

President Dan Kaman called the meeting to order at 5 p.m. Dan Kaman gave the **Invocation**, followed by the **Pledge of Allegiance**.

The Clerk **called the roll** and the following Commissioners responded: Dan Kaman, John Hamilton, Julie Farrar, Dave Waddington, Brett Fuqua and Pervis Brown. Dan Kaman said Kim Nuesse is returning from Columbus and will be late to the meeting.

**Upon motion of Pervis Brown and second of Dave Waddington, the Commission approved the minutes of the March 8 and March 15, 2010 meetings and dispensed with the oral reading of the minutes. All Ayes. The President declared the motion passed.**

**A Certificate of Commendation and a Certificate of Merit was presented by Assistant Fire Chief Paul Ricci and Sheriff Terry Lyons, respectively, to Deputy Roland Kurtz of the Erie County Sheriff's Department.** Deputy Kurtz entered a structure fire on Shoreway Drive on February 14, 2010, without regard to his own safety, to search for persons. Deputy Kurtz thanked the City and the County for the recognition and stated his wife recently read an article about not entering burning structures which she believes was directed toward him, but he said he would take the same action over again. He thanked the community for their support of the Milner family who lived in the home as it has helped them to start a new life.

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

John Ginty, 5055 Providence Drive, said he believed the company in Item #4, TransSystems, is the same company that designed the West End overpass. He said he was not happy with their work and to take this into consideration. John Ginty asked about the \$6,600 cost in Item No. 5 for 18 pipe bollards which he felt was excessive.

**Upon motion of Dave Waddington and second of Julie Farrar, the Commission voted to accept all communications. All Ayes. The President declared the motion passed.**

**ITEM #1 – This item was approved at first reading on March 8, 2010.**

**Budgetary Information:** Based on service for pickup five (5) days per week and a contract for nine (9) months, the estimated amount for the 2010 Yard Waste Collection Service is \$31,320 based on a 5% increase in customers for 2010. This amount is subject to change due to additions and deletions of customers to the program. The cost of this service will be charged back to the customers.

**ORDINANCE NO: 10-019:** It is requested an Ordinance be passed **authorizing and directing the City Manager to enter into a contract with F.S.I. Disposal/Fultz & Son, Inc., of Clyde, Ohio, for the 2010 Yard Waste Collection Service which is available for the period April 1, 2010 through December 31, 2010;** 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 authorized the passage of this Ordinance under suspension of the rules and in full accordance with Section 14 of the City Charter. Roll Call on the motion: Yeas: Dan Kaman, John Hamilton, Julie Farrar, Dave Waddington, Brett Fuqua and Pervis Brown, 6. The President declared the Motion passed. Roll Call on the Ordinance: Yeas: Dan Kaman, John Hamilton, Julie Farrar, Dave Waddington, Brett Fuqua and Pervis Brown, 6. The President declared the Ordinance passed.**

Carrie Handy introduced Charlene Adams from the Center for Cultural Awareness and thanked the Weed & Seed committee members, including Dr. Kirk Halliday, for their help in obtaining **Sandusky's designation as a Weed & Seed community**. She said two members of the Northeast Ohio U.S. Attorney's Office came to Sandusky last week to present the city with a street sign to be erected at our corporate limits which reads "Entering a Weed and Seed Community". Carrie Handy said there were only 15 sites in the country awarded this designation and it will lead to more funding down the road for us. Julie Farrar asked if Kathleen Caughill, the Grant Administrator for this project, was present, but Carrie Handy said that she was not able to be here tonight.

**ITEM #2 – Submitted by Kathryn K. McKillips, Engineer**

**Budgetary Information:** The current contract amount is \$830,055. The revised contract amount is \$824,155 to be paid with Water Funds.

**ORDINANCE NO. 10-020:** It is requested an Ordinance be passed **authorizing and directing the City Manager to approve the second and final Change Order for work being performed by D & M Painting Corporation of Washington, Pennsylvania, for the Follett Street and Mills Street Elevated Water Tank project and to deduct the contract amount by \$5,900 in relation thereto;** 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 authorized the passage of this Ordinance under suspension of the rules and in full accordance with Section 14 of the City Charter.**

*Discussion:* Julie Farrar said she likes seeing a Change Order to consider a deduction.

**Roll Call on the motion: Yeas: Dan Kaman, John Hamilton, Julie Farrar, Dave Waddington, Brett Fuqua and Pervis Brown, 6. The President declared the Motion passed. Roll Call on the Ordinance: Yeas: Dan Kaman, John Hamilton, Julie Farrar, Dave Waddington, Brett Fuqua and Pervis Brown, 6. The President declared the Ordinance passed.**

**ITEM #3 - Submitted by Kathryn K. McKillips, Engineer**

**Budgetary Information:** The current contract amount is \$2,158,550. The revised contract amount is \$2,156,890 to be paid with Water Funds.

**ORDINANCE NO. 10-021:** It is requested an Ordinance be passed **authorizing and directing the City Manager to approve the second and final Change Order for work being performed by C B & I, Inc., of Sewickley, Pennsylvania, for the Follett Street and Mills Street Elevated Water Tank project and to deduct the contract amount by \$1,660 in relation thereto;** 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 authorized the passage of this Ordinance under suspension of the rules and in full accordance with Section 14 of the City Charter. Roll Call on the motion: Yeas: Dan Kaman, John Hamilton, Julie Farrar, Dave Waddington, Brett Fuqua and Pervis Brown, 6. The President declared the Motion passed. Roll Call on the Ordinance: Yeas: Dan Kaman, John Hamilton, Julie Farrar, Dave Waddington, Brett Fuqua and Pervis Brown, 6. The President declared the Ordinance passed.**

**ITEM #4 – Submitted by Kathryn K. McKillips, Engineer**

**Budgetary Information:** The cost of the detail engineering is \$202,161, to be paid with Sewer Funds. It is anticipated that the work required in the sewer pump station will exceed the cost of the overall project design cost. Due to the lack of funding in the City Capital Fund, Sewer Funds are being used in the forefront of the project to keep the project moving forward. At the time of construction, City Capital will be required to pay its share of the project cost.

**ORDINANCE NO. 10-022:** It is requested an Ordinance be passed **authorizing and directing the City Manager to enter into a First Amendment to the Agreement for Professional Design Services with TransSystems Corporation of Cleveland, Ohio, for the Camp Street Underpass Rehabilitation 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 Dave Waddington, the Commission authorized the passage of this Ordinance under suspension of the rules and in full accordance with Section 14 of the City Charter.**

*Discussion:* Dave Waddington said he met with Kathy McKillips regarding this project and \$1.6 million of the total cost is being paid through Federal Highway Funds as approved by the Metropolitan Planning Organization. He said some of the proposed steps for the improvement project have been eliminated and will reduce our costs. Kathy McKillips said the stairs at the South end of the underpass have been eliminated and the North end will be ramped. She said the walls will not be textured like the S.R. 4 underpass but instead will have a sandy finish and a pattern on the upper walls with sealant applied to the concrete. Julie Farrar said TransSystems is the company that performed design work, including an alternate study and preliminary engineering for the West End Overpass, but they are not doing the detailed design and engineering for the project. Dan Kaman said he believed the city's choice was dictated by the Ohio Department of Transportation and Kathy McKillips confirmed the TRAC subcommittee suggested using TransSystems because of their expertise. Ed Widman said funds are being used from the Sewer Fund for this expenditure but capital funds will be required to pay its share of the project cost. Kathy McKillips said it is estimated the project cost will be \$2 million with

approximately \$400,000 coming from Capital Funds and at the time of construction, CDBG funding will be allocated to pay for the improvements. Dave Waddington said although construction for this project will not begin until 2012, he is happy to see that it is on our schedule.

**Roll Call on the motion: Yeas: Dan Kaman, John Hamilton, Julie Farrar, Dave Waddington, Brett Fuqua and Pervis Brown, 6. The President declared the Motion passed. Roll Call on the Ordinance: Yeas: Dan Kaman, John Hamilton, Julie Farrar, Dave Waddington, Brett Fuqua and Pervis Brown, 6. The President declared the Ordinance passed.**

**ITEM #5 – Submitted by Kathryn K. McKillips, Engineer**

**Budgetary Information:** The Change Order No. 5 will increase the contract with Mosser Construction by \$10,820.60. The revised contract amount is \$16,707,444.74. The city's share of the Change Order is \$6,611.39 to be paid with Sewer Funds through the project's OWDA loan. Erie County's share is \$4,209.21.

**ORDINANCE NO. 10-023:** It is requested an Ordinance be passed **authorizing and directing the City Manager to approve the fifth Change Order for work being performed for the Wastewater Treatment Plant Expansion Project Phase II in the amount of \$10,820.60 to be paid to Mosser Construction of Fremont, Ohio;** 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 John Hamilton, the Commission authorized the passage of this Ordinance under suspension of the rules and in full accordance with Section 14 of the City Charter.**

*Discussion:* Dave Waddington said the first item in the communication includes the removal of a flowmeter, 8-point calibration requirements and these are all deducts to the contract; the second and third items were requested by the Fire Chief, and; the fourth item was unknown to the contractor until the project began. Kathy McKillips said the city did review performing the necessary work for installation of 18 pipe bollards, but felt the liability was too great because of underground sewer lines and other facilities.

**Roll Call on the motion: Yeas: Dan Kaman, John Hamilton, Julie Farrar, Dave Waddington, Brett Fuqua and Pervis Brown, 6. The President declared the Motion passed. Roll Call on the Ordinance: Yeas: Dan Kaman, John Hamilton, Julie Farrar, Dave Waddington, Brett Fuqua and Pervis Brown, 6. The President declared the Ordinance passed.**

**ITEM #6 – Submitted by Kathryn K. McKillips, Engineer**

**Budgetary Information:** The Change Order No. 2 will increase the contract with Industrial Power Systems by \$2,294.22. The revised contract amount is \$568,603.67, which remains within the original project budget. The city's share of the Change Order is \$1,401.77 and will be paid with Sewer Funds through the project's OWDA loan and Erie County's share is \$892.45.

**ORDINANCE NO. 10-024:** It is requested an Ordinance be passed **authorizing and directing the City Manager to approve the second Change Order for work being performed for the Wastewater Treatment Plant Expansion Project Phase II in the amount of \$2,294.22 to be paid to Industrial Power Systems of Maumee, Ohio;** 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 Pervis Brown, the Commission authorized the passage of this Ordinance under suspension of the rules and in full accordance with Section 14 of the City Charter.**

*Discussion:* Dave Waddington pointed out the existing roof structure is made of lightweight channels and posts that will not support the new construction which is the reason for this Change Order.

**Roll Call on the motion: Yeas: Dan Kaman, John Hamilton, Julie Farrar, Dave Waddington, Brett Fuqua and Pervis Brown, 6. The President declared the Motion passed. Roll Call on the Ordinance: Yeas: Dan Kaman, John Hamilton, Julie Farrar, Dave Waddington, Brett Fuqua and Pervis Brown, 6. The President declared the Ordinance passed.**

**ITEM #7 – Submitted by Carrie R. Handy, Chief Planner**

**Budgetary Information:** The grant project will not require the city to expend any additional monies from the city's General Fund for matching funds. The local match will be comprised of in-kind labor by City of Sandusky staff and the utilization of 25 non-host species trees from the city's nursery.

**RESOLUTION NO.011-10R:** It is requested a Resolution be passed **authorizing the filing of an Application with the Ohio Department of Natural Resources Division of Forestry through the Western Lake Erie Basin Emerald Ash Borer Grant Program for the removal of trees and planting of non-host species;** 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 Brett Fuqua, the Commission authorized the passage of this Resolution under suspension of the rules and in full accordance with Section 14 of the City Charter.**

*Discussion:* Dave Waddington noted the submission deadline for this grant is March 30 and the reason it needs to be done right away.

**Roll Call on the motion: Yeas: Dan Kaman, John Hamilton, Julie Farrar, Dave Waddington, Brett Fuqua and Pervis Brown, 6. The President declared the Motion passed. Roll Call on the Resolution: Yeas: Dan Kaman, John Hamilton, Julie Farrar, Dave Waddington, Brett Fuqua and Pervis Brown, 6. The President declared the Resolution passed.**

**ITEM #8 – Submitted by Michele Hall, Recreation Program Supervisor**

**Budgetary Information:** The Agreements will not result in any additional budgetary expenses. The city will benefit from the agreed upon rental fee of \$202 per month which includes rent, electric service and phone service.

**ORDINANCE NO. 10-025:** It is requested an Ordinance be passed **authorizing and directing the City Manager to enter into an Agreement, substantially in the same form as attached, with Don Drummond (d.b.a. North Shore Bait and Tackle), for the operation of a retail business for the sale of bait and tackle and concession items at the building located at the Shelby Street Boat Launch Ramp facility;** 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 Brett Fuqua, the Commission authorized the passage of this Ordinance under suspension of the rules and in full accordance with Section 14 of the City Charter.**

*Discussion:* Dave Waddington said he is glad to see Don Drummond back for his second year and believes that with the bait shop open, the many fishing tournaments scheduled and the pathway extension at this area, it will be a well used recreational place. Julie Farrar said she never realized the large number of fishing tournaments held at the boat launch ramp.

**Roll Call on the motion: Yeas: Dan Kaman, John Hamilton, Julie Farrar, Dave Waddington, Brett Fuqua and Pervis Brown, 6. The President declared the Motion passed. Roll Call on the Ordinance: Yeas: Dan Kaman, John Hamilton, Julie Farrar, Dave Waddington, Brett Fuqua and Pervis Brown, 6. The President declared the Ordinance passed.**

**ITEM #9 – Submitted by Carrie R. Handy, Chief Planner**

**Budgetary Information:** Pictures of the final Master Plans and cost estimates for each plaza are attached to the communication. It is noted that these Master Plans can be developed in phases as funds become available to the city. Certain line items can also be omitted if funds cannot be secured in order to reduce the costs of plaza development.

**ORDINANCE NO. 10-026:** It is requested an Ordinance be passed **approving the Chesapeake Plazas Master Plans;** 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 Pervis Brown and second of John Hamilton, the Commission authorized the passage of this Ordinance under suspension of the rules and in full accordance with Section 13 of the City Charter.**

*Discussion:* Dave Waddington said he supports the rough total of \$750,000 which is built into phases for this project and it will keep progress moving along the waterfront. Julie Farrar said she will be glad to finish something.

**Roll Call on the motion: Yeas: Dan Kaman, John Hamilton, Julie Farrar, Dave Waddington, Brett Fuqua and Pervis Brown, 6. The President declared the Motion passed. Roll Call on the Ordinance: Yeas: Dan Kaman, John Hamilton, Julie Farrar, Dave Waddington, Brett Fuqua and Pervis Brown, 6. The President declared the Ordinance passed.**

#### ITEM #10

**ORDINANCE NO. 10-027:** It is requested an Ordinance be passed **making General Appropriations for the Fiscal Year 2010;** 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 Brett Fuqua, the Commission authorized the passage of this Ordinance under suspension of the rules and in full accordance with Section 14 of the City Charter.**

*Discussion:* Dave Waddington asked Hank Solowiej to give a brief review of the Audit/Finance Committee meeting held last Friday. Hank Solowiej said Admissions, Hotel/Motel and Income Taxes are all down approximately 10% YTD from 2009; February was down by 19% but March numbers appear to be better. Hank Solowiej said the city budgeted for a 10% reduction and we are cautiously optimistic with the two union contracts yet to be resolved and more savings to be realized through those and the staff reductions. Dan Kaman said he wished to stress the city previously had a \$900,000 deficit which ballooned to \$1.7 million; currently, the city's projected deficit is at \$250,000. He said this deficit will be measured and handled in June or July and we will continue to look at the numbers each month. He said this has been tough but 'we got there' and hopefully things will pick up and he hopes for a good year for Cedar Point. Dan Kaman thanked the staff for following through on a City Commission directive though things have not been fun or easy. Pervis Brown said he would like to comment after the vote.

**Roll Call on the motion: Yeas: Dan Kaman, John Hamilton, Julie Farrar, Dave Waddington, Brett Fuqua and Pervis Brown, 6. The President declared the Motion passed. Roll Call on the Ordinance: Yeas: Dan Kaman, John Hamilton, Julie Farrar, Dave Waddington, Brett Fuqua and Pervis Brown, 6. The President declared the Ordinance passed.**

*Discussion:* Pervis Brown said he attended the Audit/Finance Committee meeting on Friday and some concerns were brought up and he believes adjustments should be made to the budget process. He said there are currently different formulas used in each department and asked for direction from the City Manager to get the correct tools to update our process and make it more uniform. He said each department should work from the same type of sheets and there should be a process to be accountable for prioritizing and spending as determined by the needs for the current year. He said there are computer mechanisms and programs available to set forth a standardized procedure to work from. Hank Solowiej told Pervis Brown that he (Hank) believes we may be able to have this in place for next budget year. In the same respect, members of the Audit/Finance Committee should prioritize expenditures and set up a program for our vehicles and supplies on a continual basis, not based upon 'who gets there first'.

**Upon motion of Pervis Brown and second of Brett Fuqua, the Commission voted to direct the City Manager and the Finance Department to come up with a process whereby each Department would be uniform in the submission of their budget.**

*Discussion:* Brett Fuqua asked if this were possible and Ed Widman said some years have been more uniform than others. He said some departments have more customized information and said it would be good to have everyone using the same format.

**Roll Call on the motion: Yeas: Dan Kaman, John Hamilton, Julie Farrar, Dave Waddington, Brett Fuqua and Pervis Brown, 6. The President declared the Motion passed.**

**CITY MANAGER'S REPORT**

**Upon motion of Dave Waddington and second of Pervis Brown, the Commission voted to accept a donation in the amount of \$20 from Charlene Margetiak for the Friends of the Greenhouse Endowment Fund. All Ayes. The President declared the motion passed.**

Don Icsman requested **approval to have John Hancock & Associates perform specialized professional services for the First Street Survey from Cedar Point Drive to Meigs Street** because of his knowledge and expertise. He indicated formal legislation will be on the Agenda for the April 12 City Commission meeting as this payment will be slightly over \$10,000.

**Upon motion of Pervis Brown and second of Julie Farrar, the Commission authorized permission for the Acting City Manager to hire John Hancock & Associates to perform work associated with the First Street Survey between Cedar Point Drive and Meigs Street.**

*Discussion:* Dave Waddington said First Street is scheduled for resurfacing in 2013 using MPO funds.

**Roll Call on the motion: Yeas: Dan Kaman, John Hamilton, Julie Farrar, Dave Waddington, Brett Fuqua and Pervis Brown, 6. The President declared the Motion passed.**

Don Icsman said a **Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) has been distributed between the City of Sandusky and Erie County to dispense gasoline for the Sandusky Transit System (STS) vehicles and other vehicles in the city's fleet and will be a win/win situation for the city and the county.** He said the MOU will be brought back to the table, along with legislation, at the April 12 City Commission meeting. This will save money on fuel using the county's facilities and will generate an obligation to help with improvements going forward. Carrie Handy said the Erie County Highway Engineering Department is working on preparing the costs to upgrade the diesel tanks and we will be looking at using this too. Dave Waddington asked what the administrative cost savings are per gallon and Carrie Handy said it is about \$.02 per gallon to maintain the facility, purchase fuel, etc. Carrie Handy said good prices are realized by purchasing through a consortium or through a State program. Don Icsman said although Fuelman is convenient, it does not save us money and this is something for us to explore.

Don Icsman said a **brochure and waiver for the city's Adopt-A-Park program is available in the City Clerk's Office, the City Manager's Office or on our website for persons wishing to help clean up a park on either a one-time or a regular basis.** He said announcing this program for the public should be a priority and it recently came to light because of an email from Randy and Pat Hugg who live on Lawrence Street.

- *Note: Kim Nuesse arrived at the meeting at 5:41 p.m.*

Don Icsman said a **statement was received from the State Theatre requesting payment for 2009 and sponsorship for 2010 for Christmas Point, USA.** He said he made a copy of the email from Matt Kline for the City Commissioners and strongly suggested approval of payment for 2009, but does not know about payment for this year. Dave Waddington questioned how this sponsorship went from \$5,000 to \$7,500 and asked if it was paid from the Battery Park Tax Incremental Financing (TIF) which he believes has a balance of approximately \$20,000. He said \$5,000 is a lot of money for one window and thought the City Commissioners, at the time, were not crazy about this idea. He asked if the city's 2008 contribution was paid from the TIF and Don Icsman said that it was. Don Icsman said going forward, funding will be up to the City Commissioners. Dave Waddington asked what this generates and Don Icsman said he believes the argument is Christmas Point, USA, is considered economic development and brings people into town. Ed Widman stated he attends meetings on the city's behalf and said persons from the State Theatre feel these window displays bring in quite a few people during the Christmas season when normally not much else going on.

**Upon motion of Julie Farrar and second of Kim Nuesse, the Commission voted to make payment to the State Theatre in the amount of \$5,000 for the 2009 Christmas Point, USA, window display.**

*Discussion:* Brett Fuqua said he is torn about this issue. He understands and is willing to pay for 2009 and not shirk our responsibility, but does not believe it is okay to approve this money for 2010 when we just had layoffs of Police Officers and Fire Fighters. He said he may get beat up by the "Friends of the State Theatre", but our safety service forces have worked with us during negotiations; this window display costs a lot of money and he believes people will still come downtown to see our lights. He said

we may be able to look at this later in the year if we find our revenues are different than estimated, but he cannot look at the citizens and the employees if we approve this. Dave Waddington asked how this went from \$7,500 - to no payment - to \$5,000. Ed Widman said the email mentions the recommendation for \$7,500 but was never processed for payment last year; the city only paid \$5,000 in 2008. Dave Waddington asked if this falls under Economic Development and Don Icsman said he has not put a lot of thought into this but cannot quantify the benefit and, in fairness, if Matt Kline said we were going to make the contribution, we should pay it. Don Icsman said the employees understand TIF funds, like Sewer and Water Funds, can only be used for certain purposes and not for employee wages and/or fringe benefits. Dave Waddington said there are Christmas displays needing repaired and repainted and Mr. Gallagher touches these up for us to get through each year; he asked if we could use TIF money for this purpose. Don Icsman said they probably can be used, but rightly or wrongly, the State Theatre was promised this payment, has relied upon it, and it should be paid. He said he is not aware of the reason it grew to \$7,500 and questioned whether the display had grown since the year we contributed only \$5,000. Julie Farrar said she feels the same way as the rest of the Commissioners about spending money for a window display, but feels we need to pay the invoice for 2009 and that is what the motion is for. Pervis Brown stated it is vital that as we make decisions, we understand that our word is our bond and we should be decisive when we make a commitment and keep our word.

**Roll Call on the motion: Yeas: Dan Kaman, John Hamilton, Kim Nuesse, Julie Farrar, Dave Waddington, Brett Fuqua and Pervis Brown, 7. The President declared the Motion passed.**

Don Icsman requested **approval to submit an application to the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) for the Cooperative Boating Facility Grant which is due April 1, 2010.** He said this will be ratified by placement on the April 12 City Commission Agenda through legislation and noted the information and draft application was distributed for consideration. **He said these grant funds will be utilized to make improvements at the Paper District marina.**

**Upon motion of Brett Fuqua and second of Dave Waddington, the Commission voted to grant permission for the Acting City Manager to submit a Grant Application to the ODNR for the Cooperative Boating Facility Grant which is due April 1. All Ayes. The President declared the motion passed.**

Don Icsman said **the city will be once again participating in the Heritage Ohio, Inc's. - Ohio Main Street Program for Calendar Year 2010 and has distributed the cooperative agreement.** He said this is being distributed to keep the Commissioners informed and to provide support for the Sandusky Main Street Association; there is no financial or contractual obligation for the city.

**Upon motion of Kim Nuesse and second of Brett Fuqua, the Commission voted to allow the Acting City Manager to enter into an agreement with Heritage Ohio, Inc's. - Ohio Main Street Program for Calendar Year 2010. All Ayes. The President declared the motion passed.**

Don Icsman said **the city recently mailed the 2010 Map & Information Guide and wanted to state publicly that the advertisers paid for the costs associated with this publication rather than spending city funds.** Brett Fuqua said he received a call from a downtown business partner who did not receive information about advertising and asked him about the process by which the advertisers were chosen since no one spoke with her. Kelly Kresser said she talked to this particular business owner from downtown and said Municipal Publications, the company that prepared this publication, provided a listing of the businesses contacted and said the salesman walked the downtown area for 4 – 5 full days making cold calls to businesses. She did not know if this particular business was open or if the owner was not present, but she (Kelly) assured the owner she would be contacted next time.

Dave Waddington said the **local business roundtable meetings** will begin again tomorrow morning and there will not be a formal agenda. He said the Department Heads and City Commissioners were invited to attend. He said we will provide a review of current economic development opportunities including assistance for starting up new businesses and a contact person will be identified at City Hall for job retention purposes. Don Icsman said George Poulos will be the contact for the city but is unable to attend this initial meeting.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

Dave Waddington asked Carrie Handy to provide an update **on the Lions Park project.** Carrie Handy said a quarterly meeting was held recently with the Steering Committee and the city has applied for two

grants, the first of which is the Land & Water Conservation grant approved tonight. The other is a Capital Budget request to the State of Ohio in the amount of \$40,000. If awarded, funding from these grants will be earmarked for play equipment and restroom facilities. Another grant will be submitted for the engineering and construction work necessary to re-grade the shoreline and is due in April. Carrie Handy said a meeting recently took place with staff from The Collaborative and John Hancock & Associates to determine what work needs to be done prior to construction for the utility lines and the final grades. Dave Waddington said concentration has been placed on safety concerns including the lighting plan and Carrie Handy said a major priority is getting the shoreline work done by September, 2010. Dan Kaman said the city has laid-off employees yet is pursuing grants for recreation. He wants people to understand we have scaled back and are looking at all of our departments but our staff looks for any grant opportunities, not just those for parks. John Hamilton asked if the city could use money from the Weed and Seed grant for these improvements and Carrie Handy said we could use these monies to provide extra patrols. John Hancock asked if the increase in federal funding by President Obama would provide additional monies for us and Carrie Handy said these would probably not increase until next fiscal year which starts October 1.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

**Upon motion of Dave Waddington and second of Julie Farrar, the Commission voted to repaint the tennis courts North of City Hall and trim the trees around the courts.**

*Discussion:* Dave Waddington said students from St. Mary's High School use these courts for their home matches and the back lines need to be addressed. He also said the city should look at repaving the courts next year. Pervis Brown asked where the funds will come from and Don Icsman said he is not sure where the money would come from for the paint, but at the least, this is all we can do this year. Don Icsman said no one really knows that the cracks are the result of the trees and/or roots and does not want to just remove them. Don Icsman said he would also like to revisit the lease with Battery Park Marina as he believes there may be a shared responsibility for significant improvements. Dave Waddington said he believes the staff at the school would be satisfied if the courts get painted and the trees trimmed this year. Pervis Brown said we need to keep awareness of our finances and Kim Nuesse stated there should be monies in a line item in the General Services Department for the purchase of the paint. Scott Miller said this project was not accounted for this year as he just learned about it last week and the plans for our paint have already been outlined for 2010.

**Roll Call on the motion: Yeas: Dan Kaman, John Hamilton, Kim Nuesse, Julie Farrar, Dave Waddington, Brett Fuqua and Pervis Brown, 7. The President declared the Motion passed.**

**Upon motion of Kim Nuesse and second of Dave Waddington, the Commission voted to provide a letter of support for a grant application for Gene Hawk similar to the one prepared for Lance Warner. All Ayes. The President declared the motion passed.**

Kim Nuesse said she would like to discuss the **proposal for a Comprehensive Analysis of the Police and Fire Services for the City of Sandusky as provided by the ICMA**. She has read over this proposal to look at efficiency, service delivery, workload analysis, call volume (emergency vs. non-emergency) and quality of our service delivery to make recommendations for significant savings for the city.

**Upon motion of Kim Nuesse and second of Brett Fuqua, the Commission voted to accept and proceed with this study.**

*Discussion:* Pervis Brown said the cost factor concerns him and the potential to realize that amount of savings which is \$63,000. He asked if we knew what period of time would be needed to recoup our \$63,000 and if there will be future savings if we are to expend this kind of money. Brett Fuqua said he had the opportunity to meet with Leonard Matarese and although he did not recall a specific timeframe to recoup our monies, the study would pay for itself over time. He said we need to find out where we can be more efficient to determine whether layoffs were needed, but he understands \$63,000 is a lot of money. Julie Farrar said she received the proposal today upon her return from vacation and that while in Arizona, she had the opportunity to visit three Chambers of Commerce where similar studies were performed. The ICMA prepared a study for the City of Lake Havasu and the majority of the Council members felt they paid too much money for the recommendations and probably could have done the study themselves, although they were happy with the results. Julie Farrar said for the \$63,000 cost, this may be something we could do ourselves as we already have the data for call volumes and GIS reports. She said we could take down the barrier between labor and management as she believes the

International Association of Fire Fighters (IAFF) would do this for free. If the city performed its own study utilizing the IAFF, the results could then be compared. She said the information the Fire Fighters have is current and was used for the recent Income Tax levy. Pervis Brown suggested tabling this until more research is done and more discussions take place so an intelligent vote can be taken. John Hamilton said he agrees with Pervis Brown that we should look at the data ourselves rather than pay for a confirmation or an affirmation of what we may already know. Kim Nuesse said that we do have the data in both departments, but we are facing leaders in charge who have gone up through the ranks and are unable to provide an objective opinion. She said we need an outside, objective opinion from a company that specializes in this type of thing and \$63,000 is less than the cost of one Fire Fighter or one Police Officer. She said we can recoup this amount of savings in one year. She said the City of Huron recently conducted a study with ICMA and spoke very highly of them and their costs were recouped over one year. Kim Nuesse said there is no such thing as a free lunch; they (ICMA) are experts in the field, have no union background and do not have a propensity for a certain outcome. She said we should be moving forward and not be penny pinching and pound foolish as \$63,000 is not a lot of money to pay experienced people to give us good solid information to reflect on so we can implement what is practical for our community. She said we are delaying the inevitable by tabling this as our revenues are falling. She said people in the Police and Fire Department are saying they are understaffed and that calls are going up. When Leonard Matarese was here, one of things he spoke about was dissecting the calls and separating emergency calls from non-emergency calls and prioritizing them to more effectively and efficiently provide service delivery. She said all the communities she has worked for have had increases in call volume during warmer weather months and they (ICMA) will determine whether the tourism factor affects our call volume. She said we cannot look at this in-house objectively and urged the other Commissioners to commission this study. She said we will get the good information through implementation of one or two or three of the recommendations to realize more savings for the cost of \$63,000. She said she would rather do this than permit inexperienced people who will predetermine or are pre-disposed for a certain result. Don Icsman said he has extra copies of the proposal for the public.

Dan Kaman said he supports this but knows the city will get beat up for commissioning another study. He said this is a study to be done by professionals and if it is performed, we will implement the recommendations. He said we should be careful as this may tell us something we do not want to hear or do. Citizens voted the fire station down twice but the Commissioners at the time voted to build it and said he does not feel it is a good idea right now. He said Police and Fire are looked at differently than they were two years ago and we need someone to guide us.

Brett Fuqua said he does believe we need this study but he does not think the results would be as one-sided as stated. He said this would be done with the best interests in mind whether performed by union or non-union persons. John Hamilton asked if this may cause us to have to reopen the Collective Bargaining Agreements and this (study) is a good idea, but it is being suggested at the wrong time. He said we should have discussed this prior to settling one of the contracts and we should consider this before reopening the next round of negotiations. Kim Nuesse said one thing the City Commissioners can do with this study in three to four months is tie it to performance objectives for a new City Manager or the Acting City Manager to implement and/or achieve the recommendations within the next 18 months. She said a lot of the recommendations may not have anything to do with collective bargaining. Pervis Brown said he would like to go on record that he does not oppose the study, but thinks the timing is terrible. He said the city is still trying to balance its budget, complete negotiations for two union contracts and facing more layoffs in June. He said he is opposed to spending \$63,000 for a study and cannot justify the expense. He said he cannot look at people who are losing their jobs if we spend \$63,000 for a study at this time and feels this would be a bad move. Kim Nuesse said she appreciates all perspectives presented but does not agree; she does not have a problem looking people in the eye and stating we need this study, we need to become a more professional company and this would be money wisely spent. She said it is the time to make the investment in order to reap longer term benefits. She said this study will tell us how to operate more efficiently and effectively, will make the community feel confident for having made well informed decisions and to look at restructuring how we do business. She said this is reasonably priced and strongly urged her fellow Commissioners to take this into consideration. Julie Farrar said she cannot support this at this time although she understands where everyone is coming from. She does not agree it would be as lopsided as was stated to do the study ourselves and questioned why we should pay \$63,000 to be told something we want to hear. She asked how in depth and personal the study would be and also has concerns about remarks being 'cut and pasted' from a study performed in California for the City of Lake Havasu. Julie Farrar said the staff has bent over backwards to help with the budget and has made concessions; she believes they would be forthcoming and ready to help us and we should empower the people on the front lines to be a part of the solution. Kim Nuesse said the ICMA included a scope of the work proposed and there is no one qualified in our Police or Fire Department currently who can do this job. She said the ICMA staff has a

technical background and specialized systems to collate the data and that people without training cannot do this. She said a list of other communities nationwide who had commissioned studies for their safety service departments are listed in the proposal and we could make calls to persons in these communities and ask them questions. She said we could ask them if they saved money, if they were able to recoup their investment and the pros and cons of using ICMA. If the Commissioners would prefer, Kim Nuesse said she would change her motion to research this issue further rather than doing it in-house as we do not have anyone qualified or this would have already been brought forward to this Commission. **Dan Kaman asked if Kim Nuesse would like to withdraw her previous motion and she said that she would; Brett Fuqua withdrew his second.** Brett Fuqua said we should consider tabling this to do more investigation. He said we do need it, but would like to do more research first.

**Upon motion of Kim Nuesse and second of Brett Fuqua, the Commission voted to table the motion to have the ICMA perform this study in order to do further research and have more discussion. All Ayes. The President declared the motion passed.**

**Upon motion of John Hamilton and second of Pervis Brown, the Commission voted to have an Executive Session regarding Collective Bargaining. Roll Call on the motion: Yeas: Dan Kaman, John Hamilton, Kim Nuesse, Julie Farrar, Dave Waddington, Brett Fuqua and Pervis Brown, 7. The President declared the Motion passed.**

**Upon motion of John Hamilton and second of Kim Nuesse, the Commission voted to have an Executive Session regarding the Information Technology Department. Roll Call on the motion: Yeas: Dan Kaman, John Hamilton, Kim Nuesse, Julie Farrar, Dave Waddington and Brett Fuqua, 6.\* The President declared the Motion passed.**

**Upon motion of John Hamilton and second of Brett Fuqua, the Commission voted to have an Executive Session regarding Land Acquisition. Roll Call on the motion: Yeas: Dan Kaman, John Hamilton, Kim Nuesse, Julie Farrar, Dave Waddington and Brett Fuqua, 6.\* The President declared the Motion passed.**

*\*Note: Pervis Brown left the room and was not present for the last two votes.*

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

Sharon Johnson, 1139 Fifth Street, asked what the city's plans are for the Service Center which is now sitting empty and suggested renting the office space. Dan Kaman said there are no plans yet for these offices. Sharon Johnson asked how much money was in the EMS Fund and Hank Solowiej said the balance in this Fund was approximately \$1.4 million at the beginning of the year. Since the layoffs, the Fund currently is at \$254,000. Sharon Johnson asked what grants the city is looking for with the Paper District as she felt the Commissioners were talking in code. Dan Kaman said she should call him or stop by City Hall if she feels anyone is talking in code. He said the grant discussed tonight has a deadline in April and is for the marina project in The Paper District which is why Don Icsman had it in his Manager's Report. Don Icsman said he will bring back legislation to ratify our application in order to meet the April 1 deadline which is prior to the next regular meeting. He said the city received monies from this grant previously but were not able to spend the money and had to return it. He said the monies will help to make this project a reality and the city searches out all grant opportunities. Sharon Johnson asked the amount of Gene Hawk's grant request and Kim Nuesse said he is applying for a grant to develop the Keller Building.

John Ginty, 5055 Providence Drive, asked if the city is considering repairs to the Columbus Avenue underpass. John Ginty asked if the city was provided a list of other comparable cities which have been studied by the ICMA and Kim Nuesse said there were other comparable cities. John Ginty asked about combining Departments according to technology changes and Kim Nuesse said the ICMA has studied communities similar to ours. She said we have the technology to provide the data and their job is to analyze it. John Ginty said the Commissioners recently considered placing signage at the entrances to the city recognizing athletes and he said there are already too many signs and that drivers should be paying attention to traffic, not signage.

Diedre Cole, 807 Hancock Street, asked about the Paper District marina grant and the 50% match required as there are already 1,211 slips within a 10-mile radius. Dan Kaman said the proposed 62 additional slips will provide for transient dockage since, currently, he believes there are less than 50 transient slips.

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At 6:43 p.m., Dan Kaman adjourned the regular session for a five minute recess; three Executive Sessions were then held beginning at 6:50 p.m.

At 7:55 p.m., the City Commissioners returned to the table and Dan Kaman declared adjournment.

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Kelly L. Kresser  
Clerk of the City Commission

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Daniel J. Kaman  
President of the City Commission