their location. Jim Lang said four gangs have been identified in certain locations in the city. Barbara Clark asked if this grant would add more police forces and Jim Lang said it will be more for educational purposes in the schools and in the detective bureau. Barbara Clark said she has received several calls about the lack of heat in local apartment buildings. She said many of the callers are under Section 8 and are afraid to complain. Carrie Handy said callers who are not under Section 8 housing can be referred to the city's code enforcement officer, Dave Trent, at 419.627.5874, as there are provisions in the city's code for minimum heating requirements. Callers who are under Section 8 should be referred to Erie Metropolitan Housing Authority.

Sharon Johnson, 1139 Fifth Street, asked about the \$171 million figure referred to with regard to possible cuts to transit services and Julie Farrar said this is the total amount of federal funding available to the State of Ohio; this amount is not the city's portion. Carrie Handy said there are provisions in federal labor law specific to transit about the rights of transit workers to have collective bargaining. She said if Senate Bill 5 passes, agencies with these employees would no longer be able to receive transit money. Carrie Handy said Wisconsin is facing the same issue and all of the city's federal money would be jeopardized (\$700,000 for the City of Sandusky). She said there is talk at the state level to exempt transit employees. Sharon Johnson asked if the city looked at comparing other contributions made to the Erie County Economic Development Corporation (ECEDC) when the city voted at their last meeting to help fund them. She asked what the director is being paid and what another employee will be paid, if hired,

and what the cost is to operate the office. Sharon Johnson said there are 82 investing members of ECEDC and if each provided \$5,000, this amounts to \$410,000.

Darlene Armour, 1007 Wayne Street, said the local code inspections being conducted for Erie Metropolitan Housing Authority have been contracted to a firm near Akron. She said the Neighborhood Advisory Committee will host a meeting on Wednesday, April 20 at 7 p.m. at the Central Fire Station to gather input from the public about their likes and dislikes in neighborhoods. Darlene Armour asked every person in the city to walk their own property and pick up litter as a cleaner city is a safer city.

Andy Ouriel, Sandusky Register, said there was an issue involving a resident who was covered in snow by a snow plow driver during the recent snow storm on Hayes Avenue. Dan Kaman asked Andy Ouriel to step from the podium if he did not have a question. Andy Ouriel asked Pervis Brown why he ranked the proposed city hall and sportsplex project higher than any other commissioner and he (Pervis Brown) said he had no comment.

At 7:02 p.m., Dan Kaman announced adjournment of the open session. Three executive sessions were held beginning at 7:15 p.m. At 8:25 p.m., Dan Kaman announced adjournment.

Kelly L. Kresser
Clerk of the City Commission

Daniel J. Kaman
President of the City Commission