

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

The clerk called **the roll** and the following Commissioners responded: Jeff Smith, Julie Farrar, Pervis Brown, John Hamilton, Diedre Cole, Wesley Poole and Keith Grohe.

**City staff present:** Todd Roth – Engineer, Jim Lang – Interim Police Chief, Paul Ricci – Fire Chief, Scott Miller – General Services Director, Thomas Schwan – Sandusky Transit Administrator, Tom Whitted– IT Manager, Don Icsman – Law Director, Nicole Ard - City Manager, Hank Solowiej – Finance Director and Kelly Kresser – Commission Clerk.

**Upon motion of Pervis Brown and second of Diedre Cole, the commission voted to approve the minutes of the March 26, 2012 meeting and dispensed with the oral reading. Roll call on the motion: Yeas: Jeff Smith, Julie Farrar, Pervis Brown, John Hamilton, Diedre Cole, Wesley Poole and Keith Grohe, 7. The President declared the motion passed.**

#### **AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION** (*agenda items only*)

Sharon Johnson, 1139 Fifth Street, asked if the awnings requested for placement in the downtown area will all be uniform (Item #2).

Tim Stookey, 1307 Fifth Street, asked what type of engines will be in the new vehicles proposed for purchase as the fuel costs for a V8 will only allow for 6 – 9 miles per gallon of gas (Items 4 and 5).

#### **PUBLIC HEARING**

**A Public Hearing was held regarding the addition of the Sandusky-Perkins Area Ride Connection (SPARC) 3 route for the Sandusky Transit System (STS).**

Thomas Schwan said the purpose of the public hearing is to discuss and accept comments about the addition of the SPARC 3 route to operate on the west side of Sandusky including stops at:

- Kroger's parking lot
- Buchanan Street/Hayes Avenue
- Firelands Regional Medical Center main campus
- Adams Street (at Sandusky Library and courthouse)
- Central Avenue/Jefferson Street
- McDonough Street/West Monroe Street
- West Monroe Street/Clinton Street
- West Monroe Street/Mills Street
- West Monroe Street/Superior Street
- Lions Park
- Edgewater Avenue/Venice Road
- Crossroads Homeless Shelter
- Akro Mills on Venice Road
- Venice Road/Thorpe Drive
- Venice Heights Boulevard/Venice Elementary School
- Venice Heights Boulevard/Bardshar Road
- Commons of Providence
- Greyhound Station
- NOMS Health Care Center
- Perkin High School (upon request)

Thomas Schwan said the SPARC routes provide affordable daily transportation for individuals needing to travel from the City of Sandusky to their places of employment in the suburban neighboring community of Perkins Township. The point deviation routes incorporate various neighborhood and downtown stops within the City of Sandusky and commercial establishments in Perkins Township along the Milan Road corridor. Stops in the City of Sandusky were determined based on the knowledge of existing transit demand areas and those neighborhoods with a large lower income and disabled population. Milan Road stops are locations on both the east and west side of the corridor allowing convenient access to groups of employment sites.

The SPARC routes, when originally started, were an expansion of evening hours for public transportation services and provide a very low cost transportation alternative which did not require advance scheduling. Having dependable transportation at set times and evening service was especially important to those workers in the retail and hospitality industries who usually work later and are often asked to stay extra hours at the end of their shifts.

Thomas Schwan said the intent of this project is to increase efficiency and use transit dollars as wisely as possible. The efficiency of the SPARC routes is almost two times greater than the STS regular demand response service. In 2011, the SPARC routes transported 9.4 passengers per hour, whereas the demand response service provided was only in the 3/passengers per hour range.

The SPARC route has been very popular in the Sandusky area and ridership has continued to increase over the last three years. In 2009, SPARC 1 transported 19,911 passengers, in 2010 it transported 34,633 passengers for an increase of 73.9%; in 2011, SPARC 1 transported 39,513 passengers. It was so popular the city added a SPARC 2 route in 2010 which stops at some of the same locations as the original SPARC route. New stops were added including Kalahari Indoor Water Park and Resort which is a major local employer. Ridership in 2010, which started in June, was 11,559 passenger trips, with ridership increasing to 45,711 passenger trips in 2011. Free transfers are offered between the two SPARC routes. It is anticipated the success and ridership on the SPARC routes will continue in 2012. It is the goal of STS staff for ridership to surpass the 100,000 passenger mark in 2012.

The addition of the SPARC 3 route would employ one light transit vehicle and one larger 35', 35-passenger transit bus in service from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m., Monday through Saturday. The vehicles would stop once an hour at each predetermined stop. Prior to the SPARC route service in 2009, there was no public service after 6 p.m. as the STS normal operating hours are Monday through Saturday, from 6 a.m. – 6 p.m. The non-availability of evening service was always a major barrier in job retention for hospitality and retail jobs. In 2011, the SPARC routes transported over 17,105 passengers between 6 p.m. to 10 p.m.

Passenger fares will be \$1 per person per one-way trip. STS's current fare from Sandusky to Perkins Township is \$3 per one way trip at regular fare and \$1.50 for the elderly and disabled. Thus, the roundtrip cost would be reduced from \$6 to \$2. Serving Our Seniors offers a free ride pass for seniors aged 65 years and older. STS has also made available "30 Day Unlimited Ride Tickets" which can be purchased for \$50 and used on all SPARC routes. As a deviated route, the vehicle would attempt to be at each timed stop as scheduled, but it is understood that the vehicle can deviate from the route up to ¼ of a mile in any direction in order to accommodate passenger needs. The vehicle would then return to its regularly scheduled route and time.

Thomas Schwan said a 30-day public comment period will begin on April 9, and expire on May 8, 2012. The public is invited to comment on the new SPARC 3 route. Information on the new service is available from the STS dispatch office: 419.627.0740 or 419.627.0220, via email: [tschwan@ci.sandusky.oh.us](mailto:tschwan@ci.sandusky.oh.us), or written request to Thomas Schwan, Transit Administrator, City of Sandusky, 1230 North Depot Street, Sandusky, OH 44870.

**John Hamilton asked if any members of the public would like to speak for or against the addition of a SPARC 3 route by the Sandusky Transit System.** Diedre Cole commended Thomas Schwan for the tremendous efforts made to improve the STS since he came to the City of Sandusky.

Sharon Johnson, 1139 Fifth Street, asked if the proposed new SPARC 3 route will have a stop at Victory Kitchen. Thomas Schwan said there is a stop a little further down from Victory Kitchen at a crosswalk and will provide a safer crossing. Sharon Johnson said the proposed new route goes to Lions Park and asked if there is an age restriction to travel on STS. Thomas Schwan said a child must be 12 years of age or older to ride by themselves.

Tim Stookey, 1307 Fifth Street, asked if this schedule will be published and Thomas Schwan said it has been in the newspaper and is also posted on the city's website.

**John Hamilton said public comments will be accepted for the next 30 days regarding the addition of a SPARC 3 route. There being no further comments, John Hamilton then declared the public hearing closed.**

**CURRENT BUSINESS**

Upon motion of Pervis Brown and second of Keith Grohe, the commission voted to accept all communications. The President declared the motion passed.

**ITEM #1 – Todd J. Roth, PE., P.S.**

**Budgetary Information:** There is no budgetary impact with this item.

**ORDINANCE NO. 12-028:** It is requested an ordinance be passed **authorizing the city manager to enter into a license agreement with Christopher D. Romick & Mary B. Mischler to provide for the use of a certain portion of the city's rights-of-way as described in the grant of a license for encroachment, a copy of which is attached to this ordinance, marked Exhibit "1" and incorporated herein;** and declaring that this ordinance shall take immediate effect in accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.

Upon motion of Keith Grohe and second of Diedre Cole, the commission voted to approve this ordinance under Section 14 of the city charter. Roll call on the motion: Yeas: Jeff Smith, Julie Farrar, Pervis Brown, John Hamilton, Diedre Cole, Wesley Poole and Keith Grohe, 7. The President declared the motion passed. Roll call on the ordinance: Yeas: Jeff Smith, Julie Farrar, Pervis Brown, John Hamilton, Diedre Cole, Wesley Poole and Keith Grohe, 7. The President declared the ordinance passed.

**ITEM #2 – Submitted by Todd J. Roth, P.E., P.S.**

**Budgetary Information:** There is no budgetary impact with this item.

**ORDINANCE NO. 12-029:** It is requested an ordinance be passed **authorizing the city manager to enter into a license agreement with Alpha Omega Development Company, LLC dba Hot Dog Tony's to provide for the use of a certain portion of the city's rights-of-way as described in the grant of a license for encroachment, a copy of which is attached to this ordinance, marked Exhibit "1" and incorporated herein;** and declaring that this ordinance shall take immediate effect in accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.

Upon motion of Jeff Smith and second of Keith Grohe, the commission voted to approve this ordinance under Section 14 of the city charter.

*Discussion:* Todd Roth said the Downtown Design Review Board is in place to determine the guidelines which deal, primarily, with color. The design is not required to be kept the same from building to building. Julie Farrar said she has received **complaints about parking downtown and there is an issue about storing dumpsters in parking places.** Todd Roth said there should be a policy to address all of those in violation and an encroachment license could be obtained.

Roll call on the motion: Yeas: Jeff Smith, Julie Farrar, Pervis Brown, John Hamilton, Diedre Cole, Wesley Poole and Keith Grohe, 7. The President declared the motion passed. Roll call on the ordinance: Yeas: Jeff Smith, Julie Farrar, Pervis Brown, John Hamilton, Diedre Cole, Wesley Poole and Keith Grohe, 7. The President declared the ordinance passed.

**ITEM #3 – Submitted by Todd J. Roth, P.E., P.S.**

**Budgetary Information:** None.

**PASSED AT FIRST READING:** It is requested an ordinance be passed **amending part one – Administrative Code, Title Seven – Boards and Commissions, Chapter 157 – Human Relations Commission (HRC), in the manner and way specifically set forth herein below.**

Upon motion of Diedre Cole and second of Jeff Smith, the commission voted to approve this ordinance at first reading.

*Discussion:* Wesley Poole asked if the fire chief was previously a non-voting member of the HRC and what was changed with respect to membership. Naomi Twine, chairperson of the HRC, said there were several other departments represented previously which have been deleted and the wording was brought up to date with the addition of gender and sexual orientation. Jeff Smith said this is outlined in the paperwork submitted.

Roll call on the ordinance: Yeas: Jeff Smith, Julie Farrar, Pervis Brown, John Hamilton, Diedre Cole, Wesley Poole and Keith Grohe, 7. The President declared the ordinance passed at first reading.

**ITEM #4 – Submitted by Scott A. Miller, Director of General Services**

**Budgetary Information:** No general fund money will be required for this purchase. This purchase has been budgeted for in the EMS fund and sufficient funds are available to purchase the vehicle.

**ORDINANCE NO. 12-030:** It is requested an ordinance be passed **declaring the 2001 Dodge Ram 2500 pickup truck, VIN #3B7KF23Z81G809904, as unnecessary and unfit for city use pursuant to Section 25 of the city charter; authorizing and directing the city manager to purchase one (1) 2012 Ford F350, full size, four wheel drive, crew cab, pickup truck with snow plow package from Middletown Ford of Middletown, Ohio, through the State of Ohio Department of Administrative Services Cooperative Purchasing program for the fire department; and declaring that this ordinance shall take immediate effect in accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.**

**Upon motion of Keith Grohe and second of Diedre Cole, the commission voted to approve this ordinance under Section 14 of the city charter.**

*Discussion:* John Hancock questioned the low mileage for the vehicles being turned in as he usually keeps his personal vehicles until they reach 200,000± miles. Scott Miller said there is a difference as these are city miles rather than highway miles and there is more wear and tear on the trucks. Jeff Smith said he understood this truck was supposed to be replaced two years ago and Paul Ricci said based upon the vehicle replacement schedule, it should have been, but the fleet maintenance division worked very hard to get two more years of service with the vehicle.

**Roll call on the motion: Yeas: Jeff Smith, Julie Farrar, Pervis Brown, John Hamilton, Diedre Cole, Wesley Poole and Keith Grohe, 7. The President declared the motion passed. Roll call on the ordinance: Yeas: Jeff Smith, Julie Farrar, Pervis Brown, John Hamilton, Diedre Cole, Wesley Poole and Keith Grohe, 7. The President declared the ordinance passed.**

**ITEM #5 – Submitted by Scott A. Miller, Director of General Services**

**Budgetary Information:** No general fund money will be required for these purchases. These purchases have been budgeted for in the sewer fund and sufficient funds are available to purchase the vehicles.

**ORDINANCE NO. 12-031:** It is requested an ordinance be passed **declaring the 1991 GMC 3500 utility truck, VIN #1GBKC34N4MJ110402, as unnecessary and unfit for city use pursuant to Section 25 of the city charter; authorizing and directing the city manager to purchase one (1) 2012 Ford F450, full size, two wheel drive, cab and chassis truck from Middletown Ford of Middletown, Ohio, through the State of Ohio Department of Administrative Services Cooperative Services Purchasing program for the sewer maintenance division; and declaring that this ordinance shall take immediate effect in accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.**

**Upon motion of Diedre Cole and second of Keith Grohe, the commission voted to approve this ordinance under Section 14 of the city charter.**

*Discussion:* Jeff Smith said he has done some research and could not find any Ford 450's with V10 engines, although they are made, but the Triton V10 motor runs about 10 MPG in the city and 16 MPG on the highway. Thomas Schwan said the STS has 450 buses with V8 engines and are getting 8 – 10 MPG in the city. This will not change a lot between a V8 or a V10. Scott Miller said the 450's will have V10 engines and the fire department vehicle will have a V8 engine. Scott Miller said these are work trucks and are used in town for heavy duties and does not know how better to explain this; the vehicles are not pulling heavy campers or loads. Wesley Poole said he supports purchasing these vehicles which are capable of doing the work needing to be done. The vehicles currently in the fleet are no longer serviceable.

**Roll call on the motion: Yeas: Jeff Smith, Julie Farrar, Pervis Brown, John Hamilton, Diedre Cole, Wesley Poole and Keith Grohe, 7. The President declared the motion passed. Roll call on the ordinance: Yeas: Jeff Smith, Julie Farrar, Pervis Brown, John Hamilton, Diedre Cole, Wesley Poole and Keith Grohe, 7. The President declared the ordinance passed.**

**ORDINANCE NO. 12-032:** It is requested an ordinance be passed **declaring the 1985 GMC 3500 truck, VIN #1GDJ34WOFV604134, as unnecessary and unfit for city use pursuant to Section 25 of the city charter; authorizing and directing the city manager to purchase one (1) 2012 Ford F450, full size, four wheel drive, cab and chassis truck from Middletown Ford of Middletown, Ohio, through the State of Ohio Department of Administrative Services Cooperative Purchasing program for the sewer maintenance division; and declaring that this ordinance shall take immediate effect in accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.**

Upon motion of Keith Grohe and second of Diedre Cole, the commission voted to approve this ordinance under Section 14 of the city charter. Roll call on the motion: Yeas: Jeff Smith, Julie Farrar, Pervis Brown, John Hamilton, Diedre Cole, Wesley Poole and Keith Grohe, 7. The President declared the motion passed. Roll call on the ordinance: Yeas: Jeff Smith, Julie Farrar, Pervis Brown, John Hamilton, Diedre Cole, Wesley Poole and Keith Grohe, 7. The President declared the ordinance passed.

**ITEM #6 – Submitted by Carrie Handy, Chief Planner**

**Budgetary Information:** This action will not impact the city operating budget. The loan funds are already committed and do not come from the general fund.

**ORDINANCE NO. 12-033:** It is requested an ordinance be passed **authorizing and approving an economic development loan in the amount of \$25,000 to the Krunchie Pickle, LLC; repealing Ordinance No. 12-004, passed on January 9, 2012;** and declaring that this ordinance shall take immediate effect in accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.

Upon motion of Jeff Smith and second of Julie Farrar, the commission voted to approve this ordinance under Section 14 of the city charter. Roll call on the motion: Yeas: Jeff Smith, Julie Farrar, Pervis Brown, John Hamilton, Diedre Cole, Wesley Poole and Keith Grohe, 7. The President declared the motion passed. Roll call on the ordinance: Yeas: Jeff Smith, Julie Farrar, Pervis Brown, John Hamilton, Diedre Cole, Wesley Poole and Keith Grohe, 7. The President declared the ordinance passed.

**ITEM #7 – Submitted by Kelly L. Kresser, Commission Clerk**

A notice has been submitted to the City of Sandusky from the Ohio Division of Liquor Control, requesting a liquor permit stock transfer for Cheap Seats Bar & Grill LLC dba Cheap Seats Bar & Grill, 1504 Milan Road, Sandusky. This would be for D1, D2, D3, D3A and D6 permits. It is requested the clerk notify the Ohio Division of Liquor Control that the city has no objections to this request.

Upon motion of Pervis Brown and second of Diedre Cole, the commission voted to request the city commission clerk to notify the Ohio Division of Liquor Control the city has no objection to this liquor permit stock transfer for Cheap Seats Bar & Grill LLC dba Cheap Seats Bar & Grill, 1504 Milan Road, Sandusky. Roll call on the motion: Yeas: Jeff Smith, Julie Farrar, Pervis Brown, John Hamilton, Diedre Cole, Wesley Poole and Keith Grohe, 7. The President declared the motion passed.

**CITY MANAGER'S REPORT**

Upon motion of Pervis Brown and second of Jeff Smith, the commission voted to accept a donation in the amount of \$50,000 from Cedar Point to make facility improvements in the police department in honor of Officer Andrew Dunn who was killed in the line of duty in March, 2011.

*Discussion:* Nicole Ard noted the wonderful comments made by John Hildebrandt from Cedar Point about Officer Andrew Dunn and his service to Sandusky and Cedar Point.

The President declared the motion passed.

Upon motion of Wesley Poole and second of Jeff Smith, the commission voted to accept a donation in the amount of \$200 from the Western Basin Sport Fishing, LLC for the parks and recreation fund for Take the Kids Fishing Fun Day. The President declared the motion passed.

Upon motion of Pervis Brown and second of Julie Farrar, the commission voted to accept an in-kind donation from Dave Waddington of an American flag to be flown at the canoe launch facility. (approximate value: \$15). The President declared the motion passed.

Nicole Ard said a request was made to waive a demolition assessment in the amount of \$10,960.29 by Theodore Steinmetz for property located at 829 Fulton Street which he purchased at sheriff's sale. Nicole Ard said she is recommending this assessment **not** be waived based upon staff recommendations and her assessment of the situation. These types of fees have been waived previously but only for non-profit organizations. A duplex is being considered for construction on this property. Pervis Brown said in the past, the city has not allowed waivers for property owners other than not-for-profit organizations and believes many others will start asking for them if the city allows this one. Nicole Ard said this property was purchased through sheriff's sale and Mr. Steinmetz was not aware of the demolition assessment although it was advertised as "buyer beware". Diedre Cole said this reminds her about past discussion concerning **limitations on future construction of multi-family properties to help limit the number of new rental properties in the city** when obtained through this fashion. Todd Roth said if the

zoning allows this type of use, it would be hard to stop. Wesley Poole said he agrees with the city manager's recommendation to not waive the demolition assessment for this property.

Nicole Ard said **a draft of the CDBG action plan is available for public comment during the next couple of weeks and will be submitted to federal officials in May.**

Nicole Ard provided copies of a report from Megan Stookey regarding **updates on recent code enforcement activities.**

Nicole Ard said the **Cedar Point Drive project** is progressing and will be complete prior to Cedar Point's opening day, weather permitting. Todd Roth cautioned drivers to be careful while driving through the area as there are cones and workers in the roadway.

Nicole Ard asked Todd Roth to provide an **update regarding the Keller Building.** Todd Roth said a letter of intent is being prepared to remove the chimney stack on top of the building and proposals are being obtained to perform the necessary work. When a plan and timeline have been prepared, this will be submitted to the city commission.

George Poulos provided an update regarding the **Paper District Marina project.** There have been multiple ongoing punch lists during the project which are not in the possession of staff from the engineering office; rather they are with George Poulos and John Hancock who have been monitoring the project. The construction portion of the project is substantially complete. George Poulos said there is also a contractual side to the project which is not yet complete and is the reason why a certificate of completion has not been signed. There are other things which need to be completed including sign-offs from the federal agencies such as the EPA. There is a little issue with soil that was removed after an error occurred during the excavation process. Multiple datum are utilized specific to Sandusky for surveyor's grade elevations including USGS datum and International Great Lakes datum (for work being done on the water). One of the contractors performing excavation work made an error based upon the datum utilized and this was discovered during the certification process; this was the same time during which the city wanted to open the marina. The excavation of the marina was sufficient to utilize at the time it was discovered. The city performed testing, reported back to Hoty's and their subcontractor, and their engineers verified the mistake (which is actually 4' below the average marina in this area). This was done in accordance with the maintenance bond in place for the work. George Poulos said the maintenance bond started in August and is in place to protect the city. The season was completed and then 1.8' – 2.4' of additional excavation was performed and materials were placed on the Son Rise Marina property. This material was then tested and there was a small area with discoloration found to exceed the residential standards of illegal lead (not commercial standards for lead). After being tested initially, the EPA took four months to state they required additional testing and this is what is currently ongoing. The EPA would prefer to have this material remain on Hoty's property at Son Rise Marina. Sharon Johnson said there are supposed to be 18 additional samples taken and asked if this is covered under the maintenance bonding. George Poulos said if the city will determine to continue with the testing, it will be done by the city and has always been part of the city's contract. George Poulos said when the main portion of the project was completed, \$25,000 – 30,000 was left because of the excavation. The city purchased the docks and items necessary to operate the marina and is spending some of the money necessary to equip the marina within the original contract. George Poulos said he cannot speak to this as it is a little out of the area he is working with. The warranty period for the underground work will begin once the remainder of work is completed. Todd Roth said there will be a walk through before the warranty is accepted to ensure completion.

Nicole Ard said the engineering department **has applied for Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) funding for street resurfacing as well as for a grant to help support the watering and maintaining of the downtown planters** as brought forward by the Sandusky Main Street Association. Wesley Poole asked when the city dedicated MPO funds for planters as he believed these were being purchased with donated funds. Jeff Smith said the local foundations purchased the planters while the grant is to ensure the planters are watered and maintained. Nicole Ard said the amount of road resurfacing funding is \$250,000 while the amount earmarked for the planter watering/enhancement is \$5,000.

Nicole Ard said the **grant application for Sandusky Cabinets** is moving forward and expects news by the end of the month.

Nicole Ard congratulated **Lt. Richard Braun and Sgt. Dawn Allen** from the police department upon their **recent promotions.**

Nicole Ard said she provided written documentation pertaining to the **meetings and events which she has attended** since the last city commission meeting.

Nicole Ard said she recently had a **discussion with Tim Riesterer and other representatives from the Townships Association.**

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

Keith Grohe asked the **status of the insurance claim for hail damage to the roof at the Sandusky Bay Pavilion (SBP) property.** Hank Solowiej said the golf course roof was completed but he does not believe there was support for an insurance claim at the SBP property.

Diedre Cole asked for an update regarding the **Police Chief Selection Committee.** Pervis Brown said the first organizational meeting of this committee is Tuesday, April 10 at 5 p.m.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

Diedre Cole congratulated **Erie County for relocating Your Job Store to the Job & Family Services office on West Parish Street.** The city is happy to welcome these employees into the City of Sandusky.

Diedre Cole said she attended a **transportation summit in Toledo** with Thomas Schwan one week ago. Diedre Cole said she learned there are a lot of ongoing building projects in that area and there are numerous partnerships between private business, industry and the government to perform roadwork. Thomas Schwan said this was sponsored by the Toledo Metropolitan Area Council of Governments and infrastructure improvements and highway improvements are great. Thomas Schwan said a new facility was built for TARTA to help with services and listened to discussion regarding the future of the turnpike.

Diedre Cole said May 9 is the statewide **"Bicycle to School Day"** and distributed information prepared by the State of Ohio about this event. The state is trying to get kids interested in biking to school and some changes have been made to this year's program. Sandusky City Schools will be closing two buildings which will greatly affect the amount of money and resources accessible. A two-mile radius around each building is within the affected area and the high school will now be included because the junior high students will be attending school there. Diedre Cole said there are partnerships and tool kits available with United Way and the next **Safe Routes to School** meeting is scheduled for April 18.

Diedre Cole said the city received a **communication from the N.A.A.C.P. regarding an incident with former Officer Jody Showalter** and a meeting was held with members of the Human Relations Commission and the N.A.A.C.P. Diedre Cole said she spoke with Dr. Richard Koonce of the N.A.A.C.P. and from her perspective, he was pleased with the information presented and now considers the matter closed. Naomi Twine said she felt the N.A.A.C.P. representatives went away with their questions answered and is comfortable with how the police department addressed the situation.

Jeff Smith said one item on the unfinished business list is the resurfacing of **the Jackson Street parking lot and the creation of paid parking;** he asked to replace Dan Kaman regarding this project. Diedre Cole said she believes this was a location discussed for testing porous asphalt and Todd Roth said the transit parking lot is also being considered. John Hamilton said one idea to generate revenue in this parking lot is to create a celebration similar to the Sunset Celebration held in Key West. The vendors pay a licensing fee to participate in the event and this does not have to be limited to parking vehicles. **Upon motion of Jeff Smith and second of Pervis Brown, the commission voted for Jeff Smith to represent the city regarding this project. The President declared the motion passed.**

Julie Farrar asked if a **letter could be prepared for Tony's Hot Dogs and the Water Street Grill advising their neighbors are concerned about the lack of encroachments for their dumpsters.**

**Upon motion of Pervis Brown and second of Julie Farrar, the commission voted to hold an executive session regarding personnel, charter officers. Roll call on the motion: Yeas: Jeff Smith, Julie Farrar, Pervis Brown, John Hamilton, Diedre Cole, Wesley Poole and Keith Grohe, 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: planning, engineering and development. Roll call on the motion: Yeas: Jeff Smith, Julie Farrar, Pervis Brown, John Hamilton, Diedre Cole, Wesley Poole and Keith Grohe, 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: general services. Roll call on the motion: Yeas: Jeff Smith, Julie Farrar,**

**Pervis Brown, John Hamilton, Diedre Cole, Wesley Poole and Keith Grohe, 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: police department. Roll call on the motion: Yeas: Jeff Smith, Julie Farrar, Pervis Brown, John Hamilton, Diedre Cole, Wesley Poole and Keith Grohe, 7. The President declared the motion passed.**

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

Tim Schwanger, 362 Sheffield Way, said he has not spoken with anyone who has seen the infamous brick which allegedly fell from the Keller Building and Todd Roth said this is more about the brick protruding from the chimney stack and is a safety concern. Tim Schwanger said he has been in contact with the individual from the National Park Service about the roof at the Sandusky Bay Pavilion and the city received \$350,000 for this area in the early 1980's. Land and water conservation funds are available to make improvements with the existing buildings or facility. Tim Schwanger said part of the frustration with the paper district marina is that he does not know who to call with questions and does not know how to contact John Hancock or George Poulos. Tim Schwanger said the request for MPO funding is being used for items other than resurfacing.

Sharon Johnson, 1139 Fifth Street, asked when the city will sign the completion papers for the paper district marina and George Poulos said this will happen after the EPA has signed off on the work. Sharon Johnson asked the amount of the maintenance bond and what it covers. George Poulos said he can obtain this and provide a copy. Sharon Johnson thanked the staff in the fire department for their recent response to replace smoke detector batteries for an elderly resident living in a condominium. Sharon Johnson said she is concerned about the non-use of bicycle safety reflectors in the city and suggested the city research a grant to hand out reflectors to school children. Diedre Cole said she brought stickers from [www.ohiobike.org](http://www.ohiobike.org) and would like to obtain free information to distribute throughout the city.

Tim Stookey, 1307 Fifth Street, asked if bicycles are permitted to be ridden on the sidewalks and Jim Lang said this is permissive. Tim Stookey said sidewalks are an issue in the city as they are being displaced by trees (tree roots). He asked the city's policy in replacing sidewalks, curbs and gutters. Diedre Cole reiterated the Safe Routes to School grant will help to solve this problem and \$7.5 million is available through the State of Ohio this year. Don Icsman said the responsibility for sidewalks falls with the property owner according to the law. In the past, these have been taken care of through assessments and work can be done according to the city's standards and assessed through property taxes. Don Icsman recalled the last street improvement made was on Mills Street and a lot of people complained about these assessments. Wesley Poole suggested going forward, the city look at planting trees which will not tear up the city's sidewalks. Scott Miller said when complaints are received about sidewalks, the property owner is notified and given a period of time to make repairs. An assessment is then made by the city about the trees.

Timothy Work, 517 42<sup>nd</sup> Street, said real estate agents look for good curb appeal while good business owners provide a welcoming, clean storefront for a successful business. Timothy Work said addressing vacant and abandoned properties is a welcome improvement for the community. There is diverse culture in Sandusky and a beautiful waterfront. Timothy Work said the police department should consider implementing a foot patrol in designated neighborhoods to establish trust with the residents. The city should consider utilizing the former Adams Junior High School building. Timothy Work believes it is a law to have a light on a bicycle after dark as they are considered to be a motorized vehicle.

Barry Riddle, 1338 Fifth Street, asked who owns the area between the curb and the sidewalk. Don Icsman said the right-of-way is considered as the area from the center line of the street and is owned by the government, but the sidewalk is part of the property owners' responsibility. Don Icsman said property owners can have their own contractor improve the sidewalks according to city specifications or they may face civil liability. Barry Riddle suggested not planting trees that will grow higher than the power lines.

**John Hamilton announced adjournment of the regular session at 6:35 p.m. Four executive sessions were held beginning at 6:50 p.m. At 8:12 p.m., John Hamilton announced adjournment.**