

Dick Brady called the meeting to order at 5 p.m. after the **Invocation**, given by Julie Farrar, and the **Pledge of Allegiance**.

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

City staff present: Todd Roth – Engineer, Jim Lang – Interim Police Chief, Paul Ricci – Fire Chief, Thomas Schwan – Transit Administrator, Scott Miller – General Services Director, Don Rumbutis & Tom Whitted – IT Department, Don Icsman – Law Director & Acting 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 June 27, 2011 meeting and dispensed with the oral reading. All Ayes. The presiding President declared the motion passed.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (*agenda items only*)

Sharon Johnson, 1139 Fifth Street, asked if there would be an opt-out clause in the contract with the Erie County Economic Development Corporation (ECEDC) (Item #9) and asked what type of reports will be submitted. Sharon Johnson said she attended a press conference regarding the ICMA study last week and heard there is not money available for the recommendations. Dick Brady said there will be benchmarks with ECEDC and the monthly reports will be reviewed each quarter to determine the results of the city's \$30,000 investment. Dick Brady said the ECEDC will be hiring a job retention specialist to recruit new companies and to help retain existing companies. Don Icsman said Section 39 of the city charter states portions of a contract cannot go into effect in the future and that the terms can be set when the contract is approved. Don Icsman said the agreement will be brought back for the commission's approval.

Tim Schwanger, 362 Sheffield Way, said the ECEDC (Item #9) does not have a good track record and past city commissioners previously allocated money to this organization. Tim Schwanger suggested a one-year contract rather than a three-year contract.

PUBLIC HEARING

A Public Hearing was held regarding the proposed 2012 tax budget. Hank Solowiej said the Erie County Budget Commission previously waived holding a hearing for this budget. He said the purpose of the tax budget public hearing is to help the auditor to set property tax rates, to allocate the local government funding, and to help start planning for next year. Hank Solowiej said the Audit/Finance Committee is working on budget projections, but it is early in the process. A Resolution will be brought to the commission in October to officially adopt the 2012 tax budget. Hank Solowiej said there are shortfalls with local government funding, estate tax and tangible property tax reimbursement. Diedre Cole asked about the effect of the tax budget on the payroll stabilization fund. Hank Solowiej stated at the end of the year, the commission will decide whether to place money into the payroll stabilization fund and the tax budget does not have much effect upon it.

A.J. Oliver, 1112 Wayne Street, said local governments are in big trouble and the state government has funded themselves quite nicely. A.J. Oliver said he believes the state is passing its budget crisis on to local governments and he is in favor of speaking out as this will be disastrous. A.J. Oliver said the estate tax cutoff is \$400,000 and the rate is at 6% or 7%. He said people pay double income tax all the time and the estate tax concept is not unique. A.J. Oliver said he would pay more taxes to the schools, to city government and to social security and there is not a spending crisis.

Tim Schwanger, 362 Sheffield Way, said not too many years ago, the city had a \$1 million carryover and now this number is \$2 - \$3 million. Hank Solowiej said typically, Moody's generally looks for a carryover of what is brought in or spent and recommends approximately 30%; he said the city is currently in the twenty percentile. Tim Schwanger said the city brings in \$2 - \$3 million from tourists and said the city is up to its eyeballs in debt.

The presiding President declared the Public Hearing closed.

CURRENT BUSINESS

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

ITEM #1 - Submitted by Amanda Meyers, Paralegal**APPROVED AT FIRST READING 6.27.11**

Budgetary Information: The cost to the city will be the initial cost of acquisition, including title fees and closing costs, which will be paid out of the land reutilization account utilizing proceeds from previous sales of land bank property, but will be recouped by the city upon the sale of the property through the Mow to Own Program by the required down payment. The city will save approximately an average of five hundred dollars (\$500) in mowing costs per month during the growing season for each vacant and abandoned lot sold through the Mow to Own Program. The taxing districts will not collect the delinquent taxes, assessments, penalties and interest currently due and owing. However, by returning this abandoned non-productive land to tax producing status, the taxing districts will once again be collecting yearly real estate taxes and assessments, which will increase as property values are enhanced and improvements are made.

RESOLUTION NO. 024-11R: It is requested a Resolution be passed **authorizing the adoption of the Mow to Own side lot disposition program for the city's land reutilization program.**

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

Discussion: Diedre Cole asked to consider assistance for the down payment requirement and Don Icsman said this would be a matter of policy which is flexible by the city manager and city commission going forward. Diedre Cole said she would not want to discourage a person from participating in this program because they may not have the means to make the down payment. Julie Farrar thanked Amanda Meyers and Carrie Handy for their hard work in preparing this program for approval.

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

ITEM #2 - Submitted by James Lang, Interim Police Chief

Budgetary Information: The total cost for the thirty two (32) Point Blank Vision Level II Ballistic Vests is \$21,433.60 with \$11,626.10 to be paid from Forfeiture Funds account #863-1050-54090 and the remaining \$9,807.50 will be paid with funds from the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs Bulletproof Vest Partnership Program (BVP). In the past, the FOP Lake Erie Lodge #17 has reimbursed \$200.00 per vest for reserve officers and it is anticipated that the FOP Lake Erie Lodge #17 will reimburse \$1800.00 for the vests for the nine (9) newly hired reserve officers.

ORDINANCE NO. 11-066: It is requested an Ordinance be passed **amending Ordinance 11-063 passed on June 27, 2011, which authorized the city manager to purchase thirty-two (32) point blank vision level II ballistic vests from D & G Uniforms of Akron, Ohio, through the State of Ohio Department of Administrative Services Cooperative Purchasing Program for the Sandusky Police Department;** 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 Dan Kaman, the commission voted to adopt this Ordinance under suspension of the rules and in accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.

Discussion: Don Icsman said the only change from the prior ordinance is where the funds are being taken from for payment.

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

ITEM #3 – Submitted by James Lang, Interim Police Chief

Budgetary Information: The funds that are available through the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program are a total eligible joint allocation of \$21,977.00; and these funds, if awarded,

will only be utilized for the ECSO Communications Project. This grant requires no matching funds. **ORDINANCE NO. 11-067**: It is requested an Ordinance be passed **authorizing and directing the city manager to enter into a memorandum of understanding with the Board of Erie County Commissioners for the reallocation of Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) funds and, if awarded, authorizing the city manager to execute any required agreements; approving the submission of a grant application by the Erie County Sheriff on behalf of Erie County and the City of Sandusky to the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ), Office of Justice Programs (OJP), Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) for funding under the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) program for the ECSO communications 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: Julie Farrar, Dave Waddington, Diedre Cole, Pervis Brown, Dan Kaman, Dick Brady and John Hamilton, 7. The presiding President declared the motion passed. Roll call on the Ordinance: Yeas: Julie Farrar, Dave Waddington, Diedre Cole, Pervis Brown, Dan Kaman, Dick Brady and John Hamilton, 7. The presiding President declared the Ordinance passed.

ITEM #4 – Submitted by Todd J. Roth, P.E., P.S.

Budgetary Information: The City will have no financial obligation. The owner will be responsible for any application costs and matching funds required for the grant.

RESOLUTION NO. 025-11R: It is requested a Resolution be passed **requiring that any new construction and/or renovation at the former Apex Manufacturing facility located at 1643 First Street shall incorporate materials and methodologies that maximize economic and environmental performance through sustainable design practices and designating the property as a high priority redevelopment initiative** and declaring that this Resolution shall take immediate effect in accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.

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

Discussion: Diedre Cole clarified this is a Resolution, not an Ordinance. Dave Waddington said the city will have no financial obligation for this item and the owner will be responsible for any application costs and matching funds required for the grant. Dan Kaman asked if there is a reason this has to be done using the green initiative and Don Icsman said this is necessary for points associated with the evaluation of the application. Dan Kaman asked if the owners are okay with this and Don Icsman confirmed they are.

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

ITEM #5 – Submitted by Todd J. Roth, P.E., P.S.

Budgetary Information: The total fee is \$116,070. The city will provide \$45,000 of this through the U.S. EPA Brownfield grant. The remainder will be paid by Famous Realty of Cleveland, Ohio.

ORDINANCE NO. 11-068: It is requested an Ordinance be passed **authorizing the city manager to enter into an agreement with, and authorizing and directing the city manager and/or finance director to make payment to Partners Environmental Consulting, Inc., of Solon, Ohio, for part of an Ohio Voluntary Action Program, Phase II assessment of the Apex Manufacturing project property located at 1643 First Street** 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: Julie Farrar, Dave Waddington, Diedre Cole, Pervis Brown, Dan Kaman, Dick Brady and John Hamilton, 7. The presiding President declared the motion passed. Roll call on the Ordinance: Yeas: Julie Farrar, Dave Waddington, Diedre Cole, Pervis Brown, Dan Kaman, Dick Brady and John Hamilton, 7. The presiding President declared the Ordinance passed.

ITEM #6 – Submitted by Todd J. Roth, P.E., P.S.

Budgetary Information: The engineer's estimate for the total project cost including engineering, inspection, advertising and miscellaneous is \$757,325.65. The project will be funded with FHWA funds through ODOT and the MPO in the amount of eighty percent (80%) of the eligible costs up to a maximum of \$515,200.00 with additional funding available in the amount of \$175,000.00 from Community Block Grant Funds (CDBG). The remaining balance of \$67,125.65 will be funded with \$5 License Fee Funds.

RESOLUTION NO. 026-11R: It is requested a Resolution be passed **declaring the necessity for the city to proceed with the proposed Cedar Point Drive 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 second of Dave Waddington, 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 the balance of \$67,125.65 will be funded with the \$5 license fees and this shows how some of these monies are being spent. Diedre Cole asked about relocation of the light poles on Cedar Point Drive. Todd Roth said some of the poles were relocated while some of the lamps were moved on to existing poles. Todd Roth said he asked Ohio Edison to reevaluate the cost and stated the city has not yet paid the invoice. Dick Brady asked if Ohio Edison's work is completed and Todd Roth confirmed it is.

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

ITEM #7 – Submitted by Hank S. Solowiej, CPA, Finance Director

Budgetary Information: The Tax Budget will establish initial funding for 2012.

RESOLUTION NO. 027-11R: It is requested a Resolution be passed **adopting the tax budget for the City of Sandusky for the calendar year 2012; authorizing the submission of the tax budget to the Erie County Auditor;** 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 Pervis Brown, the commission voted to adopt this Resolution under suspension of the rules and in accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.

Discussion: Dan Kaman said at this point, it is good to remind people there is currently a deficit as receipts from Cedar Point and the tourist industry come later in the year. He said traditionally this has bailed the city out and raising taxes on the city's biggest industry is a gamble. Dan Kaman said an eye needs to be kept on the budget and he would like to leave at the end of the year with a \$300,000 surplus and a \$3 million carryover. He said projects such as the Hayes Avenue and Camp Street underpasses are completed because of this and it is important to keep a good bond rating. Diedre Cole said there was a huge learning curve when she became a commissioner and she registered with Moody's to know how important the city's surplus is.

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

Don Icsman said the city's staff was responsible for keeping a \$3 million carryover to help with the deficit faced by the city and if this has to be done again, it will be done together. Don Icsman said he heard someone mention the word 'tax' and he hopes fiscal responsibility has been demonstrated. He said monies were not reallocated nor were they spent from the EMS fund or from savings; revenues were not adjusted. Dave Waddington said he saw Dick Kinzel this weekend and he was told Cedar Point is having another great year. He said income tax and hotel/motel bed tax are up in spite of a rainy spring. Dave Waddington said when he leaves, he wants the incoming city commission to inherit a good fiscal condition. Dick Brady said for a lot of years, he viewed city finances from the outside, as a business person, and does not believe the city has done well for a number of years. Dick Brady said during the last decade, fiscally responsible practices have taken place and this is not an easy thing. He said

employees and labor are usually a company's largest expense which translates to families and children, the fabric of our society. He commended the commissioners during the past ten years for taking on this task and said he hopes commissioners in the future can take this lead.

ITEM #8 - Submitted by Hank S. Solowiej, CPA, Finance Director

Budgetary Information: None.

ORDINANCE NO. 11-069: It is requested an Ordinance be passed **authorizing the finance director to designate the Charter One Bank, Citizens Banking Company, Fifth Third Bank, KeyBank, PNC Bank, U.S. Bank and First Merit Bank as depositories of the active and interim deposits of the City of Sandusky, Ohio, for the period commencing August 23, 2011 through August 22, 2016;** and declaring that this Ordinance shall take immediate effect in accordance with Section 14 of the City Charter.

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

Discussion: Diedre Cole asked if these are banks the city has dealt with in the past and if local banks were considered. Hank Solowiej said the city contacted the banks it currently uses and also reached out to those which the city does not have an existing relationship. He said the city is not looking to change its payroll or accounts payable and other banks may be interested if this were the case.

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

ITEM #9

ORDINANCE NO. 11-070: It is requested an ordinance be passed **authorizing and ratifying payment to the Erie County Economic Development Corporation (ECEDC) for the city's funding share for economic development services** 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 Dave Waddington, the commission voted to adopt this Ordinance under suspension of the rules and in accordance with Section 14 of the city charter.

Discussion: Dan Kaman said ECEDC recently hired a new director but during the past two years, numerous local companies such Okamoto, AkroMils, American Quality Stripping, MetalTek/Sandusky International, K & K Interiors, RheTech and Son Rise Marina have all expanded. He said two volunteers from the ECEDC board took it upon themselves to knock on the doors of local business and brought back information and concerns not previously known to the city commission. Dan Kaman said it is good to have someone who is doing this type of work every day for the city and supports passage of this Ordinance. Julie Farrar said she agrees with Dan Kaman's comments.

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

ITEM #10 – Submitted by Kelly L. Kresser, City Commission Clerk

A notice has been submitted to the City of Sandusky from the Ohio Division of Liquor Control, requesting a liquor permit transfer from **Allways Pizza LLC dba Allways Pizza to All Ways Pizza & Pub LLC dba Allways Pizza, 1st Floor, 1109 – 11 Warren Street, Sandusky, Ohio.** It is requested the clerk notify the Ohio Division of Liquor Control that the city has no objections to this request.

Upon motion of Julie Farrar and second of Dan Kaman, the commission voted to request the city commission clerk to notify the Ohio Division of Liquor Control the city has no objections to this request. Roll call on the motion: Yeas: Julie Farrar, Dave Waddington, Diedre Cole, Pervis Brown, Dan Kaman, Dick Brady and John Hamilton, 7. The presiding President declared the motion passed.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

Upon motion of Pervis Brown and second of Dan Kaman, the commission voted to accept a donation in the amount of \$50 from the Sandusky memorial day parade for the police department in the

amount of \$50.00 (Account #863 1010 485 00). All Ayes. The presiding President declared the motion passed.

Upon motion of Dave Waddington and second of Pervis Brown, the commission voted to accept a donation in the amount of \$50 from the Sandusky memorial day parade for the fire department in the amount of \$50.00 (Account #863 1310 485 00). All Ayes. The presiding President declared the motion passed.

Upon motion of Dave Waddington and second of Diedre Cole, the commission voted to accept the following donations in memory of Jean Wimmer for the fire department trust fund account (#863 1310):

Gene & Geraldine Ryan	\$25.00
Teagarden family	30.00
John Ginty	10.00
Bouy Bros. Trucking	50.00
Mrs. John Paul	5.00
Pat, Scott and Kris McCullan	30.00
Brian Poggiali	25.00
Elton & Phyllis Moore	15.00
Tom & Carolyn Smith	25.00
George & Ruth Steele	25.00

All Ayes. The presiding President declared the motion passed.

Don Icsman said an invoice was received from the Sandusky Main Street Association for the 2011 annual membership dues in the amount of \$100.00 and stated the last time the annual membership dues were paid was in 2009. Upon motion of Pervis Brown and second of Julie Farrar, the commission voted to pay the 2011 annual dues in the amount of \$100 to the Sandusky Main Street Association. All Ayes. The presiding President declared the motion passed.

Don Icsman said a request for proposals was received to secure or board up the property formerly known as American Crayon located at 1706 Hayes Avenue. Don Icsman said he attended an "Order to Show Cause" hearing on July 2, 2011 at the Erie County Common Pleas Court with Chief Paul Ricci and attorney Bill Lang. Don Icsman said the defendants, Joe Yost and Columbus Avenue Business Park, LTD, were found to be in contempt of the court's May 26, 2011 order. Don Icsman said another hearing is scheduled for Wednesday, July 20, for the purpose of updating the court on the city's actions relating to the property, the appointment of a receiver and an update on other matters.

Don Icsman said the city has received the comprehensive analysis report regarding the police department from the ICMA and believes the next step should be for the police chief to review the report and make recommendations. He said this is similar to how the report was analyzed for the fire department regarding potential costs and recommendations. Don Icsman said there may be certain recommendations in the report that are favorable, but would require budgeting money. Don Icsman said there were 34 recommendations made for the fire department and 18 of those were implemented after a prudent and thorough analysis. Don Icsman said many persons will be involved with this process including city staff and citizens. Don Icsman said he has not spoken with anyone about the dispatch analysis yet, but plans to talk about this at a staff meeting and have an analysis performed by the police and fire chiefs to provide advice to the city commission. Diedre Cole said she would like to continue dialogue about the ICMA study but would like to see a team approach involving two city commissioners going forward. She said she would also like to see a timeline established so focus is not lost and this is pursued aggressively. Diedre Cole said she believes this should be tied in to employee evaluations. Don Icsman said he agrees and expects an analysis to seize upon things that can be done to make the department more effective. Dan Kaman said he would like to see things done immediately which are realistic as well as items that can be done in the next six months where cost effective. Dan Kaman said he is amazed some things are already being done which were implemented prior to receiving the results. He reminded the public he cannot fire everyone in the department and start over as suggested in the newspaper. Dan Kaman said a plan must be developed which looks at the cause and effect and totally disregards this notion (of firing everyone). He said every department can become more professional and stated this report will not gather dust on a shelf and that the outcomes of meetings will be announced. Dick Brady said when he joined the city commission, a two-year contract was given to Chief Jim Lang which was the prudent thing to do at the time; he believes Jim Lang is the right person for the job right now. He said Jim Lang and the rest of the city commission know he (Jim) is not the city's

future and the commission will be judged by how they deal with this study. Dick Brady said not all of the recommendations will be implemented under the current watch, but eventually they will. He said many of the things that got the city to this point are still in place now and are a result of the economy (i.e. lack of training and equipment, layoffs). He said the city must take these issues one at a time for implementation.

OLD BUSINESS

Dave Waddington said there was a recent article in the newspaper about the **water rates concerning water pressure at Cedar Point**. He said the city and the county last agreed to a rate of \$1.26/ccf which was 748 gallons down from \$1.86/ccf the previous year. He said there has been an agreement since 2006 and the city's water rates are actually low at \$2.85/ccf for residents; the City of Huron is currently charging \$5.22/ccf to their residents. Dave Waddington said County Commissioner Pat Shenigo was quoted as saying: "It is absurd how the county borders on Lake Erie yet the water rates are some of the highest in the region", and he (Dave) begs to differ with this statement. Dave Waddington said the contract is a three year agreement which currently is in the middle of the second year and he helped to keep the rate at \$1.26/ccf for the county as a tool to bring industry to the community. Dave Waddington said the city could have raised the rate after the regional water rate study was performed by Jones & Henry. He said another statement made was about a possible way to lower rates by having Sandusky join Erie County for water service, but he thinks there is already a contract until 2039. Dave Waddington said this may have been taken out of context and he is not trying to scold anyone, but the city is cooperating to keep the price down. He said the county's end of the bargain was to sell an extra 500,000 gallons of water which is actually far below this number. Dave Waddington said he would support selling more water out of Erie County to keep the cost down. Don Icsman said his concern is justification for charging less for water (\$1.26/ccf) than the water rate study recommended (\$1.34/ccf). Don Icsman said a letter was sent to the county commissioners in August, 2010 about this. Dave Waddington said anyone planning to run for a city commission seat should find out the true costs for both water and sewer. He said two water towers were erected and the chemical improvement project was performed proving the city is using the revenue for the residents and our customers. Dick Brady said he was given the opportunity to attempt to negotiate the Cedar Point Road water line loop rate with the county and is pleased the rate was arrived upon with a good outcome. Dick Brady said he is disappointed by the use of the term "absurd" in relation to the city's water rates and is about collaboration rather than confrontation, but this concept is being sorely tested. He said the message to be jointly portrayed is this is the first step across a bridge and he is still optimistic the city will be able to face these issues. Dan Kaman said in the years to come, it will take strong city commissioners to deal with the county. He said the county was supposed to host the meetings in 2011 but no phone calls have yet been received. Dan Kaman said water has been regionalized for several years.

NEW BUSINESS

Diedre Cole said **there was another shooting in the community** last week and because she was upset about this, she sent an email to Chief Jim Lang. Diedre Cole said she would like to see a map or plot of the gun violence in the past 12 months (locations, times, dates, etc.). She would like a couple of the city commissioners get together with some civic leaders and community members to develop a proactive approach to deal with gun violence. Diedre Cole said she is tired of excuses, passing the buck and assessing blame and that a serious look needs to be taken at this issue. She said her neighbors have been cooperative in spite of what has been reported and are fed up with the violence. Diedre Cole said her neighbors have begun to install infrared cameras at their homes and no one should have to live like this; gun violence is unacceptable and will not be tolerated. Diedre Cole said she has located a grant offered by the federal government and Jim Lang said he would like authorization to apply for a violent gang and gun crime reduction program grant; the deadline to apply is July 21. He said this grant is a two-year program, with no match, and the maximum amount for which the city can apply is \$137,447. Jim Lang said Carrie Handy has contacted the persons in charge of the grant and feels the city has good chance to receive funding because with the exception of Cleveland, Sandusky is the only community in the area making application. Jim Lang said this could provide for extra officers on the street for gang and gun control. **Upon motion of Dave Waddington and second of Julie Farrar, the commission voted to allow the police chief to make application with the federal government for this grant to combat gang and gun violence. All Ayes. The presiding President declared the motion passed.**

Diedre Cole said there is a **national program called "Night Out"** which is a community event designed to get neighbors out of their homes on one evening, August 2, as a part of taking back neighborhoods. She said this is a bit too quick to organize for Sandusky, but would like to work the city staff to do this sometime in the fall. Diedre Cole said participants will sleep during the day and stay awake at night in an effort to take back their neighborhoods.

Julie Farrar asked about the **flooding issues on Venice Road** and Todd Roth said the city is currently obtaining easements to perform this work.

Julie Farrar asked about the **request for proposals for the city's managed print services** and Tom Whitted said these would be ready for distribution on July 14. Todd Roth said he and Tom Whitted have met to put these specifications together.

Dan Kaman said on July 14 at 5 p.m., **a ribbon cutting ceremony will take place at the new paper district marina** and the public is welcome to attend.

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

Diedre Cole said she attended the **Farmer's Market on Saturday and a native Sandusky had made bird planters using recycled tires**. She said this was a beautiful piece of art made from material most people would throw away. Diedre Cole said she referred this gentleman to the Erie County Economic Development Corporation which is an incredible resource for Sandusky.

Upon motion of Dick Brady and second of Dan Kaman, the commission voted to hold a special city commission meeting on July 18 at 5 p.m. for the purpose of holding an executive session with officials from The Novak Consulting Group who are conducting the city manager search. Roll call on the motion: Yeas: Julie Farrar, Dave Waddington, Diedre Cole, Pervis Brown, Dan Kaman, Dick Brady and John Hamilton, 7. The presiding President declared the motion passed.

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

Willie McCarty, 632½ East Adams Street and representing United Indians of Ohio, said he had a problem with the community as a whole during the weekend after going through the process of obtaining a permit to use Shoreline Park for a family event. He said the police responded to a call requesting he turn down his music because of a complaint made by the Sandusky Yacht Club (a private club/pool), yet Shoreline Park is public and this is his right. Willie McCarty said he stands up to big money and is only asking for respect and for leadership by the city and that he is trying to stop violence in the community; he said people are driven to violence when their rights are taken away. Willie McCarty presented a peace pipe in an effort to bring calmness to the community. Willie McCarty said the city did not need a report to say that the police department was already in turmoil; it was in turmoil when Chief Jim Lang took office and the people above him (Jim) need to follow/support what he is going to do.

Sharon Johnson, 1139 Fifth Street, asked how many light poles there were on Cedar Point Drive and Todd Roth said there were originally 12 poles with two still needing to be relocated. He said some poles are for lights while others are for power lines and the costs are different for each.

Tim Schwanger, 362 Sheffield Way, asked for a copy of the CORF application for the Apex property and Todd Roth said it will be completed at the end of the week. Tim Schwanger asked if the payment to Partners Consulting was from the assessment grant and Todd Roth confirmed that it is. Tim Schwanger said a few months ago, the Bayfront Corridor Committee suggested the city look into creating a node to the waterfront across from the Breakers Express, but understands work first needs to be done at the city's lift station. Todd Roth said this may be designed during the winter season. Tim Schwanger said a suggestion was made to put together a 3D rendition of the Venice Road overpass and Dick Brady said there is a first year architectural student working on this tabletop design. Tim Schwanger asked for a 4' x 4' patch of pavement east of the railroad tracks to be repaired. Dick Brady said this road will be maintained (not closed) and repairs will be made. Tim Schwanger asked about the signage at the new paper district marina which reads "Sandusky Boat Basin" rather than "Paper District Marina". John Hamilton said he is not aware a proper name has been designated and this may be a good idea for a contest. Don Icsman said he will check with George Poulos; Dan Kaman said signage is still being looked at for this area. Tim Schwanger asked who was giving the presentation upcoming regarding the sportsplex and Dick Brady said this may be scheduled for the next regular city commission meeting by the developer.

A.J. Oliver, 1112 Wayne Street, said in the future, it would be helpful for incoming commissioners to understand the nature of staff cuts already made by the city and specifically cited the forestry crew

which was reduced from a crew of four (4) to two (2). Dick Brady said there are essential services which must be performed. Don Icsman said services have not been cut; hard decisions have been made to balance the budget during tough economic times. He said 20% of the city's workforce has been cut and things are done slower, but the employees are doing things as best as they can. A.J. Oliver said there are fewer people on shift in the fire and police departments and he is not being critical; he believes the community should understand the extent and nature of the cuts. A.J. Oliver said when the community was at its most peaceful, there were community police who helped to calm neighborhoods. A.J. Oliver urged progressive people to run for election to the city commission.

Fred Farris, 1205 Wamajo Drive, said he was at Shoreline Park this weekend and asked why certain groups can close streets in the downtown and make a lot of noise, but Willie McCarty was trying to do something for the kids and the police were called. He said minority black persons are being treated like second class citizens and are disrespected. Diedre Cole said she hosts a block party on Hancock Street every year and there is a procedure to allow events to occur including submission of a petition signed by the residents and a waiver for the noise ordinance. Dick Brady said this is the first he has heard of this issue and he would like 24 hours to look into it.

Willie McCarty, 632½ East Adams Street, said he has tried to be polite about this issue, but the officer who responded to the call told him "you know as well as I know they are harassing you because they do not like your kind of music". Willie McCarty asked who are "they" and what is "my kind of music".

Lewis Knight, Lewis Knight Hauling, 311 Hendry Street, said he needs a job to live and asked the city commission if they would provide him with one. He said the city has taken his job away and asked for a reason why. Diedre Cole apologized for the way she spoke to Lewis Knight previously, but said her position has not changed. Diedre Cole said she is going to work with staff in the law department to host a series of public workshops on how to run a legal trash and bulk hauling business in the city. She said she has already spoken with Peter Zaehringer of Erie County Economic Development and there are loans available to help small trash haulers. She asked the haulers to meet her halfway.

Barbara Clark, representing the Sandusky N.A.A.C.P., said she was told Lewis Knight was not registered with the city and did not know how frequently registrations must be renewed. She said Lewis Knight told her he paid for his registration and the sticker is in his window. Barbara Clark said the city needs to reach out to entrepreneurs. Barbara Clark said the report from the ICMA shows many areas for improvement in the police department and the community needs to know who the police officers are because of incidents and how they are handled. Barbara Clark said the city needs to be more collaborative in order to avoid confrontation and calm Sandusky. Barbara Clark said the biggest problem in Sandusky is a racial issue and the city cannot continue to put their heads in the sand as the biggest gang in Sandusky is the police. Barbara Clark said another big problem is the State of Ohio allowing concealed weapons.

Wesley Poole, 1939 East Oldgate Road, said it may be a good idea to educate persons about the hauling business, but that even after educating someone about how to borrow \$1 million to purchase a truck, the business may not generate enough money to pay for it. He said the city is not deriving a great benefit from enforcing this issue, but there is a 79-year old man who has been providing these services for a number of years. Wesley Poole said the landfill is not going to extend its life if Lewis Knight is unable to haul trash and that government should not be able to regulate the goal of having one hauler. He said the market place should determine whether a business succeeds or fails, not government. Wesley Poole said when people are forced to make decisions about how to spend their money for trash services, the city will find more trash bags in public trash containers and dumpsters. He said the gross vehicle weight for compactor trucks is the biggest offender in destroying streets.

Fred Farris, 1205 Wamajo Drive, asked who runs the city and Dick Brady said Sandusky is a government run by the people. Fred Farris said the city commission runs the city and not the EPA.

At 7:03 p.m., Dick Brady announced adjournment of the open session. One executive session was held beginning at 7:10 p.m. At 8 p.m., Dick Brady announced adjournment.